

# **The Big Issues in Irish Law Today**



This introductory law course will explain the fundamental principles of the Irish legal system. It does not presume any prior knowledge of this topic.

Law is interesting because it attempts to account for the diverse range of human activity and the many ways in which peoples' actions affect others.

## **What will we cover in this course?**

We will begin by examining the theories and sources of law.

That is, the philosophical ideas that underpin laws and the origins of laws.

We will then turn to the Irish Legal System, explaining how the courts operate and the legal personnel involved: solicitors, barristers, Judges and so forth.

We will then look at the Irish Constitution which outlines the rights and responsibilities of citizens.

We will focus on the fundamental rights that citizens are afforded under the Constitution.

Some of the topics may include:

- The right to life
- the right to equality,
- the right to a fair trial,
- property and religious rights,
- the right to privacy,
- the right to join a trade union,
- the right to free primary education
- the history of the right to life of the unborn
- the right to die a natural death,
- the rights accorded to children
- the rights accorded to the Family

We may also visit the courts if there is a desire to do so.

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