



## **Module Specification**

### **Public Law**

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## Part 1: Information

**Module title:** Public Law

**Module code:** UJUULE-30-1

**Level:** Level 4

**For implementation from:** 2023-24

**UWE credit rating:** 30

**ECTS credit rating:** 15

**Faculty:** Faculty of Business & Law

**Department:** FBL Dept of Law

**Partner institutions:** None

**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:** Public law is in action around us every day. We see it in the news, and we hear others talk about it on current affairs programmes or on social media. However, law students possess a detailed knowledge of the theories, rules, and laws that operate in the field of public law which makes them able to comprehend what occurs behind the media stories and, often, helps them identify inaccuracies. At its heart, public law concerns the states powers and the relationship between the state and the individual. What can Parliament, Government, or the Judiciary do and what

happens when one of those bodies acts beyond its powers. This module introduces students to the main legal and political institutions of the UK, and it considers their roles in the UK's unwritten constitution. It also introduces students to the relationship between the individual and the state and the rules and laws that govern that relationship. The module is split into two parts: first, we will look at the foundation of the UK constitution. All elements of the state and all other laws are built upon this, so it is fundamental aspect to our study of the law. The second part of this module will introduce you to judicial review and human rights.

The module will be delivered as a separate module, but presented programatically together with Criminal Law as Public Law.

It will be linked to the Student Lawyer project, where students will explore aspects of public law through project work involving external engagement as well as personal and professional development activities..

**Features:** Not applicable

**Educational aims:** The emphasis throughout will be on providing the student the opportunity and facilities to find, understand, apply and analyse the law in its historical, practical, academic and social contexts.

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:** The following is indicative content, not all topics will necessarily be covered, and the content may vary over time as current medico-legal issues develop.

The course comprises a mix of law and legal theory and the following list is an

indicative list of topics which the module will include:

- oAn introduction to the United Kingdom's constitution
- oThe separation of powers
- oThe rule of law
- oParliamentary supremacy
- oAn introduction to judicial review
- oAn introduction to human rights

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

**Teaching and learning methods:** The emphasis for this module is to provide students with the opportunity to gain knowledge and understanding while also applying, and analysing the law and legal theory.

The learning context is student-centred and utilizes a variety of techniques to encourage independent thought and constructive and analytical criticism. Dialogue is promoted between student and lecturer in an inter-active relationship that emphasizes the two-way flow of information and critique.

Scheduled learning includes in-class taught sessions that are based on and build further independent learning such as engagement with essential reading, assignment preparation and completion etc.

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** Demonstrate and ability to apply, analyse, and evaluate knowledge of the underlying concepts, theories principles, or rules in Public Law.

**MO2** Demonstrate an ability to develop lines of argument and make sound judgements in accordance with basic laws, theories, or concepts of Public Law.

**MO3** Communicate effectively orally and in writing in a variety of contexts.

**MO4** Work collaboratively with others.

**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:** A combination of written and oral assessment has been chosen.

Essay (Approx 2000 words, with scope for variation based on prompt set) (60%) . This written assessment tests academic rigour, argumentation, application of fundamental rules and concepts in Public Law, and legal analysis.

Presentation ( 40% ). The oral presentation takes the form of contribution to a moot hearing, and tests the ability to research the law, apply it, and present findings in a structured environment. The oral presentation tests the ability to present legal information in a structured and coherent argument.

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

The assessments have been designed to complement the assessments in the Criminal Law module.

**Assessment tasks:****Written Assignment (First Sit)**

Description: Essay exploring a contemporary issue in constitutional law.

A proportion of the marks for this assessment will be directly based on students' contributions to the programmatic Student Lawyer Project.

Weighting: 60 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

**Presentation (First Sit)**

Description: Contribution to a moot hearing. Each student will present for a maximum of 5 minutes.

Weighting: 40 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

**Written Assignment (Resit)**

Description: Essay exploring a contemporary issue in constitutional law.

A proportion of the marks for this assessment will be directly based on students' contributions to the programmatic Student Lawyer Project.

Weighting: 60 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

**Presentation (Resit)**

Description: Contribution to a moot hearing. Each student will present for a maximum of 5 minutes.

Weighting: 40 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, 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