

Law School

Careers and
Employability

Nurturing talent

“University of Bristol is the
3rd most targeted University
by top UK employers”

High Fliers Research, 2017



Welcome

We attract the very best talent from all walks of life, from all over the world.

We work hard to nurture that talent, and will support you to be the very best you can be. The activities developed and supported by our careers and employability team will help deepen your knowledge, enrich your experience and fast-track your development.

As a student at the University of Bristol, you already have high aspirations and the drive to pursue them. This guide is here to help you on your way. You may be set upon a career path in law or you may be uncertain and want to learn more about employment opportunities beyond the legal profession. You may want to expand your range of work experience or learn more about what kinds of skills and competencies will increase your chances of securing your dream job. You may want to meet people who have trodden the same path upon which you are now embarking and learn from them how to make the most of the opportunities afforded to you whilst studying here.

Whatever your job aspirations, whatever your dreams for the future, we are here to provide a guiding hand. It is never too soon to start thinking about your career and we encourage you to discuss your ambitions and the path towards them with your personal tutor from the outset of your time here. Don't forget, university is a space for growing, personally, professionally and intellectually. Make time for fun, for friendship, and for the sheer joy of learning, and look forward confidently to a future career and personal fulfilment.

Professor Joanne Conaghan
Professor of Law and Head of School



Meet the team



Dr Clair Gammage
Director of Employability
c.gammage@bristol.ac.uk

Clair is a Lecturer in Law at the University of Bristol and the School's Director of Employability. Her role is to co-ordinate all careers and employability activities, including the Professional Mentoring Scheme, build relationships with employers, and identify gaps in our provision. In response to student feedback, Clair and the Careers Service have introduced a series of events to support students who want to pursue alternative career paths using their law degree. Clair works closely alongside the School's student-led societies to ensure that all students are catered for in terms of employability prospects.



Rosa Grainger
Student Activities Officer
Rosa.grainger@bristol.ac.uk

Rosa has been with the Law School for over a year now and is based in the Marketing team. Rosa will be on hand to field queries relating to employability events, the activities of the student societies, the Distinguished Alumni Lecture Series and the Professional Mentoring Scheme.



Dr Cian Murphy
Director of Mooting
Cian.murphy@bristol.ac.uk

Dr Cian Murphy joined Bristol Law School in 2016. He oversees mooting at the School, with selection of inter varsity teams and supervision of their training a key part of this role. Dr Murphy is keen to hear from students with novel ideas to develop mooting and advocacy and build practical skills for all of our students.



Ellen Grace
Faculty Employability Consultant
Ellen.grace@bristol.ac.uk

Ellen was recently appointed as the new Faculty Employability Consultant and brings experience from working with the Faculty of Engineering amongst other areas. Ellen is based in the Careers Service and works in partnership with colleagues in the Law School to develop tailored activities to enhance students' employability.

Who do I contact?

Law School events: Rosa Grainger
Professional Mentoring Scheme: Rosa Grainger
CVs and application writing: Ellen Grace
Student organised events: See pages 16-17 for president details

All information regarding Careers and Employability will be available through the '[Law Careers and Employability](#)' page on Blackboard. We also send you a [weekly employability bulletin](#) outlining forthcoming opportunities, conferences and skills sessions.





“At the Law School, students are supported by alumni at the top of their fields; senior judges, top QCs and more. We have the most alumni reaching partner status within Magic and Silver circle law firms after Oxbridge* – and many more excelling in careers outside of the law. Our graduates are changing the world. You can join them.”

*Laurence Simmons, 2016

Careers Service

The Careers Service is here to inspire and support you to get to where you want to be when you graduate. Bristol is the number one UK regional city for law firms so you will also benefit from the strong relationships we have built with leading employers.

