

# The College of Law Prospectus 2009

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If this prospectus is hard for you to read, you can access a text-only version on our website:

**[college-of-law.co.uk/brochures](http://college-of-law.co.uk/brochures)**

# Perfect for practice

**If you're serious about building a successful legal career, study with The College of Law – the UK's leader in legal education.**

**At the heart of the profession, we set the standard for legal training in the UK and internationally. Studying with us enhances your career prospects.**

**It's no surprise that we're the first choice of study for more prospective and qualified lawyers than anyone else. We're focused on the law and only the law. We have the expertise to ensure high quality, challenging and hugely rewarding courses, delivered only by qualified lawyers.**

**We're constantly pioneering new and better ways to train the legal talent of tomorrow. The result is a learning experience to equip you with the essential skills and knowledge to successfully navigate the realities of today's legal world. You'll have access to the resources, support and contacts you need through qualification and beyond.**

**Whatever your background or your career plans, we can help you enjoy all the benefits of life as a lawyer by making you perfect for practice.**

**Come and see for yourself**

Don't just take our word for it – come along to one of our open days to see why we're the top choice for legal training.

**Further information:**

college-of-law.co.uk  
0800 328 0153  
admissions@lawcol.co.uk

# Why choose The College of Law?



We know we're not the only law school around and where you study is a tough decision. We work hard to ensure we're your first choice.

So why should you choose The College of Law? Why do so many of our former students and leading lights of the legal profession recommend us? They tell us that the College delivers outstanding benefits that other institutions are simply unable to match.

## Impeccable credentials

### Nothing but the law

You'll be joining the UK's largest, longest-established and only truly specialist law school, completely focused on providing you with first class legal training.

### Largest legal alumni network in Europe

You'll be in good company – nearly all practising lawyers in England and Wales have studied with us at some point.

### Endorsed by leading law firms

A wide range of firms and chambers – your current or future employers – regularly choose us to train their people, from the leading global law firms to the high street.

### National and international reach

You get the widest choice of study locations in the UK and you'll be part of a world-renowned institution with a growing international student body.

## Outstanding teaching

### Top SRA ratings

You'll have the reassurance that all of our study centres have received the Solicitors Regulation Authority's highest possible rating.

### Effective learning

Benefit from a blend of high-quality face-to-face teaching and e-learning – proven to help you pass your course and get the most out of your learning.

### Unique flexibility

Choose how you want to study and get the widest range of specialist options, allowing you to tailor your course to reflect the areas of law that interest you most.

### Taught by qualified lawyers

The emphasis is on face-to-face learning and small workshops, led by distinguished legal practitioners who'll pass on their practical experience and support your study.

## Better prospects

### Preparation for practice

You'll learn how to think like a successful lawyer in the area of practice you want to pursue – and develop the business skills that the profession demands.

### Unrivalled careers advice

The UK's largest and best-resourced legal careers service is at your disposal to help you find your ideal job.

### Award-winning pro bono

You get the widest choice of invaluable pro bono experience to add to your CV and aid your search for a training contract or pupillage.

### Fast-track to employers

Make the most of our connections with all types of law firms, chambers and other legal service providers throughout the country – to help get you where you want to be in your career.

### Degrees of distinction

You can gain practice-oriented Bachelor's or Master's law degrees giving you a real advantage amongst your peers in a competitive legal job market.

**It's these unique qualities that have made us the first choice for so many of the country's leading legal minds. No other institution prepares you better to practise law.**



# Shaping your legal career

A successful legal career isn't just down to hard work and high-quality training – effective, well-connected careers support can play a vital part in helping you achieve your ambitions.

## Leading careers advice and support

As soon as you accept your place on one of our courses, you'll have access to our careers service, the largest and best-resourced in UK legal education. It's staffed by a dedicated team of careers experts who can help build your professional network through our links with a wide range of firms and sets of chambers.

## How we can help you get the right job

- Extensive job vacancies database
- Opportunities to meet prospective employers
- Help finding a mentor in practice
- Support in securing work experience and placements
- One-to-one advice sessions with our expert careers consultants
- Careers workshops and talks
- Online guidance and careers articles
- Telephone and e-mail support for careers queries
- Advice on CVs and job applications
- Updates on what's happening in the legal market



## Careers service in action

Here's what our students have to say about their search for that perfect job using our careers service:

'They are simply brilliant, unsurpassed by any careers service I have come into contact with! Without the careers service I don't know if I would have got my training contract. I had two practice interviews, which improved my confidence no end.'  
Holly Andrews, full-time LPC (commercial and private), 2007/08

'As a result of their help and guidance, I now have a training contract at a top ten law firm!'  
Joanna Brook, full-time LPC (corporate), 2007/08

'They help you work out the best route if you're unsure of becoming a solicitor or barrister and arrange open days for law firms to visit the College.'  
Kevin Dearing, part-time GDL, 2007/09

'They're great on techniques to help you improve your chances of success. From individual sessions to workshops practising interview skills and applications. The careers service has everything you need to help you fulfil your potential as a lawyer.'  
Laura Bumpus, full-time BVC, 2007/08

'The careers section on the College's ELITE portal provides a wealth of resources, up-to-date vacancies for training contracts, vacation placements and even paralegal work.'  
Graham Phillips, full-time GDL, 2007/08

'They provided lots of information on the different recruitment assessments used by firms. This made it possible for me to accurately target my preparation for assessment days.'  
Jane Medcraft, Trainee at Eversheds LLP, part-time GDL & LPC (commercial and private), 2003/07

**In the last academic year the College careers service posted vacancies for 2,400 positions with a wide geographic spread.**

## Winner of the Attorney General's Best Law School Student Team Award 2008.

### Pro bono in action

Here are just a few examples of the pro bono activities that some of our past and current students have been involved in:

'Having a chance to interview and advise a real client was a really good opportunity and gave me an insight into what I now have to do in practice.'

Laura Tomlinson, Trainee at Smith Sutcliffe, full-time LPC (commercial and private), 2006/07

'You get hands-on experience and transferable skills which will be useful when actually practising law. I participated in the Streetlaw programme and got to design and run a workshop on the criminal process to socially-excluded 16 to 21 year-olds.'

Jacqueline Troy, full-time GDL, 2007/08

'I took part in mooting and debating, both of which helped to instil a sense of confidence when discussing legal issues with clients.'

Vishal Makol, Legal Executive, full-time LPC (commercial and private), 2006/07

'You're made to feel that your opinion counts and you get double the sense of achievement when you get something right, as you're actually helping change someone's life.'

Vanessa Halai, full-time BVC, 2007/08

# Award-winning pro bono opportunities

To really bring your learning to life you'll be able to take part in the largest and most varied pro bono programme in the UK. This means you can put your skills into practice with real clients, who'll expect a service to match that of a qualified lawyer.

### Here are just a few examples of the pro bono work on offer to add to your CV:

- Tribunal representation – representing real clients before selected tribunals
- Streetlaw – raising awareness of legal rights in schools and community groups
- Pro bono placements – providing members of the public with free legal advice and assistance
- Interights – researching cases for this international human rights law centre
- Your Day in Court mock trials – mentoring school pupils on legal role-play in a real court setting
- County Court housing possession hearings – assisting duty advocates in hearings relating to homelessness
- National Centre for Domestic Violence – helping clients to obtain emergency injunctions
- Employment rights helplines – working with volunteer lawyers from local firms to advise clients
- Youth offender panels – training to sit as a panel member

### Legal Advice Centres

We run advice centres at our training locations, where students work alongside qualified lawyers to answer legal enquiries from the general public. This programme gives you valuable first-hand experience of advising clients, legal research and drafting, and file management.

### Find out more

For more information about our careers service and pro bono opportunities, visit [college-of-law.co.uk/perfectforpractice](http://college-of-law.co.uk/perfectforpractice)

### Widening access to law

In partnership with the Sutton Trust charity, we're funding and developing a national network to encourage underprivileged people to enter the legal profession. The programme's aim is to assist up to 750 eligible students by 2010.

## My pro bono



### Nadia Whittaker

Part-time GDL, 2004/06

Full-time BVC, 2006/07

### On College opportunities:

The College arranged for us to work with the Free Representation Unit (FRU), and the opportunity to do advocacy work at Employment Tribunal immediately appealed. I took my first case at the end of my GDL and since then I've pursued 12 further cases.

### On clients and cases:

In one case I was able to use my native Russian to represent a Lithuanian employee. Another case gave me an opportunity to work with an experienced pro bono barrister, securing a settlement of £60,000 in a claim for health insurance cover.

### On the benefits:

Working for the FRU helped to develop my advocacy and negotiating skills. I had the chance to argue Employment Tribunal cases, often against experienced barristers. It was invaluable experience and a topic for discussion at pupillage interviews.

### On award recognition:

In 2007 the College and FRU nominated me for the Attorney General's Award for Best Contribution by an Individual Student for my pro bono work. It was a very pleasant surprise to be acknowledged in this way and to receive a 'highly commended' certificate at the House of Lords.

### On the future:

I'm looking forward to starting my pupillage at Crown Office Chambers in October 2008.



## A to Z of social activities at our centres

Here's just a taster of the almost limitless array of social activities on offer at our centres:

Amnesty International, Badminton, Choir, Drama, European Lawyers Group, Football, Gaelic football, Hockey, International Society, Junior Lawyers Division, Kickboxing, Legal French, Meditation, Negotiation competitions, Online communities, Penal Reform Society, Quiz nights, Rowing, Squash, Tennis, Ultimate Frisbee™, Visits to courts, Wine tasting, Xmas balls, Yoga, Zoology (well, not really, but it's the only one we've made up!).



All of our training centres benefit from modern, well-equipped facilities to provide a comfortable and stimulating training environment in which to get fit for legal practice in the 21st Century.

