

Course Specification

Course Summary Information		
1	Course Title	LLB (Hons) Law with American Legal Studies
2	Course Code	US166-04
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)	Solicitors Regulation Authority General Council of the Bar: Bar Standards Board

6	Course Description
	<p>A law degree is an important first step into a career in law, as well as an important foundation on the route to many other careers, and Birmingham City University is a long-established provider of legal education to the Birmingham legal community and beyond.</p> <p>This course has been developed to enable anyone wishing to qualify as a solicitor or barrister to undertake this first, important academic stage of their career. To achieve this, the course has been designed to align with the subjects that you will need to study further in order to successfully undertake the Solicitors Qualifying Examination (SQE), while also meeting the requirements of the Bar Standards Board for an undergraduate law degree.</p> <p>The study of law is both academic and practical, and therefore both of these are important elements in the LLB (Hons) degree at BCU. Theory and academic study are important on an LLB, but so too is the application of that knowledge, and so our LLB (Hons) degree offers plenty of opportunity for you to develop the practical lawyering skills, as well as the transferable skills enhancing your employability, that graduates will need when entering the workplace.</p> <p>The different pathways on the LLB course will allow you to make decisions regarding the direction in which you want to take your studies, with named degrees in Law with American Legal Studies, Law with Business Law, and Law with Criminal Justice, as well as a broad range of optional modules ranging from more theoretical topics through to those aimed at the practical application of the law in real-world situations.</p> <p>You will also have the opportunity to put those skills to practical use, both in the local community and beyond. Whether that is through our programme of placement opportunities with local providers such as Citizen's Advice and various legal advice charities, through opportunities in the local legal community, or via BCU's own Law Clinic, established to serve the local community from our City Centre campus, there are plenty of options available to you. You can also apply your legal knowledge further afield, through our US internship programme which has been placing students with attorneys throughout the US for over 20 years. A professional placement year is also available, between years 2 and 3 of the degree, offering further opportunity for you to put your knowledge and skills to practical use, and thereby enhancing your CV further.</p> <p>By focussing on the development of a range of transferable skills, the course employs numerous innovative assessment methods, going beyond the typical forms of written academic assessment.</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</p>

	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.
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7	Course Awards		
7a	Name of Final Award	Level	Credits Awarded
	Bachelor of Laws with Honours Law with American Legal Studies	Level 6	360
	Bachelor of Laws with Honours Law with American Legal Studies with Professional Placement Year	Level 6	480
7b	Exit Awards and Credits Awarded		
	Certificate of Higher Education Law	Level 4	120
	Diploma of Higher Education Law	Level 5	240
	Bachelor of Laws Law	Level 6	300
	Bachelor of Laws Law with Professional Placement Year	Level 6	420

8	Derogation from the University Regulations
	None

9	Delivery Patterns			
	Mode(s) of Study	Location(s) of Study	Duration of Study	Code(s)
	Full Time	City Centre	3 Years	US166-04
	Full Time with Professional Placement	City Centre	4 Years	US168-04
	Part Time	City Centre	5 Years	US167-04

10	Entry Requirements
<p>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.</p>	

11 Course Learning Outcomes	
1	Explain and apply legal systems; both the substantive rules of law, and constitutional rules, and the context within politics, history and ethics.
2	Evaluate and critically analyse practical and theoretical problems, reaching reasoned conclusions through the application of relevant law, including situations of legal uncertainty.
3	Conduct autonomous research by acquiring and using information from a variety of sources, in order to critically evaluate and solve legal problems.
4	Undertake independent learning through the planning and execution of your own study, identifying gaps in your own knowledge, and in response to feedback.
5	Communicate effectively on legal issues in both written and oral forms.
6	Exhibit a range of other personal and transferrable professional skills.
7	Critically evaluate issues of US constitutional law and the operation of the US legal system.

