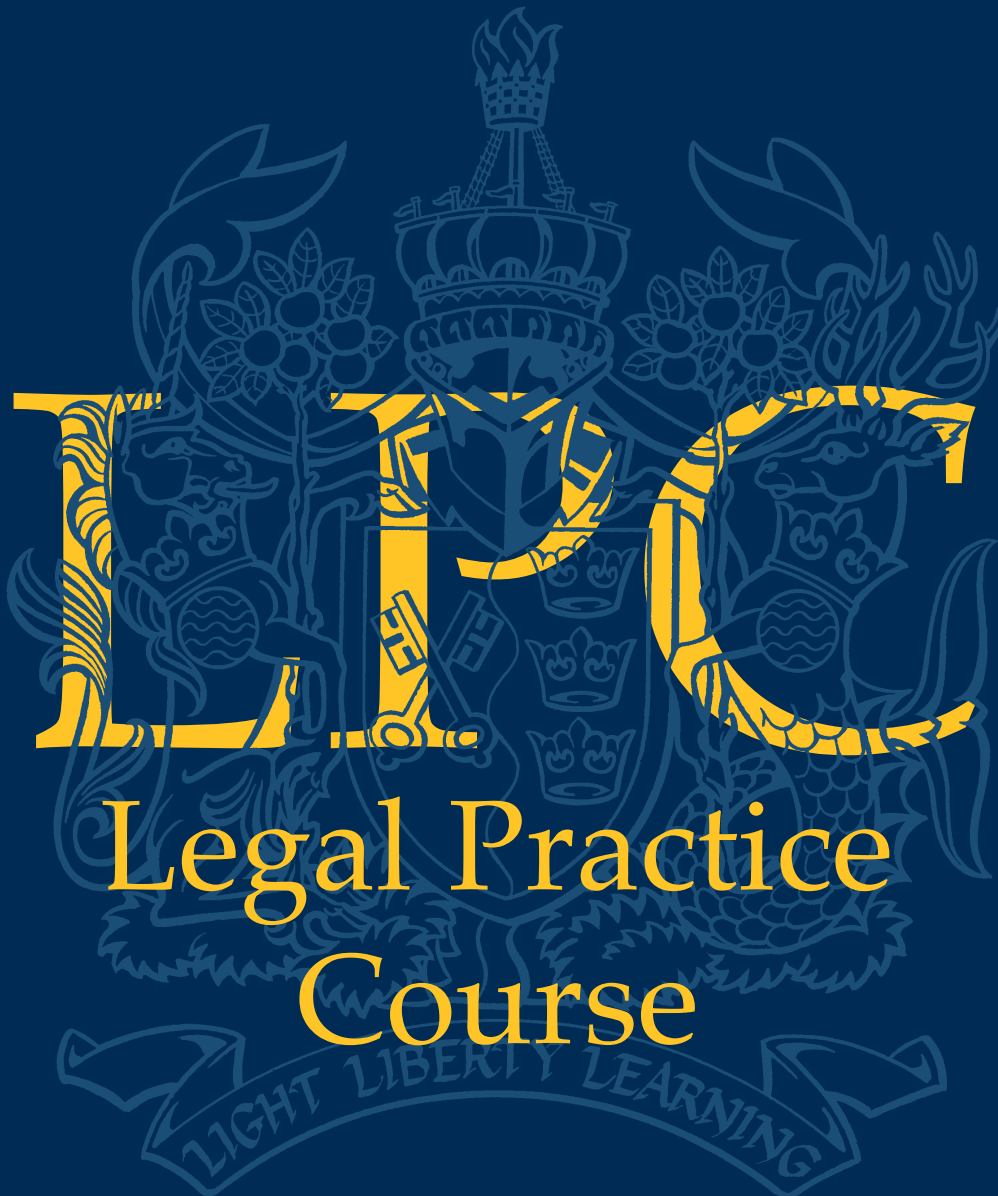


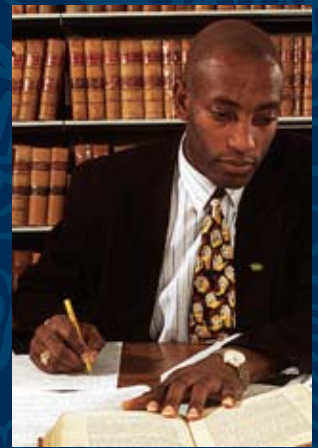


University of the  
West of England

## Bristol Institute of Legal Practice







LIGHT LIBERTY LEARNING





# The Bristol Institute of Legal Practice



## The School

The School of Law at UWE is one of the largest in the United Kingdom with 80 members of staff and some 1,300 students. It has been engaged in the delivery of quality legal education since 1969, when it was established as the Law Department of the then Bristol Polytechnic. It currently holds one of the highest research ratings for law in the 'new' university sector and has been rated 'excellent' for its teaching by the Higher Education Funding Council for England. It has one of the widest portfolios of courses of any law school in England.

The School is justly proud of its Legal Practice Course, which was continuously graded as 'excellent' by the Law Society from 1996-2006. Since 2006 it has held the highest grading possible under the revised scheme of 'commendation' in all six areas of the programme.

The teaching and research in the School is organised within two departments: The Department of Law and The Bristol Institute of Legal Practice. The Department of Law offers a wide portfolio of courses at undergraduate level, a modular LLM programme and supervision for full or part-time studies leading to degrees of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) or Master of Philosophy (MPhil), supported by specialist training.

It is also a major contributor to courses within the Bristol Business School and other Faculties.

## Bristol Institute of Legal Practice

With more than thirty years' successful involvement in professional vocational legal education, a strong national and international reputation and well established links with both legal professions and commerce, the School of Law at UWE has been widely recognised as one of the leading providers of professional legal courses in the UK.

Since 1996, the School's Legal Practice Course (LPC) was awarded The Law Society's highest assessment rating of 'excellent' on five successive occasions.

The School's strength in professional education was recognised again in July 1996 when the Bar Council selected UWE from 17 universities and other organisations to be one of the six new providers of the Bar Vocational Course (BVC). The BVC commenced at UWE in September 1997.

The success of the School's professional courses and their consequent dramatic growth in recent years has led to the formation of the Bristol Institute of Legal Practice.

The mission of the Bristol Institute of Legal Practice is to be a model professional law school for the 21st Century, recognised as a market leader and a centre of excellence and innovation in the provision of life-long professional legal education and related research, providing a first class academic opportunity and experience for students and staff, satisfying the educational needs of practitioners regionally, nationally and internationally.