# Life at the College

## Here are just some of the resources at your disposal:

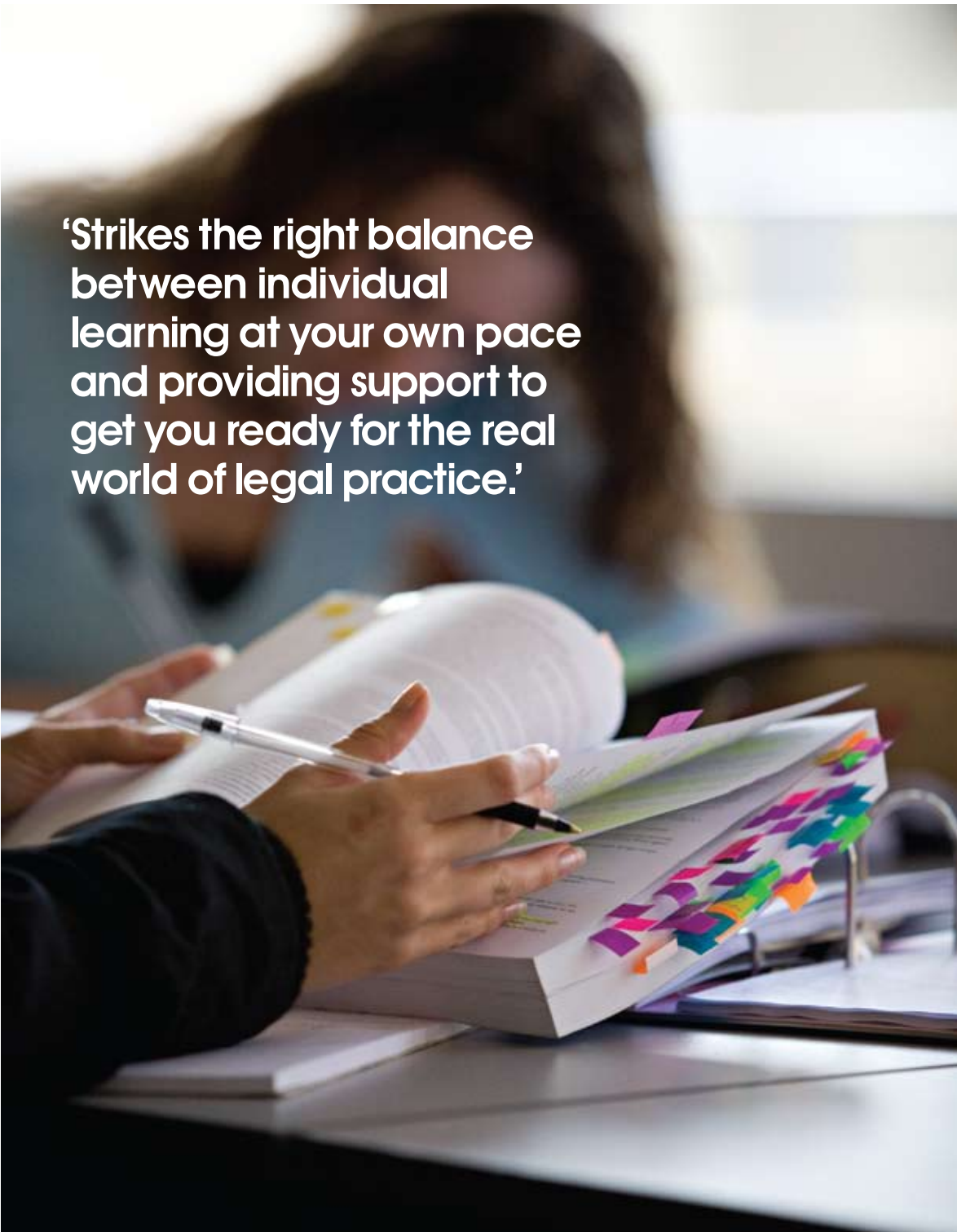
- largest legal libraries of any training provider
- extensive and up-to-date online library and legal databases
- state-of-the-art IT suites, wireless networking at all centres and remote access via the web
- the largest and best-resourced careers service in legal education
- an unrivalled programme of pro bono opportunities
- all relevant course materials, textbooks and case books are included in your course fee
- course materials accessible online via our interactive learning support system
- access to professional development materials used by qualified lawyers
- free printing

## Student support

There's a reliable support structure in place from the day you accept a place at the College, to provide help and feedback when you need it.

Throughout your training you'll have the support of experienced professionals, as well as regular opportunities to interact and share ideas with students on other courses.

You'll have personal tutors who'll monitor your performance and welfare throughout your course. With regular feedback, our aim is to ensure that you pass your exams and consistently perform to the best of your ability.



**‘Strikes the right balance  
between individual  
learning at your own pace  
and providing support to  
get you ready for the real  
world of legal practice.’**

#### **Accommodation**

Our dedicated centre teams can give you all the information you need to find suitable accommodation close to our locations. Our Housemate Finder service can help you find a College housemate to share with and we can put you in touch with landlords and letting agents who have property available locally.

#### **Special needs**

There are special needs contacts at each of our centres to make sure we do everything we can to support all our students in their studies, no matter what their requirements. If you’ve got a particular concern, contact Admissions on 0800 328 0153 or e-mail [admissions@lawcol.co.uk](mailto:admissions@lawcol.co.uk)

#### **Come and see for yourself**

Of course, the best way to learn about life at the College is to experience it by attending one of our open days or arranging a centre visit.

For further information, visit [college-of-law.co.uk/comeandmeetus](http://college-of-law.co.uk/comeandmeetus)

#### **College of Law Alumni**

The College of Law Alumni is the largest in the UK legal profession and gives former students access to a huge network of contacts and career opportunities. All former students and staff can join, and members include senior solicitors and barristers.

Visit [college-of-law.co.uk/alumni](http://college-of-law.co.uk/alumni) for more information.

**‘The student life is  
excellent and there is  
plenty of opportunity  
to make new friends.’**

#### **What our students think**

**‘The tutors have a passion for the law and help me make the most of my time at the College. They bring the law to life.’**

Lisa James, part-time LPC (commercial and private), 2007/09

**‘The sports available are a great advantage. The College is supportive of any club set up by its students and will try to accommodate all interests.’**  
Chris Stokes, full-time GDL, 2007/08

**‘The student life is excellent and there is plenty of opportunity to make new friends.’**  
Emma Schofield, full-time LPC (commercial and private), 2007/08

**‘The Housemate and Accommodation Finder services were extremely helpful when looking for somewhere to live. It made the whole process a lot less daunting!’**  
Charlotte Bromley, full-time GDL, 2007/08

**‘Strikes the right balance between individual learning at your own pace and providing support to get you ready for the real world of legal practice.’**  
Thomas Huang, full-time LPC (corporate), 2007/08

**‘There are lots of activities to get involved with that relate to the law, as well as purely social clubs, which gives a healthy work/life balance.’**  
Yinka Tijani, full-time LPC (commercial and private), 2007/08

**‘Students at the College come from all walks of life. Everybody wants to learn and this makes the workshops fun and interesting.’**  
Jessica Tresham, full-time LPC (commercial and private), 2007/08

**‘The College has a friendly atmosphere and fantastic opportunities for pro bono work and extracurricular clubs and activities.’**  
Salina Akhtar, full-time BVC, 2007/08





## Birmingham

### Great Hampton Street

We're located in the historic Jewellery Quarter, just a short walk from the centre of one of Europe's most vibrant cities. Birmingham boasts one of the largest concentrations of leading law firms and chambers outside London. Our centre has state-of-the-art facilities, a large library and spacious study rooms. It also offers a variety of course-related activities, social and educational events and networking opportunities – supported by strong local, legal and professional organisations.

For more information on our Birmingham centre, visit [college-of-law.co.uk/birmingham](http://college-of-law.co.uk/birmingham)



## Chester

### Christleton Hall

Set in 14 acres of beautiful parkland just outside Chester, Christleton Hall has all the facilities of a modern business school, with free parking, on-site sports pitches and plenty of accommodation within walking distance. The magnificent walled city of Chester combines historic Roman architecture with exclusive accommodation, shopping, dining and cultural experiences.

For more information on our Chester centre, visit [college-of-law.co.uk/chester](http://college-of-law.co.uk/chester)



## Guildford

### Braboeuf Manor

Guildford is a thriving regional business centre within easy reach of the major law firms in London. The College is set in 23 acres of stunning grounds and successfully blends a 16th Century manor house with modern, purpose-built premises. There's free on-site parking, good local transport services and plenty of accommodation available locally. There's also a wide range of extracurricular, sport and leisure activities.

For more information on our Guildford centre, visit [college-of-law.co.uk/guildford](http://college-of-law.co.uk/guildford)



## London

### Bloomsbury

Based in the heart of this vibrant area – just a short distance from the City, the Law Courts and the Inns of Court – this is our largest centre. It boasts our largest careers team and an impressive four-storey library. The College has its own events and sports clubs, and the best of London's nightlife and shopping are on your doorstep, including the West End, Covent Garden and Soho.

For more information on our London Bloomsbury centre, visit [college-of-law.co.uk/bloomsbury](http://college-of-law.co.uk/bloomsbury)



## London

### Moorgate

A newly-refurbished building in the heart of the City, close to leading global law firms. With top-class facilities, our Moorgate centre is the largest corporate-specific law school in the UK. It's also home to our Professional Development Division, so during your day-to-day study you'll be rubbing shoulders with trainee and qualified solicitors. Of course, being in the capital gives you great links with the legal and financial community and unlimited leisure and social attractions.

