MODULE DESCRIPTOR

Module Title

Doctor of Law (DLaw) Thesis

Reference	LLD001	Version	1
Created	February 2023	SCQF Level	SCQF 12
Approved	July 2023	SCQF Points	420
Amended		ECTS Points	210

Aims of Module

To enable students to plan, design and execute applied legal and/or interdisciplinary research at an advanced level, contributing substantially to the development of ideas, approaches, techniques and legal solutions by applying their subject and practical/professional knowledge and skills and their knowledge of research methods to an independent investigation of a work-based or practice-related subject within the field of law and cognate subjects.

Learning Outcomes for Module

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

1	Generate an approved research project on a practical/work-based issue or problem in a chosen subject area through an extensive review of laws, theories, concepts, practices and other relevant academic and professional materials.
2	Synthesise a range of legal and/ scientific research skills and methods to gather, analyse and critically evaluate relevant laws, literature, theories, data and evidence as appropriate to the agreed research topic in the relevant field.
3	Critically evaluate findings and conclusions in a piece of independent research that contributes to and advances the body of knowledge in their chosen specialist area.
4	Produce, at an advanced level, written and oral communication skills required to appropriately address relevant legal and interdisciplinary issues.
5	Take responsibility for investigating and developing creative and practical responses to problems and issues.

Indicative Module Content

A research proposal on a relevant topic, to be developed in the course of the study of GSM010, GSM011 and LLM590, will form the basis for development of the thesis. Students will work independently to undertake the research and prepare the thesis.

Module Delivery

Students are expected to take full responsibility for their own learning, and will receive guidance and support from their supervisory team, and others as appropriate.

Indicative Student Workload

	Full Time	Part Time
Contact Hours	276	276
Non-Contact Hours	3924	3924
Placement/Work-Based Learning Experience [Notional] Hours	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	4200	4200
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: The assessment will consist of a thesis of 60,000 words and an oral defence of the thesis.

MODULE PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTOR

Explanatory Text

The thesis and oral defence will be assessed in accordance with Regulation A6: Research Degrees.

Module Grade	Minimum Requirements to achieve Module Grade:
Pass	Pass
Fail	Fail
NS	Non-submission of work by published deadline or non-attendance for examination

Module Requirements

Prerequisites for Module	Students are eligible for the doctoral level thesis if they have successfully completed the Transfer process and achieved 120 credits at SCQF level 11 or equivalent, including GSM010, GSM011 and LLM 590.
Corequisites for module	None.
Precluded Modules	None.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

Students taking this module must demonstrate substantial understanding of the field of research and exercise a high level of autonomy and initiative in the conduct of the research.

INDICATIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY

1	Emily Finch & Stefan Fafinski, 2021. Legal Skills, 8th ed.,Oxford: Oxford University Press
2	Higgins E. and Tatham L., 2015. Successful legal writing. 3rd ed. London: Sweet and Maxwell.
3	Webley, Legal Writing, 4th Ed., Routledge, 2016
4	McConville M. and Chui W.H., 2017. Research methods for law. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press