

Programme Specification

LLB (2020-21)

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided.

| | |
|---|---|
| Awarding Institution | University of Southampton |
| Teaching Institution | University of Southampton |
| Mode of Study | Full-time |
| Duration in years | 3 |
| Accreditation details | Bar Council Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) |
| Final award | Bachelor of Laws with Honours (LLB (Hons)) |
| Name of award | LLB |
| Interim Exit awards | Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE) Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE) |
| FHEQ level of final award | Level 6 |
| UCAS code | M100 |
| Programme code | 7752 |
| QAA Subject Benchmark or other external reference | Law 2019 |
| Programme Lead | Mark Telford |

Programme Overview

Brief outline of the programme

The LL.B. Honours (Bachelor of Laws) takes a rigorous approach to the study of law in which you will develop a detailed understanding of the content of law; skills of critical analysis and practical application of laws. The Programme enables you to explore the complexity of law as a practice by considering social, political and historical contexts of the law as well as the relationship between legal concepts and how the law applies to resolve practical legal problems. The Programme has been specifically designed to fulfil the needs of those going into the legal professions and who require a Qualifying Laws Degree (QLD) but the Programme also provides a firm foundation for careers in other areas.

Your contact hours will vary depending on your module/option choices. Full information about contact hours is provided in individual module profiles.

Learning and teaching

The Core modules are delivered in lectures and tutorials. Lectures provide the opportunity for academic staff to present, explore, analyse and discuss key legal doctrines, principles, policies and ideas with the whole class. Tutorials are conducted in smaller groups in order to facilitate discussion and debate about specific topics led by a tutor. You may also be taught by seminar, particularly in optional modules. A seminar provides a structured opportunity to explore, in detail, texts and materials with a tutor and through class discussion.

Assessment

Each module that you study is assessed to ensure you have met each of the learning outcomes; this is termed summative assessment. For Semester 1 modules, exam based assessment will take place in January and for

Semester 2, and full year, modules in May/June. Normally by November of each year you will be informed of the summative assessment deadlines for each module. Each module will also provide you with one formative assessment before you complete your summative assessment. This is intended to provide you with an understanding about your progress in that module. Formative assessment does not count towards your final mark in the module. Your degree result will be calculated by reference to the modules that you study in Part 2 (2nd Year) and Part 3 (3rd Year) of your study.

We use a variety of different summative assessment methods; the precise approach depends on the individual module. For the core subjects most modules assess by examination, some by essay, or a combination. There is a degree of variation in the examination method adopted, with some using seen and open-book examinations instead of the traditional unseen examinations. Optional modules are also predominantly assessed by various forms of examination and essay, although a number employ different forms of assessment such as small group presentation, blog entry, portfolio, law reform project or oral presentation.

You will also be assessed in the Legal Research and Writing Module in Part 3 (3rd Year) through an extended research essay of 10,000 words.

Special Features of the programme

The Programme, throughout, is rigorous in its development of key skills, particularly those of research and writing, critical thinking and legal analysis. Embedded in Part 1, developed in Part 2 and secured and demonstrated by the end of Part 3, these skills are essential not only for success in your studies, but are key graduate attributes, empowering you in your future career.

In each Part of the Programme you are offered an increasing degree of autonomy over the subjects studied. The range of options offered in each Part is carefully structured: the array offered enables the progression from foundational to highly specialised engagement with particular subject areas, or the selection of a more eclectic portfolio. Modules share the characteristic of being research led and, in so being, reflect the diverse range of contemporary legal scholarship, as manifested in the research strength and depth of the School. Consistent with their foundation in cutting edge research expertise, the modules will seek to challenge, engage, provoke and excite.

A supporting element of the Programme is the employability skills programme, which commences in Part 2. It provides excellent opportunities to network with leading figures in the legal and business communities and, among other activities and seminars, to participate in workshops relating to a range of transferable skills. Additionally, the Law School hosts an annual law fair for Part 2 and Part 3 students which provides the chance to meet prospective employers. It is regularly attended by over 50 firms and organisations including global and regional law firms, postgraduate training providers, the Government Legal Service, the Bar Council and Inns of Court. This is an important occasion to find out about careers, vacation placements and work experience.

