

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

MODULE TITLE	MOOTING AND LEGAL DEBATING		
MODULE CODE	LW1034 (L4)	CREDIT VALUE	20 UK CREDITS / <u>10 ECTS</u>
SCHOOL	SCHOOL OF LAW		

MODULE AIMS

The module aims to enable students to:

- Participate in debating in a legal context
- Participate in mooting
- Question and challenge others' ideas and arguments and develop their own skills of persuasion and argument
- Research areas of law, practice and legal theory and apply this research appropriately in their arguments
- Develop skills of deductive reasoning and cite authorities and evidence in support of arguments
- Use and apply correct forms of address and protocol
- Identify, evaluate and contribute to debates on law
- Explain how law is made and applied with particular emphasis on judicial precedent and statutory interpretation

MODULE CONTENT

Indicative syllabus content:

In the first half of the module students will participate in moots within a court room setting. They will practice identifying and extracting legal issues and arguments from case studies or appeal summaries, research and formulate arguments and consider these within a group context, discuss approaches to and conduct advocacy, consider and apply appropriate courtroom protocols in a simulated environment, summarise arguments and review each others' contributions.

In the second half of the module students will participate in debates of topical law related issues. They will be expected to draw on their knowledge of other areas of law, such as criminal law or public law to research into an issue and construct an argument. Students will gain knowledge of debating protocols within the introductory sessions and then apply these within a debate. They will develop their skills of reasoning, criticising and persuading and their presentation skills and review each others' contributions.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

1. Identify and research the legal issues underpinning a moot or debate, using appropriate rules, evidence, or authority to support arguments.
2. Use appropriate protocols and adhere to procedural rules as a participant in a moot and in a debate.
3. Present coherent legal arguments which demonstrate evidence of argument and counter-argument leading to balanced conclusions.
4. Discuss and challenge others' arguments in a logical and rational way.

TEACHING METHODS

The module will utilise a variety of learning strategies designed to place the student at the centre of the learning process. The module will encourage student learning by participation and independent research as well as enhancing problem solving and analytical skills.

The module will be delivered via introductory lectures and supporting workshops involving debates and moots. The purpose of the lectures is to introduce the protocols, rules and structures of debates and moots and relevant skills and attributes. The purpose of workshops is to allow students to prepare for and engage in moots and debates.

ASSESSMENT METHODS

This module is assessed through one Moot and one Debate.