Law School
Get a stand-out education with us

Be unique
At the University of Bristol Law School, we believe every student is unique—with distinct strengths and ambitions. We offer diverse undergraduate modules, a rich and innovative portfolio of LLMs and numerous opportunities to explore within or beyond law.

With a strong reputation for excellence, our heritage is complemented by a fresh outlook and cutting-edge research. Our academics and alumni are leaders in their fields. And, like our students, they come from diverse backgrounds around the globe to create a dynamic community of thinkers and doers who will support and guide you in your educational journey.

Here you will become part of a vibrant, creative city that makes change happen. You will embrace a global perspective that broadens minds and horizons. And, you will have stand-out opportunities to develop the skills employers are looking for. Here, you will gain all you need to make a difference.

“We believe you can make a difference. That’s why we’re a top 10 UK Law School*”

“If you want to come somewhere where the quality of teaching is brilliant, and taught by passionate and enthusiastic lecturers who are internationally acclaimed in their field, this is the place to come.”

Hannah Ahmed, law undergraduate

“I’ve always wanted to make a difference. I like helping people and problem solving with others. Here, there are real opportunities to connect the relationships that you build in the community with the legal knowledge you’ve gained in the School. It really does make an impact.”

Mariya Kolomiyets, Law Clinic student

* 2017 Complete University Guide (7th) and Sunday Times Good University Guide (8th)
An inspirational city

The University of Bristol Law School has a long and rich heritage as being one of the best in the UK. Studying in the iconic Wills Memorial Building students have access to the very latest in legal thinking and expertise and, on graduating, are highly sought after by many prestigious employers.

Attracting talent from all over the world, the Law School contributes to the thriving multicultural environment of the city, with many students embracing the opportunities to put their study into practice by providing free legal advice to some of the most vulnerable people in the community.

The perfect size, Bristol offers the excitement of a big city packed into an area easily explored on foot or by bike. It is also less than two hours from London by train and a top regional destination for law firms outside the capital, giving students unique access to some of the leading legal minds.

“I like what Bristol does with careers. It is very strong. Through Bristol I’ve had the opportunity to interact with all the big firms, like Slaughter and May, Linklaters and Freshfields.”

Daisy Fulton, law undergraduate

“The most inspiring city in the UK* – and the number one regional city for law firms**

* Most Inspiring City in the UK (TravelBird 2017)
** Number One Regional City for Law Firms (CBRE 2016 Law in the Regions report)
With an enviable reputation for excellence, our teaching means students are proactively targeted by employers from a variety of sectors.

Teaching excellence

Dedicated staff, a vibrant and involved alumni network and award-winning student societies, means we are able to deliver a robust and innovative curriculum that enables students to build skills as well as knowledge.

In recent years, we have embedded the ability to gain pro-bono experience into our curriculum – and into the community – giving third year undergraduates the opportunity to participate in the Law Clinic as part of their formal degree programme.

We are also very fortunate to have an inspirational alumni network. Dedicated to nurturing the talent of each generation of law students, they provide careers advice and mentoring schemes, sponsor networking events, judge mooting competitions, deliver guest lectures and much more.

Combined with our energetic and award-winning student societies, which work closely with leading law firms, solicitors, members of the bar, local community groups and other legal networks, you will get access to the very best careers advice and support.

“With an intense focus on employability, the University of Bristol Law School has the leading-edge amongst UK universities. If you have it on your CV, doors will open.”

Dan Schaffer (LLB 1986, LLD 2016)
Partner, Slaughter and May

Mooting is a specialised form of legal debating that helps students combine their academic studies with a taste of what it is like to be a real lawyer. Supported by top-flight alumni they learn the skills to argue cases, often in front of a real judge.
Celebrating diversity
Our home undergraduate intake for 2016/17, reflects our drive to recruit a diverse student body.

International and inclusive

We are dedicated to attracting the best talent from around the world – and to growing our vibrant international alumni network so that students have the contacts they need to develop their careers, and access the relevant sectors, when they return to their home country after completing their study.

We also provide a diverse array of student mobility opportunities with a study-abroad programme that currently helps us place students with universities in France, Germany, Spain, Singapore, Hong Kong, Japan, Australia and Colombia.

