



ACADEMIC SERVICES

MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Basic Data					
Module Title	Criminal Law				
Module Code	UJXU56-20-3	Level	3	Version	2
UWE Credit Rating	20	ECTS Credit Rating	10	WBL module?	No
Owning Faculty	Business and Law	Field	Law: Non Modular		
Department	Law: BILP	Module Type	Unit of Assessment		
Contributes towards	Graduate Diploma in Law				
Pre-requisites	None	Co- requisites	None		
Excluded Combinations	None	Module Entry requirements	N/A		
First CAP Approval Date	QSC 1/10/2008	Valid from	September 2012		
Revision CAP Approval Date	1 June 2016	Revised with effect from	September 2016		

Part 2: Learning and Teaching	
Learning Outcomes	<p>On successful completion of this module students will be have:</p> <p><u>Knowledge and understanding:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. a knowledge and understanding of the extent, scope and limitations of the general principles of liability in criminal law</li> <li>2. an appreciation of the underlying policy issues which underpin the criminal law</li> <li>3. an understanding of the difference between criminal law 'in the books' and criminal law in action</li> <li>4. an understanding of the meaning of the burden of proof, standard of proof and their importance in relation to criminal trials</li> <li>5. a realisation of the impact of the European Convention of Human Rights and the Human Rights Act 1998 on the substantive criminal law.</li> </ol> <p><u>Intellectual Skills</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. an ability to apply legal concepts and principles to practical situations</li> <li>2. skills of analysis and synthesis</li> <li>3. an ability critically to evaluate existing law</li> <li>4. the ability to make reasoned proposals for reform of this area of law, or to justify the retention of current law</li> </ol>

	<p>The above learning outcomes are developed by means of lectures, discussion in seminars, workshop activities, and by the student's individual study of the subject. They are assessed by any coursework which is part of the assessment schedule in any given academic year, and in the examination. Formative assessment will follow from completion of voluntary written work and the informal end of session test.</p> <p><u>Subject/Practical Skills</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. (developing) skills in independent research and in legal method</li> <li>2. in library use – finding primary and secondary sources</li> <li>3. use of electronic sources, in particular legal databases</li> <li>4. the ability to present a reasoned argument, orally and in writing</li> <li>5. problem solving skills in the context of criminal law</li> <li>6. analysing text - in case law, statute, and academic writing</li> </ol> <p>The skills under this heading are developed by practical experience of research in the criminal law field, by seminar and workshop participation, and in preparation for them. The testing of these skills takes place in the examination, and, as far as research skills are concerned, most particularly in any assessed coursework which is part of the assessment schedule in any given academic year, which requires a student to demonstrate individual research skills in an area of the course. The coursework task will be a sustained piece of legal writing which will involve the presentation of a coherent argument in problem solving, critique or essay form – or a mixture of these.</p> <p><u>Transferable Skills</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ability to work independently</li> <li>• team working</li> <li>• study management skills</li> <li>• communication – various modes- electronic, written, oral</li> <li>• persuasive skills</li> <li>• use of information technology</li> <li>• using and processing information</li> </ul>						
Syllabus Outline	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Nature of the Criminal Law</li> <li>2. The Elements of a Criminal Offence: Actus Reus; Mens Rea.</li> <li>3. Offences Against the Person <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Unlawful Homicide - Murder; Manslaughter.</li> <li>b. Assault and Battery; Offences Against the Person Act 1861 – s.47 actual bodily harm, s. 20 grievous bodily harm, s. 18 wounding/grievous bodily harm with intent.</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. The General Defences: - Insanity; Automatism; Diminished Responsibility; Loss of Control; Intoxication; Duress; Necessity; Mistake; Self Defence.</li> <li>5. Modes of Participation: - Counselling; Procuring; Aiding and Abetting; Impeding; Concealing.</li> <li>6. Inchoate Offences: - Attempt.</li> <li>7. Offences Against Property: - Criminal Damage; Theft; Robbery; Burglary.</li> <li>8. Sexual Offences:- Rape</li> </ol>						
Contact Hours	<p><u>Full Time CPE</u></p> <p>The basic class contact pattern is as follows:</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">1 hour per week</td> <td>plenary session in lecture room</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 hour per week</td> <td>seminar discussion (max 12 students per seminar)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 hours per fortnight</td> <td>workshop sessions (ie combined seminar groups; max 3 seminar groups) for purposes of interactive consideration of</td> </tr> </table>	1 hour per week	plenary session in lecture room	1 hour per week	seminar discussion (max 12 students per seminar)	2 hours per fortnight	workshop sessions (ie combined seminar groups; max 3 seminar groups) for purposes of interactive consideration of
1 hour per week	plenary session in lecture room						
1 hour per week	seminar discussion (max 12 students per seminar)						
2 hours per fortnight	workshop sessions (ie combined seminar groups; max 3 seminar groups) for purposes of interactive consideration of						

