



## **Module Specification**

### **International Business Law**

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## Part 1: Information

**Module title:** International Business Law

**Module code:** UJUUM7-30-3

**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:** Business contributes to the wealth and development of countries. This module therefore aims at providing an understanding of the essential principles in the area of International Business Law.

**Features:** The module covers the legal theory in this area of Law.

Additionally, there is a practical aspect focusing on the application of the theory in modified 'real-life' situations, e.g. examining the common legal documents used in this area of the Law and advising potential clients in Case Studies.

**Educational aims:**

The educational aims include:

To introduce the student to international commercial transactions and their peculiarities and to provide some basic understanding of the sale and carriage contracts more commonly used.

To explain the financing of international business and the legal significance of such financial instruments.

To enable students to understand and to critically interpret the dynamics of international business and solve legal and practical problems arising in this growing area.

To enable students to research, to develop an appreciation of complexity and the limits of scholarship in this sphere, and to solve problems relating to commercial transaction across borders, involving different jurisdictions and systems of law.

**Outline syllabus:****1. International Sales Contracts****1.1 FOB – Free on Board****1.2 CIF – Cost, Insurance and Freight**

To examine how each of these contracts function covering matters such as for e.g. Sellers' and Buyers' obligations, the transfer of property and risk, the significance of key documents, etc.

**2. Carriage Contracts****2.1 Under the Hague Visby Rules System****2.2 Under the Common Law System**

To examine matters such as for e.g. the functions of the bill of lading, the Carriers' and Cargo-owners' obligations, limitation of liability, etc.

### 3. Finance Contracts

To examine Documentary Letters of Credit and how they function. Principles such as for e.g. strict compliance, autonomy of letters of credit, the fraud exception, etc.

### 4. Marine Insurance

To examine the key concepts involved in marine insurance. A look at the Institute cargo Clauses A, B and C, types of warranties, types of policies, types of losses, etc.

### 4. Dispute Resolution

An examination of disputes in international transactions with a brief overview of conflict of laws and jurisdiction.

Additionally, there may be a look at litigation, arbitration and ADR.

### 5. The United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods – CISG

Recognition that this Convention does not automatically apply to international sales contracts in the UK. However, it may be adopted by the Seller and the Buyer should they wish for it to apply to their specific contract. Then a look at the Sellers' and Buyers' obligations under this Convention.

N.B. Please note that the whole of the syllabus may not be taught in any one year. Selection of topics will depend on staff current research and interests.

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

**Teaching and learning methods:** The learning context is student-centred and utilises a variety of techniques to encourage independent thought and constructive criticism. Dialogue is promoted between student and lecturer in an inter-active relationship which emphasises the two-way flow of information and criticism.

Subject to the requirements of the Professional Bodies, it is not necessarily envisaged that every topic in the syllabus will be covered in any one academic year.

Areas which have topical significance could, therefore, be developed at greater length and less important areas delineated in outline only.

Students will be expected to conduct research with both traditional and electronic sources and will be instructed how to do this both during the Programme as a whole and, where necessary, within the module.

Student preparation:

Workshops: Workshop preparation tasks include working individually, in pairs or in small groups.

Students will be given seminar documents/case studies in advance of their workshops which will be centred on the analysis of cases, statutes, etc. as appropriate. The material will usually be problem or discussion title-based. Supplementary material (usually of a problem-solving nature) may be provided in the workshop.

Directed reading will be suggested along with internet sources and video material as appropriate.

Students are expected to make full use of their independent learning time to reflect critically upon the subject and to develop their own ideas.

Operation and purpose:

Workshops: Workshops will involve problem-solving and the analysis and synthesis of conceptual and contextual issues, through plenary discussion and may include presentations by individual students or groups of students.

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

**MO1** To identify and analyse the different legal issues involved in an international transaction and resolve them by applying the relevant legal rules and principles.

**MO2** Ability to research into different areas of international business law and communicate the outcome of that research in an articulate way.

**MO3** Demonstrate an ability to understand abstract concepts and apply those concepts to practical problems arriving to relevant conclusions.

**Hours to be allocated:** 300

**Contact hours:**

Independent study/self-guided study = 234 hours

Face-to-face learning = 66 hours

Total = 300

**Reading list:** The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](http://readinglists.uwe.ac.uk) via the following link

## **Part 4: Assessment**

**Assessment strategy:** The first assignment is a Case Study. The student will be provided with documents and will be required to write a modified Opinion based on the information provided in the documents. The maximum word limit is 2,500 words. This assessment is worth 50% of the module.

The second assignment is two short answer questions. These may be theory essays and/or problem questions. The student will have to answer both questions. Each answer has a maximum word limit of 1,250 words. This assessment is worth the other 50% of the module.

**Assessment components:**

**Written Assignment (First Sit)**

Description: An written opinion based on a case study (Maximum 2,500 words)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

**Written Assignment (First Sit)**

Description: Two short essay and/or problem questions. Each answer has a maximum word limit of 1,250 words. Both questions have to be answered.

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

**Written Assignment (Resit)**

Description: An written opinion based on a case study (Maximum 2,500 words)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

**Written Assignment (Resit)**

Description: Two short essay and/or problem questions. Each answer has a maximum word limit of 1,250 words. Both questions have to be answered.

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

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