And we are committed to increasing recruitment of high-potential students from the local community. Our outreach work aims to raise their aspirations and attainment by providing them with an insight into what studying at a top university would be like – and the confidence to apply.

“...making friends from all over the world. You can really take these networks back home with you and develop them over the years.”

Praween Chantanakomes (LLM 2015)
Associate at Baker McKenzie, Thailand

Our student societies are also ‘the most committed in the UK to improving diversity’. *

* LawCareers.Net Student Law Society Awards 2017
The interdisciplinary influences of law open up career opportunities in finance, politics, health, international development, journalism and more.

Alternative careers with a law degree
From having the most alumni reaching partner status within Magic and Silver Circle law firms after Oxbridge* – to academics leading the way in the global implementation of human rights – our community provides a unique package of support, whatever your career choice.

With a rich calendar of career-focused activities and a strong collaboration between the School, our alumni, student organisations and community partners, you will graduate fully equipped to fulfil your career aspirations with many opportunities to experience all areas of law.

At the Law School, you may have the opportunity to secure an internship, a pupillage or a law firm mentorship; take part in student-led networking events with sector leaders; or be involved in initiatives such as the Bristol Law Clinic, the Pro Bono Society and the Human Rights Law Clinic – putting your learning into practice and building skills, empathy and more to deepen your experience here.

Whether you are preparing for a career in or out of the law, our unique community will support you in developing the skills and attributes employers seek. With an ability to think critically, evaluate evidence, and marshal sound, rationally-grounded arguments, you will graduate as enquiring individuals with a rich appreciation of law in both business and society.

“I have a law degree from Bristol University gives you options. I decided to pursue an alternative career in law, working in the corporate governance and compliance field of an energy company, a sector that I first gained an interest in as a student.”

Marcia Owusu-Mfum (LLB 2015)

The interdisciplinary influences of law open up career opportunities in finance, politics, health, international development, journalism and more.

The Wills Memorial Building is at the heart of the University of Bristol and is home to a £3.1 million refurbished library, the historic Great Hall and great study spaces, such as the Old Council Chamber.

Always striving to provide a learning environment that blends tradition with innovation, the Law School has recently extended its facilities to include 8-10 Berkeley Square.

Another fantastic refurbishment, that has secured a world-leading sustainability assessment from BREEAM, the building is a symbol of our commitment to student employability with a research hub for PhD students, a state-of-the-art moot court, space for members of the Human Rights Implementation Centre and home to the Bristol Law Clinic.
It can be difficult being away from your home, family and friends, but at Bristol, you are not on your own. We are here to help, committed to the personal and professional development of our students, with small group teaching and a personal tutor system to support you throughout.

Your personal tutors will help you build confidence and develop resilience in relation to the ups and downs of study. You will also have a senior tutor and a dedicated advisor who can provide advice on how to manage your wellbeing, deal with the stress that is almost inevitable – and put you in touch with the right service within or outside of the university if you need additional support.

To remove some of the financial burdens for students, we also have a hardship fund and a number of bursaries and scholarships to help prevent money worries affecting your wellbeing, your study – and your ability to make the most of your time here.

Financial support
Eileen Drummond and Sheila Anderson (EDSA) Legacy Scholarship – provides £9k to cover first year tuition fees for first year LLB students from lower income backgrounds.

Denise Coates Foundation Bursary – a £2,000 bursary to support LLB students from low income backgrounds in their first year of study.

Hardship Fund – small grants from £250 available for any student experiencing unexpected financial hardship.

Support

Being at University can be exciting but there may be times when you struggle with the demands of studying or life in general.

“I am honoured that I have been selected to receive this award. It means the world to me. This award has truly motivated me to strive to achieve the best possible degree.”

Adam James Tovey, law undergraduate and EDSA scholar
Undergraduate courses

The University of Bristol Law School is a centre for an intellectually demanding, research-informed legal education. We combine teaching and research excellence to deliver a challenging and rigorous curriculum that will provide you with excellent legal, analytical and reasoning skills – and empower you to pursue both legal and non-legal career options.

Is law for me?
Law crosses a number of academic disciplines, as well as being at the heart of some of the most interesting questions of what it means to live as human beings in society. It suits a wide range of students – particularly those able to assimilate information rapidly, think logically and contextually and who have a desire to understand why society is ordered as it is and how we might bring about progressive social change.

