

## Programme Specification: Undergraduate

### Academic Year 2021/22

#### 1. Course Summary

<b>Names of programme and award title(s)</b>	LLB Law (Graduate Entry)
<b>Award type</b>	Single Honours
<b>Mode of study</b>	Full-time
<b>Framework of Higher Education Qualification (FHEQ) level of final award</b>	Level 6
<b>Normal length of the programme</b>	2 years
<b>Maximum period of registration</b>	The normal length as specified above plus 3 years
<b>Location of study</b>	Keele Campus
<b>Accreditation (if applicable)</b>	Bar Standards Board and Solicitors Regulation Authority
<b>Regulator</b>	Office for Students (OfS)
<b>Tuition Fees</b>	<p><b>UK students:</b></p> <p>The fee for 2021/22 is £9,250*</p> <p><b>International students:</b></p> <p>The fee for 2021/22 is £15,500**</p>

**How this information might change:** Please read the important information at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/student-agreement/>. This explains how and why we may need to make changes to the information provided in this document and to help you understand how we will communicate with you if this happens.

\* These fees are regulated by Government. We reserve the right to increase fees in subsequent years of study in response to changes in government policy and/or changes to the law. If permitted by such change in policy or law, we may increase your fees by an inflationary amount or such other measure as required by government policy or the law. Please refer to the accompanying Student Terms & Conditions. Further information on fees can be found at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/studentfunding/tuitionfees/>

\*\* We reserve the right to increase fees in subsequent years of study by an inflationary amount. Please refer to the accompanying Student Terms & Conditions for full details. Further information on fees can be found at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/studentfunding/tuitionfees/>

A distinctive feature of the LLB programmes at Keele is that they seek to bring a range of different perspectives to bear on the study of law, so that students gain an understanding of the operation of the law and legal processes in their social, political, ethical, historical and comparative contexts, as well as gaining a thorough grounding in legal rules and processes. This LLB Law (Graduate Entry) programme seeks to acquaint graduates from other non law disciplines with these structures and perspectives through the study of the foundations of legal knowledge. This is particularly relevant for former commonwealth jurisdictions, such as Canada, the primary target market for this course.

The study of law may focus on one or more jurisdictions. This programme focuses on the main features and principles of the English legal system with occasional reference to the Canadian legal system where appropriate in specific modules. Areas covered may include the relationships between individuals, between individuals and other entities, individuals and the state, as well as sources of law. Law is, however, shaped by and in turn impacts on, among other things, the ethical, social, political, environmental, and economic norms of that jurisdiction and these may also be reflected in the curriculum.

In addition to the general intellectual training that they provide, law degrees give a preparation for a range of careers. Law students

are employable not only in the law but also in a variety of highly skilled and analytical roles in, for example, business, finance, education, public policy, public service and social services in the UK and internationally.

## 2. What is a Single Honours programme?

The Single Honours programme described in this document allows you to focus exclusively on this subject. In keeping with Keele's commitment to breadth in the curriculum, the programme also gives recognition of prior learning in a non law discipline to enable the award of a 360-credit Honours degree. Thus it enables you to gain, and be able to demonstrate, a distinctive range of graduate attributes.

This programme specifically focuses on core law curriculum and the foundational legal subjects. To qualify as a single honours programme, all modules must be studied within the Law School portfolio of legal subjects. Recognition for Prior Learning from students' previous undergraduate studies allows this programme to be completed in a shorter time period than the traditional three years but requires all modules to be within law to qualify as a single honours LLB award.

## 3. Overview of the Programme

This graduate entry route to a single honours law degree allows graduates without any previous study of law as a discipline to study the foundational legal subjects which are recognised nationally and internationally, whilst receiving credit for their earlier studies at degree level.

This programme will be particularly attractive to students from other legal jurisdictions with common legal disciplines such as former and current commonwealth countries.

Important skills and competencies are acquired through the study of law that are readily transferable to many occupations and careers. Some of these skills and competencies are generic, in that they are imparted by most degree courses in the humanities and social sciences. But degree-level study in law also instils ways of thinking that are intrinsic to the subject, while being no less transferable. These include an appreciation of the complexity of legal concepts, ethics, rules and principles, a respect for context and evidence, and a greater awareness of the importance of the principles of justice and the rule of law to the foundations of society.

This programme contains modules representing all 7 foundational legal subjects with the optional modules representing the areas of interest to staff and students, varying from Company Law, Commercial Law and Intellectual Property, to Criminal Litigation and Advocacy and Professional Legal Skills. You can research your own areas of interest through a dissertation or independent study project.

We have a vibrant offering of co-curricular activities exceeding expectations for a medium size Law School which enhance the student experience at Keele Law School and cement the community and social justice ethos of the Law School.

