



Module Specification

Dissertation

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Dissertation

Module code: UJUUMS-30-3

Level: Level 6

For implementation from: 2025-26

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

Faculty: Faculty of Business & Law

Department: FBL Dept of Law

Partner institutions: None

Delivery locations: Frenchay Campus

Field: Law Undergraduate (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: The Dissertation module provides students with significant autonomy to define and direct their academic studies by researching a legal topic of interest to them.

Features: The Dissertation module provides students with an opportunity to study a topic of their choosing in greater depth than is possible in standard assessments. It

requires students to act more independently, albeit in a supportive research environment.

Educational aims: The aim of this module is to enable students to develop legal research skills, communication skills, the ability to critically analyse the law and other sources of information and the ability to work independently.

Outline syllabus: The content of the dissertation will be determined by the student, in conjunction with their supervisor.

During formal scheduled teaching, the following will be covered:

1. Approaches to Legal Research and Research Methods
2. Ethical Considerations
3. Academic Writing
4. Academic Referencing

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: The Dissertation Module is primarily an independent study module. However, students will be supported throughout the research process in a variety of ways.

First, formal timetabled group sessions will take place to deliver the indicative content and to provide an opportunity to discuss research approaches, problems conducting research etc. Students will be encouraged to discuss their research with their peers.

Second, all students will be allocated a dissertation supervisor who has expertise in the area of law that their dissertation is based on. Students are required to attend at least two supervision meetings in the first term, in order to complete the first assessment (The Research Plan). Students are encouraged to submit draft chapters to their supervisor for feedback, which enables them to develop their skills and improve the quality of their work.

Third, students are supported by the provision of appropriate resources and encouraged to access the support available through the Library and Learning Hub.

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

MO1 Demonstrate in-depth knowledge and understanding of the legal topic chosen for the dissertation

MO2 Ability to apply legal research techniques and academic writing skills.

MO3 critically analyse complex legal issues, to evaluate various sources of information, to develop arguments and reach conclusions

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 285 hours

Face-to-face learning = 15 hours

Total = 300

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/B82816FD-BAD1-82CF-5726-FE2660A75301.html?lang=en&login=1) via the following link <https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/B82816FD-BAD1-82CF-5726-FE2660A75301.html?lang=en&login=1>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: The Dissertation Module has two assessment points. The first is The Research Plan, (15%) , 3000 words , which students will submit at the end of the first term. This is designed to ensure that students do not delay the research process, that they reflect on the decisions they have made and that they engage with their supervisor (as one of the requirements for the Research Plan is to provide a log of meetings).

The second assessment point is the dissertation itself (85%) 10-12,000 words.

Assessment components:

Written Assignment (First Sit)

Description: A Research Plan, involving a log of supervision meetings, an outline of progress to date and a dissertation plan

Weighting: 15 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Dissertation (First Sit)

Description: An assignment where the student undertakes independent research on a topic with the specific support of a tutor; undertaken as part of a final year study resulting in a thesis

Weighting: 85 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Dissertation (Resit)

Description: An assignment where the student undertakes independent research on a topic with the specific support of a tutor; undertaken as part of a final year study resulting in a thesis

Weighting: 85 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Written Assignment (Resit)

Description: A Research Plan, involving a log of supervision meetings, an outline of progress to date and a dissertation plan

Weighting: 15 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Law [Frenchay] LLB (Hons) 2023-24

Law [Villa] LLB (Hons) 2023-24

Law {Foundation} [Frenchay] LLB (Hons) 2023-24