

**Syllabus**  
**English Legal Institutions**  
**Santa Clara University School of Law**  
**2015 Oxford Summer Abroad Program**

**Course description**

To complement its three-unit tutorial offering, the Santa Clara University School of Law Oxford Summer Abroad Program offers a two-unit course educating students about English legal systems and institutions and other selected topics.

Students attend a series of lectures on selected topics, each given by a distinguished scholar associated with Oxford University, take three field trips, and write a paper. Each of these requirements is described below.

**Lectures**

Five lectures, each 2-1/3 hours

Lecture 1

The English legal educational system, including the tutorial system, and an introduction to English land law, presented by Roger Smith, professor and tutorial fellow in law at Magdalen College, Oxford University

Lecture 2

The nature of parliamentary sovereignty in the United Kingdom, presented by Peter Mirfield, Emeritus Professor of Law, Jesus College, Oxford University

Lecture 3

Deconstructing environmental law, presented by Liz Fisher, Professor of Environmental Law, Corpus Christi College, Oxford University

Lecture 4

Governance of the arms trade, presented by Laurence Lustgarten, Associate Research Fellow, Centre for Socio-Legal Studies, Visiting Senior Research Fellow, Green Templeton College, Oxford University

Lecture 5

Development of a privacy tort in the United Kingdom, presented by Roderick Bagshaw, Associate professor and tutorial fellow in law at Magdalen College, Oxford University

## **Field trips**

A history and tour of the world famous Bodleian Library, including an introduction to its collection of law related material.

A tour of “legal London:” the Royal Courts of Justice, the Inns of Court, and Parliament.

A discussion with Oxford solicitor Lucy Tapper about the division of legal work between barristers and solicitors and her work as a solicitor, followed by her guided tour of Oxford criminal courts, observation of criminal proceedings, and a meeting with a judge.

## **Paper**

Following the lectures and field trips, students must research and write a 15-20 page paper on a topic of their choice inspired by one of the lectures. For example, inspired by the lecture on development of a privacy tort in England, the student may wish to compare the development and scope of the privacy tort in the United States with the development of a privacy tort in England. Scholars giving the lectures will be invited to suggest appropriate paper topics relating to the lecture.

Students must submit the paper by e-mail by Monday, August 24, 2015 (i.e. within three weeks of the end of the program), to program co-director Patty Rauch at [prauch@scu.edu](mailto:prauch@scu.edu). The co-directors of the program will grade the papers on a letter grading scale. The student’s grade on the paper, together with attendance at the lectures and field trips, will determine a student’s grade in the course.