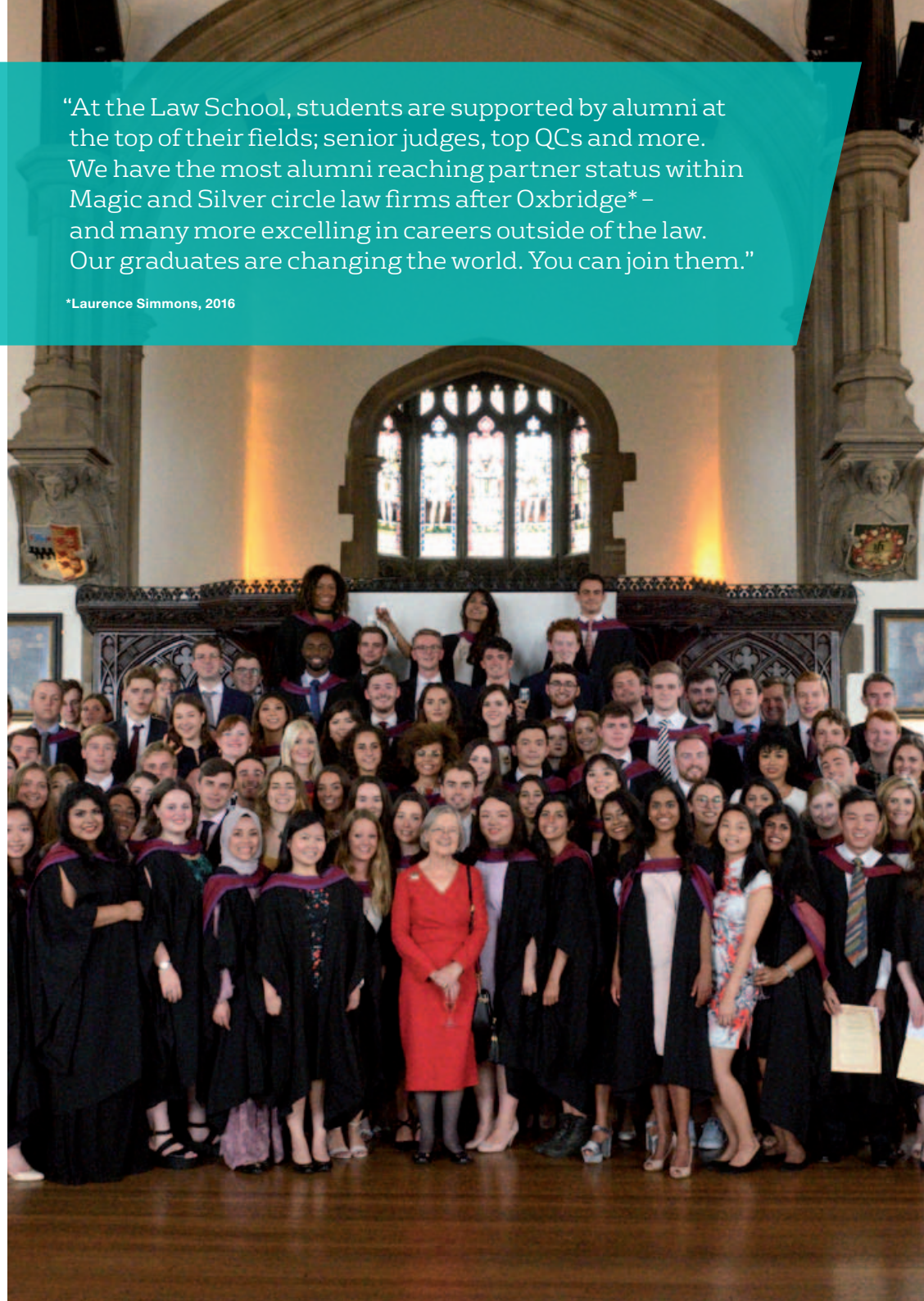
Throughout the year the Careers Service organises a varied programme of events, including talks and interactive workshops, covering everything from CVs to networking. Students are encouraged to visit the Careers Service and to familiarise themselves with the events, activities and support available on the Careers Service website at bristol.ac.uk/careers.

A large number of employers (inside and outside of the legal sector) visit the University to attend careers fairs and host company presentations.

These events can be a great way to find out what different organisations do and the types of graduate roles that exist. Details of events can be found at bristol.ac.uk/careers/events.

Keep an eye on the Law School Careers and Employability Blackboard page, the Employability Bulletin and ‘mycareer’ for more information. If you have any questions please email Ellen Grace at ellen.grace@bristol.ac.uk.

For a summary of 2017/18 events see page 18.



Building your network

The Law School is proud to work with an inspirational network of alumni who actively engage in many areas across the School. By studying here, you will gain access to expert insights and valuable careers advice to help you make the right choices for you.

Professional Mentoring Scheme

Many of our alumni are very successful in a broad range of legal and non-legal careers and an excellent source of guidance and inspiration for students. The Professional Mentoring Scheme is offered to some of our highest-achieving first-year LLB and MA students and enables students to participate in a day of mentoring at either a Commercial Law firm, based in London or Bristol, or a Chambers. Our students are mentored by a Bristol alumnus or alumna in some of the country's top legal organisations.

