

## Your brilliant legal career starts here

## At NTU we focus on you.

Our gold-rated teaching experience is delivered by practitioner and academic staff who have the knowledge and experience to support your vision.

The opportunities and connections we provide will enable you to shape your skills, knowledge and experience.

You will receive an extraordinary education and a dynamic student experience in a vibrant learning environment with excellent facilities.

We treat our students as individuals, providing opportunities for all. It's one of the reasons why we have been named Guardian University of the Year 2019.

Our unique and multi-award winning Legal Advice Centre is a teaching law firm, regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority. The centre provides outstanding opportunities for you to work in a real practice environment.

## A word of welcome from our Dean

At Nottingham Law School, we are very proud of our long-established national and international reputation for excellence in legal education.

We offer a complete range of innovative professional courses, informed by leading edge academic research. Students also benefit from being part of our dynamic and personal community, which opens up many fantastic opportunities. Across the University, a strong commitment to creating opportunities for all our students has played a major part in NTU's remarkable record of success in recent years.

I look forward to welcoming you, and hope you find studying at NLS to be a transformational and highly fulfilling experience.

Professor Janine Griffiths-Baker

LL.B (Hons), LL.M, Ph.D.

Dean of Nottingham Law School





#### Contents

Excellence in legal education	4
A sharper professional focus	6
An altogether better postgraduate experience	8
Welcome to Nottingham	9
Joining us, and how to apply	10
LLM Legal Practice Course (LLM LP (full-time / part-time)	C) 12
Barristers Training Courses	14
LLM Barristers Training Course (LLM BTC)	15
Barristers Training Course	17
Graduate Diploma in Law (GDL) (full-time / distance learning)	20
LLM Legal Practice (distance learning)	26
How to apply	28
Important notes	30

#### **Lord Saville**

## Former Justice of the Supreme Court

"Nottingham Law School is one of the leading law schools, if not the leading law school in the country."

# **Excellence in Legal Education**

With over 100 full-time teaching staff and nearly 3,000 students, NLS is among the largest university law schools. Based in arguably the UK's most student-friendly city, we're a "one-stop-shop" for legal education, taking fledgling lawyers through from undergraduate level to successful practice as solicitors or at the Bar. We are proud that we were one of the first law schools outside London to offer vocational training. But perhaps more than anything, what sets us apart is the expertise and care that go into ensuring all our programmes reflect the latest legal theory and practice.

#### Learning from leading lawyers

For maximum flexibility, we offer a complete range of professional courses, including part-time and distance learning options. Teaching is of a uniformly high standard, with many of our lecturers currently practising as lawyers, and a number of them being internationally recognised experts within their specialist areas of law.

To further widen and deepen the legal expertise our students can draw upon, we have a number of visiting professors, who play an active part in the life of NLS. These hugely experienced lawyers, Supreme Court judges, leading barristers, and members of well known national firms, will really bring the learning to life.

## Research with international impact

Our academic research is a major strength, and not only in terms of the School's national and international reputation. Our top legal brains are fully engaged in pushing the boundaries of legal knowledge and practice, working with innovative ideas and analysis that feed directly into all our courses.

To give focus to our research, we have four specialist centres dedicated to exploring legal matters ranging from insolvency, through rights and justice, to marine ecology law.

### A School with one foot in the real world

We are extremely well connected within the legal industry. We have a large network of professional contacts, and our professorships are sponsored by major Nottingham and London law firms, and leading legal publishers.

We'll tell you more about employability later in this brochure, but the excellence of our teaching, the relevance of our courses, and our standing within the legal profession all combine to give NLS graduates a head-start when they go out into the real world, and embark on their careers.

#### Leading the way to the Solicitors Qualifying Exam

The Solicitors Qualifying Examination (SQE) is a centrally set assessment which is due to be introduced by the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) in Autumn 2021 (the date is yet to be confirmed by the SRA). As a forward-thinking law school, we have naturally been ahead of the game in preparing for this new regime, working closely with legal practitioners to develop innovative courses that will meet the demands of SQE, and give our students every possible advantage.

Visit **www.ntu.ac.uk/nlssqe** for more information on how we are preparing for SQE.



#### Laura Hush

## Legal Practice Course (LPC)

"There are many reasons why NLS is such a fantastic place to study. The excellent links with local and national legal practitioners are invaluable when it comes to getting ahead in the competitive job market."





## A sharper professional focus

Needless to say, when you embark on any kind of professional training, academic excellence is only part of the picture. You also want the most practical and true-to-life preparation for the day-to-day reality of the world you are entering. At NLS, we provide exactly that. From our fantastic facilities, to the dedication of our Employability team, via the opportunities offered by our own in-house teaching law firm, we do everything we possibly can to help every student acquire the skills and make the connections they need to spread their wings and fly within the legal profession.

### Facilities that bring your legal career to life

Our aim is to replicate as closely as possible the professional world you are about to enter.

Naturally, you'll have access to a comprehensive Law Library. And you will be able to use our suite of authentically woodpanelled civil and criminal courtrooms to practise your skills and develop your technique in a totally lifelike setting.

We also have purpose-built mooting rooms, where you can hone the persuasive advocacy skills that future employers will be looking for.

#### Our multi-award-winning Legal Advice Centre

We're very proud of the NLS Legal Advice Centre. It's a fully regulated law firm that provides free and low-cost legal advice to the local community and businesses, while offering students an invaluable opportunity to gain fantastic practical experience working with real clients, seeing cases through from start to finish.

The Centre has won multiple national awards for its commitment to providing access to justice, and advises clients across a wide range of legal areas, from employment rights, through housing and welfare issues, to business law. So far, the Centre has supported clients to recover over £3.9 million in compensation and lost benefits.

#### Free Representation Unit (FRU)

FRU is a London-based charity that provides free representation in employment and social security hearings. Our Legal Advice Centre is home to the only FRU

outside the capital. Our student volunteers have helped clients recover lost benefits, while developing their advocacy skills in a tribunal setting.

Visit **www.ntu.ac.uk/lac** to find out more about our Legal Advice Centre, and other pro bono projects you could get involved with

### A team dedicated to helping launch your career

When we describe our Employability team as dedicated, we mean it. In terms of the range of support services they offer, they really are committed to helping you get that crucial first foothold within the industry.

