

# LA131-0 Introduction to German Law and Methodology

**21/22**

**Department**

School of Law

**Level**

Undergraduate Level 1

**Module leader**

Barbara Nastoll

**Credit value**

0

**Module duration**

20 weeks

**Assessment**

100% coursework

**Study location**

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

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## Description

### Introductory description

The objective of this module is to familiarise the students with the German legal terminology and to introduce them to the German legal system.

[Module web page](#)

### Module aims

To familiarise the students with the German legal terminology and to introduce them to the German legal system.

### 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.

After a general introduction to the German legal system the module focuses on German Constitutional Law. Students will learn how to read German legal texts and work with statutes,

they will be introduced to German legal literature and writing and by working together in a small group will get comfortable speaking German in a legal context. The module seeks to prepare the students both for the compulsory module "German Law" in their second year and for their year abroad in Germany during the third year of studies.

## **Learning outcomes**

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

- recognize, understand and apply (oral and written) German legal terminology
- explain the basic structure of the German legal system
- apply German legal methodology
- explain general principles of German constitutional law

## **Research element**

The research assignment requires students to identify specific legal sources on a given topic, conduct independent research and present their findings in a 500 word essay.

The oral assessment requires students to conduct research on a topic in constitutional law and deliver a short 15-minute presentation of their research to the class.

## **Interdisciplinary**

The module is taught in German and focuses both on law and language.

## **International**

The module focuses on the German legal system and highlights differences and similarities to the Common law. It also seeks to prepare students for their year abroad experience.

## **Subject specific skills**

Familiarity with German legal terminology;

Ability to use (oral and written) German legal terminology and German legal material such as statutes and case law;

Basic understanding of the structure of the German legal system;

Ability to explain and apply German constitutional law and principles;

Apply German legal methodology

## **Transferable skills**

Work collaboratively to present findings; Use the internet and online databases to find relevant German legal material; Oral presentation skills; Research skills

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## **Study**

## Study time

Type	Required
Seminars	18 sessions of 2 hours (39%)
Private study	36 hours (39%)
Assessment	20 hours (22%)
Total	92 hours

## Private study description

Preparation for seminars

## Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

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## Assessment

Students can register for this module without taking any assessment.

### Assessment group A

#### Study time

Class Test	10 hours
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The Class Test is a mix of multiple choice and short answer questions. It also includes a short Gutachten (problem question).

Presentation	5 hours
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Presentation on one of the basic rights guaranteed in the German constitution.

Research assignment	5 hours
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Research assignment on a given topic which requires students to identify and engage with specific German legal sources.

### Feedback on assessment

Verbal feedback on presentation

Individual written feedback on Research assignment, Presentation and Class Test.

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## Availability

## **Courses**

This module is Core for:

- Year 1 of ULAA-M10C Undergraduate Law with German Law (Qualifying Degree)