

Appendix B: Course Outline

English for Legal Studies

Course Outline

This is a three-week English for Legal Studies course. The students will work on a range of activities designed to develop their language skills in the context of legal English, broaden their understanding of their subject area, and extending their vocabulary and ability to discuss these subjects. In addition to legal English sessions, students will develop their academic seminar skills, spoken communication skills, and pronunciation.

Course Aims

- to develop reading, listening, discussion and writing skills in legal subjects
- to develop legal English vocabulary in a wide range of legal topics and to improve vocabulary-learning strategies
- to develop research skills, and formal academic presentation skills through a research project
- to develop overall proficiency and confidence in communicating in English
- to raise awareness of English pronunciation and to provide practice and feedback opportunities
- to enhance understanding of UK/Scottish legal system through classroom tasks, out-of-class experiences and research
- to encourage autonomy in learning

Legal English

The following is an outline of content of the legal English component of the course:

The UK Legal Profession

1. The different types of legal professional and their functions in the UK (English/Scottish systems)
2. Comparison with Japanese legal profession

The UK Legal System

1. Court System in the UK (English/Scottish systems)
2. Common (Case) Law system (contrasting with Civil Law i.e. Roman Law-based system)
3. Scottish Politics
4. Tour of the Scottish Parliament

Criminal Law

1. Criminal procedure
2. Landmark criminal cases (significant crimes that have impacted on the law e.g. Woolmington case)
3. Mini seminar-style discussions of situations that may give rise to criminal liability

Court Visit

1. Preparation for visit
2. Visit to see a criminal case in the Scottish courts

Poster Preparation & Presentation

1. Participants choose a case to research and present (important landmark case, case of particular interest)
2. Poster preparation (incl. online research)
3. Poster carousel Q & A.

Civil Law

1. Civil procedure
3. Landmark civil cases (significant cases that have impacted on the law e.g. the Paisley Snail)
4. Mini seminar-style discussions of situations that may give rise to civil liability

Review of Legal English

Vocabulary and legal concepts quiz

Academic Research Projects

Students will normally work in pairs to carry out an academic research project on an appropriate topic. Planning for these projects begins in Japan, with students selecting topics related to their subject area, under the guidance of their tutors at Kanazawa University. The research projects will involve background research, questionnaire design, and interviews (minimum of 15) with Edinburgh university students or members of the public. Teachers will guide the students throughout the process, advising on suitable sources of information and research subjects. Mentors will help with ideas and advice on data collection and delivery of the results. The research projects will be presented in the final week of the course, following input and practice on presentation language and skills in a formal academic setting.

Pre-Course preparation

Before arrival in Edinburgh, will receive some pre-course tasks to complete. The purpose of this is to help students prepare for the course content through listening, reading and vocabulary tasks. These will be checked and discussed once in Edinburgh.

Timetable: English for Legal Studies

| Week 1 | Session A 9.15-10.45 | C O F F E E | Session B 11.15-12.45 | L U N C H | Session C 2.00-3.40 |
|----------------|---|----------------------------|--|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| Mon 20/02 | Course Introduction and Orientation | | Interview with a teacher & Pre-arrival tasks | | City Coach Tour |
| Tue 21/02 | The UK Legal Profession Roles of Solicitor, Barrister, Judge | | Conversation Strategies: Asking and Answering questions | | Research Projects : Introduction |
| Wed 22/02 | The UK Legal Profession Training and Qualifications | | The UK Legal System Lecture: David Caulton | | <i>Ceilidh 3hrs</i> 16.00-19.00 |
| Thurs 23/02 | The UK Legal System The Court System | | The UK Legal System Structure of the Courts | | Research Projects: Preparation |
| Fri 24/02 | Weekly Language Review | | Class Start: 11.15 External Visit: The Scottish Parliament (Booked for 12.00) | | |

| Week 2 | Session A 9.15-10.45 | C O F F E E | Session B 11.15-12.45 | L U N C H | Session C 2.00-3.40 |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Mon 27/02 | Sources of Law | | Criminal Law: Crime and Punishment | | Research Project Presentation Skills |
| Tues 28/02 | Criminal Law: The Theft Act | | Criminal Law (seminar) | | Research Project Presentation Skills : Sounding natural |
| Wed 01/03 | Preparation for Visit | | Court Visit | | |
| Thurs 02/03 | Poster Preparation Research a Case | | Poster Preparation Research a Case | | Research Project Presentation skills : Language and Practice |
| Fri 03/03 | Poster Presentations | | Weekly Language Review | | |

| Week 3 | Session A 9.15-10.45 | C O F F E E | Session B 11.15-12.45 | L U N C H | Session C 2.00-3.40 |
|----------------|--|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Mon 06/02 | Academic Seminar Skills | | Academic Seminar Skills | | Research Project Presentation skills : Facts and figures/using visuals |
| Tues 07/02 | Civil Law & Criminal Law 1 | | Civil Law & Criminal Law 2 | | Research Project Presentation Skills Practice |
| Wed 08/02 | Statute Law 1 | | Statute Law 2 | | |
| Thurs 09/02 | Research Project Rehearsals and Guidance | | Research Project Final Presentations | | Research Project Final Presentations |
| Fri 10/02 | Review Activities Language and Culture Quiz | | Feedback, Evaluations and Farewell | | <i>Free</i> |