



Course Syllabus

Course Code LAW-142	Course Title Legal System and Method II	ECTS Credits 6
Prerequisites None	Department Law	Semester Spring
Type of Course Required	Field Law	Language of Instruction English
Level of Course 1 st Cycle	Lecturer Bill Gallagher	Year of Study 1 st
Mode of Delivery Face-to-face	Work Placement N/A	Corequisites None

Course Objectives:

The main objectives of this course are to:

- Provide an integrated introduction to English legal system and method
- Have students engage with legal method, including legal analysis and legal research and writing
- Provide students with an overview of civil and criminal procedure
- Have students critically assess alternative dispute resolution systems
- Provide a thematic understanding of civil and criminal procedure and the purposes underlying such procedures

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

- Discuss ability of police to question and arrest suspects and to make searches and gather evidence
- Assess the inner workings of the criminal trial process
- Demonstrate a broad understanding of the civil justice system
- Understand strength and weaknesses of Alternative Dispute Resolution methods, including arbitration, mediation and tribunals
- Explain the appeals system and understand its pivotal role in overseeing the lower courts and ensuring consistency in the development of the law
- State how to take initiative, to undertake independent learning and developing powers of enquiry and critical analysis

- Appreciate the importance of clear and precise legal writing, drafting and other communication and understand steps that can assist in ensuring optimal communication

Course Content:

Civil Procedure

- Overriding Objectives of Civil Justice System

Alternative Dispute Resolution

- Arbitration
- Mediation
- Tribunals

Criminal Procedure

- Criminal Process v Rights and Liberties
- Police Procedures of Search, Seizure, Interrogation and Arrest
- Prosecution
- Classification of Offences and Determining the mode of trial
- Summary Trial
- Trial on Indictment

Civil and Criminal Appeals

- Following a summary trial
- Miscarriage of Justice
- Criminal Case Review Commission

Legal Research

- Developing a strategy for legal research
- Electronic and paper resources

Legal writing and clear and persuasive communication

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Interactive lectures, team research and writing, in-class case discussion and student participation

Assessment Methods:

You will be assessed on the following:

- Class participation
- In-class quizzes
- Mid-term examination
- Written assignments and presentations
- Final examination

Required Textbooks / Readings:

Title	Author(s)	Publisher	Year	ISBN
English Legal System (5 th ed.)	Rutherford, Kotecha & Macfarlane	Oxford	2022	9780192858856
English Legal System: The Fundamentals (5 th ed.)	Bromby	Sweet & Maxwell	2022	9780414089723

Recommended Textbooks / Readings:

Title	Author(s)	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Legal Systems & Skills (4 th ed.)	Slorach, Embley, Goodchild & Shephard	Oxford	2020	9780198834328
Legal Skills (8 th ed.)	Finch & Fafinski	Oxford	2021	9780192893642
Learning Legal Rules - A Students' Guide to Legal Method and Reasoning (11 th ed.)	Holland & Webb	Oxford	2022	9780192849090
Plain English for Lawyers	Wydick	California Law Review	1978	---