



Unit Information 2009-10

161/D161 Common law reasoning and institutions

Prerequisite

None apply

Syllabus

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The nature of the common law tradition2. Sources of law and principles of legal research3. Conduct of legal research and retrieval of legal information, with particular reference to the use of the London online library and web based resources4. The role and operation of courts5. Judicial reasoning in relation to (a) cases, and (b) statutes6. The judiciary and magistracy7. The criminal justice process (in outline) and the role of rights in the process with particular attention to the jury and the impact of the Human Rights Act.8. The civil justice process (in outline) with particular attention to reform9. Legal services and access to justice with particular attention to the legal profession and legal aid. | <p>Students are required to use the online library, complete the online legal research exercises, and write a short research essay on one of the approved titles for the academic year in which they sit the examination. The approved essay titles for 2009-10 will be placed on the VLE. The research essay must be submitted electronically via the VLE by 1 May in the academic year in which the subject is being taken.</p> <p>The assessment of this subject by an unseen written paper will consist of two parts, with the first part (Part A) being a compulsory question on legal research. Students must pay close attention to the relevant chapters in the subject guide, study pack and the learning objectives therein. The compulsory question may contain short questions based on the exercises on legal research, citation of legal information, and library use as well as more substantial questions on the research essay that students are required to complete.</p> |
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Students should consult the *Programme Regulations for degrees and diplomas in Economics, Management, Finance and the Social Sciences* that are reviewed annually. The Prerequisites, Exclusions, and Syllabus are subject to confirmation in the *Regulations*. Notice is also given in the *Regulations* of any units which are being phased out and students are advised to check unit availability.