



## Programme Specification

### Advanced Legal Practice [Sep][PT][Frenchay][2yrs]

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## Section 1: Key Programme Details

### Part A: Programme Information

**Programme title:** Advanced Legal Practice [Sep][PT][Frenchay][2yrs]

**Highest award:** LLM Advanced Legal Practice

**Interim award:** PGDip Legal Practice

**Awarding institution:** UWE Bristol

**Affiliated institutions:** Not applicable

**Teaching institutions:** UWE Bristol

**Study abroad:** No

**Year abroad:** No

**Sandwich year:** No

**Credit recognition:** No

**Department responsible for the programme:** FBL Dept of Law, Faculty of Business & Law

**Contributing departments:** Not applicable

**Professional, statutory or regulatory bodies:**

Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA)

**Apprenticeship:** Not applicable

**Mode of delivery:** Part-time

**Entry requirements:** For the current entry requirements see the UWE public website.

**For implementation from:** 01 September 2018

**Programme code:** M99012-SEP-PT-FR-M99012

## Section 2: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

### Part A: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

**Overview:** The Masters in Advanced Legal Practice will be undertaken by students intending to pursue a career in law and in particular, to qualify as a Solicitor and be admitted to the Roll.

**Educational Aims:** The Programme aims to equip graduates with the legal knowledge and skills to succeed with a career in legal practice, by undertaking a programme which has a professional focus (with professional body validation of the interim PG Diploma. Award). The Programme provides progression for a student from their academic legal studies to their vocational stage of training, It provides students with a foundation for legal practice, equipping them with the legal knowledge, skills and commercial understanding to succeed in a professional law firm/business; while also preparing them for work-based learning

The Programme offers engaging and outstanding practice orientated learning, with a Teaching and Learning Strategy which focuses on student centered learning. Students prepare for legal practice, both through undertaking the programme, but also by engaging in a range of extracurricular activities.

The programme benefits from strong links with the local Law Society and legal profession in Bristol and the south-west region.

The Programme comprises:

Part 2: Educational Aims of the Programme

Post Graduate Diploma Legal Practice (“the Interim Award”): (also known as the Legal Practice Course : “LPC”)

This Award is subject to Professional Body Regulation and Validation by the

Solicitors Regulation Authority and must be undertaken by all students wishing to progress to a career as a Solicitor; it will form part of a student's Vocational Stage of Training towards qualification. On successful completion of the Diploma, students will have met the Learning Outcomes determined by the Solicitors Regulation Authority for the Legal Practice Course (annexed)

(ii) A number of 15-60 credit M level modules from which students select to complete their Masters in Advanced Legal Practice programme.

All modules focus on continuing the professional development of the student, as a reflective practitioner with responsibility for their own development and learning (thus reflecting the underlying focus of the SRA's new Continuing Professional Development regime) UJGT7A-60-M Research and Practice Portfolio: a 60 credit dissertation module in which students will produce a portfolio comprising/reflecting valuable know-how based on their experiences in a legal or other workplace context

Or

UJGUPU-45-M Continuing Professional Competence a 45 credit project module in which students will produce a portfolio reflecting on their Professional Body Regulatory obligations for continued personal development based on their experiences in a legal or other workplace context

And one of:

UJXTRC-15-M Professional Development (Law): a 15 credit project module, which will provide students with the opportunity to reflect on a range of legal work/work-related experience relevant to their studies, and evidence how their development as a trainee lawyer has initiated a process of personal and professional development that can and will continue in their future legal career.

UJXTRD-15-M Professional Conduct and Regulation in Practice: a 15 credit project module; having undertaken an SRA validated compulsory programme of Continuing Professional Development for those progressing through their vocational stage of

training and to qualification as a solicitor; students will compile a reflective portfolio in which they reflect on the application of matters of professional regulation and conduct in the workplace and to the firms/businesses employing them.

**Programme Learning Outcomes:**

On successful completion of this programme graduates will achieve the following learning outcomes.

