# **Programme Specification**



# **Course record information**

Name and level of final award	Bachelor of Laws with Honours - Law and Criminal Justice     Bachelor of Laws with Honours - Law and Criminal Justice with International Experience  The award is Bologna FQ-EHEA first cycle degree or diploma compatible		
Name and level of intermediate awards	<ul> <li>Bachelor of Laws (LLB) - Law and Criminal Justice</li> <li>Diploma of Higher Education (Dip HE) - Law and Criminal Justice</li> <li>Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE) - Law and Criminal Justice</li> </ul>		
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)	Subject Benchmark Statement - Law (qaa.ac.uk)		
Professional statutory or regulatory body	While Undergraduate law courses are not accredited, the course has been designed to meet the requirements of the Bar Standards Board (Bar Qualification Manual), please see the accreditation section below for further information.  Please note that Bar Standards Board 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	Law and Criminal Justice, Full-time, September start - 3 years standard length with an optional year abroad		
Valid for cohorts	From 2026/7		

# **Additional Course Information**

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

# 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: <a href="https://www.westminster.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/how-to-apply">https://www.westminster.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/how-to-apply</a>

# **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 in Law and Criminal Justice is a specialist undergraduate law programme offering you an advanced, cutting-edge, employability-driven course. The course combines a qualifying law degree with specialist knowledge of the principles, procedures, and practices of the criminal justice system. The course will allow you to develop a broad understanding of criminal justice through a legal lens with the aim of tailoring the course to your own interests and ambitions. We aim to teach the law and criminal justice in an interesting and engaging way, so that you can understand it in terms of its effects both on society and individuals. You will be encouraged to think critically about crime, its impact on society and effective responses to tackle criminal behaviour. You will analyse topical legal issues in the news, both in a domestic and international context, and learn about key issues such as police powers, sentencing options and the role of victims in the criminal justice process.

The course allows you to develop your professional skills to enable you to use the law in various practical settings. It will equip you with the core skills to solve legal problems and to propose new legal solutions to pressing issues in law and criminal justice. All students have the opportunity to both work on research projects of interest to them, and study a number of specialist areas of criminal law and criminal justice of their own choosing during each year of their degree. Your studies will also enable you to develop the legal, transferable and social skills required to help you achieve a successful future career, be that in the legal field as a lawyer or the broader criminal justice field.

The aim of the Law 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. In addition, the Law School has a number of prestigious international partners, and you will have the opportunity to add an international dimension to your degree by studying part of your course overseas with one of them.

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: Law and Criminal Justice

Diversity and inclusion are the fundamental values which inform everything we do at Westminster Law School and are central to our Learning and Teaching strategy and the structure of our degrees. 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 and broader world, bringing diversity and difference to the wider legal community and within criminal justice.

Our 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 and in the context of the study of criminal justice. Our distinctive curriculum focuses, from the outset, on ways of you finding your own voice and developing your own perspectives through the law and other disciplines. Each year of your degree is crafted to help you develop your legal voice and identity and your voice in the context of your understanding of, and work within, criminal justice.

#### 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. Similarly, the introductory

module to Criminal Justice allows you to understand that related discipline from different perspectives and develop those into a project which looks into an area of law and criminal justice which is important to you and express your own point of view, 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 particular context of their Law and Criminal Justice degree.

#### Level 5

During your second year of study, a focus on professional skills will allow you to develop this same voice and identity in the context of law and criminal justice. The professional project skills and project modules allow you to develop your own professional portfolio of capabilities in an immersive way and then work on a 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 and that of international relations, 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 deeper 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 and other areas of study. All modules involve opportunities to express your own critical ideas regarding the law and international relations and how to improve them.

# Diversity and Inclusion within the Law and Criminal Justice

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, criminal justice 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.

We 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, as well the study of criminal justice, which in turn will improve and enrichen the law and the criminal justice system more broadly.

# **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 degree in Law and Criminal Justice 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. The course also opens up a wide range of professional roles within the criminal justice field, for example, the Police Service, the Prison and Probation Services, and in the charitable and voluntary sectors. Our graduates also pursue careers in business, accountancy, the Civil Service, education and local government, amongst many others.

The LLB in Law and Criminal Justice 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. In particular, the Professional Practice: Project module at Level 5 incorporates 35 hours of independent work-and problem-based learning initiatives such as online and onsite placements, school-approved student projects and University wide work-based learning activities.

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 a 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.

#### **Further Study Opportunities**

You will also have an opportunity to undertake a semester abroad during your second year of study or short-term periods of study abroad to attend summer schools, volunteer, take up placements, or participate in field trips organised by students, Law School staff or the University.

