UNIVERSITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON

Course Specification

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Status:	Validated

Core Information

Awarding Body / Institution:	University of Wolverhampton		
School / Institute:	School of Business and Law		
Course Code(s):	LW066P01UM LW066P31UM	Full-time Part-time	12 Months 2 Years
Course Title:	LLM Law and Practice		
Hierarchy of Awards:	Master of Laws Law and Practice Postgraduate Diploma Law and Practice Postgraduate Certificate Law and Practice University Statement of Credit University Statement of Credit		
Language of Study:	English		
Date of DAG approval:	16/Sep/2024		
Last Review:			
Course Specification valid from:	2024/5		
Course Specification valid to:			

Academic Staff

Course Leader:	Mrs Dawn Jones
Head of Department:	Mr Sukhninder Panesar

Course Information

Location of Delivery:	University of Wolverhampton
Category of Partnership:	Standard Provision (Not delivered in partnership)
Teaching Institution:	University of Wolverhampton
Open / Closed Course:	This course is open to all suitably qualified candidates.

Entry Requirements:

Entry requirements are subject to regular review. The entry requirements applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website (and externally as appropriate e.g. UCAS

An LLB (Hons) degree or Law joint degree with at least 2:2 classification or a Graduate Diploma in Law (GDL) or Common Professional Examination (CPE) or LLM CPE or LLM Law Conversion or equivalent.

Applicants with a lower Degree classification or with equivalent qualifications may be considered on an individual basis.

International applicants should refer to the following link: Language entry requirements

Distinctive Features of the Course:

This course will:

Prepare students to sit the external Solicitors Regulation Authority Solicitors Qualifying Examination 1 assessment through collaboration with an external provider (Barbri). The SQE 1 is an external exam provided by the SRA and the cost of this examination it is not included in the cost of this course.

Result in the creation of a portfolio of evidence of competency in legal skills valued in legal practice.

Include a dissertation evidencing students successful research in an area of law.

Educational Aims of the Course:

The course will allow students to study all areas of law necessary, and become practiced at the mode of assessment required, to successfully complete SQE1 through collaboration with an external partner (Barbri), supported by University staff. The SQE preparation module provided by Barbri is an online module. The SQE 1 is an external exam provided by the SRA and the cost of this examination it is not included in the cost of this course.

The remainder of the course will be delivered by university staff and is designed to equip students with essential practical legal skills through a combination of theoretical learning, practical exercises, and student collaboration. Students will develop appropriate legal skills essential for success in the legal profession. The legal skills will be taught as two case studies allowing each skill to feed into the next skill as would be required in practice. Both case studies will consist of realistic client matters based in one of the following non exhaustive list of areas of law (this will vary to allow for different assessment questions in subsequent academic years):

- Family Law
- Criminal Law
- Probate Law
- Contract Law
- EU Law
- Commercial Law

- Insolvency Law
- Property Law
- Company Law

Students will complete independent skills tasks, both oral and written, evidencing a level of competency reached in each skill. The completed tasks will be included in the final student skills portfolios.

The variety of teaching methods employed, including independent study, group work, tutor led discussions and online activities, together with the variety of assessment methods, including oral, written coursework, independent research and MCQs, will support a variety of learning styles.

Research1 has identified that the majority of responding law firms required future trainees to both complete courses with a focus on practical legal skills and for SQE preparation to be undertaken within the context of a master’s programme.

The Law Dissertation module will be taught through a series of four interactive workshops (2 hours each), covering research design, quantitative and qualitative data collection, data analysis and writing up the research.

Intakes:

September

Major Source of Funding:

Office for Students (OFS)

Tuition Fees:

Tuition fees are reviewed on an annual basis. The fees applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website.

Year	Status	Mode	Amount
2022/3	H	Full Time	£11000.00
2022/3	Overseas	Full Time	£14450.00
2022/3	H	Part Time	£5500.00
2023/4	H	Full Time	£11550.00
2023/4	Overseas	Full Time	£15450.00
2023/4	H	Part Time	£5775.00
2024/5	H	Full Time	£11836.00
2024/5	Overseas	Full Time	£15950.00
2024/5	H	Part Time	£5918.00
2025/6	H	Full Time	£12203.00
2025/6	Overseas	Full Time	£16950.00
2025/6	H	Part Time	£6102.00
2026/7	H	Full Time	£
2026/7	Overseas	Full Time	£18645.00
2026/7	H	Part Time	£

PSRB:

None

Course Structure:

September (Full-time)

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7LW081	Legal Skills for Practice 1	30	SEM1	Core
7LW082	Legal Skills for Practice 2	30	SEM2	Core
7LW095	Law Project	60	CRYRA	Core
7LW084	Solicitors Qualifying Examination 1 Preparation	60	YEAR	Core

September (Part-time)

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7LW081	Legal Skills for Practice 1	30	SEM1	Core
7LW082	Legal Skills for Practice 2	30	SEM2	Core
7LW095	Law Project	60	CRYRA	Core

September (Part-time)

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7LW084	Solicitors Qualifying Examination 1 Preparation	60	YEAR	Core

Please note: Optional modules might not run every year, the course team will decide on an annual basis which options will be running, based on student demand and academic factors, to create the best learning experience.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Regulations Exemption:

None.

