Module Definition Form (MDF)

Module code: MOD008576	**Version:** 9 **Date Amended:** 05/Jan/2026

1. Module Title
Contract Law

2a. Module Leader
Mark Kingston

2b. School
School of Economics, Finance and Law

2c. Faculty
Faculty of Business and Law

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:			

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

You'll gain a foundation in the basic principles relating to the formation of contracts, developing the idea of consensus and the rules and principles governing enforceability, performance and discharge of contracts. You'll be introduced to common law and equitable principles as well as relevant legislation. In addition to studying 'black letter' law, you're encouraged to critically assess the law and to evaluate it in a social, political and economic context.

During group sessions you'll take part in mooting activities, as preparation for your assessment but also as a means of developing your problem-solving, case location, communications and argument.

As this module fulfils part of the seven Foundations of Legal Knowledge, in alignment with the Bar Standards Board's requirement compensation is not permitted for this module.

6b. Outline Content

- Formation of contract: offer and acceptance; consideration; intention to create legal relations; certainty.
- Parties: privity of contract; rights of third parties.
- Contract terms: express terms, incorporation of terms, terms implied by common law and statute; exemption clauses; boilerplate and other common terms (including retention of title, insurance and title clauses); interpretation of contracts; variation.
- Vitiating factors: misrepresentation; mistake; unfair terms; duress and undue influence.
- Termination: expiry or other specified event; breach; frustration.
- Remedies: damages; liquidated sums and penalties; specific performance; injunctions; duty to mitigate; indemnities; guarantees.
- Causation.
- Outline of the principles of restitution for unjust enrichment in the context of termination of a contract.

6c. Key Texts/Literature

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

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

Journal of Business Law

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	Identify and describe the legal framework, including rules, principles, doctrines, institutions, processes and procedures and or institutions relating to contract law, and recognise how they interrelate within and broader social, political, commercial, ethical and other contexts in balancing interests in society;
2	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Identify and summarise relevant legal materials relating to contract law, recognising different perspectives and beginning to analyse areas of uncertainty and ambiguity in legal content;
3	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Apply basic legal understanding to straightforward scenarios, outlining reasoned solutions that reflect core legal principles and simple practical implications;
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Communicate legal information and arguments with basic structure and clarity, demonstrating clear expression and accurate use of academic conventions, including introductory OSCOLA referencing and bibliography;
5	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Present clear and structured arguments in discussions or presentations, and express straightforward points of view with clarity and confidence;
6	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Analyse straightforward legal scenarios and select appropriate outcomes showing an emerging ability to apply structured legal reasoning.

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	0	N/A	N/A
Other teacher managed learning	47.5	1-6	2 x 1 hour tutor led workshop OR 2 x 1 hour lecture x 11 weeks (weeks 1-11) AND 2 x 1 hour student led workshop OR 2 x 1 hour tutorial x 11 weeks (weeks 1-11) PLUS 2 x 20min screencast x 10 weeks
Student managed learning	252.5	1-6	To include such things as online discussion boards, VLE exercises, private study (guided and autonomous), tutorial preparation, assessment preparation and completion. This is adjusted if additional Teacher Managed Learning is used to ensure total 300 hours.
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	Coursework	1-6	100 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)

Component 010_1 In-class multiple-choice test to support skills for main assessment (up to 45 minutes) Component 010_2 A moot presentation including specified supporting written work. (Written piece of work specified in assignment and 10-minute moot presentation corresponding to a total equivalence of up to 3000 words). Compensation is not permitted for this module.

Assessment components for Element 010				
Component No.	**Assessment Title**	**Submission Method**	**Weighting (%)**	**Components needed for Mark Calculation?**
010/1	In-class multiple-choice test (up to 45 minutes)	Scheduled Activity: Timetabled assessment task	20 (%)	All
010/2	Moot Presentation with Written Work (up to 3000 words)	Scheduled Activity: Timetabled assessment task	80 (%)	

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]