

Course Specification

Course Summary Information		
1	Course Title	HND Law and Practice
2	Course Code	UH0109
3	Awarding Institution	Birmingham City University
4	Teaching Institution(s) (if different from point 3)	Birmingham Metropolitan College
5	Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation (if applicable)	Not applicable

6	Course Description
	The Higher National Diploma (HND) Law and Practice offers you a thorough grounding in areas of English law. During the course you will study selected foundation areas of English law in addition to introducing you to more specialised areas such as land law. A focus of the course is bridging the gap between your knowledge of legal theory and the ability to apply this law using recognised skills to typical issues in everyday life. Whilst also developing academic skills to underpin your successful legal study, the course gives you the opportunity to create and refine typical transferable skills that are useful for working with others. By implementing established techniques of communication to present oral and written legal advice in a meaningful way, you will present legal arguments to a range of audiences based on a variety of simulated legal issues. Typical specialist skills that you will develop whilst on the course include legal drafting, conducting research, alternative dispute resolution and advocacy. Successful completion of the HND Law and Practice opens up a variety of career possibilities as well as the possibility of further legal study such as the LLB degree. For professions such as traditional careers in legal practice like solicitor or barrister as well as professions in areas related to law the HND Law and Practice provides a solid foundation in legal understanding giving you a competitive edge where having an understanding of law and legal process is an advantage. You will be taught using a variety of methods and assessed in a range of ways designed to develop and enhance your legal knowledge and the command of practical skills to apply that knowledge. The course is based at Birmingham Metropolitan College, and this is where you will receive all scheduled teaching for the course in addition to accessing learning resources and student services to help support you throughout the course. In addition to being a student of Birmingham Metropolitan College you will also be a student of Birmingham City University with access to additional learning resources, buildings and study space at the university to help you be successful on the course. Throughout the year you will be invited to participate in relevant activities that have been designed for you to showcase your legal skills and develop your peer and professional networks, as you are part of the legal community at Birmingham City University. The university's Graduate+ Bronze Award has been built into the assessment for your modules across the 2 years, allowing you to gain the Bronze certification by the time you have completed the HND. This course addresses several aspects of the UN Sustainability Goals through its design, which includes Goal 4 (quality education), Goal 8 (decent work and economic growth through preparing you for the transition to work through acquisition of transferrable skills), and Goal 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions, through the study of the legal and justice systems and their institutions).

	Successful completion of this HND provides you with a nationally recognised qualification at Level 5. If you would like to pursue further studies in law post successful completion of this course, then you will be eligible for advanced entry to level 5 of the LLB degree at Birmingham City University. In order to complete all the core foundation areas of English law you will study modules at levels 5 and 6, it is not possible to directly enter the degree at Level 6 (Year Three).
--	---

7	Course Awards		
7a	Name of Final Award	Level	Credits Awarded
	HND Law and Practice	Level 5	240
7b	Exit Awards and Credits Awarded		
	HNC Law and Practice	Level 4	120

8	Variation from the University Regulations
	None are applicable

9	Delivery Patterns			
Mode(s) of Study		Location(s) of Study	Duration of Study	Code(s)
Full-time		Birmingham Metropolitan College – Matthew Boulton Campus	2 years	UH0109

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/ or may be found by searching for the course entry profile located on the UCAS website.
11	Course Aims
	This course aims to: • Provide a grounding in key areas of English Law, both as a foundation of legal knowledge, and also to equip you with the skills needed to go to further legal study; • Deliver an inclusive and innovative curriculum which connects the academic study of law with real world contexts through the use of authentic assessment; • Enable you to strengthen your analytic, interpretive, and communication skills and to demonstrate the problem-solving, reflective and application skills intrinsic to the subject and the attributes needed for self-managed, lifelong learning; • Provide an understanding of the social context within which the law operates and its effect on it; • Enhance and develop your ability to reflect upon your learning journey, and to engage in your own career planning

12	Course Learning Outcomes
1	Identify relevant aspects of the English Legal System.
2	Explain substantive legal rules and principles recognising their importance in the development of current law.
3	Analyse the processes and principles of relevant English Law.
4	Employ academic research skills.
5	Create accurate legal arguments and conclusions.
6	Communicate accurate legal arguments and conclusions clearly.
7	Solve problems using relevant legal rules and principles.
8	Undertake independent learning employing a range of academic and transferable skills.
9	Reflect upon your development to plan your academic and career journey.

