



Module Definition Form (MDF)

Module code: MOD008578	Version: 3 Date Amended: 08/Feb/2024
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1. Module Title
Introduction to Comparative Law

2a. Module Leader
Helga Hejny

2b. School
School of Economics, Finance and Law

2c. Faculty
Faculty of Business and Law

3a. Level
7

3b. Module Type
Standard (fine graded)

4a. Credits
15

4b. Study Hours
150

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

This module provides the foundation for the transition from undergraduate to Masters level study by introducing themes which underpin the higher level study of the relationship between law and business in the international context, as well as the advanced research skills needed for success at this level. You'll demonstrate a systematic and critical awareness of the interrelation of law and business in a global context and will also be expected to demonstrate a comprehensive understanding and advanced scholarship in the context of international trade and business. It has several main themes: Firstly, it provides an analytical framework for international trade law that transcends particular jurisdictions and focuses on the context in which international business takes place. It will examine the need for the regulation of international trade and the development of legal frameworks for this, including an understanding of the WTO and regional trade organisations, such as the EU. International business operates within a variety of national legal systems as well as internationally. A critical awareness of comparative legal systems is therefore essential, as is an understanding of some elements of public international law (such as treaty law).

6b. Outline Content

- International trade and globalisation.
- The legal regulation of international trade: the WTO.
- Regional trade groups with a specific focus on the EU.
- Comparative legal systems (common law and civil law).
- Outline of public international law.
- Essential research skills: use of the Library and electronic databases.
- The selection and evaluation of resources.
- The conventions of academic writing (including referencing, plagiarism etc).

6c. Key Texts/Literature

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

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

Additional resources will be available through the VLE, including online tutorials

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 a critical appreciation of the implications of the context of economic globalisation for the regulation of international business
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Critically evaluate the impact of the legal context(s) within which international business operates
3	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Work with others appropriately and communicate confidently to convey complex legal issues effectively and produce a sophisticated collaborative presentation appropriate to its audience.
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Demonstrate, at a level appropriate for postgraduate level study, the research skills of location, selection and evaluation of a variety of relevant resources.

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers				
Year	Occurrence	Period	Location	Mode of Delivery
2024/5	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	23	1-4	1 hour tutor led workshop OR 1 hour lecture x 10 weeks (weeks 1-10) AND 1 hour student led workshop OR 1 hour seminar/tutorial x 10 weeks minimum (weeks 1-10 or 2-11) PLUS 1 x twenty-minute screencasts x 10 weeks minimum (weeks 1-10, ACL modules only and excluding SAM)
Student managed learning	127	1-4	To include such things as engaging 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 150 hours.
TOTAL:	150		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Practical	1-4	20 (%)	Fine Grade	40 (%)
Individual contribution of 5 minutes duration to a group presentation for which marks on an individual basis will be applied					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
011	Coursework	1 2 4	80 (%)	Fine Grade	40 (%)
Written assignment 1500 words and a 5-10 minute individual viva voce based on the research presented in their coursework.					

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]