

UNIVERSITY OF
Southampton

4 Law

POWERED BY
OPPORTUNITY

SOUTHAMPTON LAW SCHOOL

Southampton Law School is proud to offer legal education of the highest quality, powered by world-class research and unrivalled links with the legal profession.

We challenge and inspire our students to give their best, and our goal is to educate the next generation of lawyers to be smart, independent thinkers, open-minded and able to contribute to a better society, from within the legal profession and beyond.

Our vibrant community includes a strong network of partnerships and collaborations with legal professionals, law firms and organisations outside of the University, that can help set our students on the path to future career success.

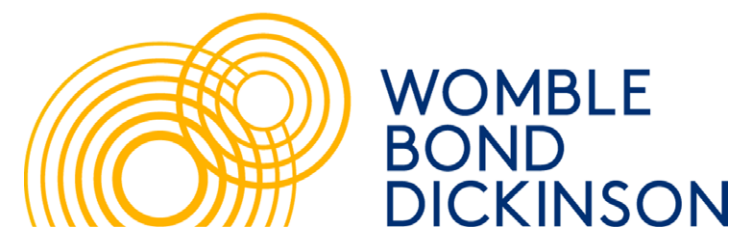
We look forward to introducing you to the many opportunities you can experience as a student at Southampton Law School.

EXPERIENCE OPPORTUNITIES FROM THE START

Womble Bond Dickinson Team Building Event

The prestigious national and trans-Atlantic law firm Womble Bond Dickinson sponsor this ice-breaker event, which enables first year students to meet their tutorial groups and many of their tutors, in a relaxed and informal setting. Students also meet their Student Mentor, a second year student who can answer questions and provide guidance on any academic or extracurricular issues they may have throughout the year. Team Building involves a number of challenges designed to develop problem solving and planning. Representatives from Womble Bond Dickinson and Law School Academics lead these sessions and are on hand throughout.

The event culminates with the setting of the Womble Bond Dickinson. Each tutorial group is given a research project on a legal topic, which they are required to submit three weeks later as a video. The teams are supported in the challenge by their Student Mentor, who will provide guidance and support in legal research skills. The challenge is judged by academic staff, with Womble Bond Dickinson selecting the winner from five finalists. All finalists receive written feedback from Womble Bond Dickinson and the winning group are invited to an Insight Day at their Southampton Office.



 **Find out more:**
www.southampton.ac.uk/law/teambuilding





In 2020, our students **travelled to India** to participate in a mooting competition with **over 50 other Universities**

Mooting

Mooting gives students the opportunity to gain valuable experience which can be vital to them in their future career. A moot is an imaginary court case where participants present oral arguments in a formal setting before a judge.

All first year Law students at Southampton will take part in a mooting competition in their second semester, judged by practising judges, solicitors and barristers, as an essential part of the compulsory Legal Skills module. This gives them the opportunity to present legal issues and problems against opposing counsel and before a judge. Some students will get the chance to put forward their argument in Southampton's purpose-built mooting room.


Students can develop communication and negotiation skills and gain practical experience in developing and delivering a clear and effective legal argument early in their degree. The University's Mooting Society further improves students' understanding about how to argue fictional cases by taking part in mooting events and competitions. Many of Southampton's students go on to take part in regional, national and international competitions, and regularly bring home top awards and prizes.

 **Find out more:**
www.southampton.ac.uk/law/mooting

Marshalling

Supported by alumni of Southampton Law School, our Marshalling schemes give students an unrivalled opportunity to gain first-hand insights into the work of leading judges. Successful applicants benefit from the chance to spend time with barristers and judges, to attend court cases, to discuss cases with judges, and to attend ceremonial events such as the swearing in of the Lord Chancellor.

These initiatives demonstrate the strong network of alumni that Southampton Law School maintains, and the opportunities that this provides for students.

 **Find out more:**
www.southampton.ac.uk/law/marshalling

Applications Masterclass

The top performing Southampton Year One Law students will be invited to take part in an applications masterclass prior to commencing their second year of study.

They will receive advice and guidance on applications and interview techniques and will get the opportunity to meet lawyers and recruiters from top global and regional law firms and barristers' chambers. The masterclass will ensure participants are well placed to make strong applications early in the second year.

All students get the opportunity to participate in application presentations and workshops through the Employability Skills Lecture Programme as well as other bespoke events organised by the Student Societies and the Law School that will give them the skills to successfully apply for jobs and vacation schemes.



At the Applications Masterclass, I met a partner at a Law firm who gave me her card and told me to get in touch. After following up, I completed a week of work experience at the Trowers and Hamlin London office. This put me in a good position with the firm and I have since submitted my vacation scheme application. Trowers and Hamlin gave a great insight and experience for my CV. This all came from that first encounter at the Masterclass, organised by the School."

