

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

MODULE TITLE	OIL AND GAS: PRIVATE LAW		
MODULE CODE	LA4510 [L7]	CREDIT VALUE	10 ECTS
SCHOOL	SCHOOL OF LAW		

MODULE AIMS

- This module examines the roles and relationships of principal organisations within the oil and gas industry.
- Students will develop a knowledge and understanding of the main contracting and licensing agreements and the principal standard form contracts.
- The module intends to set the topics within a multidisciplinary background concentrating on risk allocation and dispute resolution, with emphasis on the legal dimension of these aspects. In addition, the course attempts to make clear an understanding of the key principles of public international law underlying the legal relationships.

MODULE CONTENT

1. Principal organisations – roles and interplay of Governments, national and international oil companies, major product suppliers, engineering and contracting companies and the service companies.
2. Joint operating agreements – including exploration and production sharing agreements and licences, drilling agreements, construction and engineering contracts, gas sales agreements, transportation agreements and decommissioning agreements as well as key standard form contracts.
3. Risk allocation – key legal contractual risk management issues.
4. Dispute Resolution – the international framework and institutions.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of this module a student will be able to:

Critically evaluate the roles and relationships of key organisations within the oil and gas industry
Evaluate, identify and distinguish the main contracting and licensing agreements and the principal standard form contracts
Present clear, reasoned, critical arguments in relation to the complexities involved in this industry and the various methods of contracting
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%).