

Module Specification

Module Summary Information

1	Module Title	Practical Legal Research
2	Module Credits	8
3	Module Level	7
4	Module Code	LPC7307

5	Module Overview
<p>Relationship with Course Philosophy and Aims</p> <p>The Course skill module contributes to the delivery of the LPC Outcomes and the course's aims by requiring students to participate in realistic practice based exercises in order to prepare them for work-based learning and by equipping the student with foundation skills in legal research and knowledge for practice in high street, generalist or commercial practices.</p> <p>It is intended that the student will begin to prepare for work based learning by focussing upon matters which he or she will be likely to encounter during the initial stages of training to form the client based problem scenarios used for assessment purposes.</p> <p>Study mode / delivery method(s):</p> <p>All sessions are designed to promote interactive learning and to provide immediate feedback to students on their knowledge and skills development. The module is delivered over 7 weeks by a series of sequenced and linked weekly units. Each unit consists of a structured combination of self-directed on-line exercises and Large Group Sessions ("LGS") and Small Group Sessions ("SGS").</p> <p>PLR is introduced through orientating LGSs which take place during the induction period, dealing with general issues of research in practice, sources of legal information and the assessment of the Course skill on the LPC. In the LGSs knowledge and information will be delivered and reviewed and there will be opportunities for self-assessment.</p> <p>PLR then continues to be delivered and practised by students in dedicated SGSs in order to maximise individual feedback. In the SGSs students will be able to apply their knowledge and skills in context through simulated but realistic, transactional, problem based exercises. These exercises provide opportunities for research and application of knowledge and skills before and during the session. During most of the SGSs students will have the opportunity to work in collaborative teams. The purpose of these sessions is to give students repeated and structured opportunities to practice the elements of the Course skill between the sessions and to receive feedback on their experience and progress, so as to develop the skill by an iterative process of activity, reflection and planning. Materials for the module (such as the practice based case studies) will be provided to students on paper but will also be accessible via Moodle. If appropriate some of the LGSs can be delivered or most likely, might be supplemented, in the form of pre-recorded lectures which will be accessible via Moodle.</p>	

6	Indicative Content
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Familiarisation with and continued use of electronic legal research sources such as Lexis Nexis and Westlaw in small group sessions and assessments in order to search & find solutions to transactional client based problem scenarios. Familiarisation with and continued use of paper based legal research primary and secondary sources, including (but not limited to) the Law Reports and Halsbury's Laws of England, in small group sessions and assessments in order to search & find solutions to transactional client based problem scenarios. Recognition of the need for legal analysis and research skills in practice. Identification of a practical legal research methodology and application of the same to legal research scenarios/questions. Preparation of practical & appropriate forms of notes/memoranda as used in practice (including a comprehensive research trail) utilising results of said research.

7	Module Learning Outcomes
	On successful completion of the module, students will be able to:
	1 To meet the SRA's generic Course outcomes for the LPC.
	2 To meet the generic Course skills outcomes for Stage 1 of the LPC.
	3 To meet the Practical Legal Research subject outcomes.

8	Module Assessment		
Learning Outcome			
	Coursework	Exam	In-Person
1	X		
2	X		
3	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	12
Directed Learning (DL) includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning, as directed on VLE	8
Private Study (PS) includes preparation for exams	60
Total Study Hours:	80