#### The Year Abroad and the LLB (Hons) with International Experience

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 can spend an additional year of study abroad in one of our partner institutions around the world 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, you will be awarded 120 additional credits and qualify for the LLB (Hons) with International Experience. 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:

- CLO4.1 Outline the law, the legal systems and legal institutions in their cultural, social, political, and economic contexts. ( KU CS )
- CLO4.2 Discuss the legal regulation of the State and similar institutions, and their relationship with individuals. (KU CS)
- CLO4.3 Review and apply the legal duties and rights which govern the relationship between individuals. (KUCS)
- CLO4.4 Explain criminalisation, and the role of the criminal law. (KUCS)
- CLO4.5 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 )
- CLO4.6 Apply the law to actual or hypothetical problems, offering legal advice or solutions. (PPP KTS CS)
- CLO4.7 Present arguments in an appropriate form of communication whether individually or as part of a team. (GA PPP KTS)

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

- CLO5.1 Analyse the legal regulation of businesses and their obligations, and of commercial transactions. (GA PPP KTS)
- CLO5.2 Evaluate how law structures questions of property and ownership in different contexts. (KUCS)
- CLO5.3 Use professional legal skills to resolve conflicts and provide solutions to practical problems. (GA PPP KTS)
- CLO5.4 Investigate and analyse the changing nature and role of law and the legal professions in an evolving world. (
   KU GA PPP )
- CLO5.5 Evaluate and engage with competing perspectives and viewpoints in specialist areas of legal knowledge of interest to you. ( KU CS )
- CLO5.6 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)
- CLO5.7 Demonstrate active engagement with your own personal and professional development under limited supervision. (GA PPP CS)
- CLO5.8 Critically analyse and apply the rules of criminal procedure in criminal proceedings. (KUCS)

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

- CLO6.1 Demonstrate an advanced, critical knowledge on a number of specialist areas of law. ( KU GA CS )
- CLO6.2 Critically engage with advanced ideas relating to the impact, fairness, justice, cultural role and social place
  of the law. ( KU GA PPP )
- CLO6.3 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)
- CLO6.4 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)
- CLO6.5 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 )
- CLO6.6 Critically and creatively reflect on your learning and personal development throughout your studies. (GA PPP CS)

# How will you learn?

# Learning methods

The LLB programme is made up of a compulsory 40 credit core (Level 6) and 12 further 20 credits core modules. You will also take four 20 credit modules from a wide variety of criminal justice areas and specialisms. The four-year LLB with International Experience contains a further two 60 credit core modules.

Some of 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. Other core modules will enable you to explore key issues in the area of criminal law and criminal justice. 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 areas of criminal justice and related subjects which interest them the most. 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 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 LLB 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 LLB 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**

You will do one option at level 4, one option at level 5 and three options at level 6. There are a number of options that allow you to gain specialist knowledge in the field of criminal law and criminal justice, allowing you to build a curriculum which suits your specific interests and ambitions. Please note that optional modules are always subject to subject to staff availability and student demand. You are encouraged to discuss your choices with your Personal Academic Tutor or the Course Leader.

## **Teaching methods**

The LLB in Law and Criminal Justice 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. Your learning is also designed to develop your understanding of the use of legal technology and to help you navigate broader technological developments and challenges.

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.

The Law School Learning and Teaching Strategy is evident in the way that you are taught and you learn. You will be at the centre of your learning, attending and participating in seminars that will provide you with an immersive experience of what you are studying. Seminars will be active learning spaces, in which you work in groups with other students on practical problems and theoretical propositions. This will allow you to shape new understandings of your field and field your own professional and academic voice. Tutors will facilitate your learning in these spaces, helping you to develop your own perspectives and understandings of the key ideas, and helping you to appreciate the ideas of others. This will also allow you to solve practical problems, large and small, using what you study. In smaller tutorials you will be able to investigate specific areas of concern, or dig deeper into areas of study. These will be small group sessions that enable you to have a personalised learning experience.

In some of the more skills-based modules individual support will develop specific academic and legal skills not only within the classroom, but developmentally across the course. The course pays specific attention to the development of your writing skills, from researching and presenting a literature review, through mapping your ideas and the concepts applicable, to the final writing of a project. This then is reiterated further in later modules, but with a higher level of expectation in relation to either a more specific area of study, or having provided you with more independence in the process. In this way you develop not only your understanding of your area of study, but also your skills in applying those ideas, your creativity in solving problems, and your independence in your approaches to study. In this way, the Law School's Learning and Teaching Strategy is focused on you finding your own voice within your studies, and embracing your values, experiences and ambitions. The Learning and Teaching Strategy is therefore based around the idea of creating an inclusive learning environment in which a diversity of voices is valued. We believe that this way of learning will improve your own personal learning journey, but also that of all members of your learning community, and, in turn, will produce better, more ethical, more authentic and more insightful future professionals.

