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Title: SOCIAL AND LEGAL STUDIES
Status: Definitive
Code: 5003LAWLT (116124)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2011

Owning School/Faculty: Law
Teaching School/Faculty: Law

Team	Leader
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Academic Level: FHEQ5 **Credit Value:** 24.00 **Total Delivered Hours:** 28.00

Total Learning Hours: 240 **Private Study:** 212

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Standard Year Long

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	20.000
Tutorial	8.000

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Essay	AS1	Coursework - 3,000 words	50.0	
Essay	AS2	Coursework - 3,000 words	50.0	

Aims

1. To introduce the idea of socio-legal studies and research, and to encourage students to approach law from an interdisciplinary angle

2. To introduce students to some of the different methodological approaches to researching law and policy broadly construed
3. To consider some of the controversies raised by social, legal and political issues of current topical interest
4. To provide students with an opportunity to undertake research on an area of current topical importance that is of interest to them

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Recognise and evaluate the relative strengths and weaknesses of some different methodological approaches to researching legal issues in context
- 2 Use a research methodology that they have studied in the module in order to explore and analyse a topical legal issue
- 3 Undertake independent research on a topic of interest using a variety of source material
- 4 Demonstrate an ability to use appropriate legal terminology and language in writing

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

Essay 1	1	4	
Essay 2	2	3	4

Outline Syllabus

Socio-Legal Theory and Method

Socio-Legal Historical Reconstructions

Quantitative Social Research

Qualitative Social Research

A selection of current topical legal issues in context. These will vary with current developments but are likely to include cybercrime, topical issues in human rights, prisons, policing, and youth justice.

Learning Activities

10 lectures

8 tutorials

References

Course Material	Book
Author	Banakar, R & Travers, M
Publishing Year	2005

Title	Theory and Method in Socio-Legal Research
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Hart
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Bryman, A
Publishing Year	2008
Title	Social Research Methods
Subtitle	
Edition	3rd
Publisher	OUP
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Gray, D
Publishing Year	2009
Title	Doing Research in the Real World
Subtitle	
Edition	2nd
Publisher	Sage
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	King, R.D & Wincup, E
Publishing Year	2007
Title	Doing Research on Crime and Justice
Subtitle	
Edition	2nd
Publisher	OUP
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	McConville, M & Chui, W.H
Publishing Year	2007
Title	Research Methods for Law
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Edinburgh University Press
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Robson, C
Publishing Year	2002
Title	Real World Research
Subtitle	

Edition	2nd
Publisher	Blackwell
ISBN	

Notes

This module seeks to introduce students to methodological approaches to the study of law, and to encourage them to see law on a broader context than is possible with a purely doctrinal approach to studying law. Students will have an opportunity to look at a number of topical issues from an interdisciplinary approach and undertake independent research on an area of special interest to them.