More details can be found at: bristol.ac.uk/law/study/careers-and-employability/law-school-professional-mentoring-scheme

Distinguished Alumni Lecture Series

Our distinguished Alumni Lecturers include many leaders in the fields of law in practice and business, the judiciary and Parliament. The lectures enhance the student learning experience and promote the excellence of the School through the success of former students.

More details on the programme can be found at: bristol.ac.uk/law/study/alumni



"The Professional Mentoring Scheme has been an extremely beneficial experience. It enabled me to expand my professional network and has influenced my decisions on which law firms I will apply to for Training Contracts. My time spent at the firm's London office working alongside my mentor provided me with invaluable work experience and first-hand knowledge that I intend to utilise in future interviews."

Patricia Owino, 2016/17



Professional Liaison Network

The Professional Liaison Network (PLN) is a new team working across the Faculty of Social Sciences and Law. It aims to develop external links to benefit Faculty students, enabling engagement with companies and organisations that are relevant to the subject you are studying.

The range of organisations the PLN works with is broad, allowing a focus on the areas that law and social sciences are utilised in the workplace. Last year the PLN held an alumni and student networking event which many law students attended to meet with alumni from across the faculty.

Engagement with such alumni can enrich your learning, encouraging you to reflect more deeply on academic disciplines and gain an understanding of how they are used and transformed in the workplace to have an impact in the wider world.

Close collaboration between the PLN, the Law School and the Careers Service means many opportunities for you to develop skills and contacts and consider what your future might hold. This, in turn, makes it possible to engage with, and road test, alternative futures with a law degree.



Look out for the new PLN student email newsletter. It will include details of activities such as the 'Inside track' lecture series, which aims to broaden your understanding of different careers and sectors.

Please contact us if you have any ideas about which professional liaison activities would be most valuable to you –
bristol.ac.uk/fssl/professional-liaison-network
email: fssl-pln@bristol.ac.uk

A personal service

A wealth of support is also offered through your personal tutor whom you will have regular meetings with to discuss many areas including your career planning and aspirations.

Nurturing talent

The Law School works very closely with the Careers Service throughout the academic year to offer a wide range of events to promote careers within and outside of the law – and expose you to a variety of employers.

Expanding your professional network allows you to make informed decisions about your career.

This year we will be providing an array of skills sessions as part of our 'alternatives careers series' with themed weeks planned during the Autumn term to coincide with the central Careers Service recruitment fairs.

The themes are:

- Investment Banking and Consulting week
- Government and Policy week
- Technology and Innovation week
- Public Sector week
- Law month
- Pro Bono week
- Civil Society and Third Sector week

At these events you will be given advice on becoming a solicitor or a Barrister – and on how to get involved in other areas of law, such as family and medical law. There will be an emphasis on providing transferrable skills, with additional skills sessions that explore alternative careers. And you will be able to network with employers such as Police NOW, KPMG and Civil Service Fast Stream to allow you explore where else your Law degree can take you.

For more information, see pages 18 and 19.



Practising law

To help you prepare for careers both in and out of law, there are many opportunities to develop the skills employers are looking for. Able to think critically, you will graduate an enquiring individual with a rich appreciation of law in business and society.

Negotiation (UBLC)

Negotiation skills are crucial for the highly competitive recruitment process of leading law firms. You will need them to negotiate at interviews, open days and during vacation schemes. Developing negotiation skills will help in all aspects of your life and can be honed in our annual Law Club organised negotiation competition.

Mediation (Law Clinic)

Mediation is the involvement of an impartial third party to support those involved in a conflict to find a resolution. Mediation skills are often used by students working for our Law Clinic where they are encouraged to enter mediation competitions and continue to develop them.

Debating (UBLC)

The year of debating at Bristol starts with the annual Hunt Cup Competition, named after the Lord Hunt of Wirral. This is another fantastic competition offered by the UBLC to students who can debate on a wide array of contentious topics, not limited to law but also questioning many wider societal issues.

Mooting (UBLC and Bar Society)

Mooting is a specialised form of legal debating. Our programme helps students combine their academic studies with a taste of what it is like to be a real lawyer, arguing cases for 'clients' through mock moots, often with real judges, within the university and in national competitions.

Commercial awareness

Commercial awareness is essential if you want to pursue a commercial legal career in the City. To build commercial awareness, students work with leading law firms to gain an understanding of how macroeconomic stories and trends in the news affect law firms and their clients.

