Module Details

Module Title	Regulation of Financial Technologies and Virtual Assets
Module Code	LAW7078-B
Academic Year	2021/2
Credits	20
School	School of Law
FHEQ Level	FHEQ Level 7

Contact Hours

Type	Hours
Seminars	24
Directed Study	176

Availability

Occurrence	Location / Period
BDA	University of Bradford / Semester 2

Module Aims

The aim of the module is to introduce students to the legal frameworks and principles for regulating FinTech and virtual Assets. The law in these areas is emerging and the students will be able to engage with ongoing legal developments, issues and debates. The module covers key areas of FinTech and Virtual Assets.

Outline Syllabus

Selection from one of the following indicative topics:

Fintech: introduction and main markets.
The regulation of crowdfunding and crowdlending
The regulation of Fintech payments
The regulation of Insurtech
Roboadvisors: legal issues and debates
The role of regtech
Virtual assets: definition and main types and features.
The regulation of distributed ledger technology and blockchain
The regulation of Bitcoin and related assets
The regulation of Stablecoins and Initial Coin Offerings
Money laundering and terrorist financing issues
Central Bank Digital Currencies: legal issues and debates

Learning Outcomes

Outcome Number	Description
01	Explore, at a practical and theoretical level, the national and international context in which FinTech and virtual assets operate.
02	Develop an understanding of the underlying philosophy and legal principles underpinning the regulatory framework for Fintech and Virtual Assets and of the main applicable rules.
03	Apply the existing legal principles and frameworks to provide legal solutions to practical problems.
04	Carry out independent legal research in the field and communicate effectively orally and in writing using appropriate legal terminology.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy

Students will engage with a series of 12 weekly 2-hour workshops. The workshops will address the key legal concepts of FinTech and Virtual Assets and will include a set of structured learning activities (eg, discussion of pre-read academic materials) that 'scaffold' the learning. The workshops will also include tasks and discussions on practical aspects of the law. Additional opportunities for self-study will be provided through the virtual learning environment. Successfully completing tasks set will require independent legal research drawing on variety of both primary and secondary materials and written and oral presentations by you.

Oral feedback will be given in the class and opportunities for written feedback will be provided. Tutors will be available to meet you individually (face-to-face or online) if requested to discuss further feedback opportunities and review your progress. Formative assessment will be made available to help you better prepare for the summative assessment.

The assessment will test your knowledge and understanding of theoretical perspectives of the law and your ability to use theory to provide solutions to real world problems. It will include the submission of a written research report of 4,000 words on a law topic or combination of topics covered by the module. The purpose of the assessment will be to offer, based on your own independent research, a critical account and evaluation of a contemporary problem, concept or court case or theory about FinTech and virtual assets. The report should contain a critical account of up to 500 words where you will have to explain and evaluate the learning process which you followed in order to complete the coursework and meet the learning outcomes which will be included in the overall 4000 word submission. There will be elements of formative assessment which will support your development towards the final summative assessment.

Mode of Assessment

Type	Method	Description	Weighting
Summative	Coursework - Written	Written research report on a law topic or combination of topics covered by the module	100%

Reading List

To access the reading list for this module, please visit https://bradford.rl.talis.com/index.html

Please note:
This module descriptor has been published in advance of the academic year to which it applies. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information is accurate at the time of publication, but minor changes may occur given the interval between publishing and commencement of teaching. Upon commencement of the module, students will receive a handbook with further detail about the module and any changes will be discussed and/or communicated at this point.