Here's just some of what you can expect:

 Seminars on training contracts, pupillage applications, and interview techniques



#### **Brian Sanya Mondoh**

#### Brian Sanya Mondoh, LLM Bar Professional Training Course

"I have participated and judged in mooting and negotiation competitions, and most recently, I undertook FRU training, which provides the best insight of life in Bar practice by allowing you to undertake real advocacy in employment tribunal cases."



- Workshops delivered by leading lawyers,
   Chambers, and the judiciary
- Presentations by international and regional firms, looking to recruit trainees
- Dedicated careers advisers to help you review training contracts, pupillages and placements
- Advice on vacation scheme applications and formulating individual career plans
- Regular updates about training contracts, pupillage and paralegal opportunities
- Interview preparation, including mock interviews
- Mentoring with leading local firms, to provide expert guidance on gaining a training contract, and getting your career off the ground

## Law Fair: bringing talent and opportunity together

Finally, we couldn't end this round-up of the ways we help our students launch successful careers without mentioning our annual Law Fair.

Attended by over 50 exhibitors, it's the ultimate networking event; a chance for students to connect with a host of potential employers - and not just major law firms. Previous attendees include the Government Legal Department, KPMG, HM Revenue & Customs, and the Chartered Institute of Trade Mark Attorneys.



# An altogether better postgraduate experience

Of course, you are coming to NLS to undertake serious and demanding professional training. But while you are here, we hope you will find time to take advantage of the incredible range of opportunities that come with being part of one of the UK's most highly regarded universities, based in the heart of this excitingly diverse and culture-rich city. Whatever your interests, you'll find fantastic facilities and like-minded fellow-enthusiasts here. And if you need help or support of any kind while you are studying with us, you only have to ask.

### An inspirational place to live and learn

Our School forms part of NTU's vibrant city centre campus, right at the heart of things, and home to a cosmopolitan community made up of around 16,000 students from all over the world.

Everything you need is here. There are loads of great places to meet, eat and shop; fantastic facilities for every sporting interest; and our impressive Students' Union with its 2,400-capacity venue, bars, cafés, sports hall, and gym. Our 24-hour library means you can study when it suits you, too.

Importantly, it's a place with a real sense of community; diverse and engaged, and with plenty of opportunities for people to meet, learn from each other, and share their interests and passions.



## Affordable accommodation, guaranteed

No need to worry about where you'll live, because as an NLS student you are guaranteed secure and comfortable University allocated accommodation, at affordable rates.

Visit **www.ntu.ac.uk/accommodation** to find out more.

### A full range of student support services

It's reassuring to know that when you join us at NLS you'll have access to all the academic and personal support provided by Nottingham Trent University. If you run into difficulties of any kind, you are not alone.

As well as day-to-day support from your tutors, you can call upon a wide range of services to help with any specific concerns you may have. We have specialist advisers available in areas including careers, finance, counselling, disabilities and international support.

Visit **www.ntu.ac.uk/studentsupport** to find out more.



## **Alice Atay**Graduate Diploma in Law

"The services and facilities provided are outstanding. It is clear that services such as Student Support and facilities such as the gym are provided with the purpose of creating an environment in which both personal development and learning can prosper."

# Welcome to Nottingham

#### A city that ticks all your boxes

Whatever you enjoy doing, you'll have every opportunity to enjoy it even more in Nottingham. Live music-lover? Fanatical foodie? Football mad? Arts aficionado? From the home of double-European Cup winners Nottingham Forest to some of the UK's finest shopping facilities, this UNESCO City of Literature really does have everything you could wish for to keep you happily occupied, whenever you're not working. And when it all gets a bit much, you're not too far from some of England's most captivating countryside.

Finally, just to mention that Nottingham is home to the National Justice Museum; appropriately, for a place where you will be starting to make your own bit of legal history...

Visit www.ntu.ac.uk/
agreatstudentcity to find out more.





# Joining us, and how to apply

We hope that, having read this brochure, you will decide you want to join us at NLS. If so, we'll do our best to help make the process as straightforward as possible. You'll find details of how to apply for each of our professional courses below, but please do visit our website or get in touch if there's any further information you need.

#### Fees, funding and scholarships

To help you meet the costs of your studies at NLS, we offer a number of competitive scholarships for our LLM Legal Practice Course (LLM LPC), LLM Barristers Training Course (BTC) and Graduate Diploma in Law (GDL).

In addition, our LLM LPC and LLM BTC are among a small number of professional legal training courses eligible for the UK postgraduate government loan.

For current NTU students and recent alumni, we are very happy to offer a discount on fees for any of our professional courses.

Visit www.ntu.ac.uk/nlsfees for more information

### English language support, at the level you need

If you don't currently meet our English language requirements, we may offer you a place on the condition that you successfully complete a Pre-sessional English for Academic Purposes (PEAP) course at Nottingham Language Centre, before your course begins. The length of the course will depend on your current level of English.

Visit **www.ntu.ac.uk/peap** for more information.

## Applying for a student visa, made simple

NTU is a highly trusted sponsor with the UK Border Agency. This means that we can issue a Confirmation of Acceptance of Studies (CAS) to international students applying to study on an eligible course, requiring a Tier 4 student visa.

Visit **www.ntu.ac.uk/tier4** to find out more about applying for a visa.





#### LLM

# Legal Practice Course (LLM LPC)

### (full-time / part-time)

At Nottingham Law School, we're confident that our enhanced LLM Legal Practice Course (LLM LPC) will provide you with the best training currently available. The successful completion of all elements of the LLM LPC will result in the award of an internationally recognised Masters degree, as well as our LPC qualification. You'll leave us with a strong insight into the profession, and will be well-placed to succeed in the legal sector.

#### Fact file

Start: September 2020

**Duration:** One year full-time, or two years part-time

#### **Entry requirements:**

- Qualifying law degree (2.2 or above);
- Graduate Diploma in Law or Common Professional Examination, with an undergraduate honours degree (2.2 or above); or
- Chartered Institute of Legal Executives qualification.

#### English language requirements:

IELTS 6.5 (5.5 in reading, writing, listening and speaking).

Fees and funding: Visit www.ntu.ac.uk/nlsfees for further details.

100% of our LLM Legal Practice Course students are employed or continuing their studies six months after completing their course.

