

LA240-15 Foundations of European Law

24/25

Department

School of Law

Level

Undergraduate Level 2

Module leader

Helen Toner

Credit value

15

Module duration

10 weeks

Assessment

100% coursework

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

The module is an introduction both to the institutional structure and to key areas of substantive law of the European Union.

[Module web page](#)

Module aims

Teaching is by lecture and seminars. Students are encouraged to read a quality newspaper, the Economist and to keep abreast of developments in the EU regularly reported on all the main news broadcasts.

The advantage that EU law has over other areas of law is that the EU receives wide coverage in the media because there is no agreement over the direction the EU should be moving in, and no consensus on how the problems besetting it are to be resolved.

In order to understand the debate, students need to become familiar with the issues and the easiest way is to watch 'Channel 4 News at 7pm', 'Question Time' or 'Newsnight'.

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.

The basic concepts of direct effect, supremacy, and the creation of a rights-based law are considered.

The question of democratic accountability is raised in discussing the legislative roles of the European Commission, the Council of Ministers, the European Council and the European Parliament.

The functions, procedures and organisational structure of the Court of Justice and General Court are discussed with an emphasis on the role of the Court of Justice in the integration of the EU and of the General Court in providing judicial protection for individuals.

Some areas of substantive law will be studied, in particular, the free movement of goods.

Learning outcomes

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

- Understand the role and function of the main European Institutions.
- Understand the main procedures of the Court of Justice and the Court of First Instance.
- Understand some elements of substantive EU Law.
- Have knowledge of some concepts of EU law, such as supremacy, and some of the general principles of EU law, such as equality, their use and application.
- Work independently in research and preparation.
- Work in groups, contributing effectively to the group task.
- Analyse and evaluate the impact of EU law on the process of European political and economic integration.
- Communicate orally and in writing using concepts of EU law and the language of EU law.
- Use information technology to research electronic databases, in particular the Europa web-sites.
- Identify principles of EU law which may be applied to resolve a legal problem.

Indicative reading list

P. Craig and G. de Burca: Text, Cases and Materials (Oxford, OUP, 2015)

D. Chalmers & Monti, European Union Law: Text and Materials (Cambridge, CUP, 2014)

C. Barnard & S. Peers, European Union Law (OUP, Oxford, 2014)

Steiner & Woods, EU Law (OUP, Oxford 2014)

[View reading list on Talis Aspire](#)

International

This module specifically looks at the European Union.

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	18 sessions of 1 hour (12%)
Seminars	7 sessions of 1 hour (5%)
Private study	125 hours (83%)
Total	150 hours

Private study description

No private study requirements defined for this module.

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You must pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Students can register for this module without taking any assessment.

Assessment group A2

	Weighting	Study time
3,000 word essay	100%	
Students will write 3,000 words on one of three topics listed.		

Feedback on assessment

Feedback via Tabula.

Availability

Courses

This module is Core for:

- Year 4 of ULAA-ML34 BA in Law and Sociology (Qualifying Degree)
- Year 5 of ULAA-ML35 BA in Law and Sociology (Qualifying Degree) (with Intercalated year)
- 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 2 of ULAA-M106 Undergraduate Law (4 year) (Qualifying Degree)
- 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 2 of UIBA-MN37 Undergraduate Law and Business Studies (Qualifying Degree) with Intercalated Year
- Year 2 of UIBA-MN36 Undergraduate Law and Business Studies with Intercalated Year (4+1)
- 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 2 of ULAA-M111 Undergraduate Law with Humanities (3 Year) (Qualifying Degree)
- Year 2 of ULAA-M113 Undergraduate 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 Optional for:

- Year 2 of ULAA-M130 Undergraduate Law
- Year 2 of ULAA-M300 Undergraduate Law
- Year 2 of ULAA-M131 Undergraduate Law (4 Year)
- Year 2 of ULAA-M104 Undergraduate Law (Year Abroad)
- Year 2 of ULAA-M132 Undergraduate Law (Year Abroad)
- Year 2 of ULAA-M133 Undergraduate Law with French Law
- Year 2 of ULAA-M134 Undergraduate Law with German Law
- Year 2 of ULAA-M136 Undergraduate Law with Humanities (3 Year)
- UPHA-V7MW Undergraduate Politics, Philosophy and Law
 - Year 2 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law
 - Year 2 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law
 - Year 3 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law
 - Year 3 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law
- Year 4 of UPHA-V7MX Undergraduate Politics, Philosophy and Law (with Intercalated Year)

This module is Unusual option for:

- UPHA-V7MW Undergraduate Politics, Philosophy and Law
 - Year 2 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law
 - Year 2 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law
 - Year 3 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law
 - Year 3 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law
- Year 4 of UPHA-V7MX Undergraduate Politics, Philosophy and Law (with Intercalated Year)

This module is Option list B for:

- 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