



**QUEEN'S
UNIVERSITY
BELFAST**

School of Law



**Direct Entry Third Year Level 3
Module Change Information
2021/22**

You will take six modules in total in your third year; three in Semester 1 and three in Semester 2. They will all carry equal weighting in terms of your final degree result. This document contains the indicative list of modules likely to run in 2021/22. *Please be advised this is a provisional list at this stage. Some modules may be withdrawn, some new modules may be added and there may be changes to existing modules in terms of teaching, content and method of assessment. You will make your module choices in August/September 2021.

You will be guaranteed a place on the Equity, European Constitutional Law and European Internal Market Law modules. We will endeavour to ensure students are matched with their optional module preferences where possible.

Students should not select a module they have studied previously. If a student arrives in Belfast and has completed quarantine by the end of week 2 of the semester 1 (1st October), they can apply to change modules and enrol on our semester one modules that are planned to be offered in person only.

Equity (required for a Qualifying Law Degree) **European Constitutional Law** (optional, but required if you wish to subsequently undertake the Bar Professional Training Course in England and Wales).

If you choose to undertake European Constitutional Law you will be able to choose one optional module. If you choose not to undertake European Constitutional Law you may select two optional modules. The indicative list of modules is below:

Semester 1 Modules
Equity (Lectures Online, Tutorials in person)
European Constitutional Law (Lectures Online, Tutorials in person)
Business and Human Rights (Online)
Company Law and Corporate Governance (Online)
Family Law (Online)
Gender and the Law (In person)
Housing Law and Policy (In person)
International Criminal and Transitional Justice (In person)
International Humanitarian Law (In person)
International Trade Law (In person)
Law and Psychology (Online)
Legal Theory (In person)
Public International Law (In person)
Research Project A (Online)
Sentencing (In person)
The Practice of Public Law in Northern Ireland (Online)

European Internal Market Law (optional, but required if you wish to subsequently undertake the Bar Professional Training Course in England and Wales) If you choose to undertake European Internal Market Law you will be able to choose two optional modules. If you choose not to undertake European Internal Market Law you may select three optional modules. The indicative list of modules is below:

Semester 2 Modules
European Internal Market Law
Contemporary Issues in Property Law
Contemporary Issues in British and Irish Human Rights
Criminal Liability
Employment Law
Financial Services Law
Intellectual Property Law
Medical Law and Ethics
Regulating Commercial Sex
Research Project B

Full Year Optional Module
Dissertation (Online)

Level 3
Semester 1
(Autumn Semester)



Module Name	Equity
Module Coordinator	Dr Gerard Kelly
<p>Module Summary</p> <p>In selecting topics for study in this module, we try first to set the scene and establish some basic principles, and then to give you a clear sense of a range of equitable doctrines that have particular relevance to contemporary society.</p>	
<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <p>By the end of the module students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the equitable jurisdiction and the broad principles underlying it. • Critically discuss particular aspects of the law relating to Equity, such as the beneficiary principle, breach of trust, accessory and recipient liability for breach of trust, constructive trusts and charitable trusts. 	
<p>Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide a general understanding of the nature of the equitable jurisdiction, and the nature of the trust. • To examine in detail the law relating to the creation of trusts; types of trust (express, resulting and constructive trusts); the beneficiary principle; trustee liability for breach of trust (personal and proprietary claims); third party liability for assisting in breach of trust and for receiving trust property; and the law of charitable trusts, with particular reference to the <i>cy-près</i> doctrine. • To encourage critical study of the law in context. 	
<p>Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Handling case law and statutes. • Dealing with complex issues systematically and creatively. • Analysing, evaluating and interpreting information. • Synthesising information from a variety of sources. • Applying conceptual information to practical legal problems. • Developing and defending reasoned opinions. 	
Assessment	Coursework (100%)

Module Name	European Constitutional Law
Module Coordinator	Dr Clemens Rieder
<p>Module Summary</p> <p>The purpose of the European Constitutional Law module is two-fold. First, it is intended to provide students with a critical understanding of EU constitutional law, including the legal and political relationship between the European legal order and the national legal orders of the Union’s member states. Accordingly students should gain an appreciation of the important influence that the EU has had upon domestic law. Secondly, the module is intended to provide students with a foundation for studying Internal Market Law, which addresses issues of economic and social governance, the relationship between them, and the role of law in the processes of economic integration.</p>	
<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <p>The aims of the module are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide students with a firm grounding in the constitutional rules and institutions of the EU. • To enable students to, inter alia, understand: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The operation of the EU legal system and the ways in which Union Law impacts on the national law of the member states. ○ The constitutional issues and agendas that are frequently implicit in cases arising before the ECJ and national constitutional courts. ○ The interaction between EU law and domestic law, with the emphasis placed on direct effect and supremacy of EU law. ○ The effective judicial protection and remedies in EU Law; ○ The main issues in the EU’s supranational system of constitutional justice, especially conflicts and cooperation between the European Court of Justice and top judicial bodies of Member States ○ The EU law on the protection of fundamental rights. • To enable students to discuss critically aspects of the EU law in essay type questions. • To enable students to identify, in the context of essay or problem-based questions, the relevant area(s) of EU Constitutional Law, and critically assess and/or apply the relevant law in detail and with precision and accuracy. 	
Assessment	Coursework (100%)

