

Course Specification

Course Summary Information		
1	Course Title	LLM Legal Practice
2	Course Code	PT1727
3	Awarding Institution	Birmingham City University
4	Teaching Institution(s) (if different from point 3)	
5	Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation (if applicable)	not applicable

6	Course Description
	<p>Looking to pursue a career in Law?</p> <p>At Birmingham City School of Law, we don't just teach law, we advocate it; We don't just focus on professional practice, we actively break down barriers to social justice and human rights throughout the world.</p> <p>The LLM Legal Practice course is designed to prepare you for the Solicitors Qualifying Examination (SQE 1) by utilising our excellent legal expertise and providing a unique mix of study and real-world experience.</p> <p>Whether you have a first degree in law or any other subject or discipline, this course is perfect for anyone wanting to be a legal practitioner and develop their legal knowledge and skills. It is designed to help prepare you for legal practice in a changing world through encouraging you to reflect on your practice and develop transferable skills alongside legal knowledge. In addition to taught study, you will have the opportunity to work on real-world legal cases through our Law Clinic where students, under the guidance of legal professionals, work on live cases brought by people in the community.</p> <p>You are also encouraged to engage in extra-curricular activities to support your learning, with student societies such as the highly successful Mooting Society. Furthermore, you will have the ability to engage with the wider Birmingham legal community through our connections with the Birmingham Law Society, the largest regional law society in the UK.</p>

7	Course Awards		
7a	Name of Final Award	Level	Credits Awarded
	LLM Legal Practice	7	180
7b	Exit Awards and Credits Awarded		
	Postgraduate Diploma in Legal Practice	7	120
	Postgraduate Certificate in Legal Practice	7	60

8	Derogation from the University Regulations
	Not Applicable

9	Delivery Patterns			
	Mode(s) of Study	Location(s) of Study	Duration of Study	Code(s)
	Full Time	City Campus	1 Year	PT1727
	Part Time	City Campus	2 Years	PT1728

10	Entry Requirements
	The admission requirements for this course are stated on the course page of the BCU website at https://www.bcu.ac.uk/

11	Course Aims
	The LLM Legal Practice aims to prepare you for a career as a solicitor by helping you to prepare for the Solicitors Qualifying Examination (SQE 1) and providing opportunities to develop knowledge, and legal and transferable skills in sought after areas of legal practice.

12	Course Learning Outcomes
1	Research and apply critical knowledge of the law and legal practice accurately and effectively in the areas of Functioning Legal Knowledge as defined by the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) (Business Law and Practice; Dispute Resolution; Contract; Tort; Legal System of England and Wales; Constitutional and Administrative Law and EU Law and Legal Services; Property Practice; Wills and the Administration of Estates; Solicitors Accounts; Land Law; Trusts; Criminal Law and Practice)
2	Demonstrate and reflect on the knowledge and skills which go beyond the requirements of the SQE. Through either researching or applying critical knowledge of the law and legal practice accurately and effectively in at least one additional area of legal practice or by undertaking additional training in practice-relevant skills.
3	Identify the extent to which clients can legally achieve a desired outcome and offer appropriate explanatory advice
4	Demonstrate the ability to act honestly and with integrity, and in accordance with the SRA Standards and Regulations
5	Reflect on the role of legal professionals in society generally and in specific legal contexts
6	Reflect on personal development as a legal practitioner and identify development and training needs
7	Develop a variety of practical lawyering skills which should include several of the following: client interview and attendance note/legal analysis; advocacy; case and matter analysis; legal research; legal writing; legal drafting
8	Demonstrate the ability to deal professionally with members of the public through work experience or volunteering

13 Level Learning Outcomes	
<i>Upon completion of the Postgraduate Certificate In Legal Practice students will be able to:</i>	
1	Research and apply critical knowledge of the law and legal practice accurately and effectively in the areas of Functioning Legal Knowledge as defined by the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) (Business Law and Practice; Dispute Resolution; Contract; Tort; Legal System of England and Wales; Constitutional and Administrative Law and EU Law and Legal Services; Property Practice; Wills and the Administration of Estates; Solicitors Accounts; Land Law; Trusts; Criminal Law and Practice)
2	Identify the extent to which clients can legally achieve a desired outcome and offer appropriate explanatory advice
3	Demonstrate the ability to act honestly and with integrity, and in accordance with the SRA Standards and Regulations
4	Reflect on the role of legal professionals in society generally and in specific legal contexts
<i>Upon completion of the Postgraduate Diploma in Legal Practice students will be able to:</i>	
5	Research and apply critical knowledge of the law and legal practice accurately and effectively in at least one additional area of legal practice
6	Reflect on personal development as a legal practitioner and identify development and training needs
<i>Upon completion of the LLM Legal Practice, students will be able to:</i>	
7	Develop a variety of practical lawyering skills which should include several of the following: client interview and attendance note/legal analysis; advocacy; case and matter analysis; legal research; legal writing; legal drafting
8	Demonstrate the ability to deal professionally with members of the public through work experience or volunteering

