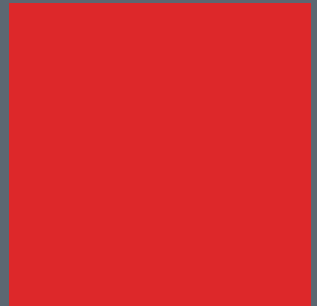


LAW

LLB/BA (Hons)





Suzi Allen wanted a career which was interesting, varied and offered financial security. Law ticked all those boxes, and Suzi sees her future focusing on international perspectives within a UK law firm.

Although the course is demanding, the exams and assignments are well spaced, so there's no need to feel overwhelmed. I particularly like the assignment work – rather like working on a client's case I suppose – so the combination of assessment methods really appeals to me. The skills that I've acquired by means of group work, presentations and assignments have honed my social skills, my tact with others, and my awareness of deadlines.

A highlight of the course was the mock trial organised by one of the lecturers which took place in a court room in Oxford, and was recorded for teaching purposes. It was brilliant to be part of; it really depicted the routine of a trial, including the roles undertaken by the defendant, barristers, witnesses, court clerks and jury.

For more student profiles visit www.law.brookes.ac.uk

WHY STUDY LAW?



Neither a science nor an art, Law is a complicated, ever changing aspect of our lives. It dictates how we organise our society, and sets the boundaries of our social structures and the accepted norms by which live. A Law degree requires dedication, intellectual rigour and mental agility. The skills which you learn over the course of your Law studies are ones which will serve you throughout your life.

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WHY CHOOSE OXFORD BROOKES?



Law at Oxford Brookes is taken as a single honours subject and will give you a thorough grounding in both the academic and practical legal skills required for a career in the profession. An understanding of legal implications and obligations, combined with the ability to apply this knowledge in practice, is also valuable in the public, private and voluntary sectors.

Distinctive features

- **Placed in the top half of all law departments in England (RAE 2008)**
- **Recognised by The Law Society and the Council of Legal Education**
- **All Brookes law graduates are guaranteed a place on our highly regarded Legal Practice Course (LPC) – vocational stage training for aspiring solicitors**
- **Pro bono scheme**
- **Dedicated support staff**
- **Extensive mock trial and mooting opportunities**

Established reputation

Based in the magnificent Headington Hill Hall, the Law School has a long record of excellence and innovation in teaching, and has invested heavily in the development of a student-centred ethos. This includes regular student evaluation of teaching, which helps to shape future practice and ensures our students are getting the most out of their education.

Oxford boasts the highest proportion of 'knowledge intensive' employees of any English city, and the Law School has excellent links with major law firms. We host regular talks from leading lawyers and other experts in the field, ensuring that your learning is informed by the very latest developments and academic thinking.



Student choice

On top of your compulsory modules we offer a wide range of further modules, allowing you to gain specialist knowledge or pursue personal interests in particular areas, be it religious, computer or human rights law. Many employers value graduates who have in-depth knowledge of a particular area of the law. We have an extremely active Student Law Society who present a regular programme of events, from trips to the European Parliament, hosting visiting speakers or staging the annual ball.

www.brookeslawsociety.co.uk

Professional recognition

The Law School at Oxford Brookes is widely recognised as a leading provider of a first class, academically sound and stimulating legal education. In the first year of your degree you are required to complete a number of compulsory modules, giving you a firm foundation in essential legal knowledge.

In order to satisfy professional exemption criteria you will continue to follow various compulsory modules, but within this framework you can choose modules which tailor your studies to your interests and specialism. You will learn how the law operates in its wider context, studying both national and international law.

Career

Whilst providing you with a flexible programme, we ensure that you understand all aspects of law, from substantive law, practice and theory, to practical methods. You will receive a thorough academic grounding in law balanced with vocational, personal and communication based skills which are transferable to many career paths.

TEACHING AND LEARNING



The Law School delivers a highly respected teaching programme with a reputation for producing professional, employable graduates. To support our ethos of student centred learning, we combine the teaching of a strong, content-based discipline with the provision of practical and relevant skills training. Above all, we use the content of the law to motivate our students to ‘think as lawyers’.

We use a range of assessment and learning methods, which vary according to each module. Alongside the more traditional structure of lectures, essays, seminars and tutorials, assessment methods may include:

- **group work**
- **presentations and debates**
- **practical work**
- **student-led research projects**



The outcome of successful participation in this module is surely to produce a very high quality legal researcher who will be of substantial value to any future employer.

