

# LA319-15 Regulation and Technology Governance

**26/27**

**Department**

School of Law

**Level**

Undergraduate Level 3

**Module leader**

Svitlana Lebedenko

**Credit value**

15

**Module duration**

10 weeks

**Assessment**

100% exam

**Study location**

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

---

## Description

### Introductory description

The module invites students to explore the impact of regulation on technology governance. Informed by regulatory theory, the module will help students understand how the regulation shapes the development and production of technologies, by determining who develops them, who has access to them, how their use and disposal are controlled, and who is accountable for damage and other consequences caused by technology. It explores different regulations, including intellectual property, trade and investment, human rights, biodiversity and climate, as well as regulation of high-risk technologies. It also discusses how these regimes shape the state's ability to regulate technology in the public interest, protect human rights, biodiversity, and environment. The module is also inspired by critical theory of technology and explores the controversies surrounding technology's role in society, such as its welfare-improving and welfare-deteriorating effects, inequalities of access to essential technologies, and globally uneven environmental costs. Students will be offered the opportunity to conduct case-studies that focus on specific technologies – such as quantum technology, artificial intelligence, medical technology, information technology, and food and climate technologies, among others.

### Module aims

The module aims (1) to explore regulation of the development, production, dissemination, and use of technology by private enterprises, as well as (2) to analyse how this affects the state's ability to regulate technology in public interest and protect human rights, biodiversity and environment.

## 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.

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

1. Regulatory theory, critical theory of technology, and regulation of science
2. Intellectual property and incentives for technology development
3. Dissemination, sharing, and transfer of technology under the global intellectual property system
4. Liberalising trade in technology goods and services
5. Protecting investments in technology
6. Host State policy space in international investment law
7. Human rights to science and technology, health and a clean environment
8. International law protecting biodiversity
9. Regulation of risk

## Learning outcomes

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

- Understand the role of regulation in shaping the development and use of technology
- Demonstrate knowledge of the aspects of intellectual property, trade, investment, human rights, biodiversity, and environmental regulation relevant to technology governance
- Critically analyse the regulatory policy space available to the state for mitigating the negative consequences of technology
- Provide an informed critical view on the regulatory issues of technology governance

## Indicative reading list

[Reading lists can be found in Talis](#)

## Research element

Independent research for assessment.

## Interdisciplinary

The module encompasses law, regulatory theory, and critical theory of technology.

## International

International laws relating to intellectual property, trade and investment, human rights, biodiversity and climate, as well as regulation of high-risk technologies.

## Subject specific skills

Conduct research and analysis of primary and secondary sources on intellectual property, trade and investment, human rights, biodiversity and climate, as well as regulation of high-risk technologies.

## Transferable skills

- Critical thinking
  - Academic speaking and writing
  - Literature review and analysis
- 

## Study

### Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	9 sessions of 2 hours (12%)
Seminars	8 sessions of 1 hour (5%)
Private study	74 hours (49%)
Assessment	50 hours (33%)
Total	150 hours

### Private study description

Guided reading

### Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

---

## Assessment

You must pass all assessment components to pass the module.

## Assessment group B

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
<b>Assessment component</b>			
Written exam (on campus)	100%	50 hours	No
Students will be required to answer several questions that test the attainment of learning outcomes. They can only use handwritten and/or printed materials.			

Reassessment component is the same

## Feedback on assessment

Students will receive individual written feedback on summative assessment (provided via Tabula or other assessments systems in use in any particular year) and generic (cohort) feedback via the module's Moodle page. Students will be able to speak to the module convenor with any follow-on queries arising from their written feedback. In addition, generic (cohort) feedback will be offered for formative assessment.

[Past exam papers for LA319](#)

---

## Availability

### Courses

This module is Optional for:

- Year 2 of ULAA-M130 Undergraduate Law
- ULAA-M131 Undergraduate Law (4 Year)
  - Year 2 of M131 Law (4 year)
  - Year 3 of M131 Law (4 year)
  - Year 4 of M131 Law (4 year)
- ULAA-M132 Undergraduate Law (Year Abroad)
  - Year 2 of M132 Law (Year Abroad)
  - Year 4 of M132 Law (Year Abroad)
- ULAA-M135 Undergraduate Law and Sociology
  - Year 3 of M135 Law and Sociology
  - Year 4 of M135 Law and Sociology
- ULAA-M133 Undergraduate Law with French Law
  - Year 2 of M133 Law with French Law
  - Year 4 of M133 Law with French Law

- ULAA-M134 Undergraduate Law with German Law
  - Year 2 of M134 Law with German Law
  - Year 4 of M134 Law with German Law
- ULAA-M136 Undergraduate Law with Humanities (3 Year)
  - Year 2 of M136 Law with Humanities (3 year)
  - Year 3 of M136 Law with Humanities (3 year)
- UPHA-V7MW Undergraduate Politics, Philosophy and Law
  - Year 2 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law
  - Year 3 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law