

Course record information

Name and level of final award	• Bachelor of Laws with Honours - European Legal Studies The award is Bologna FQ-EHEA first cycle degree or diploma compatible
Name and level of intermediate awards	• Bachelor of Laws (LLB) Honours - LLB (Hons) • Bachelor of Laws (LLB) Honours - LLB (Hons) with International Experience • Bachelor of Laws (LLB) - LLB • Bachelor of Laws (LLB) - LLB with International Experience • Diploma of Higher Education (Dip HE) - Legal Studies • Certificate of Higher Education (CerHE) - Legal Studies
Awarding body/institution	University of Westminster
Teaching institution	University of Westminster
Status of awarding body/institution	Recognised Body
Location of delivery	Primary: Central London
Language of delivery and assessment	English
QAA subject benchmarking group(s)	Law
Professional statutory or regulatory body	Bar Standards Board (Bar Qualification Manual) – Please note that BSB sets certain requirements on the academic stage of training, for example condonation of core credits, which might be subject to change
Westminster course title, mode of attendance and standard length	• LLB European Legal Studies FT, Full-time, September start - 4 years standard length with a compulsory year abroad
Valid for cohorts	From 2026/7 (From 2023/24 Level 4, 2024/25 Level 5, 2025/26 Level 6)

Additional Course Information

Introduction

Westminster Law School is located within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences in Little Titchfield Street, which is in the heart of the West End and Legal London. The LLB in European Legal Studies is an interesting and stimulating course that will give you a broad grounding in legal knowledge and skills, and prepare you to go onto practice within the legal profession. It will also equip you with the knowledge and transferable skills required for other Law-related roles and a wide variety of other professions. In addition, the European Legal Studies course provides you with the opportunity to enhance further your language skills in another European language during Years 1 and 2 and to gain knowledge of civil law and European codified legal systems through a specialist module in Year 2 before you go on to spend a year of studying law in one of our partner institutions in Europe.

Admissions requirements

There are standard minimum entry requirements for all undergraduate courses. Students are advised to check the standard requirements for the most up-to-date information. For most courses a decision will be made on the basis of your application form alone. However, for some courses the selection process may include an interview to demonstrate your strengths in addition to any formal entry requirements. More information can be found here: <https://www.westminster.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/how-to-apply>

Recognition of Prior Learning

Applicants with prior certificated or experiential learning at the same level of the qualification for which they wish to apply are advised to visit the following page for further information:

<https://www.westminster.ac.uk/current-students/guides-and-policies/student-matters/recognition-of-prior-learning>

Aims of the programme

The LLB (Hons) European Legal Studies (“ELS”) course offers you a specialised programme of study allowing you to obtain a Law Degree as well as an exciting and dynamic educational experience with an international dimension, which includes a year of studying law in Europe in one of the School’s partner institutions. You will gain a thorough knowledge and understanding of the fundamental doctrines and principles that underpin the English legal system, other European legal systems and beyond, and you will further enhance your European language skills whilst acquiring a better understanding of the contexts in which law operates in England and other European jurisdictions..

The ELS course is also designed to allow you to develop cutting-edge legal knowledge and skills which are relevant to a changing world, and which allow you to find your voice and identity in that world through the law. The course will equip you with the core skills to solve legal problems and to propose new legal solutions to pressing issues. The course provides a framework to all students to understand how law shapes the relationship between people, institutions, states and businesses, as well as a structure which fosters your own skills to find, analyse, interpret and evaluate the law. The ELS course allows you to develop your professional skills to enable you to use the law in various practical settings. All students have the opportunity to both work on research projects of importance to them, and study a number of specialist areas of law of their own choosing during each year of their degree.

In addition, by studying abroad you will develop intercultural awareness, a broad range of transferable skills and the ability to communicate fluently with lawyers from the European legal tradition and other civil law traditions more generally. Career development skills are explicitly recognised and promoted and the overall aim of the School is to foster a stimulating, enjoyable and supportive learning environment.

We aim to teach the law in an interesting and engaging way, so that you can understand it in terms of its effect both on society and individuals. You will learn about how the law has developed, how it affects everyone’s daily lives and the operation of Government. You will analyse at topical legal issues in the news, both in a domestic and international context, such as climate change, equality, personal identity and global security.

Your studies will enable you to gain a deep theoretical understanding of law and to develop the legal, transferable and social skills required to help you achieve a successful future career. The aim of the School is to foster a stimulating, enjoyable and supportive learning community, in which you can develop and thrive.

We aim to inspire you to be passionate about the law and to achieve your full potential within a diverse, inclusive, supportive and friendly community. The course also provides an opportunity to study a wide range of options covering numerous and diverse areas of law that are closely linked to the wide-ranging research and legal professional expertise of members of Westminster Law School.

You will also have the opportunity to apply your knowledge and skills in practice, and contribute to our wider communities, by working in our Legal Advice Clinic, where you will have the chance to provide legal advice and help to members of the local community in a number of different areas of law. This will allow you to gain valuable work experience whilst providing an important service.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion: Key values in your degree

Diversity and inclusion are the fundamental values which inform everything we do at Westminster Law School. We are committed to ensuring that our School is a welcoming community which embraces difference and allows everyone to find their voice within the legal world, bringing diversity and difference to the wider legal community.

Our law degrees are therefore infused with a deep commitment to diversity and inclusion from the outset, and in particular in allowing all our students to express themselves and their values through their study and through legal ideas. Our

distinctive curriculum focuses, from the outset, on ways of you finding your own voice and developing your own perspectives through the law. Each year of your degree is crafted to help you develop your legal voice and identity.