For more information on our London Moorgate centre, visit [college-of-law.co.uk/moorgate](http://college-of-law.co.uk/moorgate)



## Manchester

### City centre

Our newest centre will be located in the heart of Manchester, in close proximity to some of the north west's leading law firms. It will provide an enviable and stimulating study environment for students who wish to be at the hub of this thriving legal and business community. Manchester is the UK's fastest growing city, and is considered to be one of Europe's primary leisure, culture and entertainment destinations.

For more information on our Manchester centre, visit [college-of-law.co.uk/manchester](http://college-of-law.co.uk/manchester)



## York

### Bishopthorpe Road

Set in 12 acres of private parkland just outside the walls of one of Europe's most beautiful and historic cities, our York centre combines a stimulating atmosphere with modern business school facilities. The spacious rooms and state-of-the-art library provide a tranquil study environment. Students make the most of all-weather and grass sport pitches and there's free parking on site. Affordable accommodation and a lively cafe and bar culture are nearby. York is well-connected by rail and road to legal centres such as Newcastle, Leeds, Sheffield and Hull.

For more information on our York centre, visit [college-of-law.co.uk/york](http://college-of-law.co.uk/york)

Our national reach gives you the widest choice of study locations of any provider of legal education.

# Locations

Come and meet us at one of our open days or centre visits: [college-of-law.co.uk/comeandmeetus](http://college-of-law.co.uk/comeandmeetus)

You can also check out our virtual tours at [college-of-law.co.uk/virtualtour](http://college-of-law.co.uk/virtualtour)



**Open University**

We've worked with the Open University for many years to offer one of the UK's most popular and innovative part-time, open-access law degree programmes.

Whatever your starting point, background or aspirations we have a range of courses and flexible options to help you succeed in the legal world.

# Our courses



**Graduate Diploma in Law (GDL)**

For non-law graduates who want a career in law.

**Legal Practice Course (LPC)**

For prospective solicitors with the GDL or qualifying law degree.

**Bar Vocational Course (BVC)**

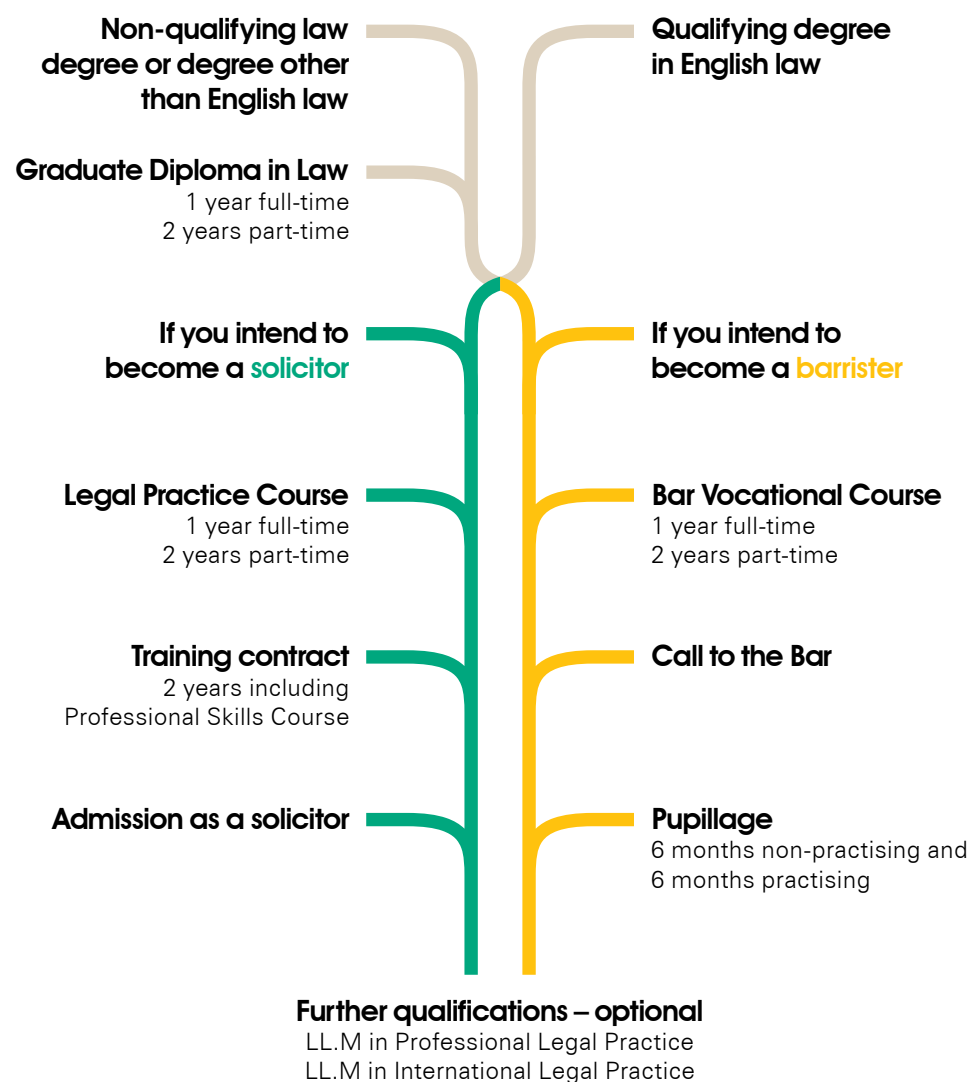
For prospective barristers with the GDL or qualifying law degree.

**Master's law degrees (LLM)**

For anyone seeking practice-oriented postgraduate legal qualifications.

Find your perfect route to practice >

## Your route to practice



### Get more from The College of Law

If you successfully study the GDL at the College and go on to pass either the LPC or BVC with us, you'll graduate with a Bachelor's degree in law (LL.B) without the need to study and pay for additional modules. The LL.B is visible recognition for future employers that the College GDL is as prestigious as a qualifying law degree.

College of Law LPC or BVC graduates earn a third of the credits towards our LL.M in Professional Legal Practice meaning they only need to study three modules and an assignment to achieve the full Master's degree.

### Flexible part-time options

In addition to our full-time GDL, LPC and BVC we offer a range of two-year part-time study options for these courses. These allow students to combine study with full-time work so they can earn while they learn, and manage their time to meet other commitments. And if you're studying part-time there are still opportunities to meet and work with fellow students and develop your skills through our practice-related activities.

Our LL.M awards can be studied either online or via a mixture of online and face-to-face tuition. You can study over a maximum of five years, giving you the freedom to choose how and when you learn.

### Commercial awareness programme

All our centres offer a programme to help you develop your business acumen, including business games, talks by guest speakers and presentations from an impressive list of legal and business professionals. These give you the chance to improve your understanding of the business needs of law firms and their clients and to develop the commercial awareness that employers are looking for.

### Pioneers of online learning

As part of our commitment to providing you with the most effective and flexible learning methods, we have been pioneers of online legal study. Supervised online modules and i-Tutorials are already integrated into our courses and we are committed to exploring new innovations and distance learning options to meet our students' needs.





**Courses studied:**  
Full-time GDL, 2005/06  
Full-time LPC, 2006/07

**Degree:**  
History and Politics,  
University of Durham

**The College experience:**  
There are lots of benefits to studying at the College – location, reputation, convenience and a friendly atmosphere. What stood out for me were the way my knowledge of the law progressed and the moments when the penny dropped.

**The courses:**  
The GDL was an excellent run through of the seven heads of law. It was approached professionally, demanded application and was ultimately very rewarding. When it came to the LPC, being able to do a specifically-tailored corporate course certainly helped me develop my corporate skills and persuaded me that it was the right route. On a practical level, the i-Tutorials, quality of teaching and comprehensive study materials were all excellent.

**Preparation for practice:**

What I experienced at the College definitely prepared me for the life of a corporate solicitor, from the tuition, to the atmosphere, to the encouragement I received. I was primed to become a thrusting city lawyer and hopefully I've followed that through so far. If you want to become a corporate lawyer, it makes sense to get as much work experience as you can to develop your commercial awareness skills, and the corporate route LPC is a business-orientated course that certainly does this.

**Securing a training contract:**

When I first arrived at the College I hadn't had any legal work experience at all. The careers team really helped me turn my existing CV into a legal CV. They advised me on how I could get work experience in the time available and which firms to target. Both the careers consultants and the College's database of previous candidates' experience were very helpful in securing my training contract.

**The job:**

I've spent the first six months of my training contract working in the corporate department and the last two months in banking. It's fairly challenging and can be long hours and stressful sometimes, but it is pretty rewarding. I think to get on in the world of corporate law you've got to be a deal-orientated sort of person who enjoys the buzz and adrenaline rush of closing a deal.

**Career tip:**

Focus on your career and devote enough time to applying. Too many people put it off. Don't panic if you haven't got a training contract – it's amazing how many people secure contracts as the year progresses. Learn how to answer the question 'why do you want a career in law?'. Get as much experience as you can and don't worry if you're a bit older – law firms value past careers and the benefits they bring.

# My career start

**Max Moore**

Trainee Solicitor  
Denton Wilde Sapte LLP



# GDL

## Graduate Diploma in Law

The College GDL is much more than an academic conversion course – it's the perfect stepping stone towards a successful legal career for non-law graduates.



### Highlights

Designed and taught by qualified lawyers

Develops the skills that the profession demands

Includes 'Preparing for practice' module – unique to our GDL

More than just learning the law – you'll learn how to apply it in practice

Strong emphasis on commercial awareness and skills

Thorough grounding in company law

Guaranteed place on our LPC

LL.B law degree awarded on successful completion of our LPC or BVC



### Your stepping stone

Our GDL is designed to build knowledge and skills that more than match a law degree. In fact, many law firms and barristers' chambers welcome the broader education and experience that non-law graduates can bring to the profession.

