1. **Title of the module**

World Trade Organisation (WTO) Law and Practice I, LAWS8470 (LW847)

1. **School or partner institution which will be responsible for management of the module**

Kent Law School

1. **The level of the module (e.g. Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 or Level 7)**

Level 7

1. **The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents**

20 credits (10 ECTS Credits)

1. **Which term(s) the module is to be taught in (or other teaching pattern)**

Autumn or Spring

1. **Prerequisite and co-requisite modules**

None

1. **The programmes of study to which the module contributes**

LLM in (Specialisation); LLM in Law; PG Diploma in (Specialisation); PG Certificate in Law

1. **The intended subject specific learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**
   1. Demonstrate systematic knowledge and understanding of the legal and regulatory order being created by the WTO.
   2. Demonstrate a critical understanding of this order in the light of: competing theories and ideologies of economic and social globalisation and its regulation; and inter-state and inter-regional economic conflicts, especially as seen through decided cases before the dispute settlement organs of the WTO.
   3. Place the WTO into its historical context;
   4. Demonstrate sophisticated knowledge of the WTO’s relationship with other multilateral, regional and sub-regional economic groupings, especially where this involves the interpretation of similar regulatory concepts;
   5. Relate WTO law and practice to the national regulation of trade.
   6. Engage in further comprehensive, interdisciplinary, study of the emerging law and practice of the WTO through an examination of: its institutional background, theoretical and political approaches to the question of international trade regulation and liberalisation, the principles of international economic dispute settlement;
   7. Critically evaluate and examine the main provisions of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) 1994, covering the main concepts and legal questions raised by them.
2. **The intended generic learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**
   1. Demonstrate comprehensive knowledge and understanding in the form of an original reasoned argument through written assessment.
   2. Formulate, articulate and justify a point of view on the relative merits of differing approaches to regulation.
   3. Demonstrate comprehensive independent research and creative thinking skills.
3. **A synopsis of the curriculum**

The establishment of the WTO on 1 January 1995 has signalled the beginning of a new era in international economic relations. Unlike the GATT, whose main purpose was the reduction of barriers on trade in goods, the WTO legal regime reach deeper into more areas of policy-making, ranging from the regulation of services and investments to the protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights. Furthermore, through its Dispute Settlement Understanding (DSU) the WTO has the capacity to generate case-law on the resolution of disputes under the WTO agreements that it covers. This marks a significant shift from the earlier GATT dispute settlement mechanism as it creates, for the first time on the multilateral level, a binding decision-making apparatus. Thus any serious attempt to understand the nature and development of international economic law requires a careful and detailed study of the WTO and its emergent law and practice. It is the cornerstone of the new global economic order. This module offers a comprehensive overview of this evolving legal and regulatory order.

1. **Reading list (Indicative list, current at time of publication. Reading lists will be published annually)**

* D. Alessandrini, *‘Developing Countries and the Multilateral Trade Regime: The Failure and Promise of the WTO's Development Mission’* (Hart, 2010).
* H.J. Chang, *The Myth of Free Trade and the secret history of Capitalism* (Bloomsbury Press, 2007)
* D. Harvey, *The Enigma of Capital: and the Crises of Capitalism* (London, Profile Books, 2010) 1-39
* D. Harvey, *A Brief History of Neoliberalism* (Oxford University Press, 2005)
* A. Lang, *World Trade Law After Neo-Liberalism: RE-Imagining the Global Economic Order* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011)
* M. Matsushita, T.M. Schoenmaum, P.C. Mavrodis. *The World Trade Organisation. Law, Practice and Policy* (Oxford University Press, 3rd ed., 2015) (MSM)
* J.E. Stiglitz, A. Charlton, *Fair trade for All: How Trade can Promote Development* (Oxford University Press, 2005) (S&C)
* Michael J. Trebilcock, Robert Howse and Antonia Eliason The Regulation of International Trade (Routledge, 4th ed, 2013) (THE)
* R. Yearwood, *The Interaction Between WTO Law and External International Law: The Constrained Openness of WTO Law* (Routledge Research in International Economic Law, 2011)

1. **Learning and teaching methods**

Total study hours: 200

Contact hours: 18

Private study hours: 182

1. **Assessment methods.**

13.1 Main assessment methods

The module will be assessed by 100% coursework as follows:

Essay, of no more than 5,000 words (100%)

13.2 Reassessment methods

100% coursework

1. **Map of module learning outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to learning and teaching methods (section 12) and methods of assessment (section 13)**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module learning outcome** | | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 | 8.5 | 8.6 | 8.7 | 9.1 | 9.2 | 9.3 |
| **Learning / teaching method** | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Lecture/ Seminars | |  | X |  | X | X | X |  |  | X |  |
| Private Study | | X |  | X |  |  |  | X | X | X | X |
| **Assessment method** | Specify word length, duration, individual or group work (as appropriate) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Essay (100%) | 5,000 words | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |

1. **Inclusive module design**

The School recognises and has embedded the expectations of current equality legislation, by ensuring that the module is as accessible as possible by design. Additional alternative arrangements for students with Inclusive Learning Plans (ILPs)/declared disabilities will be made on an individual basis, in consultation with the relevant policies and support services.

The inclusive practices in the guidance (see Annex B Appendix A) have been considered in order to support all students in the following areas:

**a) Accessible resources and curriculum**

1. Preference will be given to electronic resources that meet minimum accessibility standards and support the use of assistive technologies.
2. Module outlines will be made accessible at least four weeks before the module starts.
3. Prioritised reading lists will be made available sufficiently in advance to accommodate the provision of alternative formats and support those with a slow reading speed.
4. Lecture/seminar slides/outlines will be made available in electronic format in advance to allow all students to prepare (particularly students with notetaking difficulties).
5. In accordance with the KLS school-level statement on Lecture Capture, the lecture/seminars will not be recorded as they are heavily discussion-based and may contain sensitive material.

**b) Learning, teaching and assessment methods**

The inclusive practices in the guidance (Annex B Appendix A, section b (1) and (2)) have all been considered in order to support all students in their assessments on this module.

1. **Campus(es) or centre(s) where module will be delivered:**

Canterbury

1. **Internationalisation**

This module is about world trade and many of its aspects address the importance of thinking about trade theory, law and practice across national boundaries. This is significant from an internationalisation perspective because it invites engagement with perspectives and experiences from very different social, economic, legal and political systems.

**FACULTIES SUPPORT OFFICE USE ONLY**

**Revision record – all revisions must be recorded in the grid and full details of the change retained in the appropriate committee records.**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date approved | Major/minor revision | Start date of the delivery of revised version | Section revised | Impacts PLOs (Q6 & 7 cover sheet) |
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