

## Nottingham Trent University Course Specification

### LL.B (Honours) Law Senior Status

<b>Basic Course Information</b>		
1.	Awarding Institution:	Nottingham Trent University
2.	School/Campus:	Nottingham Law School (City Campus)
3.	Final Award:	Graduate LL.B (Honours)
	Course Title:	LL.B (Honours) Law Senior Status
	Modes of Study:	Full-time
4.	Normal Duration:	Full-time 2 years
5.	UCAS Code:	[ M201 ]

6.	<b>Overview and general educational aims of the course</b>
	<p>This course enables you to study the foundation subjects for a Qualifying Law Degree (QLD) which are a requirement for a career as a Barrister and currently for a career as a Solicitor under the current training regulations.</p> <p>The Graduate LL.B (Hons) Senior Status course is open to students who have already obtained an undergraduate or bachelor's degree, typically in a non-law discipline. The degree is particularly designed for international students who wish to obtain a Qualifying LL.B (Hons) Law Degree in order to assist in their professional qualification as lawyers in an overseas jurisdiction. (Applicants wishing to become lawyers outside of England and Wales should consult the appropriate country's legal statutory body to confirm relevant requirements). The degree is also attractive to UK graduates who wish to study for a law degree in greater depth than is offered by a Graduate Diploma in Law or the Common Professional Examination.</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 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 the School has extensive links with the legal and other professions both nationally and overseas.</p> <p>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 range of potential future employers.</p> <p>Key professional skills such as problem-solving, case analysis, mooting, report writing, research skills and professional advice 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.</p>

During the course you will complete each of the Foundation modules as required by the Solicitors Regulation Authority and the Bar Standards Board and select a subject from four optional law modules.

The Graduate LL.B (Hons) Law Senior Status Course has a number of unique opportunities providing:

- A Qualifying Law Degree within a two year course of study.
- Preparing you for the professional work environment through the incorporation of key professional skills within core modules
- An opportunity to participate in the activities of the award winning Legal Advice Centre.
- Outstanding Nottingham Law School facilities including mock courtrooms enabling you to learn in a realistic environment
- Enabling you to experience mooting, involving legal research, legal reasoning and advocacy skills, as well as providing opportunities for you to participate in national mooting competitions
- Offering you the opportunity to participate in summer schools in Strasbourg, Berlin and Geneva.

We have an enviable graduate recruitment record. Our students are highly successful in gaining employment or in continuing with further studies. The transferable legal skills which you will acquire on the course are very highly regarded and our graduates are sought by both legal employers and employers in finance, industry, commerce and the public sector.

The aims of the Graduate LL.B (Honours) Law Senior Status course are:

- To provide a qualifying law degree which enables you to become professional and employable, meeting the needs of a wide range of potential future employers both within and outside of the legal profession
- To provide an environment which enables you:
  - to acquire high level knowledge and understanding of the law and its function and application in the modern world

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>o to acquire highly valued transferable legal skills which will significantly develop and enhance your analytical, evaluative, reasoning, communication and problem-solving abilities</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>(By the end level 6 and the end of the course students should be able to:</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>
<p>(By the end level 6 and the end of the course students should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>5. Analyse relevant information and data of either a textual, numerical or statistical nature</li><li>6. Synthesise relevant doctrinal and policy issues.</li><li>7. Formulate and advance a reasoned and logical argument and exercise critical judgment as to the merits of competing arguments.</li><li>8. Evaluate and analyse critically, recognising and addressing ambiguity and uncertainty in the law and presenting a reasoned choice between alternative solutions.</li><li>9. 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.</li></ol>

10. Reflect upon your own learning processes, making effective use of relevant feedback, including a willingness to acknowledge and correct errors and to work collaboratively
11. Plan, prioritise and initiate your own work and projects, ensuring they are managed and completed efficiently, in accordance with relevant deadlines.
12. 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.
13. Act with adaptability and flexibility, and with an understanding of, and responsiveness to, changing environments and individual circumstances.
14. Assume responsibility for your own personal and professional development, acting with academic integrity and respect for diversity in accordance with professional standards.

8. **Skills, qualities and attributes**

By the end of the course you should be able to:

Each taught 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.

