

# PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

## 1. Key Information

<b>Programme Title:</b>	LLB (Hons) Law LLB (Hons) Law with Foundation Year LLB (Hons) Law (Top-up)
<b>Awarding Institution:</b>	Buckinghamshire New University
<b>Teaching Institution(s):</b>	Buckinghamshire New University
<b>Subject Cluster:</b>	Law
<b>Award Title (including separate Pathway Award Titles where offered):</b>	LLB (Hons) Law
<b>Pathways (if applicable)</b>	Law
<b>FHEQ level of final award:</b>	6
<b>Other award titles available (exit qualifications):</b>	Certificate of Higher Education Legal Studies Diploma of Higher Education Legal Studies LLB Law (Ordinary degree)
<b>Accreditation details:</b>	Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) Bar Standards Board (BSB)
<b>Length of programme:</b>	3 Years – Full Time 4 Years – Full Time with Foundation year 1 Year – Full Time Top-up
<b>Mode(s) of Study:</b>	Full Time
<b>Mode of Delivery:</b>	In person (on-site) delivery
<b>Language of study:</b>	English
<b>QAA Subject Benchmark(s):</b>	Law (2019)
<b>Other external reference points (e.g. Apprenticeship Standard):</b>	
<b>Course Code(s):</b>	BLHLAWFT – 3 Years Full Time BLHLAWFY – 4 Years Full Time with Foundation Year BLHLAWTU – 1 Year Full Time Top-Up
<b>UCAS Code(s):</b>	M100 (Full Time) M10F (Foundation Year)
<b>Approval date:</b>	December 2022
<b>Date of last update:</b>	January 2025 / July 2025

## 2. Programme Summary

Do you want to be at the centre of law and order, governance, and justice? Take the first steps towards a legal based career with our LLB (Hons) Law degree. Whether it's holding

people to account or protecting the innocent, our course will provide you with a strong foundation of legal knowledge and an understanding of how the law operates.

This programme is perfect for those who want to gain a deep understanding of the law and develop essential skills for legal practice, advocacy, and research. It's designed to boost your employability, whether you aim for a career in law or other fields.

#### **Programme Highlights:**

- **Duration:** 3 years full-time or 4 years if you complete the foundation year programme
- **Focus:** Contemporary legal issues, innovative teaching, and professional skills
- **Recognition:** Qualifying Law Degree (QLD) by the Solicitors Regulation Board (SRA) and the Bar Standards Board (BSB)

#### **What You'll Learn:**

- Comprehensive legal knowledge
- Broader social, economic, and political contexts of law
- Blend of professional and academic elements
- Transferable and applied skills

#### **Career Prospects:**

- Exemption from Graduate Diploma in Law for the Legal Practice Course or the Bar Professional Training Course
- Opportunities in legal practice, law enforcement, regulatory and compliance, policy making, and more

**Top-Up Option:** If you have already completed a Foundation Degree or other Level 5 Law award and have 240 credits or equivalent, you can complete this programme in one academic year by taking final year modules to earn your full undergraduate degree. Note: The top-up is not recognised by the SRA or BSB as a qualifying law degree.

### **3. Programme Aims and Learning Outcomes**

#### **Programme Aims**

This programme aims to:

1. Provide students with an understanding of the complexities of legal concepts, rules and principles and an understanding of the values of justice and rule of law to the foundations of society
2. Equip students with the skills, competencies and knowledge to enable them to commence graduate careers in law and in other related disciplines such as government service, criminal justice system, law enforcement, etc.
3. Produce graduates with the knowledge of professional and ethical approaches to the application of law in society
4. Provide students with the knowledge, abilities and qualities that are relevant to various disciplines and careers such as criminal justice, education, public policy, in the UK and internationally

- Equip students with the skills to conduct self-directed research, including accurate identification of legal issue(s) which require researching, retrieval and evaluation of accurate, current and relevant information from a range of appropriate sources

## Programme Learning Outcomes

### Knowledge and Understanding (K)

On successful completion of the programme, you will be able to:

ID	Learning Outcome
K1	Demonstrate in-depth knowledge of the substantive and procedural areas of law, including the key principles and values of a range of legal areas extending beyond the core.
K2	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of theories, concepts, values, principles and rules of public and private laws within an institutional, social, national and global context.
K3	Demonstrate an understanding of social, commercial and political contexts within which the law operates.
K4	Demonstrate intellectual independence, including in the ability to ask and answer cogent questions about law and legal systems.
K5	Explain the principal features of the English and European legal systems including demonstrating familiarity of their institutions and procedures.

