AS and A LEVEL LAW Factsheet





Why study Law?

Students will learn about the legal system, law making, the nature of law, criminal law, the law of tort and human rights law or the law of contract.

Law students develop a range of skills including the application of legal rules and principles to present an argument, analysis and evaluation of the law, legal issues and concepts.

Why is A Level Law important?

A Level Law provides an introduction to law. It allows students to learn about a fascinating subject, one which covers many aspects of life. Students of A Level Law will:

- Develop an understanding of law and how it works
- Learn more about society from a legal perspective
 both contemporary and historical
- Learn about the interaction between law and morals, justice and society
- Learn about different areas of law e.g. criminal law, human rights, contract and tort
- Make connections with business, economics, history, politics and technology
- Develop academic skills, including analysis and evaluation
- Be able to make an informed decision about future careers.



POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS

Opportunities for future progression

- Some students take A Level Law because they already know that they want a career in law. The A Level gives an excellent introduction for students who want to read law at university or start a legal apprenticeship. It demystifies the law. Universities recognise the advantages of A Level Law and the old view that it should not be studied has long since faded away. The OCR course has been developed following the advice of teachers, students and universities.
- A Level Law is not just for students who want to enter the legal professions. It is a well respected subject and is a welcome addition to many A Level programmes of study. A Level Law links well with science subjects and humanities and social science subjects including, history, sociology, philosophy, economics and business, to name just a few!
- The real question is not 'Why should you study A Level Law?' but instead, 'Why would you not?'

Are you ...?

Are you interested in a becoming a solicitor, barrister or legal executive?

Are you interested in a career in business?

Are you interested in a career in politics or government?

Are you studying business or economics?

Are you studying humanities or social science subjects?

Are you interested in debating controversial issues?

Have you ever wondered ..?

- Why do we need law?
- How are laws made?
- How do judges make decisions?
- What are the different types of court and how do they operate?
- How do people become solicitors or barristers?

Do you want to know about:

- offences such as murder and theft?
- negligence?
- contracts?
- your rights?



How will you be assessed?

- A Level Law provides a fascinating insight into so many different disciplines. There are many benefits of studying A Level Law. It links all aspects of society.
- It helps students develop a range of transferable skills: analytical skills, attention to detail, logical thinking, research skills, essay writing skills and the ability to produce a balanced argument.
- The course is engaging and encourages the learner to experience the 'law in action'. Visits to the criminal and civil courts, the Houses of Parliament and other related places of interest, bring the subject to life.
- The study of law links with other areas of study

 e.g. business, economics, history, politics and sociology.

Thought provoking questions

- How is the law changing?
- What is the relationship between law and morals?
- Does the law provide justice?
- How is technology changing the law?
- What is the impact of globalisation?

What's included

A Level Law covers a wide range of subject content including:

- the legal system
- law making
- criminal law
- the law of tort
- the nature of law
- and a choice of human rights law or the law of contract.
- AS Law covers:
- the legal system
- law making
- criminal law
- the law of tort.





Where can the qualification take me?

- Students wishing to continue their legal studies after A Levels can opt for a university degree or work-based apprenticeship.
- Both of these routes can lead to the qualifications required to become a solicitor, barrister or legal executive.
- Other popular careers include the police, teaching, social work, business and accounting.

What are the benefits?

- AS and A Level Law are assessed by written examinations.
- The AS qualification consists of two exam papers, each 1 hour 30 minutes which are both worth 50% of the marks.
- The A Level qualification consists of three exam papers, each 2 hours long and each worth 33¹/₃% of the marks.
- There is a variety of exam questions including:
 - Essay questions
 - Legal scenario questions.



QUALIFICATION AWAITING ACCREDITATION

'These draft qualifications have not yet been accredited by Ofqual. They are published (along with specimen assessment materials, summary brochures and sample resources) to enable teachers to have early sight of our proposed approach.

Further changes may be required and no assurance can be given at this time that the proposed qualifications will be made available in their current form, or that they will be accredited in time for first teaching in 2017 and first award in 2019 (2018 for AS Level qualifications).'

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