

Programme Specification

LLB (Hons) Law

<i>School:</i>	York Business School
<i>Subject area:</i>	Law
<i>Entry from academic year:</i>	2022-23
<i>in the month(s) of:</i>	September
<i>Awarding institution:</i>	York St John University
<i>Teaching institution:</i>	York St John University
<i>Delivery location:</i>	York St John University
<i>Programme/s accredited by:</i>	Successfully passing the compulsory modules on this degree will equip graduate of this programme with the “Foundations of Legal Knowledge” required by the Bar Standards Board to satisfy the academic component of Bar training.
<i>Exit awards:</i>	Certificate of Higher Education Law Diploma of Higher Education Law BA (Ord) Legal Studies BA (Hons) Legal Studies
<i>UCAS code / GTTR / other:</i>	M100
<i>Joint Honours combinations:</i>	Not applicable
<i>QAA subject benchmark statement(s):</i>	Law
<i>Mode/s of study:</i>	Undergraduate periods of study for full-time / part-time
<i>Language of study:</i>	English
<i>Paired with foundation year</i>	Yes
<i>Study abroad opportunities:</i>	No
<i>Placement year opportunity:</i>	No

Introduction and special features

The LLB (Hons) Law programme has been designed to give you the opportunity to gain an in-depth understanding of Anglo–Welsh law and the legal system, whilst also providing a range of opportunities to pursue specialist areas of particular interest, such as Employment Law and/ or the Law of Terrorism. Whilst studying on the programme, you will be fully immersed in the discipline of ‘law’ and its specific methodologies, such as statutory interpretation and legal reasoning. This will enable you to acquire the habits of mind associated with legal thinking, including critical thinking, analytical awareness and problem solving.

The programme has been structured to ensure that you are provided with a thorough grounding in the foundational areas of law, developing your confidence and ability to apply your knowledge to more specialist areas. In keeping with the mission of the University, York St John Law School is rooted in the principles of social justice which underpin all teaching activity and research. Accordingly, this programme will not only enable you to acquire a sound knowledge of the law and legal system, but will also encourage you to critique and question substantive law in light of principles of justice, equality and fairness. This structure will support you in your development as an independent, critical scholar and ethical professional, who is fully aware of the cultural and social contexts in which law operates, is responsive to changing environments and is engaged with their own development and integrity. As such, the programme aims to give you the opportunity to acquire knowledge and skills that are not only valued in the legal sector, but also in a variety of other highly skilled and analytical roles.

The LLB Law programme is compliant with the Quality Assurance Agencies (QAA) subject benchmark statement for law and contains the seven subjects identified by the Bar Standards Board (BSB) as "Foundations of Legal Knowledge", as well as the skills associated with graduate legal work such as legal research. The programme has also been designed to provide opportunities to study areas of 'functioning legal knowledge' (FULK) identified by the SRA that will be assessed in part 1 of the Solicitor's Qualifying Examination (SQE)

Successful completion of the compulsory modules on this programme will enable you to satisfy the 'academic component of training' required if you wish to become a barrister in England and Wales, as stipulated in the Bar Qualification Manual.

Students should note, however, that if they intend to use their LLB degree to satisfy the 'academic component of training' required to qualify as a Barrister in England and Wales they must not only satisfy the University's requirements for successful progression and award **but also** the requirements stipulated in the Bar Qualification Manual. In particular, it should be noted that only one "Foundation of Legal Knowledge" subject may be compensated during the course of study.

Admissions criteria

You must meet the University's general entry criteria for [undergraduate](#) study and those criteria stipulated for LLB Hons Law.

If your first language is not English, you need to take an IELTS test or an equivalent qualification accepted by the University (see <https://www.yorksj.ac.uk/international/how-to-apply/english-language-requirements/>).

If you do not have traditional qualifications, you may be eligible for entry on the basis of [Recognition of prior learning \(RPL\)](#). We also consider applications for entry with advanced standing.

Programme aim(s)

The aims of the LLB (Hons) Law programme are as follows. To:

- Provide you with a thorough grounding in the fundamental concepts and principles of Anglo-Welsh law.
- Provide you with a range of opportunities to pursue areas of interest and specialism.
- Fully immerse you in the discipline of 'law' and enable you to acquire the habits of mind associated with legal thinking.
- Give you the opportunity to study foundational areas of law required for entry to the legal professions.
- Develop you as independent scholars, with critical, analytical and problem-solving skills, and an awareness of the importance of principles of justice and equality.
- Give you the opportunity to acquire knowledge and skills that are not only valued in the legal sector, but also in a variety of other highly skilled and analytical roles.