#### About this course

We are fully aware of the challenges facing law students in the current legal employment market. For that reason, our LLM LPC is designed to provide you with the qualifications and practical knowledge and insight that employers regard as essential

Successful completion of the course enables you to proceed to a training contract, and then be admitted as a solicitor. The job market is very competitive and, whether you come to us with a 1st or a 2.2, we can add value to your experience and enhance your CV to increase your employability.

You can study the LLM LPC full time, or on a part-time basis to fit around your other commitments.

Our course enjoys a strong reputation throughout the UK, for a number of reasons.

 Successful completion of all elements of the LLM LPC will result in the award of a Masters degree – an internationally recognised qualification.

- Our course is staffed by experienced lawyers – many of whom still practise – and students benefit from their practical knowledge.
- We teach in small groups, to encourage student participation.
- Every student has a personal tutor. We know our students, and will support and encourage you in both your studies and in your employment applications at the start of your legal career.
- We constantly review our courses to ensure that they provide our students with the qualifications, practical knowledge and experience employers are looking for.
- Our Advanced Advocacy elective will provide you with essential experience if you are considering Higher Rights of Audience training. This elective is available on the full-time course only.

#### The route to qualifying as a solicitor is changing

The Solicitors Qualifying Examination (SQE) is a centrally set assessment which is due to be introduced by the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) in Autumn 2021 (the date is yet to be confirmed by the SRA).

This will provide you with a new route to qualify as a solicitor. As a leading provider of professional legal education in the UK, we have been working with legal practitioners to design innovative and flexible new courses to help you prepare for SQE.

Visit www.ntu.ac.uk/nlssqe to find out more about SQE and what it means for you.

- You'll have access to a multi-awardwinning pro bono programme, and a new and fully equipped Legal Advice Centre.
   Gaining practical legal experience gives you a head start when applying for jobs or training contracts.
- You'll benefit from our guest lecturers.
   As well as visiting professors, a series of guest lectures delivered by expert lawyers from leading law firms, who share their experiences in their own areas of legal specialism.
- The Professional Legal Practice module provides practical experience and commercial insight, which will ensure you are ready to start your career.
- Scholarships are available, and we also offer a progression discount to our students and alumni (terms and conditions apply). Please see www. ntu.ac.uk/scholarshipsnls for more information

#### What you'll study

#### **Modules**

Our LLM LPC course is delivered across two stages.

Stage One is delivered from September to February and Stage Two is delivered from February to June.

Stage One includes teaching of the Professional Legal Practice module. Stage Two includes three elective modules and – if you're aiming for the LLM award, submission of either your project or dissertation. You can also submit this work after the academic year has ended.

#### Stage One

Stage One covers the below core elements of:

- Business (including Taxation and Business Accounts)
- · Property
- · Litigation (Civil and Criminal)
- Wills and Administration of Estates
- · Solicitors' Accounts
- Professional Conduct and Regulation
- Professional Legal Practice: advocacy, interviewing, writing, drafting, and research

#### **Stage Two**

You'll choose three electives from the list below.

- · Commercial Law
- · Advanced Commercial Property
- · Private Client
- · Advanced Civil Litigation
- · Advanced Criminal Practice
- · Family and Child Protection Law
- · Employment Law

The following electives are only available on the full-time course.

- · Corporate Finance
- · Private Acquisitions
- · Advanced Advocacy

Please note, electives are subject to change.

#### Your study options

#### **Full-time study**

Many students require flexibility to fit in with work, family or other commitments. As a result of this, our full-time LLM LPC course is taught across three days every week, to allow our students greater flexibility.

However, this is an intensive study programme and taking on extra employment is not recommended for the LLM LPC (full-time).

Small group sessions are held on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Wednesdays and Thursdays. Lectures are held on Fridays, and these will be recorded so that attendance is not compulsory. This delivery format gives you the option to be on campus either two or three days each week and to study at your own convenience at other times.

#### Part-time study

Our part-time course broadly follows the same teaching pattern as the full-time course. You can study around work and family commitments. Stage One and Stage Two have the same format as the full-time course. However, the teaching is spread over two years. In total you will attend two full weeks and fourteen weekends spread

across the two years. Weekend attendance is compulsory.

The weekend attendance will usually comprise Saturday and Sunday, although there may be lectures and assessments on some Fridays. Each lecture will be recorded so that students will have the option of watching the lectures online in their own time.

#### **Assessment**

Assessments are designed to integrate with the course as a whole. The main assessment periods occur at the end of both Stage One and Stage Two. You'll be assessed by written examination in the three compulsory subjects and in all of your elective subjects.

Other suitable methods of assessment are employed to cover professional conduct and regulation, solicitors' accounts and wills and administration of estates. Your project or dissertation is an independent piece of work for which you receive relevant supervision. When you join the course, you will need to make a decision about whether or not you intend to submit a project or a dissertation (or possibly neither). Information to help you with this decision will be provided early on in the course.

#### What's next?

Our dedicated Employability team will support you in your search for a training contract and the number of Nottingham Law School graduates gaining a training contract or paralegal work is consistently high.

Please note this course can reach its maximum capacity prior to the course start date, which will result in early closure. We encourage you to submit your application as early as possible to avoid disappointment.

## LLM Barristers Training Course (LLM BTC)

## Barristers Training Course (BTC)

Nottingham Law School has been successfully delivering high quality vocational training for those who wish to be called to the Bar since 1997; firstly, offering the Bar Vocational Course (BVC) and, more recently, the Bar Professional Training Course (BPTC). We are proud of our reputation for excellence in the delivery of training for the Bar and our experienced teaching team that has delivered such training.

Training for the Bar is regulated by the Bar Standards Board (BSB). The BSB has been reviewing legal education and training as part of its Future Bar Training programme. Our courses have been designed to reflect the BSB's requirements and give you the flexibility to study in the way you choose, with the option to gain a Masters qualification.

We are delivering a nine-month LLM Barristers Training Course (LLM BTC) and a six-month Postgraduate Diploma Barristers Training Course (BTC).\* For the six-month course there is a choice of start dates: September or March.\*\* Our courses aim to equip you with the skills and procedural knowledge necessary to follow your chosen career. They have been developed in conjunction with practising barristers, judges and senior academics. Practitioners and guest speakers assist with the delivery of our courses, to build your knowledge of professional practice.

