



## **Module Specification**

### **Trade, Investment and Energy Law**

Version: 2024-25, v1.0, 07 Dec 2023

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## Part 1: Information

**Module title:** Trade, Investment and Energy Law

**Module code:** UJGU98-15-M

**Level:** Level 7

**For implementation from:** 2024-25

**UWE credit rating:** 15

**ECTS credit rating:** 7.5

**College:** College of Business and Law

**School:** CBL Bristol Law School

**Partner institutions:** None

**Field:** Law Postgraduate (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 module considers regulation around the global trade and investment in oil, gas and renewable energy including extractive industries, biofuels, hydroelectric and hydrogen.

Students are introduced international investment law, including investors' rights and protection of investment, investment arbitration, host country duties and rights and the impact that investment on energy sectors have on local communities. Investors'

duties are also considered and put in perspective from the point of view of corporate actors' liability (multinational companies and investment funds) especially around extraction and trade of fossil fuels and the growing field of renewable energy sources.

Dispute settlement involving energy law sectors is a growing area of concern covered in the module (both at the public (state v state), private (litigation) hybrid (investor v state) or through increasingly strategic international mediation practice.

**Features:** Innovative 'deep dive' topical sessions where the complexity and inter-relatedness of international trade and investment law, and increased pressures on energy markets is introduced from local case studies from both the global North and the global South, allowing students to engage with complex problems from a legal perspective across areas of private and public law both at the national and international levels.

Practice orientated skills development.

Focussed on current problems of growing importance in world trade and investment sectors

Students will be encouraged to find creative solutions in problem areas and propose regulatory tool-kits; project reports and outcomes that will mirror workplace experiences

**Educational aims:** The module incorporates innovative 'deep dive' topical sessions where the complexity and inter-relatedness of international trade and investment law, and increased pressures on energy markets is introduced from local case studies from both the global North and the global South, allowing students to engage with complex problems from a legal perspective across areas of private and public law both at the national and international levels.

Students will be encouraged to find creative solutions in problem areas and propose regulatory tool-kits; project reports and outcomes that will mirror workplace experiences

**Outline syllabus:** The following is a list of topics which will be explored in the workshops. The emphasis may shift where there is a shift in relative importance

within the subject field.

- Introduction to the module: The Global Economy and the quest for new markets and energy sources.
- Investment in Oil and Gas
- Multinational Companies, State Owned Companies and the Politics of Oil and Gas Trade.
- Energy Law: Constraints, local, national and global regulatory architecture
- Energy projects and local communities
- Renewable energy: biofuels, hydro-electric, wind and solar
- Global trade in energy sectors.

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

**Teaching and learning methods:** The module is delivered by means of weekly interactive two-hour workshop. The workshop-based approach to teaching and learning enables the student to develop the independent research, analytical and reflective skills required for successful completion of this module. Students will need to complete the necessary preparatory reading and study of any set case materials in advance of each workshop. During the workshop sessions, students will have the opportunity to learn about legal approaches, investigate innovative solutions to complex legal problems, and develop research, group presentation and negotiation skills. Independent learning includes hours engaged with essential reading, workshop preparation, assignment and presentation preparation and completion. The module will be supported by on-line materials which will enable students to test their understanding and enable them to pursue their interests further both through digitised materials and on-line discussion.

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

**MO1** Critical understanding of the national and international legal principles and concepts relating to the global trade and investment in oil, gas and renewable energy sectors.

**MO2** Ability to critically assess the impact of trade and investment in energy sectors in local communities and in relation to a wider political, ecological and economic context.

**MO3** Ability to analyse existing instruments and mechanisms for resolving disputes in trade and investment in energy sectors.

**MO4** Ability to critically evaluate the integration of different stakeholders' interests (international, national and local) and the legal instruments and mechanisms to mediate conflicts.

**MO5** Ability to critically examine the tensions between energy production, consumption and climate change and the risks and constraints that the climate emergency poses on the energy sector.

**Hours to be allocated:** 150

**Contact hours:**

Independent study/self-guided study = 128 hours

Face-to-face learning = 22 hours

Total = 150

**Reading list:** The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/63AA9D16-1051-29D3-DBAA-1E7D680E733D.html?lang=en&login=1) via the following link <https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/63AA9D16-1051-29D3-DBAA-1E7D680E733D.html?lang=en&login=1>

## **Part 4: Assessment**

**Assessment strategy:** The assessment strategy is to improve students' learning and ensure that assessment is linked to the learning outcomes. Learning outcomes will be assessed by a written report (max 2,500 words) on a particular legal issue or legal dispute in any of the areas studied in the course or a project report proposing regulatory developments in a sector or country set by the tutors. Formative assessment opportunities will be provided in workshops throughout the module. The assessment process is aligned with the LLM programme and designed to enable students to demonstrate the skills and knowledge they have acquired at the module

level.

The assessment strategy of the module is designed to comply with and support UWE Bristol Strategy 2030 and CBL Strategy.

The assessment is positioned to enable student centred and practice-led learning to achieve the learning outcomes.

Formative assessment opportunities will be provided throughout the module during student-centred, practice-led workshops.

### **Assessment tasks:**

#### **Report (First Sit)**

Description: Report (max 2,500 words)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

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

#### **Report (Resit)**

Description: Report (max 2,500 words)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

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

### **Part 5: Contributes towards**

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Global Business and Finance Law [Villa] LLM 2024-25

Global Business and Finance Law [FTU] LLM 2024-25

Global Business and Finance Law [BIBM] LLM 2024-25

Global Business and Finance Law [Frenchay] LLM 2024-25