

Module 33: English Constitutional Law

Stage		3					
Semester		1 or 2					
Module Title		LLBH-ECL					
Module Number		31					
Module Status		Elective					
Module ECTS Credits		5					
Module NFQ level		8					
Pre-Requisite Module Titles		None					
Co-Requisite Module Titles		None					
Capstone Module?		No					
List of Module Teaching Personnel		Dean David Langwallner					
Contact Hours				Non-contact Hours			Total Effort (hours)
24				76			100
Lecture	Practical	Tutorial	Seminar	Assignment	Placement	Independent Work	
24						76	100
Allocation of Marks (Within the Module)							
	Continuous Assessment	Project	Practical	Final Examination	Total		
Percentage Contribution				100	100		

Intended Module Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module, learners will be able to:

1. Display a critical understanding of English Constitutional Law and how it is different to Irish Constitutional law given the absence of a written Constitution.
2. Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the doctrine of separation of powers;
3. Display a comprehension of core issues such as prerogatives, parliamentary sovereignty and the rule of law
4. Have a comparative understanding of the English system compared to other constitutional cultures.
5. Critically appraise and assess the impact of the incorporation of the European Convention on Human Rights
6. Engage in detailed research on issues in English Constitutional Law and present analysis of this research in a clear manner

Module Objectives

1. Impart in learners a detailed picture as to the relevant components of English Constitutional Law.
2. Develop a comparative understanding of where the English system fits in with other constitutional cultures.
3. Assist in the development of a human rights consciousness in learners.
4. Discuss and apply fundamental constitutional principles in English constitutional law such as the separation of powers and judicial review.

Module Curriculum

- History of The English Legal System
- Court structures and powers
- Separation of Powers
- Parliamentary Sovereignty
- Prerogatives
- The Rule of Law
- The Human Rights Act
- Human Rights Protection in the English Constitution

Reading lists and other learning materials

Primary Reading:

Bradley & Ewing (2010) *Constitutional and Administrative law*. Harlow: Pearson
Barnett (2013) *Constitutional and Administrative Law*. London: Cavendish

Secondary Reading:

Alder (2011) *Constitutional and Administrative Law*. Basingstoke: Macmillan
Bailey, S. & Taylor, N. (2009) *Bailey, Harris & Jones: Civil Liberties cases and materials*. London: Butterworths
Jowell, J. & Oliver, D. (2011) *The Changing Constitution*. Oxford: OUP

Module Learning Environment

Accommodation

Lectures and workshops take place in a classroom setting. Participants also have access to online teaching resources and Moodle

Library

All learners have access to an extensive range of “physical” and “remote access” library resources. The library monitors and updates its resources on an on-going basis, in line with the College’s Library Acquisition Policy. Lecturers collaborate with the library in updating reading lists for this course on an annual basis as is the norm with all programmes run by Griffith College.

Module Teaching and Learning Strategy

This module is delivered through a series of lectures which consist of tutorial-style discussions, group work sessions and exercises. The lectures are supplemented by structured on-line resources and reading. The final two lectures consist of workshops seeking to directly enforce the module learning outcomes by engagement of practical application of English Constitutional Law to factual scenarios.

Learners also engage in collaborative work in pairs or groups to brainstorm what learning has been achieved at the end of lectures. In order to support learners through the exam process they engage in the answering of sample exam questions and correction of their own or peers' papers, thereby familiarising themselves with the marking criteria. Learners also engage in activities whereby they draft their own exam question in order to recap and reconsolidate a particular topic.

Module Assessment Strategy

Element No.	Weighting	Type	Description	Module Learning outcomes
1	100%	Exam	The examination consists of a choice of both essay and problem style questions. Essay style questions place emphasis on the learners' demonstrating their understanding of the fundamental principles of English Constitutional Law including such concepts as the rule of law, parliamentary sovereignty and prerogatives, thereby assessing learning outcomes 1 to 6. Problem style questions enable learners to apply principles of English Constitutional Law to a factual scenario, thereby assessing learning outcomes 1 to 6.	1-6

Sample Assessment with Rubrics - see Annex 2