The Law School has a growing number of law clinics which present you with the chance to engage in practical legal problems and the provision of legal advice. Additionally, you can participate in various extra-curricular activities such as mooting, Street Law and Pro Bono work which are run by the Law School or the student bodies within the Law School.

Please note: As a research-led University, we undertake a continuous review of our programmes to ensure quality enhancement and to manage our resources. As a result, this programme may be revised during a student's period of registration; however, any revision will be balanced against the requirement that the student should receive the educational service expected. Please read our [Disclaimer](#) to see why, when and how changes may be made to a student's programme.

Programmes and major changes to programmes are approved through the University's [programme validation process](#) which is described in the University's [Quality handbook](#).

Educational Aims of the Programme

The aims of the programme are to: The aims of the programme are to:

- provide you with a well-rounded education in English Law including its relationship to European Union Law, the European Convention on Human Rights and International Law
- provide substantive and detailed knowledge of core legal subjects, including the skills and qualities required of lawyers whether academic or in practice
- encourage you to appreciate the social, national and global context within which law operates
- guide you to recognise and deal with legal ambiguity and to provide alternate solutions and critical approaches
- equip you with the ability to reflect upon your own progress and foster engagement with your own personal and professional development

Programme Learning Outcomes

Having successfully completed this programme you will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:

Knowledge and Understanding

On successful completion of this programme you will have knowledge and understanding of:

- A1. The principles and values of law, questions of justice and of ethics
- A2. The sources, concepts, rules, structure and where relevant procedures of public and private law in social, national and global contexts
- A3. Ambiguity and uncertainty in law
- A4. The interrelationship between different branches of legal study

Teaching and Learning Methods

A range of teaching and learning methods are employed to develop knowledge and understanding, these include lectures, tutorials and seminars and guided independent study. More specialised knowledge is developed through research led extended essays or projects. You will also undertake a compulsory research dissertation in a chosen field.

Assessment Methods

Knowledge and understanding is assessed through a variety of assessment methods which include: examination, essay, research dissertation and alternatively include projects, written blogs and presentations.

Subject Specific Intellectual and Research Skills

On successful completion of this programme you will be able to:

- B1. Ask and answer cogent questions about law and legal systems, identify gaps in legal knowledge and acquire new knowledge by engaging in critical analysis and reflection
- B2. Study in depth, and in context, substantive areas of law
- B3. Conduct self-directed research leading to an essay or dissertation.

- B4. Work with a range of data including textual, numerical and statistical
- B5. Synthesise relevant doctrinal and policy issues in order to present a reasoned choice between alternative solutions and assess the merits of particular legal arguments

Teaching and Learning Methods

Intellectual and research skills are developed through participation and engagement in lectures, tutorials and seminars alongside guided independent study. These skills are further developed through completion of extended essays and the research dissertation.

Assessment Methods

Intellectual and research skills are assessed through a variety of assessment methods which include: examination, essay, research dissertation and alternatively include projects, written blogs and presentations.

Transferable and Generic Skills

On successful completion of this programme you will be able to:

- C1. Demonstrate skills of self-management: including an ability to reflect on your own work
- C2. Evaluate concepts, principles and policies and make critical judgments/reasoned choice between alternative solutions and/or merits of particular arguments
- C3. Apply knowledge and understanding and offer conclusions addressing complex or actual, or hypothetical problems
- C4. Apply communication skills to solve and address legal problems
- C5. Work effectively individually or collaboratively
- C6. Engage with your own personal and professional development, and academic integrity

Teaching and Learning Methods

Transferable and generic skills are developed through participation and engagement in lectures, tutorials and seminars alongside guided independent study. These skills are further developed through completion of extended essays and the research dissertation.

Assessment Methods

Transferable and generic skills are assessed through a variety of assessment methods which include: examination, essay, research dissertation and alternatively include projects, written blogs and presentations.

Programme Structure

The programme structure table is below:

Information about pre and co-requisites is included in individual module profiles.