### Analysis and Criticality (C)

On successful completion of the programme, you will be able to:

ID	Learning Outcome
C1	Apply the law to situations and arguments to produce tenable conclusions regarding possible outcomes of such situations.
C2	Identify and engage with doctrinal and policy considerations in relation to legal topic, issues and scenarios.
C3	Interrogate a range of arguments to produce a critical analysis of laws, policies and regulations.
C4	Identify gaps in diverse legal scenarios and engage in critical analysis and evaluation of such legal scenarios issues and situations.
C5	Apply reasoned choice between alternative solutions and critical judgement to addressing various legal issues.

### Application and Practice (P)

On successful completion of the programme, you will be able to:

ID	Learning Outcome
P1	Identify the legal issues arising from particular real or factual legal situations.
P2	Apply an understanding of legal principles, rules, doctrine, skills and values to varying legal related situations.

<b>P3</b>	Apply knowledge and understanding to offer evidenced conclusions for addressing complex legal problems over a vast range of legal areas.
<b>P4</b>	Identify contemporary debates and present a reasoned choice between alternative solutions for solving legal problems.
<b>P5</b>	Demonstrate an ability to work with a range of data, including textual and statistical in addressing varying legal issues, research and portfolios.

### Transferable skills and other attributes (T)

On successful completion of the programme, you will be able to:

<b>ID</b>	<b>Learning Outcome</b>
<b>T1</b>	Effectively communicate by engaging in a persuasive style and demonstrate oral advocacy skills in a clear and objective manner.
<b>T2</b>	Successfully analyse situations and collaborate effectively with others on a variety of legal issues.
<b>T3</b>	Work effectively as a part of a group or team while engaging with their own personal and professional development in varying law related disciplines.
<b>T4</b>	Employ appropriate legal analysis by reasoning and problem-solving skills to arrive at solutions to legal problems in different social and societal contexts.
<b>T5</b>	Recognise, evaluate and resolve ethical dilemmas in legal and other professions.

### Graduate Attributes

At BNU, we focus on developing innovative leaders who are ready for the 21st-century job market and can make a positive impact globally. Our key attributes include knowledge and its application, creativity, social and ethical awareness and responsibility, and leadership and self-development.

#### How These Attributes Are Developed:

- **Knowledge and Skills:** You'll apply contemporary legal knowledge to understand theories, concepts, values, and principles of law in various contexts.
- **Leadership and Creativity:** Through innovative teaching methods and learning activities, you'll develop practical, professional, and problem-solving skills.
- **Social and Ethical Awareness:** You'll gain a deep understanding of legal complexities, justice, and the rule of law, fostering social and ethical responsibility.
- **Employability:** These attributes will make you highly employable, with transferable skills for careers in criminal justice, education, public policy, and more, both in the UK and internationally.

## 4. Entry Requirements

To join this programme, you need to meet the University's [general entry requirements](#), plus the following:

- **UCAS tariff score:** 104-128 (Full Time) or 32-56 (Foundation Year).

UCAS points can be obtained through qualifications such as A levels, T levels, BTEC, or an Access to Higher Education course in a relevant subject. You should have at least two full A-levels (or equivalent) and GCSE English and Mathematics at Level 4 or above.

- **IT Skills:** Basic IT skills are required, but no prior knowledge of law is necessary.
- **English Language:** If English is not your first language, an overall IELTS band score of 6.0 (with at least 5.5 in Listening, Reading, Writing, and Speaking) is needed.

**Alternative Entry Routes:**

- If you don't meet the academic requirements but have relevant professional experience, you may be invited for an interview to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding.
- Previous study or professional/vocational experiences may be recognized as equivalent learning, allowing for exemptions from certain modules through our [Accreditation of Prior Learning \(APL\)](#) process.

