



## Course Syllabus

<b>Course Code</b> LAW-141	<b>Course Title</b> Legal System & Method 1	<b>ECTS Credits</b> 6
<b>Prerequisites</b> None	<b>Department</b> Law	<b>Semester</b> Fall
<b>Type of Course</b> Required	<b>Field</b> Law	<b>Language of Instruction</b> English
<b>Level of Course</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Cycle	<b>Lecturer</b> Peter Pafitis	<b>Year of Study</b> 1 <sup>st</sup>
<b>Mode of Delivery</b> Face-to-face	<b>Work Placement</b> N/A	<b>Corequisites</b> None

### Course Objectives:

The main objectives of the course are to:

To introduce students to the salient aspects of legal method and the practical workings of the legal system; to provide students with an understanding of the legal profession; to critically assess the system; and, to lay a foundation for students which will serve as a preliminary step towards the study of “substantive” law courses.

### Learning Outcomes:

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

1. Identify and describe the sources of English law and assess the impact and influence thereon of the Human Rights Act and EU law
2. Discuss the operation of the doctrine of judicial precedent
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the rules of statutory interpretation
4. Assess the difficulties encountered by those responsible for drafting legislation
5. Discuss the process through which Parliament delegates legislative functions to inferior bodies
6. Assess the importance and implications of adopting alternative dispute mechanisms
7. Demonstrate knowledge of the courts structure, the judiciary and the jury system
8. State how to take initiative, to undertake independent learning and developing powers of enquiry and critical analysis

**Course Content:**

Introduction: Nature, classification of the Law

- Sources of the Law
- Custom, Common Law and Equity
- Legislation
- European Law

The Doctrine of Judicial Precedent

- Stare Decisis
- The Hierarchy of the Courts

Interpretation of Statutes

- Canons of Interpretation
- Aids to Interpretation

The Court structures

- Civil Courts
- Criminal Courts

Alternative Dispute Resolution

- Tribunals
- Arbitration
- Mediation
- Ombudsman

The Judiciary and the Magistracy

- Independence, Impartiality, Immunity
- Functions, Appointment
- Training
- Removal

**Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:**

Interactive lectures, tutorials, case studies, student participation

**Assessment Methods:**

Assignment and/or presentation, mid-term examination, final examination

**Required Textbooks / Readings:**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Author(s)</b>	<b>Publisher</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>ISBN</b>
English Legal System – The Fundamentals	Jo Boylan-Kemp	Sweet & Maxwell	2018	978414057555
English Legal System	Steven Wilson, Helen Rutherford, Tony Storey, Natalie Wortley	Oxford University Press	2018	9780198808152

**Recommended Textbooks / Readings:**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Author(s)</b>	<b>Publisher</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>ISBN</b>
Introduction to the English Legal System	Martin Partington	Oxford University Press	2018	9780198818861
The English Legal System	Alisdair Gillespie	Oxford University Press	2017	9780198785439
The English Legal System	Jacqueline Martin	Hodder Education	2016	9781471879159
English Legal System in Context	Fiona Cownie, Anthony Bradney & Mandy Burton	Oxford University Press	2013	9780199656561
English Legal System	Catherine Elliot & Frances Quinn	Pearson	2017	9781292146911
English Legal System	G Slapper & D Kelly	Routledge	2017	9781138284470