

## Nottingham Trent University Course Specification

### LL.B (Honours) Law Sandwich

<b>Basic Course Information</b>		
1.	Awarding Institution:	Nottingham Trent University
2.	School/Campus:	Nottingham Law School (City Campus)
3.	Final Award:	LL.B (Hons) Law
	Course Title:	LL.B (Hons) Law
	Modes of Study:	Sandwich
4.	Normal Duration:	4 years
5.	UCAS Code:	LL.B FT: M101

6.	<b>Overview and general educational aims of the course</b>
	<p>The LL.B Sandwich Degree Course combines three years of full time study with the award of a Diploma in Professional Practice. The Diploma requires you to undertake a paid placement in the third year of your four year sandwich programme in order to gain experience of a legal work environment, usually in a firm of solicitors. The Diploma provides a framework for acquiring enhanced knowledge and understanding of the culture, structure and organisation of a legal workplace and is very highly valued by employers. Nottingham Law School has very well-established links with law firms who provide placements for our Diploma students from year to year and who provide a work-based learning opportunity of real value. Though placement opportunities cannot be guaranteed, we have a proven track record of finding high quality placements for our students.</p> <p>The course provides you with an opportunity to study law modules which are of vital interest in the modern world. You will acquire highly valued transferable legal skills which will significantly develop and enhance your analytical, evaluative, reasoning, communication and problem-solving abilities. There is significant emphasis upon career planning and ensuring that our graduates are attractive to a wide range of potential future employers. The degree is a Qualifying Law Degree which enables you to progress to further study if you wish to become a barrister or a solicitor under the current training regulations.</p> <p>Nottingham Law School is one of the largest full service University law schools in the UK, enjoying a national and international reputation for the excellence</p>

of its modern legal education and training across a broad range of both academic and professional courses. A great many of the Law School staff are professionally qualified as either solicitors or barristers and/or are highly acclaimed legal researchers. The School has extensive links with the legal and other professions both nationally and overseas.

Key professional skills such as problem-solving, case analysis, legal advocacy (mooting), report writing, professional advice and negotiation skills are directly incorporated within core law modules ensuring that such skills are developed within a relevant context. Modules are focussed upon the application of law to real-life situations and reflect current legal issues.

In the final year there is an opportunity to undertake an alternative Applied Legal Knowledge Pathway which places emphasis on a career as a Solicitor.

The Course includes a wide range of optional law modules enabling you to further tailor your degree to your particular interests and career aspirations

The special features of the LL.B (Hons) Law Sandwich Course are:

- Providing you with the opportunity to apply for year-long placements in a legal work environment
- Providing you with the additional award of Diploma in Professional Practice
- Preparing you for the professional work environment through the incorporation of key professional skills within core modules
- Enabling you to experience mootings, involving legal research, legal reasoning and advocacy skills
- Outstanding facilities including mock courtrooms enabling you to learn in a realistic environment
- Our award winning Legal Advice Centre provides pro bono opportunities
- Facilitating your transition into professional employment
- Providing an Applied Legal Knowledge pathway with modules dedicated to the preparation for the Solicitors Qualifying Examination (Part 1) in the final year.
- Providing opportunities for you to participate in national and international mootings competitions

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Offering you the opportunity to participate in summer schools in Strasbourg, Berlin and Geneva</li><li>• Providing an introduction to Solicitor’s Qualifying Examination and Legal Advice Clinic Activities</li></ul>
<p>7. <b>Course outcomes</b> Course outcomes describe what you should know and be able to do by the end of your course if you take advantage of the opportunities for learning that we provide.</p>
<p><b>Knowledge and understanding</b> By the end of the course you should be able to:</p>
<p>(Outcomes marked <b>(B)</b> have been informed by the QAA Benchmark Statement for Law)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Demonstrate the study in depth of the fundamental substantive areas of the law of England and Wales, evidencing knowledge and understanding of theories, concepts, values, principles and rules of law within relevant institutional, social, financial, national and international contexts.</li><li>2. Recognise and apply the principles and values of law and justice, and of ethics.</li><li>3. Apply knowledge and understanding of the law to produce reasoned solutions to complex actual and hypothetical problems.</li><li>4. Direct and self-manage your own learning, reflecting critically upon your own knowledge and understanding, identifying issues to research independently and raising and answering cogent questions about law and legal systems.</li></ol>
<p><b>Skills, qualities and attributes</b> By the end of the course you should be able to:</p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Analyse relevant information and data of either a textual, numerical or statistical nature.</li><li>2. Synthesise relevant doctrinal and policy issues.</li></ol>