If you are unsure about which course would be suitable for you, please contact us or come along to one of our open days.



<sup>\*</sup>Delivery of these courses is subject to authorisation by the BSB. Please check www.ntu.ac.uk/llmbtc for updates.

<sup>\*\*</sup>March start subject to minimum numbers being met.

#### LLM

# LLM Barristers Training Course (LLM BTC)

For students who wish to achieve a professional qualification and a Masters qualification at the same time, our LLM BTC is the perfect choice. You will study the BSB's compulsory modules to enable you to be called to the Bar whilst also gaining an internationally recognised LLM qualification to help you to stand out from your peers. The LLM is eligible for the UK postgraduate government loan.

#### Fact file

Start: September 2020

**Duration:** 9 months **Entry requirements:** 

### Qualifying law degree (2.1); or

- Graduate Diploma in Law or Common Professional Examination, with an undergraduate honours degree (2.1).
- A 2.2 honours degree will be considered with evidence of exceptional achievement elsewhere in the application, e.g. awards, scholarships, work experience – paid or unpaid.

#### **English language requirements:**

All students must be able to demonstrate that their oral and written English language ability is at least equivalent to:

- a minimum score of 7.5 in each section of the IELTS academic test; or
- a minimum score of 73 in each part of the Pearson Test of English (academic).

Visit www.ntu.ac.uk/Ilmbtc for further information.

Fees and funding: Visit www.ntu.ac.uk/nlsfees for further details.

\*Delivery of this course is subject to authorisation by the BSB. Please check www.ntu.ac.uk/llmbtc for updates.

#### About this course

Successful completion of this course enables you to be called to the Bar, and proceed to pupillage.

Our nine-month LLM BTC gives you the opportunity to gain the award of a Masters (LLM), assuming successful completion of the BTC and an additional module, Advanced Advocacy, Advice and ADR, which has been created to give you experience of issues that are at the cutting-edge of practice, such as vulnerable witnesses and expert evidence.

The LLM qualification is internationally recognised, and is eligible for the UK postgraduate government loan. Our LLM incorporates a number of unique, practical elements which are at the forefront of legal practice and which will aid you in your future career.

- Our core staff are practitioners with significant experience of legal practice.
- Our teaching is consistently commended as excellent.
- You'll have access to an exclusive BTC study area.
- You'll receive individual face-to-face feedback in all assessable skills.
- You'll undertake assessments with a practical focus.
- We provide guidance and support through our dedicated Employability team.
- We have considerable expertise in advocacy and alternative dispute resolution – we are home to the first

Centre for Advocacy in the UK and our Centre for Mediation and Dispute Resolution was opened in 2016 by Sir Peter Coulson, now a judge of the Court of Appeal.

#### What you'll study

After a short introductory period, you'll commence your study of the compulsory subjects. You'll handle seven realistic briefs (four criminal and three civil) from commencement to trial. Knowledge and skills are taught and learned through the progress of these case studies, as you respond to Instructions to Counsel.

#### **Modules**

#### Pervasives

- · Case Preparation and Analysis
- Legal Research

#### Knowledge

- · Civil Litigation and Evidence
- Criminal Litigation, Evidence and Sentencing
- Professional Ethics Skills
- Advocacy
- · Conference Skills
- Drafting
- Opinion Writing

#### The LLM

In order to gain the LLM, you will study an additional module in the third term, which incorporates topics such as vulnerable

witnesses and expert evidence, and which gives you practical experience of mediation and further experience of trial advocacy. You will also need to complete a dissertation linked to one of the topics you have covered or (where you have undertaken practical legal work experience) submit a critical reflective report. In respect of legal work experience, there are a number of options available, such as undertaking pro bono activity, including handling real cases, through our Legal Advice Centre, working for the Citizens Advice Bureau, or carrying out placements within a professional legal setting.

#### How you'll study

You'll be taught in small groups in high quality teaching accommodation, which includes impressive mock courtrooms. You will be taught in groups of approximately 12 students, except for Advocacy and Conference where you will be taught in groups of six students.

#### **Assessment**

You will receive a percentage mark for each compulsory assessment and, on successful completion of the BTC modules, a transcript containing your overall aggregate. Those who meet the requirements of the LLM will be awarded a Pass, Commendation or Distinction.

#### What's next?

Our dedicated Employability team provide practical sessions, advice and assistance, including advice on pupillage applications and CVs, mock interviews, and details of legal employment opportunities that are available. A number of presentations are given throughout the year, encompassing both practice at the Bar, and alternative careers.

#### Links with the Profession

In addition to the programme of guest lectures and practitioner workshops that run during the year, we give you further opportunities to experience life at the Bar, and to meet practitioners. Examples of these opportunities include:

- Welcome reception at the beginning of the course, we arrange a social event attended by the Bar and Judiciary.
- Annual dinner the Nottingham BTC / Nottingham Bar Mess Annual Dinner is a popular event that is attended by practitioners, judges, and representatives from the four Inns of Court. Many former students – now tenants and pupils themselves – attend.

This event counts as one of your qualifying sessions.

 1 High Pavement Plea in Mitigation Competition – 1 High Pavement is a leading criminal set which sponsors our annual Plea in Mitigation Competition.

The competition is judged by members of Chambers.

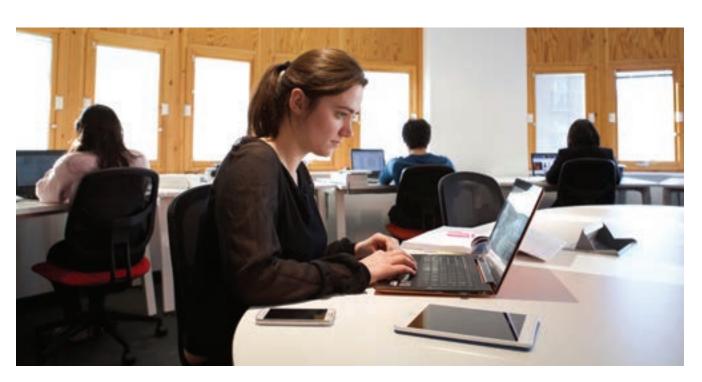
Ropewalk Chambers Mooting
 Competition – Ropewalk Chambers,
 a leading specialist civil set in
 Nottingham, sponsors the mooting
 competition, which is judged by
 members of Chambers.

