

## Example of the Syllabus of year one for the LLB (Hons) External Law Degree

Intermediate examination (4 subjects)

### **Criminal law** **[2690010 (Diploma); 2650010 (LLB)]**

#### **(a) Nature of criminal law**

Definition. Classification of crimes. Comparison with other branches of law. Social purposes of criminal law. Crime and morality.

#### **(b) Principles**

General principles of liability

1. *Actus Reus* (Conduct)
  - Acts and omissions
  - Consequences
  - Surrounding circumstances
2. *Mens Rea* (States of mind)
  - Intention
  - Recklessness
  - Knowledge
  - Negligence
  - Strict and vicarious liability
3. *Capacity*
  - Corporations
  - Minors

*General defences.* Mistake. Necessity. Compulsion. Superior orders. Automatism. Insanity. Drunkenness.

*Participation in offences.* Principals and secondary parties (abettors, counselling). Participation after offences committed (assisting offenders, concealing offences).

*Anticipatory Offences.* Attempts. Incitement. Conspiracy.

#### **(c) Specific offences**

*Homicide.* Murder. Manslaughter. Infanticide. Child destruction. Causing death by reckless driving. Diminished responsibility, provocation, suicide pacts and self-defence.

*Non-fatal offences against the person.* Assault and battery. Racially aggravated assaults. Wounding and causing grievous bodily harm. Administering poison. Abortion and child destruction. Harassment contrary to Prevention of Harassment Act 1997. Racially-aggravated harassment.

*Offences against property.* Theft. Criminal deception (obtaining services, property and pecuniary advantage). Making off. False accounting. Removal of things from public places. Taking motor cars and other conveyances including the aggravated offence. Burglary. Robbery. Blackmail. Handling stolen goods. Forgery. Counterfeiting. Arson and criminal damage. Racially aggravated criminal damage. Offences under the Criminal Law Act, 1977 as amended by the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994.

**[Note:** While sexual offences will not be examined as specific offences, many examples of cases illustrating general principles (consent, mistake, duress etc.) involve sexual offences and students will be expected to have knowledge of these].

### **Public law** **[2690020 (Diploma); 2650020 (LLB)]** **(amended syllabus)**

(a) *Introduction.* Characteristics of the constitution. Sovereignty of Parliament. Separation of powers. Rule of Law. Sources of the constitution. The structure of the United Kingdom. Central government, devolution and local government.

(b) *Parliament. House of Commons: Composition and functions:* Electoral law and reform. Composition and procedure. Functions (i) Legislative (ii) Financial (iii) Control of the Executive (iv) Role of the MP as an individual (v) Parliamentary privilege. *House of Lords:* Composition and functions.

(c) *The Executive and Administration.* Crown and the Privy Council. Prime Minister and the Cabinet. Civil Service. Sources of executive power including the Royal prerogative. Delegated legislation. Ministerial responsibility. Control of Executive power: (i) Parliamentary: Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration. (ii) Judicial: Judicial review. Remedies.

(d) *The European Union.* Institutions of the European Union: (i) The Council (ii) The Commission (iii) The Parliament (iv) The Court of Justice. Sources of Community law. Community law and national law. Community primacy and Parliamentary sovereignty.

(e) *The citizen and the state.* Statutory protection of human rights in the United Kingdom. European Convention on Human Rights and the Human Rights Act 1998. Public Order Law. State Security.