

AS LEVEL
Specification
LAW

H018

For first assessment in 2022

Disclaimer

Specifications are updated over time. Whilst every effort is made to check all documents, there may be contradictions between published resources and the specification, therefore please use the information on the latest specification at all times. Where changes are made to specifications these will be indicated within the document, there will be a new version number indicated, and a summary of the changes. If you do notice a discrepancy between the specification and a resource please contact us at: resources.feedback@ocr.org.uk

We will inform centres about changes to specifications. We will also publish changes on our website. The latest version of our specifications will always be those on our website (ocr.org.uk) and these may differ from printed versions.

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1 Why choose an OCR AS Level in Law?

1a. Why choose an OCR qualification?

1

Choose OCR and you've got the reassurance that you're working with one of the UK's leading exam boards. Our AS Level in Law has been developed in consultation with teachers, employers and Higher Education to provide learners with a qualification that's relevant to them and meets their needs.

We're part of the Cambridge Assessment Group, Europe's largest assessment agency and a department of the University of Cambridge.

Cambridge Assessment plays a leading role in developing and delivering assessments throughout the world, operating in over 150 countries.

We work with a range of education providers, including schools, colleges, workplaces and other institutions in both the public and private sectors. Over 13,000 centres choose our A Levels, GCSEs and vocational qualifications including Cambridge Nationals and Cambridge Technicals.

Our Specifications

We believe in developing specifications that help you bring the subject to life and inspire your learners to achieve more.

We've created teacher-friendly specifications based on extensive research and engagement with the teaching community. They're designed to be straightforward and accessible so that you can tailor the delivery of the course to suit your needs. We aim to encourage learners to become responsible for their own learning, confident in discussing ideas, innovative and engaged.

We provide a range of support services designed to help you at every stage, from preparation through to the delivery of our specifications. This includes:

- A wide range of high-quality creative resources including:
 - Delivery Guides
 - Transition Guides
 - Topic Exploration Packs
 - Lesson Elements
 - ...and much more.
- Access to Subject Advisors to support you through the transition and throughout the lifetimes of the specifications.
- CPD/Training for teachers to introduce the qualifications and prepare you for first teaching.
- Active Results – our free results analysis service to help you review the performance of individual learners or whole schools.

Our Resource Partner textbook will develop knowledge and skills with its comprehensive coverage of the assessment structure and all the law topics your students need to know.

All AS Level qualifications offered by OCR are accredited by Ofqual, the Regulator for qualifications offered in England.

The accreditation number for OCR's AS Level in Law is QN603/0707/9.

1b. Why choose an OCR AS Level in Law?

This engaging course has been developed following the input of teachers and higher education stakeholders. The content has been designed to inspire, nurture and develop learners. It will foster their interest and enjoyment in law. The qualification is designed to develop knowledge and skills for the

further study of law, and related subjects, such as business. Learners will develop their knowledge of the law in England, and an awareness of law in a European and global context. The course will enable learners to know and understand the changing nature of law.

Aims and learning outcomes

OCR's AS Level in Law will encourage learners to:

- develop their knowledge and understanding of the English legal system and areas of both private and public law within the law of England and Wales
- develop an understanding of legal method and reasoning as used by lawyers and the judiciary
- develop and apply the techniques of legal method and reasoning to analyse and offer answers to problems, based on legal principles, legislation and case law
- develop the ability to construct conclusions and communicate legal arguments by reference to appropriate legal authorities.

1c. What are the key features of this specification?

The key features of OCR's AS Level in Law for you and your learners are

- a straightforward specification
- a straightforward assessment model
- specialist support and quality resources
- co-teachability between AS and A Level
- breadth, with a range of legal subjects.

1d. How do I find out more information?

