

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

MODULE TITLE	JURISPRUDENCE		
MODULE CODE	LW3903 (L6)	CREDIT VALUE	20 UK CREDITS / <u>10 ECTS</u>
SCHOOL	SCHOOL OF LAW		

MODULE AIMS

To further develop and extend critical thinking and writing through evaluating fundamental questions about law and legal institutions in historical, philosophical and political contexts and consider critically how approaches to law making, legal reasoning, and legal development reflect different answers to these questions, with a particular focus on law and government, legal and non-legal rationality in adjudication, and the role and limits of law in the development of social structures of power and control.

MODULE CONTENT

Indicative syllabus content:

- Introduction to the 'law question'; charting the issues.
- Law and Government: sovereignty, citizenship, justice.
- Legal rationality and adjudication: models of reasoning; formalism vs realism; hard cases.
- Law and the foundations of modernity: liberalism, rule of law and democracy.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

1. Apply a range of theoretically grounded perspectives to evaluate fundamental questions about law, legal reasoning, and legal development.
2. Synthesise and evaluate material from a range of sources and use this to make reasoned choices between alternate interpretations about legal issues.
3. Articulate legal arguments that convey a contextual and critical understanding of contentious legal issues.
4. Demonstrate skills of expression, research, and communicate in an evidenced and well-structured manner.

TEACHING METHODS

Campus delivery will be organised around lectures and workshops. Lectures will introduce new legal ideas and concepts and build an outline of the structure of legal rules and principles. Further reading of cases and statutes in secondary and primary legal sources will consolidate and expand the breadth of knowledge and depth of understanding. Small group workshops will allow students to test their level and range of understanding and reflect formatively on areas of strength and weakness. Workshops will also develop and support general legal techniques and skills in support of legal reading, analysis, writing, drafting and note taking, legal problem solving through IRAC type techniques, as well as test formative knowledge and understanding. Summative assessment will focus on the accuracy of synoptic knowledge across the whole syllabus and evaluate legal problem-solving skills and the ability to create structured legal arguments that draw reasoned conclusions through factual scenarios that raise key legal issues from the syllabus. Module support materials (lecture outlines lecture recordings, Office Mix presentations, Power-point slides, workshop questions, cases, case materials, technique and skills materials, exemplar assessments) will be located on a dedicated module virtual learning environment, which will also be used as the repository for assessment submission, student communication, and e-discussion boards.

ASSESSMENT METHODS

This module is assessed through two Written Assignments.