Module Name	Business and Human Rights
Module Coordinator	Dr Ciara Hackett
<p>Module Summary</p> <p>This module is designed to introduce students to an emerging and important area of the law, namely the role that business plays in the protection of human rights. Large business, typically referred to in the literature as global corporations (or Multi-national/trans-national corporations) have in the last fifty years or so become increasingly powerful entities within the global system. Now not only concerned with economic impacts on society, increasingly their operations are having a profound effect on the social, economic and environmental lives of the people with whom directly, or indirectly they interact. In order to govern and legitimize their global corporations, they rely on different outlets. Two of these outlets are the focus for this course, human rights discourse and corporate social responsibility (CSR).</p> <p>The primary aim of this module is to attempt to situate the role of business within the human rights and broader responsibility discourse. We will cover issues around the international regulation of human rights through and around law, important interactions between state and non-state actors and human rights discourses and obligations across corporate groups, through value chains and in investment operations.</p>	
<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed knowledge and critical understanding of the fundamental doctrines, principles and features and regulatory politics underpinning the interplay of business and human rights. • The ability to demonstrate critical knowledge and understanding of a wide range of legal and political concepts, values, principles and to explain the relationship between them in the field. • Critical understanding of the wider socio-legal context in which corporations and the markets in which they operate are governed. 	
Assessment	Coursework Essay (100%)
Pre-Requisites	None
Further Details	N/A

Module Name	Company Law and Corporate Governance
Module Coordinator	Dr Louise Rhodes
<p>Module Summary</p> <p>This module introduces students to the corporate form as a legal person and to key debates in company law and corporate governance. We examine the company in the first place as a strategy, introduced through the Companies Acts, through which the relationship between capital and enterprise is mediated. From there we discuss the challenges involved in maintaining the company as a <i>separate person</i>: separate, that is from its shareholding members and from its managers, and some of the ways in which insider power is exploited and managed within the company.</p> <p>The module is ‘socio-legal’ in character. That means that we are interested in the action of law on society and vice versa. We engage with debates in and use tools and methods from a range of areas — economics, political science, sociology, management — as we attempt to engage with the major questions of the module.</p>	
<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A familiarity and critical perspective on key legal and policy debates. • Knowledge and understanding of key issues relating to company law and corporate governance. • A basic understanding of the connection between theoretical debates and scholarly analyses of policy and legal initiatives. 	
<p>Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cognitive and Generic Legal Skills. • Analyse current policy questions in the context of scholarly literature. • Plan and undertake research towards assessment. • Critically present information and ideas in a coherent, systemic and accurate manner. • Apply key research skills to a range of scholarly and policy sources. 	
Assessment	Coursework Essay (80%) , Case Note (20%)
Pre-Requisites	None
Further Details	N/A

Module Name	Family Law
Module Coordinator	Dr Ronagh McQuigg
<p>Module Summary</p> <p>This module will provide an insight into the role of law in family life, regarding the range of relationships involved and the consequences of the breakdown or cessation of these relationships. Family law 'regulates' social norms by giving legal expression to the dependencies, expectations and obligations inherent in domestic relationships. It is the legal rules, which are both 'reflective and constitutive' of these social norms, that form the subject matter of this module. One of the most interesting aspects of family law is how contemporary societal trends disturb the ideological framework of the subject. Indeed, the substantive nature of the laws which regulate the family must take cognisance of the dramatic socio- economic changes which have developed since the latter half of the twentieth century as new contextual problems have arisen through increasing diversity in family formation, the increase in relationship breakdown, the emergence of step-families, the growth in home ownership, the improved position of women and the displacement of the male breadwinner/female homemaker model of family economics.</p> <p>The main issues which form the basis of the course include a critique of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the legal and social functions of the family; • the legal rights and obligations between family members; • the interaction between the family and the State. 	
<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <p>Upon completion of this module, students should have acquired detailed knowledge and understanding in relation to the significance of law within the home and its impact upon individuals' private lives. Specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • knowledge of the legal framework which regulates the rights and obligations between family members; • knowledge of legal aspects regarding the creation of family relationships, including the varying nature of personal relationships and State recognition of these; • knowledge of legal aspects regarding the consequences of the break-up of family relationships, including protection issues, rights and responsibilities where children are involved and interests in the home; • awareness and understanding of societal trends and conflicts in the area, which impact upon legal policy; • knowledge of specific legal aspects regarding the creation and break-up of family relationships; and • a range of skills. 	
Assessment	Coursework (100%). This comprises of 2 separate assignments.
Pre-Requisites	None
Further Details	N/A

Module Name	Gender and the Law
Module Coordinator	Dr Yassin Brunger
<p>Module Summary</p> <p>The module provides students with an understanding of how law affects people differently, depending on gender and the ways in which law contributes to regulating and representing gender. This understanding is not specific to one area of law, rather the course cuts across a number of different areas (such as criminal law, human rights, international law) increasing students' knowledge and understanding of legal issues more generally at the national and international levels from a gendered perspective. Students will have the opportunity to further evaluate these issues through film and visual representation of the interaction between gender, justice and society. The module introduces students to a number of new and different topics (for example, judicial decision making, the Global South, LGBTQI, kinship and reproduction, the military) from which to interrogate contemporary debates on gender and contribute to the development of students' critical and analytical skills.</p>	
<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <p>Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the main theoretical approaches to analyses of law, gender and society. • the relevance of gender issues in the determination of law and legal policy. • the social and political dimensions of particular areas of substantive law and the relationship to gender. 	
<p>Skills</p> <p>Students will develop and demonstrate the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ability to critical analyse and make links between theory and practice. • ability to identify and understanding of the significance of law in its social context. • synthesis of materials from diverse sources; exercise of critical judgement; discernment between the merits of particular arguments. • ability to write and speak with care and precision in the analysis and synthesis of the law, policy and theory. • ability to identify issues for independent research and to retrieve accurate and relevant sources. 	
Assessment	Coursework (100%)
Pre-Requisites	None
Further Details	N/A