**Knowledge and Understanding**

- A1. The 3 Core Practice subjects prescribed by the SRA
- A2. The 7 Skills subjects prescribed by the SRA.
- A3. The Additional Elective subjects
- A4. The Rules of Professional Conduct and Regulation in Legal Practice

**Intellectual Skills**

- B1. Research and apply knowledge of the law and legal practice accurately and effectively
- B2. Independently analyse, critically evaluate and identify solutions in a practical context for complex factual/legal problems
- B3. Identify client objectives and how to achieve these, including identifying financial and commercial priorities
- B4. Identify the overall nature of a transaction or matter, investigate/identify relevant facts, plan/progress the transaction to achieve client goals; demonstrating self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems
- B5. Present a structured argument, whether orally or in writing, including to present the conclusions of a process of research

**Subject/Professional Practice Skills**

- C1. Identify and act upon ethical issues which arise during the course of legal practice
- C2. Understanding of Professional Conduct and Regulatory matters governing practice as a Solicitor

- C3. Competence in oral communication skills (including advocacy in a court of law) to a standard required in legal practice
- C4. Competence in written communication skills (including the drafting and amending of documents) to a standard required in legal practice
- C5. Competence in research skills (including researching complex legal problems) to a standard required in legal practice
- C6. Understand the practical, commercial and personal considerations to be taking into account in practice and when acting on behalf of clients

### **Transferable Skills and other attributes**

- D1. Ability to work autonomously with a self-awareness of key legal, factual and analytical issues to be dealt with in any given scenario
- D2. Ability to think analytically and reflectively about complex material and to present arguments and information coherently
- D3. Independent learning and reflective practice required for effective performance and individual development in future work roles
- D4. Appreciate and take responsibility for continuing personal and professional development, reflecting on learning and identifying individual learning needs

**Part B: Programme Structure****Year 1**

Stage 1 subjects: Years 1 and 2 September to February

Core practice areas: (Business Law and Practice – Year 1; Property Law and Practice, and Litigation (Civil and Criminal) – Year 2)

Skills (Interviewing and Advising and Drafting – Year 1; Writing\* - Years 1 and 2)

Professional Conduct and Regulation (Professional Conduct; the Profession; Financial Services; Money Laundering – Years 1 and 2)

Wills and Administration of Estates (Year 1)

Taxation (Year 1) March to June – Year 1 only

Skills (Practical Legal Research and Introduction to Advocacy\*)

Professional Conduct and Regulation (Solicitors' Accounts) \*Note: These subjects are introduced in Year 1, but are further taught and assessed in Year 2; Writing in the context of Property Law and Practice and Advocacy in a Litigation context

**Year 1 Compulsory Modules**

The student must take 100 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules.

<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Credit</b>
UJXTX3-0-M	Advocacy Skills 2021-22	0
UJXTR3-30-M	Business Law and Practice 2021-22	30
UJXTX4-0-M	Drafting Skills 2021-22	0
UJXTX6-0-M	Interviewing Skills 2021-22	0
UJXTX5-0-M	Legal Writing Skills 2021-22	0
UJXTR4-30-M	Litigation and Advocacy 2021-22	30
UJXTX7-0-M	Practical Legal Research Skills 2021-22	0

UJXTX8-0-M	Professional Conduct and Regulation 2021-22	0
UJXTR5-30-M	Property Law and Practice 2021-22	30
UJXTU5-10-2	Solicitors Accounts 2021-22	10
UJXTXA-0-M	Wills and Administration 2021-22	0

### Year 1 Optional Modules (Masters)

Students must take any 3 modules from:

Stage 2 elective subjects – Years 1 and 2: March - June

3 vocational elective subjects from the below choice (subject to demand)

Year 1: Study and assessment of one elective (a choice from those marked \*)

Year 2: Study and assessment of two electives Elective subjects NOT marked \* require knowledge of Year 2 Stage 1 subjects and are therefore not available for study in Year 1.

Each elective comprises 7 Study Units, the final Study Unit is revision.