### Career options

Studying the GDL at the College will enhance your career prospects. Even at this early stage of your legal training, you can begin to focus on the areas of law that interest you most. Whatever your aspirations, our GDL will help you to make informed choices about your future career and give you the confidence to become a successful lawyer.

If you want to become a solicitor, you're guaranteed a place on our LPC on successful completion of your GDL, provided you apply within two years. If you want to become a barrister, the Bar Standards Board doesn't allow institutions to give guarantees, but if you make us your first choice we can offer you a place on our BVC in most cases.

### An LL.B with no additional study

On successful completion of the College GDL and LPC or BVC, you'll graduate with an LL.B law degree, without the need to study or pay for additional modules. This is a clear demonstration of your abilities that will enhance your CV.

And when you successfully complete the LPC or BVC with us, you'll earn a third of the credits towards our LL.M in Professional Legal Practice, meaning you only need to study three modules and complete an assignment to achieve the full Master's degree.

**'Professionalism is embedded in the culture of the College GDL and it does far more than simply get you through the exams – it prepares you for a career in law.'**

Margo Young, part-time GDL, 2007/09

# Our unique 'Preparing for practice' module will give you a real understanding of what it's like to work with clients in legal practice.

## Preparing you for practice

We've designed our GDL to meet the realities of today's legal environment and to give you the practical skills you need to become a highly marketable lawyer.

Our 'Preparing for practice' module, unique to The College of Law, will give you a real understanding of what it's like to work with clients in legal practice – either as a solicitor or barrister. It uses practical, problem-based learning on real-life cases and work situations, designed in consultation with your future employers.

This is an essential part of your training to develop the skills you'll be expected to demonstrate at interview, put you ahead of other candidates and help you get off to a flying start when you begin your training contract or pupillage.

## Future Lawyers Association

We launched this unique initiative to give prospective students practical careers advice and information on all aspects of legal training and life as a lawyer. Membership is free to anyone considering a career in law and includes our termly e-newsletter, Future Lawyers News.

Visit [college-of-law.co.uk/futurelawyers](http://college-of-law.co.uk/futurelawyers) for more information.

## Learning by doing

At The College of Law you'll benefit from a unique blend of study methods to ensure you get the most from your course. And all of your training will be delivered by qualified lawyers with hands-on experience.

## What you get on the GDL

- **Practical workshops** give you unrivalled levels of face-to-face contact with your tutor and allow you to put your learning into practice in a supportive yet challenging environment.
- **Inspiring lectures** help review, summarise and advance your understanding.
- **State-of-the-art learning resources** include i-Tutorials, podcasts and e-forums.
- **Informal assessments**, regular oral and written feedback, and one-to-one meetings with personal tutors allow you to track your progress throughout the course and help ensure your success.
- **Tutors are contactable by phone, e-mail or in person**, so they're available to offer support when you need it.

To find out more about our GDL, visit [college-of-law.co.uk/GDL](http://college-of-law.co.uk/GDL)

## My GDL



### Priyansha Raina

Full-time GDL, 2006/07  
Full-time LPC (corporate), 2007/08

### On The College of Law:

Studying at the College is just one of the best life experiences. Everyone in the industry is aware of its excellent academic training and reputation. That's a huge bonus when it comes to your training contract because there's credibility with potential employers that you've gone to the right school.

### On the GDL:

The entire year was one of the best of my life. I found the GDL really exciting because it's about understanding the foundation of law and the origination of legal theories and concepts.

### On preparing for practice:

You're taught in workshops how to apply the law, and what it means in practice. Everything is geared towards making you as complete a lawyer as possible. It prepares you to think like a lawyer, to understand the client's concerns, and to realise the importance of commercial considerations.

### On the future:

I'm looking forward to starting my training contract with Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP.

## What is problem-based learning?

This approach is about tackling real-life legal problems in the supportive environment of a team of peers, with help and input from your tutors. This allows you to develop the essential analytical, research, problem-solving, teamwork and communication skills needed in legal practice.

### How does it work?

- You'll be presented with the facts of a legal problem.
- You'll be asked to identify the areas of law that may be relevant, based on your recent tuition.
- Working in teams, you'll research and analyse the relevant law, so that you experience the benefits and challenges involved in collaborative working.
- Finally, your team will present, discuss and get feedback on your advice to your client.



## GDL study options

### 1 year full-time

(40 hours per week)

**Birmingham, Chester, Guildford, London, Manchester and York**

- Average of nine hours tutor contact per week, divided between workshops and lectures, with up to ten hours preparation for each workshop.
- Formal tuition timetable based around four days per week with the same free day each week for private study.

### 2 year part-time – day

(20 hours per week)

**Birmingham, Guildford and Manchester**

- Ten face-to-face study days per year from September to May.
- Independent study between study days with some extra weekday attendance required for assessments.

### 2 year part-time – evening

(20 hours per week)

**London**

- Two three-hour evening tutor sessions per week and some Saturday training, with up to ten hours preparation for each workshop.
- Some weekday attendance required for assessments.

### 2 year part-time – weekend

(20 hours per week)

**Birmingham, Chester, London and York**

- Ten face-to-face weekend study days per year from September to May.
- Independent study between study days with some extra weekday attendance required for assessments.

## Applying for the GDL

### How to apply – full-time

Via Central Applications Board online at [www.lawcabs.ac.uk](http://www.lawcabs.ac.uk) or telephone 01483 451080 for further information.

Applications accepted from:  
**3 November 2008**  
Closing date for first round selection:  
**2 February 2009** (later applications considered until courses full).

### How to apply – part-time

Direct to The College of Law – visit [college-of-law.co.uk/GDL](http://college-of-law.co.uk/GDL) or contact Admissions on 0800 328 0153 or e-mail [admissions@lawcol.co.uk](mailto:admissions@lawcol.co.uk)

Applications accepted from:  
**8 October 2008**  
Applications considered until courses full.

## GDL course content

The GDL starts with an online pre-course study programme designed so you can hit the ground running when you arrive.

### Legal method

The first topic you'll study is legal method, covering the English legal system, legal research and other essential skills. It acts as a bridge between your previous education and the law, and draws on practical examples of the law in a range of commercial and other contexts.

### Preparing for practice module

A unique module to provide you with practical, skills-based training and an opportunity to develop your commercial and ethical awareness:

- problem-based learning to help you think like a lawyer
- commercial awareness training
- practice-related activity such as mooting or pro bono work
- independent research work and a choice of academic dissertation or a problem-based report, tailored to reflect the areas of law in which you intend to specialise
- a thorough grounding in company law to develop your business acumen

### Foundation subjects

You'll study the seven key areas of law:

- contract law
- criminal law
- equity and trusts
- European Union law
- land law
- public law
- tort

### Assessment

Regular informal assessments and written and oral feedback from tutors will help you monitor your progress in preparation for the final exams.

Your final result is based on:

- a multiple choice examination on legal method
- two pieces of independent research: one on foundation subjects and a dissertation or problem-based report on a legal subject of your choice
- final examinations in each foundation subject

**For details on entry requirements and selection criteria for the GDL, visit [college-of-law.co.uk/GDL](http://college-of-law.co.uk/GDL)**

## GDL fees

Course fees listed are for 2008/09

Birmingham	Chester	Guildford	London	Manchester	York
1 year full-time <b>£6,400</b>	1 year full-time <b>£6,020</b>	1 year full-time <b>£6,750</b>	1 year full-time <b>£7,330</b>	1 year full-time <b>New for 2009</b>	1 year full-time <b>£6,020</b>
2 year part-time (Yr 1) <b>£3,200</b>	2 year part-time (Yr 1) <b>£3,010</b>	2 year part-time (Yr 1) <b>£3,375</b>	2 year part-time (Yr 1) <b>£3,665</b>	2 year part-time (Yr 1) <b>New for 2009</b>	2 year part-time (Yr 1) <b>£3,010</b>

### LL.B at no additional cost

The College of Law LL.B is awarded at no extra fee on successful completion of both your GDL and LPC or BVC with us.

For details of how to pay your fees and information on funding, visit [college-of-law.co.uk/GDL](http://college-of-law.co.uk/GDL)

**Courses studied:**

Part-time LPC, 2005/07

**Degree:**

Law, University of East London

**The College experience:**

I chose to study at the College because of its standards of teaching, technology and reputation. The highlights were the staff and student interaction and being able to meet and work with such a great group of fellow students. All this, combined with learning in practice, makes an amazing difference.

**Study options:**

As a part-time student, it was important for me to have strategies in place to help me complete the course, so things like i-Tutorials and podcasts were a real help. It meant that a lot of the challenges of studying from home were diminished.

**The courses:**

The tutors made the LPC interesting and enjoyable, and they were always approachable, respectful and willing to assist. Course materials and workshop tasks closely replicated real-life situations – and although the facts were invented, I often find myself encountering the same situations in practice. I chose to stay with the College to take the fast-track Professional Skills Course as part of my training contract. Again, the teaching methods were excellent, and the scenarios matched those I face in real-life practice.

**Securing a training contract:**

I worked as a paralegal while I was studying at the College. The careers service is excellent and helped me draft a suitable CV for commercial and private firms (as opposed to corporate firms). When I secured an interview, they gave me an indication of what to expect and helped me to prepare.

**The job:**

What I enjoy most about my job is the interaction with clients and the daily challenge. You're continually dealing with new situations. Just because you've finished the LPC, it doesn't mean your learning stops, as new situations that you haven't dealt with before come up all the time. Commercial and private practice gives me a chance to communicate with clients on an intimate level. You're generally working with people who are distressed, and it gives me a chance to combine my personable skills with my legal knowledge. Whether the work is dealing with a property transaction or going through litigation and getting a client out of trouble, you can see the difference you're making to people.

