



ACADEMIC SERVICES

MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Basic Data					
Module Title	Legal Research Methods				
Module Code	UJXTR7-0-M	Level	M	Version	3
UWE Credit Rating	0	ECTS Credit Rating	?	WBL module?	No
Owning Faculty	Business and Law	Field	Law Non-Modular		
Department	Law: BILP	Module Type	Professional Practice		
Contributes towards	Bar Professional Training Course				
Pre-requisites	None	Co- requisites	None		
Excluded Combinations	None	Module Entry requirements	N/A		
First CAP Approval Date	2010	Valid from	2010		
Revision CAP Approval Date	1 June 2016	Revised with effect from	September 2016		

Part 2: Learning and Teaching	
Learning Outcomes	<p>On successful completion of this module students will be able to:</p> <p>Understand the need for thorough investigation of all relevant factual and legal issues involved in a transaction or matter; determining the scope of the research problems and identifying the objectives of the research (<i>including determining whether additional information is required and identifying appropriate sources for factual investigation</i>); identifying and understanding the relevant legal context of the research issue; addressing & analysing all relevant factual & legal issues</p> <p>Undertake systematic & comprehensive legal research; throughout the research process selecting & using appropriate paper & electronic research tools; understanding how & when to use the key paper & electronic research tools; identifying the appropriate use of secondary sources, including encyclopaedias and practitioner texts (<i>and also journals, periodicals and digests</i>); identifying the appropriate use of primary sources, including cases, statutes and statutory instruments; understanding how to locate, analyse and update all primary sources (<i>including the use of indices and citators</i>); determining all relevant legal principles from both secondary and primary sources and applying these to the research problem</p> <p>Present the results of their research; drawing clear conclusions from the research process, including identifying relevant courses of action; presenting the results of</p>

	<p>investigation and research (<i>including keeping a methodical, accurate and complete record of research undertaken</i>) to meet relevant Course Skills outcomes (<i>communicating in writing in a form, style and tone appropriate for the recipients and the context; demonstrating attention to detail; taking account of the practical, commercial and personal considerations relevant to the research</i>)</p>
Syllabus Outline	<p>Syllabus Outline</p> <p>The Legal Research Methods syllabus will develop the student's ability to</p> <p><i>Understand the need for thorough investigation of all relevant factual and legal issues involved in a transaction or matter;</i> determining the scope of the research problems and identifying the objectives of the research (<i>including determining whether additional information is required and identifying appropriate sources for factual investigation</i>); identifying and understanding the relevant legal context of the research issue; addressing & analysing all relevant factual & legal issues</p> <p><i>Undertake systematic & comprehensive legal research;</i> throughout the research process selecting & using appropriate paper & electronic research tools; understanding how & when to use the key paper & electronic research tools; identifying the appropriate use of secondary sources, including encyclopaedias and practitioner texts (<i>and also journals, periodicals and digests</i>); identifying the appropriate use of primary sources, including cases, statutes and statutory instruments; understanding how to locate, analyse and update all primary sources (<i>including the use of indices and citators</i>); determining all relevant legal principles from both secondary and primary sources and applying these to the research problem</p> <p><i>Present the results of their research;</i> drawing clear conclusions from the research process, including identifying relevant courses of action; presenting the results of investigation and research (<i>including keeping a methodical, accurate and complete record of research undertaken</i>) to meet relevant Course Skills outcomes (<i>communicating in writing in a form, style and tone appropriate for the recipients and the context; demonstrating attention to detail; taking account of the practical, commercial and personal considerations relevant to the research</i>)</p> <p>Statement of Outcomes</p> <p>The outcomes relevant to the course skill of Legal Research Methods will be met by the students undertaking the type and range of tasks identified in the indicative teaching scheme set out below this statement.</p> <p>The elements of law and practice to be covered on the elective are primarily identified in the syllabus set out above as expanded upon in this statement and in the indicative teaching scheme set out below.</p> <p>Indicative Teaching Scheme</p> <p>SGS 1: Introduction to key electronic research resources (library based)</p> <p>Introduction to electronic resources – Legal dictionaries, Halsbury's Laws, Halsbury's Statutes, practitioner texts, indices and citators</p> <p>Exercises involving the use of electronic resources</p> <p>Introduction to Halsbury's Laws online</p>

	<p>SGS 2: Targeted research skills – paper and electronic (library based)</p> <p>Introduction to paper resources especially Halsbury’s Laws</p> <p>Exercises involving the use of paper resources</p> <p>Introduction to Kemp on Lawtel online</p> <p>Exercises involving the use of Kemp</p> <p><u>Review/consolidation:</u></p> <p>Further self study exercises in the use of paper and electronic resources</p> <p>Self reflection of self study exercises utilising online feedback & model answers</p>
Contact Hours	SGS1 is 3.5 hours and SGS2 is 2 hours.
Teaching and Learning Methods	<p>A mixture of individual and group work centred on problem-based learning, involving management of information, analysis of complex facts and application of knowledge;</p> <p>Role play and oral presentations to demonstrate understanding and effective communication of complex areas of law applied to detailed factual scenarios;</p> <p>Preparation of written answers to demonstrate understanding and effective communication of complex areas of law applied to detailed factual scenarios;</p> <p>Reviews of topics in the form of both small group sessions (where ideas can be pooled and debated) and critical self-evaluation.</p> <p>The teaching and learning strategy pervading all modules on the Bar Professional Training Course is a student-centred approach through the provision of a stimulating educational environment.</p> <p>Face to face teaching and learning in a workshop environment is at the heart of the Teaching & Learning strategy, for students to participate fully in challenging activities, undertaking a wide variety of exercises as individuals and in groups. Full participation is encouraged and expected. Students are encouraged to ask questions during the workshops and to take responsibility for their own learning. Feedback will be given on these exercises both by students and tutors.</p> <p>Outside of the workshop students are required to take responsibility for their own learning undertaking a variety of tasks. These may be undertaken by students either as individuals or working in groups, including include provision of information using recorded lectures, reading from course manuals and from practitioner texts, reading and research from primary source material, completion of electronic tests, preparing documents or presentations and attending large group sessions in other BPTC subjects.</p>
Reading Strategy	Students will undertake reading from the course manual, practitioner texts and primary source material.
Indicative Reading List	Case Preparation and Opinion Writing (OUP)

Part 3: Assessment

Assessment Strategy	There is no BPTC Legal Research Methods assessment, although the skills acquired are tested in the context of all the other BPTC subjects.
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% weighting between components A and B	A:	B:
	n/a	

First Sit

Component A Description of each element	Element weighting (as % of component)
.n/a	n/a
Component B Description of each element	Element weighting (as % of component)
n/a	

First Resit (further attendance at taught classes is not required)

Component A n/a Description of each element	Element weighting (as % of component)
n/a	n/a
Component B Description of each element	Element weighting (as % of component)
n/a	

Second Resit (further attendance at taught classes is not required)

Component A n/a Description of each element	Element weighting (as % of component)
n/a.	n/a
Component B Description of each element	Element weighting (as % of component)
n/a	