If you are already using OCR specifications you can contact us at: www.ocr.org.uk

If you are not already a registered OCR centre then you can find out more information on the benefits of becoming one at: www.ocr.org.uk

If you are not yet an approved centre and would like to become one go to: www.ocr.org.uk

Contact details:

Email: Law@ocr.org.uk

Phone: 01223 553998

Visit our Online Support Centre at support.ocr.org.uk

E-bulletins: www.ocr.org.uk/updates

2 The specification overview

2a. OCR's AS Level in Law (H018)

Learners take components 01 and 02 to be awarded the OCR AS Level in Law.

Content Overview

H018/01 The legal system and criminal law

This component will assess:

- Section A: The legal system
- Section B: Criminal law

H018/02 Law making and the law of tort

This component will assess:

- Section A: Law making
- Section B: The law of tort

Assessment Overview

Written paper: 1 hour 30 minutes
50% of total AS Level
64 marks

Section A is worth **32 marks**. Learners answer four 8-mark questions.

Section B is worth **32 marks**. Learners answer four 8-mark questions.

Written paper: 1 hour 30 minutes
50% of total AS Level
64 marks

Section A is worth **32 marks**. Learners answer four 8-mark questions.

Section B is worth **32 marks**. Learners answer four 8-mark questions.

All components include synoptic assessment.



Twelve month rule:

While learners are encouraged to be aware of the changing nature of law, they are not required to be familiar with innovations coming into effect in the twelve months immediately preceding the examination.

2b. Content of AS Level in Law (H018)

The OCR AS Level in Law content focuses on the English legal system and areas of both private and public law within the law of England and Wales. Learners will be required to show knowledge and understanding of the nature of law and the English legal system. This will provide learners with the foundation for the study of both private and public law. This specification will develop learners' understanding of legal method and reasoning through the study of statutory interpretation and judicial precedent.

Learners will be introduced to the concept of legal liability through the study of criminal law and the law of tort. This will enable them to develop and apply

the techniques of legal method and reasoning to analyse and offer answers to legal problems, based on legal rules and principles and develop the ability to construct and communicate legal arguments by reference to appropriate legal authorities.

The English legal system is split into two sections:

- Component 01 Section A: The legal system
- Component 02 Section A: Law making

Each of the two sections is worth 25% of the overall marks – the English legal system accounts for 50% of the overall qualification. The section on the legal system includes an introduction to the nature of law.

2c. Content of H018/01 – The legal system and criminal law

Section A: The legal system

This section focuses on the legal system, including the nature of law, the civil and criminal courts and the legal profession. Learners will develop knowledge and

understanding of the processes and people involved in the law and the changing nature of the legal system.

2

Content	Guidance
Introduction to the nature of law	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Law and rules: the difference between enforceable legal rules and principles and other rules and norms of behaviour <input type="checkbox"/> The connections between law, morality and justice <input type="checkbox"/> The differences between civil and criminal law <input type="checkbox"/> An overview of the development of English Law: custom, common law, statute law <input type="checkbox"/> The rule of law: definition and importance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ the differences between civil and criminal law: procedure, purpose and outcomes, including the different court systems ✓ the development and application of each area of law ✓ the principle of the rule of law as an underpinning concept for justice, human rights and as a guiding principle of the law, including core elements of the rule of law
Civil courts and other forms of dispute resolution	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> County Court and High Court: jurisdictions, pre-trial procedures, the three tracks <input type="checkbox"/> Appeals and appellate courts <input type="checkbox"/> Employment tribunals and Alternative Dispute Resolution <input type="checkbox"/> Advantages and disadvantages of using the civil courts and Alternative Dispute Resolution to resolve disputes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ the three divisions of the High Court ✓ grounds/reasons to appeal ✓ first appeal from the three tracks, further appeal to the Court of Appeal (Civil Division), High Court Appeals, Appeal from the Court of Appeal (Civil Division) ✓ how employment tribunals work ✓ negotiation, mediation, conciliation and arbitration
Criminal courts and lay people	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Criminal process: jurisdiction of the Magistrates' Court and the Crown Court, including classification of offences and pre-trial procedures <input type="checkbox"/> Appeals and appellate courts <input type="checkbox"/> Sentencing and court powers: aims, factors and types of sentences for adults <input type="checkbox"/> Lay magistrates and juries: qualifications, selection, appointment and their role in criminal cases <input type="checkbox"/> The advantages and disadvantages of using juries in criminal cases 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ summary offences, triable either-way offence, indictable offences ✓ grounds/reasons to appeal ✓ appeals to the Crown Court, Case stated appeal to the Queen's Bench Divisional Court, Appeals to the Court of Appeal (Criminal Division and Appeals to the UKSC) ✓ the aims of sentencing set out in s142 Criminal Justice Act 2003 ✓ custodial and non-custodial sentences for adults

