

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

MODULE TITLE	MOOTING AND LEGAL DEBATING		
MODULE CODE	LW2004 (L5)	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
- explain the structure, rules, methods, conventions and principles of mooting and debating;
- 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 and review demonstration moots. They will practice extracting legal issues and arguments from case studies or appeal summaries, identify and write out issues for appeal from legal arguments, 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. Students will be expected to lead the debate and participate in the debate by raising questions and putting forward arguments in the open session. 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. Evaluate and research the legal issues underpinning the moot or debate
 2. Identify and articulate appropriate evidence or authority
 3. Present an argument as a participant in a moot and in a debate, applying appropriate protocols
 4. Evaluate others' arguments and statements
 5. Question and challenge others' arguments in a logical and rational way
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TEACHING METHODS

The module will be delivered via introductory lectures, supporting seminars and interactive debates and moots. The purpose of the lectures is to introduce the protocols, rules and structures of debates and moots and to demonstrate mooting. The aim of seminars is to allow students to prepare for and engage in moots and debates and to assess and discuss each others' contributions.

ASSESSMENT METHODS

This module is assessed through a Moot and a Legal Debate.

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION

English