

## Liverpool John Moores University

Title: Advanced Legal Research Methods  
Status: Definitive  
Code: **7101LAWLM** (125121)  
Version Start Date: 01-08-2021

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

| Team            | Leader |
|-----------------|--------|
| Richard Ridyard | Y      |

**Academic Level:** FHEQ7      **Credit Value:** 20      **Total Delivered Hours:** 20  
**Total Learning Hours:** 200      **Private Study:** 180

### Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 2

| Component | Contact Hours |
|-----------|---------------|
| Lecture   | 12            |
| Workshop  | 8             |

**Grading Basis:** Pass/Not Pass

### Assessment Details

| Category | Short Description | Description  | Weighting (%) | Exam Duration |
|----------|-------------------|--|---------------|---------------|
| Report   | Report            | 4000 word coursework-dissertation proposal:topic chosen by the student | 100           |               |

### Aims

1. To introduce research methodologies available for conducting research in law and criminal justice.
2. To facilitate development of Master's level technical legal and criminal justice research.
3. To encourage a Master's level degree of independence and responsibility.
4. To introduce key research methodologies for researching law and criminal justice.
5. To develop the technical research requirements of a Master's Dissertation.

## Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Show originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry may be used to create and interpret knowledge in relevant areas of law and criminal justice.
- 2 Have a systematic understanding and critical awareness of current problems and contemporary issues and/or insights into the changing nature of UK and international law and criminal justice.
- 3 Demonstrate skills associated with problem-solving and decision making based on own research and analysis demonstrated through legal writing and communication skills.
- 4 Apply critical and analytical skills associated with legal analysis to identified scenario and situations.

## Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

|                  |   |   |   |   |
|------------------|---|---|---|---|
| 4000 word report | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|------------------|---|---|---|---|

## Outline Syllabus

1. *Introducing the Module*
2. *What is a Master's dissertation?*
3. *Writing at Master's level*
4. *Developing Research Aims, Individual Research Objectives, Research Title/Question*
5. *The Literature Review*
6. *Research Methodologies for Law and Criminal Justice Dissertations*
7. *Sample Chapter Outline, Abstracts*
8. *Supervision and work planning*

## Learning Activities

Lectures  
Workshops

## Notes

The module teaches students how to draft a Dissertation Proposal and introduces some basic methodological issues for the research of law and criminal justice, building on their research undertaken to date and preparing them for their Master's Dissertation and intensive independent learning.