Heather Lynch
Year 2 LLB Law

BarLink

Southampton's BarLink programme enables students to shadow a barrister on a number of occasions over several months to learn more about the barrister profession. Highly motivated students seriously intending to go to the Bar are matched with local barristers specialising in a range of practice areas. It is a fantastic opportunity for students to show their initiative while gaining professional exposure and invaluable experience.



I have attended court and chambers on numerous occasions with a multi-disciplinary barrister which has exposed me to some unique situations. I have witnessed the importance of building rapport by observing conferences with clients. The experience has been vital in giving me continuous insight into my chosen career."

Lauren Winser
LLB Law, 2020



PRO BONO AND MENTORING

Mentoring Scheme

Studying at University can be very different to anything students have experienced before.

At Southampton Law School we introduce our new students to a second year Student Mentor, part of a dedicated team, to help them transition to this new way of life. Having recently gone through similar first year challenges, the Student Mentor is well placed to offer near peer support in answering questions and signposting further enabling support.

Student mentors meet their tutorial group during the Southampton Law School induction programme. This includes the Womble Bond Dickinson Team Building, where mentors are able to share their recent experiences and help facilitate the reflective discussion about the team building activities.

Streetlaw

Small teams of law students engage with local schools and colleges to deliver interactive presentations or workshops on various legal topics such as police powers, cyber bullying, human rights and drugs. Law students use their time and expertise to benefit the local community, while the audience gains a better understanding of their rights and responsibilities and are more likely to know when to seek help.

The programme offers students an excellent opportunity to develop key transferable skills such as teamwork, legal research, public speaking, initiative, creativity and negotiation as well as gaining a sense of professional responsibility. It enhances students' academic studies and enables them to implement their learning in practice by engaging with the community.

Each team is allocated an academic member of staff and meets for one hour a week for four weeks with the presentation taking place in the fifth week.

Pro bono

The Latin phrase 'pro bono' or 'pro bono publico' means 'for the public good' and gives students the opportunity to volunteer and gain vital case experience while providing services and helping support those in need. At Southampton we offer our students the chance to take part in a range of pro bono activities and acquire a variety of skills.

Law Clinics

Final year students get the chance to work on a voluntary basis with local specialist lawyers to provide legal advice to other University of Southampton students on issues such as housing, family and employment rights.

The Southampton Law Clinic offers law students the chance to gain practical legal experience in conjunction with legal practitioners during the course of their LLB.

The Clinic offers a real opportunity to chat through the individual cases with the solicitors.

This experience gives them an even better idea about what the job entails and how to deal with a client in a real-life one-to-one situation.

Legal Tech and Data Protection Surgery

Southampton's Legal Tech and Data Protection Surgery is organised and run by staff and students at Southampton Law School. It mainly assists start-ups accelerated within the University incubator, Future Worlds, and offers free advice on a range of issues, including all aspects of privacy engineering matters relating to setting up a business in the UK.



CAREERS AND EMPLOYABILITY

Southampton Law students benefit from a bespoke careers and employability service that provides a series of opportunities to maximise their chances of pursuing a successful career. The Law School's Careers and Employability Team is committed to offering Law students a programme of support that will improve their academic, personal, legal and career skills. The innovative range of events and activities include networking with potential employers, to acting as ambassadors for major City law firms.



100+

annual visits to courts, tribunals and law firms are organised for our students

Careers and Employability Skills Programmes

Southampton Law School's Careers and Employability Skills Programmes are updated every year to ensure they continue to enable law undergraduates to acquire the skills and attributes they need to pursue successful careers in the legal profession and beyond.

These events offer excellent opportunities for students to receive advice and guidance from speakers from law and other professions, many of whom are alumni who hold senior jobs in global organisations, or recent graduates at the start of their career.

- **Careers Programme** - a series of presentations and workshops that expand students' awareness and understanding of the employment market and the range of roles open to law graduates. The Programme is delivered by practitioners from the legal, law-related and other professions. Contributors have included the Government Legal Department, barristers and solicitors specialising in family, employment and criminal law, the Law Commission, the Civil Service Faststream, in-house lawyers, a Company Secretary and global, regional and niche law firms and postgraduate study providers.
- **Employability Skills Lecture Programme** - timetabled weekly sessions delivered by the University Careers and Employability Service as well as legal practitioners that focus on the key transferable skills required by all graduates. Topics typically include presentation and time management skills, and the skills such as psychometric testing and interviewing that are required to get a job

Online Careers Opportunities

All Southampton Law School students are automatically enrolled on to the Careers and Employability Blackboard site. This is the primary source of communication on issues relating to careers and employability.