Level 4

Our Level 4 core module in your first semester on Legal Systems, Cultures and Ideas introduces you to a legal worldview which embraces difference and the importance of different ideas and traditions within law.

This is followed by the Guided Project module, which allows you to use those skills and concepts to focus on and research an area of law and legal thought which is important to you and express your own perspectives, allowing you to contribute directly to ideas in that area. In this way, we aim to create a community in which all students feel comfortable and confident in expressing their ideas and who they are in the context of legal thought and ideas.

Level 5

The Professional Practice skills module immerses you in the world of professional legal practice, giving all of our students the tools to put their legal ambitions into practice in the real world and solve problems in areas of relevance to you. This allows you to develop your professional legal identity.

This is, in turn, followed by the professional practice project module which allows you to develop your own project or practice in an area of importance to you. This ensures that all of our students are both able to feel at home in the legal professional world, but also reshape or reimagine that world in ways which reflect them.

Level 6

In your final year, all students have the opportunity to select between a professional academic project or a professional practical focus in order to perfect and delve deep into those personalised perspectives. Equally, you will produce an artefact or creative project which reflects your graduate journey through your degree.

At Westminster Law School therefore Diversity and Inclusion do not only mean that we welcome everyone into our community. They also mean that we will develop your own active legal voice and identity. At Westminster, law is a tool to be shaped in the image of every student, and every student should feel confident that their whole self will be reflected in your studies, and, therefore, the law. All modules involve opportunities to express your own critical ideas regarding the law and how to improve it.

Diversity and Inclusion within the law

Equally, diversity and inclusion are important to what we teach and research more broadly. Our degrees have a series of modules focusing on the relationship between law and questions of diversity, equality and inclusion in various ways, and you can choose to study a number of these at each level of your degree.

Many of these modules are unique to Westminster Law School, and reflect our commitment to these themes. By studying some of these modules, focusing on questions as diverse as race, religion and disability, you can develop the tools to interrogate and question the law and your relationship with it, and how we might improve it. These modules culminate in a flagship Level 6 module, 'Equality Law', which transforms these questions into a broader set of legal and ethical knowledge, giving you advanced expertise on questions such as discrimination, harassment and positive action.

We would also encourage all of our students, and colleagues, to help us to understand how we might further question our own approaches and embrace new initiatives so that we all continue to learn and to teach each other. This will enable us to continue to achieve our goal to diversify and widen access to the legal profession and legal knowledge, which in turn will improve and enrich the law itself.

Your degree and professional qualification

Your degree has been designed to provide a high-quality legal education which will prepare you for many different careers, both within and outside the legal professions. The course combines the core building blocks of all legal knowledge and skills with various potential areas of focus which allow you to develop your own interests, passions and fields of professional specialisation. While your degree has been designed to keep as many potential pathways open to you as possible, it is also structured in a manner that allows you to progress onto the next stage of professional qualification within various legal professions. You can find more detail as to how your degree can be shaped or used to prepare you for various different professional pathways in the section on accreditation, and further details about broader employability skills are found in the section on employability.

Employment and further study opportunities

University of Westminster graduates will be able to demonstrate the following five Graduate Attributes:

- Critical and creative thinkers
- Literate and effective communicator
- Entrepreneurial
- Global in outlook and engaged in communities
- Social, ethically and environmentally aware

University of Westminster courses capitalise on the benefits that London as a global city and as a major creative, intellectual and technology hub has to offer for the learning environment and experience of our students.

Contemporary organisations need graduates with a good degree and relevant skills. The University of Westminster is committed to developing employable graduates by ensuring that:

- Career development skills are embedded in all courses;
- Opportunities for part-time work, placements and work-related learning activities are promoted to you;
- Staff continue to widen and strengthen the University's links with employers in all sectors, involving them in curriculum design and encouraging their participation in other aspects of the University's career education and guidance provision;

A Law degree is widely viewed as a valuable asset by a large group of employers across a broad range of sectors, both legal and non-legal. This course will prepare you for a variety of legal careers including practice as a barrister, solicitor, legal clerk, paralegal or legal executive. Our graduates also pursue careers in business, accountancy, the Civil Service, education and local government, amongst many others.

The LLB at Westminster develops graduate attributes in a cohesive and coordinated way. Throughout your degree you are expected to reflect on the graduate attributes you have acquired and identify areas for further development. Opportunities will be provided by the Law School to encourage this development, through the Law School's links with employers, alumni in various professions, the wider research community and opportunities for international engagement (for example with international organisations in London or travel abroad).

The Law School is committed to ensuring that work-based learning is integrated into the LLB curriculum, providing a range of opportunities for the development of your professional skills and the improvement of your graduate outcomes. You are able to complete and obtain recognition in the degree for participation in University-wide schemes such as the Westminster Employability Award, the University's Mentoring Scheme, Westminster Enterprise Journey, Westminster Business Consultants and Westminster Working Cultures. You can also participate in online work-based learning programmes provided by University partners such as Forage and Bright Network. You can be employed by the University via its Talent Bank, and be recognised for your role as a student ambassador or representative, working in partnership with Westminster Law School and the wider University. You also benefit from the services of the Careers and Employability Service and College Placements Team, who both assist you in finding placements and promote industry events through the University's Engage platform.

You can also be recognised for your service to the Westminster Legal Advice Clinic, which provides free legal advice to the community, and has been recognised nationally for its innovative Windrush Justice Clinic. You will improve your legal skills under the supervision of members of Westminster Law School and volunteer qualified practitioners, enabling you to grow confidence as a future lawyer and develop your employer network. Participation in the Clinic will also enhance your understanding of legal skills when completing your core professional skills modules throughout the degree.

