

FP040-15 Business Law

24/25

Department

Warwick Foundation Studies

Level

Foundation

Module leader

Anna Tranter

Credit value

15

Module duration

12 weeks

Assessment

100% coursework

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

The Business Law module provides an introduction to core aspects of law, relevant to businesses. This will include the legal rules relating to company formation, recruitment of staff, protection of intellectual property, formation of contracts and the tort of negligence.

[Module web page](#)

Module aims

Business Law aims to introduce students to fundamental aspects of law within a business context, focusing specifically on company law, contract law and protection of persons. Students will develop an understanding of how both legislation and case law formulate legal rules for business, and the importance of knowing and operating within legal parameters. This will require an exploration of the law relating to the legal forms that a business can take, including sole traders, partnerships, private limited companies and public limited companies.

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.

1. Introduction to Business Law
 - a) An overview of law
 - b) An introduction to judicial precedent
2. Company Law
 - a) The main principles of Company Formation including company financing, legal obligations and classification of business organisations; applying to sole traders, partnerships, private limited company and public limited company.
 - b) Intellectual Property Law: copyright; patents; trademarks
 - c) Law of Negligence: general principles of duty, breach and causation of damage
3. Contract Law
 - a) Introduction to Contract Law – definition and purpose of contract, freedom of contract and equality of bargaining power
 - b) Different types of contract: unilateral and bilateral
 - c) Agreement - offer (including invitation to treat) and acceptance
 - d) Intention to create legal relations
 - e) Consideration
4. Discrimination in employment
 - a) Protected characteristics
 - b) Types of discrimination

Learning outcomes

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

- Explain and give examples of different types of law
- Explain the main sources of English law, including the creation of common law through judicial precedent
- Apply legal knowledge to business scenarios
- Construct and present arguments through appropriate and effective legal reasoning, thereby enabling them to evaluate real-world problems
- Reach a justified conclusion on issues relating to company formation and creation of contracts

Indicative reading list

- Adams A – Law for Business Students (Pearson 2018) ISBN 9781292208428
- Daniels K – Introduction to Employment Law (CIPD 2019) ISBN 0749484144
- Elliot C and Quinn F – English Legal System (Pearson 2018) ISBN 1292208511
- Richards P – Law of Contract (Pearson 2017) ISBN 1292176105

[View reading list on Talis Aspire](#)

Subject specific skills

Develop detailed understanding of areas of law relevant to Business. Apply legal definitions and

concepts to analyse specific questions or scenarios. Articulate reasoned arguments in a clearly-structured format. Draw upon appropriate sources of law to support reasoning. Employ critical analysis to reach justified conclusions.

Transferable skills

Analytical skills; Commercial awareness; Communication skills; Confidence; Creative problem solving; Critical thinking; Independent working; Initiative; Planning and organisation; Professionalism; Research skills; Team working; Time management; Use of knowledge.

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	12 sessions of 1 hour (8%)
Seminars	36 sessions of 1 hour (24%)
Private study	72 hours (48%)
Assessment	30 hours (20%)
Total	150 hours

Private study description

Private study includes preparation for seminars, independent reading and research, completion of tasks set in class or for extension study (via Moodle) and preparation for formative and summative assessments.

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You must pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group A3

	Weighting	Study time
Briefing Paper on Company Formation	40%	12 hours
Briefing paper, analysing the company formations available for a given business case study.		
Business Law Test	60%	18 hours

Weighting

Study time

A range of questions based on business case study scenarios.

Feedback on assessment

For the briefing paper, written feedback will be provided via Tabula and at a minimum will address:

Breadth and depth of analysis

Choice of vocabulary

Report structure

Clarity of reasoning

Spelling, grammar and use of citations

For the in-class test, written feedback of mark/grade only will be provided via Tabula.

Availability

Courses

This module is Core for:

- Year 1 of FIOE Warwick International Foundation Programme