Part 1 (Year 1)

Typical course content

Upon successful completion of the Programme you will obtain a Qualifying Law Degree (QLD) accredited by the Law Society and Bar Council. As part of the QLD you must study seven foundational law subjects which are covered in Part 1 (1st Year) and Part 2 (2nd Year) of the Programme. Additionally, you must study Legal System and Reasoning in the Semester 1 of Part 1 (1st Year) as a core module. This module is designed to give you an introduction to the features of the legal system and also how to read and interpret legal materials/sources. The connection between different subjects is emphasised throughout the programme.

To develop the skills to enable successful study throughout your degree programme, in Part 1 you will take the Compulsory module 'Legal Skills'. This module will enable you to develop your key research, legal analytical and writing skills which are essential for every module. To do so 'Legal Skills' will utilise and develop your ability in case analysis and statutory interpretation, using examples from a range of areas. Part 1 also offers you choice between two optional modules, 'Historical Development of the Common Law' and 'Philosophical Perspectives on the Common Law'. These modules are designed to develop your critical analytical skills, your understanding of the contested nature of law and legal principle, and to broaden and deepen your capacity to construct and communicate persuasive argument.

In Part 2 (2nd Year) of the programme in addition to the core modules to be undertaken you will select 30 ECTS/60 CATS of optional modules; 15 ECTS/30 CATS in semester 1 and 15 ECTS/30 CATS in semester 2. The options offered reflect the research strength of the school, and the diversity of contemporary legal scholarship and practice.

Part 3 (3rd Year) of the Programme comprises the compulsory full year Legal and Research and Writing Module and 45 ECTS/90CATS of option modules. The range of options will build, extend and deepen the knowledge and skills that you have developed in Part 1 (1st Year) and Part 2 (2nd Year) of the Programme. Additionally, in Part 3 (3rd Year) you will have the option to select one Curriculum Innovation Module offered by another academic unit within the University. You can take a maximum of 7.5 ECTS/15CATS of Curriculum Innovation modules offered by the University.

LL.B Programme Details

The programme is normally studied over three years, on a full-time basis. Your Degree will be classified on the basis of the modules studied in Part 2 (2nd Year) and Part 3 (3rd Year) of the Programme. The marks obtained in Part 1 (1st Year) are not counted for the purpose of classifying your degree. However, you will need to pass all the Core modules in Part 1 (1st Year) in order to progress. All modules which are designated as core must be passed in order for you to obtain a Qualifying Law Degree (QLD), which provides you with an exemption from the academic stage if you wish to qualify as a Barrister or Solicitor. These requirements are laid down in the joint announcement issued by the General Council of the Bar and Law Society.

Due to availability and timetabling constraints, not all Option modules will be available in every year. However, the School undertakes to offer a good range of modules each year. Some Option modules in Part 3 (3rd Year) have co-requisite modules that you will have had to have taken in order to be permitted to study them. When choosing options check the Module Profiles to see if this applies to the modules you wish to study.

Information about pre and co-requisites is included in individual module profiles.

Part 1 (Year 1) Compulsory (must take) Semester 2

| Code | Module Title | ECTS | Type |
|----------|--------------|------|------------|
| LAWS1023 | Legal Skills | 7.5 | Compulsory |

Part 1 (Year 1) Core (must take and pass) Full Year

| Code | Module Title | ECTS | Type |
|----------|---------------------------|------|------|
| LAWS1020 | Criminal Law | 15 | Core |
| LAWS1026 | Public Law 1: Foundations | 15 | Core |

Part 1 (Year 1) Core (must take and pass) Semester 1

| Code | Module Title | ECTS | Type |
|----------|-----------------------------|------|------|
| LAWS1021 | Foundations of Contract Law | 7.5 | Core |
| LAWS1024 | Legal System and Reasoning | 7.5 | Core |

Part 1 (Year 1) Optional - Semester 2

You must choose 7.5 ECTS/15 CATS of optional modules in Semester 2.

| Code | Module Title | ECTS | Type |
|----------|--|------|----------|
| LAWS1022 | Historical Development of the Common Law | 7.5 | Optional |
| LAWS1025 | Philosophical Perspectives on the Common Law | 7.5 | Optional |

Part II (Year 2)

Part II (Year 2) Core (must take and pass) Full Year

| Code | Module Title | ECTS | Type |
|----------|--------------|------|------|
| LAWS2040 | Land Law | 15 | Core |

