



LEEDS
BECKETT
UNIVERSITY

Course Specification PG Dip Legal Practice

Course Code: LEGAL

2026/27

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PG Dip Legal Practice Course (LEGAL)

Applicant Facing Course Specification for 2026/27 Entrants

Confirmed at October 2025

General Information

Award	Postgraduate Diploma Legal Practice
Contained awards	Postgraduate Certificate Law
Awarding body	Leeds Beckett University
Level of qualification and credits	Level 7 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, with 140 credit points at Level 7 of the Higher Education Credit Framework for England
Course lengths and standard timescales	<p>Start dates will be notified to students via their offer letter. The length and mode of delivery of the course is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 12 months (full time)• 24 months (part time)
Part time study	<p>PT delivery is usually at half the intensity of the FT equivalent course, although there may be flexibility to increase your pace of study to shorten the overall course duration. Some modules may be delivered in a different sequence from that defined within this information set but the modules offered within each level are consistent. Please note that a work placement option is not generally available to PT students.</p>
Location(s) of delivery	Distance learning
Entry requirements	<p>Admissions criteria are confirmed in your offer letter. Details of how the University recognises prior learning and supports credit transfer are located here: www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning</p> <p>Admissions enquiries may be directed to: AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk.</p> <p>Admission requirements for the course are that each applicant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• have completed the academic stage of training required by the Solicitors Regulation Authority; and• satisfy the criteria for admission in accordance with the policies of the University and published admissions policy of the course. <p>Leeds Law School's criteria for selection to the LPC are:</p>

- the applicant's academic record, for graduates, normally a minimum honours degree at 2:2 classification or above;
- the applicant's suitability for the course and commitment to the idea of qualifying as a solicitor.

Applications to the full time LPC are made through the agency of the Law Central Applications Board (Law CABs) and in accordance with its procedures. Applications to the part time LPC are made directly to the University.

Course fees

Course fees are confirmed in your offer letter. A breakdown of any additional costs is included on the online prospectus entry for this course.

Fees enquiries may be directed to Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk.

Policies, Standards and Regulations

www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/our-university/public-information/academic-regulations

The assessment regulations for this course have been approved by the Solicitors Regulation Authority and those regulations derogate in some areas from the University's regulations. In the event of there being a conflict between the University's academic regulations and the requirements of the Solicitors Regulation Authority, the Solicitors Regulation Authority's regulations take precedence (currently in regards to the award regulations, the number of attempts at assessment, awards, mitigation procedures, academic offences).

The course has a regulatory exemption in relation to the credit required for a Postgraduate Diploma.

Full details of course regulations can be found in the PG Dip Legal Practice course handbook.

Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course

Professional body

Solicitors Regulation Authority.

Accreditation/recognition summary

The Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) sets the standards for qualifying as a solicitor in England and Wales. This PG Dip Legal Practice comprises the Legal Practice Course (the LPC) (140 credits). The LPC is part of the vocational stage of training for those who wish to qualify as solicitors in England and Wales and must be undertaken after the academic stage of training (a Qualifying Law Degree or Graduate Diploma in Law).

A new qualification route, the Solicitors Qualifying Examination (SQE) route, was introduced on 1 September 2021. There is a period of transition during which the current route to qualification, including the LPC, remains. Student eligibility to follow the LPC route is subject to the provisions of the SRA, and all applicants are responsible for ensuring they satisfy the SRA requirements for study and qualification via the LPC route - www.sra.org.uk/become-solicitor/legal-practice-course-route/transitional-arrangements.

The SRA's preferred route to qualification in the UK is the SQE route. Even if applicants fall within the transitional arrangements, and are eligible to take the LPC route, the number of training contracts available after the LPC is decreasing yearly, and some firms now require trainees to undertake SQE 1 and/or 2, even where the LPC is completed.

The LPC can be studied full time or part time with an authorised LPC provider. Leeds Beckett University is an authorised provider, and this PG Dip Legal Practice is recognised by the SRA. The aim of the LPC is to prepare students for work-based learning and to provide a general foundation of practice. The LPC comprises two stages: Stage 1 comprises the core practice areas and skills; Stage 2 includes three vocational electives. The vocational stage of training also includes completion of a period of recognised training with an authorised training provider as well as completion of the Professionals Skills Course with an authorised education provider.

Timetable

Timetables for Semester 1 will be made available to students during induction week via:

- i) The Student Portal (MyBeckett)
- ii) The Leeds Beckett app

Any difficulties relating to timetabled sessions may be discussed with your Course Administrator.

Key Contacts

Your course leaders

Emma Henderson: E.L.Henderson@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Ian Doerfler: I.Doerfler@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Your course director

Rebecca Oglethorpe: R.K.Oglethorpe@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Your course administrator

Academic Services Team: LPC@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Course Overview

Aims

The aims of the programme are to:

- meet the Legal Practice Course Outcomes set by the Solicitors Regulation Authority;
- prepare students for work-based learning;
- provide a general foundation for practice in the solicitors' profession;
- enable students to understand and explore concepts of professionalism and the demands of professional practice; and
- give students the opportunity to undertake a piece of research.

