Research Methods for Legal Studies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>RMLS</th>
<th>NQF level:</th>
<th>5</th>
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<tr>
<td>Credit Value</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Study duration:</td>
<td>9 weeks</td>
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Module description:
This is a 15 credit Level 5 module which forms part of the core of the LLB. All students must complete this part of the course. The module covers the general methods and approaches that inform correct legal and academic practice and argument.

This module aims to:
- support students in planning and formulating their Final Year Research Project
- give students the opportunity to develop skills in legal research

Learning outcomes
On completion of this module, students will be able to:
- Effectively obtain and analyse primary and secondary legal materials and sources needed for their research project.
- Formulate an acceptable research proposal for their dissertation
- Apply core study skills, including: note taking; biographical search techniques; source analysis; essay writing; giving presentations; undertaking independent research
- Independently conduct their learning: correctly identify sources for research, using a variety of printed and electronic sources.
- Communicate effectively, and use legal terminology with consistent clarity and accuracy.

Syllabus
- Working independently
- Making the most of the online libraries and using online sources
- Creating a research question
- Conducting a literature review
- Bibliographies and referencing
- Presentations 1
- Presentations 2
- Writing a research proposal 1
- Writing a research proposal 2

Learning and teaching methods
The Learning and Teaching Methods for the Module follow the intended online delivery Strategy for the Programme as a whole.

The module will be delivered by reading materials available on the learning platform supported by discussion forums and online lectures using the Zoom synchronous communication and application sharing facility. Students will be encouraged to identify and share relevant web-based resources. Within the interactive lectures and discussions you will be encouraged to explore current theoretical, practical and policy issues with your tutor and fellow students.

Description of unit of assessment | Length/Duration | Submission Date | Weighting |
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2 assessed discussion activities | 2 weeks | n/a | 20% |
Mid module assignment | 10-15 minute presentations | Mid term | 40% |
End of module project – research proposal | 2500-3000 words | End term | 40% |