

The City Law School, City University London (formerly Inns of Court School of Law)

Legal Practice Course (LPC) profile September 2013

Please note: the information contained in this institutional profile is supplied by The City Law School; it is not endorsed by the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA).

General information

The City Law School (CLS) is the first university law school in London to offer courses for students and practitioners at every stage of legal education. City University London has a reputation for excellence in professional education and has close contacts with the professional institutions, business and industry. Building on its preeminent role in training barristers, the Legal Practice Course (LPC) was first offered in September 2000 and is a forward-looking course, with a strong base in skills, and legal research. The course is taught on our Gray's Inn Campus, in the heart of legal London.

The LPC at CLS is designed to equip students with the necessary knowledge and skills for professional life, whether they are destined for a high street or City firm. We focus on a professional attitude, and concentrate on developing the skills needed to identify and meet the client's needs.

Studying the LPC is about much more than just going to classes. Successful applicants know that experience, practice and well developed skills make you stand out from the crowd. At CLS we understand that it's the extras that really help to realise your potential. Our team delivers expert teaching, mentoring and guidance in a friendly and supportive environment.

All of our modules are taught at Masters level. If you complete both stages of the LPC with us, you can go on to gain an LLM in Legal Practice by completing a practice-focussed dissertation following your LPC.

Through the Training Contract Advisory Service, staff provide specialist advice on applications, CVs and offer mock interviews. We have a proven track record of helping students secure training contracts. LPC students also can use the City University Careers Service.

We offer a wide range of Pro Bono opportunities including:

- Our own dedicated legal advice clinics;
- The City University Student Union Advice Clinic;
- The City University Street Law Programme;
- The London Innocence Project, who have premises at CLS;
- Free Representation Unit;
- National Centre for Domestic Violence;
- Links to Blackfriars Settlement Advice Clinic;
- Willesden County Court (possession day hearings);and
- The South African Ubuntu Internship Programme, a self funded internship in South Africa (based at the Western Cape University) to which we send two students a year.

We also offer a wide range of extra-curricular activities designed to complement the knowledge and skills you gain on the course:

- The Commercial Awareness Lecture Series, delivered by our sister school, Cass Business School, providing real insight into the latest commercial thinking and practice;
- The opportunity to represent the School in external events such as the Worshipful Company of Arbitrators Mediation Competition, the Fresh Minds commercial negotiation competition and an annual Client Interviewing Competition;
- An annual mooting competition which allows students from all of our courses to compete against each other; and
- Social events with fellow students, staff and legal professionals that offer excellent networking opportunities.

As part of City University London, CLS also offers you the full range of services which you would expect from a University such as:

- A Students' Union with numerous societies and social events;
- Accommodation, including dedicated Postgraduate Halls of Residence;
- Health care and counselling;
- Sports & Leisure facilities;
- International Student Support and Advice; and
- Extensive library facilities, including two dedicated Law Libraries.

Course fee £12,500 (2013/14) including all manuals and remote IT access
There is a separate fee for those students wishing to undertake the LLM in Legal Practice

Validated places Full time – 176

Course length 38 weeks (Stage 1: 24 weeks including Foundation course; Stage 2: 14 weeks) This includes teaching, assessments and study periods.

Foundation course Full time – two weeks (September)

Electives offered Advanced Civil Litigation; Commercial Law; Commercial Dispute Resolution; Employment Law and Practice; Equity Finance; Family Law and Practice; Media Law; Mergers, Acquisitions and Takeovers; Private Client.

Delivery methods and class size

Taught in Gray's Inn, one of the key features of the course is the face-to-face teaching students receive in small groups. Delivery is by a mixture of workshops, skills sessions and interactive large group sessions to the whole cohort in a state-of-the-art lecture theatre. Students have access to terminals in the lecture theatre which help them to participate in the sessions. Over two thirds of sessions, all of which last 1.5 hours, are workshops or skills sessions. The workshops are generally in groups of 16 whilst the skills sessions are limited to 8 students. A great deal of individual attention is given to students in their classes. This is supplemented by a strong and proactive personal tutor system.

The course is taught on 4 days a week with Wednesdays kept clear of teaching. During Stage 1, timetables are blocked so that students can choose either to have all of their classes in the mornings or all in the afternoon.

Staffing 9 dedicated teaching staff (2013/2014). All staff have strong and relevant experience of practice.

One full-time dedicated LPC Manager plus support from the Registry.

Disabled access Good; all buildings have step free access and lifts.

Catering There is a student common room with tea/coffee making facilities. There are many sandwich shops, cafes, bars and restaurants in the immediate vicinity. There is drinking water available within the dedicated LPC suite.

Contact details

For further information, please contact the provider direct:

Website www.city.ac.uk/cls

Contact Sean Carrigan, Admissions Officer

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