MODULE DESCRIPTOR

Module Title

Dissertation

Reference	LLM587	Version	2
Created	August 2023	SCQF Level	SCQF 11
Approved	August 2019	SCQF Points	60
Amended	September 2023	ECTS Points	30

Aims of Module

To provide the student with the opportunity to plan and execute an extended research-based study into an approved topic and to report the findings through a substantial dissertation.

Learning Outcomes for Module

On completion of this module, students are expected to be able to:

1	Identify a suitable topic for a research-based dissertation and to carry out a comprehensive literature review related to this.
2	Formulate a research proposal for the dissertation and translate this into a feasible plan for its execution and completion within the timescale available.
3	Critically evaluate a range of appropriate research methods, develop suitable tools for the collection of data and use these in a competent and professional manner.
4	Analyse and critically evaluate the results obtained.
5	Produce a 20,000 word dissertation on the topic written to professional standards and, if required, orally present and defend the same.

Indicative Module Content

This will be specific to each individual dissertation. Normally will involve: research proposal; literature review; data collection; analysis and application; reports and recommendations.

Module Delivery

The dissertation is prepared under the direction of an academic supervisor. Students will be encouraged to interact with their peers through discussion forums.

Indicative Student Workload	Full Time	Part Time
Contact Hours	20	20
Non-Contact Hours	580	580
Placement/Work-Based Learning Experience [Notional] Hours	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	600	600
Actual Placement hours for professional, statutory or regulatory body		

ASSESSMENT PLAN

If a major/minor model is used and box is ticked, % weightings below are indicative only.

Component 1

Type:	Coursework	Weighting:	100%	Outcomes Assessed:	1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Description: Assessment will be based on the 15,000 word Dissertation thesis and, if required, oral presentation.

MODULE PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTOR

Explanatory Text

Component 1 comprises 100% of the module grade. To pass the module, a D grade is required.

Module Grade	Minimum Requirements to achieve Module Grade:
A	A
B	B
C	C
D	D
E	E
F	F
NS	Non-submission of work by published deadline or non-attendance for examination

Module Requirements

Prerequisites for Module	Satisfactory completion of the Pg Certificate and Pg Diploma Stages of the course.
Corequisites for module	None.
Precluded Modules	None.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

The subject specific bibliography will be determined by the dissertation topic.

INDICATIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY

1   EZEANI, E.C., 2013. *Success in law studies: the ten things you need to know.* Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press

2   FINK, A., 2010. *Conducting research literature reviews: from the internet to paper*. 3rd ed. Los Angeles: Sage.

3   FULLERTON K.L., 2007*. Legal research skills for Scots lawyers.* 2nd ed. Edinburgh: W Green.

4   GLATTHORN, A. and JOYNER, R., 2005. *Writing the winning thesis or dissertation: a step by step guide*. Thousand Oaks: Sage.

5   HIGGINS E. and TATHAM L., 2010. *Successful legal writing.* 2nd ed. London: Sweet and Maxwell.

6   MCCONVILLE M. and CHUI W.H., 2007. *Research methods for law.* Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press. *ebook*

7   SALTER M. and MASON J., 2007. *Writing law dissertations: an introduction and guide to the conduct of legal research.* Harlow: Longman. *ebook*

8   WEBLEY L., 2010. *Legal writing.* 2nd ed. Abingdon: Routledge-Cavendish. *ebook*