Module Name	Housing Law and Policy
Module Coordinator	Dr Louise Rhodes
<p>Module Summary</p> <p>This course will focus primarily on substantive issues relating to Housing Law and Policy as it applies to the public and private rental sectors here in the UK.</p> <p>Specific areas that will be covered include:</p> <p>Housing Law and Policy Context</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The nature of Housing Law vs Housing Policy. • Rental v owner-occupied market. <p>Public v Private Rental: Access and Regulation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to and regulation of the social housing sector (Local Authority Housing, Registered Social Landlords (RSLs)). • Access to and regulation of the private rental sector. • Homelessness • Multiple occupation and overcrowding <p>Security of Tenure in the Public and Private Rental Sectors: Rights and Responsibilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grounds for possession and eviction in the public rental sector. • Anti-social behaviour. • Grounds for possession and eviction in the private rental sector • Possession claims and human rights. 	
<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <p>Students will acquire knowledge and understanding of the legal, regulatory and policy landscapes that have shaped and continue to develop the housing sector here in the UK. From the outset, students will be able to discern the key differences in the policies and regulations that apply to the owner-occupied and rental markets. This course will also equip students with knowledge of any regional differences that may apply in these areas between England & Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland. Further, as this course focuses primarily on the public and private rented sector students will know and understand the statutory provisions and case law that apply in the following key areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homelessness • Multiple occupation and overcrowding • Grounds for possession and eviction in the public and private rental sectors. • Anti-social behaviour. • The application of the Human Rights Act 1998 in public sector landlord/tenant possession claims. 	
Assessment	Casnote (20%) Essay (80%)
Pre-Requisites	Successfully passed Land Law at Level 2
Further Details	N/A

Module Name	International Criminal and Transitional Justice
Module Coordinator	Dr Luke Moffett
<p>Module Summary</p> <p>Since the Second World War international criminal justice has emerged as a body of law to hold individuals responsible for mass atrocities. This module aims to introduce students to the key questions on the relationships between international law, justice and the transition from conflict in the 21st century through an exploration of law, criminological and social theory and case studies. The module adopts a broad interdisciplinary approach to mapping these connected issues and draws on a range of source and geo-political contexts (Latin America and Africa). It touches on contemporary controversies with international justice and domestic political conflicts, such as the intervention of the ICC in Palestine, criminal responsibility of child soldiers who become commanders, and reparations by multinational corporations.</p>	
<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <p>On completion of this module each student should be conversant with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the theory and practice of international criminal justice and transitional justice; • the broad patterns, dynamics and contexts of contemporary international crimes; • the occurrence of international crimes within different jurisdictions and the work of the international criminal courts and tribunals; • the relevant primary and secondary legal and factual materials to understand the relationship between international, national and local community based conceptions of justice; and • alternative accountability mechanisms beyond international criminal justice. 	
Assessment	Coursework Essay (100%)
Pre-Requisites	None
Further Details	N/A

Module Name	International Humanitarian Law
Module Coordinator	Dr Luke Moffett
<p>Module Summary</p> <p>International humanitarian law (IHL sometimes called the Law of Armed Conflict (LOAC) is a core component of international law and governs the conduct of hostilities. The laws of war do not prohibit warfare – they are meant to regulate it, and mitigate the resultant humanitarian suffering, by directing the use of force towards the opposing armed forces. Surprisingly, the laws of war do not prohibit the killing of civilians; instead they prohibit their specific targeting, allowing for deaths of civilians (under the euphemism of ‘collateral damage’) in proportion to the military objective sought.</p> <p>This module therefore considers whether this field can be truly considered humane. Contemporary conflicts have raised issues such as humanitarian access for relief agencies, the use of cluster bombs and chemical weapons, the mutilation of civilians and enemy combatants, and individual criminal responsibility for combatants and commanders. The developments in technology for drones, cyber warfare and autonomous robots bring into sharp focus the growing challenges to IHL posed by modern methods of warfare, as does the changing nature of the parties to modern conflicts from non-state armed groups to private military contractors. There also remain jurisdictional issues with the transformation of asymmetrical warfare and the predominance of non-international armed conflicts, which in the past few decades has seen a shift from traditional inter-state conflicts to internal conflicts, such as in Ukraine, Syria or Iraq. Parallel to this, the international community has increasingly focused on methods of accountability for war crimes, crimes against humanity and other international crimes through <i>ad hoc</i> tribunals and the International Criminal Court.</p> <p>The module begins by charting the history and legal basis of IHL, exploring the work of the Red Cross and the development of the Hague and Geneva Conventions, before examining the international law regarding the commencement of hostilities (<i>jus ad bellum</i>) and the conduct of hostilities (<i>jus in bello</i>). Further lectures will explore contemporary challenges regarding the conduct of hostilities, accountability for breaches of the laws of war, and modern methods of warfare through lectures, presentations and inter- active group work.</p>	
<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <p>On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • understand the normative values and legal basis of IHL • have an appreciation of the work of the Red Cross and other international organisations, such as the International Criminal Court, in the promotion and enforcement of IHL • apply practical knowledge to arrive at different solutions in IHL in solving problems in armed conflicts 	
Assessment	Take Home Examination (100%)
Pre-Requisites	None
Further Details	N/A

