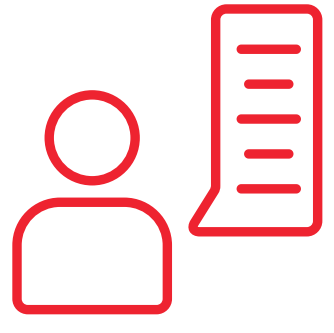


## Title: Family Law Clinic

Presenter: Prof. Louise Crowley, School of Law



### Case Study Synopsis

The Family Law Clinic provides students in the LLM (Children’s Rights and Family law) with the opportunity to act as conduits to accessing justice, providing knowledge and supports to those who might otherwise struggle to penetrate the complex justice system. The tasks undertaken are four-fold; student contribution to the development and publication of the web-based family law information hub; individual student blogs on contemporary family law issues, contribution to research projects including live family law cases; and the writing of reflective learning journals on the student clinic experience. This novel combination of engagement and assessment require the students to develop skills outside the norm of the lecture room, mandating them to take ownership of their areas of responsibility and to challenge themselves to share their critical understanding of family law with the broader public.

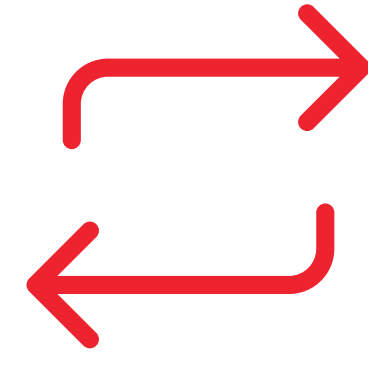


### Key Impacts

- The flagship work of the Clinic is the family law information website [www.familylawinformation.ie](http://www.familylawinformation.ie), a unique online resource which acts as a central hub, a comprehensive information resource on all aspects of family law. Students are tasked with reviewing and updating the information pages annually, empowering them to address the misinformation surrounding family law and bridging the family law information vacuum that exists in Irish society.
- In March 2020, the Clinic developed a further bespoke Covid-19 information hub a nationwide information resource providing access to the revised services available during the shutdown environment.



### Video Links | Graphics

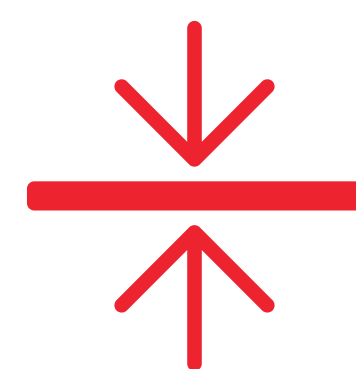


### Intended Changes

In creating avenues for students to present their learning to a multiplicity of audiences, they develop an understanding of the law in context and their capacity to use their education to enhance the community experience of justice. The over-arching message is that law does not operate to secure rights, justice demands real access and an understanding of the application of the law, and the Clinic provides the insight into this reality. Thus, the Clinic empowers students with a capacity to inculcate a sense of community awareness and responsibility, ideally transcending student life and remaining with them to direct a broader use of maturing knowledge and skills.

