Module Specification

Dissertation

Version: 2023-24, v1.0, 14 Oct 2022

Contents

Part 1: Information

Module title: Dissertation

Module code: UJGT85-60-M

Level: Level 7

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 60

ECTS credit rating: 30

Faculty: Faculty of Business & Law

Department: FBL Dept of Law

Partner institutions: None

Delivery locations: Not in use for Modules

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: An autonomous and independent study, under the appropriate supervision of a member of staff appointed from within the Law Department. The focus of the module is on the process and outcomes of independent research and investigation.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: In addition to the assessed Learning Outcomes the educational experience may explore, develop, and practise, the following:

Oral presentation, communications and negotiation skills through a supervision process;

time management skills;

effectiveness at working independently;

reflection on own learning;

use of appropriate IT and electronic data resource to aid efficient searching, communication and presentation of information.

Outline syllabus: One scheduled workshop will be offered which will provide an introduction to the module.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: Where a student chooses to undertake an academic dissertation, the following procedures should be followed:

Preparation of a dissertation proposal and plan, identifying research questions, outlining the methodology, reviewing the literature and reflecting on the research process.

Students should develop and carry out their investigation in regular consultation with their allocated supervisor.

Preparation of a 15 000 word (max) dissertation.

Where a student chooses to undertake a work-based project, the following procedures should be followed:

Preparation of a learning contract agreed between the learner, host organisation(s) and academic supervisor which sets out the aim and parameters of the work-placed project, the timetable and resources required for the investigation. The learning contract should also formally consider ethical issues.

The student will use their learning contract to explore and further enquire into their chosen work-based project in regular consultation with their organisational mentor

and their academic supervisor.

Preparation of a 15 000 word (max) project report.

Students will be expected to develop their own learning and skills by independently using resources within the University Library. Appropriate reading will be highlighted in discussion with the supervisor / organisational mentor.

Students will consult academic staff about topics and for assistance with the development of their proposals in the first half of semester 2. These consultations will take place face to face or via email or other electronic media.

Up to 10 hours of supervision by the academic supervisor and/or the organisational mentor which will take place face to face or via email or other electronic media.

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

MO1 Demonstrate in-depth knowledge and understanding of the subject matter of their chosen topic or the complex work-based context that is the focus of their report

MO2 Demonstrate appreciation of research philosophies, strategies and methodologies in relation to investigation of their chosen topic or work-based project

MO3 Critically evaluate academic literature, sources, arguments and interpretations, assessing their relevance to the issue in question and forming judgements on the basis of evidence collected

MO4 Appreciate relevant ethical issues in relation to the legal issues under investigation, including those influencing the design of their research/project and the dissemination and implementation of the findings from their enquiry

MO5 Synthesise information from a variety of relevant sources to draw informed and well-supported conclusions

MO6 Make use of academic perspectives, as well as primary research findings where relevant, to make recommendations that may have practical application in a workplace where relevant

MO7 Make discriminating use of a range of information sources, identifying and acknowledging appropriate material that can be used to inform their own research or work-based project

MO8 Communicate ideas, information and arguments in a clear, organised, and well presented dissertation/project report

MO9 Submit a piece of 'original' work. The requirement of originality in the context of an MSc/LLM dissertation may be satisfied by carrying out empirical work that has not been done before; by synthesising issues not put together before; by investigating topics that have not been investigated before within the discipline, by examining existing knowledge in an original way; or by bringing new evidence to bear on an old issue. It is not required that the work combine all these features

Hours to be allocated: 600

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 590 hours

Face-to-face learning = 10 hours

Total = 600

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at readinglists.uwe.ac.uk via the following link https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ujgt85-60-m.html

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Assessment will be by means of a single dissertation/report. This dissertation/report will involve either researching an issue of academic relevance in law or a work-based project with a legal element. Students will draw on the skills and knowledge developed on taught modules in the LLM, in particular the Research Methods module, and will apply appropriate methodologies and enquiry methods as appropriate.

Assessment components:

Dissertation (First Sit)

Description: Written dissertation/report (maximum 15 000 words)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6, MO7, MO8, MO9

Dissertation (Resit)

Description: Written dissertation/report (maximum 15 000 words)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested:

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Commercial Law [Frenchay] LLM 2023-24

Commercial Law [BIBM] LLM 2023-24

Commercial Law [Villa] LLM 2023-24

Environmental Law and Sustainable Development [Frenchay] LLM 2023-24

International Banking and Finance Law [Frenchay] LLM 2023-24

International Trade and Economic Law [Frenchay] LLM 2023-24

International Trade and Economic Law [FTU] LLM 2023-24

International Trade and Economic Law [HCMCUL] LLM 2023-24

International Law [Frenchay] LLM 2022-23