Module Definition Form (MDF)

Module code: MOD008161	**Version:** 6 **Date Amended:** 28/Jun/2024

1. Module Title
Law and Economics

2a. Module Leader
Michael Greenslade

2b. School
School of Engineering and the Built Environment

2c. Faculty
Faculty of Science and Engineering

3a. Level
4

3b. Module Type
Standard (fine graded)

4a. Credits
30

4b. Study Hours
300

5. Restrictions			
Type	**Module Code**	**Module Name**	**Condition**
Pre-requisites:	None		
Co-requisites:	None		
Exclusions:	None		
Courses to which this module is restricted:	FdSc Surveying, FdSc Construction Management, BSc (Hons) Building Surveying, BSc (Hons) Construction Management, BSc (Hons) Quantity Surveying.		

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

This module introduces you to the structure and processes of the English legal system and to basic economic principles and how they impact on organisations and professionals in the Built Environment. You will be introduced to concepts and skills which they will need to address and use in later modules.

This module provides the essential foundation to the development of the legal skills necessary in the provision of sound advice to clients in a your professional career. It will focus on civil law providing guidance to you on information, materials and sources to equip you with a basic understanding of the nature and structure of the English legal system, Parliament and law making, the court structure and precedent, legislation and case law, and legal terms and language. You will be guided to legal sources and materials and will be taught how to research law appropriate to your studies using published references.

This module provides the underpinning knowledge and skills to enable you to appreciate the significance for your industry and profession of the economic environment. You will develop an appreciation of the importance and role of the economy for the Built Environment. There will be an exploration of basic microeconomic and macroeconomic principles and examination of how they impact on client organisations, construction projects and firms in the Built Environment. This includes evaluating how Government fiscal policy may impinge on the construction industry and the property market. You will use both textbook and on-line source materials to support your understanding of theory and its implications for the real world.

A key aim of the module is to develop research skills, together with the ability to analyse research material, and to marshal material and facts into cogent advice and reports.

6b. Outline Content

Knowledge and Understanding

- Classification and characteristics of English law.
- Legislation and statutory interpretation.
- The court structure and the judiciary, the civil law process, case law and precedent.
- Contract and Tort.
- Participants and institutions for dispute resolution in the English legal system.
- Modern industrial structures including practices, roles, relationships and positions of the parties' involved.
- Microeconomic and macroeconomic theory and how that theory relates to firms in the built
- environment.
- Theory of the firm.
- Government economic policy, including monetary and fiscal policies.
- The development of the building/engineering firm and its place in the economy.
- The importance of sustainability and implications for Built Environment firms.
- Emphasis will be given in economics to assessing contemporary issues and challenges they present to Built Environment firms.

Skills Analysis

- Legal research, the use of legal material case reports and legislation, analysis and reporting findings.
- Appreciate the importance to the economy for built environment firms and apply knowledge acquired to particular situations.

6c. Key Texts/Literature

The reading list to support this module is available at: https://readinglists.aru.ac.uk/

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

None

7. Learning Outcomes (threshold standards)		
No.	**Type**	**On successful completion of this module the student will be expected to be able to:**
1	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate an understanding of the English legal system and its sources.
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Understand the process of civil law and the key basic principles of the law of contract and tort.
3	Knowledge and Understanding	Be aware of basic microeconomic and macroeconomic theory and apply this to the context of the Built Environment.
4	Knowledge and Understanding	Recognise the importance of current economic issues and demonstrate how they impinge on firms in the Built Environment.
5	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Study and research legal material in hard copy and electronic form.
6	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Research and apply knowledge to particular economic problems or situations.

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers				
Year	**Occurrence**	**Period**	**Location**	**Mode of Delivery**
2026/7	ZZF	Template For Face To Face Learning Delivery		Face to Face

8b. Learning Activities for the above Module Occurrence			
Learning Activities	**Hours**	**Learning Outcomes**	**Details of Duration, frequency and other comments**
Lectures	48	1-6	4 hours a week
Other teacher managed learning	24	1-6	Case studies and exercises - 2 hours a week
Student managed learning	228	1-6	Private Study
TOTAL:	300		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence

The assessment for some modules includes a presentation (see below for details on how this particular module is assessed). We recognise that presenting, especially to a large group, can cause significant anxiety or distress for some students. If this may affect you, please contact your Module Leader or the Disability and Neurodiversity Service as early as possible. We will work with you to consider appropriate reasonable adjustments. Depending on your individual needs, these might include, for example, presenting to a smaller group or presenting only to a member of academic staff.

Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Practical	1-5	50 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Group presentation 2000 words equivalent.					

Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
011	Coursework	3,4,6	50 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Individual report 2500 words maximum					

In order to pass this module, students are required to achieve an overall mark of 40% (for modules at levels 3, 4, 5 and 6) or 50% (for modules at level 7*).

In addition, students are required to:
(a) achieve the qualifying mark for each element of fine graded assessment as specified above
(b) pass any pass/fail elements

[* the pass mark of 50% applies for all module occurrences from the academic year 2024/25 – see Section 3a of this MDF to check the level of the module and Section 8a of this MDF to check the academic year]