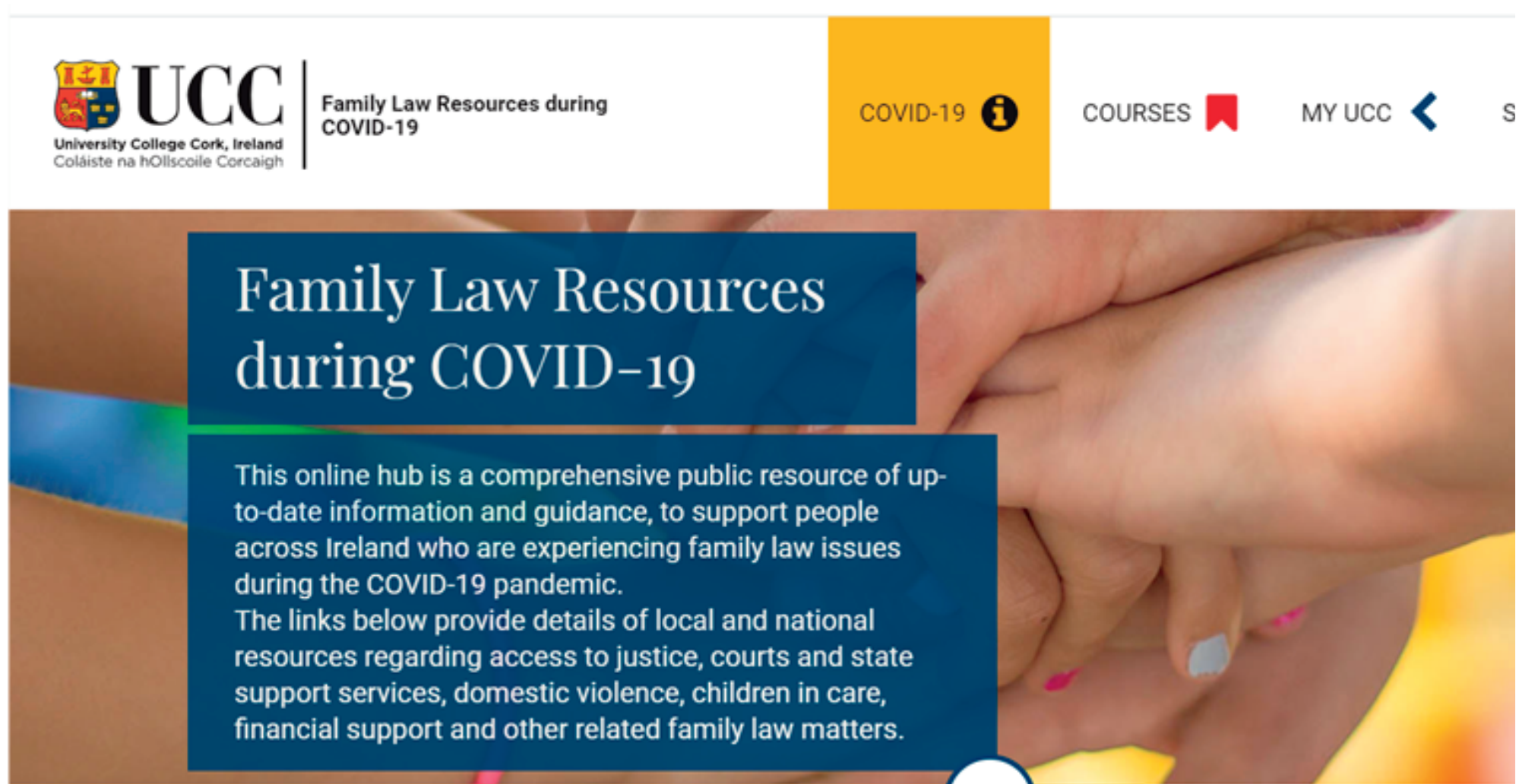
The Clinic endeavours to reflect the UCC Civic and Community Engagement Plan which identifies the University’s overarching goal to become “more Connected, Visible and Engaged with and for Community”. Ultimately the vision enunciated is to be a leading, civically engaged University, capitalising on our teaching and learning strengths, and translating our dynamic academic and research leadership into far-reaching community engagement.

The Clinic ensures that graduate attributes and core values are embedded into the academic curriculum in line with the University’s Academic Strategy. As a result of the Clinic’s creative configuration, students emerge with strengths in all five areas of the University’s Graduate Attribute Programme - as creators and communicators of knowledge: independent and creative thinkers, digitally fluent, socially responsible and effective global citizens.



### Area of Alignment

Learning & Teaching  
Student Success



**Family Law Resources during COVID-19**

This online hub is a comprehensive public resource of up-to-date information and guidance, to support people across Ireland who are experiencing family law issues during the COVID-19 pandemic. The links below provide details of local and national resources regarding access to justice, courts and state support services, domestic violence, children in care, financial support and other related family law matters.



**familylawinformation.ie**

Discover the information to uncover the solution

Home Parenting Maintenance Money Matters Relationships Going to Court/Agreement Domestic Violence Housing Blog

**Welcome**

[www.familylawinformation.ie](http://www.familylawinformation.ie) operates as an **information** portal, providing a central source of information related to family relationships and a comprehensive online source of all aspects of Irish family law. It serves to inform the general public and service providers of all relevant existing, validated sources of information that are currently accessible both on and offline. The aim is to collate and better convey existing information, resources and services in Ireland, thereby ensuring that anyone seeking information will be able to access

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