	<p style="text-align: center;">practical tasks and discussion of current syllabus topic</p> <p>In any given academic year, there will normally be</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 16 one hour lectures, including introductory and revision lectures;</li> <li>• 12 hours of workshops (6 x 2 hours), including a revision workshop; and</li> <li>• 11 seminars (including one cycle of revision seminars)</li> </ul> <p>Consequently, in any academic year, there will normally be 39 hours of contact time for each student.</p> <p><u>Part Time CPE</u></p> <p>In any academic year, the basic class contact for the subject is normally as follows:</p> <p>At the September Induction tuition session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 hour subject introductory lecture</li> </ul> <p>At the five subsequent tuition sessions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 ½ hours with tutor. Normally split into 1 ½ hours in plenary session and 2 hours in seminar groups</li> </ul> <p>Consequently, in any academic year, there will normally be 18½ hours of contact time.</p>
Teaching and Learning Methods	<p>Students are introduced to each topic through the medium of a 1 hour lecture which may be interactive in part.</p> <p>Students are then required to prepare for the 2 hour interactive workshop through (1) reading (a) the materials provided (the PowerPoint slides for the lecture (sometimes containing more detail in ‘Speaker’s Notes’); a ‘Topic Outline’ supplementing the lecture and filling in more detail (b) directed reading in the texts provided (2) research in legal databases/texts available from the library (3) independent work (a) preparing to discuss the legal principles and details of the law relevant to the topic area and analysing the situations in the Workshop case studies and their legal implications and the rights and remedies of the parties involved.</p> <p>For the Seminars students are required to develop their knowledge of the legal topic further and to use the same techniques as in the preparation for the Workshops to be able to deal with the seminar specific case studies; some of which will be unseen.</p> <p>For both seminars and workshops students are expected to be able to present brief outlines of and/or commentary on the relevant law; their analysis of specific problems and their ‘solutions’ to specific case studies to the group.</p> <p>It is anticipated that students will need to engage in approx. 4 hours work in preparation for all face to face sessions and in reflection and reinforcement following a session.</p>
Reading Strategy	<p>At the start of the academic year, each student will be provided with some core published materials for the subject, being a text book; a book of cases and materials, and a book of legislation (see below: Indicative Sources).</p> <p>Any <b>essential</b> reading will be indicated clearly to students (normally by a combination of Topic Outlines; workshop / plenary instructions and seminar instructions). Essential reading for a particular topic or class will normally be a combination of parts of the core</p>

	<p>material provided to students and / or other specific references that students will need to access for themselves (eg case reports, journal articles, Law Commission reports, etc).</p> <p>Each year the subject team will determine which texts are to be purchased for the individual use of the students studying this subject. The selection may vary from one year to another but will usually comprise, as a minimum, one student textbook appropriate in style for the intensive nature of the course; one casebook and one volume of selected statutes. In addition students will be referred to the range of materials in the Bolland Library and they will be expected to fully utilise the variety of legal journals available both in hard copy and electronically, as part of their research for coursework in the Foundation subjects.</p> <p>By way of illustration, in the 2016 / 2017 academic year, the texts provided to students will be:  Herring, Criminal law, 9th ed, Palgrave Macmillan  Blackstone's Statutes on Criminal Law</p>
Indicative Reading List	<p>If <b>further reading</b> is expected, this will be indicated clearly to students (normally by a combination of Topic Outlines; workshop / plenary instructions and seminar instructions).</p> <p>Students will be encouraged to make full use of the printed and electronic resources available to them through the UWE Library (for the purposes of both class contact preparation and research in preparation for coursework and examination assessments). These include (amongst other things) a range of printed case reports, legislation, texts and journals, as well as a range of electronic journals and a wide variety of resources available through web sites and information gateways (including online study and legal research sites provided by the Law Library). The University Library's web pages provide access to subject relevant resources and services, and to the library catalogue. Many resources can be accessed remotely. Students will be presented with opportunities within the curriculum to develop their information retrieval and evaluation skills in order to identify relevant resources effectively.</p>

