

## Module 3: Contract Law

### Headline Information about the module

<b>Module Number</b>	3	<b>Module Title</b>	Contract Law						
<b>Stage of Principal Programme</b>			1	<b>Semester</b>	1	<b>Duration.</b> <i>(Weeks F/T)</i>	12	<b>ECTS</b>	10
<b>Mandatory / Elective (M/E)</b>	M	<b>Hours of Learner Effort / Week<sup>4</sup></b>	3						
<b>Analysis of required hours of learning effort</b>									
<b>Teaching and Learning Modalities</b>						<b>✓if relevant to this module</b>	<b>Approx. proportion of total (hours)</b>		
<b>Contact Hours</b>									
In person face-to-face									
Synchronous						✓	40		
<b>Indirect/Non-Contact Hours</b>									
Asynchronous						✓	6		
Work Based									
Other - Independent						✓	204		
<b>Total</b>							250		

<b>Pre-Requisite Module, if any. Module # and Title</b>	N/A	
<b>Co-Requisite Module, if any. Module # and Title</b>	N/A	
<b>Maximum number of learners per instance of the module</b>	80	
<b>Specification of the qualifications (academic, pedagogical and professional/occupational) and experience required of staff working in this module.</b>		
<b>Role e.g., Tutor, Mentor, Lecturer, Research Supervisor, etc.</b>	<b>Qualifications &amp; experience required</b>	<b>Staff - Learner Ratio X:Y</b>
Lecturer	Lecturers expected to hold at minimum a Level 8 legal qualification, preferably with a professional legal qualification. It is an advantage to have completed the Certificate in Education, Learning and Development provided by Griffith College. Industry experience is beneficial but not a requirement.	1:80
Tutor	Tutors expected to hold at minimum a Level 8 legal qualification, preferably with a professional legal qualification.	1:40

<sup>4</sup> Average (over the duration of the module) of the contact hours per week i.e. effort while in contact with staff

Assessment Techniques – percentage contribution					
Continuous Assessment	40	Proctored Exam – in person	60	Practical Skills Based	
Project		Proctored Exam - online		Work Based	
Capstone (Y/N)?		If Yes, describe			

### Minimum Intended Module Learning Outcomes (MIMLOs)

MIMLO	Related MIPLO #
<b>On completion of this module a learner will be able to:</b>	
1. Explain the essential elements for the formation and enforceability of contracts.	1
2. Analyse contractual terms and evaluate the impact of vitiating factors on validity.	4
3. Apply principles of contract to complex factual scenarios to determine rights and remedies.	5
4. Critically assess the interaction between contract law and consumer protection frameworks.	8
5. Conduct legal research and interpret primary and secondary sources to support contractual analysis.	2
6. Produce an well-researched academic essay critically examining contractual law theory.	3

### Indicative Module Content, Organisation and Structure

Contract Law is a 10 credit module taught by way of 3-hour lectures over the course of 12 weeks in the first semester. It is additionally supplemented by two 2x hour tutorial sessions.

Specifically, the topics covered are as follows:

- 1. Formation of a Contract:**
  - a. Offer and Acceptance
  - b. Consideration and Promissory Estoppel
  - c. Intention to Create Legal Relations
  - d. Capacity to Enter into a Contract
  - e. Uncertainty and Incomplete Contracts
  - f. Formal Requirements
- 2. The Content of the Contract:**
  - a. Interpretation of Contracts
  - b. The Difference between Terms and Mere Representation
  - c. Contractual Terms, Express and Implied, including Terms implied under the Constitution
  - d. Exemption, Limitation and Exclusion Clauses
  - e. Consumer Protection
- 3. Vitiating and Voiding Factors:**
  - a. Mistake
  - b. Misrepresentation
  - c. Duress
  - d. Undue Influence

- e. Unconscionable Bargains
  - f. Illegality
- 4. Termination of a Contract:**
- a. Performance
  - b. Agreement
  - c. Breach
  - d. Frustration
- 5. Remedies for Breach of Contract**
- a. Damages
  - b. Termination
  - c. Specific Performance
  - d. Remedies under the Consumer Rights Act 2022
- 6. Privity of Contract and Third Party Rights**

### **Work-based learning and practice-placement (if applicable)**

There is no work-based learning or practical placement in the module.

### **Specific module resources required (if applicable)**

Requirements are for a fully equipped classroom. The classroom has Wi-Fi access and is equipped with a PC with Zoom and Microsoft Office. In addition the classroom has digital recording facilities and digital projector. No other software is required for this module. The College library has a dedicated law section and online legal research tools including V-Lex Justis, Westlaw, Bloomsbury Professional and Hein Online.

### **Application of programme teaching, learning and assessment strategies to this module**

Lectures adopt a participative format combining explanation of contractual doctrines with frequent short problem-based exercises. Learners may be asked to identify whether a valid offer exists in a brief scenario, evaluate whether a representation forms a term or consider whether a contract might be void due to misrepresentation. These focused tasks help learners develop analytical skills and deepen understanding of how contractual rules operate in practice. The problem-solving skills developed in this module support learners in understanding how contractual disputes are addressed in the Civil Litigation and Drafting module.

Tutorials support learners in developing confidence with longer, multi-issue problems. Learners work collaboratively to break complex questions into component parts and draft structured answers using the ILAC method. Group discussion is used to compare alternative approaches to interpreting cases or statutory provisions, supporting the development of judgement and argumentation.

Online learning activities reinforce lecture topics through self-directed quizzes, short factual problem questions or discussion prompts. Hybrid delivery ensures that learners attending remotely can engage fully with group work and problem-solving tasks, with breakout rooms frequently used to facilitate smaller discussions. The ILAC structure is used consistently across the programme to support clear and transferable analytical skills. UDL is supported through the provision of varied learning materials, including visual contract maps, short explanatory recordings and optional formative quizzes to reinforce doctrinal understanding.

Formative activities across lectures and tutorials help learners prepare for the summative assessments, which emphasise both doctrinal understanding and applied legal reasoning. The

research assignment encourages independent legal research and engagement with academic commentary, while the examination allows learners to demonstrate structured problem-solving skills. This assessment structure is aligned to the MIMLOs and supports the development of both doctrinal understanding and applied legal reasoning.

### Summative Assessment Strategy for this module

<b>MIMLOs</b>	<b>Technique(s)</b>	<b>Weighting</b>
<b>5 - 6</b>	<b>Research Assignment</b>	<b>40%</b>
<b>1 - 4</b>	<b>Closed-Book Examination</b>	<b>60%</b>

### Sample Assessment Materials

See Section 3 of the Assessment Materials Supporting Documentation.

### Indicative reading lists and other information resources

1. Robert Clark, *Contract Law in Ireland* (9th edn, Round Hall 2022).
2. Paul A. McDermott & James McDermott, *Contract Law* (2nd edn, Bloomsbury Professional 2017).
3. Claire-Michelle Smyth, *Law of Contract in Ireland* (Clarus Press 2025).
4. Eoin Molloy, *Contract Law for Students* (Bloomsbury Professional 2020).
5. Máiréad Enright, *Principles of Irish Contract Law* (Clarus Press 2007).
6. Edwin Peel, *Treitel on the Law of Contract* (16th edn, Thomson Reuters 2025) [[UK Text](#)].