To ensure that you can benefit from these opportunities, staff continue to widen and strengthen the University's links with employers in all sectors, encouraging their participation in other aspects of the University's career education and guidance provision. The School has regular events with alumni, for example, panel discussions with alumni in the judicial profession and Law employability events. There are also online and on-site fairs for you to attend at the University, such as the Inclusive Futures and Volunteering Fairs.

The employment rate of law graduates from the University of Westminster has consistently been high and Law has frequently had one of the highest employment rates in the University. Some students who progress to further study enrol on an LPC, SQE or a Bar Training Course whilst others proceed to postgraduate academic study for example an MA, LLM, MSc and increasingly at postgraduate research such as at M.Phil or PhD level. The school has numerous distinguished alumni within both branches of the legal profession and the judiciary.

We are proud of our diverse School and are committed to helping every single member of our community to achieve their ambitions and potential. Westminster Law School is ranked top of all UK Law Schools for social mobility, as we are more successful than any other Law School at getting a higher number of students from lower-income backgrounds to high-level employment.

The Year Abroad

Globalisation and the internationalisation of law at different levels mean that graduates with international experiences and an understanding of law beyond its national boundaries are particularly valued by employers. You will spend a year of study abroad in one of our European partner institutions after your second year and return to Westminster for your fourth year. You can see a current list of our partners at:

<https://www.westminster.ac.uk/about-us/our-university/global-westminster/global-partner-network> These arrangements are subject to change.

During the year abroad, you will enrol both at the partner institution and at Westminster. At Westminster, you will register for the two Law Study Abroad modules, one in Semester 1 and one in Semester 2, and, upon successful completion of these modules. At the host institution, you can study in English or in the language of the host institution if you have the relevant linguistic competence.

The marks and credits of the year abroad are not exchangeable with Westminster credits and do not count towards the final degree classification.

What will you be expected to achieve?

Learning outcomes are statements of what successful students have achieved as a result of learning. These are threshold statements of achievement the learning outcomes broadly fall into four categories:

- The overall knowledge and understanding you will gain from your course (KU)
- Graduate attributes are characteristics that you will have developed during the duration of your course (GA)
- Professional and personal practice learning outcomes are specific skills that you will be expected to have gained on successful completion of the course (PPP)
- Key transferable skills that you will be expected to have gained on successful completion of the course. (KTS)
- Cognitive Skills, are learning outcomes that help build a conceptual understanding that is necessary to devise and sustain arguments, and/or to solve problems and comment on research.

Level 4 course learning outcomes: upon completion of Level 4 you will be able to:

- CL04.1 Outline the law, the legal systems and legal institutions in their cultural, social, political, and economic contexts. (KU GA CS)
- CL04.2 Discuss the legal regulation of the State, the EU, and similar institutions, and their relationship with individuals. (KU GA CS)
- CL04.3 Review and apply the legal duties and rights which govern the relationship between individuals. (KU GA CS)
- CL04.4 Explain criminalisation, and the role of the criminal law. (KU GA CS)
- CL04.5 Engage in legal research under direction, through the location, referencing and interpretation of legal and non-legal sources, and express ideas and concepts in a structured manner. (GA PPP KTS)
- CL04.6 Apply the law to actual or hypothetical problems, offering legal advice or solutions. (GA PPP KTS CS)
- CL04.7 Present arguments in an appropriate form of communication whether individually or as part of a team. (GA PPP KTS)
- CL04.8 Development, or enhancement, of knowledge of another European language. (GA KTS CS)

Level 5 course learning outcomes: upon completion of Level 5 you will be able to:

- CL05.1 Analyse the legal regulation of businesses and their obligations, and of commercial transactions. (KU GA PPP)
- CL05.2 Evaluate how law structures questions of property and ownership in different contexts. (KU GA CS)
- CL05.3 Use professional legal skills to resolve conflicts and provide solutions to practical problems. (GA PPP KTS)
- CL05.4 Investigate and analyse the changing nature and role of law and the legal professions in an evolving world. (KU GA PPP)
- CL05.5 Evaluate and engage with competing perspectives and viewpoints in specialist areas of legal knowledge of interest to you. (KU GA CS)

- CL05.6 Communicate effectively and persuasively, both orally and in writing in relation to legal matters so that your advice and opinion is clear to both lawyers and non-lawyers. (GA PPP KTS)
- CL05.7 Demonstrate active engagement with your own personal and professional development under limited supervision. (GA PPP CS)
- CL05.8 The ability to compare and explain differences and similarities between a codified legal system and a common law system, and engage in the comparative study of English and European jurisdictions. (KU GA CS)
- CL05.9 An enhanced knowledge of another European language and familiarity with the legal language of civil law systems. (GA KTS CS)

Level 6 course learning outcomes: upon completion of Level 6 you will be able to:

- CL06.1 Demonstrate an advanced, critical knowledge on a number of specialist areas of law. (KU GA CS)
- CL06.2 Critically engage with advanced ideas relating to the impact, fairness, justice, cultural role and social place of the law. (KU GA PPP)
- CL06.3 Formulate critical arguments relating to the law, its impact and its potential reform, reflecting in-depth research and engagement with competing primary and secondary sources. (GA PPP KTS)
- CL06.4 Engage in advanced, applied legal reasoning, whether in the production of in-depth critical research or the demonstration of the ability to solve complex legal problems in an authentic professional context. (GA PPP KTS)
- CL06.5 Work independently, and communicate confidently and effectively in a range of formats, both orally and in writing, whether individually and in collaboration with others. (GA PPP KTS)
- CL06.6 Critically and creatively reflect on your learning and personal development throughout your studies. (PPP KTS CS)
- CL06.7 The ability to transfer information across legal languages, engage in the study of law in a European context, and explain differences and similarities between a codified legal system and a common law system. (KU GA KTS CS)

How will you learn?