**Career tip:**

Work hard – you'll regret it if you don't. Competition is fierce and you'll be expected to shine. Also, build a portfolio of past work – I did this, and it really assisted me in practice. If I'm working in litigation and need to draft a claim form, I can go to my portfolio and know there's a sample there.

# My career start

**Chris Waters**

Trainee Solicitor

Crust Lane Davis LLP



# LPC



## Highlights

First choice for leading law firms – many insist their trainees study with us

Widest choice of vocational electives allows you to focus on your areas of interest

Unrivalled levels of face-to-face teaching in small group workshops

Choice of specialist routes so you can tailor the LPC to your career aspirations

Designed and taught by qualified lawyers

Quality assured – top SRA ratings at all centres

Earn a third of the credits towards our LL.M in Professional Legal Practice

66% of senior lawyers believe The College of Law offers the best LPC.

Source: Legal Week Survey, 2007

## Legal Practice Course

Our LPC is rigorous, practical and designed to prepare you for the career challenges ahead.

### Your next step

The LPC is the next step towards your career as a solicitor once you've completed a qualifying law degree or GDL.

The College of Law LPC has been awarded the SRA's highest possible 'commendable' rating in all areas of assessment at every one of its centres.

You'll get hands-on experience with plenty of opportunities to practise the critical skills that law firms are looking for.

Many of the country's leading law firms send their trainees exclusively to the College to study the LPC, and we cater for the full spectrum of legal careers, with a choice of specialist routes tailored to your area of interest and career aspirations.

### Fast-track LL.M

By completing the LPC with the College you'll earn 60 Master's level credits and be a third of the way towards our LL.M in Professional Legal Practice. This means you only need to complete three modules and an assignment to achieve the full LL.M.

And if you've successfully completed our GDL and pass the LPC at the College, you'll graduate with an LL.B law degree – a clear demonstration of your abilities that will enhance your CV.

## My LPC



### Kushal Gandhi

Trainee Solicitor  
CMS Cameron McKenna LLP  
Full-time LPC, 2006/07

### On The College of Law:

I was attracted to The College of Law because of its international reputation and strong relationship with law firms. It offers an expert, well-structured learning environment, with an LPC that's designed and executed by and for professionals.

### On the LPC:

The LPC helped me appreciate the expectations of a City professional. It wasn't just about studying the letter of the law, but applying it in a commercial context. It taught me to think about the client's objectives. It was a fantastic learning experience because I wasn't just understanding the statutes, but working out practical solutions, which is what you need to do in practice.

### On the teaching:

The tutors at the College are part of the legal profession. They've done the deals in law firms and share their experience. That's the whole point of the College LPC – it's focused on practice.

### On job satisfaction:

What I most enjoy about my job is its potential. A corporate sector career offers opportunities to be part of organisations that make or break the economy.



**'We want our trainees to understand what it's really like to work in a law firm and have the skills they'll need to hit the ground running when they join us. That's exactly what the College LPC gives us – trainees who are ready to start their careers and hungry to contribute to our firm's future success.'**

David Morley, Senior Partner, Allen & Overy LLP

### Enhance your career prospects

Studying the LPC at The College of Law will enhance your career prospects. Our specialist study routes allow you to tailor your training and focus on your chosen field, while still giving you an element of flexibility. All core practice areas and vocational electives will be tailored to your area of interest and develop your understanding of the business needs of the type of firm you want to work for. This specialisation will help you to stand out in the crowded market for training contracts.

#### Commercial and private

There are thousands of training contracts on offer in this sector and it has the widest choice of career opportunities. Trainees in commercial and private practice firms usually benefit from responsibility and client contact relatively early in their careers. They also have the opportunity to work with a wide variety of clients, from large private companies and smaller PLCs, to private clients, meaning that the caseload is richly diverse.

This route combines broad-based legal skills and sector-specific expertise, preparing you for the huge range of practice options across the commercial and private sector. You'll be able to choose from the full list of vocational electives, from commercial law to private client and personal injury.

#### Corporate

This route is designed to prepare you for work in a corporate law firm, where the main focus of work is business law. These firms tend to offer the highest starting salaries and, some believe, the most high-profile work with public companies and financial institutions – sometimes in an international context. Corporate firms often recruit large numbers of trainees, who usually work in teams and structured departments.

On this route you'll learn about the commercial realities of publicly-listed companies and be able to take vocational electives such as acquisitions and commercial law. This route allows you to apply your learning in a wide range of corporate contexts.

#### Public legal services

This route prepares you for practice in the publicly-funded legal sector, providing legal representation for underprivileged groups or members of society. This could cover areas such as education, childcare, anti-social behaviour, housing, trading standards or local authority work.

In addition to the commercial and private core practice areas, you'll study relevant vocational electives which could include advanced criminal practice, housing law and welfare benefits and immigration law. You'll also receive additional training in the issues surrounding publicly-funded work and take part in pro bono advice programmes.

### Career routes

#### Commercial and private

'You have so much more hands-on involvement than in a big corporate firm.'  
Lauren Harvey, Trainee at Abacus Solicitors, full-time LPC, 2006/07

#### Corporate

'The attraction of the corporate sector is working on big, front-page, cutting-edge deals that usually span several jurisdictions and cultures.'  
Selina Sinclair, Trainee at Allen & Overy LLP, part-time LPC, 2005/07

#### Public legal services

'You deal with real issues that affect real families and these problems are ones that most people can relate to.'  
Nicola Oliver, part-time LPC, 2007/09

### Endorsement from leading firms

The College is exclusive LPC provider to a number of leading law firms. Our tailored LPC programmes are first choice for these firms – a unique endorsement of the quality of our training.

ALLEN & OVERY

CLIFFORD  
CHANCE

Linklaters

### Putting learning into practice

You'll benefit from a rich mix of study techniques and exceptional standards of training and support, all with an emphasis on thinking and acting like a successful lawyer in practice. All of your training is delivered by qualified lawyers with hands-on experience.

### What you get on the LPC

- Unrivalled levels of face-to-face teaching in small group workshops, meaning you get plenty of constructive, personalised feedback and support from your tutors and peers.
- Extensive use of demos before you undertake research or draft assignments – helps you get it right first time.
- State-of-the-art learning resources include i-Tutorials, podcasts and online group assignments.
- Informal assessments, regular oral and written feedback, and one-to-one meetings with personal tutors allow you to track your progress throughout the course and help ensure your success.
- Open-book exams to test your research skills and reflect how you'll work as a lawyer.
- Tutors contactable by phone, e-mail or in person, so they're available to offer support when you need it.

**To find out more about our LPC, visit [college-of-law.co.uk/LPC](http://college-of-law.co.uk/LPC)**

### Support through your training contract and beyond

Once you move on from the LPC to a training contract, the College will still be there to help you. We are the leading provider of the Professional Skills Course (PSC), the compulsory next stage of training for trainee solicitors, and of ongoing professional development for qualified lawyers. In fact, eight of the ten largest law firms in the UK use the College for their training and 90% of UK lawyers have trained with us at some point during their career.

## LPC study options

### 1 year full-time

(40 hours per week)

**Birmingham, Chester, Guildford, London, Manchester and York**

- Four 2.5 hour workshops per week.
- Supported by i-Tutorials, online test and feedback exercises, online group assignments and independent reading and research.

Students at Birmingham, Chester, Manchester and York have the option of all face-to-face tuition concentrated into two set days per week.

### 2 year part-time – evening

(20 hours per week)

**Birmingham and London**

- Two evening sessions per week, each consisting of one 2.5 hour workshop.
- Supported by i-Tutorials, online test and feedback exercises, online group assignments and independent reading and research.
- Some weekday attendance required for assessments.

### 2 year part-time – day

(20 hours per week)

**Birmingham, Chester, Guildford, London, Manchester and York**

- One full day session per week consisting of two 2.5 hour workshops.
- Supported by i-Tutorials, online test and feedback exercises, online group assignments and independent reading and research.
- Some additional weekday attendance required for assessments.

### 2 year part-time – weekend

(20 hours per week)

**Birmingham, Chester, Guildford, London, Manchester and York**

- Structured around directed self-study including i-Tutorials, online test and feedback exercises, online group assignments and independent reading and research.
- Supplemented by approximately 24 two-day study weekends over two years, consisting of 2.5 hour workshops.
- Some weekday attendance required for assessments.

## Applying for the LPC

### How to apply – full-time

Via Central Applications Board online at [www.lawcabs.ac.uk](http://www.lawcabs.ac.uk) or telephone 01483 301282 for further information.

Applications accepted from:

**1 October 2008**

Closing date for first round selection:

**1 December 2008** (later applications considered until courses full).

### How to apply – part-time

Direct to The College of Law – visit [college-of-law.co.uk/LPC](http://college-of-law.co.uk/LPC) or contact Admissions on 0800 328 0153 or e-mail [admissions@lawcol.co.uk](mailto:admissions@lawcol.co.uk)

Applications accepted from:

**Mid-September 2008**

Closing date for first round selection: **Early December 2008** (later applications considered until courses full).

Please note: As with all providers of legal training, The College of Law LPC for 2009 is subject to SRA validation. The LPC at our new Manchester centre has yet to be graded by the SRA.

## LPC course content

We offer the widest selection of vocational elective subjects available to help you tailor your LPC to match your own career aspirations.

### Stage one

#### Core practice areas

These are studied in either corporate or commercial and private contexts:

- business law and practice
- civil and criminal litigation
- property law and practice

#### Skills

- Advocacy
- Interviewing and advising
- Practical legal research
- Problem-solving and IT
- Writing and drafting

#### Additional areas

- Professional conduct and regulation
- Wills and administration of estates
- Taxation

### Stage two

#### Vocational electives

You'll study three vocational electives relevant to your choice of LPC route from the list below:

- acquisitions
- advanced criminal practice
- advanced property law and practice
- banking and debt finance
- commercial dispute resolution
- commercial law and practice
- employment law and practice
- family law and practice
- housing law and practice
- insurance law
- personal injury and clinical negligence litigation
- private client: wills, trusts and estate planning
- public companies and equity finance
- welfare benefits and immigration law

Visit [college-of-law.co.uk/LPC](http://college-of-law.co.uk/LPC) for further information on our vocational electives.