Acquisitions Intellectual Property and Competition\*

Advanced Criminal Litigation\* Personal Injury & Clinical Negligence\*

Commercial and Competition Law Private Client (Estate Planning)

Commercial Litigation & Dispute Resolution\* Public Childcare and Housing\*

Commercial Property\*

Employment Law

Family Law

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UJXTS3-10-M	Acquisitions 2021-22	10



UJXTS4-10-M	Advanced Criminal Litigation 2021-22	10
UJXTS7-10-M	Commercial Law 2021-22	10
UJXTS8-10-M	Commercial Litigation and Dispute Resolution 2021-22	10
UJXTS9-10-M	Commercial Property 2021-22	10
UJXTT4-10-M	Employment Law 2021-22	10
UJXTT5-10-M	Family Law and Practice 2021-22	10
UJXTR5-10-M	Intellectual Property and Competition Law 2021-22	10
UJXTT8-10-M	Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence 2021-22	10
UJXTT9-10-M	Private Client (Estate Planning) 2021-22	10

### Year 1 Optional Modules (Projects)

Students must choose 60 credits from either Optional Modules (Projects) (a) or (b)

### Year 1 Optional Modules (Projects) (a)

Students choose 60 credits

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UJGT7A-60-M	Research & Practice Portfolio 2021-22	60

### Year 1 Optional Modules (Projects) (b)

Students choose 60 credits

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UJGUPU-45-M	Continuing Professional Competence Portfolio 2021-22	45
UJXTRD-15-M	Professional Conduct and Regulation in Practice 2021-22	15

**Part C: Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR) Synopsis**

The programme focuses on student centered learning through the use of small-group workshop sessions, integrating students' acquisition of the knowledge of substantive law, and development of relevant legal skills required for legal practice. It adopts a rigorous approach to teaching, learning and assessment, with an underpinning philosophy that students perform best, and their educational experience is altogether more worthwhile, when they are challenged at the appropriate level by professionally trained and practiced tutors. The students learning journey is supported with enhanced feedback from their tutors, their peers and through self-reflection on their own learning.

**Part D: External Reference Points and Benchmarks**

The Programme aligns with key priorities of Strategy 2020

The Programme provides engaging and outstanding learning and teaching; together with extensive pastoral and careers support during a very challenging programme; delivery of the programme utilises technology to support face-to-face delivery (including lecture capture and comprehensive online materials); combined with a wide range of employability enhancing added value activities

Students are able to realise their full potential; and are well equipped to succeed and make a positive contribution in legal practice

The programme has strong partnership links and connections with the local and regional legal profession; who are actively involved in programme delivery and careers support activities.

The University has over 40 years' experience of delivering professional legal education.

Prior to being validated to deliver the Legal Practice Course in 1993, the University was an approved provider for courses undertaken by students leading to the Law Society Final examinations (the precursor to the LPC). Since the inception of the LPC in 1993, the course has been delivered by the University in both full and part-time mode, and from the outset provided innovative skills base professional legal education – with a radical switch in emphasis to focus on student centred learning through the use of intensive small-group workshop sessions, whereby the acquisition of knowledge of substantive law and the practice of relevant legal skills could be fully integrated.

Since 1993, the LPC has been subject to review and refinement in response to assessment audits undertaken by both the Law Society and Solicitors Regulation Authority (from March 1996 until September 2005 – when the old ratings regime was discontinued – the University was one of only a handful of providers to continuously achieve an Excellent rating).

The current LPC programme was most recently validated by the SRA in 2009. The programme remains subject to professional body oversight, and monitoring through submission of annual monitoring reports and external examiner oversight (until 2015, external examiners for the programmes were appointed by and reported to the SRA, as well as to the University)

Members of the teaching team have over time undertaken work for the SRA, including as reporting assessors, chief external and external examiners and membership of LPC QA and training subcommittees.

Validation of course provision also comes from student feedback and a thorough process of quality assurance, to collate student feedback on the programme and use this to inform programme development.

The programme team has long-established connections with legal practice, in particular a strong relationship with Bristol Law Society. The views of practitioners and work undertaken by tutors in consultancy and related capacities means that there is practitioner input which informs programme design and development.

**Part E: Regulations**

Approved variant to University Academic Regulations and Procedures

Legal Practice Course Assessment Regulations:

<https://www1.uwe.ac.uk/about/departmentsandservices/professionalservices/studentandacademicservices/regulationspoliciesquality/regulationsandprocedures.aspx>