



Module code	ULAW/6/EULW/19/E	NQF level	6
Credit value	15	Study duration	9 weeks

European Union Law

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 principles of EU law, its nature and sources. Students will consider the development of the EU, focusing on the key institutions and the decision-making procedures.

This module aims to:

- Introduce students to the development of the EU
- Explore the roles and functioning of the EU key institutions

Learning outcomes

On the completion of this module students will be able to demonstrate a knowledge and critical understanding of:

- the nature of the EU and the roles and functions of its institutions
- doctrines such as direct effect and supremacy as well as other general principles in the European Union Legal Order
- the EU as a source of the law of England and Wales
- critically engage with relevant legal concepts, values, principles and rules of English law explaining the relationship between them in a number of particular areas
- effectively identify legal issues in familiar and unfamiliar scenarios
- efficiently apply knowledge to a range of questions in a variety of legal contexts
- demonstrate the ability to identify legal sources
- present arguable and reasoned conclusions

- communicate ideas and arguments in a coherent and effective manner (using appropriate legal terminology) and organise and present information relevant to the intended audience
- solve problems by clarifying questions, considering alternative solutions and evaluating outcomes
- participate in group discussion of legal issues and reach a reasoned conclusion

Syllabus

- The place of EU law in Britain: the European Communities Act 1972
- Sources of EU law
- Institutions: European Parliament, European Council, Council of the European Union, European Commission, Court of Justice of the European Union
- Supremacy of EU law
- Direct effect
- Subsidiarity and proportionality
- Protection of fundamental rights
- Introduction to the internal market
- The legal position following Brexit

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
Assessed discussion activity	3 weeks	N/A	20%
End of module project	4,000 words	End term	80%