Content	Guidance
Legal personnel	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Barristers, solicitors and legal executives: role and the regulation of legal professions <input type="checkbox"/> The judiciary: types and role in civil and criminal courts <input type="checkbox"/> The separation of powers and the independence of the judiciary <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation of the judiciary, including the advantages of judicial independence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ how the legal professions are regulated ✓ the different levels of judges and their respective roles ✓ how judicial independence is achieved: security of tenure, immunity from suit, independence from the other two arms of the state and independence from the case
Access to justice	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Government funding for civil and criminal cases <input type="checkbox"/> Private funding, conditional fees and other advice agencies <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation of access to justice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ the Legal Aid Agency: availability and restrictions on government funding for civil and criminal cases ✓ other advice agencies could include Citizens Advice, Law Centres, Pro Bono Unites, Free Representation Units, Trade Unions, Insurance companies and Charities ✓ impact of the changes to the legal aid budget

Section B: Criminal law

This section focuses on the rules and general elements of criminal law and non-fatal offences against the person. It provides an introduction to criminal liability.

Learners will develop knowledge and understanding of criminal law and the skills to apply their legal knowledge to scenario-based situations.

2

Content	Guidance
Rules	
<input type="checkbox"/> An outline of the rules of criminal law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ definition of crime ✓ sources of criminal law ✓ the elements of criminal liability ✓ those involved in a criminal case – prosecution and defence ✓ the burden of proof, the standard of proof and reverse onus
General elements of criminal liability	
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actus reus</i> : conduct and consequence crimes; voluntary acts and omissions; involuntariness; causation <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Mens rea</i> : fault; intention and subjective recklessness; negligence and strict liability; transferred malice; coincidence of <i>actus reus</i> and <i>mens rea</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ conduct and consequence crimes; voluntary acts and state of affairs; categories of omissions; factual and legal causation, ways the chain of causation can be broken ✓ direct and oblique intention, subjective recklessness, negligence and gross negligence, strict liability including the methods used to establish whether an offence is a strict liability offence, transferred malice, coincidence of <i>actus reus</i> and <i>mens rea</i>
Non-fatal offences against the person	
<input type="checkbox"/> Common assault: assault and battery under s39 Criminal Justice Act 1988 <input type="checkbox"/> Assault occasioning actual bodily harm, wounding and grievous bodily harm under s47, s20, s18 Offences Against the Person Act 1861	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ definition of assault ✓ <i>actus reus</i> and <i>mens rea</i> of assault ✓ <i>actus reus</i> and <i>mens rea</i> of battery ✓ <i>actus reus</i> and <i>mens rea</i> under s47 Offences Against the Person Act 1861 ✓ <i>actus reus</i> and <i>mens rea</i> under s20 Offences Against the Person Act 1861 ✓ <i>actus reus</i> and <i>mens rea</i> under s18 Offences Against the Person Act 1861



Content	Guidance
Evaluation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Critical evaluation of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• non-fatal offences against the person• ideas for reform	Common frameworks include whether an area of non-fatal offences is: <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ fit for purpose✓ up-to-date✓ just or unjust✓ effective or ineffective✓ balances principle and policy✓ fair or unfair✓ based on sound moral principles



2c. Content of H018/02 – Law making and the law of tort

Section A: Law making

This section focuses on law making in England and Wales as well as the European Union. Learners will study law making methods and their underpinning

concepts. They will develop an understanding of legal method and reasoning as used by lawyers and the judiciary.