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.

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.

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.

Level 6 will provide you with the opportunity to choose whether to align your learning thematically with the Solicitors Qualifying Exam (SQE) in preparation for professional practice, or choose the professional research project pathway as your core, working alongside a researcher, specialist, or research centre in the School.

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.

#### **Emerging Technologies at Westminster Law School**

Westminster Law School is committed to authentic, immersive and cutting-edge learning, in line with the teaching and learning strategy of the School and the University's wider Strategy. This means that emerging and potentially disruptive assistive technologies, such as so-called generative AI and large language model-based machine learning will be progressively and ethically integrated into our courses, modules, learning activities and assessments to reflect their uses and challenges in the legal and broader professional sphere. This approach has a number of important strands for our programmes:

#### The usage of emerging technologies in research and investigation

Students will encounter various assistive technologies within professional and scholarly databases which are central to the core academic and professional skills across our courses. Use of these technologies will form part of the programme

of study within all courses, and will evolve and adapt as the technologies develop.

## Critical and ethical understanding of the use of generative and other machine learning

Students, in line with the ethical and critical components of all our programmes, and the ethical frameworks which regulate and pervade the various connected professions, students will be required to consider the proper and ethical usage of all emerging technologies which produce either synthesised or 'original' work. This will allow students to enter the future world of work with a clear ethical understanding of how such work should be used, attributed and/or avoided in certain circumstances.

#### The creative use of generative Al

In line with the School's learning and teaching strategy, and the broader nature and goals of all our courses, students will be encourage to make creative use of emerging generative technologies within their work, in particular in those modules where creativity and a reflection on one's own development and skills are central. This will give students a confidence to use, ethically and appropriately, technologies as they emerge, both within their professional life and beyond.

#### Appropriate use of emerging technologies in relation to academic work and assessments

Students will be encouraged to engage with generative AI and other technologies when engaging in academic work, including formative and summative assessments, and to ensure that any such usage informs in a responsible manner the research and experimentation that goes into such work, alongside all other sources, materials and technologies. Students remain responsible for correct attribution of their work and the need to remain within the standards of academic best practice. The use of authentic assessments in the School for all modules means that all use of generative AI will form a useful tool for students. The School will continually review all assessments to ensure that they are set to place value on the way in which students engage with all relevant sources and technologies.

## Assessment methods

Rather than seeking to simply test your knowledge, we take a developmental approach to your assessment, allowing you to develop your own voice and perspective. In your first year of study, there is an emphasis on individual support and helping you find your voice in the key immersive skills that you will use throughout your degree and beyond. You will then build on this in each subsequent year, engaging in assessments which allow you to demonstrate the authentic, immersive and applied form of learning which characterises your degree at Westminster Law School. We ensure that assessments are varied, allowing you to demonstrate various different practical and creative skills, and aim to allow you to develop solutions to current and future real-world problems of interest to you and the wider community You will be asked to map ideas, identify problems and present solutions. This will take many forms, and may include working towards producing legislative proposals, policy papers, and legal reforms, to provide advice and solutions relating to people's real legal problems, to lead negotiations or represent client interests, and to become student-researchers working with centres of research excellence and leading individual researchers in the School.

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 on the LLB.

The LLB 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 your skills either in the advanced transactional problem-solving context of the profession, by aligning your skills development to that of the SQE, or you will apply them within the context of a legal research project, in both cases replicating the professional context into which you will move on graduation.

Graduate Attribute	Evident in Course Outcomes
Critical and creative thinker	CLO4.6, CLO5.2, CLO5.3, CLO5.5, CLO5.6, CLO5.7, CLO5.8, CLO6.1, CLO6.2, CLO6.3, CLO6.4, CLO6.5, CLO6.6
Literate and effective communicator	CLO4.1, CLO4.2, CLO4.3, CLO4.4, CLO4.5, CLO4.6, CLO4.7, CLO5.1, CLO5.2, CLO5.3, CLO5.5, CLO5.6, CLO5.8, CLO6.1, CLO6.3, CLO6.4, CLO6.5
Entrepreneurial	CLO5.1, CLO5.3, CLO5.4, CLO5.7, CLO6.4, CLO6.6
Global in outlook and engaged in communities	CLO5.1, CLO5.4, CLO6.2
Socially, ethically and environmentally aware	CLO4.1, CLO5.3, CLO5.4, CLO5.5, CLO6.2, CLO6.3