Learning methods

The ELS programme in years 1 and 2 is made up of 12 20 credit core modules including European language modules from our Polylang programme. These prepare you for your compulsory year abroad in year 3 during which you are able to choose from a wide variety of option choices at our partner institutions in Europe. The credits you achieve on the year abroad are recognised by way of 2 level 5 60 credit core modules. When you come back to complete your final year in year 4 you will take a core 40 credit module which builds on your studies on the year abroad. You also take four 20 credit modules from a wide variety of areas and specialisms or you can choose to take a 40 credit legal profession focused module and two 20 credit options.

The core modules address the key skills and knowledge which all lawyers need to understand and succeed in the modern world. These are made up of the so-called foundations of legal knowledge, the core building blocks of all law, as well as the fundamental academic and professional skills which allow you to find, use, explain and evaluate the law. The core is therefore made up of a number of ways of learning. A number of core modules introduce you to key legal areas and concepts, while other modules at each level allow you to develop and demonstrate core professional skills in an immersive way in areas which are of interest and importance to you.

Legal and academic skills are embedded in the teaching of all core modules and elements of employability and professional development are also built in. Outside of the core, students have the ability to shape their degree around the study of areas which are of importance to them, and a number of informal 'pathways' are open to students among a large number of specialist options. In addition, academic staff offer activities that provide an important contribution to academic, employability and personal development.

As students, you will develop a breadth and depth of legal understanding and skills competence, as well as confidence in your abilities. We promote reflection on performance and development in particular and provide specific assistance with this in all the core modules, especially at level 4. You will be allocated a Personal Academic Tutor, who will advise you and assist you at the beginning of your studies and will then continue to provide you with academic guidance throughout your study on the degree.

Although the ELS programme addresses similar skills in some modules, their substantive content addresses different areas of law. The programme has been clearly designed to ensure that modules at similar levels dovetail with respect to skills, development and modes of assessment. Each module will consider the substantive law, legal context, important

theoretical perspectives and ethical issues relevant to that area. The core subjects delivered at level 4 and 5 are often seen as distinct areas of study. The ELS programme at Westminster however delivers these modules in a coherent way at each level and cross-references the skills acquired in one subject to the learning in another, providing you with an understanding of how the law fits together as a whole

The teaching team will provide a framework for understanding knowledge whilst requiring you to develop your skills of research, critical evaluation and analysis. You will be expected to find, analyse, interpret and apply law. Understanding and using the law is far more than merely 'learning law'.

Programme Planning

The ability to speak a number of languages, and even better the ability to speak a number of different legal languages, is a significant advantage both in an increasingly interconnected world and in the transnational legal settings, which today's lawyers increasingly inhabit. The ELS programme recognises this. If you are therefore already fluent in another European language, you have the option of studying an additional language throughout your studies, including your final year, when you return from the year abroad.

If you are already fluent in a European language and the Course Leader has agreed to waive the language requirement, you can study a law option. In this case, you can combine options to form a coherent stream through the degree or mix and match as you wish. Some students prefer to concentrate within one broad area whilst others select across areas. For example, you might choose all the options related to Criminal Law and Justice or pick one of these and study another from Commercial Law and one from the Entertainment Law stream. It is a matter of personal choice and you are encouraged to discuss your choices with your Personal Academic Tutor.

The informal 'streams' are based on Westminster Law School's areas of specialisation in terms of teaching and research. You are encouraged to follow subjects that interest you rather than subjects you think you 'should do' or which you think might be expected of you. In our experience students perform much better in those subjects that they want to explore and engage with. Some examples of informal 'streams' are as follows. Please note that optional modules are always subject to staff availability and student demand.

1. **Commercial Law:** There is a range of options that have as their focus commercial activities and the regulation, whether by law or otherwise, of those activities. Problems in the banking sector have highlighted the importance of domestic and international regulation. Issues around taxation and revenue policies have arisen as disclosures have emerged about some large companies setting up their financial affairs to pay little tax. It is important for law students in this area to understand the organisation, liability and responsibility of corporate entities as well as the more specialised concept of Competition Law. A core module at level 5 signposts the significance of this area, which is then further explored in highly focussed in-depth modules at Level 6.
2. **Criminal Law and Justice:** Exploring the criminal justice system and criminal law offers you the chance to understand not just what the Criminal Law is but how it is applied and whether it works. The criminal justice system encompasses a wide range of organisations, from the police through the court system to prison and beyond. Increasingly there are private companies involved with law enforcement, imprisonment and rehabilitation. All of you will study Criminal Law at level 4 but there are specialist option modules at every level of the course.
3. **Entertainment Law:** The school has a long and distinguished history of expertise in this area and offers an LLM in Entertainment Law. There is a strong group of researchers and an active Research Centre. London is one of the world centres of the entertainment industry and law plays an important role in both the internal relationships (for example contracts between record companies and bands) and the external relationships (for example music downloading) in the entertainment industry. Contract Law and Intellectual Property Law are fundamental aspects but there are other niche areas at every level of the course such as Law and Sport in contemporary society, Media Law and Social Media Law.
4. **Human Rights:** Human Rights Law is both a domestic and international legal area. It involves international obligations and treaties but crucially the application of these at a domestic level. Human Rights ideas have become an increasingly important part of many parts of national law. The School offers a number of specialised Human Rights modules at both undergraduate and postgraduate level reflecting a wide range of staff expertise. You will encounter the application of human rights in core subjects, but specific detailed modules are available across the course.
5. **Law and Theory:** Even though law, as a subject area, has a vocational and practical dimension it is still important to understand why law is what it is and whether or not it works and if so why? Ideas about law can be studied in isolation or related to specific areas of law. You will experience some aspects of legal theory within the core subjects but those of you who wish to gain a deeper understanding of the meaning of law will enjoy the different theory modules we offer.
6. **Law and Practice:** The School offers a range of legal professional courses and has a well-established Legal Advice Clinic. A number of staff are qualified solicitors, barristers or hold judicial posts. There will be an emphasis on vocational and experiential learning throughout the course. You will take the core Immersive Professional Skills