The Bristol Institute's current portfolio of professional legal courses includes:

- the Legal Practice Course (full-time)
- the Legal Practice Course (part-time by way of Open Learning)
- the Bar Vocational Course (full-time)
- the Bar Vocational Course (part-time by way of Open Learning)
- the CPE Graduate Diploma in Law (full-time)
- the CPE Graduate Diploma in Law (part-time by distance learning and residential sessions)
- an LLM in Advanced Legal Practice
- the Professional Skills Course
- Continuing Professional Development Courses and Conferences

The Bristol Institute also provides consultancy and a range of tailor-made in-house courses for a number of firms in Bristol, the City of London and elsewhere in the UK.

**Associate Dean  
Director, Bristol Institute of Legal Practice**





# The Legal Practice Course

Since September 1993, the School of Law has offered two Legal Practice Courses. Both are approved by The Solicitors Regulatory Authority (SRA) and also attract the University award of a Postgraduate Diploma in Legal Practice. The first of the Faculty's LPCs is a full-time course, delivered over approximately 34 weeks. The second, a part-time course, by way of open learning, delivered over two academic years.

In common with all LPCs, our LPCs cover the areas of substantive and procedural law and legal skills prescribed by The SRA.

A number of features contribute to the excellent quality of our LPCs

- experienced vocational law teachers, who are qualified solicitors or barristers
- collaboration with practice management and skills training consultants
- consultation with leading firms in Bristol, the City of London and elsewhere
- purpose built accommodation for the exclusive use of LPC students (full and part-time)
- concentration on small group work
- a large range of elective subjects to suit all needs

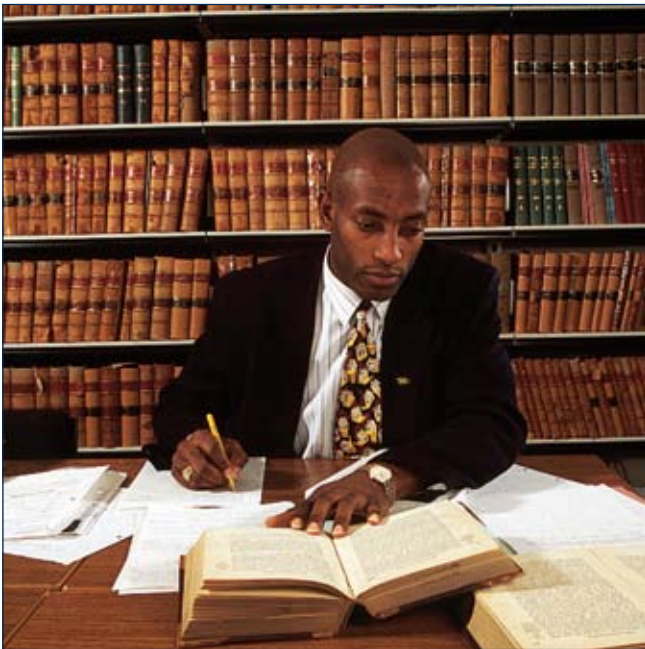
## Staff on the Legal Practice Course

Our students benefit from the long experience of a team of vocational law teachers, most of whom also have a professional qualification and experience in practice. All new staff recruited to teach on the LPC are professionally qualified as solicitors and committed to skills training. In all, some 40 members of staff are involved with the LPC.

The LPC team enjoys close links with the profession. Local practitioners are involved in the on-going evaluation and development of the courses and in the assessment of legal skills. Occasional guest speakers are drawn from local firms, the City of London and the wider profession. Individual LPC staff members maintain their involvement with practice in a variety of ways including sitting as Deputy District Judge, Tribunal Chairman, part-time practice, consultancy and the delivery of continuing professional development courses.







### Accommodation for the Legal Practice Course

In September 1992, the School relocated to new purpose built teaching accommodation at the University's Frenchay Campus which included two new lecture theatres, with capacities of 250 and 150.

The teaching accommodation contains offices or 'base rooms' for the exclusive use of full and part-time LPC students. The 'base room' becomes his or her 'office' not only for the purposes of workshop sessions but also for group discussion, private study and other course related activities. Each LPC room is equipped with a small library containing source materials commonly used by practitioners. In addition, a TV monitor, a VCR, a Data Projector, a Smartboard, four PCs and a laser printer are permanently located in each LPC base room.

LPC students together with their fellow professional studies students on the BVC have exclusive access to a practitioner library containing further materials which students are likely to encounter in practice. LPC students also have ready access to the University computer suites.

In common with all students of the University, students of the School of Law have access to the Bolland Library collection, housed at the Frenchay Campus. A new extension, costing nearly £7 million, has added 3,450 sq metres to the existing area of 4,753 sq metres. The law library comprising an extensive Law collection, with access to the Lexis, Westlaw and Justis data bases, has long been recognised as an excellent library, but the extra available space allows students much greater access to materials and to specifically-designed study areas. The law library section of the extension allows for an expanded seating area and enhanced CD-ROM access, together with the facility to place more material on the shelves.

The purpose built accommodation contains mock court rooms, designed primarily with the advocacy training needs of LPC and BVC students in mind and a studio assessment room.

Skills training requires the use of audio visual recording and play back facilities. The mock court room, the studio assessment room and the LPC teaching rooms all contain audio-visual equipment.

### Mode of Attendance on the Part-time LPC by Open Learning

Our part-time LPC is a 'block' course. This means that you would usually attend for a two or three day study session each month. It is designed to attract those who wish to qualify as solicitors but for whom study on a full-time course is impossible, whether for domestic, financial or other reasons. Most part-time students are also engaged in employment, often but not necessarily under a training contract or within a legal environment.

Part-time students attend the School for 10 monthly study sessions from September to June in each academic year. These sessions comprise 50 study days during the two years as follows:

- one four day session held on a Wednesday to Saturday
- ten three day sessions held on a Thursday, Friday and Saturday and
- eight two day sessions held on a Friday and Saturday

In addition to the study days, students are required to attend for skills assessments and examinations held at various stages throughout each academic year.

### Structure and Teaching Methods of the LPC

Essentially, we regard our two LPCs as one course, delivered in two modes.

On the full-time course, students undertake the study of:

- a 'Core Area' Foundation course, which provides an introduction to the legal skills, the pervasive subjects and the use of IT library research tools on the LPC, and
- three compulsory law subjects, Solicitors' Accounts, Business Accounts and Probate and the Administration of Estates, and
- three elective subjects

The course taken by part-time students is almost identical but extends over two academic years and is structured as follows:

#### First Year

(September - June)

- a Foundation Course, which provides an introduction to legal skills, pervasive subjects (eg conduct and financial services) and the use of IT and library research tools on the LPC
- the compulsory law subject of Business Law and Practice





- the core area of Probate and Administration of Estates
- Business Accounts
- one elective subject from a choice of subjects

### Second Year

(September - June)

- a Foundation Course which provides further introduction to legal skills and the pervasive subjects
- the compulsory subjects of Litigation and Advocacy and Property Law and Practice Conveyancing
- Solicitors' Accounts
- two elective subjects from a choice of subjects

The building block approach adopted by our LPCs provides the student with the opportunity for a structured development of skills and acquisition of knowledge. It meets the needs of those LPC students new to the techniques used in skills training; it enables students to develop legal skills and an appreciation of the pervasive subjects in context and it allows for the study of elective subjects that complement and extend the compulsory law subjects.

