



Module Specification

Legal Research

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Legal Research

Module code: UJXTTM-10-M

Level: Level 7

For implementation from: 2021-22

UWE credit rating: 10

ECTS credit rating: 5

Faculty: Faculty of Business & Law

Department: FBL Dept of Law

Partner institutions: None

Delivery locations: Frenchay Campus

Field: Law - non modular

Module type: Standard

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: The module will be undertaken by students intending to pursue a career in law and in particular, to qualify as a Solicitor and be Admitted to the Roll to practice in England & Wales (regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority).

This module will prepare students for practice but particularly for the specific

requirements of the assessment of the Legal Skill of Legal Research in the Solicitors Qualifying Exam 2 (“SQE 2”)

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: On successful completion of this module students will be able to:

Undertake the skill of Legal Research at the level expected by the Solicitors Regulation Authority of a newly qualified solicitor in legal practice. The SRA assessment criteria are set out in the STC Handbook, including the relevant functioning legal knowledge which will be assessed as part of the skill of legal research.

Outline syllabus: SQE2 is a centrally set assessment (administered externally on behalf of the Solicitors Regulation Authority) which a student must pass as part of the qualification framework leading to admission to the Roll to practice as a solicitor

SQE 2 will comprise of a series of skills assessments undertaken at an assessment centre within a short time scale.

The SQE2 assessments will assess a candidate's ability in 6 core skills at the level expected of a newly qualified solicitor in legal practice

This module specifically prepares students for the assessment of the skill of Legal Research in SQE2, which they will undertake in 3 separate assessment scenarios in the subject fields of

1. Dispute Resolution or Criminal Litigation
2. Property Practice or Wills and Intestacy, Probate Administration and Practice
3. Business Organisations, Rules and Procedures

Extracts of the SRA Assessment for the skills of Legal Research and the relevant underpinning legal knowledge requirements will be available in the STC Handbook.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: The module is taught through

Self-directed learning

Online learning through Blackboard including sample documents illustrating the skill of legal research in a range of subject contexts.

Tutor led small group sessions to develop skills

A range of formative assessment exercises to develop student skills in Legal Research in a range of subject contexts

Module Learning outcomes:

MO1 Find, interpret and evaluate the law by identifying and using relevant sources of information.

MO2 Create written advice which is client-focused and addresses the client's problem.

MO3 Create written advice using clear, precise, concise and acceptable language.

MO4 Identify and utilise correct legal knowledge and research skills to the client's situation.

MO5 Apply the law comprehensively to the client's situation, identifying any ethical and professional conduct issues.

MO6 Assimilate information rapidly and work under strict time pressure.

Hours to be allocated: 100

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 75 hours

Face-to-face learning = 25 hours

Total = 100

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at readinglists.uwe.ac.uk via the following link

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: 3 x Legal Research computer based closed book assessments, undertaken in an assessment centre environment (to replicate that of the SQE2 assessment process) one each in the subject fields of

1. Dispute Resolution or Criminal Litigation
2. Property Practice or Wills and Intestacy, Probate Administration and Practice
3. Business Organisations, Rules and Procedures

Students must achieve 50% overall to pass the module (N.B. The external SQE pass mark is achieved by obtaining an overall pass mark for SQE 2, which will be subject to SRA standard setting and may fluctuate annually).

Where a student does not successfully pass the Module Assessment but subsequently successfully passes SQE 2, they will be deemed to have passed the Module and attained credit for the purposes of the Programme Award.

Assessment components:

Practical Skills Assessment - Component A (First Sit)

Description: 1 x Legal Research computer based closed book assessments. in the context of either Dispute Resolution or Criminal Litigation.

Weighting: 34 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6

Practical Skills Assessment - Component A (First Sit)

Description: 1 x Legal Research computer based closed book assessment in the context of either Property Practice or Wills and Intestacy, Probate Administration and Practice.

Weighting: 33 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6

Practical Skills Assessment - Component A (First Sit)

Description: 1 x Legal Research computer based closed book assessment in the context of Business Organisations, Rules and Procedures.

Weighting: 33 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6

Practical Skills Assessment - Component A (Resit)

Description: 1 x Legal Research computer based closed book assessments. in the context of either Dispute Resolution or Criminal Litigation.

Weighting: 34 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested:

Practical Skills Assessment - Component A (Resit)

Description: 1 x Legal Research computer based closed book assessment in the context of either Property Practice or Wills and Intestacy, Probate Administration and Practice.

Weighting: 33 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested:

Practical Skills Assessment - Component A (Resit)

Description: 1 x Legal Research computer based closed book assessment in the context of Business Organisations, Rules and Procedures.

Weighting: 33 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested:

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

PG Dip Solicitors Training Course (SQE Prep) (Two Part) [Aug][FT][Frenchay][9mos]

PGDip 2021-22