

zoom

## TRAINING SESSION

**COURSE:** Defamation  
**DURATION:** 1 session of 120 minutes  
**TUTORS:** Francis Shennan

### OUTLINE:

This course will teach, over 2 hours :

#### **Programme:**

Defamation in Scotland is about to change dramatically. When the Scottish Parliament resumes normal business it is expected to pass the Defamation & Malicious Publication Bill. It is set to make radical changes to what journalists can and cannot publish, with new requirements for what amounts to defamation and new defences that journalists can call upon.

As more people are expressing themselves online via social media and new media outlets, a key aim will be focused on the defamation threats that can occur online.

#### Key Topics:

Basics of defamation: Definition & meaning, Harm (thresholds & severity)

Defamation in the digital age, what defences are available: Veritas o Reynolds test, Fair Comment, Privileges (absolute vs. qualified)

Publication & republication: Responsibilities & liabilities, Multiple Publication rule