## 4. Aims of the programme

The broad aims of the programme are to:

- Provide you with knowledge and understanding of the major principles and doctrines underlying English and EU law.
- Promote your critical awareness of the social, political, historical, global and comparative contexts in which law operates.
- Encourage critical enquiry, thoughtful reflection and the willingness to question 'taken for granted' assumptions.
- Facilitate your development of additional areas of interest or expertise through the study of elective modules.
- Provide you with the skills of marshalling, evaluating, and applying information to specific legal problems.
- Facilitate your development of legal and non-legal communication skills, both in terms of legal and social-science writing skills and through oral presentation.
- Facilitate your development of legal research skills, ability to conduct self-directed research including accurate identification of issue(s) which require researching, retrieval and evaluation of accurate, current and relevant information from a range of appropriate sources including primary legal sources
- Prepare you for graduate employment through exposure to multiple areas of study, and the development of the intellectual and transferable skills necessary to pursue a range of employment activities.
- Prepare you for a life-long commitment to learning through on-going critical enquiry of themselves and the world around them.
- Provide you with the relevant professional exemptions for entry to the vocational stage of training for the legal professions.
- It also will give you the ability to demonstrate some of the core substantive areas of legal knowledge required by the NCA (<https://nca.legal/wpcontent/uploads/2020/09/NCAPoliciesJul2020.pdf>) and that the skills gained meet the Federation of Law Societies of Canada's national requirement for skills (<https://flsc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/National-Requirement-Jan-2018-FIN.pdf>)

From a strong foundation in the core areas of Law, the programme at Keele supports an outward-looking approach to the academic study of Law through inter-disciplinary approaches, external engagement and international perspectives and opportunities. The Law programmes at Keele offer students the opportunity to study Law in a stimulating, interdisciplinary environment whilst allowing the freedom to choose courses tailored to students' own interests and career aspirations. Law is a rigorous academic study in its own right but for those students who may wish to pursue a career as a professional lawyer, it should be noted the programme provides the foundational legal subjects which are required to ensure that they are compliant with the Quality Assurance Agency subject benchmark statement for law (November, 2019, here: [https://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/subject-benchmark-statements/subject-benchmark-statement-law.pdf?sfvrsn=b939c881\\_18](https://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/subject-benchmark-statements/subject-benchmark-statement-law.pdf?sfvrsn=b939c881_18))

It contains the seven "Foundations of Legal Knowledge" subjects, as well as the skills associated with graduate legal work such as legal research, which are required by the Bar Standards Board for entry to the Bar. It also satisfies the current requirements of the Solicitors Regulation Authority to be considered as a 'Qualifying Law Degree' for entry to the solicitors' profession.

This means that the programme satisfies the current requirements of both professional bodies in England and Wales for entry to the vocational stage of professional legal training as solicitor or barrister, whilst also offering varied choices to those students who wish to pursue careers outside the legal profession.

[It should be noted that arrangements for entry to both the solicitors' and barristers' branches of the profession are currently under review. Further information can be obtained from the relevant websites: <https://www.sra.org.uk> and <https://www.barstandardsboard.org.uk/>. An overview of the proposals for change in both branches of the profession can be found here: <https://www.sra.org.uk/students/academic-stage/common-protocol.page>]

Considerable effort is given to the development of students' employability skills. Keele Law School graduates will leave Keele with a distinctive set of attributes and capabilities. As well as a rigorous academic environment in which to learn, students have opportunities to participate in a wide range of co-curricular activities (e.g. mooting, client interviewing, working as a Community Legal Companion, Legal Advice Clinic Adviser and mentoring programmes). These opportunities are designed to support the development of students' graduate and professional capabilities, and are facilitated through links with the national and regional legal profession. Throughout students' curricular and co-curricular activities, they will have the opportunity to develop both the social and commercial awareness identified by the Legal Education and Training Review: LETR (2013) as critical for future lawyers.

## 5. What you will learn

The intended learning outcomes of the programme (what students should know, understand and be able to do at the end of the programme), can be described under the following headings:

- Subject knowledge and understanding
- Subject specific skills
- Key or transferable skills (including employability skills)

Beyond the specific learning outcomes attached to study at each year level, the Law School would expect students to acquire certain key skills and abilities over the period of two years spent studying for the graduate entry law degree. These overarching programme outcomes represent what the Law School wants students to achieve as a result of studying the LL.B. programme at Keele. They are:

### Subject knowledge and understanding

Successful students will be able to demonstrate:

- Knowledge of the sources of law, how law is made and developed, the institutions within which law is administered and the personnel who practice law
- Knowledge of the rules, values, concepts and principles of the foundational subjects of law
- Knowledge of a range of methodological and theoretical approaches to law
- Knowledge in depth of some specialist areas of law
- An understanding of law as a system of rules that operates in a complex social and political contexts
- An understanding of different types of legal and non-legal information and the means to locate and apply that information to a research question or specific legal problem