On completion of the course, students should be able to commence or continue a period of work-based training with the necessary underpinning skills and knowledge which can then be enhanced and consolidated throughout the period of training and on into general practice.

Course learning outcomes

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

1	Demonstrate and apply research skills appropriately in the context of complex law and legal practice
2	Critically analyse the client's needs and/or objectives, advise the client on the means of achieving those objectives and evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the choices available

3	Apply intellectual transferable legal skills as a means of achieving the client's objectives in a range of complex client transactions
4	Demonstrate a deep understanding of the rules of professional conduct with reference to their impact and the capability to apply them in the relevant context
5	Demonstrate critical knowledge and the ability to apply skills specified in the Solicitors Regulation Authority's Legal Practice Course Outcomes, including the ability to integrate and synthesise knowledge and skills in the relevant areas of practice
6	Demonstrate the qualities of the reflective practitioner through ongoing critical evaluation of their learning
7	Demonstrate a critical, ethical, and reflective approach to the responsibilities of a legal professional, and its relation to making complex professional judgements in practice

Teaching and Learning Activities

Summary

Teaching on this distance learning PG Dip Legal Practice is by way of workshops of three hours duration, delivered live online.

Prior to and during workshops, and in reflecting upon and consolidating their learning, students will be required to:

- develop their analytical skills;
- learn and develop practical skills; and
- understand the issues of professionalism that exist in relation to realistic client scenarios and simulated practice sessions.

Each workshop is supported by written course materials and online learning resources which can be accessed remotely via the University's virtual learning environment (MyBeckett).

No large group sessions will be delivered on the Legal Practice Course. Podcasts may be used to cover more complicated areas of law and issues.

The course (both full time and part time modes) will commence with an induction session, which will emphasise to the students the professional nature of the course and how the course prepares them for work-based learning and for practice.

Students will be provided with a course calendar and their timetable at the start of the course.

Your modules

This information is correct for students progressing through the programme within standard timescales. Option modules listed are indicative of a typical year. There may be some variance in the availability of option modules. Students who are required to undertake repeat study may be taught alternate modules which meet the overall course learning outcomes. Details of module delivery will be provided in your timetable.

The PG Dip Legal Practice may be studied one year full time or over two years part time. The Solicitors Regulation Authority prescribes the content of the LPC component in two stages which may be delivered as a combined programme. The requirements for each stage are as follows:

Level 7

At Level 7 students study a number of core modules that address Stage 1 and three optional modules that comprise Stage 2 of the LPC.

Stage 1 (Core)

Module title	Credits	Stage
Business Law and Practice (BLP) (15 credits) (CPA)	15	1
Litigation – Civil and Criminal (30 credits) (CPA)	30	1
Property Law and Practice (PLP) (15 credits) (CPA)	15	1
Professional Conduct and Regulation (5 credits)	5	1
Solicitors Accounts (5 credits)	5	1
Wills and Administration of Estates (10 credits)	10	1
Taxation (5 credits)	5	1
Skills (each worth 5 credits) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advocacy• Drafting• Interviewing and Advising• Practical Legal Research• Writing	25	1
Number of credits of compulsory modules	110	

Stage 2 (Electives)

Module title	Credits	Stage
Commercial Law and Practice	10	2
Commercial Dispute Resolution	10	2
Employment Law and Practice	10	2
Family Law and Practice	10	2
Personal Injury	10	2
Private Acquisitions	10	2
Number of credits of elective modules	30	

The range of vocational electives provides students with a choice of contentious and non-contentious practice areas which all complement and build on the concepts studied in the core practice areas.

In relation to the part time LPC, stages 1 and 2 are combined so that at the conclusion of the two-year period of study students will have demonstrated the learning outcomes for both stages.

Assessment and Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities

The assessment balance and overall workload associated with this course are calculated from core modules and typical option module choices undertaken by students on the course. They have been reviewed and confirmed as representative by the Course Director, but applicants should note that the specific option choices students make may influence both assessment and workload balance.

A standard 20-credit module equates to 200 notional learning hours, which may be comprised of teaching, learning and assessment, any embedded placement activities and independent study. Modules may have more than one component of assessment.

Assessment

On this course students will be assessed by a varied diet of assessments which are matched to the learning outcomes and are primarily transactional in nature. Those deployed are designed to be rigorous, realistic and test the ability to analyse and apply knowledge. They include open book examinations, practical skills assessments, multiple choice testing and written assignments.

Workload

Overall Workload	Level 4
Teaching, learning and assessment	252 hours
Independent study	1148 hours
Placement	0 hours