This is a time of unprecedented change and growing complexity in the area of employment law. Understanding these developments is of critical importance to those seeking to navigate the sometimes confusing pathway through the workplace environment. The IPLS is delighted to bring together a team of leading employment law practitioners, and two judges, to deliver a course which will provide a thorough grounding in the key components and latest developments in this highly specialised area of law.

WE WILL COVER THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:

- Overview of practice within the Tribunals
- Whistleblowing
- Equal Pay
- Remedies within employment context
- Advanced practice & procedure

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

The course will appeal to those in both the public and private sectors: legal practitioners, employers, company directors, regulatory bodies, and HR professionals.

COURSE CO-ORDINATORS

Ryan Cushley BL

Ryan Cushley was called to the Bar in 2014 and practices primarily in employment law. He also acts for both Claimants and Respondents in the Tribunals, as well as acting in employment-related cases in the civil courts. Since 2018, Ryan has been responsible for teaching the employment law module at the Institute of Professional Legal Studies, and he is a committee member of the Employment Lawyers Group Northern Ireland.

Emma McIlveen BL

Emma has appeared in the Employment Tribunal, Court of Appeal and High Court in relation to discrimination, harassment, whistleblowing, redundancy and unfair dismissal cases. Emma represents both Claimants and Respondents and has acted as sole counsel in a wide range of matters including complex discrimination matters. Emma is a member of the Employment Lawyers Group Northern Ireland.

SPEAKERS

Judge Hamill

Conor Hamill has been an Employment Judge since 2019 and was Barrister speculating in employment law for the preceding 20 years.

Rachel Best BL

Having been called to the Bar in 2006, Rachel is an expert in high value, very complex litigation and is well known as a highly skilled and experienced advocate. She specialises in employment law, most notably discrimination, equal pay, protected disclosures and viciniations, representing both Claimants and respondents. She is regularly instructed on behalf of Government Departments and the Police Service for Northern Ireland. Rachel also has experience of representing cases of professional misconduct and has a well established High Court personal injury practice.

Judge Murray

Odie Murray has been a full time Employment Judge since 2009 and was a fee-paid Employment Judge for five years before that. She qualified as a solicitor in 1993 and spent just under 10 years in private practice during most of which she was engaged in plaintiffs litigation in the County Court and High Court and in employment law for a firm of solicitors which acted for a large Trade Union. She then joined the Departmental Solicitor’s Office and spent 12 years working in employment law and policy work for NICS departments. She was a member of the Law Society’s Human Rights and ADR committees for several years. She was also on the committee of the Employment Lawyers’ Group for several years and was elected chair of ELG in 2001.

Ciara Fulton, Partner, Lewis Silken Solicitors

Ciara is dual qualified and advises on all aspects of employment law in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. She has significant experience of advising clients on the full range of employment issues including complex discrimination, equal pay, protected disclosures and unlawful dismissals. Ciara has a wealth of experience in high value, very complex litigation and is well known as a highly skilled and experienced advocate. She specialises in employment law, most notably discrimination, equal pay, protected disclosures and viciniations, representing both Claimants and respondents. She is regularly instructed on behalf of Government Departments and the Police Service for Northern Ireland. Rachel also has experience of representing cases of professional misconduct and has a well established High Court personal injury practice.

Mary Kitson, Senior Legal Officer, Equality Commission NI

Mary qualified as a solicitor in 1992. She worked for a commercial law firm for 1 year before joining the Fair Employment Commission’s legal team. During her time with the FEC Mary worked as a Legal Officer providing advice and assistance to people who believed that they had suffered discrimination and/or political discrimination. In 2000 Mary joined the Equality Commission as a Senior Legal Officer with strategic litigation across all areas of equality law in NI, both in the field of employment and the provision of services. Mary has brought discrimination cases on behalf of Affiliates to the Tribunal, County Court, SEND/C Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court.

Paul Upson, Associate Director, Napier Solicitors-Head of Employment

Paul has over 16 years post qualification experience in employment law. He advises on all aspects of employment law, both contentious and non-contentious – with a special interest in discrimination matters. He acts for clients in the Industrial Tribunals and the Fair Employment Tribunal, the High Court, and the Northern Ireland Court of Appeal. Paul regularly provides advice to clients on employment law and equality issues. He has presented courses on discrimination law for LEGALI and the School of Law, bangor University, and worked with Chartered Accountants Ireland to provide employment law updates to their members. He also writes LEGALI’s Quarterly Education Law Update, which includes guidance for schools in relation to employment law issues. Paul is a committee member of the Employment Lawyers Group for Northern Ireland and is a member of the Employment Lawyers Association.

Course Details

VENUE

Institute of Professional Legal Studies Queen’s University Belfast, 10 Lennoville, Belfast, BT9 5BY

DATES

Tuesday 13th September 2022
Tuesday 20th September 2022
Tuesday 27th September 2022
Tuesday 4th October 2022
Tuesday 11th October 2022
Tuesday 18th October 2022

Each night the sessions will be from 6pm-8.15pm with refreshments available from 5.30pm.

CPD

Time spent by solicitors and barristers attending lectures and workshops in person or completing these via e-learning as part of this course can be claimed towards your annual CPD requirement. Attendance at this course will cover 9 hours of group study CPD.

FEES AND REGISTRATION

£600

Applicants will be considered on a first-come first-served basis. Spaces are limited on the course and therefore you should register and pay as soon as possible by visiting our website at https://www.qub.ac.uk/schools/Instituteprofessionallegalsudies/CPDCourses/
How to get more information

Visit our website for the latest availability, dates and fees:
www.qub.ac.uk/schools/instituteofprofessionallegalservices/ or contact us on 028 9097 5699
or e-mail: Claire Armstrong on c.a.armstrong@qub.ac.uk

Institute of Professional Legal Studies
Queen’s University Belfast
10 Lennoxvale
Belfast
BT9 5BY