

Module Title:	The Irish Legal System
Language of Instruction:	English
Credits:	10
NFQ Level:	6
Module Delivered In	4 programme(s)
Teaching & Learning Strategies:	Lectures - communication of knowledge and ideas from the lecturer to the student. Problem Solving Exercises - student will work as part of a team and will work together to resolve various legal scenarios. Class Discussion/Debate - Students will be encouraged to actively participate in the class sessions which will develop their analytical and communication skills. E-Learning - It is envisaged that the module will be supported with on-line learning materials. Self-Direct Independent Learning - the emphasis on independent learning will develop a strong and autonomous work and learning practices.
Module Aim:	The aim of this module is to give students a thorough understanding of the Irish Legal System. Students will be introduced to a broad range of legal topics, giving them a basis on which to develop their legal knowledge. This module will establish a framework within which student can appreciate the relevance of the various law subjects they will study during their course.

Learning Outcomes	
<i>On successful completion of this module the learner should be able to:</i>	
LO1	Discuss the main sources of Irish law and appreciate their relative importance
LO2	Identify the various divisions within the law.
LO3	Differentiate between the functions of the various members of the legal profession.
LO4	Distinguish between the different courts in the Irish system and know the composition of each and which cases/offences are tried in each.
LO5	Discuss the doctrine of precedent as it operates in Ireland and be able to apply the doctrine to practical situations.
LO6	Identify the different types of legislation in Irish law and map the legislative process
LO7	Analyse the role and approaches of the courts in interpreting legislation.
LO8	Assess the relevance of the Constitution, the European Union and International law and their impact on the Irish legal system

Pre-requisite learning
Module Recommendations <i>This is prior learning (or a practical skill) that is recommended before enrolment in this module.</i>
No recommendations listed
Incompatible Modules <i>These are modules which have learning outcomes that are too similar to the learning outcomes of this module.</i>
No incompatible modules listed
Co-requisite Modules
No Co-requisite modules listed
Requirements <i>This is prior learning (or a practical skill) that is mandatory before enrolment in this module is allowed.</i>
No requirements listed

Module Content & Assessment

Indicative Content
Introduction to the Irish Legal System (10%) • Law and Laws • Common Law System • Sources of Law • Divisions of the Law – Substantive and Procedural
The Legal Profession (10%) • Introduction • Solicitors • Barristers • Reform of the Profession • Law Officers & Other Professionals
The Court System, the Judiciary and Court Administration (25%) • The Administration of Justice in Ireland – Main Features • The Court System in Ireland • First instance jurisdiction of the Courts • Appellate jurisdiction of the courts.
Alternative Dispute Resolution (5%) • Adjudicative Bodies and Quasi- Judicial Bodies • Arbitration • Negotiation, mediation, conciliation • The Injuries Board
Access to Justice (5%) • Legal Costs • Legal Aid
Remedies and Enforcement (5%) • Remedies in Civil Matters • Enforcement of Court Orders • Enforcement in Criminal Matters • Contempt of Court • Judicial Review
Precedent (10%) • Introduction – Law Reporting • Stare Decisis in the Irish Courts • Ratio Decidendi and Obiter Dictum • Precedent in Action
Legislation (15%) • Introduction to Legislation & Quasi-legislation • The Legislative Process & Product • Delegated Legislation • The Interpretation of Legislation
Introduction to European Community Law and the European Union (5%) • Introduction to the EU • The Form of EU Laws • The legal status of EU Law in Ireland – doctrines of supremacy and direct effect.
International Law (10%) • Introduction • Creation of Obligations between States • Membership of International Organisations and Bilateral Treaties • The Council of Europe, The UN and The World Trade Organisation • Private International Law

Assessment Breakdown	%
Continuous Assessment	40.00%
End of Module Formal Examination	60.00%

Continuous Assessment				
Assessment Type	Assessment Description	Outcome addressed	% of total	Assessment Date
Other	in-class examinations in term 1	1,2,3	20.00	n/a
Project	An essay/project /Presentation or in class examination	1,2,3,4	20.00	n/a

No Project

No Practical

End of Module Formal Examination				
Assessment Type	Assessment Description	Outcome addressed	% of total	Assessment Date
Formal Exam	End-of-Semester Final Examination	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8	60.00	End-of-Semester

ITCarlow reserves the right to alter the nature and timings of assessment

Module Workload

Workload: Full Time		
<i>Workload Type</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Average Weekly Learner Workload</i>
Lecture	30 Weeks per Stage	3.00
Estimated Learner Hours	30 Weeks per Stage	3.67
Total Hours		200.00

Workload: Part Time		
<i>Workload Type</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Average Weekly Learner Workload</i>
Lecture	Every Week	1.50
Total Hours		1.50

Module Delivered In

Programme Code	Programme	Semester	Delivery
CW_BBLAW_B	Bachelor of Business (Honours) in Business with Law	1	Mandatory
CW_BBLEG_C	Higher Certificate in Arts in Legal Studies	1	Mandatory
CW_BBLAW_C	Higher Certificate in Business with Law	1	Mandatory
CW_HHLAW_B	Honours Bachelor of Laws Degree - LLB	1	Mandatory