



Module code	ULAW/5/LWOT/19/E	NQF level	5
Credit value	30	Study duration	18 weeks

# Law of Tort

## Module description

This is a 30 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 principles of the law of negligence including topics such as duty of care, remoteness and causation. It will also cover 'special duty' areas such as psychiatric injury and economic loss.

## This module aims to:

- Introduce students to the nature of tortious liability
- Explore the principle of negligence and duty of care
- Identify defences available
- Identify remedies

## Learning outcomes

On the completion of this module students will be able to:

- demonstrate a knowledge and critical understanding of:
  - the essential elements of the tort of negligence
  - special duties of care and those arising from land ownership
  - remedies in tort law
  - an ability to research and critically analyse the law from primary resources on specific matters
- critically analyse legal issues in familiar and unfamiliar scenarios
- critically apply to a range of questions in a variety of legal contexts
- demonstrate the ability to identify legal sources
- present critical and reasoned arguments and conclusions
- communicate complex ideas and arguments in a coherent and effective manner (using appropriate legal terminology) and organise and present information relevant to the intended audience
- comprehend and use basic numerical information
- critically discuss legal issues with fellow students and reach a well-reasoned conclusion

## Syllabus

- Introduction to tortious liability
- Trespass to the person
- Negligence: duty of care
- Negligence: breach of duty
- Negligence: causation
- Negligence: remoteness
- Negligence: general defences
- Negligence: psychiatric harm
- Negligence: pure economic loss
- Occupiers' liability 1
- Occupiers' liability 2
- Vicarious liability
- Employers' primary liability
- Defamation
- Torts relating to land 1: private nuisance
- Torts relating to land 2: public nuisance and Rylands v Fletcher

## Learning and teaching methods

Teaching will be delivered through the provision of specified reading materials that will be provided on the University of Essex Online learning platform, and will be supported by specified discussion forums, pre-recorded lecturecasts and biweekly live seminars (using synchronous communication software and application sharing facility).

Students will be provided with indicative guidance on and encouraged to look at relevant websites which are appropriate to the learning outcomes, and to identify and share appropriate web-based resources (as learning support references) with their fellow students.

The pre-recorded lecturecasts and the online question and answer sessions will include referenced use of selected case studies which will be drawn from the reading materials and the practice-based and professional/educational contexts and experience of the tutors.

There will be also provision for weekly meetings with tutors in their office hours supplementing online students' self-managed learning, discussing their individual queries, and directing them to require and indicative reading.

Description of unit of assessment	Length/Duration	Submission date	Weighting
2 Assessed discussion activities	2 weeks	N/A	20%
Mid module assignment, consisting of a client interviewing exercise and an attendance note submission	10-15 mins interview and attendance note <500 words	Mid term	30%
End of module project	3,500 words	End term	50%