Programme learning outcomes

The programme learning outcomes have been developed with reference to the nationally agreed subject benchmark statement for law published by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA, 2019), and the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ). They have also been developed in light of relevant professional training requirements for the professions. The learning outcomes are reflective of the University's current mission statement and strategic plan.

Upon successful completion of the programme students will be able to:

Level 4

- 4.1 Identify, explain, discuss and apply fundamental concepts and principles of Anglo-Welsh law, both orally and in writing.

- 4.2 Explain the structure, main institutions and procedures of the Anglo-Welsh legal system and reflect upon their efficacy.
- 4.3 Identify principles and values of justice.
- 4.4 Undertake basic, desk-based legal research, including the retrieval of accurate, current and relevant information from a range of appropriate sources such as electronic databases and primary legal sources.
- 4.5 Use correct legal terminology and employ accurate methods of citation and referencing.
- 4.6 Identify and discuss relevant doctrinal and policy issues in relation to a topic.
- 4.7 Work both independently and as part of a group or team to achieve specific outcomes.
- 4.8 Reflect upon their own learning and development, consider feedback, and identify areas for improvement.

Level 5

- 5.1. Communicate clearly, succinctly and accurately in relation to legal matters, both orally and in writing.
- 5.2. Evaluate fundamental concepts and principles of Anglo-Welsh law, and the operation of major institutions and procedures.
- 5.3. Synthesise legal materials which are written in technical and complex language.
- 5.4. Articulate orally and in writing, coherent, logical arguments grounded in extant law, using a variety of different sources (including textual, numerical and statistical data).
- 5.5. Exercise critical judgement regarding the merits of competing arguments in a variety of legal areas.
- 5.6. Analyse problems, identifying relevant facts and legal issues arising, and apply relevant principles.
- 5.7. Critically appraise lacunas, ambiguities and contradictions in specific areas of law.
- 5.8. Articulate principles and values of justice and self-critically reflect upon changing environments and circumstances, and personal development and integrity.

Level 6

- 6.1. Critically apply concepts, theories, values, principles and rules operating in a range of substantive areas within Anglo-Welsh Legal System to different scenarios and problems.
- 6.2. Critically evaluate Anglo-Welsh law, its institutions and processes with reference to wider principles, ideas and values such as justice, fairness and equality.
- 6.3. Critically analyse law and legal institutions in their wider political social and economic contexts.
- 6.4. Critically appreciate the inherent ambiguities of law, and apply knowledge and understanding to suggest ways of addressing and negotiating uncertainty, or ideas for law reform.
- 6.5. Design and undertake independent research in areas of law with which they may be unfamiliar, using the most appropriate sources and methods and drawing on a range of primary and secondary materials.
- 6.6. Critically appreciate and reflect upon their personal legal ethics, in a manner cognisant of the cultural and social contexts in which law operates.
- 6.7. Demonstrate a critical understanding of how law is shaped by and impacts on, among other things, ethical, social, political, environmental, and economic norms.

Programme structure

The LLB (Hons) Law programme has been designed to ensure that all students are fully supported in developing a genuine and substantial knowledge of the foundational areas of law, and the key concepts and methods required to succeed in this field. The structure of the programme ensures that a number of foundational areas and key concepts are covered in a highly supported way at level 4. This approach is designed to ensure that you acquire the fundamental knowledge, skills and confidence to succeed in later years.

Level 4 establishes the solid base from which to build your future expertise and, because of this, all the modules are compulsory. We do not assume that students have any prior understanding or knowledge of the law, so one of the core modules you will study in the first semester of level 4 is *Fundamentals of Law*. This is a module designed to provide you with the information, skills and methods needed to succeed on your LLB degree. You will also be introduced to four substantive areas of Anglo-Welsh Law. *Contract Law* and *Constitutional Law* are studied in semester 1, allowing you to learn fundamental principles of both private and public law. In semester 2, you will study *Criminal Law* and *Land Law*. These five modules are required to satisfy the ‘academic component’ of training to become a Barrister. *Law in Action 1* is the third module you will study in semester 2. This module enables you to situate the learning from semester one’s *Fundamentals of Law* and the substantive subjects in context as you investigate how the law works in ‘action’ or practice in a particular area.

