



## MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Information			
Module Title	Foundations for Research		
Module Code	UJGUPW-15-M	Level	Level 7
For implementation from	2020-21		
UWE Credit Rating	15	ECTS Credit Rating	7.5
Faculty	Faculty of Business & Law	Field	Law Postgraduate (Programmes)
Department	FBL Dept of Law		
Module Type:	Standard		
Pre-requisites	None		
Excluded Combinations	None		
Co-requisites	None		
Module Entry Requirements	None		
PSRB Requirements	None		

Part 2: Description
<p><b>Educational Aims:</b> The aim of this module is to provide opportunities for students to enhance and further develop key academic and professional skills. Students will be introduced to the idea of skills auditing and reflective practice by being required to produce a skills focused portfolio. The aim is to facilitate student in reflecting on the core skills and competencies required for professional practice and to consider their own skills levels.</p> <p><b>Outline Syllabus:</b> Opportunities will be provided for students to develop research and reasoning skills as well as skills in information retrieval and referencing at a foundational level. Students will also be given opportunities to think about managing professional relationships, time management, working well as part of a team and participation in class. These skills map directly onto academic and employment performance in the legal field. The module will also introduce students to the fundamental features of the core research methodologies and the foundational skills required to carry out successful research at LLM level. The methodologies to be explored will reflect those dominant in legal academia and practice.</p> <p><b>Teaching and Learning Methods:</b> It is intended that by focusing on skills developments, performance in all areas of the LLM in general, and the dissertation in particular, will be improved. The rationale is that these practices will not only assist students in building their academic performance, but will also act as a 'body of evidence' when students are asked by employers to explore what skills, competencies and capabilities they have gained through LLM study.</p>

## STUDENT AND ACADEMIC SERVICES

This module will be delivered via the medium of two hour weekly interactive workshops. The workshop format is appropriate for skills development as its interactive approach permits both demonstration/illustration and practise within the formal teaching environment.

### Part 3: Assessment

Component A – Project Proposal and Plan (maximum 2000 words - 50%) Students will receive written feedforward comments from a tutor on the proposed research.

Component B - A portfolio reflecting on and evidencing the development of core skills and competencies (maximum 2000 words - 50%).

Learning outcomes will be assessed by both components. Both assessments require students to undertake independent research, building on material covered in the workshop sessions. Both assessments are designed with the specific aim of helping students to connect the ideas and practices of good academic research with the study and research they will conduct throughout the whole LLM and in their on-going professional lives.

First Sit Components	Final Assessment	Element weighting	Description
Written Assignment - Component A	✓	50 %	Written project proposal (maximum of 2000 words)
Portfolio - Component B		50 %	Portfolio reflecting on core skills and competencies (maximum 2000 words - excluding evidence).
Resit Components	Final Assessment	Element weighting	Description
Written Assignment - Component A	✓	50 %	Written project proposal (maximum of 2000 words)
Portfolio - Component B		50 %	Portfolio reflecting on core skills and competencies (maximum 2000 words - excluding evidence).

### Part 4: Teaching and Learning Methods

Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes:	
	<b>Module Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Reference</b>
	An awareness of the importance of reflection in enhancing academic and professional skills and the ability to practise critical reflection	MO1
	A critical understanding of the range of research methodologies and methods that can be used in legal research and the ability to formulate coherent, scholarly and practicable research questions.	MO2
	The ability to locate, gather, evaluate and use a wide range of legal and other information through independent library and ICT-based research activities	MO3
	Communication skills, both oral and written, in the articulation of their own and others' approach to legal research	MO4
	Core transferable academic and professional skills such as time management, communication skills and professional interpersonal skills	MO5
Contact Hours	<b>Independent Study Hours:</b>	
	Independent study/self-guided study	126

## STUDENT AND ACADEMIC SERVICES

	<b>Total Independent Study Hours:</b>	126
	<b>Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours:</b>	
	Face-to-face learning	24
	<b>Total Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours:</b>	24
	<b>Hours to be allocated</b>	150
	<b>Allocated Hours</b>	150
Reading List	<p><i>The reading list for this module can be accessed via the following link:</i></p> <p><a href="https://uwe.rl.talis.com/index.html">https://uwe.rl.talis.com/index.html</a></p>	

### Part 5: Contributes Towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study: