

Module Specification

Module Summary Information

1	Module Title	American Criminal Procedure and Evidence
2	Module Credits	20
3	Module Level	6
4	Module Code	LAW6068

5	Module Overview
<p>American Criminal Procedure and Evidence provide you with a comprehensive overview of the American criminal justice process. This module will therefore examine due process protections afforded to individuals, under the U.S. Constitution, who are alleged to have committed or have been convicted of crimes. In so doing, you will engage with political, historical and social concepts relevant to the application of these due process protections in the American criminal justice system and this will advance your ability to undertake effective American legal research and referencing.</p> <p>This module uses a creative assessment strategy. Students are required to demonstrate their achievement of the module's learning outcomes through two summative assessments. The first will be an online multiple choice answer quiz, focusing on problem-solving due process issues. The second assessment requires you to draft a 'memorandum of points and authorities' for submission to a court advising an attorney of legal arguments pertaining to due process issues presented by a client's case. As such, the assessment strategy aligns with the course's learning, teaching and assessment strategy, which aims to provide a "practice-led" approach to assessment. This assessment fulfils this aim by requiring you to produce a document that would be routinely drafted in law offices.</p> <p>This module fits in with the LL.B course's philosophy by providing you with foundational legal knowledge in the subject-area and the opportunity to understand and analyse the law through engaging with fictitious and 'real life' problem scenarios. It also provides you with a comparative element to your study of English law, thereby "facilitating an integrated understanding of the law and its function within a globalised environment." The module's focus on the rights of criminal defendants also fits well with one of the course's core values, namely 'access to justice'.</p> <p>The module is delivered through weekly lectures and workshops, and prescribed Virtual Learning Environment activities on Moodle.</p>	

6	Indicative Content
	<p>Constitutional protections in the criminal justice process;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - safeguards associated with disclosure, search and seizure - legal assistance - expert assistance - jury trials <p>Controversies in the American criminal justice system;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - capital punishment - wrongful convictions. <p>American legal research American citation methods Problem-solving.</p>

7	Module Learning Outcomes								
	On successful completion of the module, students will be able to:								
	<table> <tr> <td>1</td><td>Critically analyse legal issues in the context of American Criminal Procedure and Evidence.</td></tr> <tr> <td>2</td><td>Undertake effective legal research skills in order to problem solve legal issues in the context of American Criminal Procedure and Evidence.</td></tr> <tr> <td>3</td><td>Evaluate sources of law.</td></tr> <tr> <td>4</td><td>Construct logical legal arguments using appropriate referencing, written English, style and form.</td></tr> </table>	1	Critically analyse legal issues in the context of American Criminal Procedure and Evidence.	2	Undertake effective legal research skills in order to problem solve legal issues in the context of American Criminal Procedure and Evidence.	3	Evaluate sources of law.	4	Construct logical legal arguments using appropriate referencing, written English, style and form.
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8	Module Assessment			
Learning Outcome				
	Coursework	Exam	In-Person	
1		X		
2, 3, 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		24
Directed Learning (DL) includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning, as directed on VLE		48
Private Study (PS) includes preparation for exams		128
Total Study Hours:		200