

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

Module Title	An Introduction to Law for Forensic Scientists
Course Title	BSc (Hons) Forensic Science
School	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ASC <input type="checkbox"/> ACI <input type="checkbox"/> BEA <input type="checkbox"/> BUS <input type="checkbox"/> ENG <input type="checkbox"/> HSC <input type="checkbox"/> LSS
Division	Human Sciences
Level	4
Module Code (<i>showing level</i>)	ASC_4_413
JACS Code (completed by the QA)	
Credit Value	20 Credits
Student Study Hours	Contact hours: 50 Student managed learning hours: 150
Pre-requisite Learning	None
Co-requisites	None
Excluded combinations	None
Module co-ordinator	Name: Louise Powell-Cook E-mail: powellcl@lsbu.ac.uk
Short Description (max. 100 words)	This module is designed to introduce forensic science students to the English legal system. It looks at the main sources of law; the hierarchy of the court system and the doctrine of precedent. It considers the role of Parliament in the creation of statutes, the rules which are applied to interpret those statutes and the role of the European Institutions. As an example of a statute, it looks at police powers under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984. The module also studies the structure of and the personnel of the legal profession including the judiciary; the role of lay persons such as magistrates and jurors; the procedure followed at trial and the purposes and scope of sentencing.
Aims	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide a knowledge and understanding of the different origins and relative importance of the sources of English law, the doctrine of precedent and how statutes come into being and are interpreted. • To develop the ability to identify relevant legal issues raised in set of facts, the legal authorities relevant to those issues, to apply those authorities and to draw conclusions • To enable the student to develop an understanding of the structure and operation of the legal profession. • To develop a (critical) appreciation of the role of the jury • To ensure familiarity with basic library-based and internet research techniques.
Learning Outcomes (4 to 6 outcomes)	<p>Knowledge and Understanding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the basic principles governing the legislative process and the administration of justice under the English legal system with particular reference to the criminal justice system and the EU • Apply the rules of statutory interpretation to specific statutes • Identify the use of the rules of precedent in legal argument and reasoning

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyse the legal issues arising out of specific fact situations using problem solving techniques <p>Communication Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Both oral and written <p>Practical Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use resources effectively The ability to undertake library and web-based research <p>Transferable Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organise and prioritise tasks in order to meet deadlines Time management Develop communication and team-working skills
Employability	This module will provide opportunities to develop the skills highlighted above, all of which are valuable for employment. The module will in particular, afford students the opportunity to enhance their literacy skills and their skills of analysis and argument, all of which will benefit them for future employment whether within the field of forensic science or as transferrable skills to an alternative field of work.
Teaching and learning pattern	Contact hours includes the following: (please click on the checkboxes as appropriate) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lectures <input type="checkbox"/> Group Work: <input type="checkbox"/> Seminars <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tutorial: <input type="checkbox"/> Laboratory <input type="checkbox"/> Workshops <input type="checkbox"/> Practical <input type="checkbox"/> VLE Activities
Indicative content	This module will cover a basic introduction to the English legal system with particular emphasis on the criminal justice system. Topics include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sources of English law: origins of common law and the hierarchy of the court system; equity; distinction between civil law and criminal law; standards of proof; EU law Judicial precedent and statute law Statutory Interpretation The Jury System The structure and personnel of the legal profession Police Powers under PACE 1984 Trial procedure and sentencing
Assessment method (Please give details – of components, weightings, sequence of components, final component)	Formative assessment: Learning is checked by Q and A sessions at the start and end of lectures and that key concepts are understood using assessment style questions during tutorial sessions Summative assessment: 100% Coursework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> pre-released question paper completed under examination conditions in an in-class test
Mode of resit assessment	Formative assessment: N/A Summative assessment: as first sit
Indicative Sources (Reading lists)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elliott and Quinn's – English Legal System (Core Text) - Emily Allbon & Sanmeet Kaur Dua - Pearson Education Ltd Gary Slapper and David Kelly – The English Legal System – Routledge – Cavendish Michael Zander – The Law-Making Process – Hart Publishing
Other Learning Resources	The VLE and Recorded Trials and Documentaries