



Introduction

Mooting is a fun and competitive extra-curricular activity open to all students in order to help them apply and develop the key advocacy, litigation and transferable skills necessary across a wide range of legal and non-legal careers.

Aberystwyth Mooting Society

Aberystwyth Mooting Society is run by a committee consisting of a departmental mooting officer as well as three students who have been elected to the position of Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary.

What is a moot?

A moot is a competition in which participants play the role of advocates arguing an appeal, solely on points of law. Two teams take part, one acting for the appellant(s) and one for the respondent(s). On each team there is a senior and a junior counsel, each of whom covers a separate ground of appeal. The case is usually set in the Court of Appeal or the House of Lords.

Why moot?

Aberystwyth Mooting Society offers its members a range of fun and competitive activities such as:

- A range of basic and advanced workshops on mooting and advocacy skills.
- A comprehensive induction programme for freshers new to mooting.
- An internal mooting competition.
- Entry into national and international mooting competitions such as the OUP & BPP National Mooting Competition, the ESU-Essex Court Chambers National Mooting Competition, The Weekly Law Reports Annual Mooting Competition and the Jean-Pictet Competition.
- Participation in a Welsh National Mooting Competition with a Welsh-speaking stream for students who wish to moot in the Welsh language.
- Mock trials set in fictitious Magistrates' Courts, Crown Courts and International Criminal Tribunals in which students play the roles of lawyers, witnesses and judges.
- Taking part in alternative dispute resolution (ADR) simulation exercises.
- Film nights.
- Pro bono activities (Aberystwyth University Innocence Project).

Students are enriched by taking part in these activities because they:

- Receive constant written and oral feedback from specialists in a variety of areas of law;
- Constantly observe examples of good practice from their peers;
- Gain skills and confidence in debating and public speaking;
- Improve their research skills by taking part in specialised workshops on using traditional and electronic sources of primary and secondary legal materials;
- Improve both their writing skills and presentation of their research findings by drafting skeleton arguments and legal opinions as well as compiling user-friendly case bundles;
- Deepen their knowledge and understanding of core and topical legal issues in responding to challenging moot problems and simulation exercises;
- Develop astute analytical and problem solving skills;
- Become more familiar with a range of careers in advocacy;
- Enhance their CVs by demonstrating an ability to prioritise and balance a competing work load *in addition* to their curricular obligations;
- Meet law students and professionals from around the UK and around the world by taking part in national, regional and international mooting competitions;
- Acquire interview skills, e.g. ability to respond to challenging questions, adopting the appropriate etiquette.

Aberystwyth Mooting Society believes that mooting is central to legal education and also necessary for law students to become proficient, dynamic and respected lawyers ready for the opportunities and challenges within a range of legal careers.

Further information

Please contact the Mooting Officer by email: mij@aber.ac.uk