

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

MODULE TITLE	WTO LAW AND POLICY		
MODULE CODE	LA4921 (L7)	CREDIT VALUE	20 UK CREDITS / <u>10 ECTS</u>
SCHOOL	SCHOOL OF LAW		

MODULE AIMS

This module aims to introduce students to the fundamental legal concepts and principles of international trade law and the theories underpinning its relevance to the global market, to emphasise the importance of rules, norms and institutions to the multilateral trading system, to examine past and recent developments in international trade and the role and impact of the WTO, including trade liberalisation, the position of developing countries in the WTO, the effectiveness of the WTO dispute settlement system and regional integration, to critically assess how international trade law impacts on national economic and non-economic policies of sovereign states and to consider future trends in international and regional trade regulation and learn how the WTO reacts to these via its regulatory framework.

MODULE CONTENT

Indicative syllabus content:

1. Introduction to WTO Law and Policy
2. Theories of International Economic Relations
3. Regulation of International Trade
4. Trade Dispute Resolution
5. International Trade and Developing Countries
6. Free Trade Agreements and Regional Integration
7. Selected Current Issues facing the Multilateral Trading System

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

1. Demonstrate a critical understanding of the fundamental concepts, rules and institutions of international trade law
 2. Demonstrate a critical understanding of the sophisticated nature of WTO law and policy and the challenges faced in providing a liberal trading regime as a consequence of changes in global politics and economics
 3. Critically analyse major developments in international trade with a view to future trends in legal trade regulation and policy formation at the WTO
 4. Enhance their ability to prepare, research and analyse material to be covered during the Seminars
 5. Research, critically evaluate and present well-structured arguments in written and oral work.
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TEACHING METHODS

This module is organised into 2-hour weekly seminars. During each seminar, the tutor will deliver a short presentation and facilitate a discussion of critical issues within the said topic led by the students, either working in groups or individually. Some topics may be divided between two Seminars. Students will be expected to have independently researched the issues for discussion in each seminar and to come to seminars prepared to respond and participate in an open and active critical discussion.

ASSESSMENT METHODS

This module is assessed through an individual presentation and a written assignment.