Prof David Oughton, External Examiner

Innovation in teaching

An example of our innovative teaching techniques is the Advanced Legal Method module, which is taken in Year 2. Students are required to work in a variety of ways: within a group, making presentations, and producing an independently researched and written brief from a given question. Students are also expected to produce a diary documenting their research process. This reflection is one of the skills which make the Advanced Legal Method module such a useful learning tool for students.



Support

Throughout your time at Brookes you will receive excellent support from our dedicated staff, both academically and personally. Our student support co-ordinators are there to support you in all aspects of your academic career, from module choices to any personal issues you may experience. Your Academic Adviser will be allocated when you start, and will provide academic and departmental support for you throughout your studies.

Upgrade is a free service available to all students at any level, and is unique to Oxford Brookes. Upgrade staff offer advice on all aspects of study, from planning and writing essays to statistical analysis, either in a one to

one situation or as a drop-in session. The Law School also offers its own specialised Upgrade service tailored to Law students and legal skills.

Resources

The university library boasts an impressive range of legal holdings and electronic resources covering all aspects of UK, European and international law. Our dedicated law librarian will help you access relevant materials and guide you through the huge range of information available to you. You will also have access to Oxford's Bodleian law library when writing your dissertation.



There is a real joy in teaching – helping students gain confidence, helping them to master something that is difficult or challenging and watching the intellectual satisfaction they get from that.

Marc Howe, Senior Lecturer in Law

PRACTICAL AND LEGAL SKILLS



Mooting and mock trials

At Brookes we do our best to make sure you're not only highly qualified, but ready for the workplace. Mooting, or discussion of a hypothetical case, is a must on the CV of any aspiring barrister or solicitor. It gives you the opportunity to test your advocacy skills in a safe and supportive environment where you can hone your debating and verbal argument skills at the same time as learning from your peers. Through the Student Law Society you'll have the opportunity to take part in mock trials and client interviewing competitions, teaching you a host of professional skills.

Brookes' Law School runs its own highly successful mooting competition, the winners of which are entered into the national English Speaking Union Mooting Competition.



I currently volunteer for Asylum Welcome; it costs nothing to share my time and the skills I've learned.

Tori Hill, LLB student

Pro bono

Pro bono is derived from Latin meaning 'for the good'. The scheme provides voluntary opportunities for students to practice their legal skills and gain invaluable experience whilst benefitting the local community and groups who would otherwise receive little help. At Brookes we are proud of our established pro bono scheme, led by student co-ordinators and supported by academic staff from the Law School.

The scheme is open to Law Students at all levels of study, and annually about 90 law students take up pro bono opportunities across a wide range of both national and international organisations.



Research

We have a vibrant research ethos within the School. Our teaching staff are active researchers and widely published, allowing students to learn from the very latest academic thinking.

85%

of our law research
was judged to
be internationally
recognised with 10%
'world leading'

Will I get involved?

You will have an opportunity to take part in an annual Undergraduate Research Conference at which you can create an exhibit or give a talk based on your research project and explain it to visitors to the conference. Prizes are awarded for the best display and for the best oral presentation.

By designing and undertaking your own research you will develop excellent analytical and independent study skills, adding weight to your CV.



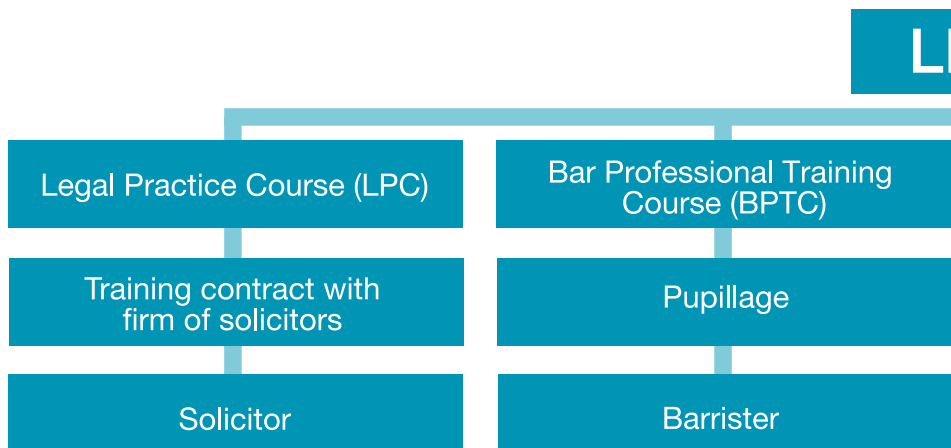
The opportunity to really investigate a subject I am passionate about has been fantastic, and having access to the Bodleian Library during my dissertation has been a big help with research.

