

## MODULE DESCRIPTOR

<b>MODULE TITLE</b>	COMPARATIVE LAW		
<b>MODULE CODE</b>	LW1120(L4)	<b>CREDIT VALUE</b>	20 UK CREDITS / <u>10 ECTS</u>
<b>SCHOOL</b>	SCHOOL OF LAW		

### MODULE AIMS

This module aims to:

- Examine the purposes and methods of comparative law
- Introduce a range of legal families/traditions
- Critique the “legal families” approach to classification of legal systems and consider the alternatives
- Illustrate the process of comparison by reference to case studies
- Consider how far comparative law is useful in harmonisation/unification projects

### MODULE CONTENT

- Comparative law or comparative legal culture
- Purposes of comparison: objectivity, critique, “better law”, harmonisation
- Methods of comparison: distinctively legal, or interdisciplinary?
- Legal families: including common law, civil law and Islamic law
- Case studies: indicative examples include - civil process and the role of the judge; marriage and divorce in common law and Islamic law; topics in contract and tort
- Legal Transplants and comparative law in practice

### INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

1.	Explain the contribution of comparative law to understanding law and legal culture
2.	Assess the strengths and weakness of different methodological approaches
3.	Identify and explain significant differences between some of the main world legal systems
4.	Compare in detail two areas of law
5.	Discuss how far those comparisons may be useful in framing laws for an era of globalisation

### TEACHING METHODS

The module will be taught in a lecture/seminar format.

### ASSESSMENT METHODS

This module is assessed through a presentation and a written assignment.