Adjudication Practice and Procedure

Module Descriptor

Module Code:	LAW7ADJ
Version:	V1.00
Status:	Final
Date:	20/10/2026

Summary Module Details

Module details

Module Title: Adjudication Practice and Procedure

Module Leader: James Beckwith

Module Mode: Supported online learning

Semester: Autumn (UK) and Spring (UK)

Level: 7

Credits: 40

Learning Hours: 400

Contact & Study Hours

Directed Study Time: 120 hrs (30%)

Self-directed Study Time: 140 hrs (35%)

Assessment Study Time: 140 hrs (35%)

Assessment Type

Computer Marked Assessment: 20%

Portfolio: 80%

Module Summary

This module seeks to examine the dispute resolution processes in the construction industry and the background to statutory adjudication under the Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996 (as amended), and secondary legislation such as the Scheme for Construction Contracts (England and Wales) Regulations 1998. The module explores the role of construction adjudication, and the relationship between the adjudication process and the Employer's payment obligations. Precedent and legislation in other jurisdictions will also be considered.

Taken on which Programmes

LLM Construction Law **(E)**

PG Dip Construction Law **(E)**

Core (C) or Elective (E)

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Module Aims

This module aims to examine the following:

- The Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996 (as amended);
- The Scheme for Construction Contracts (England and Wales) Regulations 1998 (as amended) and The Scheme for Construction Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 1998 (as amended);
- Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 ('The Construction Act') (as amended);
- Key procedural issues related to statutory and contractual adjudication;
- Drafting skill required for preparation of adjudication submissions, with good practice in the use of AI within drafting of submissions;
- The importance of the adjudicator's decision and jurisdictional issues related to enforcement; and
- Through reflective practice, develop students' ability to critically evaluate how relevant legal theory can be applied to workplace actions and decisions.

Module Learning Outcomes

LO1. Critically evaluate the role of statutory adjudication in the UK construction industry and the rights of parties established under the Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996 (as amended), and relevant primary and secondary legislation such as the Scheme for Construction Contracts 1998 (as amended), and the Construction Act 2009 (as amended).

LO2. Critically analyse and compare the nature, characteristics and operation of statutory and contractual adjudication in the construction sector.

LO3. Critically evaluate and manage the preparation and submission of documents for UK statutory adjudication proceedings, including crystallisation of disputes, preparation of notices of adjudication, referral documentation and other submissions, while providing reasoned advice on jurisdictional and procedural issues that may affect the conduct of the adjudication or the enforceability of an adjudicator's award.

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LO4. Conduct, manage and respond to a a UK statutory adjudication process that will enable a decision to be reached that will be capable of enforcement and judicial scrutiny, including preparation of directions, decisions related to jurisdictional issues, manging hearings and preparing an enforceable award.

Indicative Module Content

Module topics

- **The legislative framework for adjudication practice and procedure in the UK construction industry**

  The whole module is structured to provide students with a practical understanding of the adjudication process under the statutory provisions within the UK construction sector. In the early stages of the module, processes under other jurisdictions will be considered; however, assessments will refer to the UK legislation. Statutory and contractual adjudication practice and procedures will be considered.

- **Adjudication practice**

  Examine the knowledge and skills required to successfully launch an adjudication process, issue notice of adjudication, achieve a professional adjudication referral submission, and engage with the professional reply/rejoinder process.

- **Adjudication procedure**

  Examine the skills and behaviours required to successfully complete an adjudication proceeding under the Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996 (as amended).

- **Enforcement of adjudication decisions and jurisdictional challenges.**

  Examine the jurisdictional issues arising through the adjudication process, including raising and defending jurisdiction challenges, circumstances arising that may result in the adjudication process ceasing or the Adjudicator resigning, as well as issues arising preventing enforcement of decisions.

This content will be reviewed and updated regularly to reflect the legal, moral and financial changes in professional standards and practice.

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Overview of Summative Assessment

Module learning outcomes	Assessment	Word count or equivalent	Weighting
LO1	**Assessment 1** Computer Marked Assessment (CMA)	2,500	20%
LO2, LO3 & LO4	**Assessment 2** Portfolio	7,500	80%

Module Pass Mark (as a weighted average of all assessments): 50%

Key Module Learning Resources

Core Sources and Texts

The core reading resources within each module will be provided via the specific Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) module pages and within the e-Library. Additional reference material and supplementary resources to support your studies are available through the University e-Library.

Module tools

Students will have access to study materials, dedicated academic support, student forums, and learning activities via an online learning platform (VLE).

The module page on the VLE is broken down into structured study weeks to help students plan their time, with each week containing a mixture of reading, case studies, videos/recordings and interactive activities to go through. Online webinars/seminars led by the Module Leader can be attended in real time and provide opportunities to consolidate knowledge, ask questions, discuss topics and work through learning activities together. These sessions are recorded to support students who cannot attend and to enable students to recap the session and work through it at their own pace. Module forums on the VLE provide further opportunities to discuss topics with other students, complete collaborative work and get extra help from the module team.

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Professional online resources

The e-Library provides access to trusted, quality online resources, selected by subject specialists, to support students' study. This includes journals, industry publications, magazines, academic books and a dissertation/work-based library. For a list of the key industry specific and education resources available please visit the VLE e-Library.

Other relevant resources

Access is also provided to further information sources that include the British Library and Open University UK catalogues, as well as providing a monthly current awareness service entitled, ***Knowledge Foundations*** - a compendium of news, research and resources relating to the educational sector and the Built Environment.

The module resource list is available on the module VLE page and is updated regularly to ensure materials are relevant and current.

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