



Year 12 Curriculum Grid

Law

| Year/Term | Unit | Content | What skills are developed? |
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| Autumn-Spring Terms | H418/01: The Legal System and Criminal Law | Section A: The Legal System <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The English Legal System: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Civil and criminal courts, including their structure, jurisdiction, and procedures. ○ Legal personnel, including the role and training of solicitors, barristers, and legal executives. ○ Judiciary, including the roles, training, selection, and independence of judges. ○ Access to justice and funding, including legal aid, private funding, and alternative sources of advice and representation. • Legal Precedent: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The role of judicial precedent in law-making. ○ Use of ratio decidendi and obiter dicta. ○ The hierarchy of the courts and how it affects precedent. ○ Ways judges can avoid precedent (e.g., distinguishing, overruling, reversing). • Statutory Interpretation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The need for interpretation and rules of interpretation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Literal rule ▪ Golden rule ▪ Mischief rule ○ Aids to interpretation (intrinsic and extrinsic). ○ Impact of interpretation on case outcomes and law development. • Law Reform: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Role of the Law Commission and other reform bodies. ○ How law is reformed and modernised. ○ Evaluation of effectiveness in updating the law. | <i>The ability to:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyse • Evaluate • Think critically • Learn independently • Work in groups/teams • Communicate effectively • Debate • Research • Write extensively • Compare similarities and differences between different legal cases and precedents |
| | | Section B: Criminal Law <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rules and Theory of Criminal Law: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Key principles of criminal liability, including actus reus and mens rea. ○ Different types of criminal offences (conduct, consequence, state of affairs). ○ Strict liability offences – definition and justifications. ○ Coincidence and transferred malice. • Non-Fatal Offences Against the Person: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Assault and battery. ○ Actual bodily harm (ABH). ○ Grievous bodily harm (GBH) and wounding – s.20 and s.18 Offences Against the Person Act 1861. ○ Evaluation of the law and proposals for reform. • Fatal Offences: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Murder – actus reus and mens rea. ○ Voluntary manslaughter: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Diminished responsibility. ▪ Loss of control. ○ Involuntary manslaughter: | |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Unlawful act manslaughter. ▪ Gross negligence manslaughter. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Property Offences: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Theft – as defined by the Theft Act 1968. ○ Robbery. ○ Burglary – s.9(1)(a) and s.9(1)(b). ○ Relevant case law and application to scenarios. • General Defences: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Insanity and automatism. ○ Intoxication (voluntary and involuntary). ○ Self-defence, defence of another, and prevention of crime. ○ Duress and necessity. • Attempts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Definition and application under the Criminal Attempts Act 1981. ○ Evaluation and case law related to attempts. <p><u>Homework: Cornell notes, Podcasts, Research projects, etc.</u></p> <p>Key Concepts and Skills: Description, Analysis, Evaluation, Judgement, Balanced Argument, Inference</p> | |
| Spring-Summer Term | H418/02: Law Making and the Law of Tort | <p>Section A: Law Making</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parliamentary Law Making: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The legislative process – stages a Bill goes through to become an Act of Parliament. ○ Different types of Bills: public, private, private members', hybrid. ○ Role of the House of Commons, House of Lords, and the Crown. ○ Evaluation of the advantages and disadvantages of the process. • Delegated Legislation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Types of delegated legislation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Statutory instruments ▪ By-laws ▪ Orders in Council ○ Controls on delegated legislation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Parliamentary (affirmative/negative resolutions) ▪ Judicial (judicial review) ○ Advantages and disadvantages of delegated legislation. • Statutory Interpretation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ (Revisited from H418/01) ○ Rules: literal, golden, mischief. ○ Aids: internal and external (e.g., Hansard). ○ Impact of interpretation on legal development. • Judicial Precedent: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ (Revisited from H418/01) ○ Binding, persuasive precedent. ○ Use of case law and precedent in judicial decision-making. ○ Advantages and disadvantages of the system. • Law Reform: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Role of the Law Commission, Royal Commissions, and public inquiries. ○ Effectiveness of different reform methods. ○ Relationship between reform bodies and Parliament. • European Union Law: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Nature and impact of EU law on UK law (limited following Brexit). ○ Types of EU law: treaties, regulations, | <p><i>The ability to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyse • Evaluate • Think critically • Learn independently • Work in groups/teams • Communicate effectively • Debate • Research • Write extensively • Compare similarities and differences between different legal cases and precedents |

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| | | <p>directives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relationship between UK courts and EU law (pre-Brexit context). | |
| | | <p>Section B: The Law of Tort</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liability in Negligence: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Duty of care – Donoghue v Stevenson and the Caparo test. Breach of duty – standard of care and risk factors. Causation and remoteness – factual and legal causation. Evaluation of negligence law and its development. Occupiers' Liability: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under the Occupiers' Liability Acts 1957 and 1984. Differences in duty owed to lawful visitors and trespassers. Application of relevant case law. Torts Connected to Land: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private nuisance – elements, defences, and remedies. Rylands v Fletcher – definition and key elements. Evaluation of these torts in practice. Vicarious Liability: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employer liability for torts committed by employees. Distinction between employee and independent contractor. Recent developments in case law (e.g., relationship akin to employment). Policy considerations and evaluation. Defences in Tort: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contributory negligence. Consent (volenti non fit injuria). Illegality (ex turpi causa) – limited coverage. Remedies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compensatory damages – special and general. Injunctions – prohibitory and mandatory. Evaluation of effectiveness. <p><u>Homework: Cornell notes, Podcasts, Research projects, etc.</u></p> <p>Key Concepts and Skills: Description, Analysis, Evaluation, Judgement, Balanced Argument, Inference</p> | |