

Module Specification

Module Summary Information

1	Module Title	Criminal Law
2	Module Credits	20
3	Module Level	7
4	Module Code	GDL7000

5	Module Overview
<p>Criminal Law is a core module and part of one of the seven foundations of legal knowledge that must be successfully completed in order to proceed to the next stage of training for entry into the legal profession.</p> <p>The module will provide a comprehensive overview of common criminal offences against persons, property offences and defences under English law, as largely prescribed by domestic statutes and common law (case law). Through this overview, you will develop crucial practical skills, namely how to effectively undertake research, interpret and analyse sources of law and apply those findings to solve problems.</p> <p>This module aligns with the Programme's philosophy and aims by providing you with foundational legal knowledge and the opportunity to understand and analyse the law through an engagement with 'real life' sources of law and complex problem scenarios. All activities within the module will be practice-led and aligned to the development of skills that you will need when you enter into legal practice and the wider workplace. Therefore alongside the accumulation of knowledge, you will also engage in activities which will enable you to refine your research skills, by using paper and electronic resources and efficient searches of websites to locate relevant information. Furthermore, you will be able to analyse and apply knowledge to find alternative solutions to complex legal problems and improve your ability to communicate complex ideas to others. By doing so you will reinforce your understanding of the relevant legal rules and principles, as well as evolve as an independent learner able to action plan and organise your time effectively.</p> <p>The module practice-led and aligned to the development of the skills that you will need when you enter into employment. There will be many opportunities to apply the law to realistic problem scenarios that are likely to arise in legal practice and wider workplace. As well as problem solving, there will be a strong focus upon effective communication of advice and information, placing significant emphasis on written and oral communication skills as well as court procedure and etiquette. Participation on the module will also contribute positively to your employability. These skills include the opportunity to engage in teamwork; the ability to research and report findings, the development of competence in the range of thinking skills and giving advice.</p> <p>The module will be taught with a mixture of directed self-study periods, and 2-hour seminars. The online lectures aim to provide a general framework for understanding which will then be built upon through directed self-study periods and seminars. The module will use activities and discussions hosted by the Moodle. All of the learning activities will be supported in teaching sessions and on the Virtual Learning Environment, which will also offer interactive practice-orientated opportunities to test and apply your legal knowledge.</p>	

6	Indicative Content
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Criminal Law- Actus Reus and Mens Rea • Omissions and Causation • Homicide • None fatal offences against the person • Criminal Damage • Theft • Burglary • General Defences

7	Module Learning Outcomes	
	On successful completion of the module, students will be able to:	
	1	Demonstrate critical knowledge and appraise key principles of criminal law within a philosophical, historical and ethical context.
	2	Demonstrate analytical and evaluative skills in reviewing relevant sources of law to propose possible solutions and alternative arguments on the application of the criminal law.
	3	Demonstrate an ability to construct and evaluate legal arguments using sophisticated research skills.
	4	Present and communicate coherent, persuasive arguments using appropriate legal language and structure.

8	Module Assessment		
Learning Outcome			
	Coursework	Exam	In-Person
1 - 4		X	

9	Breakdown Learning and Teaching Activities	
Learning Activities	Hours	
Scheduled Learning (SL) includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, peer group learning, Graduate+, as specified in timetable	36	
Directed Learning (DL) includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning, as directed on VLE	36	
Private Study (PS) includes preparation for exams	128	
Total Study Hours:	200	