and Practice module in your second year and can choose the Professional Legal Practice module in your final year. In addition, there are a range of legal professional options including Introduction to Legal Practice and Mooting in your first year. There are also the Clinical Legal Practice: Interviewing and Advising and Clinical Legal Practice: Case Management and Progression option modules in the third year which will allow you to apply your knowledge and skills to real life situations working in the Legal Advice Clinic. You will receive training and the opportunity to work with real clients and become involved in real cases under the supervision of experienced professionals. You may wish to combine some of these modules with the study of specialist areas of law which are the focus of legal practice.

Teaching methods

The ELS course has a strong focus on student led immersive activities, working towards solving problems for people and in society more generally. You will be developing your own ideas, in the seminars, whilst engaging in the use of theory and practical skills.

You will experience a range of different teaching methods including interactive lectures, seminars, tutorials and one-to-one sessions. These will enable you to engage in discussion and presentations with your fellow students, tutors and benefit from wider external expertise from guest speakers.

As you progress through your degree, you will be exposed to different types of learning and teaching at different levels of the degree. For example, in your first year, you will attend interactive lectures and seminars where you are introduced to the skills of sourcing, mapping and using research, as well as more practical application skills, relating law to problem scenarios. You will be supervised through a project where you will develop communication and presentation skills, as you learn to take more control of your own learning. In addition, in the ELS programme, you will be able to develop of your language skills (particularly in view of the Year Abroad) with European language modules (French, Spanish, Italian, and German) in Years 1 and 2.

Second year study builds on the first-year skills, introducing more specific career development and a wider understanding of the profession. You will undertake Work Based Learning and improve your employability by completing the Westminster Employability Award as part of the core, immersive professional skills and practice modules. Further, in order to prepare you for studying law during the Year Abroad in Europe, the Civil Law and Legal Systems module provides you with an understanding of codified systems of law in the civil law tradition and encourages you to focus on the jurisdiction of the European country in which you will subsequently spend the year abroad. In addition, the module provides you with the basic 'tools' of comparative legal study.

As you progress further through the degree, you will be increasingly expected to act as an independent learner, that is someone who is able to identify your own points of strength and weakness and take the appropriate action to improve your performance. Staff are there to provide support and help at every step along the way whether in formal classes or as a Personal Academic Tutor.

During the Year Abroad, you will study together with students of other legal backgrounds, acquire a broader and deeper understanding of a codified legal system, and experience studying law in a transnational / European context. Depending on the jurisdiction and the partner institution, you will have the opportunity to study different law subjects in Italian, Spanish, French, or German private law and public law, as well as European and International law, and law-related subjects. We also support students where possible in relation to short work placements in law firms and other legal settings while abroad.

Upon your return at Westminster, Level 6 will provide you with the opportunity to study a fairly diverse set of options as per your specific interests, or alternatively to take a set of options that have some relation, alongside your final year Professional Legal Research: Advanced Project which constitutes the summation and application of the year abroad. In it, you have the opportunity to undertake supervised research study of a topic that you became interested in during the Year Abroad.

Level 6 will also provide you with the opportunity to choose to align your learning thematically with the Solicitors Qualifying Exam (SQE) in preparation for professional practice.

The Law School supplements your teaching experience by offering you access to a wide range of extracurricular activities, for example seminars, outside speakers, workshops and field trips. Many of these opportunities are not limited to the module in which they are delivered, or even to the level at which they are introduced.

Assessment methods

We are committed to adopting varied, authentic and inclusive means of assessment. Authentic assessment allows you to demonstrate the same competencies, or combinations of knowledge, skills, and attitudes, that you will need to apply in your future professional life, and will help you solving complex problems during your study, as well as prepare you for future employment in various professional contexts. Examples you will come across on the degree include case studies, blogs or journals, presentations, online portfolios, policy papers, projects and client advice.

All modules will provide the opportunity for formative assessments and the provision of detailed feedback. You will be able to discuss each piece of work and what is needed to improve your performance with your tutors, as your skills develop.

In your final year you will have the opportunity not only to assess developing skills and competencies in areas of law, but also to reflect, creatively, upon your journey and the attributes you have acquired as a potential graduate, and present these in a final year show. This assessment is one of the very distinctive elements of the Law School experience at Westminster.

The Course Skills Strategy

Highly skilled graduates have flexibility and autonomy and an ability to react to changing circumstances. Being able to quickly differentiate the reliability and authenticity of sources of information, map this information coherently, and use it to develop ideas and arguments is essential in the contemporary world, and so is the beginning of the skills journey you will embark on the ELS programme.