Details of vacation schemes, job vacancies, training contracts, part-time jobs, Open Days, visits, competitions and pro bono initiatives are all regularly posted on the site to ensure that law students are fully aware of all the opportunities open to them.

 **Find out more:**

www.southampton.ac.uk/law/employability



We attend the Law Fair every year and are always impressed with the calibre of students we get to engage with. The Law Fair is a great opportunity for students to start forming networks and find out what it's really like to work at a particular firm."

Siobhan Clarke
Graduate Recruitment and
Development Officer,
Blake Morgan LLP

Law Fair

The annual Southampton Law Fair is one of the most important career events for law students. This prestigious event attracts more than 50 organisations, including global, regional and Magic Circle law firms, postgraduate training providers, the Government Legal Service, the Bar Council and the Inns of Court.

It is an ideal opportunity for students to find out more about prospective careers, vacation placements, work experience and training contracts. Preparing for and attending the Law Fair can also develop students' skills and confidence in communication and networking.

Access to central resources

Southampton Law School's bespoke careers offering is supported by the central University of Southampton Careers and Employability Service that helps thousands of students every year to explore, develop and shape their future.

 **Find out more:**
www.southampton.ac.uk/law/careers

Ambassadorial Roles

Every year employers including major City law firms, postgraduate legal education providers and legal publishers appoint campus representatives from the Law School. The role demands and develops excellent interpersonal, presentation, public speaking, time management and project management skills.

Ambassadors work closely with the firm's graduate recruitment team and can learn skills and qualities that are highly valued by the organisation. They are paid for their work and often secure interviews for vacation schemes or training contracts.

Campus Ambassador vacancies are advertised on the relevant employer's website throughout the spring and summer and are also advertised on the Southampton Law School Careers and Employability Blackboard site.

Year in Employment

Students can gain valuable experience and enhance their career prospects by spending a Year in Employment between their second and third years. It helps develop their transferable skills and they will graduate with a Year in Employment on their degree transcript.

Southampton Law School students have an unrivalled opportunity to spend a year gaining practical legal experience as part of their LLB degree programme by spending a year in the workplace with international legal firm Reed Smith, based in the heart of the City of London.

Students will gain experience in two different practice areas as well as business support functions, such as marketing and business development.



I undertook a year in employment at Southampton City Council's in-house legal team. This was the highlight of my time at university, and it confirmed to me the career path that I wanted to follow and developed essential skills; I experienced numerous areas of law in practice, and even had some of my own case files. I was in a professional environment where I built up good relationships with my colleagues. This was a worthwhile and positive experience that has had a positive effect on my studies."

Victoria Richards
LLB Law with Year in Employment, 2020

STUDENT SOCIETIES

Our range of law societies offer a valuable insight into the world of law with each society catering for a particular interest or career path. They pride themselves on providing a welcoming and inclusive experience to all students, and we encourage our students to get involved as much as possible.

The Law Society

A student-led society that provides a diverse and exciting schedule of events supporting members' ambitions of achieving a career in law. Activities include open days at City and regional firms, networking events with legal professionals and recruiters. The Society also runs a successful negotiation competition where competitors can gain valuable transferable skills.

Find out more: www.sotonlawsoc.co.uk

The Inns of Court Society

This society helps students to prepare for a career as a barrister by offering members the opportunity to attend talks, networking events and dinners with practising barristers and judges, as well as the chance to improve their advocacy skills through mooting.

The Society prides itself on its strong ties with the Bar, both locally and in London, and barristers often attend Society events and deliver presentations on life at the Bar. In the past, members have been fortunate enough to meet QCs, District and Court Judges and Justices of the Supreme Court.

Lawyers Without Borders

This society is the student branch of the international non-profit, charitable organisation Lawyers Without Borders which seeks to integrate skilled pro bono lawyers into initiatives which protect the disadvantaged and promote human rights as well as improve the integrity of the legal process around the world.

The Mooting Society

The Mooting Society gives students the opportunity to take part in regional, national and international mooting competitions. Some of Southampton's most enthusiastic mooters have recently represented the University in India and Singapore.

The Canadian Law Society


The committee aims to create a unified identity for current and future Canadian law students at Southampton, and offer them the opportunity to develop their academic and professional skillsets. Events connect current students with employment opportunities in Canada and internationally, and help them develop relationships with internationally-based firms in England and Canada.

European Law Students' Association Southampton

The European Law Students' Association (ELSA) is an international, independent organisation run by and for students and recent graduates, who are interested in achieving academic and personal excellence in addition to their legal or law-related studies at university.

Website: www.elsa-uk.org/elsa-southampton

 **Find out more:**
www.southampton.ac.uk/law/societies

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www.southampton.ac.uk/law



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