At levels 5 and 6 you will study a range of modules – some compulsory and some of your own choosing – that give you the opportunity apply the skills, and refine and extend the knowledge, you acquired during level 4.

At level 5, the first semester is comprised of three compulsory modules that allow you to study further ‘foundations of legal knowledge’: *Tort Law*, *European Union Law* and *Human Rights*. *Tort Law* is another fundamental area of private law, which will be informed by your earlier study of *Contract Law*. Your earlier work in *Constitutional Law* and *Fundamentals of Law* will allow you to move on to look at the more specific areas of *European Union Law* and *Human Rights*. Once you have completed your study of these substantive foundation areas, the second semester of level 5 allows you to choose from a wide range of options. At level 6, there is one final, compulsory ‘foundations of legal knowledge’ module: *Equity and Trusts*. The remainder of your (five, or four with a dissertation) modules can be chosen from a wide range of options.

The options at levels 5 and 6 give you a degree of flexibility to progress through the programme in the way that is of most interest to you, and that will most assist you in your future career goals. Whatever your interest – there will be a diet of options that suit you. If you are clear that you wish to pursue a career in the professions, some modules are obviously designed to enable you to work on skills for a future career, for example the *CLOCK Community Legal Companion Scheme* through which you can support litigants in person at York Family Court in *Law in Action 2* at Level 5, and our *Law Clinic* at Level 6. You can also apply to join our Legal Placement module at either level 5 or 6 and spend a semester gaining work experience at a local law firm. Other modules enable you to pursue your interest in the law in its wider sociological settings, such as *Race, Religion and Law*. For those of you that plan to undertake further academic study, the *Dissertation* and *Advanced Legal Research* module will enable you to develop skills crucial for success in postgraduate study, whether at Masters or PhD level.

Further information about options and different ways in which these options can help you achieve your future ambitions will be available at module options events. You will also be required to discuss your option choices with your personal academic tutor.

Code	Level	Semester	Title	Credits	Module status	
					compulsory or optional to take C or O	non-compensatable or compensatable NC or X
LAW4001M	4	1	Fundamentals of Law +	20	C	X
LAW4002M	4	1	Contract Law +	20	C	X
LAW4003M	4	1	Constitutional Law +	20	C	X

LAW4004M	4	2	Criminal Law +	20	C	X
LAW4005M	4	2	Land Law +	20	C	X
LAW4006M	4	2	Law in Action 1	20	C	X
LAW5001M	5	1	Tort Law +	20	C	NC
LAW5002M	5	1	European Union Law +	20	C	NC
LAW5003M	5	1	Human Rights +	20	C	NC
¹ Select THREE optional 20 credit modules from the below for Semester 2						
LAW5004M	5	2	Property Law and Practice ∞	20	O ¹	NC
LAW5005M	5	2	Commercial Law and Practice ∞	20	O ¹	NC
LAW5006M	5	2	Advanced Criminal Law and Practice ∞	20	O ¹	NC
LAW5007M	5	2	Crime and Society	20	O ¹	NC
LAW5008M	5	2	Law in Action 2	20	O ¹	NC
LAW5009M	5	2	Employment Law ∞	20	O ¹	NC
LAW5012M	5	2	Legal Placement ∞ ^	20	O ¹	NC
LAW5019M	5	2	Company Law ∞	20	O ¹	NC
LAW5020M	5	2	Jurisprudence ∞	20	O ¹	NC
LAW6001M	6	1	Equity and Trusts +	20	C	NC
² EITHER select TWO optional 20 credit modules from below for Semester 1. OR you can choose to do module LAW6009M Dissertation (40 credits over semesters one and two) and ONE other 20 credit module OR you can choose to do module LAW6022M Law Clinic (40 credits over semesters one and two) and ONE other 20 credit module OR you can choose to do Module LAW6009M Dissertation AND LAW6022M Law Clinic (40 each credits over semesters one and two) with no further modules in Semester 1						
LAW6002M	6	1	Law of Succession	20	O ²	NC
LAW6003M	6	1	Professional Conduct and Ethics	20	O ²	NC
LAW6004M	6	1	Advanced Legal Research	20	O ²	NC
LAW6005M	6	1	Gender, Sexuality and Law	20	O ²	NC
LAW6006M	6	1	Evidence	20	O ²	NC
LAW6007M	6	1	Terrorism and Law	20	O ²	NC
LAW6008M	6	1	Housing and Welfare Law	20	O ²	NC
LAW6009M	6	1&2	Dissertation	40	O ²	NC
LAW6022M	6	1&2	Law Clinic	40	O ²	NC
LAW6023M	6	1	Law Clinic (short course)*	20	O	NC
LAW6024M	6	1 or 2	Legal Placement ∞ ** ^	20	O ²	NC
LAW6029M	6	1	Medical Law	20	O ²	NC
³ EITHER select THREE optional 20 credit modules from below for Semester 2. OR if you chose either module LAW6009M Dissertation (40 Credits) or module LAW6022M Law Clinic (40 credits), select TWO optional 20 credit modules for semester 2 OR if you chose LAW6007M Dissertation (40 Credits) and LAW6022M Law Clinic (40 credits), select ONE 20 credit module for semester 2						
LAW6010M	6	2	Family Law	20	O ³	NC
LAW6011M	6	2	Jurisprudence	20	O ³	NC
LAW6012M	6	2	Race, Religion and Law	20	O ³	NC
LAW6013M	6	2	International Criminal Law	20	O ³	NC
LAW6014M	6	2	Intellectual Property	20	O ³	NC