14	Course Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy
	<p>This course is an intensive introduction to the areas of Functioning Legal Knowledge which are examined as part of the Solicitors Qualifying Examination (SQE 1). The course is designed to help you to develop the knowledge and legal skills needed to pass the centralised examination and thus work towards qualification as a solicitor.</p> <p>In addition, the course prepares you for practice by encouraging you to reflect on the role of practitioners in specific legal contexts, offering opportunities to study additional areas of legal practice and by developing your practical lawyering skills.</p> <p>Three specific approaches to learning and teaching are used to achieve these mutually supportive but different aims:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The areas of Functioning Legal Knowledge are taught in 6 weeks blocks. Each week of every 6-week block begins with a series of online video lectures which outline required content and will signpost materials, explain activities and highlight connections. The lectures are followed by 8 hours of workshops broken down into 2 4 hour workshops where students will work through set activities in groups. These on campus activities are supported by online discussion groups and practice MCQs.2. The course enables students to select option to enhance their employability. The options cover additional legal practice areas, beyond the narrow content of the SQE 1 to enable students to develop expert knowledge in sought after areas of legal practice. Teaching sessions follow a similar structure as the delivery of the Functioning Legal Knowledge blocks and are focused on developing the knowledge and skills required to provide effective legal advice in the specific contexts studied.3. Practical lawyering skills are developed through work experience or project work which can take a variety of forms. Consequently, students may be working as a volunteer or in an employed capacity in the legal sector or they may join our Law Clinic. <p>The assessment strategy for the course also reflects the purpose of preparing you for the SQE 1 and for legal practice. Much of the assessment strategy therefore mirrors the multiple-choice tests used in the SQE 1 centralised examinations.</p> <p>In addition, and in order to prepare you for practice and not just the examination, the modules also include a coursework element which is assessed through written work.</p> <p>Development of practical lawyering skills is demonstrated through a portfolio in which you provide evidence of skills development.</p>

15	Course Requirements																																																																						
15a	<p>Level 7:</p> <p><i>In order to complete this course a student who does not have an undergraduate degree in Law or Law conversion course must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 160 credits):</i></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Module Code</th> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Module Name</th> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Credit Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>LAW7158</td><td>Underpinning Legal Knowledge 1</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>LAW7159</td><td>Underpinning Legal Knowledge 2</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>LAW7163</td><td>Underpinning Legal Knowledge 3</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>LAW7164</td><td>The SQE and Professional Legal Practice</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>LAW7167</td><td>SQE 1 Preparation</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>LAW7170</td><td>Practical Lawyering Skills</td><td>60</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>In order to complete this course a student who does not have an undergraduate degree in Law or Law conversion course must successfully complete at least 20 credits from the following indicative list of OPTIONAL modules.</i></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Module Code</th> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Module Name</th> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Credit Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>LAW7160</td><td>Employment Practice</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>LAW7162</td><td>Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>LAW7165</td><td>Family Law Practice</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>LAW7166</td><td>Commercial Dispute Resolution</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>LAW7168</td><td>Immigration Practice</td><td>20</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>In order to complete this course a student who has an undergraduate degree in Law or Law conversion course must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 100 credits):</i></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Module Code</th> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Module Name</th> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Credit Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>LAW7164</td><td>The SQE and Professional Legal Practice</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>LAW7167</td><td>SQE 1 Preparation</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>LAW7170</td><td>Practical Lawyering Skills</td><td>60</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>In order to complete this course a student who has an undergraduate degree in Law or Law conversion course must successfully complete at least 80 credits from the following indicative list of OPTIONAL modules.</i></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Module Code</th> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Module Name</th> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Credit Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>LAW7158</td><td>Underpinning Legal Knowledge 1</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>LAW7159</td><td>Underpinning Legal Knowledge 2</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>LAW7163</td><td>Underpinning Legal Knowledge 3</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>LAW7160</td><td>Employment Practice</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>LAW7162</td><td>Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence</td><td>20</td></tr> </tbody> </table>		Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	LAW7158	Underpinning Legal Knowledge 1	20	LAW7159	Underpinning Legal Knowledge 2	20	LAW7163	Underpinning Legal Knowledge 3	20	LAW7164	The SQE and Professional Legal Practice	20	LAW7167	SQE 1 Preparation	20	LAW7170	Practical Lawyering Skills	60	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	LAW7160	Employment Practice	20	LAW7162	Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence	20	LAW7165	Family Law Practice	20	LAW7166	Commercial Dispute Resolution	20	LAW7168	Immigration Practice	20	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	LAW7164	The SQE and Professional Legal Practice	20	LAW7167	SQE 1 Preparation	20	LAW7170	Practical Lawyering Skills	60	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	LAW7158	Underpinning Legal Knowledge 1	20	LAW7159	Underpinning Legal Knowledge 2	20	LAW7163	Underpinning Legal Knowledge 3	20	LAW7160	Employment Practice	20	LAW7162	Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence	20
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LAW7168	Immigration Practice	20

