

Module Title:	Legal Research and Communications
Language of Instruction:	English
Credits:	5
NFQ Level:	6
Module Delivered In	2 programme(s)
Teaching & Learning Strategies:	<p>Lectures - communication of knowledge and ideas from the lecturer to the student. Problem Solving Exercises - student will work as part of a team and will work together to resolve various legal scenarios. Class Discussion/Debate - Students will be encouraged to actively participate in the class sessions which will develop their analytical and communication skills. E-Learning - The module will be supported with on-line learning materials. Self-Direct Independent Learning - the emphasis on independent learning will develop a strong and autonomous work and learning practices.</p>
Module Aim:	The aim of this module is to give students a thorough grounding in legal research and communication skills, giving them the ability to gather, assemble and competently communicate legal information.
Learning Outcomes	
<i>On successful completion of this module the learner should be able to:</i>	
LO1	Gather, analyse and assimilate legal information from various sources.
LO2	Read and comprehend legal information, and communicate that comprehension in written and verbal form.
LO3	Correctly reference legal sources.
LO4	Apply legal theories to problem scenarios/case studies through research, critical analysis and reasoning.
Pre-requisite learning	
Module Recommendations	
<i>This is prior learning (or a practical skill) that is recommended before enrolment in this module.</i>	
No recommendations listed	
Incompatible Modules	
<i>These are modules which have learning outcomes that are too similar to the learning outcomes of this module.</i>	
No incompatible modules listed	
Co-requisite Modules	
No Co-requisite modules listed	
Requirements	
<i>This is prior learning (or a practical skill) that is mandatory before enrolment in this module is allowed.</i>	
No requirements listed	

Module Content & Assessment

Indicative Content

Legal Research - Sources of Law

• The Constitution • Legislation o The Irish Statute Book – Acts of the Oireachtas and Statutory Instruments o Locating and Understanding Legislation • Common Law/Case Law o Proper use of citation o Finding a case from a citation o Reading and analysing a case o Unreported cases o Determining whether a case has been affected by later authority • EU law • International Law • Scholarly Writings/Journals/Articles, including citation of cases/articles • Electronic sources of law

Legal Communications

• Latin and French Terms Commonly Used in Legal Writing. • Writing Letters, Essays, Assignments & Case Notes • Addressing Problem scenarios • Organization and Presentation of Written Work • Referencing including citations, bibliographies, footnotes, endnotes and plagiarism. • Style of Writing: Accuracy, Relevance & Brevity • Oral and Non-Verbal Communication Skills including presentations

Assessment Breakdown

	%
Continuous Assessment	100.00%

Continuous Assessment

Assessment Type	Assessment Description	Outcome addressed	% of total	Assessment Date
Other	Assessment 1 The student will be required to source given • Articles from the Constitution • Pieces of legislation (both Acts and Statutory Instruments) • Cases • Provisions of EU Law (including Treaties, legislation and ECJ Decisions) • International treaties/Conventions • Scholarly Writing	1	10.00	n/a
Short Answer Questions	Referencing and Abbreviation Assessment	3	20.00	n/a
Other	Assessment 3 The student will be required to read and write a case note (in accordance with given guidelines) on a decision from the Irish High or Supreme Court. (The actual decision will differ each year.)	2,3	20.00	n/a
Other	Assessment 4 Here the students will be given a number of cases to read and a hypothetical problem scenario to solve using principles decided in those cases. The students will be required to draft a legal opinion on the legal issues and likely outcome to the problem scenario. This will be a group project building upon team work skills.	3,4	30.00	n/a
Other	Assessment 5 The student will be required to prepare and deliver an oral presentation	2	20.00	n/a

No Project

No Practical

No End of Module Formal Examination

SETU Carlow Campus reserves the right to alter the nature and timings of assessment

Module Workload

Workload: Full Time		
Workload Type	Frequency	Average Weekly Learner Workload
Lecture	12 Weeks per Stage	4.00
Independent Learning Time	15 Weeks per Stage	5.13
Total Hours		125.00

Workload: Part Time		
Workload Type	Frequency	Average Weekly Learner Workload
Lecture	Every Week	1.00
Total Hours		1.00

Module Delivered In

Programme Code	Programme	Semester	Delivery
CW_BBLEG_C_1	Higher Certificate in Arts in Legal Studies	1	Mandatory
CW_HHLAW_B OLD	Honours Bachelor of Laws Degree - LLB	1	Mandatory