Module Name	International Trade Law
Module Coordinator	Dr Dieter Pesendorfer
<p>Module Summary</p> <p>This module will introduce students to the foundations of international trade law. We will explore the theories explaining the benefits, barriers and problems of a free trade regime, the institutional evolution of the global trade regime and policy, especially within the World Trade Organisation, the principles of international trade law, the role of tariffs and non-tariff standards, dispute settlement, various key issues of conflicts and tensions between trade and other policy domains, and challenges for the contemporary global trade regime.</p>	
<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <p>After taking the course the student should acquire:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • knowledge and understanding of the foundations of international trade law; • knowledge and understanding of the evolution of international trade law; • knowledge and understanding of the substantive law of international trade; • knowledge and understanding of key issues and debates about the advantages, benefits, barriers, and problems of international trade and what role law plays or should play; • an ability to identify and analyse trade related problems and propose practical legal solutions; • an ability to understand and critically analyse issues related to international trade law and policy. 	
<p>Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal problem solving. Ability to identify relevant issues, apply relevant concepts, principles and rules, make judgements and reach supported conclusions on the basis of sound and informed reasoning; • Ability to understand economic and legal concepts and to dissect them into broader legal concepts • Ability to identify economic issues and to propose regulatory and legal solutions to tackle them • Critical analysis of international trade regulation. • Ability to identify and order issues by relevance and importance; synthesis of materials from diverse sources; exercise of critical judgement - discernment between the merits of particular arguments. • Ability to write and speak with care and precision in the analysis and synthesis of law and economic concepts; • Ability to structure argument and analysis. 	
Assessment	Coursework Essay (100%)
Pre-Requisites	None
Further Details	N/A

Module Name	Law and Psychology
Module Coordinator	Dr Martin Regan
<p>Module Summary</p> <p>This module provides students with an introduction to the role of psychology within the law and in the operation of legal systems. It aims to explore both the presence of psychological concepts within the substance of the law and the ways in which a range of legal skills is imbued with processes and dynamics that have psychological underpinnings. Group work and problem-based learning (PBL) approaches will form an integral part of the module.</p> <p>The module will begin with an examination of skills development within a group context, including (but not limited to): individual learning styles, formation of group identity, legal research, individual roles within groups, conflict resolution and communication (oral and written). There will be discussion of psychological and organisational theories throughout.</p> <p>In the second part of the module, the focus will be on areas of the law where psychological factors (including emotion, group behaviour and mental capacity) play a role, for example in criminal law, property law and obligations. There will also be an examination of decision-making processes within the justice system (e.g. juries), lie detection, eyewitness testimony and the role of the forensic psychologist.</p> <p>The final part of the module will explore a mixed-subject PBL scenario, in which students identify key legal issues and conduct research into both substantive and normative areas of law, including the relevant psychological components. There will be opportunities for students to engage in presentations within class, based on group work.</p>	
<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate knowledge and comprehension of the role of psychological concepts and processes within the law and in the operation of legal systems. • Apply this knowledge to problem scenarios and consider how this sits within various theoretical perspectives across disciplines. • Analyse data from a range of sources including legal, psychological and interdisciplinary studies. • Synthesise information from interdisciplinary studies and evaluate the extent to which psychological concepts and processes are pervasive within the law. • Reflect actively on learning throughout the module, drawing upon experiences of individual and collaborative work. • Engage in group work / problem-based learning (PBL) and apply psychological and organisational theories to their experience of this. 	
Assessment	Coursework (100%). This comprises of 2 separate assignments.
Pre-Requisites	None
Further Details	N/A

Module Name	Legal Theory
Module Coordinator	Dr Kathryn McNeilly
<p>Module Summary</p> <p>This module is designed to equip students with the skills to better understand law, to ask questions about what law 'is' and what it 'ought' to be from a variety of perspectives. In doing so, students are encouraged to consider their own views and understandings of law, but also to encounter a range of new views and understandings. This involves moving from a 'black letter' understanding of law and legal rules to engage with law in a more conceptual, creative and critical way. Students will explore a number of different theoretical perspectives which each provide contrasting ways to think about on law, legal institutions and contemporary legal problems. These perspectives include those drawn from traditional analytical jurisprudence as well as perspectives from critical legal theory. Students will become familiar with the variety of tools which diverse theoretical perspectives and authors offer to interrogate law and ask questions about its everyday operation. The questions these theoretical tools help us to ask include 'What is law?', 'What role does law play in society?', 'Is law neutral?', 'How do judges decide a case?', 'What is the relationship between law and social change?'</p>	
<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <p>On completion of this module students will be able to demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · A knowledge and understanding of a number of theoretical approaches to law. · A comprehension of how differing theoretical approaches to law animate a Western understanding of law within a global, social and political context. · The ability to critically reflect upon and analyse complex legal theory. · The ability to formulate cogent arguments and to draw upon theoretical tools to engage in complex problem solving. · Heightened oral, written and research skills through class discussion, group work and coursework. 	
<p>Skills</p> <p>Successful completion of the module will result in the acquisition and enhancement of the following skills relevant to career development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ability to analyse social and legal problems by drawing upon philosophical and theoretical materials; • Critical conceptual thinking; • Interdisciplinary reflection; • The ability to construct legal and philosophical arguments; • The development of legal reasoning and problem solving; • Research and writing skills; • Oral communication, presentation and debating skills. 	
Assessment	Coursework Essay (100%).
Pre-Requisites	None
Further Details	N/A

