

LA346-30 Gender and the Law

20/21

Department

School of Law

Level

Undergraduate Level 3

Module leader

Vanessa Munro

Credit value

30

Module duration

20 weeks

Assessment

100% coursework

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

This module examines the relationship of law and gender, in terms of the role of law in constructing, reinforcing and breaking down gendered inequalities, as well as the gendered assumptions that inform the processes of law, legal method and law making

[Module web page](#)

Module aims

The module aims to explore constructions of gender across a wide range of subject areas and different cultural contexts. We explore the role played by law in those constructions.

So, for instance, we might consider the ways in which women's 'work' is constructed and values relative to men's, or the power and pitfalls of sexual harassment as a framework for responding to sexist workplace cultures. We might explore different constructions of the phenomenon of body work and legal implications of it in domestic or international contexts. Sessions will also explore the different impact of laws on different communities and will tackle questions about the relationship between feminism, multiculturalism and globalisation.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

Introduction to feminist jurisprudence: theories of gender justice, legal and cultural pluralism, gender, diversity and multiculturalism, intersectionality.

Human rights, Equality Claims and Law Reform: exploring the potential and relevance of a human rights framework, and conventional law reform strategies, for addressing gender inequality.

Case studies of different socio-legal contexts in which constructions and experiences of gender inform, or are informed by, the law / regulatory frameworks - for example, women and work; women and the private sphere; women and violence; prostitution and pornography; or feminism and multiculturalism.

Case studies in the international context assessing whether women's rights are best protected through international, regional or local legal frameworks

Perspectives and case studies from the global south, engaging in critiques of dominance of Western feminism

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Identify and understand the particular areas of gender relations directly regulated by law in English and Wales and some common law jurisdictions
- Identify and understand evolving frameworks and current developments in law, both in international law and domestic law
- Understand the legal framework in the context of existing social, political, historical context and evaluate the significance of the cultural context
- Understand the developments in relation to changing economic, political, social and cultural contexts
- Apply their knowledge to discussions and evaluate the impact of law upon aspects of gender relations
- Identify and use legal materials in journal articles
- Critically evaluate the pressure and limitation of legal regulation of particular aspects of gender relations
- Critically evaluate and address the potential of international perspectives in addressing domestic concerns; critically address law of the potential as a means of addressing gender in equalities
- Arrive at their own positions from which they understand gender and law through analysis and critique
- Express their own position within the complexities of the relevant arguments in writing, as well as orally

Indicative reading list

[View reading list on Talis Aspire](#)

Subject specific skills

No subject specific skills defined for this module.

Transferable skills

No transferable skills defined for this module.

Study

Study time

| Type | Required |
|---------------|-----------------------------|
| Lectures | 36 sessions of 1 hour (12%) |
| Seminars | 14 sessions of 1 hour (5%) |
| Private study | 250 hours (83%) |
| Total | 300 hours |

Private study description

No private study requirements defined for this module.

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Students can register for this module without taking any assessment.

Assessment group A1

| | Weighting | Study time |
|------------------|-----------|------------|
| 2,000 word essay | 30% | |
| 2000 word essay | | |
| 4,000 word essay | 70% | |

Feedback on assessment

Feedback provided via Tabula.

Availability

Courses

This module is Optional for:

- UIBA-MN34 Law and Business Four Year (Qualifying Degree)
 - Year 3 of MN34 Law and Business Studies Four Year (Qualifying Degree)
 - Year 4 of MN34 Law and Business Studies Four Year (Qualifying Degree)
- ULAA-M300 Undergraduate Law
 - Year 2 of M300 Law
 - Year 3 of M300 Law
- ULAA-M105 Undergraduate Law (3 year) (Qualifying Degree)
 - Year 2 of M105 Law (3 year) (Qualifying Degree)
 - Year 2 of M105 Law (3 year) (Qualifying Degree)
 - Year 3 of M105 Law (3 year) (Qualifying Degree)
 - Year 3 of M105 Law (3 year) (Qualifying Degree)
- ULAA-M106 Undergraduate Law (4 year) (Qualifying Degree)
 - Year 2 of M106 Law (4 year) (Qualifying Degree)
 - Year 3 of M106 Law (4 year) (Qualifying Degree)
 - Year 4 of M106 Law (4 year) (Qualifying Degree)
- ULAA-M104 Undergraduate Law (Year Abroad)
 - Year 2 of M104 Law (Year Abroad)
 - Year 4 of M104 Law (Year Abroad)
- ULAA-M108 Undergraduate Law (Year Abroad) (Qualifying Degree)
 - Year 2 of M108 Law (Year Abroad) (Qualifying Degree)
 - Year 2 of M108 Law (Year Abroad) (Qualifying Degree)
 - Year 4 of M108 Law (Year Abroad) (Qualifying Degree)
 - Year 4 of M108 Law (Year Abroad) (Qualifying Degree)
- Year 3 of UIBA-MN31 Undergraduate Law and Business Studies
- UIBA-MN32 Undergraduate Law and Business Studies
 - Year 3 of MN32 Law and Business Studies (Four-Year)
 - Year 4 of MN32 Law and Business Studies (Four-Year)
- UIBA-MN37 Undergraduate Law and Business Studies (Qualifying Degree) with Intercalated Year
 - Year 4 of MN37 Law and Business Studies (Qualifying Degree) with Intercalated Year
 - Year 5 of MN37 Law and Business Studies (Qualifying Degree) with Intercalated Year
- UIBA-MN36 Undergraduate Law and Business Studies with Intercalated Year (4+1)
 - Year 4 of MN36 Law and Business Studies with Intercalated Year (4+1)
 - Year 5 of MN36 Law and Business Studies with Intercalated Year (4+1)
- Year 3 of ULAA-ML33 Undergraduate Law and Sociology
- Year 2 of ULAA-M10A Undergraduate Law with French Law (Qualifying Degree)
- Year 2 of ULAA-M10C Undergraduate Law with German Law (Qualifying Degree)
- Year 3 of ULAA-M110 Undergraduate Law with Humanities (3 Year)
- ULAA-M113 Undergraduate Law with Humanities (4 Year) (Qualifying Degree)

- Year 2 of M113 Law with Humanities (4 year) (Qualifying Degree)
- Year 3 of M113 Law with Humanities (4 year) (Qualifying Degree)
- ULAA-M115 Undergraduate Law with Social Sciences (3 Year) (Qualifying Degree)
 - Year 2 of M115 Law with Social Sciences (3 year) (Qualifying Degree)
 - Year 2 of M115 Law with Social Sciences (3 year) (Qualifying Degree)

This module is Option list A for:

- Year 4 of ULAA-M10A Undergraduate Law with French Law (Qualifying Degree)
- Year 4 of ULAA-M10C Undergraduate Law with German Law (Qualifying Degree)
- Year 4 of ULAA-M113 Undergraduate Law with Humanities (4 Year) (Qualifying Degree)
- ULAA-M115 Undergraduate Law with Social Sciences (3 Year) (Qualifying Degree)
 - Year 3 of M115 Law with Social Sciences (3 year) (Qualifying Degree)
 - Year 3 of M115 Law with Social Sciences (3 year) (Qualifying Degree)

This module is Option list B for:

- ULAA-ML34 BA in Law and Sociology (Qualifying Degree)
 - Year 3 of ML34 Law and Sociology (Qualifying Degree)
 - Year 4 of ML34 Law and Sociology (Qualifying Degree)
- Year 4 of ULAA-ML33 Undergraduate Law and Sociology

This module is Option list E for:

- UPHA-V7MW Undergraduate Politics, Philosophy and Law
 - Year 2 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law
 - Year 2 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law