Part II (Year 2) Core (must take and pass) Semester 1

| Code | Module Title | ECTS | Type |
|----------|--------------------------------------|------|------|
| LAWS2043 | Public Law 2: Administrative Justice | 7.5 | Core |
| LAWS2045 | The Law of Torts | 7.5 | Core |

Part II (Year 2) Core (must take and pass) Semester 2

| Code | Module Title | ECTS | Type |
|----------|------------------------------|------|------|
| LAWS2041 | Equity and Trusts | 7.5 | Core |
| LAWS2044 | Remedies in Contract & Torts | 7.5 | Core |

Part II (Year 2) Optional - Semester 1

You must choose 7.5 ECTS/15 CATS of optional modules in Semester 1.

| Code | Module Title | ECTS | Type |
|----------|---|------|----------|
| LAWS2024 | Criminal Justice | 7.5 | Optional |
| LAWS2027 | Family Law: Children, Parents and the State | 7.5 | Optional |
| LAWS2034 | Introduction to Commercial Law | 7.5 | Optional |

Part II (Year 2) Optional - Semester 2

You must choose 7.5 ECTS/15 CATS of optional modules in Semester 2.

| Code | Module Title | ECTS | Type |
|----------|--|------|----------|
| LAWS2026 | Employment Law | 7.5 | Optional |
| LAWS2029 | Foundations in Criminal Evidence Law | 7.5 | Optional |
| LAWS2030 | Foundations in Data Protection Law | 7.5 | Optional |
| LAWS2035 | Introduction to Public International Law | 7.5 | Optional |
| LAWS2039 | Principles of Commercial Arbitration Law | 7.5 | Optional |

Part III (Year 3)

In addition to the compulsory module Legal Research and Writing, students must choose a TOTAL of 45 ECTS/90 CATS of option modules (22.5 ECTS/45 CATS in each semester). You may choose a combination of the available 15 ECTS/ 30 CATS and 7.5 ECTS/ 15 CATS modules as long as the options are equal across both of your semesters. The Law School will offer a range of option modules at Part 3 during each academic year.

You can only choose ONE CIP (UOSM2XXX) or ONE Language (LANGXXXX) module (worth 7.5 ECTS/ 15 CATS) in the year, it can be in either Semester 1 or 2.

Part III (Year 3) Compulsory (must take) Full Year

| Code | Module Title | ECTS | Type |
|----------|----------------------------|------|------------|
| LAWS3052 | Legal Research and Writing | 15 | Compulsory |

Part III (Year 3) G1 Optional - (Whole year)

You must choose 0 credits up to a maximum of 45 ECTS/ 90 CATS of optional modules in Semester 1.

| Code | Module Title | ECTS | Type |
|----------|--|------|----------|
| LAWS3053 | Admiralty Law | 15 | Optional |
| LAWS3054 | Carriage of Goods by Sea | 15 | Optional |
| LAWS3055 | Commercial Conflict of Laws and International Litigation | 15 | Optional |
| LAWS3057 | Company Law | 15 | Optional |
| LAWS3088 | Insurance Contract Law | 15 | Optional |
| LAWS3064 | Intellectual Property Law | 15 | Optional |
| LAWS3056 | International Commercial Sales | 15 | Optional |

Part III (Year 3) G2 Optional - Semester 1

Please select 0 ECTS/CATS up to a maximum of 22.5 ECTS/45 CATS from the following:

An equal amount of credits must be taken in semester 1 and semester 2.

Language modules need to be of an appropriate level and language. If you select a language module of Level 4 and above, 15 ECTS/30 CATS of the language must be taken.

| Code | Module Title | ECTS | Type |
|----------|--|------|----------|
| LAWS3129 | Advanced Public Law | 7.5 | Optional |
| LAWS3097 | Globalisation and Law | 7.5 | Optional |
| LAWS3168 | International Human Rights Law | 7.5 | Optional |
| LAWS3141 | Law and the Human Body | 7.5 | Optional |
| LAWS3094 | Transitional Justice: Law, War and Crime | 7.5 | Optional |
| LAWS3072 | Youth Justice | 7.5 | Optional |

Part III (Year 3) G3 Optional - Semester 2

Please select 0 ECTS/CATS up to a maximum of 22.5 ECTS/45 CATS from the following:-

An equal amount of credits must be taken in semester 1 and semester 2.