### Subject specific skills

Successful students will be able to:

- Apply their knowledge to complex factual situations in order to provide arguable conclusions for concrete problems
- Analyse several possible solutions to a particular legal problem, and be able to choose, with supportable reasons, the preferred solution
- Make a reasoned critical judgment based on an informed understanding of legal and policy arguments in the area in question
- Identify and retrieve relevant legal and non-legal information, using reliable digital sources
- Work effectively with legal materials, such as case reports, statutes and electronic legal databases

### Key or transferable skills (including employability skills)

Successful students will be able to:

- Demonstrate a willingness and ability to assume an active, independent role in the learning process
- Communicate legal and other concepts effectively in writing and orally
- Access and employ electronic research and means of communication, including retrieving information from the internet and databases, communicating by email and using a computer to generate type-written report

- Work within a group to solve problems or advance a learning objective
- Communicate effectively in a group context
- Assess and prioritise the information, research, technology, and preparations needed to complete tasks and assignments
- Meet work deadlines through time and task management

Students who complete the full programme and graduate with an LL.B. (Graduate Entry) in Law will be able to:

- Appreciate the nature and significance of Law as a discrete area of study and how it impacts on society
- Demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of the basic doctrinal concepts of English law
- Understand key concepts from a range of theoretical approaches to the study of law
- Apply concepts, theories and methods used in the study of law to the analysis of legal problems
- Think critically in evaluating different interpretations of legal theory
- Develop the ability to conduct and report on their own research using relevant concepts, suitable methods of investigation and appropriate techniques of scholarship in the field of law.
- Achieve the personal and inter-personal skills necessary for them to find a fulfilling and rewarding career
- Proceed, if they wish, to the professional stage of qualification as a solicitor or barrister.
- Have an opportunity to acquire practical legal skills to obtain Qualifying Work Experience under the SQE

### **Keele Graduate attributes**

Engagement with this programme will enable you to develop your intellectual, personal and professional capabilities. At Keele, we call these our ten Graduate Attributes and they include independent thinking, synthesizing information, creative problem solving, communicating clearly, and appreciating the social, environmental and global implications of your studies and activities. Our educational programme and learning environment is designed to help you to become a well-rounded graduate who is capable of making a positive and valued contribution in a complex and rapidly changing world, whichever spheres of life you engage in after your studies are completed.

Further information about the Keele Graduate Attributes can be found here: <http://www.keele.ac.uk/journey/>

## **6. How is the programme taught?**

Learning and teaching methods used on the programme vary according to the subject matter and level of the module. They include the following:

- Traditional lectures accompanied by suggested reading for independent study, intended to provide a core framework of legal knowledge on which a systematic understanding of Law's major principles can be built
- Tutor-led seminars where students contribute to or lead a discussion on key topics or make a presentation on a specific legal point to develop critical thinking and permit the reflective individual expression of that core understanding
- Problem-based tutorials (often based on scenarios rooted in legal practice) in groups not normally exceeding 15, in which students are expected to offer answers or solutions to previously provided legal problems but which also offer opportunity for students to direct specific questions to tutors and develop better understanding of the issues in question
- Directed independent study where students are referred to specific texts, statutes or cases or asked to research and find information independently, which may extend to undertaking an independent research project under the supervision of an experienced tutor
- Small-group exercises such as preparing a submission on a legal case or drafting a legal document reflecting practical professional employment skills
- For those who take their dissertation double module in Law in their final year, the opportunity to receive training in designing a research project and then independently implementing it, with supervision and support from a member of staff
- Web-based self-study exercises using the University's module Teams which give students easy access to a wide range of resources and research tools and permits the use of on-line discussion, quizzes and 'blogs' in teaching and learning whilst permitting students to develop improved IT knowledge
- Online synchronous and asynchronous learning through online lectures and webinars.
- Practical legal skills taught through 'flipped classroom' workshop exercises mirroring legal practice.

In addition to the traditional face to face on campus mode of delivery we are able to deliver the programme using a Blended Learning mode of delivery. Students would have an intensive induction into the study of law with a face to face tuition on campus followed by online asynchronous and synchronous teaching following the same pattern as on campus students. The delivery of learning uses tried and tested methods for delivery of lectures, using asynchronous materials, but the face to face tutorials would take place initially in an intensive induction on campus and then at key times during the academic year to help consolidate their understanding and help prepare for assessments. This mode is available as an alternative for student who prefer to travel to the UK for shorter periods of time.

Students will be able to engage in extra curricular events like skills week and employability related events. They will also be able to access support services face to face during these weeks as well as online during their programme.

Apart from these formal activities, students are also provided with regular opportunities to talk through particular areas of difficulty, and any special learning needs they may have, with their Personal Tutors or module lecturers on a one-to-one basis.

