English Legal History since the Middle Ages

Englische Rechtsgeschichte seit dem Mittelalter*

*Achtung – Dieser Kurs wird in englischer Sprache abgehalten – anrechenbar als Fremdsprachenkompetenz gem § 21 StP und im WFK „Europäische und vergleichende Rechtsgeschichte“

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Di 31.10.2017, 14.00-17.00, U12
Mi 08.11.2017, 14.00-17.00, U16
Mi 15.11.2017, 14.00-17.00, U16
Mi 13.12.2017, 14.00-17.00, U16
Mo 08.01.2018, 14.00-17.00, U12
Fr 19.01.2018, 14.00-17.00, U17

This is an introduction to English legal history from the middle ages. It seeks to understand the origins and development of English law from the twelfth century onwards and to see how the law worked and developed in the context of its time – both practically and the theory of how it was supposed to work. The course will study (but will not be limited to): the history and development of substantive and procedural law in England; how the law was exported (America & Ireland); crime, society and criminal law; women & minorities and the law; the development of the land law; legal education & recruitment; legal writing and reporting; the development of the courts and the jury systems; treason; parliamentary law and the development of the unwritten constitutional tradition.

Students may wish to do some advance general reading before the course begins:
T.G. Barnes, Shaping the Common Law: From Glanvill to Hale, 1188-1688 (Stanford, 2009)

Any short histories of England you can find as general background reading (feel free to read these auf Deutsch if you wish), paying particular attention to law, parliament, the constitution, etc.

*Teaching and examination of this course is through English. Students should have a good working knowledge of English to take this course.