The ELS programme will progressively develop your legal and non-legal skills to solve problems across the core modules. Whilst all modules will have some essential skills built into their delivery, particular core modules will concentrate on developing you in specific areas. For example you will be developing presentation, research and application skills in your first year, and applying these skills in specific legal contexts. In the second year, these skills become more applied to legal professional ones, to solve people's legal disputes and dilemmas. By the time you reach your final year, however you will be more autonomous in the ways in which you may use these skills, and will have more choice as to how to apply them as your learning becomes more independent in your theoretical and practical problem solving. In your final year you will apply them within the context of the Professional Legal Research: Advanced Project and may also choose to align your skills development to that of the SQE in the advanced transactional problem-solving context of the profession, in both cases replicating the professional context into which you will move on graduation.

Graduate Attribute	Evident in Course Outcomes
Critical and creative thinker	CL05.2, CL05.3, CL05.5, CL05.6, CL05.7, CL05.8, CL06.1, CL06.2, CL06.3, CL06.4, CL06.5, CL06.6, CL06.7
Literate and effective communicator	CL04.1, CL04.2, CL04.3, CL04.4, CL04.5, CL04.6, CL04.7, CL04.8, CL05.1, CL05.2, CL05.3, CL05.5, CL05.6, CL05.9, CL06.1, CL06.3, CL06.4, CL06.5, CL06.7
Entrepreneurial	CL05.1, CL05.3, CL05.4, CL05.7, CL06.4, CL06.6
Global in outlook and engaged in communities	CL04.8, CL05.4, CL05.8, CL05.9, CL06.2, CL06.7
Socially, ethically and environmentally aware	CL04.2, CL05.1, CL05.3, CL05.4, CL05.5, CL06.2, CL06.3

Course Structure

This section shows the core and option modules available as part of the course and their credit value. Full-time Undergraduate students study 120 credits per year. Course structures can be subject to change each academic year following feedback from a variety of sources.

Modules are described as:

- **Core** modules are compulsory and must be undertaken by all students on the course.
- **Option** modules give you a choice of modules and are normally related to your subject area.
- **Electives**: are modules from across the either the whole University or your College. Such modules allow you to broaden your academic experience. For example, where electives are indicated, you may choose to commence the study of a foreign language alongside your course modules (and take this through to the final year), thereby adding further value to your degree.

- Additional information may also be included above each level, for example, where you must choose one of two specific modules.

Modules

Level 4

The structure of the degree requires you to study a European language and spend a year of study abroad. You have an opportunity to study a range of law options at Level 6. Details about language options are available in the general University information on the intranet - here. Further information is provided during Arrivals week.

ELS full-time course structure level 4

You will commence your studies in the first year with five core subjects: Legal Systems, Cultures and Ideas, Guided Project, Private Law, Criminal Law and Public Law and EU Law. In addition, you are ordinarily required to study a European language module. In exceptional circumstances, this requirement may be waived and students can study either another language or a law option.

Award of Certificate of Higher Education available.

Module Code	Module Title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
4LLAW018W	Guided Project	Core	20	10
4LLAW005W	Criminal Law	Core	20	10
4LLAW019W	Legal Systems, Cultures and Ideas	Core	20	10
4LLAW020W	Private Law	Core	20	10
4LLAW004W	Public Law and EU Law	Core	20	10
		Elective	20	10

Level 5

In Year 2 you will study Professional Practice: Skills, Professional Practice: Project, Property Law, Business Law and Civil Law and Legal Systems. As in year 1, you are also ordinarily required to study a European language module. This requirement can be waived as above.

Award of Diploma of Higher Education or Foundation Degree available.

Module Code	Module Title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
5LLAW031W	Professional Practice: Project	Core	20	10
5LLAW032W	Business Law	Core	20	10
5LLAW033W	Civil Law and Legal Systems	Core	20	10
5LLAW039W	Professional Practice: Skills	Core	20	10
5LLAW040W	Property Law	Core	20	10
		Elective	20	10

Additional Year

Year Abroad

As a student enrolled on ELS programme, you are required to spend the whole of your third year studying law at one of our partner universities in Europe. You then return to the University of Westminster for your fourth year.

You can see a current list of our partners in Europe at <https://www.westminster.ac.uk/about-us/our-university/global-westminster/global-partner-network>. These arrangements are subject to change. Some partner institutions offer opportunities of study in English. Further details regarding these institutions will be provided during the Year Abroad meetings in Year 2.

Academic recognition for the Year Abroad is provided in the student transcript through two modules, each worth 60 credits (30 ECTS), corresponding to semesters 1 and 2 respectively of your Year Abroad. Both modules are assessed on a Pass/Fail basis. These modules appear on your LLB European Legal Studies course transcript.

The marks and credits of the year abroad are not exchangeable with Westminster credits and do not count towards the final degree classification.

Module Code	Module Title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
5LLAW013W	Law Study Abroad Semester 1	Core	60	30
5LLAW014W	Law Study Abroad Semester 2	Core	60	30

Level 6

In the final year, there is one core module and either one 40 credit option and two 20 credit options or four 20 credit options.

Award ELS

Options at Level 6 will be pooled and semesterised in accordance with University timetabling policy. Students must choose a combination of modules which draws equally from each pool, and the same number of options in each semester. Decisions regarding which modules are placed in which pool will be reviewed regularly to ensure that students are able to combine related and complementary modules, and so that popular combinations are possible.