	<p>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 relevant seminar materials and practice assessments.</p>
<b>9.</b>	<b>Assessment Methods</b>
	<p>Assessments are designed to measure your achievement of the learning outcomes. Assessment tasks are provided with relevant 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 tell you what is expected from you.</p> <p>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 and both seen and unseen examinations.</p> <p>End of module assessments are combined with formative and summative in course assessments which are managed to ensure an effective distribution of the relevant workload and avoid undue interference with key teaching and learning periods.</p> <p>Assessments reflect a developmental approach to the acquisition of skills through the Course. Multi-issue problem assignments follow single issue assessment tasks and independent research work is based upon experience gained in report writing and mini-project work.</p> <p>Opportunities to practice assessments in order to receive and reflect upon relevant tutor feedback are provided through seminars and staged formative and diagnostic assessments.</p> <p>The final degree classification is based 100% upon marks achieved in the final year of study. Students are not normally permitted to progress to the second and final year study trailing more than 20 credit points.</p>
<b>10.</b>	<b>Course structure and curriculum</b>
	<p>The Graduate LL.B (Hons) Law Senior Status degree is a standard two year course of study.</p> <p>You will study a total of 11 modules including one optional module. Each year of the course is comprised of a total of 120 credits. One credit is equivalent to 10 hours of learning effort.</p> <p>The compulsory modules include the Foundation modules required by the Solicitors Regulation Authority and Bar Standards Board in order to achieve Qualifying Law Degree status and Introduction to Applied Legal Knowledge which places emphasis on law in context.</p>

The curriculum is delivered in a progressive manner through the two years of the course. In your first year you will focus on the provision of essential legal skills in Legal and Professional Environment and the core foundation modules; Law of Contract and Problem Solving, the Law of Torts and Legal Reasoning, Public Law and Research Skills and International, European and Comparative Law and Group Presentation Skills. The second year completes the foundation modules comprising of Land Law and Professional Advice, the Law of Trusts and Advanced Legal Reasoning and Criminal Law with Mooting. You will also study Introduction to Applied Legal Knowledge. This module provides an introduction to Civil Litigation and the rules of professional conduct and professional ethics.

All final year students are encouraged to focus upon their future career intentions and as part of this are required to choose to undertake either Path to Professional Practice, or Law in Practice. As part of that focus you will undertake the Employer Challenge as part of the Introduction to Applied Legal Knowledge module. The Employer Challenge gives you the opportunity to engage with employers in hypothetical situations set by the Employer.

In addition to modules mentioned above you will select one option module from Commercial Law, Employment Law, Family Law and Public International Law or the Independent Research Project. Such option modules represent a range of potential career pathways, providing opportunities to developing your commercial awareness in Commercial Law, a business perspective in employment law, an international perspective in Public International Law and a private client focus in Family Law.

Skills are integral to the course and are introduced in the Legal and Professional Environment. All foundation law modules place emphasis on legal skills. The 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, report writing, research and team skills. In the final year, modules continue to address problem solving skills and are extended to address more complex multi-issue assessments which 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. Professional skills are visited in both the Introduction to Applied Legal Knowledge and core modules.

\*The Employer Challenge referred to above, sits within the Introduction to Applied Legal Knowledge module in Level 6.

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.

Both core and optional law modules have a standard 20 credit point module value other than Law of Contract and Problem Solving module which incorporates significant key skills and so has a 40 credit point module value.

(C =Compulsory module;; F =Foundation module required for a Qualifying Law Degree; O = Optional module)

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

#### **Year 1 (NTU Level 2/Level 5 NQF)**

- Law of Contract and Problem Solving **C F**
- Law of Torts and Legal Reasoning **C F**
- Legal and Professional Environment **CF**
- Public Law and Research Skills **C F**
- International, European and Comparative Law and Group Presentation Skills **C F**

#### **Year 2 (NTU Level 3/Level 6 NQF)**

- Criminal Law with Mooting **C F**
- Land Law and Professional Advice **C F**
- Law of Trusts and Advanced Legal Reasoning **C F**
- Introduction to Applied Legal Knowledge **C**
- \*Path to Professional Practice or Law in Practice
- Choice of 1 option module from:  
Commercial Law; Employment Law; Family Law; Public International Law;  
Independent Research Project

### **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 and Nottingham Law School support services.

Students receive comprehensive teaching and learning materials 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 and Deputy Course Leaders. Both pastoral welfare and academic performance is monitored and reviewed by the personal tutor. 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.

In addition to individual contact with and support from their personal tutor, students also attend regular group tutorials with their personal tutor.

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' delivered via a NOW learning room. This contains a range of resources and activities to support student transition to legal study as well as help and advice in further developing key academic skills and in getting the most out of the Nottingham Law School experience. Further learning support is provided by the NLS How To learning room which provides module specific support as well as advice on how to answer legal problem scenarios and exam questions.