#### Ian Fox

#### Course Leader LLM Barristers Training Course

lan is a member of Middle Temple, and was called to the Bar in 1990. A civil practitioner, his specialisations included family law (in particular ancillary relief and the law relating to children), and the law of landlord and tenant. lan remains a Door Tenant at Field Court Chambers, Gray's Inn.

For full details of course delivery and assessment, fees and funding and how to apply, visit <a href="https://www.ntu.ac.uk/llmbtc">www.ntu.ac.uk/llmbtc</a> to find out more.



## Barristers Training Course (BTC)

For students who wish to study the BSB's compulsory modules in a cost effective and time efficient manner, our BTC provides the necessary vocational training for the Bar in just six months. Successful completion of this course will enable you to achieve a Postgraduate Diploma and be called to the Bar. Perhaps you have already secured pupillage, are worried about taking too much time out of paid work or are concerned about accommodation costs? The BTC may be ideal for you.

#### Fact file

**Start:** September 2020 or March 2021 (March start subject to minimum numbers being met).

Duration: 6 months full-time

#### **Entry requirements:**

- · Qualifying law degree (2.1); or
- Graduate Diploma in Law or Common Professional Examination, with an undergraduate honours degree (2.1).
- A 2.2 honours degree will be considered with evidence of exceptional achievement elsewhere in the application, e.g. awards, scholarships, work experience
   paid or unpaid.

#### **English language requirements:**

All students must be able to demonstrate that their oral and written English language ability is at least equivalent to:

- a minimum score of 7.5 in each section of the IELTS academic test; or
- a minimum score of 73 in each part of the Pearson Test of English (academic).

Visit www.ntu.ac.uk/btc for further information.

**Fees and funding:** Visit **www.ntu.ac.uk/nlsfees** for further details.

\*Delivery of this course is subject to authorisation by the BSB. Please check **www.ntu.ac.uk/btc** for updates.

#### About this course

Successful completion of this course enables you to be called to the Bar, and proceed to pupillage.

- Our core staff are practitioners with significant experience of legal practice.
- Our teaching is consistently commended as excellent.
- · You'll have access to an exclusive BTC study area.
- You'll receive individual face-to-face feedback in all assessable skills.
- You'll undertake assessments with a practical focus.
- We provide guidance and support through our dedicated Employability team.
- We have considerable expertise in advocacy and alternative dispute resolution – we are home to the first Centre for Advocacy in the UK and our Centre for Mediation and Dispute Resolution was opened in 2016 by Sir Peter Coulson, now a judge of the Court of Appeal.

#### What you'll study

After a short introductory period, you'll commence your study of the compulsory subjects. You'll handle seven realistic briefs (four criminal and three civil) from commencement to trial. Knowledge and skills are taught and learned through the progress of these case studies, as you respond to Instructions to Counsel.

#### Modules

#### **Pervasives**

- Case Preparation and Analysis
- · Legal Research

#### Knowledge

- Civil Litigation and Evidence
- · Criminal Litigation, Evidence and

#### Sentencing

· Professional Ethics

#### Skills

- Advocacy
- Conference Skills
- Drafting
- Opinion Writing

#### How you'll study

You'll be taught in small groups in high quality teaching accommodation, which includes impressive mock courtrooms. You will be taught in groups of approximately 12 students, except for Advocacy and Conference where you will be taught in groups of six students.

#### Assessment

You will receive a percentage mark for each assessment and, on successful completion of the BTC modules, a transcript containing your overall aggregate.

#### What's next?

Our dedicated Employability team provide practical sessions, advice and assistance, including advice on pupillage applications and CVs, mock interviews, and details of legal employment opportunities that are available. A number of presentations are given throughout the year, encompassing both practice at the Bar, and alternative careers.

All of our teaching staff come from practice, some have been pupil supervisors and sat on recruitment committees, and some retain door tenancies in Chambers.

We are able to offer first-hand advice and guidance to students, wherever they wish to practise.

#### Links with the Profession

In addition to the programme of guestlectures and practitioner workshops that run during the year, we give you further opportunities to experience life at the Bar, and to meet practitioners.

Examples of

these opportunities include:

- Welcome reception at the beginning of the course, we arrange a social event attended by the Bar and Judiciary.
- Annual dinner the Nottingham BTC / Nottingham Bar Mess Annual Dinner is a popular event that is attended by practitioners, judges, and representatives from the four Inns of Court. Many former students – now tenants and pupils themselves – attend.

This event counts as one of your qualifying sessions.

 1 High Pavement Plea in Mitigation Competition – 1 High Pavement is a leading criminal set which sponsors our annual Plea in Mitigation Competition. The competition is judged by members of Chambers (September only).

Ropewalk Chambers Mooting
 Competition – Ropewalk Chambers,
 a leading specialist civil set in
 Nottingham, sponsors the mooting
 competition, which is judged by
 members of Chambers (September
 only).

#### Ian Fox

#### Course Leader Barristers Training Course

lan is a member of Middle Temple, and was called to the Bar in 1990. A civil practitioner, his specialisations included family law (in particular ancillary relief and the law relating to children), and the law of landlord and tenant. Ian remains a Door Tenant at Field Court Chambers, Gray's Inn.

For full details of course delivery and assessment, fees and funding and how to apply, visit

www.ntu.ac.uk/btc to find out more.



# Graduate Diploma in Law (GDL)

### (full-time / distance learning)

For non-law graduates interested in becoming a solicitor or barrister, our GDL is the stepping stone to the LLM Legal Practice Course (LLM LPC) or LLM Barristers Training Course (LLM BTC), and a career as a solicitor or barrister thereafter. The course is approved by the Solicitors Regulation Authority and Bar Standards Board.

#### Fact file

Start: September 2020

**Duration:** One year full-time, or two years distance learning

#### **Entry requirements:**

- Undergraduate honours degree (2.2 or above).
- It is a course requirement that students have access to the Internet and are IT literate
- Applicants without formal qualifications may be eligible, subject to approval of their qualifications by the Solicitors Regulation Authority or Bar Standards Board. Applications will be assessed on an individual basis, taking into account any formal or professional qualifications, the personal statement, references, and any relevant life or work experience.

#### English language requirements:

IELTS 6.5 (5.5 in reading, writing, listening and speaking).

