



## **Module Specification**

### **Equality and the Law**

Version: 2025-26, v2.0, 18 Mar 2024

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## Part 1: Information

**Module title:** Equality and the Law

**Module code:** UJUULW-30-3

**Level:** Level 6

**For implementation from:** 2025-26

**UWE credit rating:** 30

**ECTS credit rating:** 15

**College:** College of Business and Law

**School:** CBL Bristol Law School

**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:** The aim and purpose of this module is to provide in-depth understanding of how law has evolved (and is still evolving) to address equality, as legally recognised equality characteristics have changed over time. Although the module will broadly focus on equality characteristics as understood according to the list of protected characteristic categories laid down in standard domestic equality law such as the Equality Act 2010 (race, age, gender reassignment, sex etc), the intention is not to focus solely on those categories, or on equality in employment and vocational

training, and therefore the module will have broader reach than the EA – e.g marriage equality for gay and trans people will also feature, as will equality before the legal system (including treatment of neurodiverse Defendants in the criminal justice system), and socio-economic inequality. This allows for a broader understanding of equality, and the aim is for the module to avoid where possible a solely UK-centric focus. Accordingly, human rights law, EU Law, criminal law, family law etc will be drawn upon where appropriate in order to cover the diverse nature of legal protection (formal and substantive) of equality.

**Features:** Not applicable

**Educational aims:** The aim of this module is to enable students to develop a systematic understanding of how law is used to address equality, and to develop their legal skills within this subject context.

**Outline syllabus:** The indicative syllabus for this module includes:

- Introduction to Equality Characteristics

- Sexual orientation

Including:

- Social and sexual equality (decriminalisation of homosexuality, equalisation of age of consent)

- Marriage Equality (same sex marriage)

- Gender reassignment

Including:

- Social equality - Gender Recognition Certificates

- Marriage Equality and birth certificate amendments

- Disability

Including:

- Neurodiversity and the legal system

- Sex

- Equal Pay

- Pregnancy and maternity

Remaining topics (to be developed) include:

- Marriage or civil partnership

- Race

- Religion or belief
- Age
- Socio-economic equality

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

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

Self-directed learning includes activities such as reading, research, and locating/using resources. Group activities may include discussions and debate, collaborative group working, and in-class presentations to peers. The module is designed through lectures and groups sessions to offer a varied learning experience.

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

**MO1** Critically analyse the effectiveness of various legal regimes as regards protected equality characteristics.

**MO2** Research independently, using a variety of different types of source.

**MO3** Engage in problem solving in order to address changing socio-legal concerns arising from equality law.

**Hours to be allocated:** 300

**Contact hours:**

Independent study/self-guided study = 234 hours

Face-to-face learning = 66 hours

Total = 0

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

<https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/3D8D5A0C-F9E8-14AD-7CCE->

[19408270121A.html?embed=1&lang=en&lti\\_relink\\_url=https:%2F%2Fuwe.rl.talis.com%2FIti%2Flaunch.html%3Fcontext\\_title%3DUJUTA9-30-3%2B-%2BGender%2Band%2Bthe%2Blaw%2B22sep\\_1%26custom\\_node\\_code\\_regex%3D%252F%255E%2528.%257B11%257D%2529.%252A%252F%26roles%3DInstructor%26resource\\_link\\_id%3DUJUTA9-30-3\\_22sep\\_1\\_9355342\\_1%26custom\\_node\\_code\\_replacement%3D%2524%257B1%257D%26context\\_id%3DUJUTA9-30-3\\_22sep\\_1%26context\\_label%3DUJUTA9-30-3\\_22sep\\_1%26oauth\\_consumer\\_key%3DFD5B379E-83DF-EE63-55CE-B8A282E5DA9C%26relink%3Dtrue%26embed%3Dtrue%26signature%3Df09ff37adac733a13f077c0a0604bfef6072b3beed81a0a1a2dc2c2a80e58149](https://19408270121A.html?embed=1&lang=en&lti_relink_url=https:%2F%2Fuwe.rl.talis.com%2FIti%2Flaunch.html%3Fcontext_title%3DUJUTA9-30-3%2B-%2BGender%2Band%2Bthe%2Blaw%2B22sep_1%26custom_node_code_regex%3D%252F%255E%2528.%257B11%257D%2529.%252A%252F%26roles%3DInstructor%26resource_link_id%3DUJUTA9-30-3_22sep_1_9355342_1%26custom_node_code_replacement%3D%2524%257B1%257D%26context_id%3DUJUTA9-30-3_22sep_1%26context_label%3DUJUTA9-30-3_22sep_1%26oauth_consumer_key%3DFD5B379E-83DF-EE63-55CE-B8A282E5DA9C%26relink%3Dtrue%26embed%3Dtrue%26signature%3Df09ff37adac733a13f077c0a0604bfef6072b3beed81a0a1a2dc2c2a80e58149)

## Part 4: Assessment

**Assessment strategy:** There are two assessment tasks, one in each semester.

1. A written assessment (50%) (2000 words) involving application of the law to a case study/scenario (which will include more than one area of equality characteristics) whereby students will be expected to provide legal advice to the beneficiary of legal protection.
2. A written coursework (50%) (2,500 words) in the form of an essay question focusing on reform of at least one area of equality law.

### Assessment tasks:

#### Written Assignment (First Sit)

Description: A written assessment (2000 words) involving application of the law to a case study/scenario (which will include more than one area of equality characteristics) whereby students will be expected to provide legal advice to the beneficiary of legal protection.

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

**Written Assignment (First Sit)**

Description: A written coursework of 2,500 words in the form of an essay question focusing on reform of at least one area of equality law.

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

**Written Assignment (Resit)**

Description: A written assessment (2000 words) involving application of the law to a case study/scenario (which will include more than one area of equality characteristics) whereby students will be expected to provide legal advice to the beneficiary of legal protection.

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

**Written Assignment (Resit)**

Description: A written coursework of 2,500 words in the form of an essay question focusing on reform of at least one area of equality law.

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 [Frenchay] LLB (Hons) 2023-24

