



INSTEP-WFU London

## LAW AND SOCIETY

### **Syllabus:**

This course provides a general introduction to the sources of law of the English and Welsh legal system and how that law is implemented and enforced. It starts with a general outline of the various sources that the United Kingdom draws upon for its law, which will then be discussed in more detail throughout the course. It then examines the relationship that exists between the three institutions that make up the constitution of the United Kingdom, the executive, the legislature and the judiciary, and their respective parts in the law-making process. The course then covers how legislation is created through Parliament and the political process which led to the enactment of the Human Rights Act, and the effect the Act has had on the traditional relationship between Parliament and the Courts. The course then outlines the role of the courts and the court structure and the methods the judiciary use to interpret legislation through the courts. Judicial law-making is then discussed through the development of the common law and how judges create law through case law and the system of precedent. The course then focuses on the area of judicial review, which is the means by which the courts control the exercise of governmental power and the conflict this creates between the executive and the judiciary. Finally, the course focuses on the European Community and Union and how community law is incorporated into United Kingdom law as well as the impact of Brexit.

### **Course structure:**

The course will be taught via a mixture of on-site seminars and field trips.

### **Assessment:**

The assessment is in four parts:

- A portfolio of tasks (three) based on each independent study week and immersion session (formative – assessed via the reflection)
- A 1,000 words personal reflection on the English legal system based on the portfolio and the course (45%)
- 2,000 words essay on one of the topics covered in class (45%)
- Class participation and attendance worth 10%.