LLM Legal Practice (SQE1 & 2)

Full-time Study from August 2021

Programme Demands Document

1 October 2020
Introduction

This document is produced by The University of Law (the University) for the information of prospective students. It explains the demands of the course in order that applicants with disability support requirements can assess their ability to undertake the course. Detailed questions about the extent of adjustments which may be made should be addressed to the Disability Support and Inclusion Service. This document may be made available to medical practitioners who may be asked to provide a professional judgement on the ability of an applicant to complete the course.

The information included is an indicative guide for the full-time course commencing in August 2021 onwards. Students who enrol on the course will be subject to the course regulations in force at that time.

Details of the LLM Legal Practice (SQE 1 & 2), including subject coverage and the learning environment, can be found on the University’s website.

This document covers the requirements of the LLM Legal Practice (SQE1 & 2).

Modes of Study

The Full-time programme is studied with timetabled classes, typically timetabled over 5 days per week.

Study Locations

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<th>Programme</th>
<th>Birmingham</th>
<th>Bristol</th>
<th>Chester</th>
<th>Exeter</th>
<th>Guilford</th>
<th>Leeds</th>
<th>Liverpool</th>
<th>London</th>
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<th>Manchester</th>
<th>Norwich</th>
<th>Nottingham</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Sheffield</th>
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Summary of Key Learning Outcomes

Development of the legal knowledge required to successfully pass the SRA’s SQE1 assessment in FLK 1 and 2, comprising 360 multiple choice and single best answer questions.

Development of the legal skills required to successfully pass the SRA’s SQE2 assessment comprising assessments in the 6 legal skills of client interviewing, advocacy, case and matter analysis, legal research, legal writing and legal drafting.

Development of legal knowledge and skills in further SQE plus modules providing students with an opportunity to study a range of practice areas in greater depth.

Preliminary Knowledge
The following knowledge areas are outlined in the SRA SQE 1 Assessment Specification as the areas students are expected to have knowledge of and will be assessed in the FLK 1 assessment: Business Law and Practice; Dispute Resolution; Contract; Tort; Legal System of England and Wales; Constitutional and Administrative Law and EU Law and Legal Services,

And the following areas will be assessed in FLK2: Property Practice; Wills and the Administration of Estates; Solicitors Accounts; Land Law; Trusts; Criminal Law and Practice.

The SRA has prescribed the level of knowledge to be that of a newly qualified solicitor in England and Wales. This means that students must also be able apply their knowledge of the law to demonstrate the competences required to the level of a newly qualified solicitor.

A student should be able to apply these fundamental legal principles and rules appropriately and effectively at the level required of a competent newly qualified solicitor in practice, to realistic client-based and ethical problems and situations. Each multiple choice/single best answer question is followed by five possible answers.

The following skills are outlined in the SRA’s SQE2 Assessment Specification:

Client interviewing and completion of attendance note/legal analysis – planning for and conducting an interview with a client, producing an attendance note recording a client interview and initial legal analysis.

Advocacy - planning for and conducting a piece of advocacy before a judge.

Case and matter analysis – producing a written report to a partner giving a legal analysis of a case and providing client-focused advice.

Legal Research – conducting legal research from a variety of paper and electronic resources, producing a written report.

Legal Writing – producing a letter or email as the solicitor acting in a matter, which clearly and correctly applies the law and is appropriate to the recipient.

Legal Drafting – drafting full or part legal documents, use of precedents.

All components of the LLM Legal Practice (SQE1 & 2) are taught at master’s level.

Disability Support Agreements

The University has a dedicated Disability Support and Inclusion Service to assist students in accessing the programme. To utilise the Disability Support and Inclusion Service medical evidence ideally should be provided prior to starting to ensure adjustments are put in place promptly. On receipt of the medical evidence the Disability Support and Inclusion Service will create an individual Disability Support Agreement detailing the course and exam adjustments. These are then communicated to tutors and assessments officers to implement the adjustments.
The University is able to provide diagnostic assessments with an Educational Psychologist for students suspecting a Specific Learning Difficulty (SpLD) for example: Dyslexia, Dyspraxia, ADHD, and Dyscalculia. The student will incur a small contribution fee of £75. Once completed the Disability Support and Inclusion Service can put in place a Disability Support Agreement detailing the relevant adjustments to the course and assessments.

We provide Skills4Study Campus access via our interactive learning environment, ELITE, this service is available for all students. We are not, at this time, offering one-to-one SpLD specific tutoring. However Disabled Student Allowance funding should be sought if a Specialist Study Skills Tutor is required. The Disability Support and Inclusion Service can advise you on how to obtain DSA, we recommend you apply as soon as possible. If you are eligible you can apply for Disabled Student’s Allowance https://www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowances-dsas.

For more information please visit our the disability micro-site http://www.law.ac.uk/disabilitysupport-service/ or contact disabilitysupportservice@law.ac.uk

Pre-Course Demands

The induction week consists of workshops which introduce students to the different modules they will be studying, the basis upon which they will be assessed by the SRA’s SQE1 centralised assessments and some pre-study diagnostic testing on the foundation subjects will take place which supports students with revision of any knowledge gaps in these subjects. The likely study hours including tutor contact time will be around 40 hours per week.

The course materials are made available on the VLE, 2 weeks prior to induction. Students may also wish to refresh their knowledge of the foundation law ahead of the diagnostic testing, and multiple choice quizzes to assist with this are provided on the VLE a month before induction.

