MODULE DESCRIPTOR

Module Title

Law Research Methods and Professional Practice

Reference	LLM590	Version	1
Created	February 2023	SCQF Level	SCQF 11
Approved	July 2023	SCQF Points	30
Amended		ECTS Points	15

Aims of Module

The module aims to deepen students' knowledge and understanding of the essential methodologies, approaches, and tools of research applicable to different fields of law and the extent to which they intersect and or interact with problem solving approaches in professional practice.

Learning Outcomes for Module

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

1	Make informed judgments about sources of law, legal methodologies, and effective legal research skills (finding and reading the law, legal reasoning, and legal writing)
2	Critically evaluate a range of appropriate legal research methods and tools in a competent and professional manner for the collection and analyses of data.
3	Analyse current issues in professional practice, with the aim to develop original and innovative solutions relevant to the field of study.
4	Generate research outputs using appropriate methods and to communicate same to a range of audiences with diverse levels of knowledge/expertise (Oral skills)
5	Appraise the impact of reflective professional practice on knowledge generation (by identifying ways in which professional practice can contribute positively to the research process).

Indicative Module Content

Legal skills and reasoning. Types of Legal research (including doctrinal ?black-letter? legal research, contextualised empirical/socio-legal research, and comparative legal research). Professional practice, metacognition, and problem-solving skills.

Module Delivery

The module will be delivered through series of seminars.

Indicative Student Workload	Full Time	Part Time
Contact Hours	20	20
Non-Contact Hours	280	280
Placement/Work-Based Learning Experience [Notional] Hours	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	300	300
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:	Reflective piece on professional practice and its impact on research design, methodology and knowledge generation.

MODULE PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTOR

Explanatory Text

Component one 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	None.
Corequisites for module	None.
Precluded Modules	None.

INDICATIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY

1	Finch & Fafinski, Legal Skills, 8th ed., Oxford University Press, 2021,
2	McConville M. and Chui W.H., 2017. Research methods for law. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press
3	Webley, Legal Writing, 4th Ed., Routledge, 2016
4	Hanson, S, Learning Legal Skills and Reasoning, 4th ed., Routledge 2015 (available through the RGU library as eBook)
5	Higgins E. and Tatham L., 2015. Successful legal writing. 3rd ed. London: Sweet and Maxwell.
6	Billett S., Harteis C., Gruber H., 2014. International Handbook of Research in Professional and Practice-based Learning. London: Springer