



Faculté de Droit  
et Science politique  
CAMPUS DE SAINT-QUENTIN-EN-YVELINES

Année 2023-2024

LDRT98: Advanced English (Oral) Semester 4

**ENSEIGNANT :** Kirsty Mitchell Castex

**CONTACT :** [kirsty.mitchell@uvsq.fr](mailto:kirsty.mitchell@uvsq.fr)

### **DESCRIPTION GÉNÉRALE DU COURS**

Through a focus on themes linked to criminal justice, this course will build on students' knowledge and vocabulary from legal English classes in semester three to enable them to express and defend their ideas on a range of legal topics. The second half of the course will enable students to gain deeper insight into criminal law and procedure through participation in mock trials or moot courts.

### **OBJECTIFS VISÉS ET COMPÉTENCES ACQUISES**

The course aims to develop students' oral English through interactive discussions and group projects including producing podcasts on current issues linked to criminal law. Students will learn to structure their oral argumentation and persuade an audience. Students will also work on their pleading and advocacy skills through their participation in mock trials or moot courts.

### **DÉROULE DES SÉANCES**

#### **Course outline 2024 (subject to modification):**

**Topic 1:** racism and the criminal justice system – to what extent does systemic racism exist and how should it be tackled?

**Topic 2:** gender-based violence and criminal justice – including questions like why the prosecution and conviction rates for sexual violence are so low

**Topic 3:** inequality and criminal justice – access to justice, the right to legal representation

**Topic 4:** criminal responsibility and minors: how should the justice system deal with young offenders?

**Topic 5:** Criminal justice: juries – are they worthwhile or unreliable?

**Topic 6:** Criminal sentencing, including of minors – what are the aims of criminal justice? How effective are custodial and non-custodial sentences in achieving those aims?

+ **practical application through mooting / mock trials**

## **MODE D'ÉVALUATION**

Contrôle continu

Examen Terminal

Oral

Ecrit

As well as participating in class conversations and informal debates, students will work in groups to prepare podcasts and mock trials or moot courts. Although teamwork is essential for these activities, assessment will be individual.

## **PRÉREQUIS**

A level of at least B2 in English. Some knowledge of technical legal English vocabulary would be an advantage.

## **BIBLIOGRAPHIE**

Material for this course will be provided via e-campus or in class. Students should keep abreast of current affairs in the areas covered by the course by listening to broadcasts or podcasts and reading articles from reliable sources (e.g. the BBC, PBS, The Economist, The Guardian, Politico etc.)