



**UNIVERSITY OF  
LIMERICK**  
OLLSCOIL LUIMNIGH

---

**School of Law**

# **Graduate Student Handbook**

**Academic Year  
2022/2023**

# 1. CONTENTS

1. CONTENTS.....	2
2. WELCOME.....	3
3. USEFUL LINKS.....	4
4. CONTACTS .....	5
5. TERMS AND TIMETABLES .....	9
6. STAFF PROFILES.....	11
7. PROGRAMMES.....	22
8. GENERAL.....	42
9. LIBRARY RESOURCES .....	45
10. Personal details .....	48
11. AWARDS & PRIZES.....	49
12. DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES .....	50
13. DISSERTATIONS/THESES.....	51
14. CITATION & PLAGIARISM.....	60
15. APPENDIX: RESEARCH ETHICS .....	62

## 2. WELCOME

Taught and Research Postgraduates,

**Welcome to the School of Law at the University of Limerick.**

The School provides a dynamic, research-led teaching environment. Inspired by the University's mission, we seek to realise the potential of our knowledge and expertise, provide an excellent legal education to highly capable and motivated students, contribute to the advancement and dissemination of legal knowledge, facilitate interaction between legal scholars and practitioners, and contribute to public affairs.

**You are an integral part of this vision.**

Postgraduate education differs in important ways from undergraduate study. You will move beyond rote remembrance of laws to a deeper understanding and analysis of their application in complex, changing contexts. You will develop a variety of additional skills: legal reasoning and writing, problem-solving and public speaking, effectively engaging in teamwork and practising self-directed study. Embracing these challenges will enhance your enjoyment, expand your education, and ensure your employability.

While all faculty members are here to help you, your course directors and I have particular responsibility for your time here. Please feel free to contact us with your concerns or feedback.

We are delighted that you have chosen to study with us. We are confident, too, that you will make us proud.

Dr Laura Cahillane

Director of Postgraduate Studies

Office: FG-004 Email: [laura.cahillane@ul.ie](mailto:laura.cahillane@ul.ie)

**Note:** This handbook is intended to assist students with basic information relevant to their studies in the academic year 2022/2023. It does not replace the official documents of the School of Law, the Faculty of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, the Graduate School, or the University of Limerick. Further information about these official documents can be found on the next page of this handbook.

### 3. USEFUL LINKS

Students beginning their postgraduate studies are expected to familiarise themselves with the following materials:

[Handbook of Academic Regulations and Procedures](#) (includes information on marks and standards, the UL Code of Conduct, etc.)

University [Student Handbook](#) (includes information on timetabling, registration, progression, grading, and Student Academic Administration).

[Student Affairs](#) (includes information on student administration, student supports, and student specialised supports).

[Postgraduate Academic Charter](#) (including Responsibilities of Students and Supervisors and Taught Postgraduate Programmes).

[Graduate School Postgraduate Handbook](#)

Additional useful sources of information include:

[School of Law Website](#)

Facebook: [@SchoolofLawUniversityofLimerick](#)

Twitter [@ULSchoolofLaw](#)

Instagram [@ULSchoolofLaw](#)

[University of Limerick](#)

[Campus Map](#)

[Graduate School](#)

[Careers Service](#)

[Glucksman Library](#)

[SULIS](#) (UL's learning management system)

**Note:** You must familiarise yourself with the contents of this handbook and will be assumed to have done so. It should be read in conjunction with other relevant documentation, including Academic Regulations and Procedures. This and other relevant documents are available on the student portal. The information provided is correct at the time of publication and may be subject to change.

## 4. CONTACTS

### Head of School: Professor Ray Friel

Office: FG014

For contact information or an appointment, see the School of Law Administrators below.



### Administrators

**Suzanne Nicholas-Barry** is the administrator for the School of Law. She works primarily with the Head of the Law School. She is also responsible for administrative matters connected with the running of the Law School and may be contacted about matters relating to the Head of the School, the Law Graduates network, admissions, and other related issues.



Email: [suzanne.nicholas-barry@ul.ie](mailto:suzanne.nicholas-barry@ul.ie)

Phone: + 353 61 202344 (2344 internally)

Office: FG-027b

**Carol Huguet** deals with, among other things, general student queries and appointments for faculty members.

Email: [carol.huguet@ul.ie](mailto:carol.huguet@ul.ie)

Phone: +353 61 233688 (3688 internally)

Office: FG-027c



## School of Law Graduate Student Handbook 2021/2022

**Josephine Conway** supports the Director of Postgraduate Studies

Email: [josephine.conway@ul.ie](mailto:josephine.conway@ul.ie)

Phone: +353 61 202546 (2546 internally)

Office: FG-027f



### School of Law Administrators' Office Hours

Monday–Thursday, 9:00 am to 5:15 pm

Friday, 9:00am to 5:00pm

Closed for lunch each day between 1 pm and 2 pm

### Director of Postgraduate Studies

The Director of Postgraduate Studies has primary responsibility for the School's research students, chairs the Postgraduate Course Board, and facilitates graduate student gatherings.

Dr Laura Cahillane

Office: FG-0012

Phone: +353 61 234803

Email: [laura.cahillane@ul.ie](mailto:laura.cahillane@ul.ie)

Office Hours: Wednesday, 10.00am-12.00pm



### LLM/Master of Arts (MA) Course Directors

Course Directors ensure the smooth running of their programmes. With Student Representatives, they can be contacted when individual issues arise.

#### LLM (General)

Mr Eoin Quill

Office: FG-007

Phone: + 353 61 202220

Email: [Eoin.Quill@ul.ie](mailto:Eoin.Quill@ul.ie)

Office Hours: Monday, 9.00am-11.00am & 3.00pm-4.00pm



**LLM/MA in Human Rights in Criminal Justice**

Dr Ger Coffey

Office: FG-010

Phone: + 353 61 202682

Email: [Ger.Coffey@ul.ie](mailto:Ger.Coffey@ul.ie)



**LLM in International Commercial Law**

Ms Sinead Eaton

Office: FG-008

Phone: + 353 61 203231

Email: [Sinead.Eaton@ul.ie](mailto:Sinead.Eaton@ul.ie)

Office Hours: Friday, 10.00am-12.00pm



**MA in Serious Crime Investigation**

Dr Alan Cusack

Office: FG-006

Phone: +353 61 233 659

Email: [Alan.Cusack@ul.ie](mailto:Alan.Cusack@ul.ie)

Office Hours: Thursday, 1.00pm-4.00pm



**Module Coordinators**

Each module also has a Module Coordinator responsible for the teaching of the course, its content, assessment, and feedback. Queries directed towards a particular module should initially be brought to them.

**Student Representation**

Students in each programme will have representation on the Postgraduate Course Board, where they will be given an opportunity to present any general queries or concerns arising in their programmes. The representative will be elected early in the first semester.



## 5. TERMS AND TIMETABLES

Table 4.1. Teaching Term Dates 2022–2023

Autumn	Weeks 1–12: 05/09/2022 – 25/11/2022 Examination Period: 03 Dec 2022 to 17 Dec 2022
Inter-Term Break	Mon, 02 Jan 2023 to Fri, 20 Jan 2023
Spring	Weeks 1–12: Mon, 23 Jan 2023 to Fri, 21 Apr 2023 Easter Break (Students): 03 Apr 2023 to 10 Apr 2023 Examination Period: 02 May 2023 to 15 May 2023

### Modules & Module Coordinators (Autumn Semester)

For full details concerning the modules offered as part of the School of Law’s suite of graduate programmes, please see pages 27–44 of this handbook.

### Research Programmes

In addition to making relevant modules of the Taught Programmes (i.e., Advanced Legal Research Methods (LA6001) and Dissertation Methodology (LA6002)) available to doctoral and LLM (Research) students, the School hosts a Research Student Seminar Series on issues related to research study.

Annual Research Review Panels are also used to evaluate the progress of our doctoral research and LLM (Research) students. The panels consist of the student’s supervisor, a Chair, and another independent person. The latter two are nominated by the Head of School. Students must prepare a brief outline of their thesis, submit a written sample of work, make a short presentation, and answer questions on their written work and presentation.

**Research Centres**

[Centre for Crime, Justice and Victim Studies \(CCJVS\)](#)

Co-Directors: Dr Andrea Ryan and Dr Susan Leahy

[International Commercial and Economic Law Research Group \(ICEL\)](#)

Director: Prof. Ray Friel

[Research Cluster in Emotions in Society \(CUES\)](#)

Director: Dr Eimear Spain

## 6. STAFF PROFILES

**Dr Lydia Bracken, BCL, LLM, BL, MA, PhD, Senior Lecturer in Law (C1070)**

Lydia is a graduate of University College Cork (UCC) (BCL, 2010; LLM, 2011; PhD, 2015) and the Honorable Society of King's Inns (BL, 2012). Her PhD thesis, which was funded by a



Department of Children and Youth Affairs Research Scholarship, examined the implications of the best interests of the child principle in the context of same-sex parenting in Ireland. Lydia's research interests lie in the areas of child and family law and European human rights, and she has published nationally and internationally in these areas. In particular, Lydia's research examines the legal recognition of 'non-traditional' families, and it explores how such recognition can be provided in a manner that respects the rights and interests of children. Before joining the School of Law at UL, Lydia acted as the principal researcher for the Law Reform Commission's project on Contempt of Court and Other Offences and Torts involving the Administration of Justice.

**Dr Laura Cahillane, BCL (Law and French), LLM Research, PhD, Senior Lecturer in Law (FG-004)**

Laura is a Senior lecturer in the School of Law, UL. She is a first-class honours graduate of UCC (BCL (Law and French) 2007, LLM (by Research) 2008, PhD 2012, PGCTHLE 2013). Her Research masters examined the topic of disciplining judges and her PhD, for which she was awarded an Irish Research Council for the Humanities and Social Sciences (IRCHSS) Government of Ireland



Scholarship, considered the drafting of the 1922 Irish Free State Constitution. Laura undertook a Post-Doctoral Fellowship in UCC and held lectureships in UCC and Dublin City University. Her research interests lie in the areas of constitutional law, legal history, judicial politics, and comparative law, and she has published nationally and internationally in these areas.

**Dr Gerard Coffey, BA (UL), LLB (NUI), PhD (NUI), MA (NUI),  
Lecturer in Law (FG-010)**

Ger graduated from UL with a BA in Law and European Studies and subsequently undertook postgraduate studies in the Faculty of Law, National University of Ireland, Galway (NUIG), where he earned both an LLB and PhD in Law. He subsequently completed an MA in Teaching and Learning in Higher Education at the National University of Ireland, Cork. His doctoral thesis examined the common law principle against double jeopardy and the related principle of *ne bis in idem* in civil law jurisdictions and international human rights instruments. While at NUI Galway, he was a tutor, part-time lecturer, and research assistant with the Faculty of Law. He was co-editor in the planning and production of volume 4 of the *Judicial Studies Institute Journal* (2004), which the Faculty of Law was commissioned to produce on behalf of the Judicial Studies Institute. He was awarded a Research Fellowship by the Faculty of Law, NUIG, for the duration of his doctoral research and in 2005 he was awarded second place in the Law Society of Ireland Annual Law Reform Essay Competition for an essay entitled 'Reforming the Law on Double Jeopardy'. From 2005 to 2007 he was post-doctoral research officer in the Centre for Criminal Justice at the University of Limerick. During this period, he contributed to the Centres' research activities on the impact of globalisation on criminal law and criminal justice. In 2007, Gerard was appointed to the position of lecturer in law. His research interests lie in the areas of criminal law, and related issues pertaining to criminal procedure and the criminal justice process and he has published nationally and internationally in these areas. He has also served as an internal examiner for doctoral and masters by research theses specialising in criminal law and criminal justice. He is a member of the Centre for Criminal Justice. Gerard was recently appointed to the Complementarity on International Criminal Law Committee of the International Law Association. The Committee was established to undertake research and to prepare reports on national efforts to investigate and prosecute international crimes under the rule of law. The ILA Committee on Complementarity seeks to analyse in-depth the implications of the principle of complementarity in Article 17 of the Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) for the criminal justice systems of ICC states parties, in particular, their ability and will to genuinely investigate and prosecute core international crimes. Some of these implications have been referred to as 'positive



complementarity’ or ‘active complementarity’. The Committee will analyse these concepts within the context of the Statute as well as more broadly with the object of making recommendations.

**Dr Alan Cusack, BCL, LLM, Dip. Emp, PhD (FG-006)** Alan is a graduate of UCC (BCL, LLM, PhD), UCD (Dip. Emp) and the Law Society of Ireland (Solicitor, 2012). In 2017, Alan completed a PhD in the School of Law at UCC in the area of access to justice for victims of crime with intellectual disabilities. In pursuit of his studies, Alan was awarded a



Government of Ireland PhD scholarship from the Irish Research Council as well as a Faculty of Law PhD Scholarship from UCC. Alan is a qualified solicitor and, subsequent to commencing his doctoral research, practised for a number of years with Arthur Cox solicitors in Dublin. In 2013, Alan was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Centre for Criminal Justice and Human Rights at UCC. He is a professional member of The Law Society of Ireland and is also a member of the Society of Legal Scholars and the Socio-Legal Studies Association. In 2015, Alan was an academic visitor at the Centre for Criminology at the University of Oxford. Alan’s research interests lie in the broad areas of criminal procedure, criminal law, victimology, criminology, the laws of evidence, and disability studies.

**Dr Luke Danagher, LLB, LLM, PhD (FG-027D)**

Luke Danagher is a graduate of the University of Limerick (LLB 2011; LLM 2013) and King’s College London (PhD 2018). His PhD thesis, which was funded by the Centre of European Law, was entitled ‘A Normative Theory of Cartel Crime’. Luke’s general research interests lie in the area of regulatory crime and the criminalisation of regulatory offences. His work in the field of cartel crime has been published in international journals. Prior to joining UL, Luke was a visiting lecturer of EU law at King’s College London.



**Dr Hope Davidson BA, LLM, PhD Teaching Associate in Law (FG-017)**

Hope Davidson is a former solicitor and an Irish Research Council Scholar. She has a BA in History from Trinity College, an LLM in Health & Care Law from UCC and is currently completing her doctoral research in the School of Law at UL on decision-making in dementia care under the supervision of Dr Eimear Spain and Dr Jennifer Schweppe. Hope's research interests are in dementia and the law, children and medical treatment, research ethics, and involuntary detention.

She has won numerous awards including the 3 Minute Thesis competition for Law Postgraduates, a PhD scholarship from the Irish Association of Law Teachers, the Dean's award for best paper at the AHSS Postgraduate Conference.



**Dr Laura Donnellan, LLB, LLM, PhD, Senior Lecturer in Law (FG-005)**

Laura Donnellan teaches European Law, Sport and the Law, and Comparative Property Law. She has published in the areas of drug testing and the rights of athletes, elder law, the regulation of football agents, TV rights in Irish football, EC competition law, horse racing, and animal welfare in the EU. She graduated with an LLM from UL in 2002. Laura is the author of *Sport and Law: A Concise Guide* (Blackhall Publishing, 2010) as well as a number of articles in international law journals. She is an Associate Fellow at the Oxford Centre for Animal Ethics and a Consulting Editor for *The Journal of Animal Ethics* (published by the University of Illinois). Laura is currently an external examiner in Introduction to Irish Law, Employment Law, and Company Law for the Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology. She has co-written *Sports Law in Ireland* with her colleague Dr Susan Leahy (Kluwer, 2014).



**Sinead Eaton, BCL, BL (King's Inns), Dip. European Law (Bruges), LLM Lecturer in Law, (FG-008)**

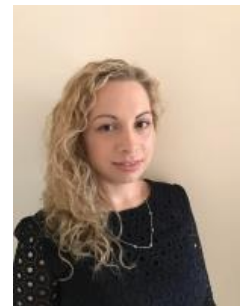
Sinead Eaton graduated from the National University of Ireland, UCD with a BCL in 1988 and, having graduated from the Honorable



Society of King's Inns with a degree of Barrister-at-Law, was called to the Irish Bar in 1990. Having been awarded a scholarship by the Department of Education, Sinead completed a bilingual course in EC Law at the College of Europe in Bruges, following which she did a 'stage' at the DG IV of the European Commission in Brussels. Sinead then spent a total of eight years working as a legal adviser to major Irish financial institutions. During that time, she graduated with an LLM (with a special mention) in Commercial Law from UCD. Before taking up a position at UL, Sinead spent two years at Eversheds O'Donnell Sweeney, solicitors in Dublin and was Head of the School of Law, UL from 2007 to 2010. She co-wrote *Competition Law in Ireland*, with Mr Pat O'Brien of Arthur Cox, Solicitors (Kluwer, 2015).

**Dr Margaret Fitzgerald-O'Reilly, BCL, LLM, PhD, Lecturer in Law (FG-012)**

Margaret Fitzgerald-O'Reilly graduated from UCC with a BCL degree in 2005 and went on to complete an LLM in Criminal Justice in 2006. She was awarded a scholarship to undertake her PhD in UCC and was awarded her doctorate in 2012 for her PhD entitled 'The Usual Suspects: The Legal Marginalisation of Ex-Prisoners in Irish Society'. She joined the School of Law in 2012. Her research interests are primarily in the field of criminology, penology, and criminal justice.



She has published and presented papers in this field at national and international level. She has acted as editor of the *Irish Criminal Law Journal* (special edition) and is a peer reviewer for the *Journal of Offender Rehabilitation* (Taylor and Francis). She is a co-author of *Sexual Offending in Ireland: Laws, Procedure and Punishment* (Clarus Press, 2017).

**Professor Raymond J Friel, BCL (NUI), LLM (Exeter), Barrister-at-Law, Head of Law (FG-014)**

Raymond Friel graduated from UCC with a BCL and the University of Exeter with an LLM in European Law. He joined the faculty at Limerick in 1989 and was Head of the School of Law from 1996–2002. He held a Visiting Professor appointment at Boston College Law School (2002–2003), and he has also held



Visiting and Adjunct Professorships at the University of Kansas Law School (2000) and

Franklin Pierce Law Center, New Hampshire (2004). Ray Friel has extensive publications record in the area of contract and commercial law. He is the author of *The Irish Law of Contract* 2nd edn (2000) and the co-author of *Irish Stamp Duty Law* 2nd edn (1998) and has published numerous articles on a range of legal topics. He lectures principally in commercial and contract law.

**Professor Shane Kilcommins, BA, MA, PhD, Provost and Deputy President UL**

Before taking up his Professorship in Law in UL in 2014, Professor Kilcommins taught at the Law Faculty in UCC from 2001. He lectures in evidence law, jurisprudence, and penology. He has co-authored various funded research reports on discrimination, victims of crime, and integrative learning.



In addition to publishing in numerous journals, his books include *Alcohol, Society and Law* (Barry Rose Law Publishers, 2002) (co-editor), *The Introduction of Community Service Orders* (Barry Rose Law Publishers, 2003), *Crime, Punishment and the Search for Order in Ireland* (IPA, 2004) (co-author), *Terrorism, Rights and the Rule of Law* (Willan, 2008), *Criminal Law in Ireland* (Clarus Press, 2010) (co-author), *Regulatory Crime in Ireland* (First Law, 2010) (co-editor), and *Integrative Learning: International Research and Practice* (Routledge, 2015) (co-editor). He is an examiner for the Law Society of Ireland in Criminal Law and Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure and has acted as an extern examiner for Trinity College, UCD, DCU, DIT, and Athlone Institute of Technology. He was appointed to the Office of the Inspector of Prisons in May 2013 and was a Visiting Scholar at Temple Law School in 2008/2009.

**Eddie Keane, LLB, LLM, Lecturer in Law (FG-009)**

Eddie Keane graduated from UL in 2003 with an LLB in Law and 2005 with an LLM in European and Comparative Law. Since 2005, Eddie has worked with the School of Law, initially as a teaching assistant, before becoming a permanent member of the faculty in 2010. Eddie's primary teaching interests are in the areas of Commercial and Labour Law. Eddie's primary research area is employment



regulation, in particular, the regulation of atypical work relationships. Eddie's research has been published in the *King's Law Journal*, *The Irish Employment Law Journal*, the



*Irish Jurist*, the *Northern Ireland Legal Quarterly* and the *Quarterly Review of Tort Law*. Eddie has also presented at national and international conferences on employment law and related issues.

**Dr Susan Leahy BCL (NUI) LLM (NUI) PhD (NUI) Senior Lecturer in Law (FG-016)**

Susan Leahy obtained a BCL degree from UCC in 2004. She completed an LLM degree in 2005, during which time she undertook a minor thesis on the legal rights of non-marital cohabitants. She holds a PhD in Law from UCC; her PhD thesis was entitled 'The Rules and Realities of Consent in Irish Sexual Offences Law: Perspectives on Reform'. This research was funded at various stages by the Law Department in UCC and the IRCHSS. During her time as a PhD candidate, she also worked as a part-time assistant lecturer in the Law Department in UCC, where she taught various modules including Nursing Law and Public Law. She has also previously served as a teaching assistant in UL, during which time she delivered modules on Company Law, Comparative Law and Criminal Procedure. Susan's research interests include criminal law and procedure, criminology, law and gender, family law, and medical law.



**Dr John Lombard, LLB, LLM, PhD, Senior Lecturer in Law (FG-018)**

John Lombard is a lecturer in the School of Law, UL. John completed his LLB (Law and European Studies) at UL in 2009, an LLM in UCC in 2010, and a PhD in UCC in 2014. His doctoral thesis sought to identify an appropriate legal framework for specialist palliative care in Ireland. Prior to his appointment, John worked in the School of Law and Social Justice at the University of Liverpool, where he lectured in medical law and equity. He has also previously worked as a research assistant in the Governance, Risk, and Compliance Technology Centre based in UCC. His research interests lie in the areas of medical law, bioethics, and intellectual property law.



**Professor J Paul McCutcheon, BCL, LLM, LLD (NUI) (FG-013)**

Paul McCutcheon is a leading expert in criminal law and the Irish legal system. He is a co-author of *Criminal Liability* (Round Hall, 2000) and *The Irish Legal System* (6th edn, Bloomsbury Professional, 2014), and author of *The Larceny Act, 1916*. He has also published numerous articles in the areas of criminal law and sports law. He served as President of the Irish Association of Law Teachers in 1994 and was a visiting fellow at the Australian National University in 1996–1997.



**Dr Kathryn O’Sullivan, LLB, PhD, Senior Lecturer in Law (FG-015)**

Kathryn O’ Sullivan graduated with a first-class honours LLB in Law and European Studies from UL in 2008 before pursuing doctoral research in the University supported by the Advanced Scholars Programme. She was awarded a PhD in 2012 for her doctoral thesis entitled ‘A Critique of the Legal Protections Afforded to the Matrimonial Home in Ireland: Lessons from British Columbia.’ In 2012, Kathryn also took up a position as Lecturer in Law in the Truman Bodden Law School of the Cayman Islands before returning to Ireland to re-join the team at UL’s School of Law in 2013. Her research interests lie in property law and family law, particularly the point of intersection, family property law. She has published articles in highly respected national and international journals including *Legal Studies*, the *International Journal of Law, Policy and the Family*, the *Common Law World Review* and the *Dublin University Law Journal*. Kathryn completed the Specialist Diploma in Teaching, Learning, and Scholarship in UL in 2014, graduating with first-class honours, and has twice been shortlisted for the Excellence in Teaching Award (Large Group) in 2012 and 2015.



**Eoin Quill, BCL, LLB, LLM (NUI), Senior Lecturer in Law (FG-007)**

Eoin Quill has worked at UL since 1991. He is a member of the Society of Legal Scholars, the Irish Association of Law Teachers, the International Commercial and Economic Law Research Group



at the UL School of Law, a member of the European Centre of Tort and Insurance Law (ECTIL) in Vienna, and the external examiner in Torts for the Law Society of Ireland. His primary area of research is tort, focused on accident compensation and private actions for the enforcement of civil rights. His publications include a treatise, *Torts in Ireland* (4th ed 2014), a volume in the *International Encyclopaedia of Laws*, 'Tort Law in Ireland', chapters on Irish Tort Law in the *Yearbooks on European Tort Law* for ECTIL and the Institute for European Tort Law of the Austrian Academy of Sciences, and a number of peer-reviewed journal articles in Irish and international law journals on topics such as causation, affirmative duties, defective buildings, negligent misstatements, and negligently inflicted psychiatric harm.

**Dr Andrea Ryan, BA, Dip Phil, BCL, LLM (NUI) PhD (NUI) Lecturer in Law (FG-003)**

Andrea Ryan joined the Law School in UL in 2002. Her research expertise lies in the areas of EU criminal justice, criminal evidence, comparative criminal procedure, criminal law, and sentencing. She has published widely in these areas, including a monograph, *Towards a System of European Criminal Justice: The Problem of Admissibility of Evidence* (Routledge, 2014). She has acted as national rapporteur



for Ireland on many cross-jurisdictional studies funded by the European Commission, most recently in 2012 in a study on the prospects for the creation of a European public prosecutor. She was awarded her PhD by UCD for her thesis, 'Is Mutual Admissibility of Evidence across the European Union Attainable? Procedural Differences Explored Through the Prism of Three Case Studies: Ireland, France and Italy'. Andrea is the director of the Centre for Crime, Justice, and Victim Studies at the School of Law.

**Professor Jennifer Schweppe, BCL (Euro Leg Stud), LLM (Research), Grad Dip Academic Practice, PhD (CS-1011)**

Having graduated with a BCL from UCD, Jennifer was awarded an open postgraduate scholarship while completing her graduate research. She completed a graduate diploma in Academic Practice at UL and in 2010 won the Small Group Teaching Award in UL. She was awarded a National Award for



Excellence in Teaching by the National Academy for the Integration of Research,

Teaching, and Learning in 2011, and was a finalist for the European Award for Excellence in Teaching in the Humanities and Social Sciences in 2012. Jennifer's research interests lie in the areas of hate crime and reproductive justice, and she has published widely on these topics. Her work in hate crime looks at the criminalisation of bias motivation and explores the potential of introducing hate crime offences to an Irish context. She is co-editor of two major collections in hate crime with Oxford University Press and Palgrave Macmillan. She is currently co-director of the International Network for Hate Studies. She is also founder and co-director of the UL-based Hate and Hostility Research Group, the only academic research group in Ireland dedicated to exploring and understanding hate crime in an Irish context. Her work in hate crime has been funded by the Irish Research Council, the Irish Council for Civil Liberties, and the European Union.

**Dr Eimear Spain, BA, PhD, Senior Lecturer in Law (FG-017)**

Eimear graduated with a BA in Law and Accounting for which she was awarded the University Medal for first place in interdisciplinary programmes upon graduation in 2003. Upon commencing her PhD, she was awarded a university scholarship and a Government of Ireland scholarship by the IRCHSS in 2005, which she held for three years. Following the completion of her PhD, Eimear took up a



position as a research coordinator at Macquarie University in Sydney. She was subsequently appointed as a senior lecturer at the University of Northumbria in England before returning to take up a lecturing position in the School of Law in 2010. In 2015 she was appointed as a senior lecturer in Health Law in a joint appointment post between the Faculty of Education and Health Sciences and the School of Law. Eimear's research interests lie in health, criminal, and constitutional law. One of her key interest areas is in the field of law and emotions which draws on disciplines such as neuroscience and psychology. She has published numerous books, book chapters, and articles in the areas of criminal, constitutional, and administrative law both nationally and internationally, including a monograph entitled, *The Role of Emotions in Criminal Law Defences; Duress, Necessity and Lesser Evils* with Cambridge University Press. She is a founding member and co-director of the Centre for the Understanding of Emotions in Society in UL.

**Dr Una Woods, BCL (NUI), LLM (QUB), PhD (QUB), Solicitor (Law Society), Senior Lecturer in Law (FG-011)**

Una Woods graduated with a BCL from UCC in 1995. She was awarded an LLM in Human Rights and Discrimination Law by QUB in 1996. She qualified as a solicitor in 1999 and was awarded the Findlater Scholarship by the Law Society of Ireland. She joined the School of Law, UL in September 1999. In November 2006 she was appointed by the Minister of Justice as a member of the Property Registration Authority (which manages the Irish Land Registry and the Registry of Deeds) and, in November 2010, she was re-appointed for another four-year term. In 2014 she completed her doctorate with QUB on 'The Irish Law on Adverse Possession: The Case for a Qualified Veto System'. She has acted as a consultant to the Irish Law Reform Commission on the law in relation to cohabitants and adverse possession. Her publications focus mainly on land law and conveyancing law.



## 7. PROGRAMMES

### Taught Programmes

On successful completion of the postgraduate programmes, it is expected that students will be able to:

- Engage critically and analytically with their chosen modules and do so in a multijurisdictional setting, if necessary.
- Respond to a variety of pedagogical approaches and engage in independent research in each of the subjects studied.
- Use research libraries across jurisdictions as well as online and internet materials.
- Produce an original dissertation of sustained, independent research and writing under the supervision of an expert supervisor.
- Apply the knowledge, skills and insights acquired in the master's programme to the demands of professional or doctoral environments.

Students may take these programmes on a full-time (twelve months) or part-time (twenty-four months) basis.

### LLM (General)

This programme is designed to give the postgraduate student, or practitioner, a deeper understanding and insight into a variety of subjects across a broad range. It can cover such diverse areas as criminal law, civil obligations, property, human rights, and comparative law. It is suited to those looking for advanced legal education, without wishing to focus on a single branch of law. Students completing this programme will be able to demonstrate specialist, graduate-level understanding of law in elective combinations of the student's choice.

Table 7.1. Programme Content (LLM (General))

Semester 1	Semester 2	Summer
Advanced Legal Research Methods	Dissertation Methodology	Dissertation
3 Electives	3 Electives	

LLM/MA in Human Rights in Criminal Justice

This programme is designed to emphasise the inter-relationship between what has traditionally been taught as the two distinct disciplines of human rights and criminal justice. Students will be provided with a comprehensive knowledge of this ever-developing field of law and encouraged to assess the merit of mainstreaming human rights within the criminal justice system. Covering key areas such as policing and human rights and the law of the European Convention on Human Rights, the programme aims to foster general and specific skills with respect to the modern criminal justice system both in Ireland and internationally.

In addition to the learning outcomes listed above, students completing this programme will be able to:

Demonstrate a clear understanding of the role of human rights in criminal justice institutions.

Appraise the practical and academic debates that arise from placing human rights at the centre of criminal justice.

## School of Law Graduate Student Handbook 2021/2022

Table 7.2. Programme Content (LLM/MA Human Rights in Criminal Justice)

Semester 1	Semester 2	Summer
Advanced Legal Research Methods	Dissertation Methodology	Dissertation
Comparative International Protection of Human Rights Law*	International Criminal Law*	
Criminal Justice Processes and Sentencing*	Policing and Human Rights*	
Law of the European Convention of Human Rights*	Criminology*	
Penology and Victimology*	Comparative and European Criminal Justice*	
Advanced Constitutional Law*	Youth Crime*	
	Using Evidence to Improve Societal Outcomes in the Real World*	
	Regulatory Crime*	

\*Students select 3 electives

### **LLM/MA in Human Rights in Criminal Justice (Online)**

This new and innovative two-year, part-time, fully online master's programme is designed to emphasise the inter-relationship between what have traditionally been taught as the two distinct disciplines of human rights and criminal justice. Students will be provided with a comprehensive knowledge of this ever-developing field of law and encouraged to assess the merit of mainstreaming human rights within the criminal justice processes. Covering key areas such as criminal justice and sentencing, penology and



victimology and human rights, the programme aims to foster general and specific skills with respect to the modern criminal justice system both in Ireland and internationally.

Table 7.3. Programme Content (LLM/MA Human Rights in Criminal Justice (Online))

Year 1 – Semester 1	Year 1 – Semester 2	Summer
Advanced Legal Research Methods (Online)	Using Evidence to Improve Societal Outcomes in the Real World (Online)	Year 2 – Summer     Dissertation
Advanced Crime and Criminal Justice (Online)	Youth Crime (Online)	
Year 2 – Semester 1	Year 2 – Semester 2	
Penology and Victimology (Online)	Postgraduate Human Rights Law (Online)	
Criminal Justice Processes and Sentencing (Online)	Dissertation Methodology (Online)	

### **LLM in International Commercial Law**

This programme is designed to immerse the postgraduate student in more detailed aspects of commercial law, as well as developing legal research skills in a general way.

The emphasis is on those areas of law such as credit and security, intellectual property, and competition law, critical to the operation of any commercial enterprise in the modern world. The programme will also take account of the increasing internationalisation of commerce with modules in international business transactions and international protection of intellectual property.

In addition to the learning outcomes listed above, students successfully completing this programme will be able to:

- Apply the laws critical to the operation of any commercial enterprise in an analytical and strategic way.

- Respond to the international and multijurisdictional aspects of questions of commercial law.

Table 7.4. Programme Content (LLM (International Commercial Law))

Semester 1	Semester 2	Summer
Advanced Legal Research Methods	Dissertation Methodology	Dissertation
International Trade Organisations	Global Competition Law*	
International Business Transactions	Law of Credit and Security*	
Law of International Business Associations	International Protection of Intellectual Property Rights*	
	International Labour Law*	
	Counter-terrorism and International Business*	
	International Tort Law and Business	

\*Students select 3 from 5 elective choices

### MA in Serious Crime Investigation

The MA in Serious Crime Investigation, offered by the School of Law, is a one-year, full-time programme designed for graduates of the level 9 Postgraduate Diploma in Serious Crime Investigation, accredited by the University of Limerick or an equivalent programme. The degree has no formal taught element and consists primarily of a substantial piece of original research in the area of serious crime investigation which is conducted under the supervision of a full-time member of faculty. The MA degree can be conducted on a part-time or full-time basis. To be eligible for this degree, students must have achieved a minimum of second-class honours in the level 9 Postgraduate Diploma in

Serious Crime Investigation delivered in the Garda College in Templemore, Co. Tipperary and accredited by the University of Limerick, or an equivalent programme.

### **Research Programmes**

The School of Law is an ideal environment for students to engage in research at postgraduate level. All research students are allocated a personal desk with computer and telephone, have access to world-class library facilities, and are supervised by faculty members who are international experts in their fields. The School offers two opportunities for engaging in postgraduate research: the Master of Laws (LLM) by research and the PhD by research.

### **Master of Laws (LLM) by Research**

The School of Law offers the degree of Master of Laws (LLM) by research to suitably qualified candidates. The degree has no formal taught element and consists primarily of a substantial piece of original research conducted under the supervision of a full-time member of faculty. Applications from suitably qualified candidates are accepted at any stage during the year. Candidates should usually have at least a 2.1 honours degree. All applications are subject to the School having the capacity and expertise to supervise the student. An LLM by research can be conducted part time or full time. If full time, the student must be registered for no less than one year and no more than three years. If part time, the student must be registered for no less than two years and no more than four years. On occasion, a student who has started conducting an LLM by research may decide, in consultation with their supervisor, to progress to a PhD.

### **PhD by Research**

The School of Law offers the degree of PhD by research to suitably qualified candidates. The degree has no formal taught element and consists primarily of a substantial piece of original research conducted under the supervision of a full-time member of faculty. Applications from suitably qualified candidates are accepted at any stage during the year. Candidates should usually have at least a 2.1 honours degree. All applications are subject to the School having the capacity and expertise to supervise the student. A PhD by

research can be conducted part time or full time. If full time, the student must be registered for no less than three years and no more than five years. If part time, the student must be registered for no less than four years and no more than ten years if the student does not have an LLM degree, and no less than three years and no more than six years if the student does have an LLM degree. Considerable information is also available in the [Graduate School Postgraduate Handbook](#) (see Important Links).

## Module Overviews

### LA5153 Comparative & International Human Rights Law (Eoin Quill)

This module entails a comparative study of the principles, concepts, rules, and procedures underpinning the protection of human rights in international law from a comparative perspective including, in particular:

- rights theory
- universality versus cultural relativism
- legislating for human rights
- status of human rights treaties
- judicial procedures for the enforcement of human rights
- state reporting procedures
- policing compliance with human rights standards
- fact-finding & evidence
- sanctions
- individual rights & freedom
- collective rights

### LA6001 Advanced Legal Research Skills

The aim of this module is to equip students with the skills necessary to engage in sustained research in law at postgraduate level. The focus will be on assessing the relative merits of the various methodologies used in legal research, as well as developing research skills of and training in research ethics. The module provides students with the ability to conduct high-level research in both common and civil law systems. Through this course, students will become familiar with primary and secondary source materials in common and civil law jurisdictions, electronic databases, and quantitative and qualitative analysis. On successful completion of this module, students will be able to use research libraries in Anglo-American and Continental jurisdictions as well as online databases

(Lexis, Westlaw, Firstlaw, and Justis), the internet, and the European Documentation Centre.

LA6002 Dissertation Methodology

This module aims to provide students with the ability to write high-level research. It will cover areas such as writing styles, citation standards, and formatting as well as different methodological approaches. On successful completion of this module, students will be able to: identify the key styles for dissertation research and dissertation writing, differentiate between the key stages in dissertation research collection and the dissertation writing process, and critique the effectiveness of different dissertation writing methodologies.

LA6021 Law of International Business Associations (Sinead Eaton)

The aim of this module is to familiarise students with modern international business structures. The module will also examine the importance of corporate governance and the appropriate governance structures in different jurisdictions.

LA6022 Counter-Terrorism Law and International Business (Prof. Raymond Friel)

The aim of this module is to expose students to a comprehensive understanding of the global responses to terrorism as it impacts upon the legal environment in which international business takes place.

LA6031 Law of International Trade Organisations (Eddie Keane)

The aim of this module is to expose students to a comprehensive understanding of the global trading environment and the legal institutions, laws, rules, and regulations that apply to cross-border transactions.

LA6032 Global Competition Law (Sinead Eaton)

The aim of this module is to examine competition law and policy, and its origins in US anti-trust law. The module will also examine the powers of the EU and the role of the EU Member State courts and competition authorities in implementing EU competition law. Students will undertake a study of competition systems and enforcement in the EU and

other selected jurisdictions. The interoperability between different regimes will also be examined. In addition, the importance of the application of economic analysis to competition law will be explored.

LA6042 International Labour Law (Eddie Keane)

The aim of this module is to enable students to engage in critical analysis of legal regulations affecting employment, including the ability to recognise the social values reflected in the law and the normative character of labour regulations. Students will also consider the practical implications for employers of their legal rights and duties.

LA6051 Penology and Victimology (Prof. Shane Kilcommins & Dr Alan Cusack)

The purpose of this course is to provide students with an understanding of punishment, criminal justice, and social regulation. In particular, the aims of the module are:

- to provide analyses of the primary penal disposals (both contemporary & historical) utilised in society
- to highlight the various political, social, cultural, & economic determinants that underpin the provision of penal dispositions
- to encourage theorisation about punishment & penal responses
- to highlight the needs and concerns of victims of crime
- to determine how change is possible in the penal complex
  - in particular, how sanctions are modified or supplanted
  - how stakeholders, such as victims, examine new 'logics' and 'discourses' on punishment and justice as they emerge
- to provide a framework of understanding modern penal systems & the forms of social organisation in which they operate.

LA6052 Criminology (Dr Susan Leahy)

The aim of this module is to introduce graduate students to the discipline of criminology; that is, the study of crime as a social phenomenon. Students will be given an opportunity to engage critically with criminological theories. This will enable them

to engage more critically with crime as a social construct and enhance their understanding of the operation of the criminal justice system and criminal offending. This module is designed specifically for graduate students and will build upon students' pre-existing understandings and perceptions of crime.

LA6061 Contemporary Challenges in Medical Law and Ethics (Dr John Lombard)

The module will enable students to recognise and analyse the legal and ethical challenges arising in medical law. It will equip students with an understanding of what the law currently is and what legal principles arise in day-to-day clinical practice. The student will critically engage with literature on topics such as organ transplantation, euthanasia, and the duty of confidentiality. Furthermore, there is a significant comparative law element in this module. This comparative element ensures that the student appreciates the range of legal and ethical approaches which can ultimately influence and shape the legal framework for medical law in any given jurisdiction. Overall, students will advance their analytical skills and develop their capacity to reflect critically on contemporary challenges in medical law and ethics.

LA6062 Comparative and European Criminal Justice (Dr Andrea Ryan)

This module addresses developments in the field of European Criminal Justice resulting inter alia from the Lisbon Treaty. These developments are not adequately addressed within the existing module of European Criminal Law LA5152 because as that title suggests, it is narrower in focus than European Criminal Justice. The module will take account of developments in criminal justice systems in EU Member State jurisdictions. Thus, it will assess the body of European Criminal Justice within a contextual framework of comparative law.

LA6071 Advanced Constitutional Law: Judicial Power and Constitutional Interpretation (Dr Laura Cahillane)

This module will investigate constitutional theory and the role of judges in interpreting the Irish Constitution. The aim is to engage students in a critical analysis of contemporary issues in Irish constitutional law by examining issues such as the role of judges under the Constitution as well as the intersection between law and politics in this context. The

module is designed to encourage critical thinking in relation to questions on the Constitution and vindication of rights and students will engage with both legal and political literature on these topics in a seminar environment.

Overall, students will advance their analytical skills and develop their capacity to reflect critically and engage in in-depth discussion on competing theories of constitutional interpretation, the role of the courts in our political system and analysis of judicial power and activism. In doing so, they will gain a deeper appreciation of constitutional theory.

#### LA6072 International Tort Law and Business (Eoin Quill)

This course will provide an advanced analysis of tort theory and practice in multiple jurisdictions, focused on the relationship between tort and business. It will include both common law and civil law jurisdictions (including USA, UK, EU, Canada, Australia, Ireland, Germany, and France). General theories of liability will be explored as well as rights theory, corrective justice, civil recourse, distributive justice, and economic analysis. Specific causes of action and general conditions of liability, generating potential liability for businesses or protecting business interests, will be examined. Areas considered will be product liability, liability for pure economic loss, employers' liability, liability for hazardous activities, and commercial personality rights (reputation, goodwill, and confidentiality). The relationship between tort law and the tort process will be considered, including insurance, proof, extra-judicial processes (boards and tribunals), and mass tort claims.

#### LA6081 - Law of Technology and Artificial Intelligence (Prof Ray Friel)

This module will deal with intrusive, autonomous and creationist technologies and the legal responses to these new and emerging technologies as well as the impact of new developments in Artificial Intelligence.

It will cover the emergence of Intrusive technologies: from drones to the "internet of things" to built-in communication back doors. It will cover issues of both physical intrusion such as trespass and non-physical intrusion such as surveillance, image exploitation and including including privacy and data collection, processing and security including cross jurisdictional transfers. It will also deal with Autonomous technologies:



from assisted driver safety systems to the autonomous self-driving car to autonomous weapons systems and robot soldiers. It will cover the proposed regulatory frameworks and potential judicial responses to the increasing automated decision processes in much of the new technology. The module will also cover issues in the development of Artificial intelligence.

Finally the module will deal with creation technologies: from 3D printing, to cloning and genetic manipulation. It will examine the quickly developing law behind manipulation of the basic building blocks of both physical items including life itself and its commercialization. It will include physical creation in new manufacturing processes such as 3D printing, the manipulation of genetic materials both in agriculture (GMO and animal cloning) and beyond to medical treatments, genetic planning and prosthetics. The prospects of using Artificial Intelligence will be explored in terms of legal regulation.

LA6091 - Law of Data governance and Privacy (Prof Ray Friel)

This module will examine the right to privacy in both national and international law in the context of constitutional law and fundamental human rights. It will then address the common law approach to the protection of privacy through the law of tort and the remedies available under that system. The module will explain the difference between privacy and data protection through an analysis of the definition of personal data. It will then proceed to examine the emergence of statutory protection for personal data in the EU in the form of a directive on data protection and finally in the form of a regulation and the emergence of the EU as the world's most powerful regulatory agency in the sphere of data protection. The module will detail the governance of data from acquisition to use, protection and destruction not only at a theoretical and legislative level but also in terms of the practical application of these rules in everyday commercial settings. It will examine the detailed guidelines with respect to data protection including the issue of cross border transfer of personal data and international arrangements for equivalency. Finally, the module will look at global comparators, particularly China and the US in particular at the issue of future development and the impact of data governance for societal manipulation such as social credits.

LA6101/LA6011 International Business Transactions (Prof. Raymond Friel)

In this module, the roles of various international regulatory bodies such as the WTO will be reviewed. The legal issues arising in cross-border contracts for the sale of goods will also be reviewed, as well as the legal issues in the provision of international finance, especially in light of anti-terrorist legislation. International business litigation and alternative dispute resolution measures will also be reviewed insofar as they affect international commerce.

LA6102 Law of Credit and Security

This module will examine the ways in which the creditor/debtor relationship can arise and how it is documented. The module also covers the legal issues arising in the giving of security and the creation of security interests, as well as the enforcement issues which surround these. The use by companies of debentures, secured by fixed and floating charges is also reviewed, as is the matter of priorities.

LA6111 Criminal Justice Processes and Sentencing (Dr Ger Coffey)

This course will consider the various stages of the criminal justice process from arrest to trial, to sentence, and the various disposal mechanisms. These will be analysed through a framework of human rights to identify the strengths and weakness of the different stages and assess the compatibility of the Irish system with human rights obligations. What human rights are involved in the criminal justice system? How are the rights of the accused and the victim balanced within the system? What challenges does the system face in an increasingly diverse Ireland? How can deficits in human rights standards be addressed? Other jurisdictions will be looked at as comparators in efforts to answer these questions.

LA6112 International Protection of Intellectual Property Rights (Dr Alan Cusack & Dr John Lombard)

The module will review the different forms of intellectual property – patent, trademark, and copyright — and the methods by which rights arise. The limitations of those rights will also be reviewed as well as the constraints arising from the exercise

of those rights. Methods of registration of intellectual property (IP) rights will also be examined as will the international protections available for IP rights and the remedies available for breaches of the various types of IP rights. Industrial designs and the EC initiatives in IP will also be covered.

LA6121 Law of the European Convention on Human Rights (Dr Andrea Ryan)

The module will explore the influence and progress of the most developed regional mechanism for human rights protection. Convention rights will be examined on an article-by-article basis providing a critical assessment of the development of each right and its treatment by the European Court of Human Rights. At the end of the course, students will be familiar with the articles and case law of the European Convention on Human Rights, and the additional protocols and will have gained a comprehensive understanding of the practice and procedure of the European Court of Human Rights.

LA6132 International Criminal Law (Dr Ger Coffey)

This module will explore the development and influence of international criminal law and critically engage with the established principles of international law as they relate to the protection of human rights. The emphasis will be on practical elements such as the engagement of international criminal law in attempts to redress gross violations of human rights. Recent developments such as the establishment of the United Nations ad hoc tribunals and the ICC will be examined and assessed.

LA6142 Policing and Human Rights (Dr Ger Coffey)

Unlike traditional courses on policing, this course places human rights at the core of the issue. It works from the premise that at the heart of policing is the need to balance the rights of all members of society (as Patten said 'policing is human rights'). Considering first the history of policing, questions as to the functions of the police, and thereby the role of human rights, will emerge. Three core issues will then be covered: police occupational subculture, police powers, and police accountability. Each will be analysed from a rights-centred approach, encouraging students to analyse traditional

police studies more critically. Taking Ireland as the central country of analysis, systems and research from other countries will also be discussed.

LA6171 - Law of Regulated Digital Technologies (Prof Ray Friel)

This module will deal with the regulation and control of purely digital technologies such as search engines, social media sites and similar technologies. The module will distinguish between regulated digital technologies that operate in the open as distinct from hidden networks. It will examine the role of competition law in these digital technologies including monopoly or dominant position within the sector and the relevant market in a global context. It will apply the rules for defining the relevant market and determining market share. It will examine the legal requirement for abuse or harm in the context of the provision of services for free to the end user but the upstream commercialisation through paid advertising. The module will then examine the application of normative rules with respect to the activities of these technologies including defamation, the right to privacy and copyright breach under national laws including Ireland, the EU and the US. Finally it will conclude with the application of criminal or quasi criminal regulation of activities undertaken on these platforms including control of radicalisation, fake news, racism and hate crimes.

LA6181 - Law of International Trade Organisations (Prof Ray Friel)

This course will introduce students to the historical evolution of the legal provisions, relating to international trade, ranging from the Hanseatic League up to the period after World War II which establishes the modern global trading environment. It will briefly discuss the differing theories of international trade. The course will then examine the following institutions, their legal basis and operation and their legal control over international trade. 1. The WTO, its precursor (GATT) the establishing Treaty and the rules on accession and secession, the governance structure of the organisation, the interaction of its decisions and rules with national laws and the role it plays in dispute resolution between signatory states. 2. Regional trading organisations such as NAFTA (North American Free Trade Association) and the EU (European Union), in particular the legal basis of establishment, the interaction between national laws and the role of the regional trading organisation as arbiter, the process of dispute resolution between members of the regional organisation and the hierarchy of laws and issues of primacy

between competing regulations. 3. UN bodies engaged in assisting the development of international trade, including UNCITRAL (United Nations Commission on International Trade Law) its role in providing a uniform legal environment within which international trade occurs and UNCTAD (the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development). 4. National enforcement agencies, such as CBP (Customs and Border Protection (USA)) and the EU approach, their role and function and the extra-territoriality of their legal powers. Finally the course will look at ethical and sustainable movements in international trade and their incorporation into national and regional legal systems.

LA6191 - Law of International Business Associations (Prof Ray Friel)

An overview of the historical development of the corporate structure in western commercial law from the early state based trading corporations to the rise of private enterprise units. This will be coupled with an introduction to theoretical frameworks of business structures and their legal regulation An introduction to modern business structures that operate on an international level, including sole trader, registered companies, real estate investment trusts, special purpose entities, joint ventures, franchise arrangements and distribution networks. The legal process of creating different business structures in different jurisdictions. The concept of residency, centre of management, and the determination of corporate citizenship. The historical development of corporate formation in the USA, the role of the Delaware corporation in US interstate commerce, modern formation processes in US corporate law. Corporate frameworks in the European Union in particular the European Company (SE), The evolution of corporate governance structures in the European Union at both State and European level, including aspects of the "Smart Regulation in the European Union" agenda Corporate formation in China as totally foreign owned entities and the role of joint ventures in corporate formation. Governance issues in Europe, the USA and China, the role of shareholders and investors, restrictions on management, the integration of Labour into corporate oversight and development and the different institutions involved in enforcing corporate governance provisions including the effect of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act in the USA Cross border mergers and acquisitions, including national control over corporate ownership in protected sectors, such as the press, transportation and other related areas.

LA6202 Youth Crime (Eoin O'Meara-Daly)

This cross-disciplinary offering will blend legal\policy\social science perspectives on youth crime and offer the distinctive element of dealing with real world issues. Students will be equipped with the knowledge to critically examine youth crime in an Irish context from a legal, policy and sociological perspective with human rights as a core focus. The module will build on prior learning for law and sociology students and be applied in a specific youth crime context. Students will be encouraged to bring the experiences of their differing disciplines to bear on the module. Students from the various intakes will be encouraged to expose theoretical positions to practical realities. It is envisaged that the module will initially serve as an elective within the LLM/MA Criminal Justice and Human Rights programme, the LLM General and the MA Sociology (Youth, Community & Social Regeneration).

LA6182 Using Evidence to Improve Societal Outcomes in the Real World (Dr Johnny Connolly)

This module considers what it means for professionals who serve society (e.g. public officials, non-governmental organisations etc) to be evidence-informed, what the value is for citizens, and the practicalities of such an approach. In exploring the role of evidence, identifying and addressing complex social problems and issues, it will introduce participants to debates about the nature of evidence, and invite critical reflection on the theoretical, conceptual and practical tools for developing evidence-informed strategies for change.

LA5051 Advanced Legal Research Skills (Online)

The aim of this online module is to equip students with the skills necessary to engage in sustained research in law at postgraduate level. The focus will be on assessing the relative merits of the various methodologies used in legal research, as well as developing research skills of and training in research ethics. The module provides students with the ability to conduct high-level research in both common and civil law systems. Through this course, students will become familiar with primary and secondary source materials in common and civil law jurisdictions, electronic databases, and quantitative and qualitative analysis. On successful completion of this module, students will be able to use research libraries in Anglo-American and

Continental jurisdictions as well as online databases (Lexis, Westlaw, Firstlaw, and Justis), the internet, and the European Documentation Centre.

LA6332 Dissertation Methodology (Online)

This online module aims to provide students with the ability to write high-level research. It will cover areas such as writing styles, citation standards, and formatting as well as different methodological approaches. On successful completion of this module, students will be able to: identify the key styles for dissertation research and dissertation writing, differentiate between the key stages in dissertation research collection and the dissertation writing process, and critique the effectiveness of different dissertation writing methodologies.

LA6161 Advanced Crime and Criminal Justice (Online) (Dr Ger Coffey)

The module aims to provide students with a critical insight into crime and criminal justice. The module will combine theoretical inquiry with the reality of the criminal justice process. It will critically evaluate the institutions, agencies and operation of the criminal justice process including the historical development of the criminal justice process; models of criminal justice; criminal justice values and policies; influence of European institutions on the criminal justice process; diversion of youth offenders from the criminal justice process and prosecutorial discretion; sentence management and the treatment of offenders; conditions of imprisonment; scrutiny of the prison system: judicial review, visiting committees, prisons and places of detention. The module is a study of major components of criminal justice, which include concepts of law and crime, the criminal justice process, and overview of criminal justice agencies, current criminal justice policy documents, interactions and conflicts between criminal justice agencies.

LA5062 Using Evidence to Improve Societal Outcomes in the Real World (Online) (Dr Johnny Connolly)

This module considers what it means for professionals who serve society (e.g. public officials, non-governmental organisations etc) to be evidence-informed, what the value is for citizens, and the practicalities of such an approach. In exploring the role of evidence, identifying and addressing complex social problems and issues, it will introduce participants to debates about the nature of evidence, and invite critical reflection on the

theoretical, conceptual and practical tools for developing evidence-informed strategies for change.

LA5092 Youth Crime (Online) (Eoin O'Meara-Daly)

This cross-disciplinary offering will blend legal\policy\social science perspectives on youth crime and offer the distinctive element of dealing with real world issues. Students will be equipped with the knowledge to critically examine youth crime in an Irish context from a legal, policy and sociological perspective with human rights as a core focus. The module will build on prior learning for law and sociology students and be applied in a specific youth crime context. Students will be encouraged to bring the experiences of their differing disciplines to bear on the module. Students from the various intakes will be encouraged to expose theoretical positions to practical realities. It is envisaged that the module will initially serve as an elective within the LLM/MA Criminal Justice and Human Rights programme, the LLM General and the MA Sociology (Youth, Community & Social Regeneration).

LA5061 Penology and Victimology (Online) (Prof. Shane Kilcommins and Dr Alan Cusack)

The purpose of this module is to provide students with an understanding of punishment, criminal justice and social regulation. In particular the aims of the module are to provide analyses of the primary penal disposals (both contemporary and historical) used in society; highlight the various political, social, cultural and economic determinants that underpin the provision of penal dispositions; encourage theorisation about punishment and penal responses; highlight the needs and concerns of victims of crime; determine how change is possible in the penal complex, in particular, how sanctions are modified or supplanted and how stakeholders, such as victims, emerge; examine new 'logics' and 'discourses' on punishment and justice as they emerge; and, provide a framework of understanding modern penal systems and the forms of social organisation in which they operate.

LA6141 Criminal Justice Processes and Sentencing (Online) (Dr Ger Coffey)

This course will consider the various stages of the criminal justice process from arrest to trial to sentence, and the various disposal mechanisms. These will be analysed through a framework of human rights to identify the strengths and weakness of the different stages



and assess the compatibility of the Irish system with human rights obligations. What human rights are involved in the criminal justice system? How are the rights of the accused and the victim balanced within the system? What challenges does the system face in an increasingly diverse Ireland? How can deficits in human rights standards be addressed? Other jurisdictions will be looked at as comparators to answer these questions.

LA6222 Postgraduate Human Rights Law (Online)

The aim of this module is to provide students with an understanding of the workings and jurisprudence of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR). The central focus will be upon the application of the ECHR at an international level, but the module will also examine relevant Irish jurisprudence and case law within the various topics.

## 8. GENERAL

### **Communications With Staff**

Please listen to, and follow, instructions given by faculty. In the event that many individuals in a class do not understand something or cannot locate class materials, please ask the class representative to contact the lecturer on behalf of the entire class, rather than doing so individually.

Students contacting members of faculty or administrators by email are expected to write in a polite, clear, and formal manner. Failure to maintain polite and professional standards of communication will be regarded as a disciplinary matter.

While students may request feedback from their lecturers on assignments, it is inappropriate to contact lecturers and make representations about exam performance. Communications outlining to lecturers the consequences for a student of receiving one grade or another, or any lobbying as regards grade recheck requests, are highly inappropriate.

In the event that a lecturer is put under such pressure by a student making representations (or anyone else doing so on their behalf) their exam script can be directed to another internal or external faculty member for assessment, at the discretion of the Head of the School of Law.

Students may approach faculty members for academic references when applying for further study or jobs. We recommend first approaching your academic adviser as they will generally have had the most contact with you and will be most familiar with your work.

### **Teaching & Learning**

In the taught programmes, individual Module Coordinators determine how to teach their classes. Most, however, are conducted through a combination of lectures and seminar discussions. Owing to public health guidelines concerning covid-19 and the overriding need to safeguard the safety of students and staff at the University of Limerick, some taught postgraduate modules will be delivered online via the School of Law's web-based learning platform, Sulis, for the 2021/2022 academic year. Module coordinators will advise candidates about these arrangements where appropriate.

## School of Law Graduate Student Handbook 2021/2022

There is a heavy emphasis on independent research throughout all of the School of Law's taught postgraduate programmes. Students should read assigned texts in advance of their classes and be prepared to constructively discuss the readings in class. Students are expected to contribute in class in the appropriate, academic manner and to listen and respond respectfully to the views of others.

The School has a strict policy on non-discrimination, and discriminatory comments will not be tolerated by members of faculty. The aim is to create a positive learning environment in which all students are free to express and discuss their informed opinions. Assessment for each module (including penalties for late submission of work) will be determined by the Module Coordinator and should be outlined early in the semester. Most classes require written assessment and presentations, but examinations are also possible. The School of Law operates an extensive external evaluation of exam scripts. A recheck facility is available by submission of a form which can be obtained from Student Services. In general, due to the role of the external examiner, it is normally true to say that grades are seldom changed after a recheck form has been submitted. Students should note that the deposit paid to Student Services for the recheck is not refundable if the grade is unaltered by the lecturer. In addition, they should be aware that the relevant grade may be lowered as the result of the recheck. Repeat examinations are available in accordance with the rules prescribed in the [Undergraduate Student Handbook](#).

### **Computing & Email**

Students will have access to computing facilities in the main library. Students will be provided with a University email address on registration. This is the email address to which all course-related correspondence will be sent. Therefore, students are expected to check this regularly (ideally daily) otherwise you may miss notifications about changes to schedules, or emails from your supervisor etc.

### **Supporting Materials**

Lecturers may use [SULIS](#) to distribute supporting course materials. Sulis is a virtual learning environment designed to enhance teaching, learning, collaboration, and

## School of Law Graduate Student Handbook 2021/2022

communication. In addition to posting course materials, lecturers can post links to relevant materials, audio files, and websites, post information notices, and encourage interaction through chat rooms and forums. Your student number and password provide access.

## 9. LIBRARY RESOURCES

Pattie Punch is the librarian for the Law Library, which can be found on the second floor of the library. She can assist you in looking for particular texts or conducting more general research. The library has a wide range of law reports and academic texts. As criminal justice is an interdisciplinary area, many of the related texts are shelved in different areas. The government documents area may also be of use to you. Many of the law reports, law journals and sources are now available electronically, but a good grounding in the paper versions will make searching electronically more accurate and efficient. Familiarity with paper and electronic sources are complementary. Through the [UL Library](#) website, you can gain access to a vast number of documents, including case reports and academic journals. UL subscribes to the following:

- Firstlaw. Irish unreported judgements and legislation.
- Hein Online. Extensive back runs of legal journals, American legislation, and case law.
- Justis. Irish case law, UK legislation and case law, EU legislation and case law, and human rights law.
- Lexis. US, UK, Commonwealth, Irish and international case law, and some legislation. Extensive full-text back runs of journal articles, legal reference materials and some books, abstracts, indexes, and newspapers.
- Westlaw. EU, UK, US and international legislation and cases, legal journal index, and full-text links to journal articles.

Institutional websites also provide authoritative access to full texts, usually starting from 1996, check out [International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia](#) and [ICTR](#) as examples for what is possible for institutions born in the digital age. Many institutions are re-engineering their archives for electronic access; it is an enormous task, so seek e-versions first and know that we can deliver paper versions through inter-library loans if the e-version is not yet available. To achieve this, students should go directly to a relevant research institution's website and then search its archives from there. General search engines often cannot index the content of institutional databases and give false-negative results.

Google is emerging as a distribution process for academic materials, but it does not aim to be complete, so exercise extreme caution and judgement. Use Advanced Google and refine by format, or domain, almost all official publications will be in PDF format but check to be sure that the sites you retrieve information from are institutional or authoritative. Use Google Scholar to search for academic articles, use Google Print to search for digitised books. Use it from within UL, and you will have full-text access to many of the journals we subscribe to. **Use it from home and those links will not work because Google recognises the UL IP address.** Google is not a shortcut to serious legal research skills, nor is it stable, mature, or as reliable as the databases and journals; it has both uses and limitations!

### Remote Access or Access from Home

The UL Library seeks to make electronic information accessible off campus as much as possible. Go the [Glucksman Library website](#) and follow the links from there. We use a secure server and your current UL ID and password to validate access to the databases through the UL remote access gateway. The library information desk phone 061202166 will help with access problems from 9.00–21.00hrs. Anybody accessing remote access from a company system could face problems from the company's firewall, please check with your company's IT expert about their firewall.

### Training in Legal Information Databases

Library staff can help solve problems with one-to-one or class training/workshops. Faculty normally organise class training or workshops as appropriate during the term so check with them and call to the information desk in the library with individual problems.

### Borrowing Rights

As a postgraduate student, you have the following borrowing rights at any one time:

- General Lending 10 items
- 3 Day Loan 1 item
- Short Loan 1 item

- Reprints 1 item

In addition, when you are looking for an item which is not in the UL Library, postgraduate students are entitled to up to five inter-library loans in the academic year. The inter-library loan office is situated on the ground floor of the library on the left just as you walk in, and they can order books, theses, or articles from other libraries for you. Journal articles can be delivered electronically where available; otherwise, you will be given a hard copy which you can keep. The borrowing period on books or theses will vary between 1–6 weeks.

As a postgraduate student, you are also entitled to two cards (ALCID and SCONUL) which will help you gain access to libraries in other universities should you wish to visit to do research. The ALCID allows access only to university libraries in Ireland, excluding Maynooth and DCU. The SCONUL research extra card allows research students, PhD or full master's students to visit and borrow books in 125 libraries across the UK and Ireland (though not Trinity College Dublin, where ALCID is accepted). Details on the above cards can be found on the library website and applied for at the Library Service Desk.

Many North American and European libraries allow visiting use, but some charge for access and others are very strict. Check the library webpage of any library you would like to visit or use. Be aware also that access rules can change at exam times or the start of terms or holidays. The library can provide letters of introduction or make email contact. Library visits will not include access to licensed electronic information or their network.

### **Institutional Repositories**

More and more academic institutions are providing institutional repositories for their scholars to make publications and conference papers more accessible. More faculty are seizing the opportunity to distribute articles and conferences there. The general rule is the last version before formal publication, so the version will be proofread and reviewed. Most repositories are searchable through Google Scholar, but it is worth going directly to a specific institutional repository for a scholar's work.

## 10. Personal details

### **Change of Address**

Students should inform the School of Law and Student Academic Administration of any change of address, or other communication details, immediately.

### **Illness/Exceptional Personal Circumstances**

Should any personal matters arise that interfere with a student's progress on one of the School's graduate programmes, he or she should speak immediately with the Course Director as assistance may be available. If illness affects the writing of an essay, for example, a student should contact the Module Coordinator. Similarly, if a student falls ill during the summer months, he or she should contact the appointed supervisor immediately as this may impede his or her work. Extensions may be possible on the production of a medical certificate.



## 11. AWARDS & PRIZES

The School of Law offers an excellent opportunity and motivation to our Law students. Winning any one of these prizes and scholarships will greatly enhance your CV, and we are all very grateful to the sponsors of these prizes for their altruism and generosity.

### **PhD Funding Opportunities**

The School of Law traditionally makes available one Postgraduate Research Fellowship - the 'Honourable Mr. Justice John Murray, PhD Fellowship' - for a doctoral student who is conducting legal research. This scholarship comprises an EU fee waiver plus a €5000 stipend for one year initially, up to a maximum of 3 years subject to successful academic progress. In addition, the School of Law offers a Fee Award annually to a minimum of one doctoral student. This award comprises an EU fee waiver in return for up to five hours research support/tutoring per week for ten weeks of each semester. Full details of these scholarships and fee waivers can be found on the [AHSS blog](#).

### **LLM/MA Funding Opportunities**

The School of Law traditionally grants a half-fee waiver award to one candidate on each of the School's LLM (General) and LLM (International Commercial Law) taught postgraduate degrees.

### **Eversheds Solicitors**

This international corporate law firm offers a very generous scholarship to the student registering for the LLM in International Commercial Law with the highest undergraduate degree award.

Further information on how to fund your postgraduate degree can be found here: <https://www.ul.ie/gps/about/funding-your-postgraduate-degree#scholarships>

## 12. DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES

The University of Limerick is committed to providing equal access to learning opportunities for students with documented disabilities. To ensure reasonable accommodations are in place during your programme of study, please contact [Disability Support Services](#) to engage in a confidential conversation about the process for requesting reasonable accommodations in the classroom, exams, and clinical settings. Reasonable accommodations are not provided retrospectively. Students are encouraged to register with Disability Support Services as early as possible. The University of Limerick encourages students to access all resources available through Disability Support Services for consistent support and access to their programmes. More information can be found online at [Disability Support Services](#). Contact can also be made with the office by phone on 061 213478 or by email at [disabilityservices@ul.ie](mailto:disabilityservices@ul.ie)

## 13. DISSERTATIONS/THESES

### Taught Programme Dissertations

Research and writing are both essential to graduate study. Based on independent research under the supervision of a member of faculty, LLM and MA students will complete a dissertation approximately 15,000 words in length (including footnotes, but not the bibliography and annexed material).

The dissertation should comply with [University Regulations for Masters Degrees](#). Two hard-bound copies must be submitted by the end of the September following the completion of the programme's taught modules. The late submission of a dissertation can result in missing the January graduations and/or additional fees.

### Choosing a Topic

Full-time students should choose a dissertation topic as early as possible in the second semester of their study. They may choose a topic linked to their taught modules, but they are not limited to those subjects.

Dissertation topics may involve:

- Hard law, i.e. the examination of cases and legislation with a view to enhancing the understanding of law on a given subject
- Law and policy, i.e. the critical examination of political, economic, or social policy behind the law on a given subject
- Law and society, i.e. the critical examination of how the law on a given subject operates in practice and/or its social implications
- Law and philosophy, i.e. the critical examination of philosophical perspectives on law generally or on specific areas of law

This list is neither exhaustive nor exclusive. Dissertations will frequently combine these different possibilities.

While some detail will be required at the outset, your topic need not be comprehensively outlined at that point. Often the particular focus of the dissertation will only become apparent after substantial research. Nevertheless, the earlier a student begins to consider

their work, the more efficiently they will organise their research and the more likely it is that they will produce competent work in a timely fashion.

It is not sufficient, for example, if a student wants to complete a dissertation on competition law. They have to know the area of competition they want to focus on. Alternatively, if their interest is on competition law generally, they will need to know the perspective they want to take on an analysis of competition regimes. It may not even be sufficient to know the area of competition you want to focus on. For example, 'The Law Relating to Abuse of a Dominant Position' may be too broad. The student will want to know which aspect of that law they want to focus on or what perspective they want to take on it.

The difficulty defining a topic usually relates to what the student wants to research about the topic, as opposed to identifying the topic itself. In other words, they might have no difficulty in saying that they want to do a dissertation on the abuse of a dominant position or on the legal definition of abuse in the context of a dominant position but have no idea what issue or issues they are going to research on that topic (beyond what the actual law is). The value of the dissertation lies primarily on what new perspectives the student can offer. Therefore, it is essential that they have a reasonably clear idea at the outset what it is about the chosen topic that they wish to research, i.e. the dominant theme or issue to be investigated.

This theme or issue can vary widely. It may be, for example, that the student wants to investigate a perceived difference in Anglo-American and Continental approaches to the topic. Alternatively, they may see a conceptual difference in the approach taken in two jurisdictions and wish to investigate how that is reflected in their respective laws, how it came about, and what the implications are. Yet again, the student might feel that the laws in several jurisdictions reflect certain underlying policy choices that conflict with concepts of justice or economic theory or the practice of the market, etc. Perhaps an empirical study of some aspects of the operation of the laws will form the centrepiece of the dissertation. And so on; the possibilities are almost endless. The bottom line is that the student should not merely identify a fairly narrowly defined topic, but should also know, at least broadly, what they want to research about that topic. Ideas will come from a wide variety of sources. They may be triggered by class, an academic article, a textbook, a case report, a newspaper article, proposed or enacted legislation, public debate, their employment, discussion with your colleagues and faculty, etc.

Once the student has identified a possible idea, they should discuss it with anyone prepared to listen, ideally (but not solely) a potential supervisor. Usually, they will have to do some preliminary reading to assess what might be involved and whether there is scope to do a useful dissertation on it. Attempting to describe their research in writing is probably the most effective means of thinking critically and realistically about it. An adviser and/or potential supervisor will also be able to offer more concrete and valuable advice on the basis of a written proposal.

On the basis of preliminary research and the advice of colleagues and faculty, a one-page outline proposal will be prepared for submission to a supervisor. In doing this, it is a good idea to line up a potential supervisor. Students should discuss proposed dissertation topics with as many relevant faculty members as possible.