Courses
The Law School offers a range of accredited law degrees, taught with a combination of mandatory and specialised optional units. Our LLBs are all qualifying law degrees which means they are accredited and recognised by the Bar Standards Board, and the Solicitors Regulation Authority.

LLB
Our LLB programme is a three-year qualifying law degree. In the final year all students produce a 5,000-word project on a topic of their choice. The core and optional units reflect the wide variety of approaches to legal research adopted by the scholars in the Law School. We also offer the LLB with French, German or Spanish, which includes language, linguistics, literature and history components and a year of study abroad.

Course Structure
Year 1:
• Introduction to Law
• Law of Contract
• Law of Tort
• Law and State
• Constitutional Rights
• Criminal Law

Year 2:
• Jurisprudence
• Land Law
• Law and Policy of the European Union I
• Three optional units

Year 3:
• Final Year Research Project
• Trusts
• Four optional units

LNAT
All applicants must sit the National Admissions Test for Law (LNAT).

For more information
Visit bristol.ac.uk/law/study/ugdegrees
See back cover for full contact details.

A note on SQE
From 2020 the route to qualification will change, with the introduction of the Solicitors Qualification Exam (SQE). This will not affect students starting university up to, and including, the 2019/20 intake. More information is available at sra.org.uk.

With 89% of undergraduates awarded a 2:1 or higher in 2017 our students are set to make a difference.

“You have a lot of optional units you can choose. I chose medical law and criminology which brought in aspects of ethics and sociology - even psychology. You have the freedom to explore what you think you might like.”
Annabelle Allen (LLB 2015), trainee solicitor, Hogan Lovells

Student featured in photo is not the student quoted
Postgraduate courses

Studying at postgraduate level means an opportunity to further develop your legal knowledge and skills and explore specialist areas in depth, equipping you for a successful career in the legal profession, in academia and beyond.

We offer a diverse range of full-time and part-time postgraduate courses with an MA (which is also a qualifying law degree), more than 10 LLM programmes, an MSc in Socio-Legal Studies and a number of PhD research themes.

LLM
This programme is an intense one-year course that enables you to study law at an advanced level, providing you with the building blocks you need to explore at a deeper level the subjects you are most interested in or - with our General Legal Studies LLM – develop a broader general knowledge of law.

Specialist areas
• Commercial Law
• European Legal Studies
• General Legal Studies
• Health Law and Society
• Human Rights Law
• International Commercial Law
• International Law
• International Law and International Relations
• Labour Law and Corporate Governance
• Law and Globalisation
• Public Law

MA
Our MA enables you to study for a qualifying law degree in 21 months rather than the standard three years. This fast track, full-time Masters offers non-law graduates a more in-depth study of the core areas of legal knowledge and skills than a traditional one-year conversion programme. Bristol’s MA in Law is recognised as a qualifying law degree for practice in England and Wales and widely valued professionally internationally. It is also available as a part-time option over four years.

MSc in Socio-Legal Studies
This Masters programme provides an opportunity to investigate the way that the law works in society for students of any discipline wishing to develop a career in the socio-legal field. Our experts deliver an interdisciplinary approach to law providing solid research training through the study of different methodologies across the social sciences and the law.

For more information
Visit bristol.ac.uk/law/study/postgrad
See back cover for full contact details.

Research

Legal research spans the social sciences and humanities. As a postgraduate research student you will investigate the law’s possibilities; its provisions, implementation and practices – engaging with a wide range of approaches to legal research and exploring the impact of law on virtually all aspects of life.

The diversity of the projects our PhD students are working on reflect the specialisms of our academic staff – and ensure a robust support system is in place. This is further enhanced by the University’s drive to build capacity in world-leading research through growth of PhD student numbers and the further development of the Bristol Doctoral College as a comprehensive resource for them.

The University is striving to augment research capacity in areas of established excellence and strategic importance through the launch of the Vice-Chancellor’s Fellowship Scheme. For more information visit bristol.ac.uk/jobs/vc-fellowships.

We are a top five Law School for research intensity*

*I 2014 Research Excellence Framework
Contact us

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Tel: +44 (0)117 953 5849
Email: law-pg-admissions@bristol.ac.uk

**Book an open day**
bristol.ac.uk/opendays/
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