12 Course Requirements																																																	
12a	<p>Level 4:</p> <p><i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Module Code</th> <th>Module Name</th> <th>Credit Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>LAW4034</td> <td>Legal Systems</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LAW4029</td> <td>Foundations in Professional Skills</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LAW4028</td> <td>Critical Legal Thinking</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LAW4033</td> <td>Law of Tort</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LAW4026</td> <td>Contract Law</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LAW4032</td> <td>Introduction to US Legal Studies</td> <td>20</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Level 5:</p> <p><i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Module Code</th> <th>Module Name</th> <th>Credit Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>LAW5085</td> <td>Land Law and Property Practice</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LAW5089</td> <td>Criminal Law</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LAW5082</td> <td>Professional Skills</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LAW5091</td> <td>Constitutional and Administrative Law</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LAW5092</td> <td>Business Law</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LAW5087</td> <td>Federalism and the US Constitution</td> <td>20</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>In order to qualify for the award of LLB (Hons) Law with American Legal Studies with Professional Placement Year a student must successfully complete the following module:</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Module Code</th> <th>Module Name</th> <th>Credit Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>PPY5001</td> <td>Professional Placement Year</td> <td>120</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	LAW4034	Legal Systems	20	LAW4029	Foundations in Professional Skills	20	LAW4028	Critical Legal Thinking	20	LAW4033	Law of Tort	20	LAW4026	Contract Law	20	LAW4032	Introduction to US Legal Studies	20	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	LAW5085	Land Law and Property Practice	20	LAW5089	Criminal Law	20	LAW5082	Professional Skills	20	LAW5091	Constitutional and Administrative Law	20	LAW5092	Business Law	20	LAW5087	Federalism and the US Constitution	20	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	PPY5001	Professional Placement Year	120
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Level 6:

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 100 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
LAW6092	Equity and Trusts	20
LAW6101	Law of the European Union	20
LAW6099	The Individual and the US Constitution	20
	To select:	
LAW6084	EITHER American Legal Practice*	40
LAW6082	OR American Legal Studies Dissertation	40

*Students wishing to study this module are subject to academic requirements specified by the Module Team

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete at least 20 credits from the following indicative list of OPTIONAL modules.

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
LAW6083	American Criminal Procedure and Evidence	20
LAW6096	Human Rights in America	20

12b 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.

Level 4

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Core LAW4043 Legal Systems LAW4029 Foundations in Professional Skills LAW4028 Critical Legal Thinking	Core LAW4033 Law of Tort LAW4026 Contract Law LAW4032 Introduction to US Legal Systems
Optional None	Optional None

Level 5

Core LAW5081 Land Law and Property Practice LAW5091 Constitutional and Administrative Law LAW5082 Professional Skills	Core LAW5089 Criminal Law LAW5092 Business Law LAW5087 Federalism and the US Constitution
Optional None	Optional None
For students studying LLB (Hons) Law with Professional Placement Year: PPY5001 Professional Placement Year	

Level 6

Core LAW6092 Equity and Trusts LAW6101 Law of the European Union	Core LAW6099 The Individual and the US Constitution
Core You must choose one of the following year-long modules: LAW6084 American Legal Practice LAW682 American Legal Studies Dissertation	
Optional None	Optional LAW6083 American Criminal Procedure and Evidence LAW6096 Human Rights in America

Part Time Course Structure

Year One (80 credits total)

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Core LAW4034 Legal Systems LAW4029 Foundations in Professional Skills	Core LAW4033 Law of Tort LAW4026 Contract Law
Optional None	Optional None

Year Two (80 credits total)

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Core LAW4028 Critical Legal Thinking LAW5085 Land Law and Property Practice	Core LAW5092 Business Law LAW4032 Introduction to US Legal Systems
Optional None	Optional None

Year Three (80 credits total)

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Core LAW5091 Constitutional and Administrative Law LAW5082 Professional Skills	Core LAW5089 Criminal Law LAW5087 Federalism and the US Constitution
Optional None	Optional None

Year Four (80 credits total)

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Core LAW6092 Equity and Trusts LAW6101 Law of the European Union	Core LAW6099 The Individual and the US Constitution
Optional None	Optional (choose ONE 20 credit option)

	LAW6083 American Criminal Procedure and Evidence LAW6096 Human Rights in America
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Year Five (40 credits total)

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Core You must choose one of the following year-long modules: LAW6082 American Legal Studies Dissertation LAW6084 American Legal Practice	

13 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.

Delete years where applicable.

Level 4

Workload

18% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	216
Directed Learning	216
Private Study	768
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	60%
Exam	13.3%
In-Person	26.6%

Level 5

Workload

18% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	216
Directed Learning	216
Private Study	768
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	68.3%
Exam	10%
In-Person	21.7%

Level 6

Workload

18% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	150
Directed Learning	264
Private Study	786
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	76.7%
Exam	4.4%
In-Person	18.9%