2

Content	Guidance
Parliamentary law making	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Legislative process – Green and White Papers, different types of Bill, legislative stages in the House of Commons and the House of Lords, and the role of the Crown <input type="checkbox"/> Advantages and disadvantages of the legislative process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Public Bills, Private Bills, Private Members' Bills ✗ Hybrid Bills, Ten-minute rule Bills and details about pre-legislative procedures in either House is not required ✗ no need to give a detailed account of the Parliament Acts 1911 & 1949. No need to cover commencement
Delegated legislation	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Types of delegated legislation: Orders in Council, Statutory Instruments and By-laws <input type="checkbox"/> Controls on delegated legislation by Parliament and the courts, and their effectiveness <input type="checkbox"/> Reasons for the use of delegated legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Advantages and disadvantages of delegated legislation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ brief description of each type of delegated legislation with a supporting example for each ✗ Legislative Reform Orders, Henry VIII powers, Orders of Council ✓ parliamentary control to include approval of Parent Act, Negative Resolution Procedure, Affirmative Resolution Procedure and scrutiny by committee ✓ judicial review to include procedural <i>ultra vires</i>, substantive <i>ultra vires</i> and 'Wednesbury Unreasonableness' ✗ you do not need to cover procedures, <i>locus standii</i> or remedies for judicial review ✓ effectiveness and ineffectiveness of parliamentary and judicial controls

Content	Guidance
Statutory interpretation	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Rules of statutory interpretation – the literal rule, the golden rule, the mischief rule <input type="checkbox"/> The purposive approach <input type="checkbox"/> Intrinsic and extrinsic aids to interpretation <input type="checkbox"/> Impact of European Union Law and the Human Rights Act 1998 on statutory interpretation <input type="checkbox"/> Advantages and disadvantages of the different rules and approaches to statutory interpretation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ brief description of the operation of each rule/ approach, any relevant features and examples ✗ the need for statutory interpretation ✓ brief description of some of each type of aid with examples where appropriate ✓ position regarding Human Rights Law
Judicial precedent	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The Doctrine of Precedent including <i>stare decisis</i>, <i>ratio decidendi</i> and <i>obiter dicta</i> <input type="checkbox"/> The hierarchy of the courts including the Supreme Court <input type="checkbox"/> Binding, persuasive and original precedent; overruling; reversing; distinguishing <input type="checkbox"/> Advantages and disadvantages of precedent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ explain both the civil and criminal court hierarchies and appreciate their relevance to <i>stare decisis</i> ✓ explain the exceptions to the general rule of <i>stare decisis</i>: the UK Supreme Court under Practice Directions 3 & 4; The Court of Appeal under the doctrine set out in <i>Young v Bristol Aeroplane</i> ✗ the Court of Appeal’s historic resistance to the doctrine of <i>stare decisis</i> in relation to being bound by the UKSC ✓ types of precedent and the methods used by judges when dealing with such precedent, illustrated with cases
Law reform	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Influences on Parliament: political, public opinion, media, pressure groups and lobbyists including the Law Commission <input type="checkbox"/> Law reform by the Law Commission <input type="checkbox"/> Advantages and disadvantages of influences on law making 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ specific influences with some supported examples of Acts they have brought in or amended ✗ explain how these influences work in anything other than outline detail ✓ who the Law Commission are, what do they do and how do they do it

Content	Guidance
European Union law	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Institutions of the European Union <input type="checkbox"/> Sources of European Union law <input type="checkbox"/> Impact of European Union law on the law of England and Wales 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ the membership, role and legal functions of the European Commission, the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the Court of Justice of the European Union ✓ treaties, regulations and directives ✓ the extension of rights to individuals through doctrines developed by both the CJEU and domestic courts ✓ the concept of supremacy of EU Law over the domestic law of member states with a focus on impact on Sovereignty of Parliament during the UK's membership of the European Union

Section B: The law of tort

This section focuses on the rules of tort, liability in negligence, occupiers' liability and remedies. It provides an introduction to civil liability. Learners will

develop knowledge and understanding of the law of tort and the skills to apply their legal knowledge to scenario-based situations.

