

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

Module Title

Media Law			
Reference	LLM128	Version	2
Created	August 2023	SCQF Level	SCQF 11
Approved	June 2018	SCQF Points	15
Amended	August 2023	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	N/A
Non-Contact Hours	114	N/A
Placement/Work-Based Learning Experience [Notional] Hours	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	150	N/A
<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: 100% Outcomes Assessed: 1, 2, 3, 4
 Description: Essay that critically examines aspects of Court Reporting and General Reporting

MODULE PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTOR**Explanatory Text**

The module is assessed by way of a single assessment component weighted at 100%. A minimum grade D is required in order to pass the module.

Module Grade	Minimum Requirements to achieve Module Grade:
A	A
B	B
C	C
D	D
E	E
F	F
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 DEWART M. H., 2019. *The Scottish Legal System* 6th ed, London: Bloomsbury *ebook*
- 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., 2020. *Media & Entertainment Law* 5th ed. Abingdon: Routledge *ebook*
- 6 SMARTT, U., 2022. *Media and Entertainment law*. 5th ed. Abingdon: Routledge. *ebook*