

Module specification

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Module code	LAW406
Module title	Clinical Legal Practice
Level	4
Credit value	30
Faculty	Glyndŵr University: Faculty of Social and Life Sciences
	Bloomsbury Institute: School of Law
Module Leader	Barra Fitzgibbon
HECoS Code	100485 (Law)
	100692 (Legal Practice)
Cost Code	GACJ

Programmes in which module to be offered

Is the module core or option for this programme	
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9	

Pre-requisites

None

Breakdown of module hours

Learning and teaching hours	66 hrs
Placement tutor support	0 hrs
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	66 hrs
Placement / work based learning	0 hrs
Guided independent study	234 hrs
Module duration (total hours)	300 hrs

For office use only	
Initial approval date	8 April 2022



For office use only	
With effect from date	June 2022
Date and details of	
revision	
Version number	1

Module aims

The module aims to:

- Develop students' professional legal skills including client care, professional conduct and ethics, client interviewing, collaborative working, file management (using Intralinks VIA Pro), practical legal research, drafting and writing.
- Develop students' Legal IT skills to enable them to achieve Westlaw UK Basic Certification, and to develop students' understanding of how artificial intelligence will impact the future delivery of legal services.
- Equip students with the necessary skills to enable them to undertake the role of Student Advisor in the Bloomsbury Law Clinic, the mission of which is:
 - Social justice: to provide free legal advice to people who are not eligible for legal aid and cannot afford to pay.
 - Student learning: to provide law students with clinical experience.

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

1	Demonstrate a practical understanding of the SRA's Code of Conduct for Solicitors and the CILEx Code of Conduct for Chartered Legal Executives.
2	Analyse the extent to which access to justice is facilitated in the UK.
3	Apply law in practice by identifying a client's problem, analysing it, researching it and writing a letter of advice.
4	Communicate legal information in writing to a lay client, in a clear and accessible format.

Assessment

This section outlines the type of assessment task the student will be expected to complete as part of the module.

Indicative Assessment 1: Will take the form of a 1,500 word coursework.



Indicative Assessment 2: Will take the form of a 1,500 word report that includes identifying a client's problem, analysing it, researching it and writing a letter of advice.

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting (%)
1	1, 2	Coursework	50%
2	3, 4	Report	50%

Derogations

None

Learning and Teaching Strategies

The module will be completed over one term.

Students will undertake 2-weeks of pre-reading and online activities.

The module is taught through weekly 2-hour lectures, 2-hour seminars and 2-hour workshops.

Lectures provide a broad outline structure for each topic to be covered. Lectures offer a good way of covering a lot of information and, more importantly, of conveying ideas to many people at once.

Seminars enable students to undertake directed self-study and to answer questions and solve problems which are set by the lecturer. Students will present their answers and solutions within the seminar group. Seminars enable students to explore further the topics introduced in the lectures.

Workshops follow on from lectures and seminars. They are designed to enable students to work within a small group to perform set tasks (e.g. working on an exercise or case study). They reinforce proactive learning by providing opportunities for discussion and interaction.

The seminar/workshop groups are small, thereby enabling students to develop a deep understanding.

Student digital literacies are developed on this module through the use of, *inter alia*:

- Online libraries and databases for gaining access to full-text journal articles and eBooks, including Westlaw UK and Westlaw Practical Law (to include Westlaw UK Basic Certification).
- Communication means provided through the VLE and learning technology applications.
- File management using Intralinks VIA Pro
- Online group-work, for planning, developing, improving, submitting and reflecting on collaborative work completed as part of the module.
- Assessment and feedback tools such as Turnitin and the VLE's Gradebook enabling timely and detailed feedback on student work.
- Web-based Office 365.



Indicative Syllabus Outline

- Client care
- Professional conduct and ethics
- Introduction to Housing Law
- Client interviewing
- Collaborative working
- File management using Intralinks VIA Pro
- Practical legal research including Westlaw UK and Westlaw Practical Law (to include Westlaw UK Basic Certification)
- Artificial intelligence and its impact on the future delivery of legal services
- Drafting
- Writing

Indicative Bibliography:

Essential reading

Thomas, L. and Johnson, N. (2020) <u>The Clinical Legal Education Handbook</u>, (Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, University of London Press)

LawWorks Training Videos, available at: <u>Induction and training for law student clinic</u> volunteers | LawWorks

- Welcome
- Introduction from LawWorks
- Client confidentiality and GDPR
- Regulation and supervision
- Professionalism
- Commercial awareness
- Volunteering in the not-for-profit sector
- Student wellbeing
- Working with vulnerable clients
- Interviewing and note taking skills
- Letter writing and legal research skills
- Sharing documents and document security (Clio)
- Sharing documents and document security (Intralinks)
- Case and matter analysis
- Rule of law
- LexisNexis resources
- Equality, diversity and inclusion
- Litigants in Person Support Strategy

Westlaw Practical Law: Law School Resource Centre – Skills – Key Resources (Writing Skills; Legal Research)

Other indicative reading

Woodfall: Landlord and Tenant, Sweet & Maxwell eStore [available through Westlaw Books]

CLEO (Clinical Legal Education Organisation) Resources



Students will be expected to consult a range of law journals (within Birkbeck Library and/or through Westlaw) with a view to developing appropriate legal research skills and to access supplementary readings in preparation for assessments.

Employability skills - the Glyndŵr Graduate

Each module and programme is designed to cover core Glyndŵr Graduate Attributes with the aim that each Graduate will leave having achieved key employability skills as part of their study. The following attributes will be covered within this module either through the content or as part of the assessment:

Core Attributes

Engaged Creative Ethical

Key Attitudes

Commitment Curiosity Confidence

Practical Skillsets

Digital Fluency
Organisation
Leadership and Team working
Emotional Intelligence
Communication