Content	Guidance
Rules	
<input type="checkbox"/> An outline of the rules of the law of tort	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ the aims of Tort Law ✓ understand tortious liability ✓ recognise who is the claimant and who is the defendant ✓ whether proof of fault is required and, if so, the nature of the fault ✓ the relevance of any possible defences ✓ the aim of a tortious action ✓ understand that the parties to a civil action may include any combination of both 'natural' and 'legal' persons
Liability in negligence	
<input type="checkbox"/> Liability in negligence for injury to people and damage to property <input type="checkbox"/> The duty of care: <i>Donoghue v Stevenson</i> (1932) and the neighbour principle, the <i>Caparo</i> test and <i>Robinson v Chief Constable of West Yorkshire</i> (2018) <input type="checkbox"/> Breach of duty: the objective standard of care and the reasonable man; risk factors <input type="checkbox"/> Damage: factual causation; legal causation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ recognise a potential action in negligence ✓ the elements required for an action in negligence ✓ the relevance of any actionable defence, appreciate the burden and standard of proof and the role of compensation in the form of damages ✗ economic loss (negligent misstatement), psychiatric injury or liability for defective products ✗ no need to go into any detail on the way negligence applies to special groups such as the police, fire and other emergency services, lawyers and judges, local authorities and other public bodies, social services etc

Content	Guidance
Occupiers' liability	
<input type="checkbox"/> Liability in respect of lawful visitors (Occupiers' Liability Act 1957) <input type="checkbox"/> Liability in respect of trespassers (Occupiers' Liability Act 1984)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> definition of a lawful visitor <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the duty owed to a lawful visitor and when that duty is breached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> defences <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> definition of a trespasser <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the duty owed to a trespasser and when that duty is breached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> defences
Remedies	
<input type="checkbox"/> Compensatory damages <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation of loss	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the basis of damages <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the basic concept of mitigation
Evaluation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Critical evaluation of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • liability in negligence • occupiers' liability 	Common frameworks include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ advantages and disadvantages ✓ the fairness or unfairness of a particular area ✓ the balancing of competing interests ✓ the extent to which any tort achieves one or more of the aims of tort law (or indeed their own aims)

2d. Legal skills

This qualification:

- develops competence in using legal skills during the study of the nature of law, legal issues and the English legal system, and the private and public areas of substantive law.
- requires learners to demonstrate their ability to analyse a factual scenario by identifying the key facts from which legal issues arise.
- requires learners, when formulating a legal argument, to be able to analyse legislation by applying the rules and principles of statutory interpretation; and analyse case law by applying the doctrine of precedent.
- requires learners, in respect of each private and public area of substantive law they are required to study, to analyse, apply and evaluate the legal rules and principles of that area of law. Analysis and application must include the ability to identify and breakdown into constituent parts the relevant legal rules and principles for each area of law and apply those legal principles to a hypothetical scenario. Evaluation must require learners to formulate a reasoned argument to support a particular proposition by reference to the relevant legal rules and principles that support that argument.
- requires learners to construct clear, concise and logical legal arguments that are substantiated by legal authority, using appropriate legal terminology.

2e. Prior knowledge, learning and progression

- No prior learning or knowledge of the subject is required.
- Throughout the course of study, learners are encouraged to develop a critical awareness of how legal institutions operate in society and the changing nature of law in society.
- This qualification provides a suitable opportunity for the study of law or related courses in higher education. Equally, it is also suitable for learners intending to pursue business careers or further study in business, social sciences or as part of a course of general education.

3 Assessment of AS Level in Law (H018)

3a. Assessment objectives (AO)

There are three Assessment Objectives in OCR AS Level in Law. These are detailed in the table below.