GROUP A	GROUP B	GROUP C	GROUP D
Advanced Criminal Law	Competition Law	Creative Artists in the Entertainment Industry: Issues, Problems and Solutions	Clinical Legal Practice: Interviewing and Advising
Advanced Property Law	Entertainment Law: Theory and Practice	Criminal Procedure and Evidence	Commercial Law
Clinical Legal Practice: Case Management and Progression	Family Law and Family Justice	Critical Environmental Law	Disability: Law, Society and Practice
Employment Law	Human Rights: Contexts and Controversies	Equality Law	Media Law
International Law and Global Challenges	Race, Gender, Sexuality and the Law	International Law, Peace, Conflict and Security	Protecting Human Rights in the UK
New Legal Thinking: Theory, Philosophy, Justice	Sustainability in Law and Policy	Law of International Trade	Critical Project in Law
Religion, Law and Society		The Law of Intellectual Property	

Module Code	Module Title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
6LLAW077W	Professional Legal Research: Advanced Project	Core	40	20
6LLAW040W	Advanced Criminal Law	Option	20	10
6LLAW041W	Advanced Property Law	Option	20	10
6LLAW043W	Clinical Legal Practice: Case Management and Progression	Option	20	10

Module Code	Module Title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
6LLAW044W	Clinical Legal Practice: Interviewing and Advising	Option	20	10
6LLAW045W	Commercial Law	Option	20	10
6LLAW046W	Competition Law	Option	20	10
6LLAW047W	Creative Artists in the Entertainment Industry: Issues, Problems and Solutions	Option	20	10
6LLAW049W	Criminal Procedure and Evidence	Option	20	10
6LLAW050W	Critical Environmental Law	Option	20	10
6LLAW051W	Critical Project in Law	Option	20	10
6LLAW052W	Disability: Law, Society and Practice	Option	20	10
6LLAW053W	Employment Law	Option	20	10
6LLAW054W	Entertainment Law: Theory and Practice	Option	20	10
6LLAW055W	Equality Law	Option	20	10
6LLAW056W	Family Law and Family Justice	Option	20	10
6LLAW060W	Human Rights: Contexts and Controversies	Option	20	10
6LLAW070W	International Law and Global Challenges	Option	20	10
6LLAW071W	International Law, Peace, Conflict and Security	Option	20	10
6LLAW072W	Law of International Trade	Option	20	10
6LLAW073W	Media Law	Option	20	10
6LLAW074W	New Legal Thinking: Theory, Philosophy, Justice	Option	20	10
6LLAW076W	Professional Legal Practice: Knowledge, Ethics and Transactions	Option	40	20
6LLAW079W	Protecting Human Rights in the UK	Option	20	10
6LLAW081W	Race, Gender, Sexuality and the Law	Option	20	10
6LLAW082W	Religion, Law and Society	Option	20	10
6LLAW084W	The Law of Intellectual Property	Option	20	10
		Elective	20	10

Please note: Not all option modules will necessarily be offered in any one year. In addition, timetabling and limited spaces may mean you cannot register for your first choice of option modules.

Professional body accreditation or other external references

- QAA Law Benchmarks Statements 2019
- Bar Standards Board (Bar Qualification Manual) – Please note that BSB sets certain requirements on the academic stage of training, for example condonation of core credits, which might be subject to change
- SEEC

Whilst undergraduate Law degrees do not have professional accreditation, presented below are a number of different typical scenarios relating to professional pathways which you may wish to follow:

1. "I want to qualify to be a solicitor in England and Wales".

The regulator for the solicitor's profession in England and Wales (the SRA) no longer requires that you follow any particular pathway within your degree. Instead, it requires that graduates sit the so-called Solicitor's Qualifying Exam after completing their studies.

This involves Part 1 (which is focused on legal knowledge) and Part 2 (which examines practical skills). The core modules of your degree are designed to align with the themes contained within Part 1 and the skills which you need to

demonstrate in Part 2, giving you a solid grounding in these areas for when you prepare for the exam itself after graduating.

At Level 6, we also offer a 40-credit module which covers in more detail, and in a professional context, some of the specific topics relating to legal practice which are covered in SQE Part 1. You may wish to select this option to give yourself a greater degree of expertise within the relevant areas, which are relevant both for qualification and for future practice. Whether or not you decide to select this module, you will have covered all the broad relevant areas of knowledge contained within the SQE should you wish to prepare for that after you graduate.

Qualifying to be a Solicitor in England and Wales also requires you to undertake two years' worth of so-called Qualifying Work Experience under the supervision of qualified solicitors following your period of study. The professional skills and professional project modules, and the opportunities to work within the Legal Advice Clinic during your degree, are designed to prepare you for that qualifying work experience.

You also have a large number of optional areas of specialist study to choose from during your degree. You may wish to choose a combination of these which reflect some of the areas of law which you would like to work in, as well as others which you have a more general interest in. Many of our optional modules reflect specialist areas of practice within the solicitor's profession.

2. "I want to qualify to be a barrister in England and Wales"

The Bar Standards Board (BSB) sets out certain requirements for the academic stage of qualification to become a barrister. This includes what has traditionally been known as the Qualifying Law Degree.

Your degree has been designed to ensure that all requirements of the Qualifying Law Degree for the purposes of the BSB are included within the core modules of your course. If you successfully pass those core modules and complete your degree in line with the BSB's own requirements, you will be able to progress onto the next stage of qualification to the bar. This consists of a one-year vocational course known as the Bar Training Course. You would then need to complete a one-year pupillage under the tutelage of qualified barristers in a barristers' chambers in order to be fully qualified to practise.

The optional modules throughout your degree cover a wide range of areas of specialist legal knowledge and practice within which barristers work. You may wish to select a number of these according to the areas you are interested in practising in.

3. "I want to become a legal executive"

Chartered Legal Executives are legal professionals who generally work in one specialist field. If you successfully complete your degree, passing all the core modules in line with the regulator's requirements, you are able to take the CILEX Graduate Fast Track Diploma to qualify more quickly to become a Chartered Legal Executive.

