



# University of Strathclyde School of Law Undergraduate Module List 2023/24\*

*(\*Information is correct at the time of publishing but may be subject to change)*

**Note:**

- *A full workload at Strathclyde is 60 credits (30 ECTS) per semester*
- *Each Law class is worth 20 credits (10 ECTS)*
- *Semester 1 classes run from September to December (including exams)*
- *Semester 2 classes run from January to May (including exams)*

# SEMESTER 1

## Level 1

M7101	Criminal Law and Evidence	This module is intended to familiarise students with, and elicit an understanding of, the basic elements of Scots criminal law and evidence, including the development of the system, fundamental concepts and their operation in relation to certain specific crimes. The module will teach the application of fact handling, rhetoric and proof by lawyers and the contexts in which the rules of evidence operate, all integrated practically with the criminal law.
M7103	Legal processes and Systems	The aim of this module is to provide students with an introduction to the concepts, structures and processes that make up a legal system. It is designed to equip all students studying law with the knowledge and understanding that they will utilise in all other law modules: the “tools of the trade”, if you like.
M7104	Law of Persons	The aim is to teach students the rules governing, and the definition of, legal and natural persons, their status and capacity. The module is also designed to introduce students at the very start of their legal studies to the idea that legal concepts can be both natural (the child) and non-natural (the limited liability company) – both are “persons” in law.

## Level 2

M9208	Domestic Relations	<p>Family law concerns the control which the law exerts over domestic relationships and families; it affects everyone to a greater or lesser degree.</p> <p>Topics include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the legal status of children, parental responsibilities and rights and the upbringing of children - including issues in adoption and fostering, local authority care and the Children's Hearing system</li> <li>• legal consequences of marriage/civil partnership</li> <li>• divorce - including what happens to the family and its financial consequences</li> <li>• unmarried domestic relations, opposite-sex and same-sex</li> </ul>
M9211	Property, Trusts & Succession	<p>The general rationale of this class is to provide students with a contemporary understanding of the law of property, trusts and succession in Scotland, and to meet Law Society of Scotland requirements in this subject-area.</p> <p>Specific:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Place property law, trusts and succession within the general scheme of Scottish private law;</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study property law in a context identifying the links between the theory of the subject and its practical application;</li> <li>• Analyse and explain the general concepts and terms of property law, specifically the distinction between personal rights and real rights – which underpins the distinction between property law and the law of obligations;</li> <li>• Analyse and explain the different ways in which property in Scotland can be owned by two or more persons;</li> <li>• Analyse and explain the concept of possession in modern Scots law, and how it relates to various concepts relating to the acquisition of ownership;</li> <li>• Analyse and explain the concept of ownership in modern Scots law, how it is acquired and how it is transferred, looking specifically at: how ownership is acquired in modern Scots law (by transfer (that is to say, derivative acquisition), and by modes of original acquisition (that is to say, obtaining ownership without reference to a prior title); problems arising in voluntary transfer of ownership; the law relating to acquisitive and extinctive prescription; and the Scottish law relating to land ownership;</li> <li>• Analyse and explain the law relating to trusts (including the concept, the relevant parties, their creation, their administration, their variation, and their extinction);</li> <li>• Analyse and explain the law relating to testate and intestate succession.</li> </ul>
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### Level 3

M9305	Law, Film & Popular Culture	<p>The general academic aim of the class is to provide students with an understanding of how popular culture relates to the justice system. The class has developed from the concerns of scholars to determine to what extent the operation of the law is dependent on the cultural context in which it operates and to what extent it operates autonomously. The class covers the separate developments in relation to literature, film and television and looks at both the empirical studies and the cultural analysis which has emerged in this fast developing field of intellectual endeavour. This class also focuses on what answers scholarship has thus far provided to questions about the law/culture interface. The class is taught using a disparate range of sources, in particular documentaries, DVDs and various culture law-related websites. This is a class which will be of interest to LLB students and also to BA students studying Law in combination with Politics or Sociology.</p>
M9312	Legal Theory	<p>The class has been running for 20 years and is a core requirement for the Bar. The class is core on many LLB degrees sometimes under the name Philosophy of Law or Jurisprudence. It is one of the foundational subjects in law. The main aim of this class is to introduce students to the major theoretical ideas and values which underlie law, and debates. The majority of an LLB is case law based and doctrinal in nature and this class looks behind the law as it is presented and offers philosophical, social theoretical perspective on</p>

