



## **Module Specification**

### **Family Law (BPTC)**

Version: 2023-24, v2.0, 20 Jun 2023

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## **Part 1: Information**

**Module title:** Family Law (BPTC)

**Module code:** UJXUSJ-10-M

**Level:** Level 7

**For implementation from:** 2023-24

**UWE credit rating:** 10

**ECTS credit rating:** 5

**Faculty:** Faculty of Business & Law

**Department:** FBL Dept of Law

**Partner institutions:** None

**Delivery locations:** Not in use for Modules

**Field:** Law - non modular

**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:** Not applicable

**Features:** Not applicable

**Educational aims:** See Learning Outcomes

**Outline syllabus:** Small group sessions (SGS) are employed on both the full time course and also on the part time course where held, are to provide workshop /

seminar type opportunities for the students to gain a practical understanding and experience of family dispute resolution through scenario-based methods including:

The use of individual and overarching case studies, the latter presented in the form of a typical barristers brief to which additional sections are added e.g. conference notes as the course develops.

Sessions organised as mini hearings.

Sessions featuring conferencing exercises.

The subjects covered in the Small Group Sessions will vary very slightly depending on the interests and specialisations of the staff delivering the module and also to ensure that the topic chosen for the assessment is covered in sufficient depth. However the following will always be covered:

The Children Act 1989 – particularly Private Child matters.

Financial Relief.

Cohabitation.

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

**Teaching and learning methods:** All students will attend a 2 hr LGS and 5 x 3.5 hr SGS – Total 19.5 hours of contact time with the teaching staff. In addition they will attend for a Practice assessment lasting 0.5 hrs. It is anticipated that preparation for the SGS will take between 30-50 hours per student.

The Family Law Option is taught over 1 x LGS and 5 x face to face 'SGS' sessions.

The students learn Family Law skills through their application of knowledge gained from:

Directed self-study on the statutes, rules, procedure and case law.

Handouts provided by the subject tutor.

Practical exercises in the small group sessions and tutor led in class feedback with an element of peer review. The practical exercises include fact analysis, conferencing and advocacy.

Tutor led written and oral feedback (incorporated in SGSs).

Self and peer review (incorporated into SGSs).

A practice assessment.

Students are also expected to engage in independent learning including 30-50 hours engaged with essential reading, case study preparation, hearing preparation and completion.

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

**MO1** Prepare a case effectively, understanding the relevant law, facts and principles, also observing the rules of professional conduct and the planning of the advocacy task in question

**MO2** Demonstrate intermediate advocacy skills in a range of family law scenarios, in a range of hearings

**MO3** Prepare and deliver, as appropriate, an opening speech

**MO4** Prepare and deliver, as appropriate, a closing speech

**MO5** Prepare and deliver, as appropriate, a skeleton argument

**MO6** Prepare and deliver, as appropriate, chronologies, schedules and other supporting documentation

**MO7** Examine, cross-examine and re-examine witnesses

**Hours to be allocated:** 100

**Contact hours:**

Independent study/self-guided study = 80.5 hours

Face-to-face learning = 19.5 hours

Total = 100

**Reading list:** The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ujxusj-10-m.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ujxusj-10-m.html>

## **Part 4: Assessment**

### **Assessment strategy:** Strategy:

The strategy employed will be based on what the students have previously learned in Civil Advocacy. A similar mark scheme will be employed necessitating the prior completion and submission of relevant paperwork e.g. a skeleton argument and a submission in the context of a family law hearing. It will therefore be relevant to practice and wider legal employability.

### **Assessment:**

The assessment will be based on a typical family law scenario whereby the student receives a brief and bundle in advance and is required to prepare for a hearing. A date/time deadline will be set for prior submission of skeleton arguments etc replicating the reality of practice. This will be followed a day or two later by attending for live advocacy before a Judge.

### **Assessment components:**

#### **Written Assignment (First Sit)**

Description: Skeleton Argument

Weighting: 10 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

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

#### **Presentation (First Sit)**

Description: Live advocacy exercise

Weighting: 90 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

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

**Written Assignment (Resit)**

Description: Skeleton Argument

Weighting: 10 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

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

**Presentation (Resit)**

Description: Live advocacy exercise

Weighting: 90 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

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

**Part 5: Contributes towards**

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study: