



External Examiners' Report

2020/2021

General details

Unit

Civil & Criminal Litigation (Corporate, Commercial & Private),
Dispute Resolution Knowledge, Dispute Resolution, Personal Injury
and Clinical Negligence, LLM Professional Practice Research Report
Assessment, Professional Conduct & Regulation.

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10th November 2021

1 Report Checklist

Have you received:

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YES

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2 Academic Issues

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Civil and Criminal Litigation, Dispute Resolution

There are a variety of assessments set in this general area of Dispute Resolution, catering for resitters who are assessed in older versions of the module, up to current students who are assessed in Dispute Resolution papers. The papers clearly vary in terms of format and mark allocation but maintain standards of rigour, coverage and realism in spite of their differences. The standards expected of students have been consistently high and entirely appropriate for this level of award.

Professional Conduct & Regulation

g mu In addition to discrete questions set in the context of the core subject papers, Professional Conduct & Regulation is also assessed with a multiple choice paper.

There is a lot of care that seems to go into the drafting of the questions in the multiple choice paper. The 'distractors' are good enough to catch the unwary, while the scenarios are not untypical of situations that trainees may come across in practice. The discrete questions in the core subject assessments that I have seen are similarly practical and realistic. There is ample coverage of Financial Services issues.

Overall, the standard and range of questions are appropriate for v n til i trd. 0



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Assessments are prepared by dedicated design teams and their assessments are scrutinised, invariably, with great care. It is very helpful for an external examiner to see the draft and the scrutiny process that preceded it and I commend the University for this transparency – it avoids unnecessary repetition of matters that have already been considered as well as boosting confidence in the process as a whole.

Detailed marking guides always accompany assessments, as well as detailed feedback sheets that must be very useful for students, especially for those who fail the assessment. The guides are very detailed. This must be invaluable in ensuring consistency of marking, as well as making it more straightforward for externals to judge the marking standard. There is often an explanation of the rationale behind the assessment and how the assessment satisfies learning outcomes. There is clearly care taken to ensure that the assessments are linked to the teaching programme so that the questions are fair in relation to each of the study centres.

I still find it very rare to come across even small errors in the papers and I commend the designers for the high level of drafting consistency they achieve. In the case of Dispute Resolution in particular, the range of different styles of assessments has made consistency a challenge. But I feel the challenge has been one the designers have risen to.

Overall, all the assessments I have seen have been appropriate to test the learning outcomes of this course.



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Detailed statistical analyses accompany each marked assessment and allow comparison of performance between students, between study centres, and often between individual questions in an assessment. This makes it easy



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