

Module specification

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Module code	LAW401/LAW401D
Module title	Public Law: Constitutional and Administrative Law
Level	4
Credit value	20
Faculty	FSLS
Module Leader	TBC
HECoS Code	100485
Cost Code	TBC

Programmes in which module to be offered

LLB (Hons) Law	Core
BA (Hons) Law and Criminal Justice	Core
BA (Hons) Law and Business	Core

Pre-requisites

None

Breakdown of module hours

Learning and teaching hours	36 hrs
Placement tutor support	0hrs
Supervised learning e.g. practical classes, workshops	0 hrs
Project supervision (level 6 projects and dissertation modules only)	0 hrs
Total active learning and teaching hours	36 hrs
Placement / work based learning	0 hrs
Guided independent study	164 hrs
Module duration (total hours)	200 hrs

For office use only	
Initial approval date	May 2021
With effect from date	September 2021
Date and details of revision	January 2022 included BA (Hons) Law and Business in programme titles
Version number	2

Module aims

The aim of this module is to provide students with an understanding of the key institutions, principles and theories underpinning constitutional arrangements in the United Kingdom and the devolved nations and how human rights are protected.

Module Learning Outcomes - at the end of this module, students will be able to:

1	Explain the nature and purpose of constitutions including the ways in which governmental powers are allocated in the UK; institutions of the state; and the way in which courts operate to review administrative action and protect basic rights
2	Explain the key foundational principles and theories underpinning constitutional and human rights law and practice in the UK and the factors (legal, historical, theoretical, political and practical) which shape the UK's 'constitution'
3	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the legal and conventional constraints on government in the UK (including judicial review and other administrative law remedies)
4	Show understanding of the extent and limits of Government power and of key judgements related to Human Rights protection

Assessment

Indicative Assessment Tasks:

Essay: (1000 words) will require students to demonstrate an understanding of the nature and structure of constitutionalism in the UK and to comment on how power is excised and kept in check

Examination: (Multiple choice/unseen 1.5 hours) students will be presented with 4 case studies with human rights related implications and asked to answer MCQ

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting (%)
1	1-2	Essay	50%
2	3-4	Examination	50%

Derogations

PSRB requirement for LLB Law only:

The minimum pass mark for all LLB foundations of legal knowledge (FLK) subjects is 40%. Compensation is only permitted for a maximum of one module across the whole programme for a marginal fail (35-39) covering FLK subjects. (applies to LAW401D, LAW402D, LAW403D, LAW404, LAW502D, SOC575D, LAW601D, LAW603D)

Learning and Teaching Strategies

The learning and teaching strategy is grounded in the University's commitment to an Active Learning Framework (ALF) so that learning will be both accessible and active, and include synchronous and a-synchronous elements. Face to face classroom teaching will be supplemented by online lectures wherein students will be expected to complete activities such as watching Panopto videos; undertake additional reading; complete quizzes and exercises; and post comment for a-synchronous debate. These activities will be the subject of formative feedback by the module tutor. Added to this, will be access to staff who provide presence, challenge and support for student learning and can relate learning to real world uses.

Indicative Syllabus Outline

What is a Constitution?

Constitutional conventions. Constitutionalism: history, theories, principles and contemporary significance.

Rule of Law/Separation of Powers.

Sovereignty of Parliament; Prime Minister and Cabinet; Monarch and Prerogative.

Models of Government at national, local and supra-national levels.

Parliament: Election, Composition and Power

Parliamentary privilege

Institutions of Government at UK and devolved levels

Delegated legislation

Civil Liberties and Human Rights – history and contemporary significance.

Freedom of Assembly and Public Order.

The scope of governmental authority and its limits.

Judicial review and other forms of citizen redress. Crown Proceedings. Human Rights Act 1998

Liberty and Police Powers.

Liability of public bodies

Administrative law: judicial review; tribunals and inquiries, Ombudsmen; crown proceedings

Indicative Bibliography:

Essential Reading

Bradley, A.W., Ewing, K.D. and Knight, C (2018) Constitutional and Administrative Law (17th edition). Pearson Education.

Other Indicative Reading

Barnett, H. (2018) Constitutional and Administrative Law. Oxford: Oxford University Press

Elliott, M and Thomas, R. (2017) Public Law. Oxford: Oxford University Press

Fenwick, H., Phillipson, G and Williams, A. (2020). Text, Cases and Materials on Public Law and Human Rights. London: Routledge.

Le Sueur, A., Sunkin, M and Murkens J. (2019) Public Law: Text, Cases and Materials 4th edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Students will be expected to consult a range of law journals and selected e-journals from WestLaw with a view to developing appropriate legal research skills and to access important supplementary readings in preparation for assessments.

Employability skills – The Glyndŵr Graduate

Engaged
Ethical
Commitment
Curiosity
Confidence
Digital Fluency
Organisation
Communication

