BIC3043-A module descriptor	
Module Title	Introduction to the English Legal System
Credit Level	10 credits (RQF Level 3)
Session	2026/7 academic year
BDA occurrence	Semester 1 available at University of Bradford
BDB occurrence	Semester 1 available at University of Bradford
BDA occurrence	Semester 3 available at University of Bradford
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Transparency notice

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BIC3043-A module aims

This module provides you with an introduction to the development, key features and operation of the English legal system including the two main sources of law (legislation and case law) and the way in which laws are created.

The learning outcomes and assessment focus primarily on knowledge and understanding of the legal system and process, but the module also uses a range of case studies to illustrate common legal practice and introduce critical approaches to the study of the discipline.

BIC3043-A module learning outcomes

No.	Students completing the module will be able to:
01	Identify and describe key features of the English legal system.
02	Explain the key differences between case law and statutory law, civil law and criminal law
03	Identify and explain the role of different courts and members of the English judiciary.

BIC3043-A module outline syllabus

History
the development over time of the English legal system, case law and statutory law, and the rights and obligations of citizens under the law (civil and criminal)

The Legislative Process
the way in which Parliament, members of the House of Commons and House of Lords and the Monarchy introduce, debate and approve new laws

The Courts
the function of the bodies (County Court, Magistrates Court, High Court, Crown Court, Court of Appeal, Supreme Court and Tribunals) that make up the UK courts system

The Judiciary
the role of different figures (judges, magistrates, tribunal members and coroners) in the court system, and the jury system.

Appeals
an overview of the appeals and review processes whereby higher courts reconsider or review verdicts and/or sentences.

Case Studies
critical analysis of real cases illustrate the operation of the law, as well as problems associated with interpretation and implementation.

For more information, visit the VLE (**Canvas**) page, go to our **Reading Lists webpage for this module** or search **https://bradford.rl.talis.com** for this module.

BIC3043-A module notional learning hours

- 60 hours Directed Study
- 40 hours Lectures

The overall expected hours may include contact time, scheduled learning activity, directed and independent study and any minimum expectations for placement learning. Most learning at the University of Bradford has some online content and sessions which are delivered fully by virtual means are labelled as "online".

BIC3043-A module learning, teaching and assessment

Groups are small and classes are student-centred, task-based and interactive.

The classroom approach is explicitly designed to help international students acquire new knowledge and skills, to build their confidence and enable them to become more independent learners. By doing this consistently and across all modules, the programme provides them with a strong foundation for further study in their chosen subject area.

The approach is inclusive and recognises that students come from different backgrounds with a range of previous learning experiences and associated expectations, beliefs and behaviours. Teaching and learning methods are clearly explained so students understand why (where appropriate) they need to engage in new ways of learning and why those they have used or relied on up to this point may be less suited to supporting their ongoing development and their chances of success in UK Higher Education.

Formative work is an integral part of the approach. In class, students are set tasks that require them to apply their knowledge and skills, to think critically and to solve problems. The level of challenge is gradually increased as the students grow in confidence and Tutors help them to see that experimentation, trial and error are central to the learning process, providing constructive feedback on both what has been achieved and how.

Students are also expected to engage in independent study, to reflect on their own performance and to discuss this with their module tutor or personal academic tutor, who will provide support and advice and, when necessary, draw the attention of the Academic Management Team to a struggling student using the Students of concern process.

Assessment develops foundational legal knowledge and the ability to apply legal principles to case-based scenarios.

The examination (100%) assesses Learning Outcomes 1-3 through short-answer, problem-solving and essay-style questions focused on the English legal system.

Formative opportunities include case-study analysis, mock examinations, seminar discussions and guided legal research activities.

Success is demonstrated through accurate use of legal terminology, understanding of legal processes and application of legal concepts to practical examples. To pass the module, students must achieve the University pass mark overall. Students who do not pass the first time will be given an opportunity to complete equivalent assessments that address the failed learning outcomes.

BIC3043-A mode of assessment

Type	Mode	Assessment description	Weight
Summative	Examination - Closed Book	Unseen examination covering LO1, LO2 and LO3	100%

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