### **The Outline Proposal**

The proposal should be structured as follows:

1. Introduction
2. Objective
3. Methodology
4. Bibliography

The introduction should give the reader a context in which they can appreciate the importance of the law and issues that will be discussed in the dissertation. The student should approach it from the basis that the reader is an intelligent person with an understanding of law and legal issues, but no specific knowledge of the substance or the role of the law relevant to the dissertation topic. In the case of a dissertation on some aspect of the law, abuse of a dominant position, for example, the introduction should sketch very broadly what competition law is in terms of content, where it is laid down and what role it plays. It should also give background information necessary to understand the relevance of the particular issues to be discussed in the dissertation. The objective should identify precisely what the student will be researching and discussing in the dissertation. It is best to get as much intelligible detail in here as possible, including a statement of the area of law, the problem, policy, perspective, issue, etc. to be addressed

concerning the law, the significance of that problem, policy, etc., and the jurisdictions to be covered. It is not necessary to flag the conclusions the student expects to reach. If relevant, however, it might be useful to state what you expect to find in terms of a thesis. It is not necessary at this stage to identify specific chapters. Nevertheless, it should be possible to deduce from the statement of objectives how many chapters there are likely to be and, very broadly, their subject matter.

More often than not, the methodology will be confined to library research through primary and secondary sources, electronic databases, the internet, etc. For some dissertations, interviews and/or empirical research will be necessary. Where this is the case, the student should explain their relevance to the dissertation and the way in which they will be conducted. Do not underestimate the time that it takes to do these things properly. As a general rule, the student should not state that they are going to do interviews or empirical research unless it is justified given the subject matter of the dissertation.

In your bibliography, identify the main sources—both primary and secondary—that you anticipate using at this stage.

## **Supervision**

Once you submit your proposal, a supervisor will be assigned to you. Additional information will be provided in the Dissertation Methodology module. Students should arrange to meet with their supervisor soon after they have been allocated and maintain regular contact with them. It is the student's responsibility to arrange meetings. The role of the supervisor is to guide in planning and conducting the research, to ensure that the project is manageable, to advise on relevant literature and research methods (where necessary), and to read and comment on a draft of each chapter and/or one complete draft of the thesis. It is not the job of the supervisor to provide a topic, an outline, or a reading list. Both the supervisor and student have rights and responsibilities and should discuss the supervisory relationship in their first meeting. Further detail about the supervision process can be found in the [\*School of Law Dissertation Supervision Procedures Policy\*](#).

## Working on the Dissertation

It is important for the student to work closely with their supervisor, especially in the early stages. Ideally, the student should identify a concrete issue or chapter in the dissertation that they can begin to research and write on immediately. They should attempt to write up the issue or chapter in draft form as research on it occurring. At the first opportunity—no later than one month—submit a draft to their supervisor for critical comment. They should continue this process until they are in a position to submit a final draft of the entire dissertation to the supervisor. This must be done well in advance of the final submission deadline in order to allow the supervisor time to read and reflect on the draft and provide feedback to the students.

Students might also consult Jennifer Schweppe, Ronan Kennedy, and Larry Donnelly, *How to Think, Write and Cite: Key Skills for Irish Law Students* 2<sup>nd</sup> edn (Round Hall 2016). The text provides useful advice on legal study and research and includes OSCOLA Ireland. A companion website ([www.legalwriting.ie](http://www.legalwriting.ie)) contains additional resources and assessment tools.

## Format

The dissertation should be presented in the following format:

- Typed
- A4
- 1.5 spacing
- Times New Roman 12
- Sufficient margin on the left to ensure that it can be read after binding (4cm left/2.5cm right)
- Title page
- Acknowledgements
- Author's Declaration
- Statement of Ethics: 'I understand the ethical implications of my research, and this work meets the requirements of the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Research Ethics Committee.'
- Contents

- Concise summary
- Chapters, in numerical order, title and chapter number at the top of page, footnotes at the bottom of page, numbered pages, use headings and subheadings
- Annexes, only if strictly necessary, do not annex material that is easily accessible in the library, e.g. Irish legislation
- Bibliography

## Research Theses

Information on thesis supervision, research and writing, completion, submission, and examination is available in the [Handbook of Academic Regulations and Procedures](#) (see Important Links).

### Areas of Supervision

#### Dr Lydia Bracken

- Child & Family law
- European human rights
- Reproductive law

#### Dr Laura Cahillane

- Constitutional law
- Legal history
- Judicial politics
- Comparative law

#### Dr Gerard Coffey

- Criminal law, justice, procedure, and sentencing processes
- Codification of the criminal law
- History and development of criminal law and criminal justice
- Double jeopardy and *ne bis in idem*
- International criminal law
- Judicial review in criminal matters
- Policing and human rights

#### Dr Alan Cusack



## School of Law Graduate Student Handbook 2021/2022

- Criminal process
- Victimology
- Disability law
- Jurisprudence
- Penology
- Access to justice

### **Dr Laura Donnellan**

- Sport and the Law
- Animals and Sport
- Animal Welfare
- EU Law

### **Sinead Eaton**

- Commercial Law
- Company Law
- Corporate Finance
- Competition Law

### **Dr Margaret Fitzgerald-O'Reilly**

- Criminal justice
- Criminology
- Penology
- The treatment & management of offenders
- Social & legal exclusion
- Techniques of punishment
- Sentencing
- Crime control policies

### **Prof. Raymond Friel**

- Commercial law
- Contract law
- Anti-trust/competition law
- EU Law
- Legal education

### **Eddie Keane**

- Employment law
- Commercial law
- Tort law

### **Prof. Shane Kilcommins**

- Penology
- Criminology
- Criminal justice history
- Criminal Procedure
- Evidence Law
- Legal Philosophy
- Victimology

**Dr Susan Leahy**

- Criminal justice with an emphasis on sexual violence & victims of crime
- Family law with a particular emphasis on domestic abuse & marriage

**Dr John Lombard**

- Medical Law
- Bioethics
- Intellectual property

**Prof. Paul McCutcheon**

- Criminal law, in particular principles of the general part, theories of criminal responsibility, & interdisciplinary approaches
- Legal theory, approaches to adjudication
- Sports Law

**Dr Kathryn O'Sullivan**

- Family Law
- Property Law
- Succession Law

**Eoin Quill**

- Tort focusing on the methodology and structure in the analysis of the legal principles governing compensation claims
- Civil obligations encompassing contract torts and restitution.

**Prof. Sean Redmond**

- Youth crime & youth justice (with emphasis on serious crime and criminal networks)
- 'Wicked' and complex policy problems
- Programme evaluation
- Research & evaluation methodologies
- Governance in public services
- Practical Theory
- Evidence<sup>3</sup>-informed policy-making

**Dr Andrea Ryan**

- Comparative Criminal Justice
- EU Criminal Justice
- Law of evidence
- Sentencing
- Criminal Law

**Dr Jennifer Schweppe**

- Hate crime
- Reproductive justice
- Hate studies
- Hate crime
- Minoritised communities and the law
- Abortion and the law
- Medical consent
- Criminal procedure

**Dr Eimear Spain**

- Health law
- Criminal law
- Constitutional law
- Intellectual property law
- Law and emotions
- Administrative law

**Dr Una Woods**

- Property law
- The law of trusts
- Conveyancing law
- Succession law
- Matrimonial property law

## 14. CITATION & PLAGIARISM

### OSCOLA IRELAND

OSCOLA Ireland (<http://legalcitation.ie/>) is the Law School's house style. It provides writing style requirements appropriate to law, a standard system of citation, and general information on citing your sources. Students are required to follow it in their writing.

Adequate referencing is essential in written work. It is important to present the evidence for arguments made and establish that they are based on credible sources. Referencing also allows the reader to follow up on the sources to which a reference is made. Finally, unreferenced work is open to the charge of being unoriginal, derivative, or plagiarised. Poorly referenced work is unimpressive, fails to convince and, in an academic context, loses marks.

The University also offers two reference manager packages, RefWorks and Endnote, which work with Word and allow you to cite while you write. Endnote has a filter for OSCOLA, that allows students to store their legal bibliographies. Access and training for both of these are provided through the library. Graduate students are strongly encouraged to familiarise themselves with one of these packages. This will be invaluable for the extensive work done on a graduate course, especially the dissertation.

### Plagiarism

Students should note that plagiarism is the representation, whether intentionally or through negligence, of the words or ideas of another as your own and is an offence under the UL Code of Conduct and Academic Regulations.

The use of direct quotations must be indicated in the text (by quotation marks or, where appropriate, a block quotation) and in a pinpoint citation in a footnote. Use of the ideas of others may be paraphrased but must also be cited in a footnote. Information that could reasonably be considered common knowledge need not be attributed to a single author unless that author is the source of your information on the subject. Do not cite originals unless you have read them yourself.

The following are examples of instances in which a footnote must be given:

- Where factual information or data found in a source is used
- Where a word-for-word quote is given (quotation marks also required)
- Where another author's ideas, opinions, interpretations or conclusions are summarised, paraphrased, or otherwise used
- Where a source's distinctive structure, organising strategy, or method is used
- Where some aspect of another author's work is mentioned, even in passing. All sources are to be identified through footnotes in the body of the essay and a bibliography at the end. The latter alone is insufficient.

## 15. APPENDIX: RESEARCH ETHICS

### Ethical Considerations in Research

The fundamental principle underlying the guidelines is that all research activities involving the use of human beings participating in research must be reviewed and approved by the FAHSS Research Ethics Committee. Researchers may not solicit participation or begin data collection until they have received ethical approval from the Research Ethics Committee (REC).

It is the duty of all students to ensure that their project is ethically sound. Where the research does not involve human participants, this will be done as part of the Author's Declaration, which should include a statement to the effect that 'I understand the ethical implications of my research, and this work meets the requirements of the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Research Ethics Committee.' All applications that require ethical approval are sent to [FAHSSethics@ul.ie](mailto:FAHSSethics@ul.ie) by the deadlines posted on [AHSS Ethics - Home \(sharepoint.com\)](#). The student would fill out the same application form, whether they are answering 'Yes' or 'No' to any of the questions.

Applications that have 'Yes' to any of the questions are the ones that the REC review. Applications that have 'No' answered to all the questions are the ones sent by REC Administrator to each department representative for them to review and send their comments back to the Chair of the REC.

Where students have sought and received ethical approval, they should include evidence of this (such as an email from the Committee) in their thesis.

If any student conducts research on human participants without ethical approval, this could be a disciplinary matter and may have an impact on the grade received. The actual decision will be made on a case-by-case basis and decided by the relevant course board.