

Defamation



Course outline

Course Tutor:

FRANCIS SHENNAN

DURATION:

1 SESSION OF 120 MINUTES VIA ZOOM

Course Content:

Defamation in Scotland has changed dramatically in Scotland as it already has in England. The Defamation & Malicious Publication (Scotland) Act has introduced new defences for journalists and the English courts have been spelling out how similar defences will be applied there. Carole Cadwalladr won a high-profile libel trial because of these changes.

As more people are expressing themselves online via social media and new media outlets, a key aim will be focused on the defamation threats that can occur online.

Key Topics:

Basics of defamation: Definition & meaning, Harm (thresholds & severity).

Defamation in the digital age.

What defences are available including Truth, Honest Opinion, Absolute and Qualified Privilege.