Language modules need to be of an appropriate level and language. If you select a language module of Level 4 and above, 15 ECTS/ 30 CATS of the language must be taken.

| Code | Module Title | ECTS | Type |
|----------|--|------|----------|
| LAWS3099 | Constitutional Law of Canada | 7.5 | Optional |
| LAWS3098 | Crime in Law, Literature and Culture | 7.5 | Optional |
| LAWS3160 | Family Law: State Regulation of Adults' Relationship Formation and Breakdown | 7.5 | Optional |
| LAWS3086 | Health Care Law | 7.5 | Optional |
| LAWS3101 | International Criminal Law | 7.5 | Optional |
| LAWS3074 | Penal Policy | 7.5 | Optional |
| LAWS3071 | Renting Homes: Law and Policy | 7.5 | Optional |
| LAWS3138 | Theories of Law and Justice | 7.5 | Optional |

Progression Requirements

The programme follows the University's regulations for [*Progression, Determination and Classification of Results : Undergraduate and Integrated Masters Programmes*](#) and [*Progression, Determination and Classification of Results: Postgraduate Master's Programmes*](#) Any exemptions or variations to the University regulations, approved by AQSC are located in [*section VI of the University Calendar*](#).

Support for student learning

There are facilities and services to support your learning some of which are accessible to students across the University and some of which will be geared more particularly to students in your particular Faculty or discipline area.

The University provides:

- library resources, including e-books, on-line journals and databases, which are comprehensive and up-to-date; together with assistance from Library staff to enable you to make the best use of these resources
- high speed access to online electronic learning resources on the Internet from dedicated PC Workstations onsite and from your own devices; laptops, smartphones and tablet PCs via the Eduroam wireless network. There is a wide range of application software available from the Student Public Workstations.
- computer accounts which will connect you to a number of learning technologies for example, the Blackboard virtual learning environment (which facilitates online learning and access to specific learning resources)
- standard ICT tools such as Email, secure filestore and calendars.

- access to key information through the MySouthampton Student Mobile Portal which delivers timetables, Module information, Locations, Tutor details, Library account, bus timetables etc. while you are on the move.
- IT support through a comprehensive website, telephone and online ticketed support and a dedicated helpdesk in the Hartley Library.
- Enabling Services offering support services and resources via a triage model to access crisis management, mental health support and counselling. Support includes daily Drop In at Highfield campus at 13.00 – 15.00 (Monday, Wednesday and Friday out of term-time) or via on-line chat on weekdays from 14.00 – 16.00. Arrangements can also be made for meetings via Skype.
- assessment and support (including specialist IT support) facilities if you have a disability, long term health problem or Specific Learning Difficulty (e.g. dyslexia).
- the Student Services Centre (SSC) to assist you with a range of general enquiries including financial matters, accommodation, exams, graduation, student visas, ID cards
- Career and Employability services, advising on job search, applications, interviews, paid work, volunteering and internship opportunities and getting the most out of your extra-curricular activities alongside your degree programme when writing your CV
- Other support that includes health services (GPs), chaplaincy (for all faiths) and 'out of hours' support for students in Halls and in the local community, (18.00-08.00)
- A Centre for Language Study, providing assistance in the development of English language and study skills for non-native speakers.

The Students' Union provides

- an academic student representation system, consisting of Course Representatives, Academic Presidents, Faculty Officers and the Vice-President Education; SUSU provides training and support for all these representatives, whose role is to represent students' views to the University.
- opportunities for extracurricular activities and volunteering
- an Advice Centre offering free and confidential advice including support if you need to make an academic appeal
- Support for student peer-to-peer groups, such as Nightline.

Associated with your programme you will be able to access:

- A Personal Academic Tutor and a Senior Tutor to support you through your studies.
- Module support material (increasingly on-line).
- On-line communication between students and staff.
- Staff-student liaison committee

Methods for evaluating the quality of teaching and learning

You will have the opportunity to have your say on the quality of the programme in the following ways:

- Completing student evaluation questionnaires for each module of the programme.
- Acting as a student representative on various committees, e.g. Staff/Student Liaison Committees, School Programmes Committee OR providing comments to your student representative to feedback on your behalf.
- Serving as a student representative on Faculty Scrutiny Groups for programme validation.
- Taking part in programme validation meetings by joining a panel of students to meet with the Faculty Scrutiny Group.