Learners are expected to demonstrate their ability to:

	Assessment Objective
AO1	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the English legal system and legal rules and principles.
AO2	Apply legal rules and principles to given scenarios in order to present a legal argument using appropriate legal terminology.
AO3	Analyse and evaluate legal rules, principles and concepts.

AO weightings in AS Level in Law

The relationship between the assessment objectives and the components are shown in the table below:

Component	% of OCR AS Level in Law (H018)		
	AO1	AO2	AO3
The legal system and criminal law (H018/01)	25	12.5	12.5
Law making and the law of tort (H018/02)	25	12.5	12.5
Total	50	25	25

3b. Forms of assessment

OCR's AS Level in Law is a linear qualification with 100% external assessment. The qualification consists of two components. Both components will test all three assessment objectives (AO1, AO2 and AO3).

Components 01 and 02

Components 01 and 02 have exactly the same structure. The structure will follow this pattern:

Questions	AO1	AO2	AO3	Total
1–3	24	0	0	24
4	0	0	8	8
5	8	0	0	8
6	0	8	0	8
7	0	8	0	8
8	0	0	8	8
Total	32	16	16	64

All questions are worth 8 marks.

Section A

Learners will answer **four** compulsory questions.

Questions 1–3 will require learners to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of the English legal system.

Question 4 will require learners to analyse and evaluate legal concepts. Question 4 will not require a conclusion.

Section B

Learners will answer **four** compulsory questions.

Question 5 will require learners to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of legal rules and principles.

Questions 6 and 7 will require learners to apply legal rules and principles to given scenarios in order to present a legal argument using appropriate legal terminology. Learners will use their legal reasoning developed through the study of statutory interpretation and judicial precedent.

Question 8 will require learners to analyse and evaluate legal rules and principles. Learners will be required to consider the law in relation to morality or justice. This question is considered an extended response question and should be treated as a mini-essay with a conclusion.

Across questions 6–8 learners will be required to draw together their knowledge and understanding from across their full course of study.

Command words

Explain or describe is to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the English legal system and legal rules and principles (AO1).

Advise is to apply legal rules and principles to given scenarios in order to present a legal argument using appropriate legal terminology (AO2).

Discuss is to analyse and evaluate legal rules, principles, concepts and issues. Candidates **are not** expected to give a conclusion (AO3).

Discuss **the extent to which** is to analyse and evaluate legal rules, principles, concepts and issues. Candidates **are** expected to give a conclusion (AO3).

3

3c. Total qualification time

Total qualification time (TQT) is the total amount of time, in hours, expected to be spent by a learner to achieve a qualification. It includes both guided learning hours and hours spent in preparation, study,

and assessment. The total qualification time for AS Level in Law is 180 hours. The total guided learning time is 180 hours.

3d. Qualification availability outside of England

This qualification is available in England. For Wales and Northern Ireland please check the Qualifications in Wales Portal (QIW) or the Northern Ireland Department of Education Performance Measures /

Northern Ireland Entitlement Framework Qualifications Accreditation Number (NIEFQAN) list to see current availability.

3e. Language

This qualification is available in English only. All assessment materials are available in English only and all candidate work must be in English.

3f. Assessment availability

There will be one examination series available each year in May/June to **all** learners.

This specification will be certificated from the June 2021 examination series onwards.

All examined components must be taken in the same examination series at the end of the course.

3g. Retaking the qualification

Learners can retake the qualification as many times as they wish. They retake all components of the qualification.

3h. Assessment of extended response

The assessment materials for this qualification provide learners with the opportunity to demonstrate their ability to construct and develop a sustained and coherent line of reasoning and marks for extended responses are integrated into the marking criteria.

The quality of extended response will be assessed in question 8 of both components where learners are required to write a mini-essay evaluating either criminal law or the law of tort. Questions assessing the quality of extended response are marked with an asterisk in the assessment material.