Module Name	Public International Law
Module Coordinator	Dr Yassin Brunger
<p>Module Summary</p> <p>There has never been a more exciting time to study Public International Law (PIL). Issues of international law and international justice are at the forefront of public debates and feature prominently also in domestic courts to a greater degree than ever before. International law provides the intellectual and the technical underpinnings to large areas of international co-operation. The PIL module covers the major areas of general international law and is not over-specialized. The lectures cover the core topics such as the nature and sources of international law, its relationship with national law but also introduces students to special areas such as international criminal law, and international human rights law. In addition, students will be examining the contextual constraints associated with public international law. The module will also cover the applicable rules governing international relations, and develop an understanding of the specifics of the law-making process in public international law and the intended and unintended consequences of present-day rule-making processes with regards to the politics and philosophy that dominates some of these areas. In sum, the PIL module will enable students to critically examine public international law.</p>	
<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introducing the fundamentals of international law and an evaluation of their content; • Enhancing student understanding of the manner in which the international system functions; • Developing an understanding of the normative values of the international system; • Providing the tools necessary to determine the legality/illegality of any given action; • Improving student presentation & communication skills through seminar work and simulations; • Developing advocacy skills through debates, and negotiation simulation; • Enhancing analytical skills through seminars. 	
Assessment	Coursework (100%). This comprises of 2 separate assignments.
Pre-Requisites	None
Further Details	N/A

Module Name	Research Project A
Module Coordinator	Dr Lauren Dempster
<p>Module Summary</p> <p>This module provides students with the opportunity to undertake a semester long dissertation on a topic of their choice. Students will be allocated a dedicated supervisor from amongst the staff who will support the student during the semester.</p>	
<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <p>The development of skills in legal research, organisation of materials, presentation of extended arguments, and capacity for independent study.</p>	
<p>Skills</p> <p>Literacy, clear thinking, familiarity with legal materials.</p>	
Assessment	Research Paper (100%)
Pre-Requisites	None
Further Details	N/A

Module Name	Sentencing
Module Coordinator	Dr John Stannard
<p>Module Summary</p> <p>In this module we shall be looking at the law of sentencing. Sentencing is a subject that was not very widely studied in the past in the academic context, but is now recognised as one of the most important parts of the criminal process; indeed, given that a good number of defendants in the criminal courts plead guilty, sentencing is arguably of as much if not more practical significance than the substantive criminal law itself.</p> <p>Over the course of the module we shall be looking at the topic of sentencing from various different angles. First of all, we shall look at the issue of punishment in general, both from a philosophical and a human rights perspective. Then we shall study the sentencing process, beginning with the conviction and ending with the final disposal of the case. Next, we shall look more closely at the different types of sentence provided by the law, with special emphasis on the sentencing structure set out in relevant legislation. We shall look at the sentencing of children and young offenders, with particular emphasis being placed on the important topic of restorative justice. We shall look at the effect of mental abnormality on the sentencing process, and at the use of ancillary orders such as the confiscation of assets. All of these topics will be looked at against the background of the contemporary penal system and the problems with which it is confronted.</p> <p>Sentencing is a subject which straddles a number of different approaches to the study of law. Thus there are a lot of black-letter rules to master, in particular the sentencing criteria laid down in the relevant legislation. There is also the need to evaluate and criticise the law and practice of the courts in this area, both from a sociological and from a philosophical angle. The Human Rights Act 1998 also gives an important public law aspect to the topic. All in all, the student of sentencing needs to be something of a Jack, or Jill, of all trades in order to be able to master the subject properly.</p>	
<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <p>By the end of the module, students should be able to undertake the following tasks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the main principles of sentencing law; • Apply that law to a given set of facts; • Outline the main philosophical theories of punishment; • Explain and illustrate the social and political problems presently confronting the penal system. 	
Assessment	Coursework (100%)
Pre-Requisites	None
Further Details	N/A

Module Name	The Practice of Public Law in Northern Ireland
Module Coordinator	Professor Claire Archbold
<p>Module Summary</p> <p>The objective of this course is to skill students up as practical public lawyers. This course builds on the public law courses taught at level one, namely Constitutional Law in Context and Rights and Accountability. It is designed to complement the students' existing knowledge of the institutions of government and judicial review, with a practice-focussed grounding in the public law of Northern Ireland for those who wish to make it a career focus.</p> <p>The current arrangements for devolved government in Northern Ireland are only twenty-two years old and are based on a unique model of interlinking devolved, national and trans-national institutions. This course will provide the tools for those who wish to play a part in the public law sphere as a lawyer, judge, politician, civil servant, special advisor, lobbyist, activist or commentator. Whatever the individual's career goals or political perspective, there is a common set of legal skills which are required to achieve social and political objectives through Northern Ireland's political and legal institutions. Gaining an in-depth understanding of how to achieve things in the political space using Northern Ireland's institutions will also provide transferable skills and comparative knowledge which will be of interest to students who wish to play a similar role in other jurisdictions.</p> <p>The course leader is a senior government lawyer with insight into the worlds of government policymaking, legislation and judicial decision-making and the course will be rooted in practical examples that will allow the a group to explore how each aspect of the Northern Ireland devolved institutions work in the real world using examples drawn from the uniquely challenging context of Brexit, Covid restrictions and constitutional discontents in the United Kingdom and further afield. The legal underpinnings of Northern Ireland's institutions of government are complex and sophisticated as a fighter plane. This course will allow students to get into the cockpit and experience how it operates in battle conditions.</p>	
<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have an in-depth understanding of the Northern Ireland devolved settlement (NIDS) and the legal instruments which create it; • Have the ability to interpret and evaluate primary legal sources, both statutory and judicial. • Have an understanding of the NIDS in operation and be able to apply that understanding to solving simulated practice tasks at each stage of the policy- and law-making process. • Apply legal knowledge in a range of different contexts and communicate it appropriately to different audiences. • Understand the NIDS as an example of constitutionalism, be able to critically evaluate strengths and weaknesses and apply learning to other contexts. • Understand the legal and ethical principles, and constraints, which govern the various actors in the public law space, and the significance of both ethical and legal accountability mechanisms. 	
Assessment	Coursework (100%)
Pre-Requisites	None
Further Details	N/A