Fees and funding: Visit www.ntu.ac.uk/nlsfees for further details.

100% of our Graduate Diploma in Law students are employed or continuing their studies within six months of completing their course.

#### About this course

This is a fast-track conversion course which effectively covers the seven core modules of a law degree in one year.

#### Why choose the GDL?

- It provides non-law graduates with a route to becoming a solicitor or barrister in the UK
- We offer a multi-award-winning pro bono programme, including a Legal Advice Centre for the local community.
- Students who successfully complete this course are guaranteed a place on our highly regarded LLM LPC. Successful candidates intending to be barristers are also looked upon favourably for a place on our Barristers Training Courses. Please note that our LLM LPC and LLM BTC can reach maximum capacity prior to the course start date, which will result in early closure. We encourage you to submit your application for these courses as early as possible to avoid disappointment.

- Scholarships are available.
- We offer excellent careers support, through our dedicated Employability
- Every student will take part in career enhancing opportunities during the course of the year.
- Lectures and seminars are designed to encourage interactive learning, as our students learn in small groups.

To make the transition between the GDL and the LLM LPC or LLM BTC easier, you'll be given the opportunity to participate in:

- our International Summer Schools
   Schome
- various pro bono projects, which will give you the practical skills to increase your employability. You can then build on this during the LLM LPC, or LLM BTC.

#### What you'll study

The main teaching course covers the following seven modules.

#### The route to qualifying as a solicitor is changing

The Solicitors Qualifying Examination (SQE) is a centrally set assessment which is due to be introduced by the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) in Autumn 2021 (the date is yet to be confirmed by the SRA).

This will provide you with a new route to qualify as a solicitor. As a leading provider of professional legal education in the UK, we have been working with legal practitioners to design innovative and flexible new courses to help you prepare for SQE.

Visit www.ntu.ac.uk/nlssqe to find out more about SQE and what it means for you.



- · Contract Law
- · Law of Torts
- Land Law
- · Law of Trusts
- Criminal Law
- · Constitutional and Administrative Law
- EU Law

You'll also study an additional area of law as a research project. This is an extended essay of around 5,000 words. The main objective of this exercise is to improve your research skills in an area of interest. Alternatively, selected students can become involved in our pro bono module and work on projects facilitated by the Legal Advice Centre.

#### Your study options

The full-time course begins with an induction programme, giving you an introduction to the English legal system, legal method, and legal research. You will then study the seven core modules of Law. There are six or seven one-hour long lectures and six or seven one-hour seminars per week, plus significant independent study. Class hours are usually between 9 am and 5 pm. Depending on your timetable, you may be expected to attend more than one seminar a day. Attendance at seminars is compulsory.

We have modern lecture theatre facilities, which are ideal for our professional

courses. Small-group sessions also take place in purpose-built teaching rooms. Our newly refurbished Boots Library provides IT and AV resources, study areas, and library services. Our mock courtrooms provide a realistic environment for both advocacy and mooting.

Many GDL providers build and deliver courses around their IT provisions – we believe that a course of this complexity needs to be taught by humans and supported by IT, rather than the other way round. We generate top-quality teaching materials on site, and then make them available 24-7 through our remote-access systems.

#### **Exemptions**

Students who have previously studied law may be eligible for exemptions. In this situation, you should contact

**nls.enquiries@ntu.ac.uk** for clarification. Any requests for exemptions must be submitted to us before the 31 May 2020 and are only available for students undertaking the distance learning course.

#### **Assessment**

Assessment is by a combination of incourse assessments (approximately 30%), including three assessed courseworks and a research project or a reflective report based on experience gained in the Legal Advice Centre and end-of-year examinations (approximately 70%) in each of the core modules.

#### What's next

The diploma award is graded, so that students may be awarded a Pass, Commendation or Distinction.

Successful completion of this course enables you to progress on to our highly regarded LLM LPC for prospective solicitors or the LLM BTC for intending barristers

#### **Caitlin Coady**

#### Graduate Diploma in Law (full-time)

"My first degree was in History, which I absolutely loved. I enjoyed drawing information from a range of sources, analysing it and then building it into an argument, and so I wanted to pursue a career that used similar skills.

When choosing where to study my GDL, I was keen to pick somewhere that had an emphasis on small-group learning and where I would be able to learn from tutors who had first-hand experience of the legal industry, as either solicitors or barristers."

## Clare Smith Course leader Graduate Diploma in Law (full-time)

Clare previously worked as a corporate / commercial solicitor in private practice at Eversheds and Shoosmiths. Her areas of research include EU Law and Company Law.

At Nottingham Law School, we don't view the GDL in isolation, but as part of a programme with the LLM LPC and LLM BTC courses. We have a dedicated Employability team, which provides practical advice and will support you in your search for a training contract or pupillage. Many firms will appreciate your well-rounded knowledge, and the commitment demonstrated by completing the GDL. Even if you decide not to pursue a career as a solicitor or barrister, you'll have gained a range of transferable skills that are highly valued by employers.

#### Distance learning study

The distance learning GDL is a two-year course. There are four study weekends in each year, attendance at which is compulsory (subject to medical or other emergencies). These study weekends usually take place in September, November, February and March.

This flexible, distance learning course

allows you to combine your studies with work and other commitments. Extensive support and 24-hour access to learning resources are in place to help you to achieve your full potential.

The course covers the seven foundations of legal knowledge, required by the Solicitors Regulation Authority. You should be prepared to devote 15 hours per week to your studies.

#### Year One

Your studies in Year One entail four weekends, covering four core modules. The first weekend requires you to attend a full day of induction on the Friday in addition to your teaching on Friday evening, Saturday and Sunday. This gives an introduction to the English legal method. There is a written exercise to be completed at home following this weekend, which all students must pass in order to remain on the course. There is also teaching on the four core modules at the first weekend. The remaining three weekends have sessions on the four core modules:

- · Constitutional and Administrative Law
- Contract Law
- European Union Law
- · Law of Tort.

#### Year Two

Your studies in Year Two entail four weekends, covering the remaining three core modules:

- · Criminal Law
- Land Law
- · Law of Equity and Trusts

In addition, you're required to study an area of law that goes beyond the core syllabus. This is achieved in Year Two, when you complete an individual research project of 4,500 to 5,000 words.