**LLB Top-Up:**

- To study for the LLB Top-Up, you need to have 240 higher education credits in a law-related programme.

## 5. Programme Structure

### LLB (Hons) Law

Level	Modules (Code, Title and Credits)	Other Exit Awards Available
<b>Foundation Year</b>	<p><b>Core modules:</b>                      LAW0001 Law in Practice (no credits)                      LAW0002 Law in Society (no credits)                      BAM0001 Developing Personal Effectiveness (no credits)                      BAM0003 Research in Practice (no credits)                      BAM0005 Communications in Practice (no credits)                      BAM0006 Live Learning Project (no credits)</p>	<b>N/A.</b> No credit is awarded at this Level.
<b>Level 4</b>	<p><b>Core modules:</b>                      LAW4029 Law of Contract (20 credits)                      LAW4033 Criminal Law (20 credits)                      LAW4030 English Legal System (20 credits)                      LAW4065 Law of Tort (20 credits)                      LAW4032 Public Law (20 credits)                      LAW4042 Legal Practice and Skills (20 credits)</p>	<b>Certificate of Higher Education</b> , awarded on achievement of 120 credits at Level 4
<b>Level 5</b>	<p><b>Core modules:</b>                      LAW5032 Property Law (20 credits)                      LAW5039 Ethics in Legal Practice (20 credits)                      LAW5036 Family and Child Law (20 credits)                      LAW5037 Employment Law (20 credits)                      LAW5038 Human Rights and Social Justice (20 credits)                      LAW5034 Business Law &amp; Practice (20 credits)</p>	<b>Diploma of Higher Education</b> , awarded on achievement of 240 credits, including a minimum of 120 credits at Level 5
<b>Level 6</b>	<p><b>Core modules:</b>                      LAW6051 Law of Equity and Trusts (20 credits)                      LAW6052 External Independent Project (40 credits)                      LAW6096 Law of Evidence (20 Credits)                      LAW6095 European Union Law (20 Credits)</p> <p><b>Option modules:</b></p>	<b>Ordinary Degree</b> , awarded on achievement of 300 credits, including 60 credits at Level 6 and 120 credits at each of Levels 4 and 5

	<i>Choose one of the following modules.</i> LAW6094 Advocacy (20 credits) LAW6038 Intellectual Property (20 credits) LAW6040 International Law (20 credits)	
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Please note:

- Only students enrolled on the Foundation Year option will take Foundation Year modules
- Students on the top-up degree will join the programme at Level 6
- Not all optional modules will be available every year.
- New optional modules may be introduced later to keep the programme up-to-date with changes in the subject area.
- Not all teaching institutions (partners) will offer all modules. Please check the partner specific version of the programme specification.

## 6. Learning, Teaching and Assessment

### Learning and teaching

Our programme aims to develop your legal knowledge, skills, and analytical abilities for successful careers in law and beyond. You'll learn through a mix of lectures, seminars, interactive workshops, practical activities, self-guided study, and self-directed research. You'll have opportunities to work both individually and in teams.

- **Foundation Year:** You'll engage in various activities, both law-related and skills-based, to build your academic skills and legal knowledge. This will help you become a successful, independent learner.
- **Levels 4, 5, and 6:** You'll experience a variety of teaching methods, including classroom-based activities like lectures, seminars, and workshops, along with independent learning and practical activities. These sessions are interactive and adaptable to different group sizes, helping you develop critical thinking skills as you progress.
  - **Level 4:** Focus on building your foundational legal knowledge and skills. Seminars and workshops will provide opportunities for interaction and collaboration, helping you identify legal issues and formulate arguments.
  - **Level 5:** You'll delve deeper into legal knowledge and engage in more analysis and discussion, building on the foundations from Level 4.
  - **Level 6:** You'll demonstrate your ability as an independent learner, showcasing critical analytical skills and applying your legal knowledge to real-world scenarios.

You'll also have access to University-wide resources and the Virtual Learning Environment, which offers a range of support materials, including course documents, reading lists, and online resources. This platform will help you stay connected with your peers and lecturers.