### Workshops

The majority of teaching on the LPC takes place in workshops with a typical number of 16 students in each workshop group. In many workshops, the students will be allocated to smaller sub groups. Workshops usually last for three hours with the emphasis on learning through practice-based case studies. This approach ensures that students are frequently given the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the practice reference material contained in the LPC rooms and the student resource room. It also ensures that students gain an understanding of many common legal transactions and procedures and have the opportunity, through role play, to practise the legal skills involved. Workshops are supplemented, where appropriate, by large group sessions providing an overview of a particular subject or clarifying points of difficulty.

On our part-time LPC, the residential study sessions are given over exclusively to workshops. Part-time students are given expanded study packs one month prior to each session containing overview handouts and other materials as appropriate.

### Assessment on the Legal Practice Course

We are committed to the delivery of an LPC that is enjoyable as well as educationally sound. Assessment of a student's achievement is by a combination of written and oral skills exercises and open/ close book examinations. Such assessments are held at different points of the year in order to obtain an appropriate balance between the learning process and assessment of student achievement.

### Curriculum of the Legal Practice Course

In common with all LPCs, our LPCs include:

- the core area/pervasive law subjects of Professional Conduct and Financial Services, European Law and Revenue Law and Human Rights;
- the core area subjects of Accounts and Probate and Administration of Estates;
- the compulsory pervasive legal skills of Practical Legal Research, Legal Writing, Drafting, Interviewing, and Advocacy;
- the three compulsory subjects of Property Law and Practice, Litigation and Advocacy and Business Law and Practice.

The teaching programmes of these subjects and skills have been designed to comply with the written standards established by the Legal Practice Course Board. After a short introduction in the 'core areas' Foundation Course, the teaching of pervasive subjects and skills is integrated into the teaching of later elements of the course, as and where appropriate.

In addition, our LPC currently offers a range of 14 elective subjects, designed to meet the interests and needs of every student, whether intending to take up a training contract in a City or large commercial law firm, a smaller more general practice or one specialising in law in the community. The range is:

- Advanced Criminal Litigation
- Banking and Capital Markets
- Charity Law
- Commercial Law
- Commercial Litigation
- Commercial Property
- Corporate Finance
- Employment Law
- Family Breakdown
- Media and Entertainment Law
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence
- Private Client (Estate Planning)
- Public Child Care and Housing Law and Practice

Students must choose three elective subjects. Details of the elective subjects can be found below. In any given year, electives will run subject to there being sufficient student demand to make them viable. Level of demand may also restrict the combination that can be chosen.





### Advanced Criminal Litigation

The Advanced Criminal Litigation elective is designed to provide for those students who have an interest in, or wish to further develop their knowledge and skills of, procedures relating to criminal litigation in a practical, lively and stimulating way. The course will be of particular relevance to those employed, or who propose to be employed, within the Magistrates' Courts Service, the Crown Prosecution Service, or private practice undertaking criminal defence work.

The elective encompasses:

- the role of the solicitor at the police station
- preparing a case for trial in the Magistrates' Court
- preparing a case for trial in the Crown Court, including briefing Counsel
- appellate procedure and jurisdiction
- sentencing

The section of the course dealing with the role of the solicitor at the police station will be of a standard consistent with the requirements of the Law Society's Police Station Accreditation Scheme. The workshop sessions deal with a range of situations which may be encountered at the police station and use case studies and role-play to simulate practice.

The course and conduct of a trial both in the Magistrates' Court and the Crown Court will be by use of an additional case study and will involve subjecting the prosecution and defence case to careful analysis, and identifying and considering numerous evidential and legal issues. Opening and closing addresses will be discussed. A practical approach will be adopted to the preparation of a case for trial in the Crown Court, which will include experience of drafting a brief to Counsel.

The course will also examine the various avenues of appeal which may exist in respect of a convicted defendant and will consider the constraints and advantages in pursuing such avenues. Finally, the whole issue of sentencing will be studied, with particular reference to road traffic offences and youths.

### Banking and Capital Markets

In common with Corporate Finance, this elective is designed to provide students with an understanding of the law and regulatory requirements which underpin a City banking practice. It is of particular relevance to those students who are about to undertake training contracts with either City firms or large provincial practices.



The Banking and Capital Markets elective (complementary to the Corporate Finance elective which covers equity finance) deals with the different aspects of raising debt finance either in the banking market through a loan, syndicated or otherwise, or in the capital markets through the issue of debt securities, such as bonds or commercial paper. It also covers the principal aspects of secured lending and guarantees. It will demonstrate how facilities or instruments are structured according to the sources of funds available, the period or term for which the finance is required and the nature of the risk being undertaken by the lender.

Banking and Capital Markets is a technical and specialised area as much concerned with the methods and practices of the market places in which the finance is being arranged as with the applicable law. The legal element is concerned with the specialist application of contract law while regulatory requirements cover listings, International Primary Market Association rules, the clearing systems, Bank of England and FSA regulations. Given its specialist nature, the aim will not be to provide students with an immediate ability to conduct complex financial transactions but to ensure that students gain a sound knowledge and understanding of the underlying objectives and principles on which financial transactions are based as well the applicable legal and regulatory framework. Having completed this elective, a student should be equipped to undertake simple transactions under supervision.

We recognise that it is imperative that students are made aware of the demands made by both banking and borrowing clients and the time pressures, particularly those imposed in the capital markets, under which many lawyers in this field work. These aspects are reflected in workshop design, as is the need to develop drafting and negotiating skills.

In the early days of their training contracts, trainees who have studied this subject should be better equipped to recognise and appreciate the constraints bearing upon, and the options available to, borrowers and lenders alike.





### Charity Law and the Not for Profit Sector

Charities and other not for profit organisations number around 600,000 in the UK and together form a growing sector of the economy. The total income of the charitable sector itself is in the region of £4.7 billion and, with the government promoting a high degree of independence for hospitals, schools and other institutions, the not for profit sector as a whole is growing steadily.

All but the smallest organisations in the sector are businesses which operate within a commercial framework as well as within the structure of charities legislation. Their demand for commercially able charity lawyers is growing fast, as is the number of law firms specialising in Charity Law. In addition, solicitors with expertise in this area are increasingly in demand for urban and rural regeneration projects, PFI contracts, community projects, and projects relating to the arts, sport, education, health and the environment.

This elective will look at charities as businesses and give an overview of:

- the various legal frameworks available
- the regulatory system and the role of the Charity Commission
- raising and using funds
- trading and commercial ventures
- tax issues
- endowment and property transactions
- the role of trustees
- legal aspects of running a charity.

