

Law @ UK unis - quick facts

Top 20*

1 Cambridge	A*AA	11 Strathclyde	AAB
2 UCL	A*AA	12 Nottingham	AAA
3 Glasgow	AAA	13 Lancaster	AAB
4 Oxford	AAA	14 Bristol	A*AA/A*A*B
5 Durham	A*AA	15 Exeter	AAA
6 LSE	A*AA	16 Leeds	AAA
7 Edinburgh	A*AA	17 Manchester	AAA
8 KCL	A*AA	18 Kent	AAA
9 Aberdeen	ABB	19 Glasgow Cal.**	BBB
10 Dundee	ABB	20 Sheffield	AAA

* Complete University Guide April 2020

** Glasgow Caledonian University

Must haves

Universities do not usually specify any particular subjects at A Level/Pre U. However, humanities and essay-based subjects are favoured – classical civilisation, history, ancient history, English, philosophy, religious studies, Greek, Latin and modern foreign languages. Social sciences like economics, politics and geography are also useful. Universities will require you to sit the LNAT.

Other degrees to consider

Classics, ancient history, history, English, philosophy, politics or modern languages or combine one of these in a joint honours degree with law. Or consider a liberal arts degree.

Example course modules

A law degree combines the academic study of legal theory with its practical application to real life scenarios. In a typical law degree, you might study criminal, public and company law as well as issues around property, human rights and the environment. Modules might include legal systems & method; race, media & crime; EU law; the law of torts; contract law; medical law & ethics; and introduction to jurisprudence; tax law; criminal law and criminal justice.

Contact hours per week: Between 9 and 16, average 12. (Average all subjects 14.)

Career prospects

If you qualify as a solicitor you might work in a high street legal practice or a top UK law firm, covering criminal, family, probate and business law. If you become a barrister you'll probably be self-employed and will be a tenant in a set of chambers; or you could seek work with the Crown Prosecution Service. The particular skills and knowledge you gain from a law degree will obviously equip you for a career as a barrister or solicitor, but are also useful across a wide range of sectors where communication, coherent thinking and research and analysis are important. These include accountancy, banking & finance, public service, management consultancy.

Average starting salary: £18,000