13	Level Learning Outcomes
	<i>Upon completion of Level 4 / the Higher National Certificate, students will be able to:</i>
	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of basic legal principles belonging to specific foundational areas of law
	Demonstrate the ability to use basic legal rules and principles to develop lines of argument in problem-solving
	Identify relevant characteristics of the English Legal System and understand their significance in the application of legal rules
	Engage in a structured programme of employability skills development in a managed environment in order to develop and reflect on one's own employability profile
	Utilise skills of legal practice, show some appreciation of values held by the legal profession, engage in limited academic research
	Present structured legal argument, whether oral or written
	Demonstrate learning through the development of transferable skills in a managed environment, identifying gaps in your own knowledge, and exercising some personal responsibility for your own development.
	<i>Upon completion of Level 5 / the Higher National Diploma, students will be able to:</i>
	Possess knowledge and critical understanding of substantive legal principles belonging to specific areas of law, and the way those principles have developed
	Demonstrate the ability to apply legal rules and principles in practice in order to resolve legal problems and disputes
	Apply relevant characteristics of the English Legal System to the critical understanding of their significance in the development and applicability of law today
	Critically evaluate a range of legal and social issues around the operation of the English Criminal Justice System
	Use the necessary attributes to increase one's own employability profile and design a plan intended to directly support the future transition into the world of work or further study
	Utilise skills of legal practice, appreciate values held by the legal profession, and employ sound legal research skills
	Construct and effectively communicate persuasive legal argument, whether oral or written

	Employ effective independent learning with limited direction, through the development of existing and new transferable skills, identifying gaps in your own knowledge, reflecting in response to feedback, whilst exercising personal responsibility for your own development.
--	--

14	Course Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy <i>Teaching and Learning Strategy</i> Whilst enrolled on this course you will engage with a range of teaching and learning strategies. The teaching and learning arrangements may vary across modules, depending on the subject matter being addressed and mode of assessment. Some of the teaching and learning activities that you may engage with include: Lectures Seminars Workshops Independent learning (including reading and researching) Online activities (including quizzes, group discussion forums, online videos) <i>Assessment strategy</i> This course employs a variety of assessment methods to assess you, including coursework assessments (e.g. academic writing, written reflection, SWOT analysis, problem-based written scenarios), in-person assessments (e.g. group and individual presentations, courtroom-based oral assessments), as well as MCQ style examinations. We offer opportunities throughout the academic year to receive formative feedback on assessments that enable you to develop your assessments throughout the academic year. Feedback is therefore provided informally through modules. Individual feedback is also provided when assessments are returned to students. The focus of feedback is to help students develop their academic and transferrable skills.
-----------	--

15	Course Requirements																																										
15a	Level 4: <i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):</i> <table><tr><th>Module Code</th><th>Module Name</th><th>Credit Value</th></tr><tr><td>LAW4039</td><td>Legal Writing</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>LAW4037</td><td>Legal Thinking</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>LAW4038</td><td>Legal Research</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>LAW4042</td><td>Law of Tort</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>LAW4040</td><td>Contract Law 1</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>LAW4041</td><td>English Legal System</td><td>20</td></tr></table> Level 5: <i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):</i> <table><tr><th>Module Code</th><th>Module Name</th><th>Credit Value</th></tr><tr><td>LAW5097</td><td>Contract Law 2</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>LAW5094</td><td>Criminal Justice 1</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>LAW5095</td><td>The Reflective Practitioner</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>LAW5109</td><td>Criminal Law (HND)</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>LAW5110</td><td>Public and EU Law (HND)</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>LAW5100</td><td>Introduction to Land Law</td><td>20</td></tr></table>	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	LAW4039	Legal Writing	20	LAW4037	Legal Thinking	20	LAW4038	Legal Research	20	LAW4042	Law of Tort	20	LAW4040	Contract Law 1	20	LAW4041	English Legal System	20	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	LAW5097	Contract Law 2	20	LAW5094	Criminal Justice 1	20	LAW5095	The Reflective Practitioner	20	LAW5109	Criminal Law (HND)	20	LAW5110	Public and EU Law (HND)	20	LAW5100	Introduction to Land Law	20
Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value																																									
LAW4039	Legal Writing	20																																									
LAW4037	Legal Thinking	20																																									
LAW4038	Legal Research	20																																									
LAW4042	Law of Tort	20																																									
LAW4040	Contract Law 1	20																																									
LAW4041	English Legal System	20																																									
Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value																																									
LAW5097	Contract Law 2	20																																									
LAW5094	Criminal Justice 1	20																																									
LAW5095	The Reflective Practitioner	20																																									
LAW5109	Criminal Law (HND)	20																																									
LAW5110	Public and EU Law (HND)	20																																									
LAW5100	Introduction to Land Law	20																																									

15b Structure Diagram
Level 4

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Core LAW4039 Legal Writing LAW4037 Legal Thinking LAW4038 Legal Research	Core LAW4042 Law of Tort LAW4040 Contract Law 1 LAW4041 English Legal System

Level 5

Core LAW5097 Contract Law 2 LAW5094 Criminal Justice 1 LAW5095 The Reflective Practitioner	Core LAW5109 Criminal Law LAW5110 Public and EU Law LAW5100 Introduction to Land Law
---	---

16 Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment

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 lectures, practical classes and workshops, contact time specified in timetable
- *Directed Learning* includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, 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.

Level 4

Workload

24% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	24%
Directed Learning	24%
Private Study	52%
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	71%
Exam	4%
In-Person	25%

Level 5

Workload

24% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	24%
Directed Learning	24%
Private Study	52%
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	50%
Exam	12%
In-Person	38%