#### How you'll study

Distance learners are provided with all the online materials they need to assist their study.

Seminars take place at all four weekends, attendance at which is compulsory. The emphasis on small-group work (and sub-group work) enables us to offer a student-centred approach to learning, with exercises designed to encourage student activity. Our students get all the benefits of individual tuition, and those of group support. Teaching is normally held at our City Campus, and utilises all the facilities available to full-time students, including a well-stocked library with electronic access.

Students have full access to the facilities throughout the year and can contact their tutors for support at any time.

Please note this course can reach its maximum capacity prior to the course start date, which will result in early closure. We encourage you to submit your application as early as possible to avoid disappointment.





#### Amy Theerman Graduate Diploma in Law (Distance Learning)

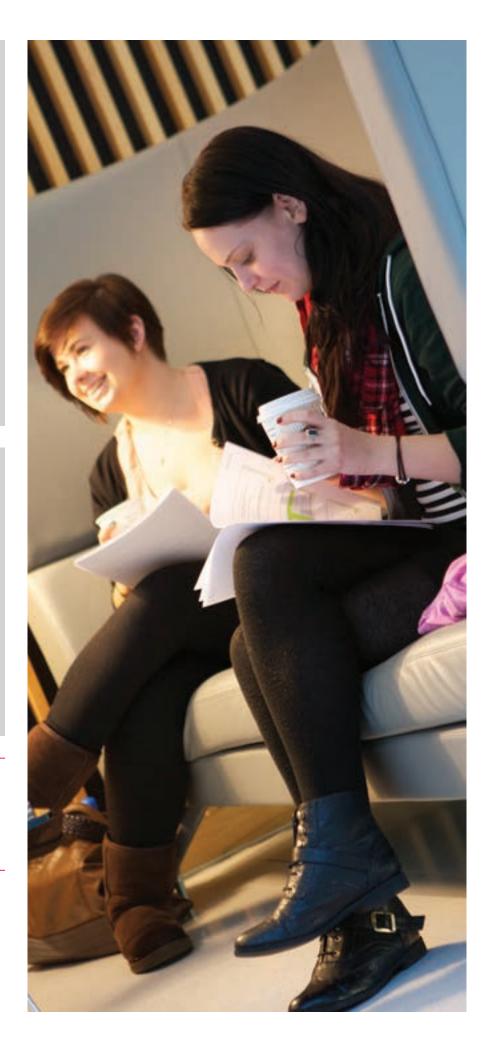
"The Employability Team has loads to offer. I have attended the Law Fair, and career workshops with prominent alumni, joined a couple of webinars, and attended one of the Business Leaders lectures. They have also advised me on specific queries about applications. Nottingham Law School opens doors and I have already been to an assessment at Eversheds Sutherland and have a placement lined up at Browne Jacobson – neither of which I thought would be possible when I started my course."

## Our expert academic team include

Elyse Wakelin Course leader Graduate Diploma in Law (Distance Learning)

Elyse previously taught
Constitutional and Administrative
Law and Criminal Justice at the
University of Leicester before
joining NLS in September 2015.
She has a PhD from the University
of Leicester which examined the
link between EU membership and
minority rights.

For full details of course delivery and assessment, fees and funding and how to apply, visit www.ntu.ac.uk/gdl (full-time) and www.ntu.ac.uk/gdldl (distance learning) to find out more.





#### LLM

## **Legal Practice**

### (Distance learning top up)

This distance learning LLM award is for those with professional legal qualifications like the Barristers Training Course (BTC) or the Legal Practice Course (LPC). Credit points are awarded for these professional qualifications, and students can then top up these points with a dissertation or article to gain this LLM.

#### **Duration**

4 – 12 months, but can be completed in 24 months if required

#### Start date:

September

January

April

#### **Entry requirements:**

- Undergraduate honours degree (2.2 or above).
- Applicants should have successfully completed a legal professional practice course, such as the LPC or BPTC.
- Applicants with at least two years demonstrable legal professional experience in practice will also be considered.

#### About this course

The LLM Legal Practice (distance learning) is a top-up course of 60 credits based on accredited prior learning. The remaining 120 credits are derived either from a legal professional qualification, such as the LPC or BTC, or from demonstrable legal professional experience of at least two years.

#### What you'll study

The course is equivalent to 600 hours of study. It includes the production of either a traditional dissertation or an article of publishable quality. The course is designed to allow completion of the top-up element over a recommended period of 4 to 12 months, but it can be completed in 24 months if required. This offers more flexible time frames for completing the self-study module. This course will be extremely attractive to practitioners, as it also satisfies continuing professional development (CPD) requirements.

#### Dissertation

In line with our existing LLM courses, students have the freedom to choose

their dissertation topic, subject to the capacity of the Law School to provide expert academic supervision. The Law School has academic staff with wideranging expertise across diverse areas of law. However, when selecting your chosen topic, you're encouraged to consider areas of law that are particularly pertinent to your anticipated or actual area of practice. The dissertation is 12,000 words in length.

#### **Article**

As an alternative to the dissertation, you can produce a shorter, focused article on a particular area of practice or law. It'll need to be at least 10,000 words, depending on the requirements of the target journal. A research proposal will be required so that your supervisor can gauge whether the topic selected is suitable to be the subject of a publishable article.

Visit www.ntu.ac.uk/llmlpdl for full details of course delivery and assessment, future careers and employability, fees and funding, and how to apply.





## How to apply

Course	Study mode	Entry requirements	How to apply	Starting	Course length
LPC	Full-time	A qualifying law degree (2.2 or above); or Graduate Diploma in Law / Common Professional Examination with an undergraduate honours degree (2.2 or above); or Chartered Institute of Legal Executives qualification.	The LPC Central Applications Board is responsible for admissions to the full-time course.  Apply online at: www.lawcabs.ac.uk  For further information on applications contact LPC Central Applications Board.  Email: Ipc@lawcabs.ac.uk	September	One year
LPC	Part-time	A qualifying law degree (2.2 or above); or Graduate Diploma in Law / Common Professional Examination with an undergraduate honours degree (2.2 or above); or Chartered Institute of Legal Executives qualification.	Applications for the part-time LPC are direct to the University.  Apply online at:  www.ntu.ac.uk/lpcpt	September	Two years
BTC	Full-time	A qualifying law degree (2.1 or above); or Graduate Diploma in Law / Common Professional Examination with an undergraduate honours degree (2.1 or above). Applicants who have / are predicted a 2.2 will be considered if they can provide evidence of exceptional achievement elsewhere in their application e.g. awards, scholarships or work experience.	Please visit  www.ntu.ac.uk/llmbtc for more information on the application process.	September	One year
GDL	Full-time	An undergraduate honours degree (2.2 or above).	The GDL Central Applications Board is responsible for admissions to the full-time course.  Apply online at: www.lawcabs.ac.uk  For further information on applications contact the GDL Central Applications Board.  Email: gdl@lawcabs.ac.uk	September	One year

