MODULE **DESCRIPTOR**

MODULE TITLE	INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS LAW		
MODULE CODE	LW1012(L4)	**CREDIT VALUE**	10 UK CREDITS / 5 ECTS
SCHOOL	SCHOOL OF LAW		

MODULE **AIMS**

This module is intended to foster an understanding of the basic principles of chosen aspects of business law and to appreciate the operation of these principles in a practical and relevant context.

MODULE **CONTENT**

1. Business Law

(a) Comparison of the basic features of sole traders, partnerships and companies
(b) Partnerships in action
(c) The nature of a company, considering the legal and practical effect of corporate personality
(d) Shareholders and their role in a company
(e) Directors and their duties.

2. Associated topics
(a) Commercial contracts – building on students' knowledge of the formation of a contract.
(b) Issues of intellectual property
(c) Current issues

INTENDED **LEARNING OUTCOMES**

1. Appreciate the differences between different types of business organisations
2. Describe the operation of partnerships in business
3. Explain the operation of companies and what is meant by corporate personality and its legal effect.
4. Set out the roles and relevant duties imposed on shareholders and directors of a company
5. Demonstrate knowledge of the need for contracts in business
6. Identify the role that intellectual property plays in business today and appreciate the need for protection
7. Show awareness of current issues in business law
8. Improve his/her skills in oral communication and research

TEACHING METHODS

The module is delivered by way of small group interactive seminars. The teaching strategies aim to put the student at the centre of the learning process. Seminars (some of which are assessed) will encourage student learning through independent research and by active participation in the sessions. A sense of responsibility to their peers exists as student preparation has an impact on the outcome of the interactive seminar. Tutor-led presentations will be delivered in smaller units than a traditional lecture and these will be punctuated by a variety of student-led (tutor supervised) exercises. These exercises will help to develop a range of skills in the context of advising clients in case studies, debate, presentation of research etc. Full use will be made of IT facilities.

Each week students will be expected to have researched the area under consideration and be able to present arguments fully and coherently on the basis of an evaluation of the law. Module materials will be provided which will consist of summaries of substantive law, seminar tasks etc. The material will sometimes provide recommended reading which is selected to help the student to critically evaluate the law by reference to a range of arguments and perspectives. At other times, students will be expected to undertake research from scratch.

ASSESSMENT METHODS

This module is assessed through a seminar and a coursework.