3. Formulate and advance a reasoned and logical argument and exercise critical judgment as to the merits of competing arguments.
4. Evaluate and analyse critically, recognising and addressing ambiguity and uncertainty in the law and presenting a reasoned choice between alternative solutions.
5. Conduct self-directed research, employing a range of appropriate methods to identify, retrieve and evaluate accurate, current and relevant information from both primary and secondary sources.
6. Reflect upon your own learning processes, making effective use of relevant feedback, including a willingness to acknowledge and correct errors and to work collaboratively.
7. Plan, prioritise and initiate your own work and projects, ensuring they are managed and completed efficiently, in accordance with relevant deadlines.
8. Communicate effectively both orally and in writing, presenting information which is relevant and understandable to others and listening and responding to oral and written stimuli.
9. Act with adaptability and flexibility, and with an understanding of, and responsiveness to, changing environments and individual circumstances.
10. Assume responsibility for your own personal and professional development, acting with academic integrity and respect for diversity in accordance with professional standards.

**8. Teaching and Learning Methods**

Each module is delivered through a series of lectures in order to enable you to develop relevant knowledge and understanding. The lectures act as a

stimulus to encourage you to undertake further independent reading and research.

You will also participate in regular seminars which are linked to the lectures. Seminars provide you with a vital opportunity to test your knowledge and understanding and to develop your skills through student focussed debate and discussion, problem-solving, reasoned application of the relevant law, and analysis, synthesis and evaluation of your own reading. Seminars require independent planning, research and reflection and facilitate the development of your communication skills. Tutor feedback provided in seminars provides a platform for your continued progress and improvement.

Your development is further supported through a range of practice assessments designed to produce both accuracy of knowledge and understanding and demonstration of relevant skills. Detailed tutor feedback on all such practice assessments enables you to target specific areas of substantive knowledge, understanding and relevant skills requiring improvement.

All students are provided with a range of e-learning activities integrated within your relevant course of study. These will focus upon both the confirmation of relevant understanding as well as on-going skills development.

As the Course progresses, you are expected to demonstrate greater independence in your planning, preparation, research and reflection and to exhibit increased learner autonomy. This is reflected in the design of the relevant seminar materials and practice assessments, and the greater focus upon project work in the final year option modules.

#### **9. Assessment Methods**

Assessments are designed to measure your achievement of the learning outcomes. Each assessment task is provided with clear assessment criteria which are consistent with the aims and outcomes of the module which are themselves consistent with the aims and outcomes of the Course. The assessment criteria will tell you what is expected from you.

Assessments are diverse and reflect the integration of skills within substantive law modules. Examples include oral presentations, case analysis exercises, research projects, group projects, reports, problem-solving

assignments, mootings, seen and unseen examinations, coursework and a mock assessment centre.

Assessment of the placement year does not count towards the final degree classification. Successful completion of the placement assessments leads to the separate award of a Diploma in Professional Practice.

#### **10. Course structure and curriculum**

The LL.B (Hons) Law Sandwich Course spans four years and combines 3 years of full-time study and a paid placement in the third year. The placement is assessed and provides you with the additional award of a Diploma in Professional Practice. The final year provides a pathway option.

You will study a combination of both compulsory and optional modules. All students study a total of 120 credits in each of the three years spent in full-time study at the Law School. One credit is equivalent to 10 hours of learning effort.

The curriculum is delivered in a progressive manner through the successive years of the Course. You will complete the compulsory Foundation modules in the first two years of the Course. The focus of the compulsory foundation modules is a mixture of substantive law and essential legal and professional skills.

Skills are integral to the Course and are introduced in a planned and structured way. The initial Law of Contract module incorporates significant emphasis upon developing the key legal skill of problem solving as well as providing an introduction to oral presentation skills in the form of mootings. Other first year modules focus upon case research skills, group presentation and team skills. Oral skills are subsequently developed into more advanced mootings skills and problem solving skills extended to address more complex multi-issue assignments and to require advanced legal reasoning. Skills of case reading and analysis require increasing levels of independent research to be conducted encompassing critical evaluation of relevant materials. Writing skills become more specialised focussing upon more specific client advice and requiring more reasoned and logical argument to be advanced.

In the first year you will study Legal and Professional Environment module as well as in the Law of Contract and Problem Solving, Law of Torts and Legal Reasoning, Public Law and Research Skills and European, International and Comparative Law and Group Presentation Skills.

For all students, the second year comprises the study of Land Law and Professional Advice, the Law of Trusts and Advanced Legal Reasoning, Criminal Law with Mooting.

On the second year of the full year pathway, you will also study Introduction Applied Legal Knowledge (either as a 20 credit point module or 40 credit point module, the latter includes work within our Legal Advice Centre which operates as a fully functioning law firm). Students wishing to undertake the 40 credit point module will need to apply by CV and personal statement in Year 1 of their degree. This module revisits foundation law subjects from Year 1, examining the practical considerations of bringing or defending a claim in contract or tort taking into consideration ethical issues and professional conduct. This module will also provide you with transferable professional skills, such as legal writing, drafting, client advice and practical legal research. In addition you will have an opportunity to engage actively with employers in real life or hypothetical situations via the Employer Challenge.\*.

