



Module code	ULAW/6/CCL/19/E	NQF level	6
Credit value	30	Study duration	18 weeks

# Criminal and Civil Litigation

## Module description

This is a 30 credit level 6 module which is elective on the LLB. The module focuses on criminal and civil litigation and the processes involved at every stage of litigation. It aims to instil in students an understanding and ability to communicate the complex processes and factors in deciding the outcome of civil and criminal proceedings.

## This module aims to:

- Explore the nature of criminal proceedings, from the police station, to first appearance, trial, sentencing and appeal
- Explore the nature civil proceedings, including various methods of dispute resolution, issuing and responding to a claim, statement of case, interim applications, trial, appeal and costs

## Learning outcomes

Students should be able to demonstrate:

- knowledge and critical understanding of the fundamental principles of criminal litigation
- knowledge and critical understanding of the fundamental principles of civil litigation
- they can critically engage with relevant legal concepts, values, principles and rules of english law explaining the relationship between them in a number of particular areas
- critical understanding of the uncertainty, ambiguity and limits of knowledge
- they can critically apply to a range of questions in a variety of legal contexts
- an ability to find relevant sources and identify their relevance, weight and quality
- they can present and sustain critical and reasoned arguments and conclusions
- they can communicate complex ideas and sustain arguments in a coherent and effective manner (using appropriate legal terminology) and organise and present information relevant to the intended audience
- they can use information technology, such as word processing, databases and the web effectively, to access legal information and produce well-presented, professional documents
- they can reflect critically on their own performance with the assistance of feedback

## Syllabus

- Police procedure
- Bail applications
- First appearance and plea before venue
- Allocation
- Case management
- Trial
- Sentencing
- Appeals
- Youth court
- Civil litigation
- Options for dispute resolution: arbitration, mediation and litigation
- Pre-action protocol and allocation
- Issuing and serving proceedings
- Responding to a claim
- Statement of case
- Interim applications
- Case management
- Trial and costs
- Appeals

## 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 written advices	1,000 words	Various	20%
Mid module assignment (moot presentation) client interview and attendance note submission	Client interview of 10-15 minutes and attendance note of <500 words	Mid term	30%
Examination (MCT-based)	2 to 3 hours	End term	50%