

Aim:

This module will introduce the student to the legal system of England and Wales [Scotland].

The student will learn about the key features and institutions of UK constitutional law, including Parliament, the courts and the European Union.

The role of central government, local government and the devolved bodies will be examined.

Sources of law and the law making process will be identified and examined, leading to a study of the civil and criminal court structures, procedures and rules of evidence as they apply to Trading Standards investigations.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of this module, the student will be able to:

- explain what law is
- identify and explain the sources of law
- describe the nature, form and institutions of the UK's constitution, including the EU
- describe the law making process
- outline civil and criminal court structures
- describe the principles that apply to investigating trading standards breaches including the relevant rules of evidence

The following terms have been used to indicate the level of knowledge required in each element;

Detailed: To an in-depth level, and with a fine degree of distinction between concepts

Working: With the ability to apply the learning to situations so as to resolve problems

Basic: Having an awareness of the subject matter

Assessments will reflect the requisite level of knowledge in each given area of the syllabus

SYLLABUS	REFERENCE EVIDENCE	ASSESSOR COMMENT/AGREEMENT	MODERATOR COMMENT/AGREEMENT
Sources of Law - Detailed Knowledge			
Where do laws come from? Understanding what law is, what purposes laws have, who makes laws in the UK, Legislation - primary and secondary:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Case law - the concept of <i>stare decisis</i>. (Please note - the discussion of a system of precedent requires an understanding of the courts, however, this is only required at a basic level.) 			
The UK Constitution - Working Knowledge			
The nature of the UK's constitution - its key characteristics and idiosyncrasies compared to other democratic constitutions:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Legal and non-legal sources of the UK's constitution - legislation (including "constitutional" statutes), case law, EU law, international treaties, Parliamentary procedure and Conventions 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key concepts in the UK's constitution, such as the rule of law, Parliamentary sovereignty, separation of powers 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The legislative process in the UK Parliament 			
The European Union - Working Knowledge			
The European Union how it works, the kinds of laws it makes and how membership of it affects the UK legal system:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The history development and purposes of the EU 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Institutions of the EU 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EU laws - what they are, how they are made, and how they are implemented in the UK 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The relationship between EU and UK law 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The EU and consumer protection 			
Parliament and government - Working Knowledge			
The makeup and roles of our Parliament, government and devolved assemblies:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The form and role of central government - the 			

Commons, the Lords and the Sovereign			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The form and role of devolved assemblies - The Scottish Parliament, Welsh Assembly and Northern Ireland Assembly 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The form and role of local government 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government policy, guidance, reports, practice and papers relevant to this subject area. 			
Regulatory Offences and Law of Evidence - Basic Knowledge			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concepts of Mens rea, strict liability and vicarious liability in the context of trading standards 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rules of evidence that apply to Trading Standards Investigations 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Statutory controls on investigations - Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA), Regulation of Investigatory Powers (Scotland) Act 2000 (RIPSA), Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (PACE), Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996 (CPIA), Human Rights Act 1998, Enterprise Act 2002 (Part 9) 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enforcement powers and processes 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forms of Business entities and how that affects liability 			

Evidence Reference: Give all your evidence a reference number and allocate the correct reference, which demonstrate the particular aspect of the syllabus. Please use the following for the reflective statement.

RS = Reflective Statement