

GCE

LAW:

Property offences, including theft
and robbery

Theft

SUGGESTED IDEAS FOR
TEACHING/LEARNING



SUGGESTED IDEAS FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING

Teacher /Lecturer:	
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Course:	A2 Law
Topic:	Property offences, including theft and robbery
Session:	Theft

Unit:	A2 Units 3 and 4
Ref. to specification:	Criminal Law
Suggested time allocation:	6-8 hours

Aims & Objectives: At the end of these sessions the student will be able to:

- **UNDERSTAND** that there are different property offences
- **CLEARLY EXPLAIN** the actus reus and mens rea of theft
- **APPLY** the law of theft to given scenarios
- **DISCUSS** reform of the law on theft

Main Teaching and Learning Activities

Teacher/Lecturer Activities:

- Clearly outline the aims and objectives of the session as detailed above.
- Discuss the various property offences and their basic differences.
- Review the two elements that are required to be proved for theft, i.e. actus reus and mens rea, with questions to the students – refer to Theft Act 1968 s.1-7.
- Explain the elements of the offence of theft with reference to the Theft Act – actus reus and mens rea.
- Using the power point presentation, ask and answer any questions that come up throughout.
- Get the group to think and discuss the points/questions referred to in the power point.
- Using the power point presentation, go through the details relating to the case law cited.
- Set homework for students to research reform of the law to present next lesson.
- Provide case studies for the students to start to apply the elements of the law of theft.

Student Activities:

- Answer revision questions at the start of the session
- Ask and answer questions throughout presentation, taking comprehensive notes throughout.
- Participate in whole group discussion relating to property offences

Suggested links / resources:

- IWB/Whiteboard
- Any good A Level Criminal Law textbook
- Handouts
- Internet use

Assessment of Learning

During the lesson	Students will be continually assessed as they participate in the session – asking and answering questions, involvement in small group work, whole group discussions or feedback. They will also be assessed on note taking to ensure they have sufficient details for revision purposes.
Subsequent to lesson	Homework requires the students to conduct a short piece of research on the internet and write up what they find. Students to be provided with case studies and to start to apply the law on theft.

TOPIC: Theft

Questions:		Expected answers:
1.	Name the three property offences	Theft, robbery and burglary
2.	What is the actus reus of theft?	Appropriation Property Belonging to another
3.	What is the mens rea of theft?	Dishonesty Intention to permanently deprive.
4.	What is the maximum penalty for theft?	7 years imprisonment. It is a TEW offence.
5.	Are there things that cannot be stolen?	Yes. They are set out in section 4(3) and 4(4) Theft Act 1968. Provide examples.
6.	What did the R v Ghosh case establish?	Provides the test for the jury on what is to be regarded as dishonestly. 1. Has the defendant been dishonest by the standards of the ordinary, honest and reasonable person? 2. If the answer is yes, then did the defendant realise that they were dishonest by those standards? If the answer is yes to both questions then the defendant can be legally dishonest.