



## **Module Specification**

### **Sexual Offences and Offending**

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## Part 1: Information

**Module title:** Sexual Offences and Offending

**Module code:** UJUUML-30-2

**Level:** Level 5

**For implementation from:** 2024-25

**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:** This module adopts a socio-legal approach in exploring the law of sex offences, criminal justice approaches to sex offending and related issues for society.

It will be linked to the Student Lawyer project, where students will engage in wider project work involving external engagement as well as personal and professional development activities.

**Features:** Not applicable

**Educational aims:** To facilitate the analysis of socio-legal issues as they relate to sexual offences and offending behaviours.

The module is connected to the Student Lawyer Project, which will be delivered programmatically across the year. Students will engage in two project weeks, one in each teaching semester. Through the projects students will extend their academic studies into wider exploration of legal themes, external engagement, and ongoing reflection on their own personal and professional development with the aim of supporting their wider development across their individual student journey.

**Outline syllabus:** Indicative content includes:

Rape within the Criminal Justice System:

Societal attitudes and their impact on rape law enforcement

Police and prosecutorial decision-making

Courtroom treatment of complainants, including cross-examination

Sentencing

Strategies for improving conviction rates

Child Sexual Abuse within the Criminal Justice System:

Examination of the specific needs of child complainants.

“Special measures” to assist child and vulnerable witnesses

Consideration of how these measures have operated in practice

Investigation/prosecution of cases involving child pornography

Sex Offenders: Criminal Justice Responses:

The problems posed by sex offenders – public protection, rehabilitation and the rights of convicted sex offenders

Imprisonment/supervision in the community

Use of specific measures, including civil orders, castration, registration and public notification, use of lie

detectors, various behavioural restrictions on high-risk offenders

Policing of prostitution, pimps and clients

Policing of consensual sexual offences

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

**Teaching and learning methods:** The learning on this module will take place through a variety of modes including directed independent learning, self-directed learning, and group activities. Students will need to adopt a proactive approach to the module and engage with the full offer of learning opportunities to ensure successful achievement of the learning outcomes.

The module is designed to offer an authentic learning experience in which students will apply theoretical principles they have researched and studied to practical scenarios. For example, students may be expected to be able to prepare and present brief outlines of and/or commentary on the relevant law; their analysis of specific issues in the small group sessions.

Through the Student Lawyer Project students will engage in project work which will further support their development of independent learning skills; research; team work; time management; presentation skills and the capacity for effective reflection on their learning.

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

**MO1** Apply both critical and systematic understanding of how sexual offences are investigated, prosecuted and sentenced by criminal justice agencies, including the police, Crown Prosecution Service and Courts.

**MO2** Evidence capacity to identify both the strengths and weaknesses in the existing research evidence on the criminal justice system's treatment of sexual offences and offenders.

**MO3** Demonstrate capacity to recognise and proffer solutions to particular controversies within the criminal justice system.

**MO4** Recognise, respect and value diversity of experience and the perspectives of others, and demonstrate an understanding of the principles and values of law, justice, and legal ethics.

**Hours to be allocated:** 300

**Contact hours:**

Independent study/self-guided study = 117 hours

Face-to-face learning = 66 hours

Total = 183

**Reading list:** The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/C9541232-5F35-F476-E0EE-9D967D388FE2.html?lang=en&login=1) via the following link <https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/C9541232-5F35-F476-E0EE-9D967D388FE2.html?lang=en&login=1>

**Part 4: Assessment**

**Assessment strategy:** Online Exam (35%) 24hr open book .

Essay (65%) 2500 words

Students' personal and professional development will be demonstrated through contribution to a reflective piece relating to the Student Lawyer project.

**Assessment components:****Examination (Online) (First Sit)**

Description: 24 hour open book online examination requiring short essay-style responses. Two questions, combined word limit of 2500.

Weighting: 35 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO3

**Written Assignment (First Sit)**

Description: Essay style assessment. 2500 word limit.

Students will also contribute to a reflective piece relating to the Student Lawyer Project.

Weighting: 65 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO3, MO4

**Examination (Online) (Resit)**

Description: 24 hr online open book examination .An examination requiring short essay-style responses. Two questions, combined word limit of 2500.

Weighting: 35 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO3

**Written Assignment (Resit)**

Description: Essay assignment.2500 word limit.

Students will also contribute to a reflective piece relating to the Student Lawyer Project.

Weighting: 65 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO3, MO4

**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