### Assessment

You'll be assessed through both formative and summative methods, designed to help you build and demonstrate your legal knowledge and skills.

- **Formative Assessments:** These assessments provide ongoing feedback from tutors and peers, helping you improve your performance. They don't count towards your final grade but are crucial for your development. Examples include practice essays, mock exams, and class presentations.
- **Summative Assessments:** These assessments count towards your final grade and test your achievement of the module learning outcomes. A variety of methods are used:
  - **Written Essays and Reports:** You'll explore specific legal issues in depth, conducting systematic literature reviews and demonstrating critical analysis, synthesis, and evaluation of legal principles and debates.
  - **Problem-Solving Tasks and Client Advice:** These assessments simulate real-world legal scenarios, where you'll apply your knowledge to solve problems and provide advice, showcasing your practical skills.

- **Oral Presentations:** You'll develop your verbal communication skills by presenting legal arguments and advice in various contexts, such as client meetings or advocacy settings.
- **Dissertation:** In your final year, you'll undertake a major piece of independent research on a legal topic of your choice. This dissertation allows you to demonstrate your ability to conduct in-depth research, analyse complex legal issues, and present your findings clearly. You'll receive guidance and support from an academic supervisor throughout this process.

These assessments are designed to ensure you graduate with a comprehensive understanding of the law and the skills needed to succeed in your legal career.

## Contact Hours

Expect around 12 hours of scheduled learning activities per week, including lectures, seminars, and workshops. Detailed contact hours are provided in individual module descriptors.

## 7. Programme Regulations

This programme follows the *Regulations for Taught Degree Programmes (2023)*.

## 8. Support for learners

We have several systems in place to help you succeed in your studies:

- **Personal Tutor:** You'll be assigned a Personal Tutor who will provide both pastoral and academic support throughout your programme.
- **Programme Handbook and Induction:** You'll receive a handbook and an induction at the start of your studies to help you get started.
- **Library Resources:** Access a wide range of books, journals, and databases, many available electronically, with support from trained library staff.
- **Virtual Learning Environment (VLE):** Use Blackboard, accessible via PC, laptop, tablet, or mobile device, for your online learning needs.
- **MyBNU Portal:** Access all university systems, information, news, record your attendance, and view your personalised timetable through the MyBNU portal.
- **Academic Registry:** Get general guidance on university regulations, exams, and other aspects of your course administration from the Academic Registry staff.
- **Central Student Services:** Benefit from support teams for academic skills development, career success, student finance, accommodation, chaplaincy, disability, and counselling.
- **Bucks Students' Union:** Receive free and confidential advice on university processes from the Students' Union Advice Centre.

## 9. Programme monitoring and review

BNU ensures the quality of learning and teaching on your programme through various mechanisms. You can provide feedback on your programme through:

- **Feedback Questionnaires:** Formal surveys and anonymous module check-ins.
- **External Surveys:** Participation in national or external surveys.
- **Programme Committees:** Share your thoughts via appointed student representatives.
- **Informal Feedback:** Directly to your programme leader.

Quality and standards are maintained through:

- **Programme Approval:** An initial event to approve the programme for delivery.
- **External Examiner Reports:** Annual reports following external moderation of assessments.
- **Annual Monitoring:** Annual review of the programme overseen by the University's Quality Assurance Committee.
- **Periodic Subject Reviews:** Held every five years.
- **Sector Compliance:** Other compliance and review mechanisms.

## 10. Internal and external reference points

Design and development of this programme has been informed by the following internal and external reference points:

- **The Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)**
- **The QAA Subject Benchmark Statement For Law:** Detailed mapping below
- **The BNU Qualifications and Credit Framework**
- **The BNU Grading Descriptors**
- **The University Strategy, Thrive 2028**

