



**UNIVERSITY OF
LIMERICK**
OLLSCOIL LUIMNIGH

School of
Law



An Garda Síochána
Ireland's National Police & Security Service

Policing and Human Rights Law in Ireland

ul.ie





Programme overview:

This programme is a bespoke training programme for An Garda Síochána and has been accredited by the University of Limerick. The course will be delivered completely online in an asynchronous (not real time) format. The aim of this module is to provide participants with an introduction to the workings and jurisprudence of the European Convention on Human Rights, particularly as it relates to policing in Ireland. The central focus will be upon the application of the European Convention on Human Rights, and the module will also examine relevant Irish jurisprudence and case law within the various topics. Lectures are delivered by staff in the School of Law, UL and by senior staff in An Garda Síochána.

On successful completion of this programme, it is expected that students will be able to:

- Examine the concept of human rights;
- Outline the different human rights norms and mechanisms which are part of international and domestic law;
- Apply human rights norms to policing in Ireland;
- Demonstrate a clear understanding of the human rights mechanisms provided by the United Nations and the European Convention on Human Rights systems;
- Critique a range of discrete contemporary human rights issues within a legal framework;
- Appraise the efficacy of human rights law across several jurisdictions through focusing on pertinent case-law;
- Assess the role and future of human rights in the international legal landscape and utilise this learning to embed human rights across the Garda organisation and to encourage continued development of human rights initiatives.

Overview of programme structure:

This Human Rights based Police training programme is a 12 week course (with an online induction) culminating in a certificate awarded by the University of Limerick at Level 8 in the National Framework of Qualifications. Course content will be released to students on a weekly basis and can be accessed via the virtual learning environment portal (VLE) called Moodle.

Grading for this programme is based on the following activities:

- Weekly e-tivity: 20% of grade
- Sixty multiple choice style questions: 50% of grade
- 500 word case analysis: 30% of grade

Students on the course will have to achieve a grade of 50% or higher in order to pass the programme.



Programme content

Week	Topic
1	Introduction: Rights and the Rule of Law
2	Human Rights and Equality
3	Human Rights and Stop, Search and Entry
4	Human Rights and Arrest and Detention
5	Surveillance and Privacy
6	Rights and the Gathering of Evidence
7	Rights and the Use of Force
8	Rights and Victims of Crime
9	Rights and Vulnerable Witnesses and Suspects
10	Rights, Public Order, and Protest
11	Diversity and Human Rights
12	Hate Crime and Policing



Entry requirements:

This course is open to Garda Staff and sworn Garda members.

Students supports:

Each student will have access to educational resources at the University of Limerick. They will have access to the library, the relevant law databases, and will also be provided with moderator, induction and administrative support. An Garda Síochána Crime Legal Human Rights Section will be available as a continuous support for students throughout the training and can be contacted at CrimeLegal.HumanRights@garda.ie.



University of Limerick

Course Director:

Professor Shane Kilcommins

Email: shane.kilcommins@ul.ie

An Garda Síochána

Course Contact:

Chief Superintendent Alan McGovern

Email: Alan.F.McGovern@Garda.ie