LAW6015M	6	2	Cyber Crime	20	O ³	NC
LAW6016M	6	2	Company Law	20	O ³	NC
LAW6017M	6	2	Asylum and Immigration Law	20	O ³	NC
LAW6018M	6	2	Property Law and Practice [∞]	20	O ³	NC
LAW6019M	6	2	Commercial Law and Practice [∞]	20	O ³	NC
LAW6020M	6	2	Advanced Criminal Law and Practice [∞]	20	O ³	NC
LAW6021M	6	2	Employment Law [∞]	20	O ³	NC
LAW6024M	6	1 or 2	Legal Placement [∞] ^{**}	20	O ³	NC

+ Foundations of Legal Knowledge (FLK) module

[∞] Module cannot be taken at Level 5 and 6

* Students wishing to study Law Clinic must choose the 40-credit option LAW6022M. Students who need to leave the 40-credit option for whatever reason will be transferred to this module.

** Module can only be taken in Semester 1 or Semester 2

^ Students selecting this module would apply and be interviewed for limited placements with specific firms. If successful, students will be offered a place on this module. Students will be asked to nominate an alternative module in the event they are unsuccessful at interview.

You must successfully pass 360 credits to be eligible for the award of Honours Degree of Bachelor of Laws (LLB (Hons) Law)

Please note that not all options will be available every year as they depend on student demand and staff availability. Students will be given the opportunity to state their preferences and the School of Law will do its very best to accommodate these.

[∞] Students should also note that 4 modules: *Property Law and Practice*; *Commercial Law and Practice*; *Advanced Criminal Law and Practice*, and *Employment Law* are offered at levels 5 and 6 as *alternates*. To allow flexibility in choice, you will be permitted to study these options *either* at level 5 or 6, but you are barred from studying them twice (i.e. you may study *Employment Law* at level 5 or 6 but **not** at both 5 and 6).

Learning, teaching and assessment

Learning and teaching

Teaching is student-centred and, in keeping with our over-arching philosophy, you will receive the support you need from dedicated subject experts to reach your potential in this challenging but rewarding area of study. The staff working with you will have a range of academic, research and professional expertise in the legal sector.

The LLB (Hons) Law programme at York St John is delivered using a variety of flexible methods, as appropriate to the particular area of study. On the programme, you will engage in classroom-based activities including lectures, seminars and workshops. Seminars and workshops are your opportunity to engage in discussions and debates about key ideas and concepts, and include exploratory activities that will fully engage you as co-creators in your learning. The programme also offers technology enhanced learning, using the Moodle system to engage you with a range of methods including group work, quizzes and directed independent study.