Students choosing the ALK 40 credit module will take one optional module and students taking the 20 credit module will have a choice of 2 x 20 optional credit modules.

Such second year optional law modules comprise: Employment Law, Human Rights, Commercial Law and Family Law.

Skills are integral to the Course and are introduced in a planned and structured way. The initial Law of Contract module incorporates significant emphasis upon developing the key legal skill of problem solving as well as providing an introduction to oral presentation skills in the form of mooting. Other first year modules focus upon case analysis skills and group presentation skills. Oral skills are subsequently developed into more advanced mooting skills and problem solving skills extended to address more complex multi-issue assignments and to require applied legal analysis. Skills of case reading and analysis require increasing levels of independent research to be conducted encompassing critical evaluation of relevant materials. Writing skills become more specialised focussing upon more specific client advice and requiring more reasoned and logical argument to be advanced.

\*The Employer Challenge referred to above sits within the Introduction to Applied Legal Knowledge module in Year 2.

The Employer Challenge works as follows:

- Employers will set a task, an Employer Challenge, and allocate a briefing to students,
- Students will work, either in groups or individually, to produce a report on the issue in hand and their findings, and present the report to the allocating employer.
- The employer will provide the student(s) with feedback.
- Students will then produce a Critically Reflective Report on how they researched the issue in hand, their conclusions, taking account of the employer's feedback.
- The Critically Reflective Report will then be assessed either as part of the IALK module assessment or under the zero credit rated Employer Challenge module.

Year 3 is spent in a year-long legal placement.

In Year 4 you choose between the Path to Professional Practice, Law in Practice or Introduction to Applied Legal Knowledge (Legal Advice Centre) (2) modules which are designed to focus on your future career. The Path to Professional Practice module brings together a range of advanced legal skills building upon skills development in the previous years and requires students to both apply and reflect upon these during the module. The Law in Practice module allows students to undertake a law-related activity, placement or internship as part of their year of study. The Applied Legal Knowledge (Legal Advice Centre) develops knowledge and skills in relation to a career as a solicitor.

In addition to choosing one of the three compulsory modules discussed above, an extensive range of optional law modules are available in the final year of the Course where, following the study of the Foundation modules, you are best placed to determine your potential career path and select appropriate option combinations.

Alternatively, you may choose to switch to the LLB (Hons) Law and Applied Legal Knowledge pathway for your final year. If you select this pathway your final year will be dedicated to studying modules which prepare you for the Solicitors Qualifying Examination (Part 1) assessment. You will be required

to achieve a 2.1 average in your Year 1 examinations in order to be considered for this pathway.

**C** =compulsory module;; **F** =Foundation module required for a Qualifying Law Degree

The provision of any particular option is dependent upon student demand, minimum student numbers and the availability of appropriate resources.

## **LL.B (Hons) Law Sandwich**

### **Year 1**

1. Law of Contract and Problem Solving (40 credits) **C F**
2. Law of Torts and Legal Reasoning (20 Credits) **C F**
3. Legal and Professional Environment (20 Credits) **CF**
4. Public Law and Research Skills (20 Credits) **C F**
5. International, European and Comparative Law and Group Presentation Skills (20 Credits) **C F**

### **Year 2**

1. Criminal Law with Mooting (20 Credits) **C F**
2. Land Law and Professional Advice (20 Credits) **C F**
3. Law of Trusts and Advanced Legal Reasoning (20 Credits) **C F**
4. \*Introduction to Applied Legal Knowledge (20 Credits) **C** plus 2 option modules
5. \*Introduction to Applied Legal Knowledge (Legal Advice Centre), (40 credits) plus one option module

\*Students cannot undertake both the 20 credit point and 40 credit point Applied Legal Knowledge modules.

Option Modules (each 20 credits):

Commercial Law; Employment Law; Family Law; Human Rights

### **Year 3**

Placement year for the Diploma in Professional Practice

*(Students who are not successful in obtaining a placement are transferred to the final year of the LL.B (Hons) Law Full-time programme).*

### **Year 4**

1. Path to Professional Practice, Law in Practice or Applied Legal Knowledge (Legal Advice Clinic). (20 credits) **C**

2. Choice of 5 option modules from:

Commercial Law; Company Law; Comparative Law; Criminology & Criminal Justice; Critical Legal Thinking; Employment Law; Evidence; Family Law; Human Rights; Immigration and Asylum Law; Independent Research Project; International Commercial Insurance Law; Intellectual Property Law; International Competition Law; International Trade Law; Laws of Armed Conflict; Medical Law; Mooting; Public International Law; Sexuality & The Law; Sports Law; United States Law, Applied Legal Knowledge (Legal Advice Clinic); International Criminal Justice; Current Issues in International Law.