		<p>its form and application. This class thereby enhances students understanding of law in general, forms a very important bridge to Honours subjects and post-graduate study. It is also an important subject and basis for developing an inter-disciplinary understanding of law in society.</p>
M9313	Housing Law	<p>The aim of the class is to introduce students to the law of housing and areas of regulation that interact with domestic housing and homelessness. This covers: private and social residential tenancies, landlord and tenant rights, rights of abused partners, and homelessness, plus an introduction to the concepts of housing need and market allocation of housing resources.</p> <p>The class will examine the different ways in which such concepts are interpreted and operated in practice in modern Great Britain with particular emphasis on Scotland, whilst locating these ideas within an international context where relevant.</p> <p>The course does not analyse the standard domestic conveyancing process in Scotland, whereby someone might buy a house that they happen to plan to live in. Property law – including the derivative acquisition of land – is covered in the Level 2 course Property, Trusts and Succession. Further, this course does not engage with the mechanics of the right to buy that used to be available to tenants of social housing (aka council housing), as this entitlement is no longer available in Scotland. Finally, and without wishing to develop a long list of what the course does not do, there is no particular coverage of the development process for new-build housing (the prevailing model in modern Scotland being a developer obtaining planning permission for a site under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 from the relevant planning authority, then building housing in accordance with that permission), or of the building regulations that housebuilders must abide by.</p>
M9314	Intellectual Property	<p>Intellectual Property Law provides legal protection for the varied manifestations of man’s ingenuity and intellect. It is a wide, fascinating and stimulating area of law that is developing rapidly, and is of increasing professional, commercial and academic importance. Its subject matter ranges from the high technology of bio-computers and genetic engineering to the cultural artefacts of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, embracing aspects of industrial design and trade secrets (as well as the all important means of marketing these products) on the way.</p> <p>This class will introduce the law of patents, trade marks (registered and unregistered), copyright and moral rights, and trade secrets. The focus is on the substantive law, while the underlying policy is the focus of the subsequent Honours class, Issues in Intellectual Property for which this class is an essential pre-requisite.</p>

M9318	Competition Law	<p>This class looks at how the competition laws of the United Kingdom and the EU affect how business operated in Britain. Competition Law, at both the EU and UK levels, plays an important and ever increasing role in regulating the conduct of businesses. Based on the premise that open and fair competition is good for both consumers and businesses, competition law prevents businesses from entering into anti-competitive agreements and from abusing a dominant position. The class will also consider how policy-makers can encourage and businesses adopt adequate compliance programmes. The class is taught using a disparate range of sources, in particular newspaper clippings, DVDs, and various competition law-related websites. This is a class which will be of interest to LLB students and also to BA students studying politics, marketing and economics.</p>
M9352	Internet Law	<p>The general academic objective of the course is to examine the basic principles and rules concerning the legal issues that relate to the Internet. The main areas explored will be those of the regulation of the internet, its control, speech and privacy, intellectual property, piracy, the power of algorithms, law &amp; economics, competition law, media rights and e-commerce.</p> <p>In addressing these aims the course will provide students with the opportunity to achieve the following outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate a basic knowledge of the legal issues pertinent on the Internet and familiarise themselves with the relevant legal provisions and case law;</li> <li>• Understand the basic legal concepts Internet-related statutes include and appreciate their role in regulating phenomena in cyberspace;</li> <li>• Demonstrate a basic ability to apply this knowledge to situations of limited complexity in order to provide arguable conclusions for concrete problems (actual or hypothetical);</li> <li>• To identify the issues that entail research opportunities within a question and/or topic.</li> <li>• To be able to use primary and secondary legal sources relevant to the topic under study and to bring together information and materials from a number of sources;</li> <li>• To act independently in planning and undertaking tasks and assignments; 7. To produce a word-processed essay or other text and present such work in an appropriate form based on academic standards.</li> </ul>
M9361	Sports Law	<p>Sports Law will allow students to engage with the legal issues encountered in contemporary sport, and understand the legal principles and institutions that regulate sporting activity.</p> <p>The class will focus on the law of Scotland and, given the jurisdictions are generally similar in their approach to this area, the law of England and Wales. The class is therefore open to all students on the Law School's various LLB programmes. It will also be open as an elective to BA students, subject to their having previously completed the Legal Methods class.</p> <p>The class will recognise the multi-national nature of sporting competitions and commercial relationships. In so far as topics allow, the class will adopt</p>

