

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

MODULE TITLE	ADVANCED LEGAL SYSTEMS		
MODULE CODE	LA4505 [L7]	CREDIT VALUE	10 ECTS
SCHOOL	SCHOOL OF LAW		

MODULE AIMS

- To provide the essential skills of research, interpretation and application of legal sources required for postgraduate study of international, EU and domestic law.
- To ensure that students understand the relative roles of the various actors in the domestic, European Union and international law policy-making processes.
- To appreciate the distribution of power within the United Kingdom and the European Union.
- To indicate the significance of international law as an influence upon EU and domestic law (and vice versa)
- To ensure that students understand the basic concepts, which underlie the creation of, the operation of and adjudication on international, domestic and EU law.

MODULE CONTENT

1. Introduction to academic writing
2. Introduction to legal research, interpretation and application of legal materials.
3. Introduction to the sources of domestic, EU and international law & their institutions
4. Introduction to the EU: its competence, power and influence in a global context
5. Introduction to WTO in a domestic, EU and international context
6. Introduction to the WIPO and the global regulation of Intellectual Property
7. Introduction to the resolution of international commercial disputes
8. Introduction to the International Labour Organisation

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of this module a student will be able to:	
1.	Identify and retrieve legal materials relevant to particular legal problems and issues related to domestic law, EU law and international law and extract relevant information from those materials.
2.	Identify and evaluate the relationship between international, EU and domestic legal regimes.
3.	Identify and comparatively analyse the key features of domestic, European Union and international legal systems.
4.	Critically assess the influence of international treaties upon national and European Union law, institutions and processes (and vice versa). Identify and analyse the mechanisms for making, implementing and enforcing domestic, EU and international law.
5.	Research, critically evaluate and present well-structured arguments in written and oral work.

TEACHING METHODS

Preparation for the workshops will involve extensive research and reading, to consider and critically analyse the set topics and the discussion questions, set in advance, arising from those topics. Students are expected to prepare answers to the discussion questions and present these to, and discuss with, the workshop tutor and workshop group members. In addition to the skills of analysis and research, students are expected to develop and apply skills of analytical discussion, oral expression and writing. Students will engage with other students and staff in online activities, and synchronous and asynchronous workshops, to consider and critically analyse particular sources and engage in discussion leading to development of these skills.

The workshops also give students the opportunity to synthesise in a more dynamic way the independent learning already undertaken and apply principles from various themes covered in the workshop activity sheets.

One workshop may be run online, two weeks before the module starts, to introduce students to module themes and principles in advance of the campus-sessions. The final workshop will take place two-weeks before the submission deadline for coursework and run as a revision session

ASSESSMENT METHODS

This module is assessed through an essay (75%) and a presentation/online activity/essay plan (25%).