Further details on the University's quality assurance processes are given in the [Quality Handbook](#).

Career Opportunities

About half of our law graduates seek careers in the legal profession, as solicitors or barristers after further study and training. However, a law degree can open many doors outside of the legal profession. The other graduates enter careers in media, entertainment, politics, business, accountancy, banking, the civil service, police, probation and social services, national and international organisations.

Our LL.B programmes are formally accredited by the Law Society of England and Wales and the Bar Council as qualifying law degree (QLD) for students wishing to undertake further professional training to become solicitors and barristers. They are also accredited for practice in many other countries worldwide, including India, Australia, Canada and Malaysia.

On this programme you have the opportunity to take a University-organised Year in Employment. The Year in Employment is an opportunity to complete a work placement between Part 2 and Part 3 of study as part of your degree. This placement year is assessed and successful students will graduate with the Year in Employment recognised on their degree transcript. For further details please consult the University of Southampton's website: <http://www.southampton.ac.uk/careers/students/work-experience/year-in-employment.page>

External Examiner(s) for the programme

Name: Miss Ann E Lyon - Plymouth University
Name: Dr Greta Bosch - University of Exeter
Name: Dr Russell Buchan - University of Sheffield
Name: David Cabrelli - University of Edinburgh
Name: Andreas Kokkinis - University of Warwick
Name: Dr Miriam Goldby - Queen Mary's University London
Name: Dr Imogen Goold - St Annes College Oxford
Name: Dr Bharat Malkani - University of Cardiff
Name: Dr Aruna Nair - King's College London
Name: Professor Nicola Glover-Thomas - University of Manchester

Students must not contact External Examiner(s) directly, and external examiners have been advised to refer any such communications back to the University. Students should raise any general queries about the assessment and examination process for the programme with their Course Representative, for consideration through Staff: Student Liaison Committee in the first instance, and Student representatives on Staff: Student Liaison Committees will have the opportunity to consider external examiners' reports as part of the University's quality assurance process.

External examiners do not have a direct role in determining results for individual students, and students wishing to discuss their own performance in assessment should contact their Personal Academic Tutor in the first instance.

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if they take full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information can be found in the programme handbook.

Appendix 1:

Students are responsible for meeting the cost of essential textbooks, and of producing such essays, assignments, laboratory reports and dissertations as are required to fulfil the academic requirements for each programme of study. In addition to this, students registered for this programme also have to pay for:

Additional Costs

| Type | Details |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Printing and Photocopying Costs | In the majority of cases for submission of assessed work to the School of Law, coursework such as essays; projects; dissertations are likely to need to be submitted both in printed form and online. A list of the University printing costs can be found here: https://www.southampton.ac.uk/isolutions/students/printing |
| Recording Equipment | Check module profiles to see if a module requires you to produce audio or audio-video material as part of the assessment. There will be guidance on the methods accepted. If you lack the appropriate equipment the School of Law will arrange for you to access University equipment. If you have learning differences that may mean such course work is a challenge you are advised to seek assistance from Enabling Services. |
| Stationery | You will be expected to provide your own day-to-day stationery items, e.g. pens, pencils, notebooks, etc). Any specialist stationery items will be specified under the Additional Costs tab of the relevant module profile, for example the requirement to have your dissertation soft bound. |
| Textbooks | Some modules make use of set books that you are expected to buy. Check in the module profiles to see if this is the case for the modules you are studying. In some cases, a book may be used for more than one module. Note, books may be available cheaper in an e-book form and up-to-date printed copies may be already available second hand. |

In some cases you'll be able to choose modules (which may have different costs associated with that module) which will change the overall cost of a programme to you. Details of such costs will be listed in the Module Profile. Please also ensure you read the section on additional costs in the University's Fees, Charges and Expenses Regulations in the University Calendar available at www.calendar.soton.ac.uk.