All first year students are provided with both UK and European legal information resources training through online self-study materials delivered via NOW. This is accompanied by a compulsory online self-assessment exercise in respect of which students receive online feedback on their assessment performance.

In addition to the on campus library and learning resources centre and accompanying IT resource rooms, all students have on and off campus access to comprehensive

electronic legal information resources including law reports, full text journal articles, databases and online textbooks.

All students are provided with a range of e-learning materials and activities delivered via dedicated virtual learning rooms in NOW. These are integrated within relevant substantive law modules and focus upon both the confirmation of relevant understanding as well as on-going skills development.

Students are provided with opportunities to undertake practice assessments and to receive feedback in order to improve future performance. Comprehensive feedback is given on all assessed work.

The Nottingham Trent University provides a range of student services including Financial Support Services, Counselling, Disability Support, International Student Support, Mature Student Support, Progression Support, Chaplains and Religious/Cultural Advisers and access to affiliated health centres. Further details can be found via the University website.

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

Higher Education Statistics Agency figures consistently show that students in the Law School are highly successful in obtaining employment or continuing with further study. The HESA Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education Institutions survey for 2011 confirmed that, of those responding, some 91% of graduates from the LL.B (Hons) Law Full-time Course were employed and/or undertaking further study approximately six months after graduation.

All law students have access to a dedicated Law School 'Events and Careers' learning room in NOW which contains advice on career planning, cvs and covering letters, online career resources, key application date information, slides from employer presentations and NLS career guides to legal and non-legal careers. Students are invited to both employer presentations and to workshops delivered by graduate recruitment specialists on interview skills and assessment days.

Following successful completion of the LL.B with honours (2.1 or higher) you will be guaranteed a place on our very successful Legal Practice Course for intending solicitors. Alternatively, when you graduate, there is the opportunity for you to apply for entry to our very highly regarded Bar Professional Training Course for intending barristers or to pursue further postgraduate academic legal study on one of our range of LL.M Masters programmes. This Qualifying LL.B (Hons) Law Degree may also be of assistance to international students seeking professional qualification as lawyers in an overseas jurisdiction. (Applicants wishing to become lawyers outside of England and

Wales should consult the appropriate country's legal statutory body to confirm relevant requirements).

The transferable legal skills which you will acquire on a Nottingham Law School LL.B course are very highly regarded and graduates are sought by both legal employers and employers in finance, industry, commerce and the public sector.

The Nottingham Trent University's Careers Development Centre is available to all students and offers a comprehensive range of careers advice and relevant resources. Dedicated Careers Advisors are available for each year of the Course.

#### **14. Course standards and quality**

An Interim Course Report (ICR) 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 online questionnaires. External examiners 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 ICR is submitted for consideration and approval by the School Academic Standards and Quality Committee and is used to inform Law School strategy and policy.

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

All summative assessments are reviewed and approved in accordance with the quality assurance processes of the Law School prior to approval by relevant external examiners.

The Course is accredited by both the Solicitors Regulation Authority and the Bar Standards Board as a Qualifying Law Degree allowing progression to further professional training.

<p>The Course learning outcomes have been produced with reference to the Quality Assurance Agency Subject Benchmark Statement for Law. Individual module learning outcomes are in turn mapped against the Course learning outcomes. The Course learning outcomes are also mapped against the requirements of the Solicitors Regulation Authority and the Bar Standards Board.</p>											
<p>15.</p>	<p><b>Assessment regulations</b></p> <p>The course is subject to the Nottingham Trent University's Common Assessment Regulations (located in its <a href="#">Academic Standards and Quality Handbook</a>). Any course specific assessment features are described below:</p> <p>Nottingham Law School 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.</p> <p>Application of the University's Common Assessment Regulations is also informed by guidance provided by the Solicitors Regulation Authority and the Bar Standards Board regarding qualifying law degree status.</p>										
<p>16.</p>	<p><b>Additional Information</b></p> <table><tr><td>Collaborative partner(s):</td><td>None</td></tr><tr><td>Course referenced to national QAA Benchmark Statements:</td><td>Law</td></tr><tr><td>Course recognised by:</td><td>Solicitors Regulation Authority and Bar Standards Board</td></tr><tr><td>Date implemented:</td><td>1<sup>st</sup> September 2018</td></tr><tr><td>Any additional information:</td><td></td></tr></table>	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:	
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Any additional information:											
<p>The Graduate LL.B (Honours) Law Senior Status Course structure has been designed in conjunction with the following related LL.B (Hons) awards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• LL.B (Honours) Law Full-time</li><li>• LL.B (Honours) Law Sandwich</li></ul>											