

## MODULE DESCRIPTOR

<b>MODULE TITLE</b>	SEX AND VIOLENCE		
<b>MODULE CODE</b>	LW3906 (L6)	<b>CREDIT VALUE</b>	20 UK CREDITS / <u>10 ECTS</u>
<b>SCHOOL</b>	SCHOOL OF LAW		

### MODULE AIMS

To develop knowledge and a critical understanding of the general principles, policy, and areas for reform of criminal law, evidence and sentencing in the specific contexts of fatal and non-fatal crimes of violence, and sexual offences.

### MODULE CONTENT

#### Indicative syllabus content:

- Non-fatal violence: offences against the person and defences
- Sexual offences: non-consensual offences (rape, sexual assault, etc.; consent and mistake; consensual offences; sexual offences against children including both contact and non-contact offences.)
- The parameters of homicide: murder, involuntary manslaughter; possible structures of homicide law, the proposed new regime for murder and reforming the mandatory life sentence for murder.
- Killing and the boundaries of life and death: definitions of life and death; child destruction; abortion.
- Political violence and terrorism
- Modern slavery
- Domestic abuse and coercive control
- Evidential issues and the challenges of prosecuting and defending sexual and violent offences
- Sentencing, especially custodial sentencing, in relation to sexual and violent offences, including appropriate international comparative perspectives

### INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

1. Explain and evaluate critically contrasting perspectives on the development of the criminal law relating to sex and violence in an historical, social and political context
2. Evaluate the development of legislative and judicial policy and explain the context within which they develop
3. Analyse critically the rules by reference to a range of sources and by reference to appropriate human rights standards.
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 one Written Assignment and one Individual presentation.