### Mapping of Subject Benchmark Statement and any relevant Apprenticeship Standard to Programme Learning Outcomes

Subject Benchmark Statement: Law	Knowledge and understanding (K)					Analysis and Criticality (C)					Application and Practice (P)					Transferable skills and other attributes (T)				
	K1	K2	K3	K4	K5	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5
Knowledge and understanding of theories, concepts, values, principles and rules of public and private laws within an institutional, social, national and global context	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓		✓	✓			✓		✓	
Awareness of principles and values of law and justice and of ethics	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓					✓								✓
Ability to apply knowledge and understanding to offer evidenced conclusions, addressing complex actual or hypothetical problems	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Study in depth and context of substantive areas of law	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
Intellectual independence, including the ability to ask and answer cogent questions about law and legal systems, identify gaps in their own knowledge and acquire new knowledge, and engage in critical analysis and evaluation				✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓

<b>Subject Benchmark Statement: Law</b>	<b>Knowledge and understanding (K)</b>					<b>Analysis and Criticality (C)</b>					<b>Application and Practice (P)</b>					<b>Transferable skills and other attributes (T)</b>				
<b>Benchmark requirement</b>	<b>K1</b>	<b>K2</b>	<b>K3</b>	<b>K4</b>	<b>K5</b>	<b>C1</b>	<b>C2</b>	<b>C3</b>	<b>C4</b>	<b>C5</b>	<b>P1</b>	<b>P2</b>	<b>P3</b>	<b>P4</b>	<b>P5</b>	<b>T1</b>	<b>T2</b>	<b>T3</b>	<b>T4</b>	<b>T5</b>
Ability to recognise ambiguity and deal with uncertainty in law		✓		✓				✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Ability to produce a synthesis of relevant doctrinal and policy issues, presentation of a reasoned choice between alternative solution and critical judgement of the merits of particular arguments	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Self-management, including an ability to reflect on their own learning, make effective use of feedback, a willingness to acknowledge and correct errors and an ability to work collaboratively		✓		✓														✓		
Ability to communicate both orally and in writing, in relation to legal matters, including an ability to listen and respond to written and oral stimuli, including questions and instructions	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓										✓	✓		✓	✓	
Ability to work with a range of data, including textual, numerical and statistical			✓	✓											✓				✓	

Subject Benchmark Statement: Law	Knowledge and understanding (K)					Analysis and Criticality (C)					Application and Practice (P)					Transferable skills and other attributes (T)				
Benchmark requirement	K1	K2	K3	K4	K5	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5
Ability to conduct self-directed research, including accurate identification of issue(s) which require researching, retrieval and evaluation of accurate, current and relevant information from a range of appropriate sources, including primary legal sources	✓	✓	✓	✓							✓				✓		✓		✓	
Engagement with their own personal and professional development, and academic integrity				✓												✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

## Mapping of Programme Learning Outcomes to Modules

Programme Learning Outcome	Knowledge and understanding (K)					Analysis and Criticality (C)					Application and Practice (P)					Transferable skills and other attributes (T)					
	Module Code (Core)	K1	K2	K3	K4	K5	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5
<b>Level 4</b>																					
<b>Core:</b>																					
LAW4029 Law of Contract		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓					✓	✓	✓		
LAW4030 English Legal System		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	
LAW4065 Law of Tort		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	
LAW4032 Public Law		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓					✓	✓	✓		
LAW4033 Criminal Law		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓					✓	✓	✓		
LAW4042 Legal Practice and Skills		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓					✓	✓	✓		
<b>Level 5</b>																					
<b>Core:</b>																					
LAW5032 Property Law	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓		
LAW5036 Family and Child Law	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓		
LAW5037 Employment Law	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓		
LAW5038 Human Rights and Social Justice	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓		
LAW5034 Business Law and Practice	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓		

Programme Learning Outcome	Knowledge and understanding (K)					Analysis and Criticality (C)					Application and Practice (P)					Transferable skills and other attributes (T)					
	Module Code (Core)	K1	K2	K3	K4	K5	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5
LAW5039 Ethics in Legal Practice	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓		
<b>Level 6</b>																					
<b>Core:</b>																					
LAW6051 Law of Equity and Trusts	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓		
LAW6052 External Independent Project	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓					✓	
LAW6095 European Union Law	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓						✓	
LAW6096 Law of Evidence	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓						✓	
<b>Options:</b>																					
LAW6094 Advocacy				✓			✓		✓		✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓		
LAW6038 Intellectual Property Law	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓				✓	✓	✓	
LAW6040 International Law	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	