

Diploma in Law (Malta): Intake October 2025

Assessment Task: Written assignment based on chosen questions	
Module: <i>Award in Legal Research and Interpretation Methodologies</i>	Tuition Centre: 21 Academy Licence Number: 2018-017
Level: Award MQF Level 5	Student Name:
Date:	ID Number: <same no. submitted in student profile>
Assignment Deadline: 30 April 2026	
<p>Task</p> <p>The purpose of this unit is to develop an understanding of a particular topic you will write about which forms part of Legal Research and Interpretation Methodologies.</p> <p>Note</p> <p>This assessment provides students with an opportunity to put into practice the relevant provisions of the law in relation to the topic they choose to write about forming part of Legal Research and Interpretation Methodologies.</p> <p>Note</p> <p><i>You should plan to spend approximately 20 hours researching each assignment question, preparing for and writing the assignment for assessment. The nominal word count for each assignment is 1,700 words (this does not apply for Question 3).</i></p> <p><i>Please ensure that you refer to 21 Academy's Assignment Guidelines for comprehensive information regarding the submission of your assignment. Additionally, the assignment submission form must be included with your completed work, clearly indicating which question you have chosen to answer by ticking the box next to the question number.</i></p>	
<p>Choose and answer 2 (two) questions from the following:</p> <div style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> ☐ Question 1: Legal Research Sources and Emerging Tools a) Identify and explain the principal sources used in legal research. Discuss how these sources differ in terms of authority, reliability, and practical use, and analyse the significance of hierarchy when conducting effective legal research. b) Examine the growing use of artificial intelligence in legal research. Assess how AI tools are influencing research efficiency, accuracy, and interpretation, and critically evaluate the risks and limitations such tools may pose to traditional legal research practices. </div> <div style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> ☐ Question 2: Data Collection and Applied Legal Research a) Discuss selected methods of data collection commonly used in legal research (for example: sampling techniques, interviews, questionnaires, or document analysis). Evaluate the strengths and limitations of each method in relation to different types of legal research. b) Practical Application Design a brief legal research proposal on a legal issue of your choice. Your proposal should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a clear identification of the research problem or hypothesis; • the chosen research design (qualitative, quantitative, doctrinal, or empirical); • an outline of the methods of data collection and analysis to be used; • a justification for the chosen methodology. </div> <div> ☐ Question 3: Practical Legal Research Using Maltese Sources a) Compare and contrast the main categories of legal research sources used within the Maltese legal system. (Maximum 850 words) b) Using the appropriate official online platforms available for legal research in Malta, locate and report on the following. Where required, cite your sources and include screenshots to support your findings: </div>	

- i. Identify the court hearing the case *INDIS Malta Ltd vs MRC Promotions Limited* (Judge Henri Mizzi) and state the case number and the date on which proceedings were instituted.
- ii. Retrieve the judgment of Case 1054/2022 in the names “General Cleaners Co Ltd. vs INDIS Malta Ltd.” and summarise the court’s decision in a paragraph.
- iii. Identify the charges brought by the Police in the case *Il-Pulizija vs Bogicevic Savo* (Reference No. 548/2018), decided on 30 November 2021, and indicate the outcome of the case.
- iv. Determine whether Grifo Malta Limited is listed in the Insolvency Register.
- v. State the title of Subsidiary Legislation 12.31.
- vi. Indicate the date on which Legal Notice 246 of 2019 was published and specify the relevant issue number of the Government Gazette of Malta.
- vii. Identify the appellant in Case 2061 – Tender WSC/T/016/2024, decided by the Public Contracts Review Board on 3rd February 2025
- viii. Provide the company registration number and incorporation date of Briar Pipeworks Limited.



Question 4: Research Methodology and Research Design

- a) Critically discuss the different structured models of legal research methodology (including the 6-step, 7-step, and 9-step approaches). Explain why adopting a structured research process is essential when conducting legal research.
- b) Distinguish between empirical legal research and doctrinal (conceptual) legal research. Illustrate your answer by referring to practical legal scenarios in which each research approach would be most appropriately applied.
- c) Explain the function of hypotheses within legal research. Identify the key characteristics of a well-constructed hypothesis and describe the stages involved in its formulation and testing, highlighting common methodological pitfalls and how these may be avoided.

Pass Mark - 50%	Total Assignments Weighting - 100%
By submitting I confirm that this assessment is my own work	
Mark:	Signature: <main assessor>
Date	Signature: <quality assurance>