



Contract Law (Advanced) Course Descriptor

Course	Contract Law (Advanced)	Faculty	Law
Course Code	NCHLW549	Course Leader	Stephen Dnes
Credits Points	30	Teaching Period	Both
FHEQ Level	Level 5	Date Approved	June 2020
Compulsory/ Optional	Compulsory for Senior Status students		
Pre-requisites	None		
Co-requisites	None		

COURSE SUMMARY

The Contract Law (advanced) course enables students to develop a detailed and reflective knowledge and understanding of the principles of contract law and their application, by considering the formation of a contract, requirements for its enforceability, its terms and its subsequent discharge, and by analysing the effects of the different types of discharge and any associated remedies. Reflecting its more advanced status, the Advanced course places more emphasis on contract law theory and on more complex problem solving.

COURSE AIMS

The primary aim of the course is to fulfil the key elements and general principles of Contract Law as required by the SRA/BSB Academic Stage Handbook for a Qualifying Law Degree. Within that parameter the aims of the course are to:

- Develop and deepen the students' powers of interpretation and analysis of legislation and case law as it applies to contracts.
- Gain a reflective understanding of the different types of contract and their role in supporting transactions in a market society, so as to enhance students' understanding of later courses that require an appreciation of contractual issues.
- Evaluate how the rules of contract law can support commercial transactions and consumer activity.
- Evaluate when, how and why remedies are applied in the law of contract.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING

- K1b Analyse the legal theories, principles, doctrines, values and rules which underpin the law of contract in England and Wales.
- K2b Consider the legislation and case law as it applies to the law of contract.

COGNITIVE SKILLS

- C1b Develop knowledge and critical understanding to evaluate approaches to solving problems concerning the formation, performance and discharge of contracts.
- C2b Evaluate factual information, selecting relevant factors from possible alternatives using reasoned judgment and basic recognised contractual theories and concepts, including outside the context in which those principles have been developed.
- C3b Recognise ambiguity in the law of contract and an appreciation of the limits of knowledge.

TRANSFERABLE AND PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

- T1b Communicate accurately and reliably and with legal nuance whilst demonstrating structure and coherence in use of English and legal terminology.
- T1b Demonstrate an effective technical proficiency of written English that uses a wide range of literacy skills and vocabulary selected appropriately to communicate to specialist and non-specialist audiences.
- T2b Demonstrate ability to manage personal development of essay-writing, legal problem solving and legal research skills, including the deployment of a range of secondary material.
- T3b Undertake self-directed research using legal and other information sources, including journals and commentary, evaluating and selecting information based on reasoned criteria.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Teaching and learning strategies for this course will typically include:

- 22.5 hours of full-cohort lectures
- Eight hours of group seminars
- One 90 minute revision session

Course information and supplementary materials will be available on the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE).

Students will attend a formal meeting (a 'Collection') in which they receive comprehensive and collated feedback on their performance.

Students are required to attend and participate in all the formal and timetabled sessions for this course. Students are also expected to manage their directed learning and independent study in support of the course.

EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS

The course includes practice of many employment relevant skills, notably including factual analysis, the application of relevant precedent, and the preparation of legal advice, all of which are core skills for a practicing lawyer.

ASSESSMENT

FORMATIVE

Students will be formatively assessed during the course by means of set assignments. These will not count towards the final degree but will provide students with developmental feedback, for example helping students to become more sophisticated in their analysis of statutes and case law.

SUMMATIVE

Assessment will be in two forms:

No:	Assessment Type	Weighting	Online submission	Duration	Length
1	Written assignment	40%	Yes	N/A	2,000 words
2	Examination	60%	N/A	2 hours	N/A

FEEDBACK

Students will receive a mixture of formal and informal feedback. The informal feedback will be delivered in a variety of ways: written (via email correspondence); oral (on an *ad hoc* basis) and indirectly through discussion during group tutorials.

Formal feedback is provided on assessed assignments and through generic internal examiners' reports, both of which are posted on the VLE.

Feedback on examinations is provided through generic internal examiners' reports and are made available to the student on the VLE. For all other summative assessment methods, feedback is made available to the student either via email, the VLE or another appropriate method.

INDICATIVE READING

Note: Comprehensive and current reading lists for courses are produced annually in the Course Guide or other documentation provided to students; the indicative reading list provided below is used as part of the approval/modification process only.

BOOKS

Burrows, *A Casebook on Contract* (Hart, 7 ed. 2020).

Fried, *Contract as Promise* (Oxford University Press, 2 ed. 2015)

JOURNALS

Modern Law Review

Cambridge Law Review

Quarterly Review

ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

Westlaw, Lexis and Bailii provide access to the main cases.

INDICATIVE TOPICS

- An Overview of the Role of Contract Law
- Contractual Agreement
- Terms of a Contract
- Discharge
- Remedies
- Third Parties
- Vitiating Factors
- Illegality

Title: NCHLW549 Contract Law (Advanced)					
Approved by: Academic Board					
Location: Academic Handbook/Programme specifications and Handbooks/ Postgraduate Programme Specifications/LLB (senior status) Programme Specification/Course Descriptors					
Version number	Date approved	Date published	Owner	Proposed next review date	Modification (As per AQF4) & category number
2.1	April 2022	April 2022	Stephen Dnes	April 2025	Corrections/clarifications to documents which do not change approved content or learning outcomes
2.0	February 2022	March 2022	Stephen Dnes	April 2025	Category 3: Changes to Learning Outcomes
1.0	June 2020	June 2020	Stephen Dnes	April 2025	