The students on this programme will have a dedicated Programme Leader as well as support available from our School International

Tutor.

These learning and teaching methods enable students to achieve the learning outcomes of the programme in a variety of ways. For example:

- Through the development of independent research skills through the researching of a legal topic for discussion in tutorial
- Through development of team working through the preparation of a group presentation on a particular issue of legal significance or development of the law in an area of political or social interest

## 7. Teaching Staff

The programme is delivered by an international School, which has a diverse body of expertise and qualifications in both legal practice and research. Most members of current staff have postgraduate qualifications in teaching and/or are Fellows of the Higher Education Academy.

Currently, nearly all members of the Law School teach on our LLB programmes. Law School staff is comprised largely of active researchers whose work across many different aspects of law has been widely published in books, research monographs and leading international journals. The work of some members of staff has been used directly in shaping policy in their areas of expertise. We also have a growing number of legal practitioners from both branches of the legal profession (solicitors and barristers) including a member of the judiciary. Full details of current staff in the School of Law can be found at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/law/staff/>.

The University will attempt to minimise changes to our core teaching teams, however, delivery of the programme depends on having a sufficient number of staff with the relevant expertise to ensure that the programme is taught to the appropriate academic standard.

Staff turnover, for example where key members of staff leave, fall ill or go on research leave, may result in changes to the programme's content. The University will endeavour to ensure that any impact on students is limited if such changes occur.

## 8. What is the structure of the Programme?

The academic year runs from September to June and is divided into two semesters. The number of weeks of teaching will vary from programme to programme, but you can generally expect to attend scheduled teaching sessions between the end of September and mid-December, and from mid-January to the end of April. Our degree courses are organised into modules. Each module is usually a self-contained unit of study and each is usually assessed separately with the award of credits on the basis of 1 credit = 10 hours of student effort. An outline of the structure of the programme is provided in the tables below.

There are three types of module delivered as part of your programme. They are:

- Compulsory modules - a module that you are required to study on this course;
- Optional modules - these allow you some limited choice of what to study from a list of modules;
- Elective modules - due to the recognition of prior learning from undergraduate studies this option will not be available to students on this award.

For further information on the content of modules currently offered, including the list of elective modules, please visit: <https://www.keele.ac.uk/recordsandexams/modulecatalogue/>

To achieve the foundations in law required for an LLB students must complete all 180 credits within the 7 foundation subjects as required. Students are responsible for monitoring their selection of modules in this regard.

Additional options must be selected from within the School's portfolio of options available each year to ensure the requisite 240 credits are obtained.

Recognition of prior learning (in accordance with the University policy) will be given for student's previously completed undergraduate degree so that students on this programme will enter into Level 5 study.

Year	Compulsory	Optional		Electives	
		Min	Max	Min	Max
Level 5	105	15	15	0	0
Level 6	75	45	45	0	0

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## Module Lists

### Level 5

<b>Compulsory modules</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Period</b>
Level 5 Legal Essentials	LAW-20076	15	Semester 1
Level 5 Constitutional Law	LAW-20078	15	Semester 1
Level 5 Obligations 1 - Contract	LAW-20080	15	Semester 1
Criminal Law	LAW-20064	15	Semester 2
Level 5 Obligations 2 - Torts	LAW-20082	15	Semester 2
Level 5 Introduction to Property Law	LAW-20084	15	Semester 2
Level 5 Administrative law	LAW-20086	15	Semester 2

<b>Optional modules</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Period</b>
Introduction to Public International Law	LAW-20034	15	Semester 1
Mental Health Law - FHEQ Level 5	LAW-20045	15	Semester 1
Family Law - FHEQ Level 5	LAW-20046	15	Semester 1
Law and Emotion	LAW-20048	15	Semester 1
Key Concepts in Employment Law	LAW-20070	15	Semester 1
Foundations of Canadian Law	LAW-20074	15	Semester 1
Law in Action	LAW-20033	15	Semester 2
Law and ethics	LAW-20038	15	Semester 2
Controversies in intellectual property law	LAW-20047	15	Semester 2
Civil Litigation	LAW-20060	15	Semester 2

### **Level 5 Module Rules**

- Canadian students are strongly recommended to take Foundations of Canadian Law in Semester 1 (LAW-20074). This assists Canadian students in acquiring preparation for National Accreditation Council exams for qualification in the legal profession in Canada.