Course	Study mode	Entry requirements	How to apply	Starting	Course length
GDL	Distance learning	An undergraduate honours degree (2.2 or above). Applicants without formal qualifications may be eligible subject to approval of their qualifications by the Solicitors Regulation Authority / Bar Standards Board. Applications will be assessed on an individual basis, taking into account any formal or professional qualifications, the personal statement, references and any relevant life / work experience. It is a programme requirement that students have access to the Internet, and are IT literate.	Applications for the GDL distance learning are direct to the University. Apply online at: www.ntu.ac.uk/gdldl	September	Two years
LLM Legal Practice	Distance learning	Applicants should have successfully completed a legal professional practice course, such as the LPC or BPTC.  Applicants with at least two years demonstrable legal professional experience in practice will also be considered.	Applications for the LLM Legal Practice distance learning are direct to the University.  Apply online at: www.ntu.ac.uk/ IlmIpdI	September January April	4 – 24 months

## English language requirements for applicants whose first language is not English

#### LPC and GDL

IELTS 6.5 (5.5 in reading, writing, listening and speaking).

#### втс

All students must be able to demonstrate that their oral and written English language ability is at least equivalent to:

- a minimum score of 7.5 in each section of the IELTS academic test;
   or
- a minimum score of 73 in each part of the Pearson Test of English (academic).

Refer to **www.ntu.ac.uk/englishlanguage** for further information about English language equivalencies.

Our courses can reach maximum capacity prior to the course start date, which will result in early closure. We encourage you to submit your application as early as possible to avoid disappointment.

For further information please contact us:

Tel: +44(0)115 848 4460 Email: nls.enquiries@ntu.ac.uk

## Important notes

#### **Module information**

We regularly review and update our course content based on student and employer feedback, ensuring that all of our courses remain current and relevant. This may result in changes to module content or module availability in future years.

The number of places available on some optional modules may be limited. These will be offered on a first come, first served basis. Students who are unable to select their first choice module will be offered an alternative from the remaining optional modules. If too few students select a particular module, we may not be able to resource teaching that particular module.

#### **Key information**

Please be aware that the information in the key information boxes comes from a variety of sources and is accurate at the time of going to print. These include: the National Student Survey (NSS 2018), Destination of Leavers from Higher Education Survey (DLHE 2016-17), Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA), Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS), The Data Service.

The Complete University Guide (2018), Times Higher Education Student Experience Survey (THES 2017), Graduate Employment Market Statistics, Which? University Guide (2017), Fashion Business 2015, Arts Council, NatWest Student Living Index 2015, Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide (2018), UCAS End of Cycle Report 2017 and other sources.

This School course brochure is correct at the time of going to print. However, given the passage of time between its publication and the academic year to which it relates, some of the information may change. It is very important therefore that you check the University's website **www.ntu.ac.uk** before making an application to the University, as some details relating to the course and the status of any validation process, the fees and other costs, as well as related services, may have been updated.

The University will do all that it reasonably can to provide educational services as described in the School course brochure, on the website, or in other documents issued by it, to appropriately enrolled students. Sometimes circumstances beyond the control of the University mean that it cannot provide the educational services described. Examples of such circumstances include:

- (a) industrial action by University staff or third parties
- (b) the unanticipated departure of key members of University staff
- (c) power failure
- (d) acts of terrorism
- (e) damage to buildings or equipment
- (f) the acts of any governmental or local authority
- (g) the demands of the timetable and the availability of academic staff in respect of possible optional subjects
- (h) where the numbers recruited to a course or module are so low that it is not possible to deliver an appropriate quality of education for students enrolled on it.

In such circumstances, the University will take all reasonable steps to minimise the resultant disruption to those services and to those students who are affected by, for example, offering those students the opportunity where reasonably possible to move to another course, another institution

or by delivering a modified version of the same course, but the University excludes liability, to the full extent that is possible under the general law, for any loss and/or damage suffered by any applicant or student as a result of such circumstances.

The University will use all reasonable endeavours to deliver the course in accordance with the description applied to it in the University's School course brochure (as updated from time to time on the website or elsewhere) for the academic year in which you begin the course. However, the University will be entitled to make reasonable changes to the course (including to the content and syllabus of the course where developments in the subject area and/or accrediting bodies make that necessary, or to the location of the course or the method of delivery or assessment of the course) where that will enable the University to deliver a better quality of educational experience to students enrolled on the course. In making any such changes, the University will aim to keep them to the minimum necessary to achieve the required quality of experience and will notify and consult with affected students in advance about any changes that are required. Any changes to its courses are considered through the University's quality assurance process; this process engages students through appropriate University committees. If the University changes your course and you are not satisfied with the changes, you will be offered the opportunity to withdraw from the course and, if required, reasonable support to transfer to another provider.

Any offer of a place at the University shall be subject to the University's Terms and Conditions and the University's rules and regulations (as amended from time to time)

Visit **www.ntu.ac.uk/terms\_conditions** to find a copy of the University's Terms and Conditions.



#### **Enquiries**

nls.enquiries@ntu.ac.uk +44 (0)115 848 4460 www.ntu.ac.uk/nls

#### **Campus information**

Nottingham Law School Nottingham Trent University 50 Shakespeare Street Nottingham NG1 4FQ







#### This information can be made available in alternative formats.

Please note that whilst the University has taken all reasonable steps to ensure the accuracy of the content within this brochure at the time of printing, the University reserves the right to remove, vary or amend the content of the brochure at any time. For avoidance of doubt, the information provided within the content of this brochure is for guidance purposes.

© Nottingham Trent University and may not be reproduced or transmitted in any form in whole or in part without the prior written consent of Nottingham Trent University.

4828/10/2019