Reference Points:

UK Quality Code for Higher Education
Qualifications and Credit Frameworks
Subject Benchmark Statements
University Policies and Regulations
Equality Act (2010)
SQE Route to qualification

Overview of Assessment:

Learning Outcomes	Modules
PGCERT01 Demonstrate a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of your academic discipline, field of study or area of professional practice with a conceptual understanding that enables the student: - to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline. - to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses.	7LW081 Legal Skills for Practice 1 7LW082 Legal Skills for Practice 2 7LW084 Solicitors Qualifying Examination 1 Preparation 7LW095 Law Project
PGCERT02 Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to your own research or advanced scholarship and ability to continue to advance your knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level.	7LW081 Legal Skills for Practice 1 7LW082 Legal Skills for Practice 2 7LW095 Law Project
PGCERT03 Demonstrate originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the discipline.	7LW081 Legal Skills for Practice 1 7LW082 Legal Skills for Practice 2 7LW095 Law Project
PGCERT04 Ability to deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate your conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences.	7LW081 Legal Skills for Practice 1 7LW082 Legal Skills for Practice 2 7LW084 Solicitors Qualifying Examination 1 Preparation
PGCERT05 Demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level.	7LW081 Legal Skills for Practice 1 7LW082 Legal Skills for Practice 2 7LW084 Solicitors Qualifying Examination 1 Preparation 7LW095 Law Project
PGCERT06 Demonstrate the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring: - the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations. - the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development.	7LW081 Legal Skills for Practice 1 7LW082 Legal Skills for Practice 2
PGDIP01 Demonstrate a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of your academic discipline, field of study or area of professional practice with a conceptual understanding that enables the student: - to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline. - to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses.	7LW081 Legal Skills for Practice 1 7LW082 Legal Skills for Practice 2 7LW084 Solicitors Qualifying Examination 1 Preparation 7LW095 Law Project
PGDIP02 Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to your own research or advanced scholarship and ability to continue to advance your knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level.	7LW081 Legal Skills for Practice 1 7LW082 Legal Skills for Practice 2 7LW095 Law Project
PGDIP03 Demonstrate originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the discipline.	7LW081 Legal Skills for Practice 1 7LW082 Legal Skills for Practice 2 7LW095 Law Project

Learning Outcomes	Modules
PGDIP04 Ability to deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate your conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences.	7LW081 Legal Skills for Practice 1 7LW082 Legal Skills for Practice 2 7LW084 Solicitors Qualifying Examination 1 Preparation 7LW095 Law Project
PGDIP05 Demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level.	7LW081 Legal Skills for Practice 1 7LW082 Legal Skills for Practice 2 7LW084 Solicitors Qualifying Examination 1 Preparation 7LW095 Law Project
PGDIP06 Demonstrate the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring: - the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations. - the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development.	7LW081 Legal Skills for Practice 1 7LW082 Legal Skills for Practice 2
MA01 A systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current legal problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of their academic discipline, field of study or area of professional practice.	7LW081 Legal Skills for Practice 1 7LW082 Legal Skills for Practice 2 7LW084 Solicitors Qualifying Examination 1 Preparation 7LW095 Law Project
MA02 A comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to their own research or advanced scholarship.	7LW081 Legal Skills for Practice 1 7LW082 Legal Skills for Practice 2 7LW095 Law Project
MA03 Conceptual understanding that enables the student to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses.	7LW081 Legal Skills for Practice 1 7LW082 Legal Skills for Practice 2 7LW095 Law Project
MA04 Deal with complex issues - both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate their conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences.	7LW081 Legal Skills for Practice 1 7LW082 Legal Skills for Practice 2 7LW084 Solicitors Qualifying Examination 1 Preparation
MA05 Demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level.	7LW081 Legal Skills for Practice 1 7LW082 Legal Skills for Practice 2 7LW084 Solicitors Qualifying Examination 1 Preparation 7LW095 Law Project
MA06 Demonstrate the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring: - the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility - decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations - the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development.	7LW081 Legal Skills for Practice 1 7LW082 Legal Skills for Practice 2 7LW084 Solicitors Qualifying Examination 1 Preparation

Teaching, Learning & Assessment Strategy/(Learning and Teaching):

There will be a variety of learning activities that will support students' achievement of the course learning outcomes. This may include:-

Lectures
Seminars
Recorded lectures
Problem-based learning
Small and large group work
Student presentations
Case studies
Research activities

