

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

MODULE TITLE	Cyprus Evidence Law		
MODULE CODE	LW2113(5)	CREDIT VALUE	20 UK CREDITS / 10 ECTS
SCHOOL	SCHOOL OF LAW		

MODULE AIMS

This module aims to:

- Outline the law of evidence in Cyprus.
- Introduce students to the notion of the burden of proof.
- Outline the role that can often be played by witnesses.
- Examine how evidence may be illegally obtained.
- Examine the law relating to hearsay in the Cypriot legal system.
- Explain and evaluate how the presentation of evidence is done in court.
- Explore how court documents are produced.

MODULE CONTENT

1. Introduction and an overview of evidence and procedure.
2. Procedural issues of evidence adduced in Court.
3. Facts requiring proof and judicial findings as evidence (facts in issue and facts relevant to the issue).
4. Facts not requiring proof and judicial findings as evidence (presumptions, judicial notice, admissions, inferences).
5. Burdens of proof.
6. Witness examination procedure (direct examination, cross examination and re-examination).
7. Corroboration evidence.
8. Illegally obtained evidence.
9. Circumstantial evidence.
10. Facts relevant to the issue: similar facts evidence and character.
11. Estoppel and privilege.
12. Hearsay evidence: the law.
13. Hearsay evidence: statutory and common-law exceptions.
14. Confessions: the Judges Rules and admissibility of evidence.
15. Extrinsic evidence.
16. Opinion.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

1. Define and distinguish the concepts of evidence and of the terminology used.
2. Explain why and how evidence may be improperly obtained and analyse the legal status of such evidence.
3. Distinguish and explain the reasons for facts that can be proved with evidence and facts that are proved without the need for evidence.
4. Identify, assess and evaluate the different forms of evidence, its admissibility and standards of proof.
5. Locate proper evidentiary form objections in a court proceeding, including objections based on principles of authentication of evidence, illegally obtained evidence and impeachment evidence.

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6. **Assess critically the procedural issues of producing evidence, of the witness system, and of the course of evidence.**
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7. **Communicate legal points and argument effectively using written and oral skills**
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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 developing problem solving and analytical skills.

A module handbook will be compiled, consisting of lecture outlines, seminar tasks and further recommended reading.

Seminars will take the form of interactive sessions making use of case studies and discussion points to enhance the student's ability to solve problems and investigate issues. Students will be expected to have independently researched topics for discussion and to come prepared to respond and participate in an open and active discussion of questions and problem scenarios.

ASSESSMENT METHODS

This module is assessed through a Written Assignment (25%) and a Written Assignment (75%).

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION

English (significant emphasis is placed on the Greek terminology)