

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

MODULE TITLE	CONSUMER LAW		
MODULE CODE	LW2006(L5)	CREDIT VALUE	20 UK CREDITS / <u>10 ECTS</u>
SCHOOL	SCHOOL OF LAW		

MODULE AIMS

- Outline the criminal and civil regulatory framework for protecting consumers against typical risks of harm or loss when buying or selling goods and services in the market.
- Apply relevant knowledge and skills to the resolution of typical problems faced by consumers when buying or selling goods and services or taking out credit agreements.

MODULE CONTENT

- Theoretical and philosophical justification for consumer protection
- Legal and extra-legal regulation and an assessment of their efficacy
- The range of civil liability in contract law: dealing as a business and as a consumer
- Implied terms regarding the quality of goods supplied under contract
- Implied terms regarding the quality of services supplied under contract
- Legal regulation of unfair terms of contract
- Product liability for dangerous goods under common law and statute
- The legal control of credit transactions and liability of creditors for the quality of goods and services supplied
- Criminal liability regarding supply of goods

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

1.	Locate, retrieve, analyse and apply common law and statutory rules relevant for identifying the content of consumer obligations in respect of the quality and standard, and the fairness of any subsequent terms of agreement, for the supply of goods and services to private consumers.
2.	Apply relevant common law and statutory provision to factual situations in order to identify what a private consumer's rights are, in respect of quality and safety, under a contract for the supply of goods or services.
3.	Evaluate, critically, areas of consumer protection law which are open to interpretation and explain the consequences for consumer law policy.
4.	Formulate and test hypotheses for explaining gaps in legal analysis and consumer protection policy using relevant theoretical and philosophical perspectives on consumerism and consumer policy.

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 by weekly lectures and fortnightly small group seminar discussions. Lectures will introduce students to the philosophy and fundamental principles of law relevant to the subject, the aim being to provide a stimulus to further learning by private study in which pre-set reading is undertaken. Seminars will take the form of interactive discussion making use of case studies of pre-prepared questions to promote a student's ability to analyse and apply legal principles and reflect critically on the broader implications for the philosophy of consumer protectionism and, more narrowly, the efficacy of consumer protection policy. Students will be expected to have independently researched topics for discussion and participate fully in seminar discussions. Use will also be made of eLearn for the provision of further materials and feedback.

ASSESSMENT METHODS

This module is assessed through two written assignments.