Our advanced specialist optional modules and practice-focused modules also allow you to focus on areas of work that you may wish to practice in. In addition, the 40-credit professionally focused module at Level 6 covers in greater detail, and in a professionally immersive manner, various areas of professional practice in which Chartered Legal Executives work.

4. "I want to qualify to practise in another country"

Many jurisdictions recognise Qualifying Law Degrees from England and Wales as partially fulfilling the requirements for qualification in that country. If you pass all core modules and complete your degree you obtain a Qualifying Law Degree. You should check with the relevant local regulator or professional body regarding the credit which you obtain as a result. You should also enquire as to whether there are any additional optional modules which you should take in order to receive greater credit towards qualification in that jurisdiction. Note also that there are a number of optional modules which cover areas of European, international and non-state law and dispute resolution which apply to many other jurisdictions, which you may want to consider selecting.

5. "I am not sure what I want to do after my degree"

Your degree has been deliberately designed to cover the key foundational aspects of relevance to any professional career in law. All professional legal options will remain open to you regardless of what path you choose through your degree.

Your degree has also been designed to incorporate broader critical, practical, communicative, problem-solving and creative skills which are relevant to many non-legal careers. It has been crafted to ensure that there is a focus on economic, social, cultural and political aspects of the areas which you study, as well as the legal ones. A law degree is equally valuable as a stepping stone to non-law careers.

(Please note that professional body and qualification requirements are not set by the University and are subject to change).

Course management

The management of the course and the school is explained and regularly updated on our Law School webpage: [Law courses | University of Westminster](#)

Academic regulations

The current Handbook of Academic Regulations is available at [westminster.ac.uk/academic-regulations](https://www.westminster.ac.uk/academic-regulations).

Course specific regulations apply to some courses.

Academic Support

Upon arrival, an induction programme will introduce you to the staff responsible for the course, the campus on which you will be studying, the Library and IT facilities and additional support available. You will be provided with a Course Handbook, which provides detailed information about the course. Each course has a course leader or equivalent. All students enrolled on a full-time course and part-time students registered for more than 60 credits a year have a personal tutor, who provides advice and guidance on academic matters. The University utilises a Virtual Learning Environment called Blackboard, where students access their course materials and can communicate and collaborate with staff and other students. Further information on Blackboard can be found at <https://www.westminster.ac.uk/current-students/studies/your-student-journey/when-you-arrive/blackboard>

The Academic Learning Development Centre supports students in developing the skills required for higher education. In addition to online resources in Blackboard, students can also attend Study Skills workshops and schedule one-to-one appointments. Further information on the Academic Learning Development Centre can be found at [westminster.ac.uk/academic-learning-development](https://www.westminster.ac.uk/academic-learning-development).

Learning support includes our libraries, each of which holds a collection of resources related to the subjects taught at that site. Students can search the entire library collection online through the Library Search service to find and reserve printed books, and access electronic resources (databases, e-journals, e-books). Students can choose to study in the libraries, which have areas for silent and group study, desktop computers, laptops for loan, photocopying and printing services.

Support Services

The University of Westminster's Student and Academic Services department provides a range of advice and guidance. Further information on the advice available to students can be found at <https://www.westminster.ac.uk/student-advice>.

The University of Westminster Students' Union also provides a range of facilities to support students during their time at the University. Further information on UWSU can be found at <https://www.westminster.ac.uk/students-union>

How do we ensure the quality of our courses and continuous improvement?

The course was initially approved by a University Validation Panel. University Panels normally include internal peers from the University, academic(s) from another university, a representative from industry and a Student Advisor.

The course is also monitored annually by the College to ensure it is running effectively and that any issues that might affect the student experience have been appropriately addressed. Staff will consider evidence from various sources, including student surveys, student progression and achievement, and reports from external examiners, to evaluate the effectiveness of the course and make necessary changes.

Periodic reviews are also conducted to ensure that the curriculum remains up-to-date and that the skills acquired on the course continue to be relevant to employers. Representative students meet with a panel to provide feedback on their experiences. Student feedback from previous years is also part of the evidence used to assess the course's performance.

How do we act on student feedback?

Student feedback is important to the University, and student views are taken seriously. Student feedback is collected in various ways.

- Through student engagement activities at the course and module level, students have the opportunity to express

their voice in the running of their course. Course representatives are elected to expressly represent the views of their peers. The University and the Students' Union work together to provide a full induction to the role of the course representatives.

- There are also School Representatives appointed jointly by the University and the Students' Union who meet with senior School staff to discuss wider issues affecting student experience across the School. Student representatives are also represented on key College and University committees.;
- All students are invited to complete a questionnaire for each module. The feedback from this will inform the module leader on the effectiveness of the module and highlight areas that could be improved.
- Final-year undergraduate students will be asked to complete the National Student Survey, which helps inform the national university league tables. Postgraduate students will be asked to complete the Postgraduate Taught Survey (PTES).

This programme specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the course and the learning outcomes that a student may reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if they take full advantage of the learning opportunities provided. This specification is supplemented by the Course Handbook, Module proforma and Module Handbooks provided to students. Copyright in this document belongs to the University of Westminster. All rights are reserved. This document is for personal use only and may not be reproduced or used for any other purpose, either in whole or in part, without the prior written consent of the University of Westminster. All copies of this document must incorporate this Copyright Notice – 2025©

Additional Details

Additional Course Information

Applicants are considered for direct entry to level 5 and 6. In such cases, an individual programme of study may apply.