

THURSDAY 5TH OCTOBER
PROF JOANNE CONAGHAN
PROFESSOR OF LAW AND HEAD OF SCHOOL OF LAW, UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL

Prof Conaghan has written extensively about issues relating to gender and law and is widely recognized as a leading international scholar in that field. Her research standing is evidenced by the publication of her monograph, *Law and Gender* (2014) in the prestigious Clarendon Law Series (OUP) and by her appointment as a Fellow of The Academy of Social Sciences(2011).

On Thursday 5th October Prof Conaghan will be visiting the School of Law, Northumbria University to deliver the following seminars:

Time: 11.00

Venue: CCE-402

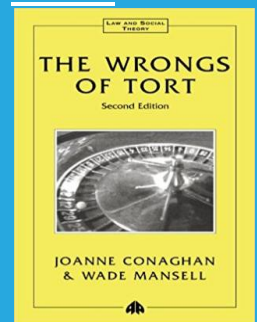
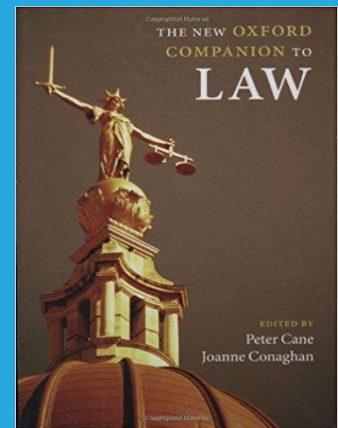
Title: REF2021: Prof Conaghan will share here experiences of serving as Deputy Chair of the 2014 REF law sub-panel, having previously served on the RAE2008 law sub-panel. This seminar is particularly timely as we await the response to Lord Stern’s Independent Review of the REF 2014 and prepare for REF 2021.

Time: 15.30:

Venue: CCE-402

Title: Policing, Professionalism and Liability for Negligence:

Should the police should be liable for negligence relating to the carrying out of their investigative and crime-suppressing functions? The current position, as recently reaffirmed in *Michael v South Wales Police* (2015) is that no duty of care is owed in such circumstances although a separate claim, relying on human rights law, has been allowed to proceed and a similar claim against the police for failings in the context of a rape investigation has recently come before the Supreme Court in *D v Chief Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police* (judgement pending). This paper considers whether the concept of professionalism can cast new light on the doctrinal and policy dilemmas the courts encounter in determining the scope of police liability in such circumstances. It explores ideas of professionalism, drawing on the sociological literature and looks at how these ideas take legal shape and form in the field of professional negligence, focusing in particular on the ways professionalism has informed the scope and content of the duty of care. Thereafter, the paper probes understandings of the police as professionals, including in the relevant case law, and considers the extent to which such understandings bear upon the question of whether and when the police should owe members of the public a duty of care. It concludes by suggesting that the



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