Non-commercial law career paths

Find out more about non-commercial law career paths during our themed weeks (see pages 18 and 19) and by accessing information on the Careers and Employability Blackboard page.

Further details on the advocacy activities taking place within the School and intervarsity competitions can be found by visiting the new Advocacy pages on the Law School website.



Pro Bono work experience

The core curriculum is richly supported by opportunities to participate in pro-bono work, or secure an internship, pupillage or mentor. Initiatives such as the Bristol Law Clinic and the Pro Bono Society will help build skills, empathy and much more to deepen your learning experience.

The Law Clinic

With cuts to legal aid, the Law Clinic is a much-needed service, providing you with the chance to gain solid experience of law in practice by offering free legal advice and support to members of the public under the supervision of Law School Staff.

Sign up for the Law Clinic commences in the first two weeks of term – check the website for more details and how to apply, at bristol.ac.uk/law/law-clinic.

Human Rights Law Clinic

The Human Rights Law Clinic allows you to play a practical role in the drive to make social justice a reality for all. Integrated into the work of the Human Rights Implementation Centre you acquire knowledge and experience in international human rights law and practice.

Applications to be involved in the clinic will be open early in term one. For more details, see bristol.ac.uk/law/careers-and-employability/human-rights-law-clinic.

Pro Bono Society

Members are provided with opportunities to promote access to justice across the country. These include placements in law centres, teaching children about sexual consent and becoming legal volunteers with charities across Bristol. PBS also works to promote the importance of Pro Bono work in legal careers, with Pro Bono specialists visiting and hosting talks. For further information on getting involved, see facebook.com/uobprobosoc.



We believe every student is unique, with different strengths and different ambitions.

Diversity

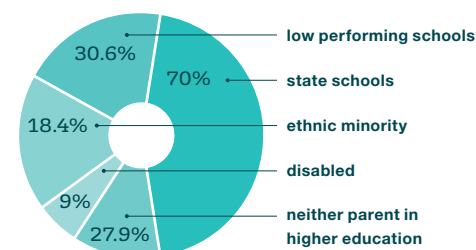
We offer diverse undergraduate modules, a rich portfolio of LLMs and numerous opportunities to explore alternative careers with a law degree. Our academics are leaders in their fields and, like our students, come from diverse backgrounds from around the globe.

International and inclusive

One in three students are international, with 20 countries and every continent represented creating an extremely exciting community that celebrates differences and all that can be gained from it. Our two main societies, the UBLC and Bar Society both won the prestigious 'Most committed to increasing diversity' award at the LCNCareers.net awards last year.

Widening participation

Our recruitment stats from the 2016/17 domestic intake reflect our diverse student body:



Providing support

The School is committed to providing a number of ways for students to access further support with initiatives such as;

- the **Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS)** helping all first-year students with their studies
- the **International Internship Scholar Scheme**, assisting overseas students with gaining merit for work experience undertaken in the spring or summer vacation periods.

For more information, see: bristol.ac.uk/law/careers-and-employability/work-experience/international-internship-scholar-scheme.

Student societies

Supported by the Law School, our student societies are award winning and will help you prepare for the world of legal practice, seeing you work alongside peers to hone your legal skills outside of the classroom.



The University of Bristol Law Club

President: Kenny Glass

(kg16102.2016@my.bristol.ac.uk)

The University of Bristol Law Club is one of the UK's largest law societies comprising of 1500 members, many of whom are non-law students. It is an official society of the Law School, providing an array of extracurricular activities, such as mooting, debating and negotiation to students from a variety of degree disciplines including law, science and engineering. Offering tailored careers guidance, networking and various student competitions, they enhance the law school's academic programme. The UBLC has received a number of awards including 'Best Law Society in the UK' and 'Most committed to increasing diversity'. To find out how to join, see ublc.co.uk.



The University of Bristol Bar Society

President: Isobel Kamber

(isobel.kamber@my.bristol.ac.uk)

The University of Bristol Bar Society has for the last three years been awarded the 'Best Bar Society for aspiring Barristers' in the UK by LawCareers. Net. Being the best Bar Society in the country has ensured the Bar Society attract top chambers and QC's to work with them, including last year's patron, Tunde Okewale MBE, top QC and founder of Legal Cheek. Offering weekly networking evenings, talks from practising Barristers, dinners and student competitions ensure their members can make an informed choice on whether they wish to practise as a Solicitor or Barrister. Their commitment to promoting that there is 'No Bar to the Bar', was proudly recognised when they were awarded 'Most committed to increasing diversity' jointly with the UBLC last year. To find out how to join, see bristolbarsociety.co.uk.



