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MODULE DESCRIPTOR

Module Title

Media Law

Reference	BSM128	Version	3
Created	February 2017	SCQF Level	SCQF 11
Approved	June 2018	SCQF Points	15
Amended	August 2017	ECTS Points	7.5

Aims of Module

To enable students to understand how the law impacts on journalism, exploring the role of key legal institutions and their constraints on media activity.

Learning Outcomes for Module

On completion of this module, students are expected to be able to:

- 1 Analyse and evaluate the basic structure and power of the Scottish legal system.
- 2 Analyse and justify the process of court reporting identifying relevant proceedings, terminology, restrictions and defences.
- 3 Critically compare and discuss how other legal forums operate including hearings and tribunals and any limitations on reporting that apply.
- 4 Identify and critically discuss key issues relating to official secrets, interdicts, elections and the role and code of practice of the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO) and OFCOM.

Indicative Module Content

The structure of Scottish legal system; restrictions on reporting proceedings in civil and criminal courts; tribunals, fatal accident inquiries and children's hearings; official secrets; election law; IPSO.

Module Delivery

This will be delivered in a series of lectures supported by tutorials.

Indicative Student Workload

	Full Time	Part Time
Contact Hours	36	36
Non-Contact Hours	114	114
Placement/Work-Based Learning Experience [Notional] Hours	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	150	150
<i>Actual Placement hours for professional, statutory or regulatory body</i>		

ASSESSMENT PLAN

If a major/minor model is used and box is ticked, % weightings below are indicative only.

Component 1

Type:	Coursework	Weighting:	50%	Outcomes Assessed:	1, 2
Description:	2000 word essay that critically examines aspects of Court Reporting (50%)				

Component 2

Type:	Coursework	Weighting:	50%	Outcomes Assessed:	3, 4
Description:	2000 word essay that critically examines aspects of General Reporting (50%)				

MODULE PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTOR

Explanatory Text

The Module is assessed by two components: C1 - Coursework - 50% weighting. C2 - Coursework - 50% weighting. Module Pass Mark = Grade D (40%)

Module Grade	Minimum Requirements to achieve Module Grade:
A	At least 70% on weighted aggregate and at least 35% in each component
B	At least 60% on weighted aggregate and at least 35% in each component
C	At least 50% on weighted aggregate and at least 35% in each component
D	At least 40% on weighted aggregate and at least 35% in each component
E	At least 35% on weighted aggregate
F	Less than 35% on weighted aggregate
NS	Non-submission of work by published deadline or non-attendance for examination

Module Requirements

Prerequisites for Module	None.
Corequisites for module	None.
Precluded Modules	None.

INDICATIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 1 ASHTON, C. et al., 2007. *Fundamentals of Scots law*. Edinburgh: Thomson/W.Green.
- 2 BLOY, D. and HADWIN, S., 2011. *Law and the media*. 2nd ed. London: Sweet & Maxwell.
- 3 McINNES, R., 2010. *Scots law for journalists*. 8th ed. Edinburgh: W Green.
- 4 QUINN, F., 2018. *Law for journalists*. 6th ed. New York: Pearson. *ebook*
- 5 SMARTT, U., 2006. *Media law for journalists*. London: Sage
- 6 SMARTT, U., 2017. *Media and Entertainment law*. 3rd ed. Abingdon: Routledge. *ebook*