Robin Shane, LLB graduate

A CAREER IN LAW



The demands and intellectual rigour required to study law make you highly attractive to a wide range of employers, from journalism to development, politics to publishing. Throughout your course you'll gain first class skills in analysis, problem solving, teamwork and communication, all of which will stand you in good stead throughout your chosen career.





Professional exemption

A qualifying law degree (QLD) satisfies the regulations for the Law Society and the Council of Legal Education. It enables you to progress straight to the vocational stage of training for solicitors and barristers. Students without a QLD must take a Graduate Diploma in Law before beginning their professional training.

We are one of the UK's leading providers of professional training for lawyers. We guarantee a place on our Legal Practice Course (LPC) to all our law graduates.

B

Further academic study

Career in business, consultancy etc

PhD

COURSE STRUCTURE



Here is a very brief outline of what to expect from an undergraduate law degree at Oxford Brookes, and to answer your questions about programmes of study in Law. You will get a copy of the full handbook in enrolment week. You will also receive more detailed information about choosing second and third year modules during Semester 2 of your first year.

Exemptions from professional legal examinations

If you wish to become either a solicitor or a barrister, you will need to obtain a qualifying law degree (QLD), which exempts you from the first stage of the professional law examinations. In order that your degree be classed as a QLD by the Law Society and Bar Council, it is necessary that you study certain subjects. These are:

- **Contract Law**
- **Criminal Law**
- **Equity and Trusts**
- **European Union Law**
- **Land Law**
- **Public Law**
- **Tort**

Year 1

You will take eight modules in your first year. Some of these are compulsory for your programme, others are QLD modules.

Years 2 AND 3

You will take 16 modules across the two years, including the compulsory module, Advanced Legal Method.



Sample programme of study

Here is an example programme for a Law student wanting to study for a qualifying law degree (QLD):

Year 1

- **Contract Law (double module)**
- **Foundational Legal Skills**
- **Legal Method**
- **Public Law (double module)**
- **Tort (double module)**

This is a full year's programme and no other modules needed to be added.

Years 2 and 3

- **Advanced Legal Method**
- **Criminal Law (double module)**
- **Equity and Trusts (double module)**
- **European Union Law (double module)**
- **Land Law (double module)**

This is a partial programme for the two years. You will be able to select a further seven modules to complete your degree programme (see pages 13-16).



My favourite subject has to be criminal law, and the class debates have made learning difficult subjects much easier.

Justina de Brett, LLB student



After 10 years in the workplace, Brian Putnam embarked on a law degree at Oxford Brookes, where he became president of the Student Law Society.

I came to Brookes on the most superb July summer's day. I took that as a sign; it just seemed like a fabulous place to spend three years.

Alongside excellent teaching, I received abundant extra-curricular opportunities at Brookes and I truly believe I now have the skills and attributes to legitimately apply for an incredibly wide range of jobs. I don't have to settle for "that'll do".

Oxford Brookes has given me the opportunity to meet a vast diversity of people. The looks on people's faces tell you that Oxford is a place where they feel safe, well and perpetually comfortable, regardless of ethnicity, creed or colour.

For more student profiles visit www.law.brookes.ac.uk

MODULES



YEAR 1

Contract Law QLD

Examines the essential principles of the formation, operation and termination of a contract together with a brief consideration of the conceptual background to contract law. The module will extend and develop the processes of legal reasoning and techniques of legal analysis that the student will have been introduced to in the Legal Method module. The module covers the fundamental principles of contract law and provides a framework for tackling case studies and legal problem solving.

Foundation Legal Skills

This is a skills based module which introduces students to basic legal skills and gives them the opportunity to develop and practice these directly.

Legal Method QLD

This module is designed to introduce you to the legal world and as the title suggests, helps you acquire legal skills and 'lawyer-like' ways of thinking.

Public Law QLD

Public Law encompasses constitutional and administrative law as well as civil liberties and

human rights. Constitutional law is the law that relates to the structure or framework of the state and the political and judicial institutions of the state, such as the Crown, Parliament, the Government, and the Supreme Court. It includes the theories and principles that underpin the constitution, such as the rule of law and the doctrine of parliamentary supremacy. Administrative law is the body of law that deals with the workings of the state, along with the statutory and common law powers and duties of public bodies such as government departments and local authorities as they impinge upon people in their everyday lives. Civil liberties and human rights is concerned with the protection offered by legal, political and administrative means to the liberties of the individual prior to and within the context of the Human Rights Act 1998, with particular focus on freedom of expression, police powers, and freedom of assembly and public order.

Tort QLD

A comprehensive study of the law of tort: civil wrongs giving rise to a remedy for an individual, usually damages. The largest area is negligence but among others are defamation, nuisance, and trespass to the person.

YEARS 2 AND 3 MODULES

Advanced Legal Method

This module is concerned with the further development of legal research skills, and the deepening of knowledge and understanding of legal sources and methodologies. Part of the module consists of revisiting legal techniques and issues addressed at the beginning of Stage I (through Legal Method), in the light of the student's individual experience of study of substantive law topics. The module also aims to develop the student's abilities to carry out independent legal research, and to present the results of this research in a concise, well-argued, and strategic way. The module introduces some of the key concepts of comparative legal study, to allow students to avoid improper use of the, increasingly important, sources of comparative law. The module prepares students for work on a final year dissertation.

Commercial Law

Commercial law is concerned with the rights and duties of the parties whenever goods or services are supplied by way of trade. This module concentrates on a selection of topics designed to give the student a broad understanding of the matters commonly referred to under the heading "commercial law".

Communication Skills for Lawyers

Looks at the oral skills involved in client interviewing and advocacy. You will learn and practise the skills necessary for effective oral legal communication and engage in exercises and role playing to develop micro skills of listening, observing, questioning and communicating verbal information. In addition to developing your oral presentation techniques, you will learn how to structure presentations, how to practise factual analysis and the skills of using persuasive language. By the end of the module you will conduct a client interview and finally you will conduct a plea in mitigation.

Company Law

An analysis and the study of the law relating to companies registered in accordance with the Companies Acts, underlining the social and economic context in which companies operate

and, to some extent, the international controls to which Parliament is subject. Particular emphasis is given to the issue of incorporation, limited liability, directors' duties and the rights of shareholders.

Computer Law and Intellectual Property

As social and business activities become increasingly dependent on digital technologies a basic understanding of these advances and the regulatory challenges they present is of key importance to the lawyer seeking to engage with the information society. This module aims to provide students with a critical awareness of the legal implications of the emergent internet technologies and associated hardware, and to encourage students to evaluate and analyse the regulatory systems employed in terms of their wider social implications. There is particular emphasis on how digital technologies have challenged the copyright law, giving the module a firm grounding in the academically rigorous discipline of intellectual property.

Crime and Society

Examines how crime is defined and measured, together with theories as to the causes of crime. It looks at the reasoning behind sentencing and examines the effectiveness of some sentencing options.

Criminal Evidence

An examination of some important rules of evidence, including corroboration, identification evidence, hearsay, confessions, the right to silence, improperly obtained evidence, similar fact evidence, evidence of character, expert opinion evidence and the rules relating to the examination and cross-examination of witnesses. Students will be encouraged to evaluate the ideas behind these rules and examine any compromise between competing ideas which may be implicit in them. The module will place particular emphasis on the significance of the rules of evidence in criminal trial, in the context of the need to avoid miscarriages of justice.

Criminal Law QLD

The Criminal Law module explores and discusses the role of the law in maintaining societal coherence through the avoidance

and punishment of proscribed wrongs. The module begins with an examination of the general principles of criminal law, questioning the rationale for the existence of such laws before introducing the building blocks upon which they are formed. The module progresses with a close examination of several areas of criminal liability, including fatal and non-fatal offences against the person, property offences, preparatory or inchoate offences and defences.

Employment Law

The aim of the module is to equip students with an understanding of the nature of employment law. At the start of the module we will be examining the distinction between the self-employed person and the employee. We will then study the nature and formation of the contract of employment: terms of employment and the 'flexibility' of the relationship before moving on to consider the wide range of employment rights which flow from statute.

Environmental Law

This module provides an introduction to international, EU and UK environmental law, with an analysis of the sources of environmental law, its means of enforcement and the regulatory institutions involved. The module also covers a critical examination of the general principles of law concerned with the protection of the environment.

Equality Law

This module examines legislation on sex, race, sexual orientation, religion and disability discrimination and equal pay. It considers its interpretation by courts; its impact, particularly in the workplace; its interaction with the law of the EC; and proposals for extending the scope of equality law.

Equity and Trusts QLD

The module explains the law of Equity and the use of the trust in the management of property, whether land or other assets. The module begins by considering the historical evolution of the trust, and then the requirements for creating an express trust: the formalities, the requisite 'certainties', and the necessity that the trust be duly constituted. It then goes on to consider implied trusts, both resulting and constructive,

and the doctrine of proprietary estoppel, and the particular application of these to the ownership of the family home. The law relating to charitable trusts and the fiscal and other implications of charitable status are considered. The module then looks at trustees' powers and duties, breaches of trust, and tracing.

