OSCOLA teaching at the University of Worcester

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- Five styles supported
- Style used depends upon course of study
- OSCOLA: used only by the School of Law
- Referencing teaching provided by Academic Liaison Librarians if requested by academic staff
Professional legal skills and ethics

- Main legal skills module taken by level 4 Law students (30 credit)
- Previously: small input from librarians
- This year: several longer inputs:
  - Sessions dedicated to librarian input
  - Planned into module timetable in summer, ready for September
What did we do?

- Finding and evaluating resources lecture
- This included searching Law databases as well as the University’s Library Search tool
- Set ‘homework’ to try writing OSCOLA reference based on the short guide handed out at induction

Your task for next week’s lecture

Practice some searches for journal articles. Find one that interests you and have a go at writing an OSCOLA reference for it. Post your attempts anonymously to Padlet here: https://padlet.com/k_devine/LLBL1004Oct18 You can also post any questions you have about any aspect of what we’ve covered today and I will address them next lecture.
Follow up seminar

- The next seminar to address referencing gave the students a research and referencing task to complete using MS Forms.

- The idea was to make referencing an integral part of the literature/case search, rather than a bolt-on task or something taught in isolation.
After the first formative assessment ...

- Module staff gave us information on the common errors they had seen in referencing in students’ first formative assessment. Now we had opportunity to see students again and revisit areas of concern.
- Used a Kahoot quiz as an icebreaker and to gauge knowledge
- Then a presentation detailing the key errors made in assignments and the key principles of referencing
Case names should be given in full when first mentioned in the text or footnotes; subsequently they may be shortened. Refer to 14.15 of the OSCOLA full guidance for examples, and ABBEBB for a web-based tool which will do the shortening for you.

Ibid ... the clue's in the name...

- *Ibidem* means 'in the same place' ... so ...
- Ibid is only used when the source is the same as the one immediately above - so you will not use ibid *and* a note number- see below from the OSCOLA guide:

Lord Atkin posed the question of 'Who, then, in law is my neighbour?'

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1 Donoghue v Stevenson [1932] AC 562, 580
Followed by more practical work

Over to you again - research and referencing

You'll find your task on MS Forms [here](#)

LLBL1004 Referencing Refresher Session
Worksheet

Work through the tasks and select or add your answers to the form as appropriate. Click “submit” when done.

1. In Stobart Group v Tinkler [2019] EWHC Comm 258, [2019] 2 WLUK 235, the Judge was *
   - Judge Rusen
   - Judge Rosen
   - Judge Russo
   - Judge Russia

2. And in which division of the High Court was the case heard? *
   - Queen’s Bench
   - Chancery

3. If I asked you the names of the parties involved in 2 WLR 935, what additional information would you need from me to find this in Westlaw? *

   Enter your answer
Again, an answer sheet and feedback was provided via Blackboard.
Conclusions and observations

- Students viewed the librarians as part of the module team.
- We saw more of the students in the library; they came in to ask questions because they knew us from sessions.
- Some follow up work on grades and comparison with last year would be helpful – watch this space …
- We felt students enjoyed the practical tasks and seemed more engaged than on previous occurrences of the module.