

UNIVERSITY OF
WESTMINSTER



CENTRE FOR
LEGAL
EDUCATION
AND THE
LEGAL
PROFESSION

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Law School of the Future

Date: Tuesday 8th September 2026

Location: Westminster Law School, University of Westminster, London (on-site and online)

Overview

The Centre for Legal Education and the Legal Profession, Westminster Law School, University of Westminster, is delighted to announce its second annual free one-day hybrid symposium. At a time of significant change and challenge across higher education and the legal sector, this symposium provides an important opportunity for legal educators, academics, legal professionals, and sector stakeholders to come together as a community to reflect on and help shape the future of legal education and the development of the next generation of lawyers.

Reflecting this year's themes, the symposium will explore key issues shaping contemporary legal education, including curriculum development and innovation; the opportunities and challenges presented by legal technology, AI, and digital transformation; student engagement; assessment and feedback; employability; widening participation; wellbeing; and the development of the "human lawyer" — focusing on the interpersonal, ethical, reflective, and professional skills that remain central to legal practice in a changing world.

The symposium aims to support Law Schools and legal educators in sharing ideas, research, and practical approaches to preparing students for both academic success and professional life, while fostering inclusive, resilient, and forward-looking legal learning environments. Through collaboration and the exchange of best practice, the event seeks to strengthen the legal education community and encourage meaningful dialogue about the future direction of legal education and the profession.

Suggested Themes

This year's symposium will explore the future of legal education, the evolving legal profession, and the opportunities and challenges shaping law schools, students, and practitioners in a rapidly changing world. We welcome proposals that engage with innovation, curriculum development, employability, wellbeing, ethics, generative AI and legal technology, and the broader transformation of legal education and practice.

Topics may include, but are not limited to:

The Future Legal Profession: Technology, Innovation & Change

- The changing nature of legal practice and professional identity
- Innovation, technology, and the future of legal services
- Preparing students for evolving professional environments
- Emerging trends shaping the legal sector and legal education

Human Skills, Judgment & Ethics

- The importance of human skills in legal education and practice
- Ethics, professionalism, and responsible innovation
- Critical thinking, advocacy, and communication
- Balancing technological change with human judgment and values

Reimagining the Law Curriculum & Student Experience

- Curriculum innovation and inclusive legal education
- Assessment, feedback, and student engagement
- Clinical legal education and experiential learning
- Supporting student confidence, digital capability, and belonging

Careers, Employability & New Professional Pathways

- Graduate employability and future career pathways
- Collaboration between universities and the legal profession
- Developing professional skills and work-readiness
- New opportunities and alternative routes within the legal sector

Submission Guidelines

We welcome contributions from academics, legal practitioners, education specialists, and particularly encourage PhD students and early career academics to submit abstracts of no more than 250 words.

To submit an abstract, please complete the [Call For Papers Submission Form](#)

The deadline for abstract submissions is **Monday 27 July 2026**.

Following the final submission deadline, decisions will be communicated to applicants by **Friday 3 August 2026**. Where possible, applicants will be notified before that date.

Contact

For questions about the call for papers or further information, please contact Dr Marloes Spreeuw at M.Spreeuw1@westminster.ac.uk.

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