The emphasis will be on the practical legal issues faced by a range of charities, from international to local. Much of the work involves a case study based on a successful charity, registered in 1994 and currently going through major change.

There will be opportunities to visit the organisation and to use working documents and material. Internet research will be an important component of the course, which is itself designed to make good use of the increasing IT capability within BILP.

The course will be of particular relevance for those students who want to enter their training contract with a sound grounding in a wide range of commercial law, as well as those interested in specialising in Charity Law. Many large and medium sized firms seek to attract national and international charities as clients and a knowledge and understanding of the regulatory structure and legal framework within which these organisations operate is likely to be a valuable tool.

### Commercial Law

The Commercial law elective is designed to provide an insight into the law and regulatory regimes which form the foundation of a large commercial practice. It is of particular relevance to those students wishing to undertake training contracts in City firms of solicitors or in large to medium sized provincial firms. The elective complements and links with the Corporate Finance, Mergers and Acquisitions, Banking and Capital Markets, Commercial Litigation, Commercial Property and Employment electives.

The elective will cover:

- commercial contracts, including, sales of goods, international sale transactions and payment mechanisms and agency and distribution agreements.







- the rules of competition law affecting the UK and EC
- Intellectual Property law, including patents, trademarks and copyright.

The elective will be taught through a variety of practical exercises designed to enable students to understand the basic legal principles and practical issues involved in the broad range of commercial transactions they will encounter in a commercial practice.

### Commercial Litigation and Dispute Resolution

Commercial Litigation and Dispute Resolution is practised in all areas of the legal profession from the largest City firm to small High Street firms.

This elective builds on knowledge gained in the Civil Litigation Course and covers procedures including:

- Mediation, Arbitration and other forms of ADR
- Injunctions, Freezing and Search Orders
- Cross-borders disputes
- Practical and tactical considerations including commercial awareness and costs issues
- Enforcement problems and related aspects of insolvency.

The elective recognises that trainees in a Commercial Litigation Department are likely to encounter these procedures when acting as part of a team. The course is therefore designed to ensure that students have a sound understanding of the principles, concepts and procedures that are covered in the teaching programme so that they are properly equipped to be effective members of a team.

### Commercial Property

The Commercial Property elective deals with the following aspects of commercial property work:

- the drafting and negotiation of commercial leases
- dealings with the commercial lease: assignment and sub-letting
- security of tenure for commercial leases
- remedies on tenant default, including the impact of insolvency
- the planning system with emphasis on its relevance to leases and commercial property generally
- an overview of the impact of Value Added Tax on commercial property transactions.

A high proportion of commercial property in England and Wales is leasehold. The commercial lease will be considered in detail, both to identify the issues that commonly arise during the course of negotiation and dealings and to familiarise the student with the structure and purpose of this important land holding device. Security of tenure in relation to commercial leases will be fully considered. In addition, the operation of the commercial lease will be examined in the context of tenant default/insolvency.

The value of land is substantially controlled by the extent to which development is permissible on the land. This, together with the increasing concern for the environment, has led to a large increase in the importance of planning law, with firms establishing planning and environmental law sections.

The issues covered during the course of this elective are of wide ranging application, arising throughout the whole spectrum of commercial work, from the simple conveyancing transaction to the company takeover.

The knowledge gained will be equally useful both in private practice and in the public sector. The planning system is administered by local authorities and they, together with other public sector land owners, hold substantial commercial property portfolios.

### Corporate Finance

The Corporate Finance elective is designed to provide students with an understanding of the law and regulatory regimes which form the foundation of a City corporate practice. It is of particular relevance to those students who are about to undertake training contracts with City firms of solicitors or large provincial practices.

The elective deals with the following aspects of corporate finance work:

- corporate group structures
- the legal and regulatory framework within which City institutions operate
- the methods of raising equity finance available to public limited companies
- takeovers
- taxation in the City context.

Corporate Finance is a highly technical and specialised area of company/commercial law. Given its specialised nature, the elective will not attempt to teach students how to conduct transactions such as a public company takeover or flotation but will lay emphasis on ensuring that students gain a sound knowledge and understanding of corporate/commercial objectives underlying the transaction as well as the legal and regulatory framework.

We recognise that it is imperative that students are made aware of the demands made by corporate clients and the time pressures under which many corporate finance lawyers work and this is reflected in the workshop design.

In the early days of their training contracts, trainees who have studied this subject should be better equipped to recognise the structures through which corporate clients operate, and to recognise and appreciate the constraints bearing upon and the options open to such clients.





### Employment Law

European, political, industrial and commercial influences all combine to make Employment Law one of the most interesting and dynamic areas of law. This, together with the overlap between Employment Law and many other areas of business, inevitably means that the demand for solicitors to possess a sound practical knowledge of Employment Law is ever-changing and expanding. This is a challenging but fascinating area of Legal Practice.

The elective will cover:

- the law and practice relating to the contract of employment, its termination and the interplay between the contractual and statutory nature of the employment relationship
- drafting, interpreting and applying the express terms of a contract of employment
- the common law consequences of dismissal (in particular, wrongful dismissal)
- the statutory consequences of dismissal (in particular, unfair dismissal and redundancy payments)
- an introduction to anti-discrimination legislation (in particular, gender and disability discrimination)
- an introduction to the rights and liabilities of employers and employees on the transfer of a business (in particular, under the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 1981)
- protection of a corporate client's proprietary business interests (in particular, in relation to trade secrets, confidentiality and restraint of trade of ex-employees)
- remedies and levels of compensation/damages
- industrial tribunal procedures and settlement.

### Family Breakdown

Family lawyers are frequently instructed at a time of great emotional stress for their clients: stress which, if handled inappropriately can have deleterious and long term effects on all the members of the family. Many students have a keen interest in practising in this field, which demands both an extensive knowledge of law and procedure and a sympathetic and conciliatory approach.

The elective is called 'Family Breakdown' elective because the vast majority of family law clients, married or not, have legal problems that arise from the permanent breakdown of their relationships. The elective concentrates on those problems and deals with the law relating to:

- divorce
- finance and property disputes (including the protection of occupation)
- disputes relating to the upbringing of children
- injunctive relief in the domestic violence context
- relevant aspects of the public funding, tax and welfare benefit schemes.

By the use of practical exercises and case studies, the elective is also designed to ensure that every student should gain an understanding of relevant procedures. This will enable them to research and handle those procedures when called upon to do so in the early days of their training contracts.

Students will specifically address the issue of dealing with a client under stress and will be made aware of the advantages of conciliatory attitudes and mediation procedures.





### Media and Entertainment Law

Media and Entertainment Law is a growing niche area, and one in which a wide variety of contentious and non-contentious issues arise. As well as covering issues arising from Intellectual Property law (particularly Copyright), this elective will introduce students to common contractual transactions involving parties in the entertainment and media fields (particularly the music industry), and common dispute sources (including defamation).