## **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

Module Code	Module Title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
4LLAW005W	Criminal Law	Core	20	10
4LLAW021W	Introduction to Criminal Justice	Core	20	10
4LLAW019W	Legal Systems, Cultures and Ideas	Core	20	10
4LLAW020W	Private Law	Core	20	10
4LLAW004W	Public Law	Core	20	10
4LLAW011W	Cinematic Justice	Option	20	10
4LLAW016W	Introduction to Legal Practice	Option	20	10
4LLAW009W	Introduction to Rights and the Law	Option	20	10
4LLAW015W	Islamic Law in Context	Option	20	10
4LLAW012W	Law and Social Media	Option	20	10
4LLAW010W	Mooting and Advocacy	Option	20	10
		Elective	20	10

# Level 5

Module Code	Module Title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
5LLAW031W	Professional Practice: Project	Core	20	10
5LLAW032W	Business Law	Core	20	10
5LLAW042W	Criminal Procedure	Core	20	10
5LLAW039W	Professional Practice: Skills	Core	20	10
5LLAW040W	Property Law	Core	20	10
5LLAW010W	Child Protection Law and Policy	Option	20	10
5LLAW022W	Criminology and the Law	Option	20	10
5LLAW043W	European Criminal Law	Option	20	10
5LLAW036W	European Law: Contemporary Legal Issues	Option	20	10
5LLAW011W	Law and Social Justice	Option	20	10
5LLAW026W	Legal Psychology	Option	20	10

Module Code	Module Title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
5LLAW044W	Managing People	Option	20	10
5LLAW045W	Public Protection and Vulnerability	Option	20	10
5LLAW008W	Rethinking Criminal Justice	Option	20	10
5LLAW047W	Women in Policing	Option	20	10
		Elective	20	10

# **Additional Year**

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

At level 6, you can either do Professional Legal Practice: Knowledge, Ethics and Transactions (you need to have taken Private Law, Criminal Law, Public Law, Property Law and Business Law in order to be allowed to do this module) OR Professional Legal Research: Advanced Project.

Module Code	Module Title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
6LLAW040W	Advanced Criminal Law	Core	20	10
6LLAW085W	Criminal Evidence	Core	20	10
6LLAW076W	Professional Legal Practice: Knowledge, Ethics and Transactions	Core	40	20
6LLAW077W	Professional Legal Research: Advanced Project	Core	40	20
6LLAW043W	Clinical Legal Practice: Case Management and Progression	Option	20	10
6LLAW044W	Clinical Legal Practice: Interviewing and Advising	Option	20	10
6LLAW087W	Countering Terrorism	Option	20	10
6LLAW053W	Employment Law	Option	20	10
6LLAW056W	Family Law and Family Justice	Option	20	10
6LLAW060W	Human Rights: Contexts and Controversies	Option	20	10
6LLAW086W	International Criminal Justice: Mass Atrocity Crimes	Option	20	10
6LLAW071W	International Law, Peace, Conflict and Security	Option	20	10
6LLAW079W	Protecting Human Rights in the UK	Option	20	10
6LLAW089W	Race and Policing	Option	20	10
6LLAW082W	Religion, Law and Society	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

• Subject Benchmark Statement - Law (qaa.ac.uk)

- 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 work in the criminal justice sector"

Within the Criminal Justice sector, you could be looking at a wide range of occupations in law enforcement, the court service, prison and probation agencies and the youth justice sector. Research centres, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and independent regulatory bodies also play a part in monitoring and improving criminal justice policy and practice.

Your degree offers a range of modules which cover many different aspects of the criminal justice system. The course will equip you with the foundational knowledge needed to work with these institutions and organisations, although further training for some posts may be necessary.

#### 2. "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 13/17 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.

#### 3. "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.

## 4. "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.

#### 5. "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.

6. "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 course management of the course but also the school is explained and regularly updated on our Law School webpage: <u>Law courses | University of Westminster</u>

# **Academic regulations**

The current Handbook of Academic Regulations is available at 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 <a href="https://www.westminster.ac.uk/current-students/your-student-journey/when-you-arrive/blackboard">https://www.westminster.ac.uk/current-students/your-student-journey/when-you-arrive/blackboard</a>

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.

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 <a href="https://www.westminster.ac.uk/student-advice">https://www.westminster.ac.uk/student-advice</a>

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 <a href="https://www.westminster.ac.uk/students-union">https://www.westminster.ac.uk/students-union</a>

#### 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©