### **Level 6**

<b>Compulsory modules</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Period</b>
Law of Trusts	LAW-30108	15	Semester 1
Level 6 Law of Real Property	LAW-30122	15	Semester 1
Level 6 Obligations 3 - Remedies in Contract and Tort	LAW-30124	15	Semester 1
Contemporary Case Law Critique	LAW-30114	15	Semester 2
Level 6 European Union Law	LAW-30126	15	Semester 2

Optional modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Child Law	LAW-30072	15	Semester 1
Company Law	LAW-30080	15	Semester 1
International Human Rights	LAW-30081	15	Semester 1
Dissertation (Single Module) - ISP	LAW-30084	15	Semester 1
Health Care Law	LAW-30088	15	Semester 1
Gender, Sexuality & Law	LAW-30091	15	Semester 1
Wills & Probate & Drafting	LAW-30106	15	Semester 1
Dissertation (Double Module) - ISP	LAW-30083	30	Semester 1-2
Evidence	LAW-30062	15	Semester 2
Business Leases: Termination and Renewal	LAW-30077	15	Semester 2
Jurisprudence	LAW-30082	15	Semester 2
Commercial Law	LAW-30093	15	Semester 2
Transnational Crime	LAW-30094	15	Semester 2
Law and New Technologies	LAW-30097	15	Semester 2
Professional Legal Skills - Interviewing, Mediation and Advocacy	LAW-30102	15	Semester 2

## Learning Outcomes

The table below sets out what students learn in the programme and the modules in which that learning takes place. Details of how learning outcomes are assessed through these modules can be found in module specifications.

### Level 5

The learning outcomes are based on the SRA and BSB criteria and the QAA Benchmark for Law

Subject Knowledge and Understanding	
Learning Outcome	Module in which this is delivered
Acquire knowledge and understanding of English legal method and reasoning, the law regulating tort and constitutional and administrative law (including, where relevant, the effects of the Human Rights Act 1998 and EU constitutionalism)	Level 5 Obligations 1 - Contract - LAW-20080 Level 5 Legal Essentials - LAW-20076 all modules

Subject Specific Skills	
Learning Outcome	Module in which this is delivered
Acquire IT skills in accessing and retrieving Law and related information Develop basic problem-solving skills (and, in particular the ability to recognise issues, rank their importance and apply the law to them)	Level 5 Constitutional Law - LAW-20078 Level 5 Administrative law - LAW-20086 All modules

<b>Intellectual skills</b>	
<b>Learning Outcome</b>	<b>Module in which this is delivered</b>
Acquire legal writing skills and conduct and manage independent work with clear deadlines Acquire basic research skills	Level 5 Introduction to Property Law - LAW-20084 Criminal Law - LAW-20064 All modules

<b>Key or Transferable Skills (graduate attributes)</b>	
<b>Learning Outcome</b>	<b>Module in which this is delivered</b>
Work as part of a team with other students	Level 5 Legal Essentials - LAW-20076 Particularly legal Essentials but collaborative elements in all modules

## **Level 6**

<b>Subject Knowledge and Understanding</b>	
<b>Learning Outcome</b>	<b>Module in which this is delivered</b>
Acquire knowledge and understanding of the law in a range of further foundational and other substantive areas	Law of Trusts - LAW-30108 Level 6 Law of Real Property - LAW-30122 Level 6 European Union Law - LAW-30126 All modules

<b>Subject Specific Skills</b>	
<b>Learning Outcome</b>	<b>Module in which this is delivered</b>
Provide further opportunities to bring to bear socio-political considerations to the study of law, including potentially in a research based dissertation	Law of Trusts - LAW-30108 Contemporary Case Law Critique - LAW-30114 Level 6 European Union Law - LAW-30126 All modules but particularly LAW 301126 and the dissertation modules

<b>Intellectual skills</b>	
<b>Learning Outcome</b>	<b>Module in which this is delivered</b>
Develop critical awareness of the inter- relatedness of the foundational subjects of law and the problematic nature of the discrete areas into which the study of law is commonly organised	Level 6 Obligations 3 - Remedies in Contract and Tort - LAW-30124 Law of Trusts - LAW-30108 Contemporary Case Law Critique - LAW-30114 All modules

<b>Key or Transferable Skills (graduate attributes)</b>	
<b>Learning Outcome</b>	<b>Module in which this is delivered</b>
Develop advanced problem-solving skills	Law of Trusts - LAW-30108 Level 6 European Union Law - LAW-30126 All modules but expressly Professional Legal Skills.

## 9. Final and intermediate awards

Credits required for each level of academic award are as follows:

<b>Honours Degree</b>	240 credits	This programme is a 2 year degree which recognises accredited prior learning at undergraduate level as an entry requirement. The total credits studied at Keele must therefore comprise 240 credits. To qualify as a single honours law degree (LLB) all those credits must be studied within the Law School.  You will require at least 120 credits at levels 5 and 6.
<b>Diploma in Higher Education</b>	120 credits	You will require at least 120 credits at level 5 or higher.

## 10. How is the Programme Assessed?

The wide variety of assessment methods used on this programme at Keele reflects the broad range of knowledge and skills that are developed as you progress through the degree programme.

Teaching staff pay particular attention to specifying clear assessment criteria and providing timely, regular and constructive feedback that helps to clarify things you did not understand and helps you to improve your performance. The following list is representative of the variety of assessment methods used on your programme:

- **Research essays:** to assess knowledge and understanding, in particular the ability to make a reasoned, critical judgement based on an informed understanding of legal and policy arguments in a specific area of law; also, the ability to assess information retrieval and other research skills
- **Problem-based written examinations:** to assess knowledge and understanding, in particular the application of knowledge to complex factual situations and the ability to provide a reasoned, preferred option; also, to assess the ability to provide arguable conclusions for concrete problems and ability to retrieve relevant legal materials
- **Essay-style examination questions:** to assess knowledge and understanding, in particular the ability to analyse several possible solutions to a particular legal problem, and be able to choose, with supportable reasons, the preferred solution; and the ability to make a reasoned critical judgement based on an informed understanding of legal and policy arguments in the area in question
- **Web-based assessment exercises:** to assess subject-specific and key academic skills, in particular the ability to identify and retrieve relevant legal and non-legal information, using electronic and paper sources and the ability to work effectively with legal materials such as case reports and statutes
- **Peer assessment exercises:** to assess knowledge and understanding, subject-specific and key academic skills, in particular the ability to communicate legal and other concepts effectively in writing and orally, work within a group to solve problems or advance a learning objective and communicate effectively in a group context
- **Portfolios:** may consist of a range of different pieces of work but routinely include a requirement that students provide some evidence of critical reflection on the development of their own learning
- **Legal document writing:** (e.g. a draft Will and letter to a client explaining the draft Will, in Wills and Probate and Drafting) will assess students' ability to apply theoretical knowledge to practice-like problems
- **Practical assessment** reflecting the problem based practice focus of the PLP pathway including oral applications in Mooting as well as drafting a legal document such as a Will in Will and Probate and drafting.
- **Case studies** released in advance but assessed in an unseen examination containing further facts and practical legal problems which require students to demonstrate tactical legal advice as well as advising on appropriate legal options. The assessments may require the completion of legal forms and or drafting.

Marks are awarded for summative assessments designed to assess your achievement of learning outcomes. You will also be assessed formatively to enable you to monitor your own progress and to assist staff in identifying and addressing any specific learning needs. Feedback, including guidance on how you can improve the quality of your work, is also provided on all summative assessments within three working weeks of submission, unless there are compelling circumstances that make this impossible, and more informally in the course of tutorial and seminar discussions.

## 11. Contact Time and Expected Workload

This contact time measure is intended to provide you with an indication of the type of activity you are likely to undertake during this programme. The data is compiled based on module choices and learning patterns of students on similar programmes in previous years. Every effort is made to ensure this data is a realistic representation of what you are likely to experience, but changes to programmes, teaching methods and assessment methods mean this data is representative and not specific.

Undergraduate courses at Keele contain an element of module choice; therefore, individual students will experience a different mix of contact time and assessment types dependent upon their own individual choice of modules. The figures below are an example of activities that a student may expect on your chosen course by year stage of study. Contact time includes scheduled activities such as: lecture, seminar, tutorial, project supervision, demonstration, practical classes, supervised time in labs/workshop, fieldwork and

external visits. The figures are based on 1,200 hours of student effort each year for full-time students.

## Activity

	Scheduled learning and teaching activities	Guided independent Study	Placements
Year 2 (Level 5)	21%	79%	0%
Year 3 (Level 6)	15%	85%	0%

## 12. Accreditation

This programme is accredited by The Solicitors Regulation Authority and the Bar Standards Board. Please note the following:

**Module Selection:** Students should note that to have their award recognised as a Qualifying Law Degree (QLD) they must study Law modules of not less than 180 credits in this 240 credit programme (given the 120 credits for recognition of prior learning). The coverage of Foundations of Legal Knowledge subjects must amount to not less than 180 credits. Students wishing to achieve a QLD must satisfy both the Keele requirements for the award of a single honours degree as well as the requirements of the professional bodies.

**Regulations:** Your programme has professional accreditation and while there are no specific regulations, which you have to agree to abide by, you should be aware that the Solicitors Regulatory Authority (SRA) has a responsibility under the Solicitors Act 1974 to ensure that those who are admitted to practice as solicitors are of satisfactory character and suitability (<https://www.sra.org.uk/home/home.page>).

The Bar Standards Board applies similar criteria to those seeking admission as barristers. If you intend to seek professional qualification you will therefore be required to complete a screening process before you are admitted as a solicitor or barrister. This may include a request to the University for a reference as to your suitability to practice. Any such reference *must* include information about any finding of academic misconduct (cheating or plagiarism).

## 13. University Regulations

The University Regulations form the framework for learning, teaching and assessment and other aspects of the student experience. Further information about the University Regulations can be found at: <http://www.keele.ac.uk/student-agreement/>

NB: the requirements of the Solicitors Regulation Authority for a Qualifying Law Degree apply to this programme.

## 14. What are the typical admission requirements for the Programme?

As this programme is designed for graduates from a non-law discipline they are required to have achieved a 2:2 or equivalent in their undergraduate degree (or equivalent qualification).

To obtain the necessary recognition of their accredited prior learning to be admitted to the programme, students must have completed their undergraduate degree within the last 5 years. They must produce a degree certificate or transcript of their degree. The RPL will contribute 120 credits allowing entry to Level 5 of the programme.

In addition they must have achieved Grade C or 4 in Maths and English GCSEs or equivalent.

See the relevant course page on the website for the admission requirements relevant to this programme:

<https://www.keele.ac.uk/study/>

Applicants for whom English is not a first language must provide evidence of a recognised qualification in English language. The minimum score for entry to the Programme is Academic IELTS 6.5 or equivalent due to the complexity of the legal terminology and nuances required in the language of used in legal spheres.

Please note: All non-native English speaking students are required to undertake a diagnostic English language assessment on arrival at Keele, to determine whether English language support may help them succeed with their studies. An English language module may be compulsory for some students during their first year at Keele.

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is considered on a case-by-case basis and those interested should contact the Programme Director. The University's guidelines on this can be found here: <http://www.keele.ac.uk/qa/accreditationofpriorlearning/>

## 15. How are students supported on the programme?

The Law School is very student centred and has a culture of inclusivity. Due to its smaller size it is able to provide student support across a wide range of activities both academic, pastoral and employability/skills related activities, working closely with our student societies.

Support for student learning on the Programme is provided in the following ways:

Module and tutorial group leaders provide support for learning on the modules and in the tutorial groups for which they are responsible. They also give individual feedback on in-course assessments and general feedback on examinations.

Every student is allocated to a personal tutor who is responsible for reviewing and advising on general academic progress. Personal tutors also act as a first point of contact for students on non-academic issues that may affect their learning and can refer students on to a range of specialist health, welfare and financial services co-ordinated by the University's Student Services Centre.

Additional general help with University level study skills and development is available from the Student Services Centre. The Law School also has a specialist Learning and Development Fellow who assists with law specific study skills and assessment guidance.

The School will have a dedicated Programme Leader for this programme who will provide specific guidance and support for students on this programme. This is in addition to the support provided by the School International Tutor who also provides support and pastoral activities specifically aimed at international students.

All members of teaching staff on the Law Programme are available to see students during advertised weekly 'office hours' and at other times by appointment.

## **16. Learning Resources**

For face to face teaching, law is taught in modern teaching rooms across the University, almost all of which are equipped with computers, Internet access and electronic whiteboards and/or projection equipment. Rooms may be arranged either in traditional lecture format or more informally to allow students to work together in small groups.

The learning resources available to students on the programme include an extensive collection of Law materials relevant to undergraduate study. This includes books, journals, case reports and government publications. The majority of this material is also accessible online to Keele students from anywhere in the world with a University username and password. In particular, Law students have direct access to major on-line legal resources (such as Westlaw, Practical Law and LexisNexis) that permit students to access electronically all the main series of law reports and statutes together with major legal journals.

The Keele Learning Environment (KLE) provides easy access to a wide range of learning resources including lecture notes, electronic materials available in a repository maintained by the University Library and other resources (e.g. video, audio and text-based) accessible from external providers via the Internet. Module Teams on Microsoft Teams have been created to deliver flexible online teaching and learning materials of a high quality to enable a blended learning approach to legal studies during the pandemic. This has received extremely positive feedback from students.

The Moot Court, a flexible high specification facility located at the heart of the Law School, is fully equipped with state-of-the art audio-visual equipment and is used for a variety of teaching and co-curricular activities such as mooting and client interviewing. In addition within the School, students have access to a student library and to a series of study/social spaces across both floors of the School. All areas within the School are fully supported by Wi-Fi.

## **17. Other Learning Opportunities**

### **Study abroad (semester)**

Single semester study abroad is not available to students on the LL.B. (Graduate Entry) Law programme.

Due to the nature of this intensive programme neither Study Abroad (International Year) or the Work Placement Year is available to students enrolled on the programme.

### **Other opportunities**

Other learning opportunities for Law students include the annual Client Interviewing competition, Negotiation competition, and a rolling programme of Mooting, including national competitions.

Students at Keele Law School also have access to the CLOCK programme, which established a new student role of Community Legal Companion. Under this role, students are trained by local law firms, the courts and advice agencies to provide support and assistance for un-represented litigants in the local court. Students who successfully complete a year in this role will also receive the Keele University Employability Achievement Award - Community Legal Companion, which is also reported on their individual Higher Education Achievement Report (HEAR).

