

SCHOOL OF LAW 2024-2025: LLM MODULE SYLLABUS

Teaching in A23 and B23 is in two 5-week blocks with study week between them.

30 credits are taught within a single semester (10 weeks) 15 credits: Semester

A23– Blocks A **or** B (5 weeks) / Semester B23 - Blocks C **or** D (5 weeks)

Study Week falls within the two
blocks (limited teaching/events/tutorials etc.)

Semester C23 – 5-week block only (15 credits only)

Module Code:	SOLM308
Module Title:	Legal Design
Number of Credits	15
Semester and Block Taught:	Semester: 2 Block: C
Module Convenor:	<p>Karen Watton k.watton@qmul.ac.uk qLegal area 4th Floor LIF Office hours – Weds 12:00 – 1:00pm</p> <p>Clemence Tanzi c.tanzi@qmul.ac.uk qLegal area 4th Floor LIF</p>
Assessment:	2000-word essay (50%) Oral presentation (40%) Coursework (10%)
Assessment period:	See Module Description Book
Time and/or venue of taught classes:	Thurs 15:00 – 18:00, CCLS Room LG1, starting 30 January

Additional Module Information:	CAPPED at 25 – You are not eligible to take this module if you already have a place on SOLM213 or SOLM307
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Teaching Team and Contact Details

Name: Karen Watton, qLegal Director and Senior Lecturer, Clinical Legal Education	k.watton@qmul.ac.uk qLegal area 4 th Floor LIF
Name: Clemence Tanzi, qLegal Teaching Fellow	c.tanzi@qmul.ac.uk qLegal area 4 th Floor LIF

Module Overview

In this practical module, you will work in teams to solve a problem for a real client using a Legal Design approach. Legal Design is a creative problem-solving framework used by lawyers and legal innovators to help them adapt for the future of legal practice. You will learn the theory and practice of Legal Design and apply your legal knowledge to develop and deliver a prototype solution to the client. You will engage with the client and external lawyers in addition to the teaching team.

The module is run by qLegal, CCLS's award-winning pro bono commercial law clinic. Please take a look at the [qLegal website](#) to find out about our clients (start-ups and entrepreneurs), partnering law firms and the experience of past students.

The module classes run for 5 weeks, starting in January, and your client project will be completed within semester 2.

You must adhere to all qLegal practices and procedures including the signing of a Student Contract. As the module follows a 'flipped classroom' format, it is ESSENTIAL you undertake the pre- and post- class work.

The module aims to develop your ability to:

- 1) Understand client needs; research areas of law and/or practice; produce a commercially aware prototype solution that is innovative and meets the project brief,
- 2) Adopt an innovate mindset and generate creative but practical options for your client,
- 3) Communicate effectively with teammates, clients and external stakeholders, including through non-textual means
- 4) Manage time, people and workload efficiently,
- 5) With your teammates, present your prototype to the client
- 6) Learn what is expected of legal professionals in the UK, now and in the future, and
- 7) Learn how to be reflective about your own work and open to feedback from others.

The module aims to develop your appreciation of:

- 1) The changing nature of legal practice in the UK and the need for legal service providers to innovate,
- 2) The work of a legal innovators and the start-up/entrepreneur community in the UK
- 3) The importance of acting in a professional manner and upholding professional standards,
- 4) The breadth of legal challenges faced by start-up companies and entrepreneurs, and
- 5) The role of clinical legal education and Legal Design within broader legal services provision and legal tech development.

Module Weekly Syllabus

Week 1: Who is law for? And why Legal Design?	Thursday, 30 January, 15:00 to 18:00 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of Module • Analysis of legal services provision/the future of law • Theory and practice of Legal Design • Examples of Legal Design
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	<p>Sample reading:</p> <p>Legal Design as a Thing: A Theory of Change and a Set of Methods to Craft a Human-Centered Legal System by Margaret Hagan</p> <p>You will be introduced to the ‘what’ and ‘why’ of Legal Design; and taken through the Legal Design process you will follow in this module. You will be introduced to your teammates, the client and supervisors.</p>
<p>Week 2: Understanding the problem(s)</p>	<p>Thursday, 6 February, 15:00 to 18:00</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopting a Design Thinking-based mindset • From project brief to problem statement – defining the scope of the problem to be solved • Empathy and human-centred lawyering • Researching to understand • Divergent and convergent thinking <p>Sample reading:</p> <p>The potential benefits of divergent thinking and metacognitive skills in STEAM learning: A discussion paper. by Marisha McAuliffe</p> <p>You will be working in your team, understanding your client’s needs and researching relevant law and practice to enable the whole group to agree on a specific problem statement.</p>
<p>Week 3: Collaboration and creativity</p>	<p>Thursday, 13 February, 15:00 to 18:00</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-awareness • Teamworking theory and practice • Emotional Intelligence • Higher level communication skills • Creativity - theory and practice <p>Sample reading:</p> <p>Innovation in legal services: The practices that influence ideation and codification activities Jane Bourke; Stephen Roper; James H Love</p> <p>You will be exploring multiple solutions and working towards the development of a prototype.</p>

<p>Week 4: Refinement and reflection</p>	<p>Thursday 20 February, 15:00 to 18:00</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to give and receive feedback • Growth mindset and resilience • Critical thinking • Commercial awareness • Preventative law <p>Sample reading:</p> <p>Commercial awareness and the law student journey into the legal profession – definitional challenges and the lived experience of the graduate interview by Siobhan McConnell</p> <p>You will start to test and further develop your prototype within an iterative process, taking on board feedback from your client and others.</p>
<p>Week 5: Presentation and personal development.</p>	<p>Thursday 27 February, 15:00 to 18:00</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theory and practice of presenting/communicating to persuade • Reflective practice • Career options using Legal Design • How to prepare for the final module assessments <p>Sample reading:</p> <p>Enhancing learners’ awareness of oral presentation (delivery) skills in the context of self-regulated learning by Art Tsang</p> <p>This is the last week of formal meetings to select the prototype you wish to develop further and pitch to a panel of judges.</p>
<p>WEEK 6 - STUDY WEEK (Week of 3 March)</p>	
<p>Week 7:</p>	<p>You will finalise your prototype and pitch to the judging panel at a time to be confirmed in the second half of semester 2, after all the formal classes. You will also attend a final reflection session as a follow-up after the judging takes place.</p>
<p>Week 8:</p>	

Week 9:	
Week 10:	
Week 11:	

Reading List

The Legal Design Book: Doing Law in the 21st Century by Astrid Kohlmeier and Meera Klemola.
The Future of the Professions: How Technology Will Transform the Work of Human Experts, Updated Edition (2022) by Richard Susskind and Daniel Susskind

Relevant articles, pre-recorded videos and assignments relating to each class will be made available on QMplus before the module commences.
