

# Module Specification

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## Module Details

<b>Module Title</b>	Solicitors Legal Skills
<b>Programme(s)</b>	Master of Laws (LLM in Legal Practice)
<b>Credits</b>	30
<b>Core or Elective</b>	Core on the full-time and part-time modes Elective on the flexi mode
<b>Pre-requisites</b>	None
<b>FHEQ Level</b>	7
<b>Workload</b>	300 hours, comprised of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading/personal study on skill and revision of practice area contexts (80 hours)</li> <li>• Skills interactions and academic support (200 hours)</li> <li>• Assessment and preparation for assessment (20 hours)</li> </ul>

## Module Outline & Competencies

<b>Module Description</b>	<p>This module develops competency in the following Legal Skills:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Advocacy</li> <li>2. Interviewing and attendance note-taking/legal analysis</li> <li>3. Case and matter analysis</li> <li>4. Drafting</li> <li>5. Research</li> <li>6. Writing</li> </ol>
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The above skills are developed in the following practice areas:

1. Criminal Litigation
2. Dispute Resolution
3. Property Practice
4. Wills and Intestacy, Probate Administration and Practice
5. Business Law and Practice

The above skills and practice area knowledge, together with, pervasively, Ethics and Professional Conduct, are covered with the aim of developing the competencies required for the second part of the Solicitors Qualification Examination (SQE2).

The module is developed for graduates starting out on their pre-qualification journey of professional legal education and focuses on developing technical and practical proficiency in the skills, in

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the context of specified practice areas, through innovative learning methods.

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- Learning Outcomes** By successfully completing this module, the learner will be able to (in the context of the practice areas listed above):
1. Obtain relevant facts from clients in an interview
  2. Analyse legal problems, identifying and summarising clearly issues relevant to stakeholders
  3. Undertake efficient and effective practical legal research
  4. Develop and advise clients or colleagues on relevant options, strategies and solutions for legal problems
  5. Draft documents which are legally effective and accurately reflect instructions
  6. Undertake effective spoken and written advocacy
  7. Identify and communicate potential negotiation solutions to clients' issues
  8. Communicate clearly and effectively, orally and in writing, with clients and colleagues
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**Module Content** The module content includes textual guidance, audio-visual media demonstrations of specified legal skills, online learning build activities, self-practice tasks, feedback on skills, practice area knowledge revision resources, such as MCQs and flashcards, and an end-of-module summative exam.

Learning activities include:

1. Reading on legal skills, and the law and procedure relevant to the practice areas
  2. Viewing audio-visual media skills demonstrations
  3. Online interactions developing elements of individual skills
  4. Self-practice skills tasks, with individual review and reflection against exemplars and feedback
  5. Practice skills tasks and feedback
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**Assessment** Learners will sit one end-of-module exam, comprising three assessment stations.

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

1. The Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) National Qualifications Framework Outcome classification description for FHEQ Level 7; and
2. The Solicitors Regulation Authority's Statement of Solicitor Competence.

The:

- a) learning outcomes are directed to the development; and
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b) criteria for assessment of achievement are directed to the measurement;  
of competency (to the level of a competent newly qualified solicitor in practice) in the listed skills.

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**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.

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