



## **Module Specification**

### **World Trade Organisation Law**

Version: 2023-24, v2.0, 12 Jul 2023

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## Part 1: Information

**Module title:** World Trade Organisation Law

**Module code:** UJGUPM-15-M

**Level:** Level 7

**For implementation from:** 2023-24

**UWE credit rating:** 15

**ECTS credit rating:** 7.5

**Faculty:** Faculty of Business & Law

**Department:** FBL Dept of Law

**Partner institutions:** None

**Field:** Law Postgraduate (Programmes)

**Module type:** Module

**Pre-requisites:** None

**Excluded combinations:** None

**Co-requisites:** None

**Continuing professional development:** No

**Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements:** None

## Part 2: Description

**Overview:** This module examines the laws, and law-making and adjudicative institutions of the World Trade Organisation.

Particular attention is given to the procedures for dispute resolution in respect of GATT and other 'covered agreements' relating to international economic law, and the jurisprudence arising.

Whereas it was once possible for legal academics and practitioners to dismiss this field as 'diplomats' law', the WTO's ad hoc panel system, together with its standing Appellate Body, are at the core of a rapidly emerging body of 'lawyers' law'.

**Features:** Not applicable

**Educational aims:** See Learning Outcomes.

In addition, students will develop the ability to work in groups.

**Outline syllabus:** General introduction: International trade and the origins to the WTO

Institutional framework of WTO and Enforcement of WTO law: WTO institutions, decision-making process and WTO Dispute Settlement

General principles of WTO law 1: Rules on non-discrimination - Most-Favoured-Nation Treatment (MFNT) and National Treatment

General principles of WTO law 2: Market access (TBs and NTBs)

General principles of WTO law 3: Harmonisation of national regulations (TBT, SPS and TRIPPS agreements)

General principles of WTO law 4: Unfair trade (Dumping, anti-dumping measures and subsidies)

Exceptions to the principles 1: General exceptions under GATT 1994 (the example of environment protection)

Exceptions to the principles 2: Regional Trade Agreements (RTAs)

Exceptions to the principles 3: Developing countries/Emerging economies

### **Part 3: Teaching and learning methods**

**Teaching and learning methods:** The main focus of teaching and learning on the taught LLM programme is through independent research and debate in the context of 2 hour weekly workshops.

The workshop-based approach to teaching and learning is designed to enable the student to develop the independent research, analytical and reflective skills required for successful completion of a postgraduate level course.

Students will need to complete the necessary preparatory reading and study of any set case materials in advance of each workshop.

From each workshop, the student will be expected to have developed a general mastery of the subject under consideration.

In addition, students will be expected to contribute to structured analytical discussions, raise, critically assess and defend different points of view on controversial issues in class and to make presentations to the class on their own and in groups.

Analytical skills and a critical theoretical approach to the subject are encouraged.

A strong emphasis is placed on independent engagement with the materials and the questioning of assumptions concerning human rights as categories.

Students should come prepared to be fully involved in lively debate and engagement with each other and the tutor.

**Module Learning outcomes:** On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

**D1** Ability to present a structured argument at both abstract and concrete levels in the subject area.

**D2** Ability to recognise problems and identify solutions.

**D3** Ability to analyse, evaluate and reflect upon complex materials relating to the subject area.

**D4** Ability to undertake independent research.

**MO1** Demonstrate a critical appreciation of the law, policy and institutions of the WTO.

**MO2** Solve complex problems relating to the interpretation of international agreements in the field of international economic law.

**MO3** Compare and contrast WTO legal principles in relation to broader principles of public international law.

**MO4** Identify - and critically assess the delivery of - the WTO's principal objectives.

**Hours to be allocated:** 150

**Contact hours:**

Independent study/self-guided study = 126 hours

Face-to-face learning = 24 hours

Total = 150

**Reading list:** The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ujgupm-15-m.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ujgupm-15-m.html>

## **Part 4: Assessment**

**Assessment strategy:** Learning outcomes will be assessed by oral presentation and written coursework. Assessment questions will be set by tutors. Both assessments require students to undertake independent research building on material covered in the workshop sessions.

The oral assessment will allow the student to give an oral presentation on an area relevant to the module. The student should present this in a clear and structured manner with appropriate content. The assessment also gives the student an opportunity to answer questions in this area of the law, to elaborate on the further reading that the student has done.

The written assessment assesses a different skill; that of writing clearly and precisely in an area of law relevant to the module. Here, the student should write in a clear and structured manner with appropriate content. The assessment also gives the student an opportunity to conduct further research, with an extensive bibliography

and detailed footnotes.

Formative assessment opportunities will be provided in workshops throughout the module.

**Assessment tasks:**

**Presentation (First Sit)**

Description: Online submission of a 15 minute oral presentation.

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: D1, D2, D3, D4, MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

**Written Assignment (First Sit)**

Description: Written coursework essay (max 2000 words)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: D1, D2, D3, D4, MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

**Presentation (Resit)**

Description: Online submission of a 15 minute oral presentation.

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested:

**Written Assignment (Resit)**

Description: Written coursework essay (max 2000 words).

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested:

## **Part 5: Contributes towards**

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Environmental Law and Sustainable Development [Frenchay] LLM 2023-24

International Banking and Finance Law [Frenchay] LLM 2023-24

International Trade and Economic Law [Frenchay] LLM 2023-24

International Trade and Economic Law [FTU] LLM 2023-24

International Trade and Economic Law [HCMCUL] LLM 2023-24

International Law [Frenchay] LLM 2023-24

International Law [Frenchay] LLM 2023-24

International Law [Frenchay] LLM 2022-23