Independent and guided study
Digital learning via the University's virtual learning environment (VLE)
Collaborative and individual on-line activities
Discussion forums
Reflective learning
Technology based learning
Writing workshops/retreats

During the dissertation module, students will develop academic research skills under the guidance of academic supervisors. The indicative content of the Law Dissertation course of study is: -

• Information retrieval using paper-based and electronic sources and the analysis of information gathered.
• Legal research techniques (including an introduction to research methodologies and theories, and to qualitative and quantitative research).
• The application, composition and presentation of legal research (including presentation of summaries of relevant current law)
• Reflective learning Writing workshops/retreats will also be organised for students. Following assignment of a supervisor there will be fortnightly/monthly writing retreats supervised by the module leader/supervisors. These will take place in an environment conducive with independent writing with the ML/supervisor in attendance to offer direction where appropriate. Students will also have access to postgraduate study skills support services, such as guidance on academic referencing, provided by the library's skills for learning programme.

Formative assessments will also be administered, where appropriate, to allow for students to benefit from feedback to improve their performance in formally assessed work.

Written feedback will be provided on all summative assessments, the students can choose to include the formative and summative feedback in the eportfolio as evidence of their reflection and improvement.

The course may include a variety of assessment activities:

MCQ assessments
Coursework (for example, essays, reports, portfolios, project proposals and briefs, CVs, poster presentation)
Practical (for example, oral and video presentations and practical skills assessment)
An extended piece of research, such as a dissertation.

The Law School's assessment strategy complies with both the University and Faculty policies which reflect the required national standards. The principles underpinning the School's assessment strategy are explained in the following subsections:

The assessment in law modules is designed so that it impartially measures student learning and achievement throughout the course.
All assessment set must go through internal and external processes which are designed to ensure that such assessment is reliable and valid.
The curriculum and assessment in all law modules follows the University's guidance in matters relating to reassessment, extenuating circumstances and the Equality Act 2010.

Assessment Methods/Assessments:

Further Information for Student:

General University support:

University Learning Centres are the key source of academic information for students. Learning Centres provide physical library resources (books, journal, DVDs etc.) and offer a range of study areas to allow students to study in the environment that suit them best: Social areas, quiet and silent areas. A wide range of online resources is available to University of Wolverhampton partner students via the University Library. This includes e-books, e-journals and databases, within the terms of our licences. For advice on using our library services and resources remotely, please visit Students Based Off Campus.

The Library also provide students with academic skills support via the Skills for Learning programme.

This support includes online guidance, sign-up online workshops and online 1:1 appointments. Our online Library chat service, Library Assist is available 24/7.

Learning Centres also provide students with academic skills support via the Skills for Learning programme. Students on campus can attend workshops or ask for one-to-one help on a range of skills such as academic writing and referencing. Students can access a range of online skills material at: www.wlv.ac.uk/lib/skills.

The University also has a host of other services to support you, please take a look at the Student Support website: www.wlv.ac.uk/current-students/student-support/ . If you have any questions, need help or advice then ASK@WLV is there for you: www.wlv.ac.uk/current-students/askwlv/.

Course Specific Support

Students will be allocated a personal tutor who will be a member of the course team who will support the student through the course including the module provided by the external provider.

Currency:

Personalisation Opportunities:

Employability in the Curriculum/Employability and Professional Development:

Aim of the course is to prepare students to undertake the SQE1 assessment which is a necessary stage in the process of qualification as a solicitor. To become a qualified solicitor, students will also need to complete the SQE Stage 2 assessments; a minimum of two years of qualifying work experience; and meet the Character and Suitability Rules, as required by the Solicitors Regulatory Authority.

The module provided by the external provider (7LW084) will deliver the necessary legal knowledge and assessment practice to attempt the SQE1 assessment. Students will be supported throughout this module by University staff.

The legal profession has identified the essential requirement for prospective trainee practitioners to be competent in practical legal skills and acquire the academic skills necessary to complete a master's level qualification. The curriculum will provide students with the opportunity to evidence the acquisition of these skills.

Both 7LW081 and 7LW082 will contribute to the creation of an eportfolio that can be shared with prospective employers in support of an application for employment by sharing the Uniform Resource Locator (URL). The employer will have direct access to view the portfolio by following the link provided by the student. The eportfolio will consist of both formative and summative skills assessments together with tutor feedback on student performance, areas for improvement and identification of skills evidenced. The final section of the eportfolio will be the student's reflection on their acquisition of the relevant legal skills and the lessons they have learnt from the feedback.

The dissertation module will include instruction on information retrieval using paper-based and electronic sources and the analysis of information gathered, legal research techniques (including an introduction to research methodologies and theories, and to qualitative and quantitative research and the application, composition and presentation of legal research). These are valued skills in legal practice, the completed dissertation can also be added to the shareable eportfolio.