European Union Law QLD

A module that gives students a thorough grounding in the constitutional and institutional foundations of the EU and presents them with a number of essential topics of substantive law, chosen because of their centrality in the EU system and/or their intrinsic interest. The module begins by introducing the origins and the mission of the EU, its institutional framework and legislative process focusing on issues of accountability, democracy, transparency and efficiency. The philosophy underlying the EU module is the importance of studying EU law in its wider political and socio-economic context. Students will be required to keep abreast of more general developments regarding the EU, and those who read more widely in the broader field of European studies are likely to excel in their studies.

Family Law

An examination of the legal rules, concepts and values regulating family relationships, in particular the law of marriage, civil partnerships, divorce, the division of property on family breakdown, domestic violence, parental responsibility, resolution of disputes over children and child protection.

Independent Study Module

A programme of independent study which is offered in specific subjects of mutual interest, which would not otherwise, be included in the Law field, such as Reproduction and the Law, and International Criminal Law.

International Human Rights Law

This module will introduce the history and philosophical foundations of human rights, the history of international human rights law, the context of international human rights law in international law generally, and will examine the universal and regional mechanisms for the protection of human rights at the international

level. Throughout the module, it will be clear that human rights are contestable categories. Certain questions will therefore be considered: are human rights universal concepts, or merely the constructs of western culture? How do you reconcile rights clashes? What is the future for human rights?

International Law and Institutions

This module focuses on the law and legal framework governing the international community. Examined in depth are the underpinnings of international law including the nature, origins and basis of international law. Also examined are the main sources of international law, including the importance of customs, traditions, treaties and international case precedents in interpreting international law. A special focus is given to the nexus between international and municipal law, including state responsibility and governmental obligations to other countries and the international community at large.

Land Law QLD

Land law is a distinctive and fascinating attempt to solve a set of co-ordination problems arising from the different, potentially conflicting, interests which can exist in relation to land. The module begins by introducing key structural elements of the scheme of English land law, and identifies the central concerns of the law, before seeking to integrate each of the more specific topics on the curriculum into this framework. The module will thus cover the nature of law, property and land, the division of estates and interests into legal and equitable, and the overall structure of land registration, before moving on to consider the more specific elements of the curriculum: freehold and leasehold estates, co-ownership and trusts of land leases, licences, mortgages, freehold covenants and easements.

Law and Religion in the 21st Century

The 21st century has begun with religion taking a new place on the public policy and legal agenda. This module takes a legal perspective on how law and religion interact, focusing on the individual believer, the religious organisation, and the State. Discussion focuses on contemporary English law, including the implications of the Human Rights Act 1998,

but making some use of comparative material, particularly the mature jurisprudence of the US Supreme Court on religious liberty. Questions considered include: Should religious beliefs have a special place in the law? How does the law deal with religiously motivated terrorism? How should the law deal with deaths during negligent exorcisms? The module is assessed by coursework.

Law Dissertation

An original piece of elementary research in Law, which has been written in dissertation form.

Laws of War

Aims to give students a grounding in the law and principles governing when states resort to force against other states or non state actors/terrorists, and the principles of law that apply in times of armed conflict

Medical Law

An examination of the structure of the NHS and general principles of medical law and ethics including such issues as consent, confidentiality, negligence, assisted reproduction, abortion, research and treatment decisions and the end of life.

Nationality, Immigration and Asylum

Looks at the law and policy relating to British nationality, immigration and asylum law. British nationality law has developed from including everyone born in the Empire to excluding even some people in the UK. Immigration law explores the tensions between Britain's need for workers, the desire to exclude those perceived as a potential burden, and the requirements of the European rules of free movement. Asylum law is developing rapidly in the UK and is frequently misrepresented especially in the press. This module will allow students to join in the debate from an informed perspective.

KEY FACTS



TEACHING LOCATION

Headington Campus
Gipsy Lane site

ACADEMIC FACULTY

Faculty of Humanities
and Social Sciences



HOW TO APPLY

Full time study application is through UCAS. See our website for course codes.

TYPICAL OFFERS

A level: ABB or equivalent
IB Diploma: 33points
Advanced Diploma: B,
including A-level at grade A

Specific requirements:
GCSE English Language B
GCSE Mathematics C

For the combined honours degree the offer will lie between the offers quoted for each subject.

Applicants over 21 years of age who do not meet these requirements are encouraged to contact the Senior Tutor to discuss their application. An Advanced Diploma Level 3 will be considered.

DURATION

Full time:
3 years

Part time:
up to 6 years



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