All of the modules have activities within them that will be helpful for you in envisioning your future after the degree. In *Law Clinic*, for example, you will be given the chance to experience legal practice under the supervision of qualified lawyers whilst also having the chance to network with local practitioners. In *Advanced Legal Research*, on the other hand, case studies are taken from real world research projects and studies to enable you to understand how theory operates in professional practice. Throughout the programme, there will be a range of events and activities that enable you to link your learning with your future goals, whatever they may be.

Assessment

On the programme, your assessment will be undertaken using a wide range of methods; the diverse range of assessment methods used is illustrative of the programme team's commitment to inclusive legal education. Examinations are used on the programme, but there will also be a wide range of other types of assessment, including: essays, reports, portfolios, letters, oral presentations and research projects. To ensure that you are ready for the final assessments on each of your modules, modules will include opportunities to undertake relevant practice (formative assessment). The feedback that you receive on these formative assessments will help you gradually develop your capabilities during the programme, particularly in relation to academic writing, research skills and confidence. In some modules, you will have a mid-point summative assessment, the feedback on which will help you approach the end of level assessment. Assessment strategies have been designed to provide you with a vehicle for reflecting upon your own practice, to enable you engage with your own development and learning.

Progression and graduation requirements

The University's [general regulations](#) for undergraduate awards apply to this programme.

Any modules that must be passed for progression or award are indicated in the Programme Structure section as non-compensatable.

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In addition, the following programme-specific regulations apply in respect of progression and graduation for the purposes of the LLB (Hons) award:

- Third attempts are offered on all modules within 10 marks of a pass mark, for a maximum of 40 credits per level of programme.
- If you have failed a Foundations of Legal Knowledge (FLK) module following all reassessment opportunities with a minimum module mark of 35% then the Board of Examiners may use its discretion to compensate this fail allowing the credits to contribute to the LLB award.
- Only one FLK module may be compensated during the course of the programme for the LLB award. FLK modules are detailed in the following table and they are identified in the programme structure chart with a cross (+).

Foundations of Legal Knowledge (FLK) modules			
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits
4	LAW4001M	Fundamentals of Law	20
4	LAW4002M	Contract Law	20
4	LAW4003M	Constitutional Law	20
4	LAW4004M	Criminal Law	20
4	LAW4005M	Land Law	20
5	LAW5001M	Tort Law	20
5	LAW5002M	European Union Law	20
5	LAW5003M	Human Rights	20
6	LAW6001M	Equity and Trusts	20

Students who are intending to use their LLB (Law) degree to satisfy the requirements of the academic component of training for the Bar (to become a barrister) should also note that they must also satisfy the requirements laid down in the Bar Qualification Manual at the time of study. Presently, the Bar Qualification Manual provides that you may only be compensated for *one* FLK module during the course of your programme.

BA (Hons) Legal Studies – exit award Levels 4 and 5

If all reassessment attempts have been unsuccessful for an FLK module at levels 4 and 5, but you still meet the University's general regulations in respect of progression you may be able to transfer to the exit award of BA (Hons) Legal Studies.

Level 6

Students who achieve the standard requirements for an honours degree but who fail one or more FLK modules will be awarded the degree of BA (Hons) Legal Studies.

There are no non-compensatable modules for BA (Hons) Legal Studies, if you were to be transferred to this exit award then all modules that were previously NC would now be regarded as compensatable instead, the standard University regulations for awards apply.

Academic misconduct

Please also note the importance of following the University guidelines regarding academic misconduct, available at: <https://www.yorksj.ac.uk/ssr/policies-and-regulations/academic-misconduct/>

Findings of academic misconduct may have particularly serious consequences for students wishing to enter the legal profession. The University has a duty to inform the professional bodies of findings of misconduct, and findings of deliberate academic misconduct may result in you being refused admission as a solicitor or a barrister.

Internal and external reference points

This programme specification was formulated with reference to:

- [University Mission Statement](#) [see page two]
- [Strategic Plan 2015-20](#) [see page four]
- [QAA subject benchmark statement](#)
- [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#)
- [Solicitors Regulation Authority/ General Council of the Bar \(1999\) Joint Statement on the Academic Stage of Training](#)
- [Solicitors Regulation Authority/ Bar Standards Board \(2015\) Legal Education and Training Review](#)

Date written / revised: May 2023

Programme originally approved: