

# LA984-60 Dissertation, Research and Writing Seminar

23/24

**Department**

School of Law

**Level**

Taught Postgraduate Level

**Module leader**

Arjumand Kazmi

**Credit value**

60

**Module duration**

30 weeks

**Assessment**

100% coursework

**Study location**

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

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## Description

### Introductory description

The aim of the module is to provide students with the knowledge, skills and confidence required to develop critical reading, writing and research skills in preparation for undertaking independent research and writing up academic work.

This module brings together experts from the Law School, Library and Student Careers and Skills.

The module is taught in Term 1 and Term 2 with revision sessions in Term 3.

Note that LLM IDLHR students will take this module as a 0 CAT module, with their dissertation assessed instead through LA951.

[Module web page](#)

### Module aims

The Legal Research and Writing Skills module is a core component of the taught LLM programme. It is designed primarily to prepare students for the research and writing requirements associated with the dissertation element of the LLM programme. However, students will also find it useful in relation to other independent research and writing tasks encountered during the course of the

programme.

## **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.

Mastering Your Masters  
Developing and Applying Critical Reading Skills  
Developing Research and Writing Skills  
Choosing a Dissertation Topic  
Conducting a Literature Survey  
Good Academic Practice  
Choosing Your Dissertation Topic  
Dissertation Planning  
Project Planning and Management  
Specialist Dissertation Research  
Building, Structuring and Articulating Arguments  
Working with Feedback  
Peer Learning  
The Future of Academic Research

## **Learning outcomes**

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

- By the end of the module, students will have acquired knowledge of how to conduct legal research and write an academic dissertation of approximately the same length as a law review article
- Will be able to identify suitable research issues
- Formulate appropriate research questions; find, evaluate and use relevant information sources; undertake a critical analysis of literature relevant to a chosen research topic
- Develop a sustained written argument

## **Indicative reading list**

[View reading list on Talis Aspire](#)

## **Research element**

It is designed primarily to prepare students for the research and writing requirements associated with the dissertation element of the LLM programme. However, students will also find it useful in relation to other independent research and writing tasks encountered during the course of the programme.

## **Subject specific skills**

No subject specific skills defined for this module.

## Transferable skills

No transferable skills defined for this module.

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## Study

### Study time

| Type              | Required                             |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Lectures          | 12 sessions of 1 hour (2%)           |
| Seminars          | 6 sessions of 1 hour (1%)            |
| Practical classes | 2 sessions of 1 hour 30 minutes (0%) |
| Private study     | 579 hours (96%)                      |
| Total             | 600 hours                            |

### Private study description

No private study requirements defined for this module.

## Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

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## Assessment

You must pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Students can register for this module without taking any assessment.

### Assessment group A1

|                           | Weighting | Study time |
|---------------------------|-----------|------------|
| Dissertation              | 100%      |            |
| 8-10000 word dissertation |           |            |

### Feedback on assessment

Feedback via Tabula

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## Availability

### Courses

This module is Core for:

- Year 1 of TIMA-L981 Postgraduate Social Science Research
- Year 1 of TLAA-M3PJ Postgraduate Taught Advanced Legal Studies
- Year 1 of TLAA-M223 Postgraduate Taught International Commercial Law
- Year 1 of TLAS-M3P7 Postgraduate Taught International Economic Law
- Year 1 of TLAS-M221 Postgraduate Taught LLM in International Corporate Governance and Financial Regulation

This module is Core optional for:

- Year 1 of TLAA-M3PJ Postgraduate Taught Advanced Legal Studies
- Year 1 of TLAA-M223 Postgraduate Taught International Commercial Law
- Year 1 of TLAS-M3P7 Postgraduate Taught International Economic Law
- Year 1 of TLAS-M221 Postgraduate Taught LLM in International Corporate Governance and Financial Regulation