**Level 3
Semester 2
(Spring Semester)**



Module Name	European Internal Market Law
Module Coordinator	Dr Billy Melo Araujo
<p>Module Summary</p> <p>The course will focus on the core of the substantive law of the European Union, and in particular: 1. The concept of the internal market and the scope of the relevant EU competence; 2. The four fundamental freedoms i.e. the free movement of goods, services, persons (including workers, economically inactive citizens, and establishment), and capital (including the Economic and Monetary Union); and 3. The interaction, including convergences and divergences, between the fundamental freedoms of the internal market.</p>	
<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <p>Students will acquire detailed knowledge and critical understanding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The key principles of the law of the EU internal market and its impact on the domestic legal systems of the Member States; • The sources of the EU internal market law; • The concept and the scope of the internal market, including its legal, historical, economic and political dimensions; • The scope and limits of the EU competence in the field; • The scope, effect and limitations of the fundamental freedoms of the internal market, i.e. the free movement of goods, services, persons and capital, and their interaction; • The contribution of the EU institutions, both political/law-making and judicial, to the evolution of the internal market; • The scope of discretion left by (primary and secondary) EU law and by the case law of the European Court of Justice to the Member States to restrict the exercise of any of the four fundamental freedoms in their territory on public interest grounds; • How to identify, in the context of essay or problem-based questions, the relevant area(s) of the law of the EU internal market, and critically assess and/or apply the relevant law in detail and with precision and accuracy. <p>Students will develop and enhance understanding of the wider legal, political, economic and social contents in which the law operates.</p>	
Assessment	Coursework (100%)

Module Name	Contemporary Issues in Property Law
Module Coordinator	Dr Peter Doran
<p>Module Summary</p> <p>The Module <i>Contemporary Issues in Property Law</i> will introduce students to the central importance of ‘property’ in the history of our legal tradition and role of property law. There will be a focus on contemporary debates about the central role that property plays in law and society, using a problem-based approach, ranging from issues of ‘slavery’, ‘the body’ to our relationship with the natural ‘environment’ and ‘the commons’.</p> <p>Property is one of the many fundamental distinctions entrenched in law (e.g., ‘persons’ vs. ‘things’, ‘public’ vs. ‘private’, ‘resources’ vs. ‘nature’). With rapid socio-economic change in a globalizing world, the scope of the application and contestation of property rights is expanding. The Module is designed to allow students to study contemporary issues in property law, building in particular on equity and integrating elements of land law.</p> <p>The course begins with a critical and conceptual introduction to the nature of private law in the twenty-first century. Students will have an opportunity to study discrete and topical areas of property law including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cultural property; • property rights in body parts and human tissue; • property in persons (‘slavery’, ‘trafficking’); • property in animals (‘animal rights’); • the commons; • property rights as enclosure (origins of the ecological crises); • human rights and property rights; • accumulation and unjust enrichment. 	
<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <p>Building on earlier substantive private law modules (in particular Equity, and also Contract) and learning in conjunction with Land Law, students will acquire a deeper knowledge and understanding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contemporary and topical issues in property law, focusing on discrete areas not covered in the other private law modules at this Level; students will be introduced to the constitutive or formative role of the phenomenology of property in the construction of the Western legal tradition and the privileging of the public (state) and private (market) dichotomy; • The theoretical context of these specialized areas of property law, and their practical application; • The underlying social, economic, legal and political factors which influence these areas, including an introduction to the phenomenology of ownership. Another key objective of the module is to lay the foundations for studying these specific topics at a more advanced level in optional modules available at Level 3 of the degree programme. 	
Assessment	Coursework (100%)

Module Name	Contemporary Issues in British and Irish Human Rights
Module Coordinator	Professor Colin Harvey
<p>Module Summary</p> <p>This module will allow students to explore in some depth a variety of issues that raise important and difficult questions in the UK and/or Ireland concerning the extent to which certain claims should be legally protected as human rights claims. It will build on knowledge and skills already transferred to students through their Constitutional Law in Context and Rights and Accountability modules. The content of the module will vary from year to year depending on the issues that are most topical at the time and the staff available to teach on the module, but it is likely that in most years at least two or three weeks of teaching will be devoted to each of the following: (a) the prevention of terrorism, (b) the right to freedom from Torture, (c) the right to education, (d) the right to freedom of expression, and (e) the right to fair trial. The focus will be on how legislative and judicial institutions the UK and Ireland and the European jurisprudence have addressed these matters, with particular emphasis on case law.</p>	
<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <p>Students will acquire knowledge and understanding of the framework of laws and institutions within which human rights are protected throughout the United Kingdom and Ireland. They will also develop an awareness of the variety of views that can be held on how best to protect the rights in question and of the interests that need to be taken into account when legislators and judges are deciding whether certain claims deserve to be protected under human rights law.</p>	
<p>Skills</p> <p>Students will deepen their ability to analyse legislation, to interpret judicial pronouncements, and to develop legal arguments orally and in writing that might persuade policy- and law makers to adopt a different position. Students will acquire a greater ability to present their views persuasively orally and in writing and to undertake research into the legal position in different jurisdictions.</p>	
Assessment	Coursework Essay (100%)
Pre-Requisites	Constitutional Law in Context/Rights and Accountability or equivalent modules from another university.
Further Details	N/A