15b Structure Diagram

Please note list of optional modules is indicative only. Students' choice will not be guaranteed for optional modules, but a fair and transparent process will be adopted and shared with students.

LLM in Legal Practice – 1 Year Full Time Structure
Semester 1:

Code	Module	Core/Option	Credits
LAW7158	Underpinning Legal Knowledge 1	Core (non-Law graduate) Option	20
LAW7163	Underpinning Legal Knowledge 3	Core (non-Law graduate) Option	20
LAW7160	Employment Practice	Option	20

Semester 2:

Code	Module	Core/Option	Credits
LAW7159	Underpinning Legal Knowledge 2	Core (non-Law graduate) Option	20
LAW7164	The SQE and Professional Legal Practice	Core	20
LAW7165	Family Law	Option	20

Semester 3:

Code	Module	Core/Option	Credits
LAW7167	SQE 1 Preparation	Core	20
LAW7168	Immigration Practice	Option	20
LAW7162	Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence	Option	20
LAW7166	Commercial Dispute Resolution	Option	20

All Year

Code	Module	Core/Option	Credits
LAW7170	Practical Lawyering Skills	Core	60

LLM in Legal Practice – 2 Year Part Time
Semester 1, Year 1:

Code	Module	Core/Option	Credits
LAW7158	Underpinning Legal Knowledge 1	Core (non-Law graduate) Option	20
LAW7160	Employment Practice	Option	20

Semester 2, Year 1:

Code	Module	Core/Option	Credits
LAW7159	Underpinning Legal Knowledge 2	Core (non-Law graduate) Option	20
LAW7165	Family Law	Option	20

Semester 3, Year 1:

Code	Module	Core/Option	Credits
LAW7168	Immigration Practice	Option	20
LAW7162	Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence	Option	20
LAW7166	Commercial Dispute Resolution	Option	20

All Year

Code	Module	Core/Option	Credits
LAW7170	Practical Lawyering Skills	Core	60

Semester 1, Year 2:

Code	Module	Core/Option	Credits
LAW7162	Underpinning Legal Knowledge 3	Core (non-Law graduate) Option	20
LAW7160	Employment Practice	Option	20

Semester 2, Year 2:

Code	Module	Core/Option	Credits
LAW7164	The SQE and Professional Legal Practice	Core	20

Semester 3:

Code	Module	Core/Option	Credits
LAW7167	SQE 1 Preparation	Core	20

All Year

Code	Module	Core/Option	Credits
LAW7170	Practical Lawyering Skills	Core	60

16	Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment
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Overall student *workload* consists of class contact hours, independent learning and assessment activity, with each credit taken equating to a total study time of around 10 hours. While actual contact hours may depend on the optional modules selected, the following information gives an indication of how much time students will need to allocate to different activities at each level of the course.

- *Scheduled Learning* includes, practical classes and workshops, contact time specified in timetable
- *Directed Learning* includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity and online lectures, Graduate+, peer learning
- *Private Study* includes preparation for exams

The *balance of assessment* by mode of assessment (e.g. coursework, exam and in-person) depends to some extent on the optional modules chosen by students. The approximate percentage of the course assessed by coursework, exam and in-person is shown below.

Workload

17.33% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	312
Directed Learning	662
Private Study	826
Total Hours	1800

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	75
Exam	25
In-Person	0