The University of Bristol Pro Bono Society

President: Maddie Nugent

(mn15829@my.bristol.ac.uk)

Members are provided with opportunities to promote access to justice across the country. These include placements in law centres, teaching children about sexual consent and becoming legal volunteers with charities across Bristol. PBS also works to promote the importance of Pro Bono work in legal careers, with Pro Bono specialists visiting and hosting talks. The PBS also works alongside the Avon and Bristol Law Centre to fundraise for a different matter each year. In 2017-2018, the focus is on raising money for a solicitor to represent judicial review cases of refugee children whose age is disputed by the state. Events for this include coffee services in revision season, open mic nights and evening socials. To find out how to join, see facebook.com/uobprobonosoc.

A wide range of societies

There are many law-related societies within the University endorsed by the Students' Union including the new Medical Law Society and Women and Law Society. Keep an eye on the Students' Union website for more details.

Getting involved means opportunities for work experience, mooting and debating, visits to chambers and courts, networking events, law and non-law careers advice and more.

Events

Postgraduate specific events

This year we will be working closely with the Careers Service and employers to showcase some postgraduate specific events such as:

- Support with finding a job back home
- Where Next: Confused about your future career?
- Finding the Right Job For You
- Finding an Internship
- Becoming an Entrepreneur
- Mock interviews and CV support



Themed Weeks

2-6 October: Investment Banking & Consulting week

Find out about the world of work in the investment banking and consulting sector, network with employers such as Barclays and discover the skills you require to make a success in this industry.

9-13 October: Government & Policy week

Coinciding with the Autumn Careers Fair, we will be hosting talks from a parliamentary drafts person*, Police NOW* and you will gain access to a wide variety of employers from many sectors.

16-20 October: Technology & Innovation week

Technology and Law are at the cutting edge of research, making it an incredibly exciting field to work in. There will be a variety of events taking place including a session from a legal expert in company start-ups and entrepreneurship.

23-27 October: Public Sector week

During Public Sector Week, sessions from the Civil Service Fast Stream plus a teaching panel event will take place to highlight career paths in those areas.

30 October – 1 December: Law month

Our Law Fair takes place from 31st Oct to 1st Nov and will host up to 80 firms and Chambers for you to network with. This is an excellent opportunity to find out more about firms you may be interested in working with. We will also be hosting the successful two-part Herbert Smith Freehills Employability workshops as well as skills sessions on becoming a solicitor and Barrister.

6-10 November: National Pro Bono week and Internship and Work Experience week

The Law Clinic will be hosting an information event to showcase their work and will be inviting speakers such as the Mayor of Bristol.

Spring Term: Civil Society & Third Sector week

During the Spring term, we will be promoting events relating to working in the third sector and civil society roles. Look out for events for this week in the weekly employability bulletin.

Skills sessions

Make the most of the Law Fair

Find out how to prepare for attending the Law Careers Fair and how to maximise this opportunity, so that you make the right impression with the many firms attending the Law Fair.

Law Fair – 31st Oct – 1st Nov 2017

This year 80 leading international and national law firms will be in attendance including, sets of chambers and professional legal education providers. Come and explore the many different types of organisation keen to recruit you!

Interview/Assessment Workshops

HSF will be providing hands on interview and assessment advice with their graduate recruitment team. Gain insights into best practice and assessment centre tips!

What next after your Law Degree?

Explore the main career options open to you after a Law degree. Identify the skills that employers value.

Working as a Solicitor

Identify the skills required to become a Solicitor and get an insight into the reality of working as a Solicitor

Training Contracts and Vacation Schemes – Perfecting your Application

Find out what law firms are looking for, so that your application makes the right impression.

Applications for aspiring Barristers

Gain an insight into what Chambers wish to see from your application for mini-pupillages and pupillages and how you can best present this in your application.

Application drop-in for all years

Drop in for advice on your CV, application technique and general careers advice.

Join us on LinkedIn





Signing up to our Law School LinkedIn alumni group ensures you are well connected when you graduate.

Over 1,400 alumni are already signed up, providing the perfect opportunity to get networking and give yourself a head start with your career.

Join at...

University of Bristol Law School alumni
[linkedin.com/groups/3004218](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/3004218)

Stay connected

-  University of Bristol Law School
-  @bristolunilaw
-  @bristolunilaw
-  University of Bristol Law School alumni

bristol.ac.uk/law