Students will benefit most from the course if they have a level of English equivalent to IELTS 6.5 overall with no component below 6.0. In addition, students should have a basic understanding of the seven law foundation subjects: legal systems, constitutional and administrative law and retained EU law, contract, tort, criminal law, land and equity and trusts before coming onto this course.

Learning Environment

- In SQE1, there are 2 modules, one in FLK 1 comprising Business Law and Practice, Dispute Resolution and Legal Services and one in FLK 2 comprising Property Practice, Criminal Practice, Wills and the Administration of Estates, Solicitors Accounts. Professional Conduct is taught pervasively across FLK 1 and 2.
- In SQE2, there is 1 module comprising client interviewing, advocacy, case and matter analysis, legal research, legal writing and legal drafting.
- In SQE plus students will study either 3 modules in key practice areas together with 3 additional modules
or 4 modules in key practice areas with 1 additional module.

- Preparation for workshop sessions of up to 28 hours per week. This can also include bite sized lecture content and other media which is recorded and available on the University’s Virtual Learning Environment (‘VLE’).

- Engagement in face to face workshop sessions of up to 24 students, facilitated by a tutor, two hours in length or Engagement in online learning activities facilitated by a tutor in the VLE.

- Consolidation of up to 2 hours following each workshop including consolidation tests of 30 minutes in the SQE1 module.

- Test and Feedback exercises are available as part of your preparation and/or consolidation via the VLE.

- In SQE1 regular use of the ULaw SQE revision app available in the VLE.

Students are expected to participate fully in all workshop activities and carry out independent learning and preparation as directed.

**Attendance requirements**

- The course is delivered over a period of 42 weeks including two revision booster courses. There are a number of different weeks for holidays and consolidation built into the programme.

- You must attend at the relevant University campus on three or five days per week in teaching weeks and for your scheduled examinations / assessments in exam weeks. Attendance is not required during any revision weeks.

- The average student day consists of one workshop on the five day programme or two workshops on the three day programme

- In an average week you will have four workshops but this will vary from 3 to 5 workshops at different points in the programme.

- Students will, from time to time, have additional sessions such as revision drop ins and exam practices which will not normally exceed one hour

- Attendance at all workshops is compulsory.

The indicative week on this programme is as follows:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Learning format</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>Independent learning and preparation for Workshops and consolidation following workshops</td>
<td>35</td>
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<tr>
<td>Formative tests</td>
<td>2.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Workshop sessions</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>47.5</strong></td>
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Assessment Demands

A summary of the assessment schedule for this programme is explained below.

If appropriate medical evidence is accepted, we may be able to re-schedule the University’s assessments in the SQE plus programme to avoid more than one on any one day. As part of the University’s commitment to an inclusive learning environment, we anticipate the needs of our students and design the coursework tasks to have sufficient time for most students, this includes students with SpLDs. A SpLD is generally not considered a sole justification for granting coursework extensions and coursework extensions are only granted in exceptional, evidenced circumstances.

The University operates a fit to sit policy, which means that students who attend a University SQE plus assessment are deeming themselves to be fit to sit that assessment. It is therefore not possible to submit a concession application for impaired performance for an assessment that has been sat, unless there was a procedural defect in the conduct of the assessment.

Assessment and learning adjustments

If you have any queries regarding support or adjustments whilst studying at the University of Law please contact the Disability Support and Inclusion Service on disabilitysupportservice@law.ac.uk or 01483216657

However the University is not able to approve adjustments required for the SQE assessments themselves and this role falls to the SRA’s assessment provider Kaplan will be responsible for approving any applications for reasonable adjustments on a case by case basis.

SRA Time limits for Completion of SQE 1

Irrespective of any adjustments made, in order successfully to complete the SQE1, all students are required under the regulations to pass all elements of the course within 6 years of the date of the first assessment.

Summary of Assessment Demands

The assessments for SQE1 and 2 are under the control of the SRA’s chosen assessment provider Kaplan. At present we have limited information about the length and structure of these assessments but our current understanding is as follows:

SQE1 - if the SRA follows the QLTS model, each paper will last 5½ hours, comprising: Part 1 90 questions in 2 hours 45, 60 minute break, Part 2 90 questions in 2 hours 45.

SQE2 – oral skills two half days, written skills three half days.

Total estimated assessment time 24 hours and 45 minutes for SQE1 and 2.
In addition there will be University assessments for the SQE plus modules as follows:

**Key Practice Areas**

- A 2,000 word course work report, a 500 word reflective statement and a 20 minute individual oral presentation

**Additional Modules**

- A 2,000 word course work and a 300 word reflective statement.

**Digital and technological resources**

Students will be expected to be able to access all their learning resources using the University of Law’s virtual learning environment Blackboard ULTRA. Students are recommended to use the latest version of Chrome or a Firefox web browser to access Blackboard ULTRA. The list of supported browsers is available from:

- [https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting_Started/Browser_Support](https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting_Started/Browser_Support)

Students may check if their browser is supported by accessing:

- [https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting_Started/Browser_Support/Browser_Checker](https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting_Started/Browser_Support/Browser_Checker)

Students will also be expected to use the ULawSQE revision app frequently throughout this programme and in order to access this they are recommended to use either the latest version of Chrome, Safari or a Firefox web browser.

For the ULawSQE **Mobile App** (iOS & Android), the University of Law will support the latest two major operating systems.

For general computer hardware students are recommended to have access to a computer which can access the latest browsers (see above). This will enable them to access wider institutional software, including Microsoft OneDrive & Teams, Blackboard Collaborate Conferencing System, Panopto Multimedia Player and the Library Systems. The computer (laptop or desktop) should be multimedia enabled. Students are also recommended to have a headset with built-in microphone.