The elective will also introduce students to the law involving telecommunications and computers. The approach taken is primarily a commercial one rather than a technically legal one. The syllabus covers music industry, publishing, television, sport, film, e-commerce, new media and advertising; but not every subject will be covered every year.

### Mergers and Acquisitions

This elective will focus upon one of the main activities of corporate clients of City, large and medium sized commercial firms: business acquisitions and disposals and the sale and purchase of private limited companies.

This elective will cover:

- acquisitions of shares and acquisitions of businesses
- the main contractual documentation, including warranties, indemnities and disclosures
- consideration of the team of professional advisers likely to be involved
- the tax consequences of both types of acquisition
- employment and pensions and other issues pertinent to such transactions.







The approach to this elective is very transactional. Students will consider two case studies from the start of a transaction to the end. One case study will concern the sale and purchase of shares, and the other will follow the progress of a transfer of a business as a going concern. Students will be required to undertake tasks of a kind that are normally required of trainee and newly qualified solicitors working in a company / commercial department.

### Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence

The purpose of this elective is to provide an introduction to the large and complex area of personal injury and clinical negligence litigation. The area is expanding rapidly and becoming very specialised with the NHS paying out around £400,000,000 a year in settlement of clinical negligence claims and a potential liability of around £2.4 billion for existing and expected claims.

The elective builds on knowledge obtained in civil litigation. The basic litigation procedure for both personal injury and clinical negligence claims are the same, however the skills required to pursue the claims differ.

The course will be case-based. The personal injury element will cover an employer's liability claim from a claimant perspective and follow the claim through from initial interview to trial.

The clinical negligence element will follow claims through from both a claimant and defendant perspective. Stand alone cases will also be used to demonstrate individual areas of difficulty.

Specifically the following areas will be covered.

- Introduction to PI and CN
- Liability
- Interviewing, fact gathering and analysis
- NHS Complaints procedure
- Limitation
- Instructing experts
- CPR Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence Protocol
- Case management
- Compensation Recovery Unit
- Damages
- ADR, Negotiation and Trial
- Post-death investigations.

The elective would complement a wide variety of students, from those wishing to go into general practice to those who want to specialise in this highly complex area of litigation.







### Public Child-Care and Housing Law and Practice

This elective seeks to provide a practical working knowledge of Public Child-Care and Housing Law and Practice, a proper grounding in the appropriate procedural law and to develop the oral and written skills that are relevant to Public Child-Care and Housing Law applications. The course will be valuable to anyone who intends to enter private practice, a local authority or an advice centre and specialise in Public Child-Care and Housing Law.

The first half of the course is devoted to the study of Public Child-Care Law and Practice and will cover the structure and powers of the family courts; the procedures that apply and the evidence that must be collated and presented, together with Local Authority duties under Parts III, IV and V of the Children Act 1989 as to the provision of services for and the protection of children. The introductory lecture will address, amongst other things, the impact of the Children Act 1989, the Human Rights Act 1998 and the current position on adoption. The workshops will rely on case studies and role-plays to illustrate the legal principles and to promote the acquisition of the confidence, knowledge and skills that will be needed at Court. They will be approached from the perspective of the solicitor in private practice acting for the parents of the child concerned and the local authority solicitor acting for the Social Services Department. Public funding will be considered in context.

The second half of the course is devoted to the study of Housing Law and Practice and will cover the principal aspects of a publicly funded housing practice. Students will learn how to advise upon problems concerning security of tenure, rent regulation, illegal eviction and harassment, disrepair, and the remedies available, and how to draft straight-forward statements of case in respect of such actions. Case studies will be used throughout the course.

### Private Client (Estate Planning)

Since 1997/8, students on the LPC gain only an outline understanding of Wills and Probate as the subject is no longer one of the compulsory examined subjects of study but has instead become a core subject linked with the skill of interviewing.

The Private Client (Estate Planning) elective is of interest both to those aiming to practise in larger firms with Private Client departments, where the emphasis will be on tax and estate planning, as well as to those going into High Street practice, where other factors such as the impact of welfare benefits and the implications of the gifting of property to avoid charges for residential care may be of equal or greater importance.

The elective covers:

- review of probate issues
- will and trust drafting
- tax and estate planning
- the elderly client and residential care issues
- problems of capacity; enduring powers of attorney and living wills
- post death variations
- family provision.

The issues arising in this field of practice will be set within a practical context, through the use of case studies.











## UWE and the City of Bristol

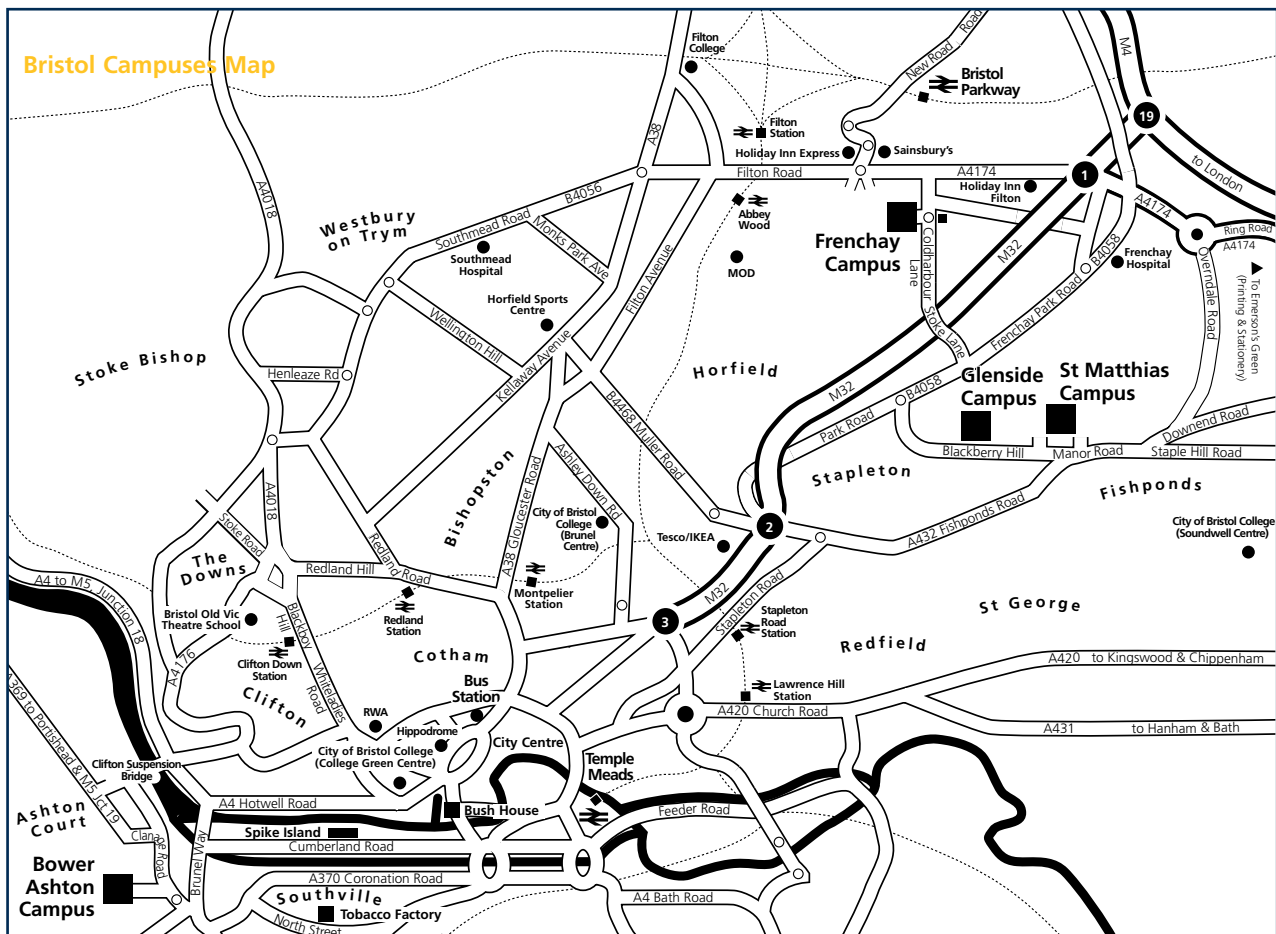
Bristol is not just an attractive place in which to study. It is also an attractive place in which to live. The city centre contains an ideal mix of historic and new buildings, waterfront scenery and the greenery of parks and open spaces, while shops, sports facilities and entertainment are never far away. In the Great Western Dock you can see the ss Great Britain, the first ocean-going, propeller-driven iron ship, built by Brunel, which was launched at Bristol in 1843. The dramatic suspension bridge, also built by Brunel, spans the Avon Gorge 245 feet above the river at Clifton, and there are superb views from the nearby Clifton Downs or from the Clifton Observatory and Giant's Cave.

The largest city in the West of England, Bristol is a major commercial centre and is home to many well known finance, banking and insurance companies. Bristol can also lay claim to being the main legal centre in Western England. There is an active local Bar and a number of law firms who appear regularly in The Lawyer 'Top 100'. The city is one of the three regional centres for the Commercial Court outside London. Industry is concentrated in the north of the city where large employers such as BAe Systems (developers of Concorde) and Rolls Royce are based. Their presence has attracted many high-technology companies such as Hewlett Packard, DuPont and GEC Avionics to move into the area.

UWE has established close links with local companies and the professions through research and consultancy, student placements and short courses. In conjunction with the universities of Bristol and Bath, UWE works to encourage active partnership between higher education and employers in the region.

Bristol is well situated for visiting the countryside of South Gloucestershire and the surrounding counties, stretching from the Cotswolds in the north to the Mendips in the south. Weston-super-Mare and Clevedon on the north Somerset coast are only about 15 miles away, and the beautiful scenery of the Welsh Brecon Beacons, the Black Mountains and the Forest of Dean are in easy reach across the two Severn Bridges. The Georgian city of Bath, the cathedral at Salisbury, Stonehenge and the spectacular caves at Cheddar Gorge and Wookey Hole are also popular attractions.

Bristol is one of the best-provided cities for performing arts outside London with two concert halls, five theatres and numerous other performance centres. A number of events which attract national interest take place annually in the region.

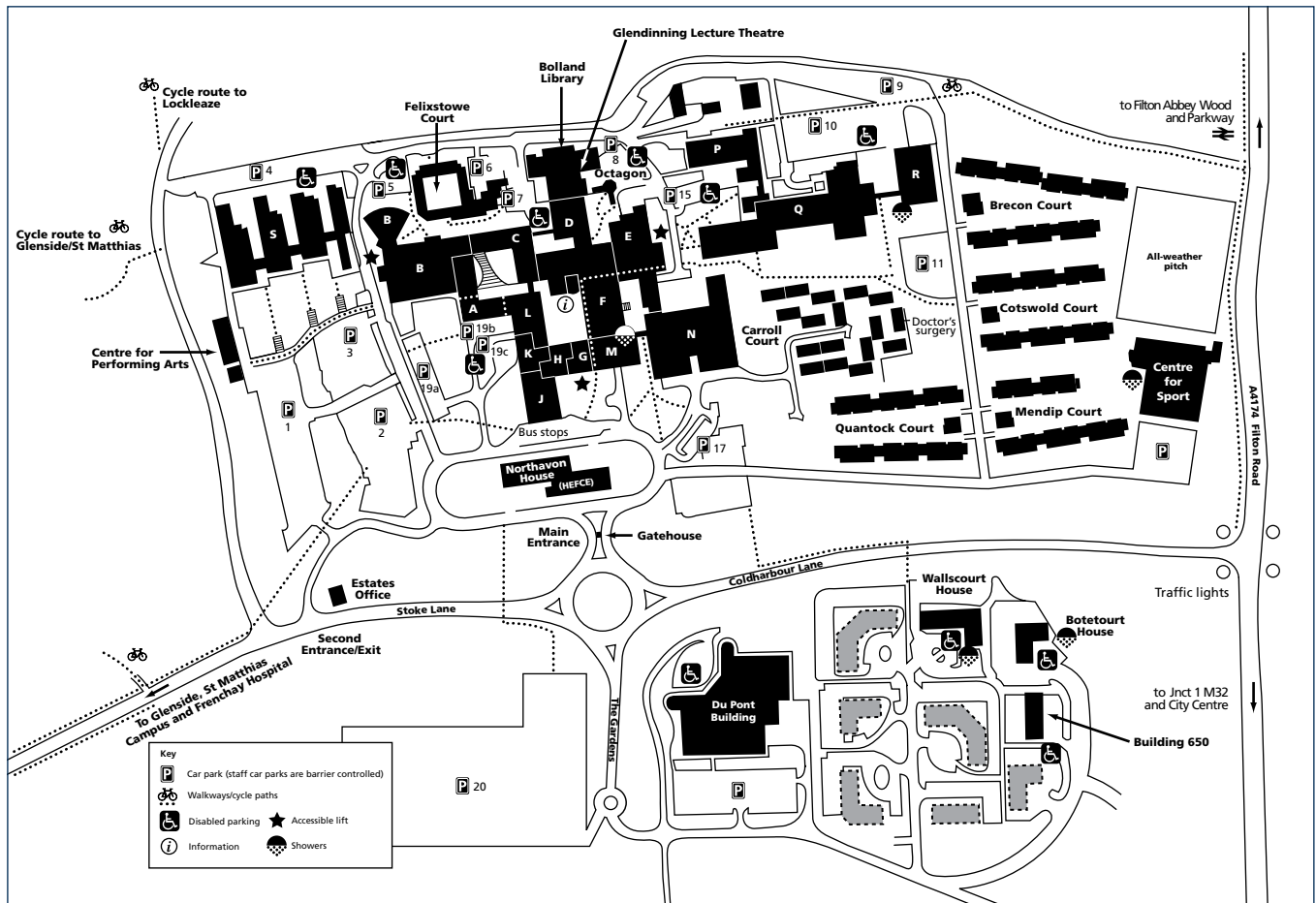








# The Frenchay Campus



The School of Law, along with the majority of the University's Faculties, is to be found at the University's Frenchay Campus situated on the northern outskirts of Bristol.

The Frenchay Campus covers some 82 acres. As well as extensive and specialised teaching, library and computer facilities, the campus houses student facilities: the Students' Union, sports halls, courts and pitches, the refectory and bars, shops, a Bank and living accommodation for students.

Being close to Junction 1 of the M32 motorway, the University has easy and swift access to Bristol's city centre, yet at the same time London, the West country, the Midlands and South Wales are within easy reach. Parkway station, one of Bristol's two mainline railway stations, is less than a mile away.

**By rail From Bristol Parkway:** take bus number X84, 318, 319, 518, 58, 680 or 681 to the Frenchay Campus (a five minute journey).

**From Bristol Temple Meads:** from the Station Approach take bus number 8 or 9 to Haymarket (Debenhams). Cross via underpass to bus stops by Travel Inn and take X84 or 70 to the Frenchay Campus (15 or 30 minute journey).

**By road From M4:** exit the M4 at junction 19 on to the M32. Almost immediately, exit the M32 at junction 1. Turn right at roundabout onto A4174 ring road (dual carriageway) following signs for Filton and Bristol Parkway railway station. Past the Holiday Inn Hotel on the left, turn left at the first set of traffic lights into Coldharbour Lane. Turn right at the roundabout into the Frenchay Campus.

**From M5:** exit the M5 at junction 15 onto the M4 eastbound towards London. Exit the M4 at junction 19 onto the M32 and following the directions from the M4 given above.

**From the south:** from Bristol City Centre follow signs for the M32. Exit M32 at junction 1. Turn left onto the A4174, and follow directions above.

**By bus:** the following buses go to the Frenchay Campus:

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- 319 Cribbs Causeway - Bath
- 518 Shirehampton - Downend
- 581 Cribbs Causeway - Longwell Green
- 680 Yate - Filton
- 681 Yate - Filton





# Admissions Procedure

## The Full-time Course

Application for a place on our Full-Time LPC should be made to the Central Applications Board. To obtain an application form write to:

**The Central Applications Board**  
**PO Box 84, Guildford**  
**Surrey GU3 1YX**  
**Telephone 01483 301282**

Applications should be submitted during the academic year prior to the desired year of entry. The deadline is fixed by the Board and is usually at the end of November/beginning of December. Applicants are advised to ascertain the relevant submission date for any given year of entry with the Board.

It is also possible to apply for the 2006/07 LPC online.

## The Part-time Course

Applications for a place on our part-time LPC should be made direct to the Bristol Institute of Legal Practice, from where an application form can be obtained. Applications should be returned by 31 December in the academic year prior to that of desired entry.

In determining whether or not to offer an applicant a place on either course, we will take into account the following criteria:

- the applicant's academic record
- the applicant's apparent suitability for the course and commitment to the idea of qualifying as a solicitor
- prior study in the Faculty
- financial or other constraints governing the applicant's choice of institution

## The Fee

The fee for each course is set annually and includes all course materials, text books where considered essential by the course team and The Law Society's Registration fee for the LPC. Enquiries about fees in any given year should be made direct to the Bristol Institute of Legal Practice.

## Admissions Contact

For further information about our LPC, please contact the LPC Administrator at:

**The Bristol Institute of Legal Practice**  
**School of Law**  
**University of the West of England, Bristol**  
**Frenchay Campus**  
**Coldharbour Lane**  
**Bristol BS16 1QY**  
**Telephone: +44 (0)117 32 82604**  
**Fax: +44 (0)117 32 82268**  
**E-mail: [bilpinfo@uwe.ac.uk](mailto:bilpinfo@uwe.ac.uk)**  
**LPC website: <http://bilp.uwe.ac.uk/lpc>**  
**School website: <http://law.uwe.ac.uk>**  
**UWE website: <http://www.uwe.ac.uk>**

Note: The details given in this brochure concerning our LPCs are accurate at the date of going to press. The Bristol Institute of Legal Practice follows a policy of continual development of its courses, drawing on teaching experience and student views. As a result, and subject to the necessary approval of the LPC Board and the University, some of the details in this brochure may have changed by the time of entry to the course.

## Career Information

For more general information on a career in the law, the following websites may be of interest:

**[www.lawcareers.net](http://www.lawcareers.net)**  
**[www.lcan.csu.ac.uk](http://www.lcan.csu.ac.uk) (The Law Careers Advice Network)**  
**[www.lawsociety.org.uk](http://www.lawsociety.org.uk)**  
**[www.barcouncil.org.uk](http://www.barcouncil.org.uk)**

## Open Days for year 2007 - 2008

- Saturday, 27 October 2007
- Saturday, 23 February 2008

Please contact [bilpinfo@uwe.ac.uk](mailto:bilpinfo@uwe.ac.uk) for details of our open days.



# Geographic Location



Bristol is well served by both railways and motorways. It is easily accessible from London and its airports. It also has its own regional airport.

## Travelling distances

City	Miles	Kilometres
London	119	191
Birmingham	88	142
Exeter	85	137
Cardiff	47	76
Heathrow Airport	102	164
Gatwick Airport	145	233







