

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

MODULE TITLE	INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS LAW		
MODULE CODE	LW1019 (L4)	CREDIT VALUE	20 UK CREDITS / <u>10 ECTS</u>
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.
- Students will explore the components of a valid contract, distinguish the main terms of contract and assess how contractual legal duties may be nullified or discharged.
- The module will introduce the basic procedural elements for an action in the tort of negligence, namely duty of care, causation and remoteness of damage. It will also evaluate the importance of negligence liability in negligence for finance professionals.
- Students will outlook the main legal forms for creating and facilitating business such as sole traders, partnerships, and companies and assess how some common business risks are controlled legally.
- Finally, the basic principles concerning commercial contracts and the formation and termination of an employment contract will be introduced.

MODULE CONTENT

Indicative syllabus content:

The aim of the course is to introduce students to the basic rules, principles, and methods of the English private law. The objective is to give students a practical understanding of the legal environment within which business and financial decisions take place. For this purpose, the module covers various aspects of private law, including contract law, tort law, company law, commercial law and employment law.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

1. Appreciate the importance of the law of obligations for the operation of businesses.
2. Describe and explain the components of a legally binding agreement and explain the conditions under which contractual obligations are discharged, including commercial and employment contracts.
3. Explain the elements comprising the legal rules of negligence in Tort Law and evaluate its significance for business professionals.
4. Appreciate the differences between different types of business organisations and explain the operation of companies and what is meant by corporate personality and its legal effect.

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 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 two Coursework.