<b>Part 3: Assessment</b>	
Assessment Strategy	<p>The Assessment:</p> <p>Criminal Law is taught and examined in the same Teaching Block of the Diploma as Obligations II (Law of Tort), Obligations I (Contract Law) and Public Law. In any given academic year, there will be a coursework in two of these four subjects. Consequently, in alternate years, there will be assessed coursework in Criminal Law. In every academic year, there will be an unseen examination in each of the four subjects.</p> <p>Therefore assessment in any given academic year takes the form of either:</p> <p>(a) Coursework and Examination</p> <p>(i) An unseen examination of two and a half hours duration at the end of the Teaching Block. Students will be required to answer no more than three questions from a minimum of six questions. Students are permitted to take their own, unannotated copy of the relevant statute book in the examination. The examination requires students to adapt their knowledge and demonstrate their understanding of the law in relation to novel situations and under time constraint; <u>and</u></p>

	<p>(ii) a coursework task set on a syllabus topic requiring students to demonstrate their ability to research a topic and to produce an appropriate response to the task set. For example, this may take the form of a critical analysis of the syllabus topic, an evaluative response to proposed reforms of the law in that context; advice to a hypothetical client based on a factual scenario provided by the tutor; the draft of a short scholarly article or conference paper etc.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>(b) Examination only</p> <p>An unseen examination of three and a half hours duration at the end of the Teaching Block. Students will be required to answer four questions from a choice of eight questions. Students are permitted to take their own, unannotated copy of the relevant statute book in the examination. The examination requires students to adapt their knowledge and demonstrate their understanding of the law in relation to novel situations and under time constraint.</p> <p>All students are provided with a voluntary opportunity to sit a test paper before the formal and summative assessment by examination takes place.</p>
--	--

Assessment in an academic year in which there is an assessed coursework		
% weighting between components A and B	A:	B:
		75%
<b>First Sit</b>		
Component A (controlled conditions) Description of each element	Element weighting (as % of component)	
1. Unseen Exam (2.5 hours)	100%	
Component B Description of each element	Element weighting (as % of component)	
1. Coursework	100%	

Resit (further attendance at taught classes is not required)		
Component A (controlled conditions) Description of each element	Element weighting (as % of component)	
1. Unseen Exam (2.5 hours)	100%	
Component B Description of each element	Element weighting (as % of component)	
2. Coursework	100%	

If a student is permitted a retake of the module under the University Regulations and Procedures, the assessment will be that indicated by the Module Description at the time that retake commences.

<b>Assessment in an academic year in which there is no assessed coursework</b>		
<b>% weighting between components A and B</b>	<b>A:</b>	<b>B:</b>
	<b>100%</b>	
<b>First Sit</b>		
<b>Component A (controlled conditions)</b> <b>Description of each element</b>	<b>Element weighting (as % of component)</b>	
1. Unseen Exam (3.5 hours)	100%	
<b>Component B</b> <b>Description of each element</b>	<b>Element weighting (as % of component)</b>	
n/a		
<b>Resit (further attendance at taught classes is not required)</b>		
<b>Component A (controlled conditions)</b> <b>Description of each element</b>	<b>Element weighting (as % of component)</b>	
2. Unseen Exam (3.5 hours)	100%	
<b>Component B</b> <b>Description of each element</b>	<b>Element weighting (as % of component)</b>	
n/a		
<p>If a student is permitted a retake of the module under the University Regulations and Procedures, the assessment will be that indicated by the Module Description at the time that retake commences.</p>		