Module Name	Criminal Liability
Module Coordinator	Dr Kevin Brown
<p>Module Summary</p> <p>This module explores the boundaries of the criminal law examining issues of current controversy. Deciding what to criminalise or decriminalise are important issues for any society. The proper boundaries of the criminal law are often contested with competing ideologies and perspectives offering different viewpoints. The module adopts a doctrinal, socio-legal and philosophical approach to the exploration of these issues.</p> <p>Issues to be examined include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theories of criminalisation; • Responding to hate crime; • Responding to stalking and harassment; • Regulating prostitution; • Regulating the use of illegal drugs; • Regulating pornography; • The criminalisation of transmission of disease; • Responding to anti-social behaviour. 	
<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <p>The learning objectives of the course are that students should acquire:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • knowledge and understanding of the boundaries of criminal liability and underlying theory; • knowledge and understanding of important criminal offences; • knowledge and understanding of comparative approaches to criminal law; • knowledge and understanding of reform proposals; • an ability to identify and analyse criminal law issues in factual situations; • an ability to identify and discuss moral, political and philosophical issues within criminal law and to present a reasoned argument on doubtful or controversial issues; • an ability to evaluate academic commentary on key criminal law issues. 	
Assessment	Take Home Exam (80%) Group presentation (20%)
Pre-Requisites	None
Further Details	N/A

Module Name	Employment Law
Module Coordinator	Dr David Capper
<p>Module Summary</p> <p>This module will expose students to the wide range of laws relating to the world of work. It will introduce them to the main challenges of employment law and its significance, before going on to analyse some of the key topics in employment law such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the nature of an employment contract; • the legal duties of an employer (especially as regards health and safety); • the rights of an employee (especially as regards discrimination and privacy); • the law relating to trades unions; • the influence of the European Union; and • the means by which employment contracts can be terminated. <p>It will build upon knowledge gained from Contract and Tort to some extent.</p> <p>The focus will be on how legislative, administrative and judicial institutions in England and Wales and in Northern Ireland have addressed the issues most commonly arising in the employment relationship.</p>	
<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <p>Students will acquire knowledge and understanding of the framework of laws and institutions within which the employment relationship is conducted in the United Kingdom. They will also develop an awareness of the variety of views that can be held on how best to maintain this relationship at a productive level. The module provides students with an opportunity to consider what policy factors come into play when solving employment disputes both at the individual and at the collective level. The influence of international law on this area of domestic law will be a key theme of the module.</p>	
Assessment	Take Home Examination (100%)
Pre-Requisites	Contract Law or equivalent module from another university.
Further Details	N/A

Module Name	Financial Services Law
Module Coordinator	Dr Gerard Kelly
<p>Module Summary</p> <p>This course will offer an introduction to the law of finance. Finance is often defined as the backbone of the economy as it provides essential services such as payment or credit intermediation, without which no business would be possible. In recent decades, the volume of legislation on financial law has increased exponentially and it touches virtually every aspect of financial intermediation, from day-to-day financial transactions to the regulation of cryptocurrencies. The objective of the module is to equip students with the analytical tools to navigate the complex world of finance from a legal perspective. The module will offer a broad overview of the three main pillars of financial law: financial institutions, financial transactions, and markets.</p> <p>Topics addressed in the course include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The structure of financial systems and the relations between Central banks, banks, securities firms, financial investors, depositors, and states. • The most important types of finance: equity, debt, sovereign debt, and securities. • The nature of banks, their deposit taking function, and their risks • Bank and securities prudential regulations • Corporate governance of financial institutions • Bank insolvency and resolution • Deposit insurance • Money and Payment systems • Regulation of cross-border banks • Sovereign debt • EU and international financial architecture (including IMF) 	
<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <p>After taking the course the student should acquire:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • knowledge and understanding of the risks affecting the stability of financial systems; • knowledge and understanding of the most important bank regulations in the UK and the EU; • knowledge and understanding of comparative approaches to financial regulation (with a specific focus on the US); • knowledge and understanding of currently unaddressed issues in international finance and the various reform proposals on the table; • an ability to identify and analyse risks in finance and propose practical legal solutions; • an ability to understand and analyse financial transactions and the legal regime applicable to them. 	
Assessment	Examination (100%)
Pre-Requisites	None
Further Details	N/A

Module Name	Intellectual Property Law
Module Coordinator	Dr Paulina Wilson
<p>Module Summary</p> <p>Intellectual property is widely perceived to be vital in fostering innovation and creativity in the global marketplace. Intellectual property protects innovative ideas, original literary and artistic works, attractive designs, and distinctive marks. The fact that protection is available provides an incentive for individuals and businesses to create new inventions and eye-catching products, cultural goods and brands. Moreover, intellectual property contributes enormously to the national economy. For example, the UK government recently reported that the creative industries generated £76.9 billion towards the country's economy in 2013, and that the creative industries are currently growing at twice the rate of the wider UK economy. Similarly, the US Chamber of Commerce estimates that IP-intensive industries employ over 55 million Americans and are worth around \$5.8 trillion to the country's economy.</p> <p>But is the nexus between intellectual property protection, innovative and creative activity, and economic growth really so straightforward? What role does intellectual property play in hindering access to life- saving medicine or educational materials across borders, in fettering free speech, or in perpetuating long- standing business models that do not seem fit for purpose in a digital environment?</p> <p>This module provides students with an introduction to intellectual property law and policy within the UK and the EU, and specifically in the following areas of intellectual property regulation: copyright, trade marks, patents and design rights. It invites students to consider critically the existing justifications, scope and ambition of the intellectual property regime within the UK, as well as contemporary developments in this domain.</p>	
<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <p>By the end of this course students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • understand UK and EU law as it applies to the law of copyright, trade marks, design rights and patents; • identify and consider the various justifications and aims that underpin the intellectual property regime; • evaluate and criticise constructively recent developments and legal arguments in this domain; • research new developments in this area of law. 	
Assessment	Coursework Essay (100%)
Pre-Requisites	None
Further Details	N/A

