

Criminal Litigation

Course Overview

This course is designed for non-lawyers and legal support staff wishing to work within, or to understand, the Criminal Law sphere.

This course is a very popular course and devoted exclusively to Criminal Litigation. It allows students to examine critically, and practically, the key subjects that underpin the criminal justice system in England and Wales.

The course considers important topics in the fields of criminal procedure and sentencing, which has been the focus of public attention in recent years, which has in turn generated a welter of legislative activity; the course presents the current position with a view to future changes in the pipeline.

Upon successful completion of the course, students will have gained substantial understanding of the fundamentals of criminal litigation; together with enhanced practical skills needed to work within this fast-paced and changing area.

Course Structure

- **An introduction to Criminal Law – Setting the scene**
 - Trial on Indictment
 - Summary Trial
 - Classes of Offences
 - Office and Legal Conduct
- **Preliminaries to Court Appearances**
 - 'PACE', Procedure, and Codes of Practice
 - Commencing a Prosecution: The Two Basic Methods
 - Arrest, investigate and charge
- **Prosecutors & Legal Personnel**
 - The Police
 - The Crown Prosecution Service
 - The Law Officers
 - Barristers / Counsel
 - Solicitors

- **The Decision to Prosecute**
 - Methods of commencing a prosecution
 - Alternatives to Prosecution – Decision and Consideration

- **The Wheel and Oil of the Criminal Justice System**
 - The Criminal Court Structure and the European Dimension
 - Youth Courts
 - Jurisdiction of the Courts
 - Bail and Remands
 - Mode of Trial
 - Disclosure
 - The Course of the Trial
 - Sentencing
 - The Crown Court

- Legal Word Processing & Essentials of Application & procedure (Practical sessions)