		a comparative and global approach to provide an overview of international sports laws.
M9362	Roman Law	Scots law has been described as existing within a 'living Roman legal system' due to its uncodified nature and history as a part of the Continental European legal tradition. Study of the general principles of Roman law consequently aligns with the study of any Scots LLB degree. The class will allow students to develop an appreciation of the general rules which underpin modern doctrines within the Scottish legal system and to obtain a better understanding of how Roman law has informed the modern practice of Scots law. The class will also be useful from a comparative perspective and will give students on both the Scots and the dual-qualifying LLB an underpinning in comparative legal methodology.

## SEMESTER 2

### Level 1

M7102	Law of Obligations	The aim is to teach students the rules governing claims for personal injury, economic loss and hurts to personality rights. The design of the class will help to develop problem solving and advice-giving skills in relation to the law of delictual liability generally.
M7105	Constitutional Law	The aim of this module is to introduce students to the institutions, actors, processes and concepts that make up the UK constitution including its particular application to Scotland. It is designed to introduce students to methods of critical engagement with constitutional law in both theory and practice.
M9113	Law and Society	<p>This course focuses on examining the nature of law and the ways in which law interacts with social life. You will be challenged to look beyond the letter of the law to consider the theoretical underpinnings of law and to consider its application in society and to particular groups in society. Lectures are structured around three key topics: law and morality; judicial decision making; and critical legal theories.</p> <p>The module has three overarching aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To identify the limitations of legal formalism; and to recognise how both theoretical and empirical knowledge is essential to the study of law.</li> <li>• To understand the ethical, cultural and political underpinnings of law.</li> <li>• On the basis of careful reasoning, to be able to identify and evaluate practical and principled difficulties likely to arise from the application of law in society.</li> </ul>

### Level 2

M9209	Commercial Law	This class examines the basic principles and rules concerning core aspects of commercial law, including the main principles of agency, partnership and company law, the law relating to various methods of payment (including consumer credit and bills of exchange) the rules governing the ways in which creditors can 'secure' repayment of a debt (eg through taking personal guarantees from third parties for repayment of the debt, or by establishing rights in security over debtor property); the basic principles of diligence; the consequences of both corporate and individual debtor inability to repay debts (corporate insolvency and personal bankruptcy respectively). This class is a core module within the LLB and LML degrees and serves to meet professional requirements in the commercial syllabi of the Law Society of Scotland and Faculty of Advocates.
M9210	Involuntary Obligations, Delict & Unjustified Enrichment	Involuntary obligations encompasses the rules of both delict and unjustified enrichment. The concepts of "injury" and "fault" are all-pervasive throughout the law and an understanding of society, politics, history, and economics are all enhanced by an understanding of the rules

