



## Citation

**Jean Cushen, DCUBS**

### **What her students say about Jean:**

“Always willing to engage with students, before or after class, during office hours, or at any time by email or phone. Students always felt at ease approaching Jean with questions or queries on the module and content. For final year students, the comfort in being able to chat to a lecturer like Jean was a fantastic help to all in class”.

“Jean was a great lecturer, who engaged the whole class and made the material covered interesting and related it back to real life situations. She was always easy to approach and talk to”.

“Jean enhanced our learning through a wide range of role plays, which will benefit us in our future careers. Jean made the classes very interactive by providing us with real life examples from youtube, articles etc”.

“Jean is a very outgoing and warm person. She has in-depth knowledge into her area of expertise which is easily transferable into the classroom setting. Jean is one of the best lecturers that I have had during my time in DCU and I hope we cross paths in the future. Jean she a credit to DCU”.

### **What her colleagues say about Jean:**

Taking an existing module, Jean completely redesigned this module both in terms of content and assessment. She created a new learning experience based on a combination of lectures, student role plays, reflective learning, video clips, a guest lecture on how to assess your own communications style. With this module Jean sought to equip students with an understanding of bargaining theory, bargaining practice and Irish employment law. To achieve this Jean adopted a “formative”, “skills development” approach to learning. She wrote four case studies/role plays that all students enacted over the course of the module. Students completed each of these four role plays over a four week period and professed to greatly enjoy them. Throughout the module students assessed their own communications style and completed a reflective learning portfolio analysing the development of their negotiation and communication skills and the relationship between employment law and negotiation strategies and tactics. Jean also took students on a field trip to the Employment Appeals Tribunal (EAT) where they received a presentation from an EAT representative and also witnessed a hearing. Based on the student evaluations it appears that students greatly enjoyed the module content, the role plays, the field trip and Jean’s teaching style.