3i. Synoptic assessment

- Synoptic assessment is the learners' understanding of the connections between different elements of the subject. It involves the explicit drawing together of knowledge, skills and understanding within different parts of the AS Level course.
- The emphasis of synoptic assessment is to encourage the understanding of law as a discipline.
- Learners will use their understanding of legal method and reasoning developed through the study of the English legal system, whilst answering scenario questions on criminal law and the law of tort, applying legal rules and principles to given scenarios in order to present a legal argument using appropriate legal terminology.
- Learners will use their understanding of the connections between law, morality and justice whilst answering analysis and evaluation mini-essay questions on criminal law and the law of tort.

3j. Calculating qualification results

A learner's overall qualification grade for AS Level in Law will be calculated by adding together their marks from the two components taken to give their total weighted mark. This mark will then be compared to

the qualification level grade boundaries for the relevant exam series to determine the learner's overall qualification grade.

4 Admin: what you need to know

The information in this section is designed to give an overview of the processes involved in administering this qualification so that you can speak to your exams officer. All of the following processes require you to submit something to OCR by a specific deadline.

More information about the processes and deadlines involved at each stage of the assessment cycle can be found in the Administration area of the OCR website.

OCR's *Admin overview* is available on the OCR website at <http://www.ocr.org.uk/administration>.

4a. Entries

Estimated entries

Estimated entries are your best projection of the number of learners who will be entered for a qualification in a particular series.

Estimated entries should be submitted to OCR by the specified deadline. They are free and do not commit your centre in any way.

Final entries

Final entries provide OCR with detailed data for each learner, showing each assessment to be taken. It is essential that you use the correct entry code, considering the relevant entry rules.

Final entries must be submitted to OCR by the published deadlines or late entry fees will apply.

All learners taking an AS Level in Law must be entered for H018.

Entry code	Title	Component code	Component title	Assessment type
H018	Law	01	The legal system and criminal law	External Assessment
		02	Law making and the law of tort	External Assessment

Collecting evidence of student performance to ensure resilience in the qualifications system

Regulators have published guidance on collecting evidence of student performance as part of long-term contingency arrangements to improve the resilience of the qualifications system. You should review and consider this guidance when delivering this qualification to students at your centre.

For more detailed information on collecting evidence of student performance please visit our website at: <https://www.ocr.org.uk/administration/general-qualifications/assessment/>

4b. Special consideration

Special consideration is a post-assessment adjustment to marks or grades to reflect temporary injury, illness or other indisposition at the time the assessment was taken.

Detailed information about eligibility for special consideration can be found in the JCQ publication *A guide to the special consideration process*.

4c. External assessment arrangements

Regulations governing examination arrangements are contained in the JCQ *Instructions for conducting examinations*.

Head of centre annual declaration

The Head of Centre is required to provide a declaration to the JCQ as part of the annual NCN update, conducted in the autumn term, to confirm that the centre is meeting all of the requirements detailed in the specification.

Any failure by a centre to provide the Head of Centre Annual Declaration will result in your centre status being suspended and could lead to the withdrawal of our approval for you to operate as a centre.

Private candidates

Private candidates may enter for OCR assessments. A private candidate is someone who pursues a course of study independently but takes an examination or assessment at an approved examination centre. A private candidate may be a part-time student, someone taking a distance learning course, or someone being tutored privately. They must be based in the UK.

Private candidates need to contact OCR approved centres to establish whether they are prepared to host them as a private candidate. The centre may charge for this facility and OCR recommends that the arrangement is made early in the course. Further guidance for private candidates may be found on the OCR website: www.ocr.org.uk.

4d. Results and certificates

Grade Scale

AS Level qualifications are graded on the scale: A, B, C, D, E, where A is the highest. Learners who fail to reach the minimum standard for E will be Unclassified

(U). Only subjects in which grades A to E are attained will be recorded on certificates.

Results

Results are released to centres and learners for information and to allow any queries to be resolved before certificates are issued.

Centres will have access to the following results information for each learner:

- the grade for the qualification
- the raw mark for each component
- the total weighted mark for the qualification.

The following supporting information will be available:

- raw mark grade boundaries for each component
- weighted mark grade boundaries for the qualification.

Until certificates are issued, results are deemed to be provisional and may be subject to amendment.

