



LEEDS
BECKETT
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Course Specification

PG Dip Professional Legal Practice

Course Code: PDPLP

2026/27

leedsbeckett.ac.uk

PG Dip Professional Legal Practice (PDPLP)

Applicant Facing Course Specification for 2026/27 Entrants

Confirmed at October 2025

General Information

Award	Postgraduate Diploma Professional Legal Practice
Contained awards	Postgraduate Certificate Professional Legal Practice
Awarding body	Leeds Beckett University
Level of qualification and credits	Level 7 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, with 120 credit points at Level 7 of the Higher Education Credit Framework for England
Course lengths and standard timescales	Start dates will be notified to students via their offer letter. The length and mode of delivery of the course is 12 months (full time, campus based)
Location(s) of delivery	The majority of teaching will be at City campus but on occasion may be at Headingley campus
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: https://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>LLB Law with Honours normal minimum honours degree at 2:1 classification or above, or equivalent, such as Postgraduate Diploma in Law / CPE, which demonstrates strong academic performance</p>
Course fees	<p>Course fees are confirmed in your offer letter. A breakdown of any additional costs is included on the online prospectus entry for this course.</p> <p>Fees enquiries may be directed to Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk</p>

Policies, Standards and Regulations

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

Standard regulations apply to this course.

Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course

Professional body

N/A

Accreditation/recognition summary

N/A

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 director

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

Your course administrator

lpc@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Course Overview

Aims

This PG Diploma engages students in pursuing and acquiring a dynamic and practical understanding of the application of legal principles in readiness for working in legal practice, or for those already working in legal practice to further develop and consolidate their legal knowledge, legal skills and research capabilities. A key aim of this course is to support aspiring solicitors to prepare for working in legal practice and to undertake the externally set SQE1 (Solicitors Qualifying Examination), for which there is a separate fee payable to the SRA (Solicitors Regulation Authority). Those wishing to qualify as a solicitor in England and Wales must pass SQE1 and SQE2 and complete a period of qualifying work experience (QWE). The SRA regulates the qualification of solicitors and full details can be found on the [SRA website](#). For the avoidance of doubt, Leeds Beckett does not award the SQE1 (or SQE2) as part of this, or any other, programme – the SQE comprises externally set assessments overseen by the SRA.

The curriculum and structure of the course has been designed to develop academic, practical, digital and employability skills. Students will participate in a range of learning activities and assessment tasks over the course of their studies. At each stage they will be supported to become independent learners in the discipline of professional legal practice and have the opportunity to develop the skills, knowledge and competencies required for ultimate qualification as a solicitor. In doing so, the PG Dip prepares students for work-based learning, it allows them to understand and explore concepts of professionalism and the demands of professional practice. Students who successfully complete the PG Dip will have a range of skills and attributes on graduation as a solid foundation upon which to build their professional legal career.

Course learning outcomes

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

1	Analyse and synthesise concepts in order to devise realistic and coherent strategic solutions to legal problems, conflicts and tensions in law
2	Evaluate how the rule of law applies within legal, social, economic, commercial, political, historical, ethical and/or cultural contexts
3	Combine, integrate and synthesise knowledge and skills in areas of legal practice, and have a deep understanding of the rules of professional conduct
4	Demonstrate a critical, ethical, and reflective approach to the responsibilities of a legal professional, and its relation to making complex professional judgements in practice
5	Synthesise knowledge, skills and attributes in the context of employability and/or study including communication skills and the effective use of legal terminology
6	Demonstrate self-direction and autonomy in planning and managing study and research tasks with limited guidance and with an ability to identify and utilise relevant resources effectively

Teaching and Learning Activities

Summary

The student cohort for PG Dip Professional Legal Practice will typically be diverse - students studying Law at Leeds Law School come from a wide range of backgrounds. As level 7 students, support is provided during the course to develop the students' capacity to be sophisticated, independent, critical thinkers, able to apply their knowledge with originality within advanced academic and professional contexts.

Learning and teaching activities may include recorded material, lectures, and seminars. Learning tasks and assessments are aligned to the SRA's approach to assessment under SQE1 (single best answer multiple choice questions). In addition, module materials provide a framework for experiential and practice-based learning. Seminar preparation and activities are designed to challenge students, requiring them to adapt to different situations, employ different skills and perform similar tasks to those they might be required to do in the workplace. Students are encouraged to reflect on tasks and be more mindful of what they are doing and why, and of how the skills they are learning might be used in different situations to practically apply knowledge and theory to a legal working environment and the conduct of realistic practice-based transactions.

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.

Level 7

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Criminal Law and Practice	15	2
Dispute resolution	15	2
Business Law and Practice (inc taxation)	15	1
Legal Services, Ethics and Professional Conduct	10	1- and 2
Property Law Practice (inc taxation)	15	1
Solicitors Accounts	5	2
Wills and Administration of Estates (inc taxation)	10	1
Introduction to SQE2	5	1 and 2
Number of credits of compulsory modules	90	

Option modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Commercial Law and Practice	15	1
Employment Law and Practice	15	2
Family Law and Practice	15	1
Private Acquisitions	15	2
Number of credits of option modules a student should choose	30	

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

Level 7

The course is assessed by a combination of written legal skills assignments, oral legal skills assessments and examinations consisting of short answer questions and/or MCQs (multiple choice questions).

Workload

Overall Workload	Level 7
Teaching, learning and assessment	217 hours
Independent study	983 hours