#### Assessment

You'll be assessed on the core practice areas and vocational electives by examination. Your oral skills will be assessed by a video performance and other skills by examination or coursework.

**For details on entry requirements and selection criteria for the LPC, visit [college-of-law.co.uk/LPC](http://college-of-law.co.uk/LPC)**

## LPC fees

Course fees listed are for 2008/09

Birmingham	Chester	Guildford	London	Manchester	York
1 year full-time <b>£9,400</b>	1 year full-time <b>£9,100</b>	1 year full-time <b>£9,640</b>	1 year full-time <b>£10,340</b>	1 year full-time <b>New for 2009</b>	1 year full-time <b>£9,100</b>
2 year part-time (Yr 1) <b>£4,700</b>	2 year part-time (Yr 1) <b>£4,550</b>	2 year part-time (Yr 1) <b>£4,820</b>	2 year part-time (Yr 1) <b>£5,170</b>	2 year part-time (Yr 1) <b>New for 2009</b>	2 year part-time (Yr 1) <b>£4,550</b>

Our LPC fees do not include the SRA's registration fee, which is payable to the College with your first instalment of fees and forwarded on your behalf. The fee is subject to change, but is currently set at £110 for full-time students and £55 per year for part-time students.

You'll also need to join the SRA as a student member. The fee for this is currently £80 and should be paid directly to the SRA – visit [www.sra.org.uk](http://www.sra.org.uk)

For details of how to pay your fees and information on funding, visit [college-of-law.co.uk/LPC](http://college-of-law.co.uk/LPC)

**Courses studied:**  
Full-time GDL, 2005/06  
Full-time BVC, 2006/07

**Degree:**  
Mathematics, University of Edinburgh

**The College experience:**  
I enjoyed both the GDL and BVC at the College of Law, especially the mooted competitions organised by the College and my Inn of Court, Middle Temple. As for the actual courses, I really benefited from the advocacy exercises and mock trials.

**The courses:**  
The structure of both the GDL and BVC provided me with an excellent grounding for the next stage of training. The GDL instilled in me the need to be fully prepared for class exercises, which is crucial on the BVC and during pupillage. On the BVC, court visits are compulsory and getting experience of the Magistrates' Court is invaluable for any prospective barrister.

**Preparation for practice:**

The emphasis the College places on legal research and other drafting exercises has been vital for practice, as the skills gained are the basis of every case. Even if law is not the career you want to follow, the skills are extremely transferable as a basis for many others.

**Work experience during study:**

I did mini pupillages at various chambers, including an assessed mini pupillage with my chambers, which undoubtedly helped me. In addition, I worked part-time at the Citizens Advice Bureau and for solicitors' firms, which showed dedication to a legal career and the ability to deal with people from all walks of life.

**Securing pupillage:**

I began applying for pupillage in the autumn of the BVC, which was relatively late compared to most people. Initially I applied to a number of sets practising in pure crime, but without success. When I completed my BVC, I began working as a paralegal at a Magic Circle criminal firm and continued my pupillage applications. After two rounds of interviews, I began my pupillage at 4 Breems Buildings in April 2008.

**The job:**

The Criminal Bar is a fun place to be, with something new happening each day and new people to meet. The work can be challenging and difficult at times, but getting results and carrying a case to its conclusion is a constant thrill.

**Career tip:**

One should not go on to the BVC thinking pupillage is a given, so it's vital that anyone seeking pupillage ticks all the boxes chambers look for. Get involved in mini pupillages, mooted and relevant pro bono work – anything that shows your commitment to the Bar. Try to do something that will make you stand out from everyone else – attend high-profile courses such as the US Death Penalty Training Course, get involved in acting or do something interesting abroad.

# My career start

**Danielle Feely**

Trainee Barrister (Pupil)  
4 Breems Buildings





# BVC



## Highlights

.....  
**Perfect preparation for the Bar**

.....  
**Designed and taught by  
experienced practitioners**

.....  
**Delivers the skills that leading  
chambers demand**

.....  
**Support in securing pupillage**

.....  
**Outstanding opportunities  
to hone advocacy skills**

.....  
**Learn in small, close-knit  
workshop groups**

.....  
**Earn a third of the credits  
towards our LL.M in  
Professional Legal Practice**  
.....

## Bar Vocational Course

The BVC is the next step towards your career as a barrister once you've completed a qualifying law degree or GDL. It's rigorous, intensive and shouldn't be undertaken lightly.

### Your career as a barrister

Our BVC will give you the skills you need to compete for the limited number of pupillage opportunities available and can open up a career that's rewarding and hugely stimulating. These skills can be applied at the Bar or beyond – past students have gone on to work for the United Nations, the European Parliament, the Civil Service or to become solicitor-advocates.

### Fast-track LL.M

By completing the BVC with the College you'll earn 60 Master's level credits and be a third of the way towards our LL.M in Professional Legal Practice. This means you only need to complete three modules and an assignment to achieve the full LL.M.

And if you've successfully completed our GDL and pass the BVC at the College, you'll graduate with an LL.B law degree – a clear demonstration of your abilities that will enhance your CV.

### Putting learning into practice

Studying your BVC with The College of Law will enhance your chances of a successful career at the Bar. We don't just aim to help you secure pupillage, we want to give you the all-round skills and expertise to be a first-class barrister. Our BVC has been designed to resemble working life as a barrister as closely as possible and you'll have ample opportunity to put your skills into practice.

### Practitioner evenings

These evenings allow you to demonstrate your advocacy skills in front of practising barristers and receive feedback.

### Mock trials

You'll participate in mock trials staged in front of sitting judges and senior barristers. It's a skill we're particularly strong on having won student mock trial competitions between BVC providers.

### Court visits

We arrange visits to the High Court, Magistrates' Courts and the Crown Court. You'll also arrange your own visits to other courts that reflect your areas of interest.

## My BVC



### Siobhan Doyle

Part-time BVC, 2006/08

#### On The College of Law:

The College has been very supportive and provided help and advice beyond what you'd expect of a college. It's committed to providing 100% support to every student.

#### On studying part-time:

The weekend course offered by the College is ideal as it meant I could still keep my full-time job.

#### On the pro bono programme:

There are plenty of opportunities to represent a case at tribunal. My pro bono case gave me experience in the rules of the Leasehold Valuation Tribunal (LVT) and the knowledge that not all cases are suitable for the LVT.

#### On the College careers service:

It's extremely useful in all aspects of obtaining pupillage and other career options. They run a variety of workshops and encourage participation, with advice tailored to each individual student.

#### On the future:

The College has given me the best possible start by helping me with my advocacy and providing constructive criticism on my delivery. I've improved my CV and interview skills, and hope to use this in my pursuit of a successful legal career.



**'Everything you learn is put in a practical setting, in the most realistic manner possible. This makes the learning more effective and prepares you for what to expect in real life.'**

Mohammad Arshad, full-time BVC, 2007/08

#### Mooting, negotiating and advocacy

Our teams have successfully competed in these skills at a national and international level. Our London advocacy competition is sponsored by 25 Bedford Row and many students have been offered pupillage on the strength of their performance.

#### Tribunal experience

You'll have the opportunity to represent clients in a variety of tribunals, taking cases from interview through to hearing. This could include Employment and Social Security Appeals Tribunals or becoming a panel member with the Youth Offending Service.

#### Unrivalled resources and support

You'll receive exceptionally high standards of training and support, carefully tailored to your academic needs and career aspirations, from tutors who have practised as barristers, solicitors or even sat as judges.

#### What you get on the BVC

- Realistic courtroom settings for mock trials and moots.
- Small group sessions – many in groups of as little as four students.
- State-of-the-art learning resources including our ELITE interactive learning support system and access to our online library.
- Informal assessments, regular oral and written feedback and one-to-one meetings with personal tutors allow you to track your progress throughout the course and help to ensure your success.
- Tutors contactable by phone, e-mail or in person, so they're available to offer support when you need it.

**To find out more about our BVC, visit [college-of-law.co.uk/BVC](http://college-of-law.co.uk/BVC)**

## BVC study options

### 1 year full-time (48 hours per week)

#### Birmingham and London

- Up to 16 hours formal training per week.
- Remaining time is devoted to private study.

### 2 year part-time – weekend (26 hours per week)

#### London

- Up to 16 study weekends per year.
- Up to 14 hours of formal training per study weekend.
- An average of 14 hours private study per week.

## Applying for the BVC

### How to apply

Via the Bar Standards Board online at [www.bvconline.co.uk](http://www.bvconline.co.uk)

Applications accepted from:  
**Early November 2008** – subject to change.  
Closing date for first round selection:  
**Early January 2009** – subject to change (later applications considered if we have space).

### Joining an Inn of Court

Students must join an Inn of Court before they can start the BVC. For contact details, visit [www.barstandardsboard.org.uk](http://www.barstandardsboard.org.uk)

## BVC course content

You'll begin by studying the criminal practice course and the civil practice course, before progressing on to specialist options.

### Course structure

The course takes you through the different stages of litigation, including evidence and sentencing. Later you'll take part in mock trials and choose two options for further study and skills development.