We also offer students the opportunity to participate in our two legal advice clinics specialising in Commercial law and Divorce law respectively. This can also be recorded in their HEAR. This involves interviewing clients and providing legal advice to SMEs and individuals, (under supervision) drafting legal documentation, legal writing and case management experience.

During their time at Keele, students also have the opportunity to hear from, and talk to, a range of guest speakers and presenters including staff from other academic institutions and members of the legal profession and judiciary. Some of these activities are timetabled as part of taught modules, others are organised separately but are widely advertised and undergraduate students are always welcome to attend.

It is anticipated that all the opportunities above will be made available to any students studying on Blended Learning basis via Microsoft Teams as either live events or recorded sessions. Both legal advice clinics work using an online case management system with online meetings so can be replicated with blended learning students. This year the CLOCK training and the majority of support has been provided on a remote basis.

## 18. Additional Costs

Modules across the undergraduate Law programme will include recommended core and supplemental texts. While paper and/or electronic copies will be available via Library services students may wish to purchase their own copies. Costs will vary depending on the particular text [Law textbooks vary between c. £20-60] and the purchasing of texts, although encouraged, is optional. Some modules require students to purchase statute and course-material packs.

The School encourages students to participate in co-curricular activities such as Mooting and Client Interviewing and Negotiating as well as our Community Legal Outreach initiative. The School also organises voluntary course related field trips including, for example, visits to the Houses of Parliament and networking events with the legal profession. Students engaged in these activities may be required to meet travel and subsistence costs, which vary depending on the activity, and will be kept to a minimum as far as possible. Specific costs will be confirmed in advance of each field trip.

For students who choose to study by a Blended Learning mode of this programme there will be additional expenses related to travel and accommodation during their period of face to face study which they should allow for as the face to face sessions are compulsory.

Activity	Estimated Cost
Total estimated additional costs	£50 per module for textbooks

These costs have been forecast by the University as accurately as possible but may be subject to change as a result of factors outside of our control (for example, increase in costs for external services). Forecast costs are reviewed on an annual basis to ensure they remain representative. Where additional costs are in direct control of the University we will ensure increases do not exceed 5%.

As to be expected there will be additional costs for inter-library loans and potential overdue library fines, print and graduation. We do not anticipate any further costs for this programme.

## 19. Quality management and enhancement

The quality and standards of learning in this programme are subject to a continuous process of monitoring, review and enhancement.

- The School Education Committee is responsible for reviewing and monitoring quality management and enhancement procedures and activities across the School.
- Individual modules and the programme as a whole are reviewed and enhanced every year in the annual programme review which takes place at the end of the academic year.
- The programmes are run in accordance with the University's Quality Assurance procedures and are subject to periodic reviews under the Internal Quality Audit (IQA) process.

Student evaluation of, and feedback on, the quality of learning on every module takes place every year using a variety of different methods:

- The results of student evaluations of all modules are reported to module leaders and reviewed by the Programme Committee as part of annual programme review.
- Findings related to the programme from the annual National Student Survey (NSS), and from regular surveys of the student experience conducted by the University, are subjected to careful analysis and a planned response at programme and School level.
- Feedback received from representatives of students in all three years of the programme is considered and acted on at regular meetings of the Student Staff Voice Committee.

The University appoints senior members of academic staff from other universities to act as external examiners on all programmes. They are responsible for:

- Approving examination questions
- Confirming all marks which contribute to a student's degree
- Reviewing and giving advice on the structure and content of the programme and assessment procedures

Information about current external examiner(s) can be found here:

<http://www.keele.ac.uk/qa/externalexaminers/currentexternalexaminers/>

## 20. The principles of programme design

The programme described in this document has been drawn up with reference to, and in accordance with the guidance set out in, the following documents:

- a. UK Quality Code for Higher Education, Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education: <http://www.qaa.ac.uk/quality-code>
- b. QAA Subject Benchmark Statement: [https://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/subject-benchmark-statements/subject-benchmark-statement-law.pdf?sfvrsn=b939c881\\_18](https://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/subject-benchmark-statements/subject-benchmark-statement-law.pdf?sfvrsn=b939c881_18)
- c. Keele University Regulations and Guidance for Students and Staff: <http://www.keele.ac.uk/regulations>
- d. The LL.B. Programmes also comply with the requirements laid down by the professional bodies in Law (the Solicitors Regulation Authority and the Bar Standards Board) in the:
  - Academic Stage Handbook 2014
  - Joint Statement issued by the Law Society and the General Council of the Bar on the Completion of the Initial or Academic Stage of Training by Obtaining an Undergraduate Degree
  - SRA Training Regulations 2014
  - SRA Admission Regulations 2011

## Version History

### This document

**Date Approved:** 16 March 2021

### Previous documents

Version No	Year	Owner	Date Approved	Summary of and rationale for changes
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