**Year 4 (L.LB (Hons) Law SW and Applied Legal Knowledge pathway**

(containing modules which prepare you for the Solicitors Qualifying Examination)

1. Criminal Law and Practice (20 credits) **C**
2. Wills and the Administration of Estates and Trusts (20 credits) **C**
3. Commercial and Corporate Law and Practice (20 credits) **C**
4. Property Law and Practice (20 credits) **C**
5. Dispute Resolution in Contract or Tort (20 credits) **C**
6. Principles of Professional Conduct, Public and Administrative Law, and the Legal Systems of England and Wales (20 credits) **C**

The number of students that can undertake the Applied Legal Knowledge Pathway is restricted. Further information can be found in the Course Handbook

**11. Admission to the Course**  
**Entry requirements.**

For current information regarding all entry requirements for this course, please see the 'Applying' tab on the NTU course information web page.

**12. Support for Learning**

All students participate in an induction programme designed to facilitate initial orientation, an introduction to the Course and first year module aims

and intended outcomes, familiarisation with relevant sources of both academic and pastoral support and awareness of University support services.

Students receive comprehensive module packs in electronic format detailing relevant staff contacts, syllabus and assessment details, teaching and learning methods, recommended reading, lecture outlines and seminar instructions.

All students receive on-going face to face feedback from academic tutors during the course of their studies. Academic and pastoral support is provided by designated personal tutors and by the Course Leader. Both pastoral welfare and academic performance is monitored and reviewed by the personal tutor through the maintenance of an individual student e-progress file. Students are encouraged to review and reflect upon their progress and to determine academic and vocational objectives. Wherever possible the allocated personal tutor is an academic tutor who also teaches the student.

Personal tutors also monitor student attendance and are pro-active in ascertaining reasons for absence. Students in the Law School also have access to a full-time Pastoral Support Advisor providing support exclusively to law students.

All law students have access to a dedicated Law School 'Survive and Thrive Toolkit' and 'How to' delivered via a NOW learning room. This contains a range of resources and activities to support student transition into higher education as well as help and advice in developing key academic skills and in getting the most out of the University experience. The Student Mentor Scheme further supports the development of such key academic skills through drop-in sessions and relevant student-led workshops.

### **13. Graduate destinations / employability**

Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) figures consistently show that students in the Law School are highly successful in obtaining employment or continuing with further study.

Our Employability Team can support you at all stages of your career planning with specialist careers consultants available to offer advice on planning your career, improving your CV, completing applications and performing at interviews. This course includes an opportunity to apply to take a work placement in the third year.

**14. Course standards and quality**

An Interim Course Report is submitted annually to the Course Committee comprising both academic staff and student representatives. The Report provides a summary of the on-going monitoring and review of both module and Course feedback from students together with external examiner reports, module leader reports and admission and progression statistics in order to identify and promote good practice and to inform relevant action points.

There is on-going consultation with students regarding module and course developments through relevant course committees and staff/student liaison meetings. Student feedback is obtained through questionnaires.

External examiners (distinguished academics from other universities) are regularly consulted regarding intended course developments and full feedback is provided to them in respect of the responses made to any recommendations contained in their annual reports.

The Interim Course Report is submitted for consideration and approval by the School Academic Standards and Quality Committee of the Law School and is used to inform relevant School strategy and policy.

The Nottingham Law School operates a comprehensive audit trail procedure in order to ensure appropriate approval of both new and amended modules. In particular, such procedure ensures that all module developments remain consistent with the aims and learning outcomes of the Course and with all related strategies and policies.

**15. Assessment regulations**

The Course is subject to the Nottingham Trent University's Common Assessment Regulations as set out in its Academic Standards and Quality Handbook. Any course specific assessment features are described below:

The Course has adopted conventions regarding the exercise of the Examination Board's discretion in respect of both module compensation and final degree classification. These are disseminated to all enrolled students at the start of each academic year.

Application of the University's Common Assessment Regulations is also informed by guidance provided by the Solicitors Regulation Authority for the time being and the Bar Standards Board regarding qualifying law degree status.

A student will not be allowed to enter (FHEQ level 6) of the Course when modules from Level 1 are still outstanding.

16. **Additional Information**

Collaborative partner(s):	None
Course referenced to national QAA Benchmark Statements:	Law
Course recognised by:	Solicitors Regulation Authority and Bar Standards Board
Date implemented:	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2018
Any additional information:	Updated Oct 2018