		of delict. Sometimes the wrongs of others confer upon them benefits without necessarily causing us injury. Recovery of these benefits is the flip side of the delictual coin and is governed by the rules of unjustified enrichment. Together, delict and unjustified enrichment make up the content of the law of Involuntary Obligations.
M9212	EU Law	EU Law introduces students to the institutional and constitutional framework of the EU and to the fundamental principles of the EU such as the principles of supremacy, direct effect, and indirect effect and state liability. The class also introduces students to aspects of EU substantive law and, in particular, the rules and principles that govern the free movement of person, services and goods in the EU.
<b>Level 3</b>		
M7302	An Introduction to Environmental Law	The module aims to introduce the framework of Scottish environmental regulation in the context of not only regional and international law and governance, but also normative issues of differences in regulatory approach and global imbalances. Upon successful completion of the module, students will be well placed to pursue any of these three strands in further study at Honours and post-graduate level.
M9307	Crime and Punishment	The aim of this class is to introduce you to some of the principal landmarks in the development of criminological theory and to encourage a critical evaluation of the various analyses and theories that have been produced. Over the last two centuries theorists have become increasingly interested in understanding criminal behaviour and offering explanations for it. The result has been a wealth of studies, tests, and empirical research into this social phenomenon. This class is designed to encourage you to think critically and constructively about some of these major issues in and perspectives on crime and punishment.
M9308	Human Rights Law	The primary academic aim of this class is to provide students with an understanding of how human rights are legally conceptualised and protected, primarily at the European level. The class considers the historical and philosophical background of modern human rights law and thus links well with debates in legal theory. Students with interests in public international law should also find much to interest them in considerations of the relationship between statehood and the individual. Moving on from the theoretical dimensions of human rights discourse, the class considers the complex issues raised by enforcement mechanisms and jurisdictional competency. To this end, the class complements much of the syllabus of the Public Law class and its discussion of constitutional arrangements. The class then proceeds to discuss the key substantive rights with which the European Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms is focussed. The class then concludes with the conditions under which the provisions of the ECHR may allow for derogation and considers the particular issues raised by state-led counter-terrorism measures.



M9309	Employment Law	<p>This class looks at Scots employment law from an academic and practical viewpoint with consideration of the influence from Europe. Employees provide a crucial role in any economy and are of paramount importance in any organisation. The law is often called upon to regulate disputes and issues that arise before, during and after the employment relationship has ended. This class will examine where employment law fits within society and examine what an employee is, what a contract of employment does and which employer and employee duties stem from the contract and which duties are implied by law. The class will also consider the legal position governing the payment of wages (including the national minimum wage) and issues as to working time. Looking at the law from a practical perspective the class will also provide an understanding and analysis of the typical employment claims that arise in Scotland, including unfair dismissal, unlawful discrimination (on grounds such as disability, sex, sexual orientation, religion, race and age), equal pay and the law governing a transfer of undertaking.</p> <p>Collective employment law issues will be considered as well as the family friendly provisions and the effect of termination of the employment relationship. The class is taught using a disparate range of sources, by reference to up to date cases and employment law-related websites. This is a class which will be of interest to LLB students and also to BA students studying HR, politics, marketing and economics.</p>
M9311	Banking Law & Finance	<p>This course examines the role of Scottish Banking Law in regulating the relationship between a banker and customer, lender and borrower. The course considers the general principles of Scottish Banking Law, its historical development and also the various methods of enforcement available in the event of breach in the relationship between bank and customer. It also considers the natures of documents evidencing the relationship including negotiable instruments, credit cards, cheque guarantee cards and other technological advances by which banking is now conducted. It considers the nature of rights in security and how these may be enforced.</p>
M9317	Public International Law	<p>The main objective of this class is to look at the basics of international law and on that basis move to a more practical analysis of the operation of this quite peculiar legal system. This will be achieved by looking in detail at actual disputes involving States in recent times and considering such varying issues as the type of dispute involved, the nature of the States involved and detailed analysis of the reactions of different international institutions.</p> <p>Public international law is concerned with the relationships between States, between States and international institutions, and between international institutions themselves. In addition to acquiring an overall view of this legal system, in this class students will also look at specific incidents in inter-state relations that have contributed to shaping present day public international law.</p>
M7303	Law and the Challenges of Artificial Intelligence	<p>The proposed module has three educational aims:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. to provide students with a broad-based introduction to the legal challenges posed by developments in the field of AI and related</li> </ol>

		technological systems; 2. to invite students to consider the role of the law in the regulation of AI; 3. to consider AI's impact on fundamental Rule of Law principles.
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