### Knowledge areas

- Civil litigation
- Criminal litigation and sentencing
- Evidence

### Core skills

- Advocacy
- Conference skills
- Drafting
- Fact management
- Legal research skills
- Negotiation
- Opinion writing

### Sample options

- Advanced civil litigation
- Advanced criminal litigation
- Alternative dispute resolution and mediation
- Commercial practice
- Family practice
- Immigration practice
- Judicial review practice
- Pro bono
- Employment practice

You'll also cover professional ethics, in accordance with the Bar Council's Code of Conduct.

### Assessment

There are 13 assessments in total. Practice assessments are held for all subjects, which include advocacy, research, drafting, conference skills, negotiation, civil and criminal litigation, and evidence and sentencing.

**For details on entry requirements and selection criteria for the BVC, visit [college-of-law.co.uk/BVC](http://college-of-law.co.uk/BVC)**

## BVC fees

Birmingham	London
1 year full-time <b>£10,500</b>	1 year full-time <b>£12,930</b>
	2 year part-time (Yr 1) <b>£6,465</b>

Course fees listed are for 2008/09.

Our BVC course fee does not include the Bar Standards Board's registration fee, currently £345. You pay this to the College with your first instalment of fees and we forward it on your behalf.

For details of how to pay your fees and information on funding, visit [college-of-law.co.uk/BVC](http://college-of-law.co.uk/BVC)



**Courses studied:**

Full-time LPC, 1993/94

**Degree:**

Law and American Studies,  
University of Keele

**The College experience:**

I had a very enjoyable year at The College of Law – the location and centre facilities were excellent. My year there in 1993 was the first year of the LPC, the old Law Society Finals having been axed the previous year. It was an interesting time for everyone as the lecturers had to adjust to teach the largely practical, procedural nature of the new course. For us students, it was our first experience of hands-on practical law rather than the theoretical law taught at university.

**Preparation for practice:**

The College's LPC provided an invaluable grounding in procedural aspects of the law – in stark contrast to the theoretical case law I was taught at university. The College taught me about the practical realities of law and, when I obtained a training contract, I was able to apply these to the procedures required.

**Securing a training contract:**

I secured a training contract at Vizards in Bedford Row, London. I was lucky enough to obtain this by chance a couple of months before my LPC finished. My brother was involved in a car accident and I happened to speak to the solicitor instructed to deal with the case. We got talking about my career – a week later I had an interview with Vizards and three months later I started my training.

**Career path:**

I have found my career both varied and rewarding. After my training contract finished in 1996, I joined Boyce Hutton in Torquay, first as an assistant solicitor and then as an associate in the civil litigation department. In 2001, I joined Gregg Latchams WRH in Bristol, moving from assistant solicitor to associate and I was made a partner in 2007. I am one of two partners in the litigation department and head up the contentious landlord and tenant department, dealing particularly with commercial lease disputes. I am also Honorary Treasurer of the Bristol Law Society.

**Career highlights:**

Qualifying as a solicitor and being made a partner are two of my career highs. Of course I always gain great satisfaction from winning disputes in which I act. Memorable cases include an argument involving President Putin's plane and a group litigation claim arising from a major fuel spillage in Bristol. The most enjoyable and satisfying aspect of being a partner is the hands-on involvement in running a business and steering the firm in the right direction.

**Career tips:**

Try to get the work/life balance right – spending 20 hours in the office each day is not a good thing!

# My career start

**Richard Gore**

Partner

Gregg Latchams WRH



# LL.M



## Highlights

Truly professional qualifications reflecting cutting-edge approaches to legal practice

Designed in conjunction with leading law firms and the International Bar Association

Wide range of specialist modules – so you can tailor to your area of interest

Learn at your own pace with a choice of supervised online or blended learning modules

College of Law LPC or BVC graduates earn a third of the credits towards our LL.M in Professional Legal Practice

## Professional Master's qualifications

Our Master's degrees are truly professional qualifications, designed to give you practical skills and knowledge to achieve new career goals.

### Practical skills to meet professional goals

Our Master's degrees are uniquely client-focused and reflect cutting-edge approaches to legal practice. There's a wide choice of flexible modules to suit your area of interest and enhance your own or your firm's expertise, leading to an LL.M in either Professional Legal Practice or International Legal Practice.

### Leading credentials

As the leader in practice-orientated legal training, we're uniquely equipped to deliver professional LL.M programmes to meet the demands of the modern legal profession. These courses have been designed in conjunction with top global firms and the International Bar Association (IBA) to equip students and lawyers with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed.

### Flexible, personalised study

We offer a flexible way for graduates and lawyers to gain our career-enhancing Master's qualifications. They can be studied at your own pace over a maximum of five years, with a wide choice of career-friendly supervised online or blended learning modules. This gives you the freedom to choose how and when you study and to tailor the LL.M programme to suit your area of interest.

### Who can study our LL.M?

Our LL.M programmes are open to anyone who holds a UK undergraduate degree or international equivalent – or a GDL, LPC or BVC. If your degree isn't in law, we recommend that you have a basic grounding in the subject, to help you hit the ground running when you start the course.

Here are just some of the people who study our LL.M programmes:

- recent graduates looking to enhance their CV
- qualified lawyers positioning themselves for partnership
- international lawyers aiming to increase their cross-border expertise
- non-legal professionals seeking to increase their legal knowledge



### What our students think

'This Master's will distinguish me from other LL.M-holders due to its practical approach and the fact that it is taught by qualified practitioners. The College of Law enjoys a stellar reputation and its LL.M will provide me with much better career prospects than a Master's from another organisation.'

Carolyn Aguebele Grenade, Legal Executive, LL.M in International Legal Practice, 2008

## Professional Legal Practice

Our LL.M in Professional Legal Practice is designed to build in-depth, practical knowledge of a wide range of specialist legal practice areas. Modules cover the full spectrum of legal practice, from criminal and family law to international corporate law. You can opt for supervised online or blended learning modules, giving you the flexibility to choose how you learn.

### Fast-track for College of Law graduates

All College of Law LPC or BVC graduates automatically earn 60 Master's level credits and are already a third of the way towards our LL.M in Professional Legal Practice. This means that they only need to complete three further modules and an assignment to achieve the full LL.M.

## International Legal Practice

Our LL.M in International Legal Practice is run in conjunction with the IBA, the world's leading organisation of international legal practitioners, bar associations and law societies. As the name suggests, it is specifically aimed at building cross-border legal knowledge, with a choice of corporate specialisms developed with leading global law firms including Allen & Overy LLP, DLA Piper LLP and Baker & McKenzie. It's studied exclusively via supervised online modules, meaning that there's no need to attend face-to-face training.



For further information on our LL.M programmes:

[college-of-law.co.uk/LLM-professional](http://college-of-law.co.uk/LLM-professional)

[college-of-law.co.uk/LLM-international](http://college-of-law.co.uk/LLM-international)

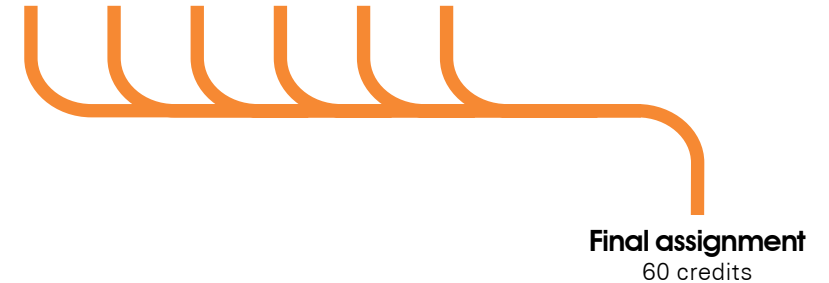
[llm@lawcol.co.uk](mailto:llm@lawcol.co.uk)

+44 (0)1483 216126

## LL.M study options

To qualify for an LL.M award, you need to earn 180 credits at Master's level. This is achieved by studying six modules (each worth 20 credits) and completing an assignment (worth 60 credits).

### Approved modules 20 credits each



The LL.M can be studied via supervised online modules, or by blended learning modules that combine online and face-to-face tuition.

### Supervised online modules

Start in January or July each year.

- Online study with one-to-one online supervision from a College tutor
- Nine units per module
- Each unit consists of ten to 15 hours of study – equating to approximately 2.5 weeks of work
- Each module should take approximately six months to complete, depending on your circumstances

Supervised online modules can be studied without any face-to-face tuition or the need to attend one of the College's UK centres – making them ideal for overseas lawyers or graduates. These modules are delivered in conjunction with the IBA and can be counted towards both LL.M programmes.

### Blended learning modules

March to June each year.

- Online study with day, evening or weekend face-to-face tuition at one of the College's UK centres
- Nine weeks of tuition per module, with breaks for consolidation and revision
- Ten hours of study per week per module, comprising of face-to-face workshops (2.5 hours), online test and feedback exercises (0.5 hours) and self-study including online i-Tutorials (7 hours)

A typical blended learning module will consist of student workshops facilitated by a tutor and self-study using our ground-breaking i-Tutorials, supplemented by regular online test and feedback exercises, reading, independent learning and online group assignments. These modules can only be counted towards our LL.M in Professional Legal Practice.



## Booking your LL.M

### How to book

Directly with The College of Law – visit:  
[college-of-law.co.uk/LLM-professional](http://college-of-law.co.uk/LLM-professional)  
[college-of-law.co.uk/LLM-international](http://college-of-law.co.uk/LLM-international)

Supervised online modules  
starting January 2009

Booking deadline:  
**January 2009**

Blended learning modules  
starting March 2009

Booking deadline:  
**February 2009**

Supervised online modules  
starting July 2009

Booking deadlines:  
**July 2009**

For more information on our LL.M  
booking deadlines, visit our website.

