Wills and the Administration of Estates

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

Module Description

This is a 15 credit Level 6 module which is compulsory on the LLB with Business programme. The module focuses on the creation, alteration and revocation of wills and the administration of estates.

This module aims to:

- Provide students with an understanding of the principles governing the creation and operation of wills in practice
- Provide students with an understanding of the law governing the administration of estates
- Provide students with an understanding of the professional conduct issues relating to this area of law, and the regulation of legal practice in this area.

Learning Outcomes

Students should be able to demonstrate a:

- Knowledge and critical understanding of the principles of the law relating to wills
- Knowledge and critical understanding of the administration of estates
- Knowledge and critical understanding of professional conduct related to wills and administration of estates
- An ability to research and critically analyse the law from primary resources on specific matters;
- Critically engage with relevant legal concepts, values, principles and rules of English law explaining the relationship between them in a number of particular areas;
- Appreciate the uncertainty, ambiguity and limits of knowledge.
- Demonstrate familiarity with relevant research;
- To apply legal research findings to the solution of legal problems.
- 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;
- Comprehend and use numerical information;
- Critically discuss legal issues with fellow students and reach a well-reasoned conclusion.

Syllabus

- Wills & Intestacy: validity, representatives and professional conduct
- Wills & Intestacy: alteration and revocation
- Wills & Intestacy: property passing outside the estate
- Probate: grants of representation
- Probate: the administration of estates
- Probate: Claims under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependents) Act 1975
- Inheritance Tax
- Income and Capital Gains Tax
- Regulation: money laundering, financial services and reporting obligations
Wills and the Administration of Estates

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

Teaching will be delivered through the provision of specified reading materials that will be provided on the UoEO Learning Platform, and will be supported by specified discussion forums, pre-recorded lecturecasts and biweekly online question and answer sessions (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.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of unit of assessment</th>
<th>Length/Duration</th>
<th>Submission date</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Activity/problem-based assignment question</td>
<td>Three weeks (if assignment 1,500 words)</td>
<td>NA</td>
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<tr>
<td>End of Module Assignment: Problem Scenario Advice to Client</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>End term</td>
<td>80%</td>
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