A learner's final results will be recorded on an OCR certificate. The qualification title will be shown on the certificate as 'OCR Level 3 Advanced Subsidiary GCE in Law'.

4e. Post-results services

A number of post-results services are available:

- **Review of results**
If you are not happy with the outcome of a learner's results, centres may request a review of marking.

- **Missing and incomplete results**
This service should be used if an individual subject result for a learner is missing, or the learner has been omitted entirely from the results supplied.

- **Access to scripts**
Centres can request access to marked scripts.

4f. Malpractice

Any breach of the regulations for the conduct of examinations and non-exam assessment may constitute malpractice (which includes maladministration) and must be reported to OCR as

soon as it is detected. Detailed information on malpractice can be found in the JCQ publication *Suspected Malpractice in Examinations and Assessments: Policies and Procedures*.

5 Appendices

5a. Overlap with other qualifications

There is no significant overlap between the content of this specification and that for other AS Level specifications. There is a small degree

of overlap between the content of this specification and those for other AS Levels and A Levels in Business and AS Levels and A Levels in Politics.

5b. Accessibility

Reasonable adjustments and access arrangements allow learners with special educational needs, disabilities or temporary injuries to access the assessment and show what they know and can do, without changing the demands of the assessment. Applications for these should be made before the examination series. Detailed information about eligibility for access arrangements can be found in the *JCQ Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments*.

The AS Level qualification and subject criteria have been reviewed in order to identify any feature that could disadvantage learners who share a protected characteristic as defined by the Equality Act 2010. All reasonable steps have been taken to minimise any such disadvantage.

H015 to H018: Summary of updates – key changes

Throughout the process of updating our qualification, we have engaged with teachers and listened to their feedback.

We have reduced the amount of content that needs to be taught.	Teachers told us that the H015 specification had too much content. We have removed a number of areas of the specification to help make the qualification more manageable and enjoyable to teach.
Guidance column added.	We have introduced a guidance column in response to customer feedback to ensure they know what needs to be taught.
We have updated some content.	We have updated content e.g. including <i>Robinson v Chief Constable of West Yorkshire</i> (2018) in duty of care to reflect changes to the law since the launch of our H015 qualification.
We have reduced the mark tariff associated with each question.	The requirements for answers have not changed but we have reduced the number of marks available to make it easier for candidates and teachers to see how marks are credited.

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Summary of updates

Date	Version	Section	Title of section	Change
February 2021	1.1			Update to specification covers to meet digital accessibility standards
June 2023	1.2	2c 3c	Content of H018/02 - Law making and the law of tort Total qualification time	Minor changes to guidance that reflect the UK's departure from the European Union Addition of TQT and GLH to comply with QiW requirements
February 2024	1.3	3d, 3e 4a Checklist	Qualification availability, Language Pre-assessment	Inclusion of disclaimer regarding availability and language Update to include resilience guidance Inclusion of Teach Cambridge



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YOUR CHECKLIST

Our aim is to provide you with all the information and support you need to deliver our specifications.

- Bookmark [OCR website](#) for all the latest information and news on AS Level Law
 - Sign up for [Teach Cambridge](#): our personalised and secure website that provides teachers with access to all planning, teaching and assessment support materials
 - Be among the first to hear about support materials and resources as they become available – register for [AS Level Law](#)
 - Find out about our [professional development](#)
 - View our range of [skills guides](#) for use across subjects and qualifications
 - Learn more about [Active Results](#)
 - Visit our [Online Support Centre](#)
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Download high-quality, exciting and innovative AS Level Law resources from ocr.org.uk/law

Resources and support for our AS Level Law qualification, developed through collaboration between our Law Subject Advisors, teachers and other subject experts, are available from our website. You can also contact our Law Subject Advisors who can give you specialist advice, guidance and support.

Contact the team at:

01223 553998

law@ocr.org.uk

@OCRexams

To stay up to date with all the relevant news about our qualifications, register for email updates at ocr.org.uk/updates

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