## LL.M fees

	Master's level credits	Total price
Individual modules	20	<b>£1,395</b>
Postgraduate Certificate (first three modules)	60	<b>£3,750</b> (equivalent to £1,250 per module)
Postgraduate Diploma (second three modules)	60	<b>£3,750</b> (equivalent to £1,250 per module)
Assignment	60	<b>£2,000</b>
Full LL.M	180	<b>£9,500</b>

Fees are the same for all study modes and all centres.  
Fees valid until July 2009.

## LL.M course content

To achieve our LL.M awards you need to successfully complete six modules plus an assignment.

## LL.M modules

### Supervised online modules

#### LL.M in Professional Legal Practice

#### LL.M in International Legal Practice

- Business, finance and the legal services market
- International intellectual property practice
- International commercial legal practice
- International public companies practice
- International capital markets and loans practice
- International mergers and acquisitions practice
- International antitrust practice\*
- International business organisations\*
- International joint ventures\*
- International arbitration practice\*\*

### Blended learning modules

#### LL.M in Professional Legal Practice

- Acquisitions
- Advanced criminal practice
- Advanced property law and practice
- Banking and debt finance
- Commercial dispute resolution
- Commercial law and practice
- Employment law and practice
- Family law and practice
- Housing law and practice
- Insurance law
- Personal injury and clinical negligence litigation
- Private client: wills, trusts and estate planning
- Public companies and equity finance
- Welfare benefits and immigration law

Visit our website for further details of the LL.M modules available.

\*Available from July 2009 \*\*Available from January 2010

### Assignment

You need to complete a 15,000-word assignment under the supervision of a College tutor. They will help you choose a suitable subject, which could include a topical legal matter, a current case being handled by your firm or chambers, or a new area you would like to explore.

### Assessment

The final unit of each supervised online module is a 3,000 to 5,000-word assessment. Each blended learning module will be assessed by an unseen examination at the College centre where you received your face-to-face tuition.

For more information on our LL.M programmes, visit:  
[college-of-law.co.uk/LLM-professional](http://college-of-law.co.uk/LLM-professional)  
[college-of-law.co.uk/LLM-international](http://college-of-law.co.uk/LLM-international)

# Your future success

Nearly all practising lawyers in England and Wales have trained with The College of Law and more lawyers have built a successful career with us than with any other UK institution.

Where you train for your legal career is an important decision. In these pages we've covered just a little of what makes studying at The College of Law the right choice. We're here to help you achieve your ambitions and find your route to a successful, fulfilling career in law, drawing upon all the expertise and resources at our disposal. We hope you'll join us.

But the best way to really get a feel for the College is to come to one of our open days or centre visits and see exactly how we can help you become perfect for practice.

## Find out more

Visit [college-of-law.co.uk](http://college-of-law.co.uk), call Admissions on 0800 328 0153 or e-mail [admissions@lawcol.co.uk](mailto:admissions@lawcol.co.uk)

### Equal opportunities

The College of Law fully complies with Equal Opportunities legislation and actively encourages diversity within the legal profession. Our admissions process acts fairly and aims to enable students to make the best use of their talents.

By choosing The College of Law for your training, you'll be in good company. Here are just some of the firms and chambers we've worked with over the years...

ALLEN & OVERY

BAKER & MCKENZIE

BARLOW LYDE & GILBERT

\*berwin leighton paisner

CLIFFORD  
CHANCE



Halliwells

Linklaters

PANNONE  
THE COMPLETE LAW FIRM

S&B Stevens & Bolton LLP

WEIL, GOTSHAL & MANGES

Wragge & Co

25 Bedford Row  
2 Temple Gardens  
Aberdein Considine & Co  
Addleshaw Goddard LLP  
Alexander Harris Solicitors  
AMJ Solicitors  
Anderson Strathern WS  
ASB Law  
Ashfords Solicitors  
Ashton Graham  
Ashton Morton Slack LLP  
Ashurst  
Atteys Solicitors  
Balfour & Manson  
Barlow Robbins LLP  
Barlows  
Barnetts Solicitors  
Battens Solicitors Ltd  
Beachcroft LLP  
Bedell Group  
Bermans  
Berryman Shacklock LLP  
Bevan Brittan LLP  
Bhatia Best  
Bircham Dyson Bell LLP  
Bird & Bird  
Birketts LLP  
Blackett Hart & Pratt LLP  
Blackstone Chambers  
Blakemores Solicitors  
Bond Pearce LLP  
Boyce Turner  
Brachers Solicitors  
Breachin Tindall Oatts  
Brick Court Chambers  
Bristows  
Browell Smith & Co  
Browne Jacobson LLP  
Burgess Salmon LLP  
Canter Levin & Berg Solicitors  
Chadwick Lawrence Solicitors  
Challinors Solicitors  
Chamberlain LLP  
Charles Russell LLP  
Chattertons Solicitors  
Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP  
Clyde & Co  
CMS Cameron McKenna LLP  
Coffin Mew & Clover Solicitors  
Collyer Bristow LLP  
Cripps Harries Hall LLP  
Crutes LLP  
D M H Stallard Solicitors  
Darbys Solicitors LLP  
Davenport Lyons  
Davies & Partners  
Davies Arnold Cooper  
Davies Lavery

Dechert LLP  
Denton Wilde Sapte LLP  
Devonshires Solicitors  
Dickinson Dees LLP  
DLA Piper UK LLP  
Donns Solicitors  
Drummond Miller WS  
Drydens Lawyers  
Dundas & Wilson LLP  
Essex Court Chambers  
Eversheds LLP  
Exchange Chambers  
Farleys  
Farrer & Co LLP  
Fentons Solicitors  
Field Fisher Waterhouse  
Fisher Meredith  
Forbes Solicitors  
Ford & Warren  
Forsters LLP  
Fountain Court Chambers  
Four New Square  
Fox Hayes LLP  
Fox Williams  
Freeth Cartwright LLP  
Freshfields Bruckhaus  
Deringer  
Geldards LLP  
Gillespie Macandrew WS  
Golds Solicitors  
Gordons LLP  
Gorman Hamilton Solicitors  
Gorvins Solicitors  
H B J Gateley Wareing LLP  
Hammonds  
Harbottle & Lewis LLP  
Harper Macleod  
Harrowell Shaftoe Solicitors  
Harvey Ingram LLP  
Hempsons Solicitors  
Henmans LLP  
Herbert Smith LLP  
Higgs & Sons  
Hill Dickinson LLP  
Hodge Jones & Allen  
Horsey Lightly Fynn  
Horwich Farrelly  
Howard Kennedy  
Howells Solicitors  
Howes Percival LLP  
Hugh James  
Ince & Co  
Irwin Mitchell  
Ison Harrison & Co  
James Chapman & Co  
Jones Day  
Keating Chambers  
Kendall Freeman  
Kennedys

Keoghs LLP  
Kidd Rapinet  
Kings Chambers  
Kingsley Napley  
Knight & Sons  
Landmark Chambers  
Langleys Solicitors  
Lanyon Bowdler  
Latham & Watkins LLP  
Lawrence Graham  
Laytons Solicitors  
Ledingham Chalmers LLP  
Lester Aldridge  
Lewis Silkin  
Linder Myers Solicitors  
Littleton Chambers  
Lovells  
Lyons Davidson  
Mace & Jones  
Macfarlanes  
MacRoberts  
Maitland Chambers  
Manches LLP  
Matrix Chambers  
McClure Naismith  
McGrigors LLP  
McKeags  
Mills & Reeve  
Minster Law Ltd  
Mishcon De Reya  
Moore & Blatch  
Morgan Cole  
Morton Fraser LLP  
Nabarro  
Nelsons  
No 5 Chambers  
Norton Rose  
Ogier LLP  
Olswang Solicitors  
One Crown Office Row  
One Essex Court  
Osborne Clarke  
Outer Temple Chambers  
Parabis Law LLP  
Payne Hicks Beach  
Penningtons LLP  
Pictons Solicitors LLP  
Pinsent Masons  
Pitmans  
Porter Dodson  
Putsmans Solicitors  
Quadrant Chambers  
Radcliffes LeBrasseur  
Reed Smith LLP  
Reynolds Porter  
Rickerbys  
Robert Muckle LLP  
Rollits  
Rowe Cohen Solicitors

Roythorne & Co  
Russell & Russell  
S J Berwin LLP  
Salans  
Semple Fraser WS  
Serle Court  
Shakespeare  
Shearman & Sterling LLP  
Shepherd & Wedderburn  
Sherrards Solicitors  
Shoosmiths  
Sidley Austin LLP  
Simmons & Simmons  
Simpson & Marwick Solicitors  
Simpson Millar LLP  
Slaughter & May  
Smith Partnership  
Speechly Bircham LLP  
St Philips Chambers  
Stephens & Scown  
Stephenson Harwood  
Sullivan & Cromwell LLP  
Taylor Vinters Solicitors  
Taylor Walton Solicitors  
Taylor Wessing  
The Johnson Partnership  
The Wilkes Partnership  
Thomas Eggar  
Thompsons Solicitors  
Thomson Snell & Passmore  
Thorntons WS  
Tilly Bailey & Irvine  
Tollers Solicitors  
Travers Smith  
Trowers & Hamlin  
Tuckers Solicitors  
TWM Solicitors LLP  
Veale Wasbrough Lawyers  
Vizards Wyeth  
W B W Solicitors  
Walker Morris  
Walker Smith Way Solicitors  
Ward Hadaway Solicitors  
Warner Goodman & Street  
Watson Burton LLP  
Watson Farley & Williams  
Wedlake Bell  
Weightmans Solicitors  
White & Case LLP  
Whittles Solicitors  
Wilberforce Chambers  
Wilkin Chapman Solicitors  
Wilson Nesbitt Solicitors  
Winckworth Sherwood  
Withers LLP  
Withy King Solicitors  
Woodfines LLP  
Wright Hassall LLP  
XXIV Old Buildings

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**college-of-law.co.uk**

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