

Module Specification

Module Details

Module Title	Legal Business Skills
Programme(s)	Master of Laws (LLM in Legal Practice) employer-specific mode only Developing Legal Professionals
Credits	10
Core or Elective	Elective
Pre-requisites	None
FHEQ Level	7
Workload	100 hours, comprising of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-paced interaction with the course and resources, personal study (60 hours) • Assessment and preparation for assessment, including interaction with personal supervisor (40 hours)

Module Outline & Competencies

Module Description This module develops competency in legal business skills, that is, key skills needed by learners entering legal practice and adjusting to the workplace environment.

As such it is one of several modules making up the College's Developing Legal Professionals portfolio of modules in the College's LLM in Legal Practice programme which is for graduates starting out on their pre-qualification journey of professional legal education and focuses on developing transactional, technical and practical proficiency in commercial law through innovative learning methods.

Learning Outcomes By successfully completing this module, the learner will be able to:

1. Explain the applicability of core skills in the context of working in a legal services business
2. Analyse and evaluate issues that arise in the context of a legal services business, and propose skills-based solutions that meet the needs and interests of, variously, clients, the business, and individual lawyers
3. Recognise the complementary nature of and interaction between legal business skills in the provision of legal services

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4. Critically evaluate the use of established skills techniques and approaches that are used to achieve practical solutions within a chosen area of professional practice
 5. Communicate conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences, and
 6. Develop and refine their own skills base to implement within the workload commonly delegated to the newly qualified solicitor.
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Module Content The module content includes online instruction, written resources and audio-visual media presentations, interactive engagement, application of relevant skills, and personal 1-2-1 supervision.

In particular, students will be enabled to develop expert, specialised cognitive and technical skills to analyse critically, reflect on, and synthesise information and concepts to solve complex legal problems within the context of a legal services business.

The skills and approaches set out above will be developed in the context of a range of learning activities.

Learning activities include:

1. Understanding the key principles behind and elements within each business skill through media, self-testing and scenario-based learning
2. Identifying, critically analysing and evaluating the key issues which impact upon the development of a skill,
3. Evaluating the practical and commercial considerations involved in meeting client and business objectives through use of legal business skills.

Assessment Learners will be assessed through the following:

- A 2,000 word analysis of a selected contemporary challenge within a legal services business, critically evaluating the application of appropriate legal skills in meeting that challenge.

The specific topic for the analysis will be discussed with and agreed with a College supervisor. The supervisor will review and provide formative feedback on a draft of the analysis, and grade the final submission.

Link with competencies The competency frameworks that underpin the learning outcomes for this module are:

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1. The Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) National Qualifications Framework Outcome classification description for FHEQ Level 7; and
 2. The College's Masters degree Competence Framework.

The:

- a) learning objectives are directed to the development; and
- b) criteria for assessment of achievement are directed to the measurement;

of competencies in key transactional skills at Masters level with the object of developing autonomy in the learner to the extent expected of a newly qualified lawyer utilising the business skills in this module.

**Link with FHEQ
criteria**

This module carries credits at FHEQ level 7 which will count towards the award of a Postgraduate Certificate, Postgraduate Diploma and the College's LLM in Legal Practice.

As such the underpinning FHEQ level criteria are those set out in The Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) National Qualifications Framework Outcome classification description for FHEQ Level 7 contextualised for professional development through study and learning on a professional/practice-based Master of Laws as described in the QAA's Characteristics Statement for Master's Degrees February 2020.
