

LA384-15 The Art of Advocacy: Mooting and Forensic Rhetoric

26/27

Department

School of Law

Level

Undergraduate Level 3

Module leader

Gary Watt

Credit value

15

Module duration

10 weeks

Assessment

100% coursework

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

To develop competence in the practical, performative and ethical arts of appellate court advocacy and forensic (i.e. 'court room') rhetoric

[Module web page](#)

Module aims

To develop competence in the practical, performative and ethical arts of appellate court advocacy and forensic (i.e. 'court room') rhetoric

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.

A demonstration moot will be performed within the first three weeks of term, with a staff member acting as judge

Origins of mooting and rhetorical controversies
The example of celebrated rhetoricians and advocates of the past
Nature of mooting in modern educational contexts
Forensic rhetoric - on invention, arrangement, memory, delivery and style
Judging a moot
The conversational ideal and the function of formality
On judicial style
Practice in "fair hearing"
Logos/Logic I - on binding authority
Logos/Logic II - on persuasive authority
Rhetorical ethos and the limits of logos / logic
Appreciating the difference between a logical audit and an ethical audit of the outcomes of judicial statements, focusing on particular cases e.g. Re A (Separation of Conjoined Twins)
Metaphor as logical method
Gesture, costume and staging of forensic performance

Learning outcomes

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

- Perform with technical competence, imagination and professionalism in methods of mooting and the arts of appellate court advocacy.
- Demonstrate sophisticated practical awareness of the ethical aspects of the roles and responsibilities of courtroom advocates and judges.
- Show critical familiarity with classical, renaissance and modern theories and techniques of forensic rhetoric and the ability to take the initiative in implementing such insights in practice.
- Work well as part of a team in the production of a project outcome in the form of a moot trial and to communicate complex ideas clearly in the context of group work.
- Evidence a developing reflective appreciation of personal competence in the art of advocacy and the ability to manage his or her own learning and to devise a sustainable scheme of term-long task management.

Indicative reading list

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

Interdisciplinary

This module explores rhetorical wisdom of the classical and renaissance periods and relates this to modern psychological science of persuasion, metaphorical reasoning, listening, perception, relaxation etc. Theatrical and choral techniques of breathing, intonation, projection are brought in to enhance public speaking skills.

Subject specific skills

Textual interpretation; management of legal, historical, rhetorical source material; public presentation / performance; attentive listening; respectful dispute; lucid and persuasive drafting, advocacy performance.

Transferable skills

The module enhances and consolidates students' scholarly skills of textual interpretation, drafting, and research as well as performance and presentation, while stimulating team-work and encouraging collaboration; thus creating a pool of transferable skills that students can use both academically and vocationally.

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 do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group A2

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Assessment component			
Reflective Journal	50%		No
This should present:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • your engagement with the subject matter of the module The Art of Advocacy and how your approach to the subject changes over the course of your studies • the links that you make between the subject matter covered in the module (both in preparatory reading and the classes) and your everyday life. This might include links to things that you note in the built environment, whilst reading, in popular culture or things that come to mind whilst waiting for the bus! 			

Reassessment component is the same

Assessment component

Performed moot exercise 50%		No
Performed moot exercise 50% (video-recorded) - including Moot skeleton arguments (max 1,000 words) and post-performance reflections (max 500 words)		

Reassessment component is the same

Feedback on assessment

Feedback via Tabula

Availability

Courses

This module is Optional for:

- Year 2 of ULAA-M130 Undergraduate Law
- ULAA-M300 Undergraduate Law
 - Year 2 of M300 Law
 - Year 3 of M300 Law
- ULAA-M105 Undergraduate Law (3 year) (Qualifying Degree)

- Year 2 of M105 Law (3 year) (Qualifying Degree)
- Year 3 of M105 Law (3 year) (Qualifying Degree)
- ULAA-M131 Undergraduate Law (4 Year)
 - Year 2 of M131 Law (4 year)
 - Year 4 of M131 Law (4 year)
- ULAA-M106 Undergraduate Law (4 year) (Qualifying Degree)
 - Year 2 of M106 Law (4 year) (Qualifying Degree)
 - Year 3 of M106 Law (4 year) (Qualifying Degree)
 - Year 4 of M106 Law (4 year) (Qualifying Degree)
- ULAA-M104 Undergraduate Law (Year Abroad)
 - Year 2 of M104 Law (Year Abroad)
 - Year 4 of M104 Law (Year Abroad)
- Year 2 of ULAA-M132 Undergraduate Law (Year Abroad)
- ULAA-M108 Undergraduate Law (Year Abroad) (Qualifying Degree)
 - Year 2 of M108 Law (Year Abroad) (Qualifying Degree)
 - Year 4 of M108 Law (Year Abroad) (Qualifying Degree)
- Year 3 of ULAA-ML33 Undergraduate Law and Sociology
- Year 2 of ULAA-M133 Undergraduate Law with French Law
- Year 2 of ULAA-M10A Undergraduate Law with French Law (Qualifying Degree)
- Year 2 of ULAA-M134 Undergraduate Law with German Law
- Year 2 of ULAA-M10C Undergraduate Law with German Law (Qualifying Degree)
- Year 3 of ULAA-M110 Undergraduate Law with Humanities (3 Year)
- 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)
- Year 3 of ULAA-M113 Undergraduate Law with Humanities (4 Year) (Qualifying Degree)
- Year 2 of ULAA-M115 Undergraduate Law with Social Sciences (3 Year) (Qualifying Degree)
- UPHA-V7MW Undergraduate Politics, Philosophy and Law
 - Year 2 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:

- Year 3 of UPHA-V7MW Undergraduate Politics, Philosophy and Law

This module is Option list A for:

- Year 4 of ULAA-ML35 BA in Law and Sociology (Qualifying Degree) (with Intercalated year)
- Year 3 of ULAA-M131 Undergraduate Law (4 Year)
- Year 4 of ULAA-M132 Undergraduate Law (Year Abroad)
- ULAA-M135 Undergraduate Law and Sociology
 - Year 3 of M135 Law and Sociology
 - Year 4 of M135 Law and Sociology
- Year 4 of ULAA-M133 Undergraduate Law with French Law
- Year 4 of ULAA-M10A Undergraduate Law with French Law (Qualifying Degree)
- Year 4 of ULAA-M134 Undergraduate Law with German Law

- Year 4 of ULAA-M10C Undergraduate Law with German Law (Qualifying Degree)
- Year 4 of ULAA-M113 Undergraduate Law with Humanities (4 Year) (Qualifying Degree)
- Year 3 of ULAA-M115 Undergraduate Law with Social Sciences (3 Year) (Qualifying Degree)

This module is Option list B for:

- ULAA-ML34 BA in Law and Sociology (Qualifying Degree)
 - Year 3 of ML34 Law and Sociology (Qualifying Degree)
 - Year 4 of ML34 Law and Sociology (Qualifying Degree)
- Year 5 of ULAA-ML35 BA in Law and Sociology (Qualifying Degree) (with Intercalated year)
- Year 3 of ULAA-M130 Undergraduate Law
- Year 4 of ULAA-ML33 Undergraduate Law and Sociology

This module is Option list E for:

- Year 2 of UPHA-V7MW Undergraduate Politics, Philosophy and Law