Module Name	Medical Law and Ethics
Module Coordinator	Dr Mark Flear
<p>Module Summary</p> <p>This module will familiarise students with the law on medical law and ethics. There will be a particular focus on current issues in the area.</p>	
<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge and understanding of the ideas underpinning research and development of medical law and ethics. • Familiarity with legal frameworks applicable to the practice of medicine. • Understanding of the application of the theoretical constructs and legal frameworks to 'real world' cases and scenarios in the area of medicine. 	
Assessment	Coursework Essay (100%)
Pre-Requisites	None
Further Details	N/A

Module Name	Regulating Commercial Sex
Module Coordinator	Dr Graham Ellison
<p>Module Summary</p> <p>The issue of sex is perhaps the one area of human behaviour that has been historically subject to particularly high levels of formal and informal regulation including the law, the police and official agencies but also via cultural norms and mores. This regulation extends to the arena of sexual commerce generally (pornography, lap dancing and strip clubs, massage parlours, Internet based web cams) but also to the regulation of commercial sex which usually involves the exchange of money or other goods for the provision of direct and physical sexual services. In many respects the provision of commercial sex and how it is policed and regulated has been challenged fundamentally by the growth of the digital economy and the contribution of the Internet to the growth and development of new sex markets. The module focuses primarily on developments that have occurred in the UK and Ireland but also draws upon comparative international evidence where required. The module considers how debates about commercial sex are intertwined with notions of sexuality more generally and reflect gendered norms around what is perceived as appropriate sexual conduct. The module provides a historical overview of how female commercial sex came to be regulated in Ireland and the UK in ways that did not apply to that of males before moving on to consider a number of regulatory models (abolitionism, decriminalisation, legalisation) adopted in a number of jurisdictions. The nature of commercial sex is considered theoretically by drawing on competing explanations from within feminism (i.e. between second, third and fourth wave feminism) but also to those sociological and socio-legal perspectives that view commercial sex as a form of 'work'. The module challenges our understanding of commercial sex as an exclusively 'female' domain and investigates the role of males and transgendered individuals in the provision of commercial sexual services since they have remained absent from much of these discussions. As a fundamental starting point the module adopts a reflexive stance to argue that a full understanding of the nature of commercial sex can only be obtained by paying attention to the voices and views of those that participate in it. As such, the module takes an evidence-based approach arguing that research evidence not 'opinion' should be used as the basis for public policy.</p> <p>Broad thematic areas of the module will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theoretical approaches to commercial sex and its regulation (feminist, socio-legal, sociological) • Models of regulating commercial sex: abolitionism, legalisation, decriminalisation • Modes of commercial sex: Street, Indoor, Internet based • Male sex work, masculinities and gendered subjectivities • Regulating commercial sex in comparative perspective (a case study analysis of various international jurisdictions) • Regulating commercial sex in historical perspective • The emergence of the digital economy and the Internet in the creation of new sex markets • Human trafficking and sexual slavery • The intersection of religion and morality in debates about commercial sex • The role of evidence and research in public policy 	
Assessment	Coursework (50%), Examination (50%)
Pre-Requisites	None
Further Details	N/A

Module Name	Research Project B
Module Coordinator	Dr Lauren Dempster
<p>Module Summary</p> <p>This module provides students with the opportunity to undertake a semester long dissertation on a topic of their choice. Students will be allocated a dedicated supervisor from amongst the staff who will support the student during the semester.</p>	
<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <p>The development of skills in legal research, organisation of materials, presentation of extended arguments, and capacity for independent study.</p>	
<p>Skills</p> <p>Literacy, clear thinking, familiarity with legal materials.</p>	
Assessment	Research Paper (100%)
Pre-Requisites	None
Further Details	N/A

**Level 3
Full Year
(Both Spring and
Autumn Semester)**



Module Name	Dissertation
Module Coordinator	Dr Lauren Dempster
<p>Module Summary</p> <p>Researching an approved legal topic under supervision and presenting the results as a dissertation.</p> <p>Students are supported in the development of independent research skills through research into an area of law.</p> <p>Students gain experience of formulating research questions and undertaking extended writing.</p>	
<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <p>Students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrate skills in legal research, organisation of materials and presentation of extended arguments; • demonstrate a sound understanding of the principles of the topic under investigation; • demonstrate a sound understanding of primary and secondary sources in their subject area; • demonstrate the capacity for independent study. 	
<p>Skills</p> <p>Students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • critically analyse, evaluate and synthesise complex legal information; • demonstrate the ability to independently find useful legal information; • plan and investigate a theory or argument in the context of a particular area of law; • organise their exposition of the law in a rational and coherent manner; • provide a balanced and succinct discussion; • provide a well-considered conclusion to the issues presented for discussion. 	
<p>Supplementary Notes</p> <p>Research Project A and B are not available to students who take this module.</p>	
Assessment	Dissertation (100%)
Pre-Requisites	None
Further Details	N/A

