



## **Module Specification**

### **Introduction to the English Legal System**

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## Part 1: Information

**Module title:** Introduction to the English Legal System

**Module code:** UZSYP5-30-1

**Level:** Level 4

**For implementation from:** 2024-25

**UWE credit rating:** 30

**ECTS credit rating:** 15

**College:** College of Health, Science & Society

**School:** CHSS School of Social Sciences

**Partner institutions:** None

**Field:** Sociology and Criminology

**Module type:** Module

**Pre-requisites:** None

**Excluded combinations:** None

**Co-requisites:** None

**Continuing professional development:** No

**Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements:** None

## Part 2: Description

**Overview:** This module introduces you to the fundamentals and characteristics of the English legal system including the sources of law, the court system and key legal research skills.

**Features:** Students will learn about how the courts system in England and Wales is structured and how the legal system functions.

**Educational aims:** The educational aims of this module are to develop understanding of the development and operation of the English legal system.

In addition to learning how the legal system operates, it is anticipated that students will learn how legal resources can be found and understood. This will include an introduction to complex and logical reasoning techniques of interpretation and how legal sources can be applied to understand how legal judgements are arrived at.

**Outline syllabus:** Study units may include, but is not limited to, the following:

Legal research techniques

Applying legal sources appropriately

Critical thinking, legal reasoning and problem-solving

The modern English legal system

Process of Law making

Doctrinal legal analysis

Understanding court hierarchy, case law and precedent

Case law fact analysis

Statutory interpretation

### **Part 3: Teaching and learning methods**

**Teaching and learning methods:** The module may consist of the following activities:

Lectures

Seminars

1:1 tutorials

Guest Speakers

**Module Learning outcomes:** On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

**MO1** Demonstrate a broad understanding of the major characteristics, principles and personnel of the English common law system.

**MO2** Analyse primary and secondary sources of law and the ability to search for and collect these materials.

**MO3** Conduct an analysis of legal arguments and debates.

**MO4** Demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively and appropriately.

**Hours to be allocated:** 300

**Contact hours:**

Independent study/self-guided study = 210 hours

Face-to-face learning = 90 hours

Total = 0

**Reading list:** The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/180DBFE8-7492-4EC5-8DBD-8CB464B9C400.html?lang=en-GB&login=1) via the following link <https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/180DBFE8-7492-4EC5-8DBD-8CB464B9C400.html?lang=en-GB&login=1>

## Part 4: Assessment

**Assessment strategy:** The assessment strategy for this module will give you a sound understanding of the English legal system. The assessments of this module are split into two areas, a case summary and a multiple choice test. You will be given

the opportunities for formative feedback through the use of seminars, presentations, class discussion etc.

This module will be assessed through the following tasks:

Task One – 1000 word Case Study Summary

Task Two – Timed In-Class MCQ Test

**Assessment tasks:**

**Case Study (First Sit)**

Description: 1000 words

Weighting: 60 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO3, MO4

**In-class test (First Sit)**

Description: A range of multiple-choice questions which will test your knowledge and understanding of the English legal system and the sources of law.

Weighting: 40 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2

**Case Study (Resit)**

Description: 1000 words

Weighting: 60 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO3, MO4

**In-class test (Resit)**

Description: A range of multiple-choice questions which will test your knowledge and understanding of the English legal system and the sources of law.

Weighting: 40 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2

### **Part 5: Contributes towards**

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Criminology and Public Services [UCW] BSc (Hons) 2024-25

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