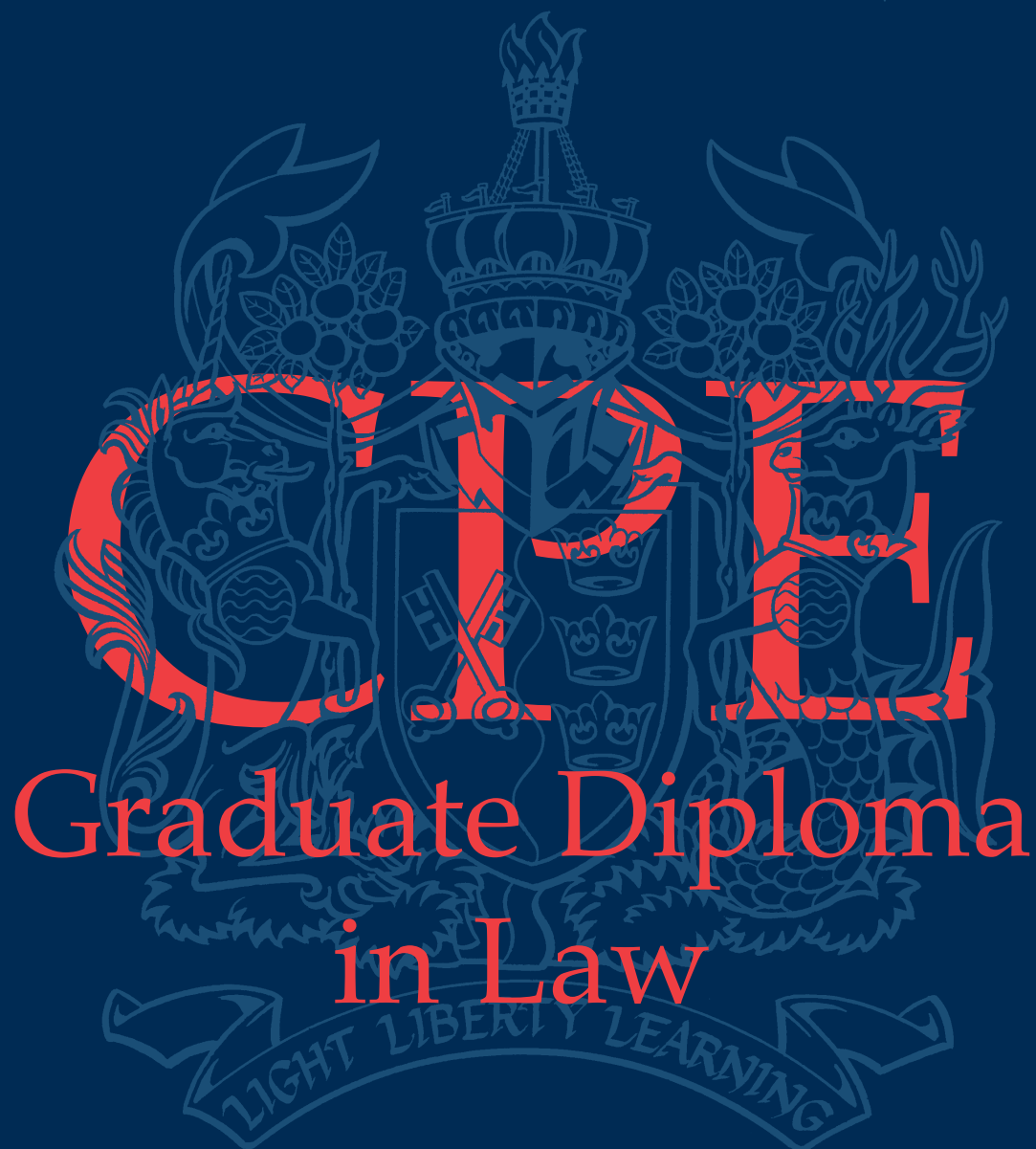
**School of Law**  
**University of the West of England**  
Frenchay Campus  
Coldharbour Lane  
Bristol BS16 1QY  
Tel: 0117 32 82604  
Fax: 0117 32 82268  
E-mail: [bilpinfo@uwe.ac.uk](mailto:bilpinfo@uwe.ac.uk)





University of the  
West of England

## Bristol Institute of Legal Practice







LIGHT LIBERTY LEARNING





# The Bristol Institute of Legal Practice



## The School

The School of Law at UWE is one of the largest in the United Kingdom with 80 members of staff and some 1,300 students. It has been engaged in the delivery of quality legal education since 1969, when it was established as the Law Department of the then Bristol Polytechnic. It currently holds one of the highest research ratings for law in the 'new' university sector and has been rated 'excellent' for its teaching by the Higher Education Funding Council for England. It has one of the widest portfolios of courses of any law school in England.

The School is justly proud of its Legal Practice Course, which was continuously graded as 'excellent' by the Law Society from 1996-2006. Since 2006 it has held the highest grading possible under the revised scheme of 'commendation' in all six areas of the programme.

The teaching and research in the School is organised within two departments: The Department of Law and The Bristol Institute of Legal Practice. The Department of Law offers a wide portfolio of courses at undergraduate level, a modular LLM programme and supervision for full or part-time studies leading to degrees of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) or Master of Philosophy (MPhil), supported by specialist training.

It is also a major contributor to courses within the Bristol Business School and other Faculties.

## Bristol Institute of Legal Practice

The mission of the Bristol Institute of Legal Practice is to be a model professional law school for the 21st Century, recognised as a market leader and a centre of excellence and innovation in the provision of life-long professional legal education and related research, providing a first class academic opportunity and experience for students and staff, satisfying the educational needs of practitioners regionally, nationally and internationally.

The Bristol Institute's current portfolio of professional legal courses includes:

- the CPE Graduate Diploma in Law (full-time)
- the CPE Graduate Diploma in Law (part-time by distance learning and residential sessions)
- the Legal Practice Course (full-time)
- the Legal Practice Course (part-time by way of Open Learning)
- the Bar Vocational Course (full-time)
- the Bar Vocational Course (part-time by way of Open Learning)
- an LLM in Advanced Legal Practice
- the Professional Skills Course
- Continuing Professional Development Courses and Conferences

The Bristol Institute also provides consultancy and a range of tailor-made in-house courses for a number of firms in Bristol, the City of London, elsewhere in the UK and overseas.

**Associate Dean  
Director, Bristol Institute of Legal Practice**





# The CPE Graduate Diploma in Law

## The Course

The School of Law has offered CPE courses since 1978. Successful completion of the CPE will lead to the award of a Graduate Diploma in Law (GDipL). This qualification, which is recognised by the Joint Academic Stage Board (JASB), satisfies the requirements for completion of the Academic Stage of Training under the Training Regulations of The Solicitors Regulatory Authority (SRA) and the Bar Council. The course covers the seven Foundations of Legal Knowledge identified by the Professional Bodies and an 8th area of legal study.

The CPE course provides a focused course of study to prepare non-law graduates for the Legal Practice Course and the Bar Vocational Course. These courses are substantially skills-based and call for a carefully designed approach to the Academic Stage of Training for non-law graduates.

The course is offered on a One Year Full-Time or Two Years Part-Time Distance Learning basis. The latter will require attendance for a minimum of 13 days face to face tuition in each of the two years.

The course, which carries 155 level 3 credits and 10 credits at level 1 is, as stated, primarily intended to prepare students for a successful transition either to the Legal Practice Course or to the Bar Vocational Course but it will also prove to be of value to those considering other careers where an understanding of the legal system and an appreciation of basic 'lawyerly' skills would be valuable.

## Course Structure – Full-time

The Full-Time course is preceded by a distance learning Preliminary Directed Study Course concentrating on English Legal System and Method.

The course is then structured into two teaching blocks to cover the seven Foundations of Legal Knowledge identified by the Professional Bodies and a further area of legal study is undertaken in the form of an independently researched project.

In the first teaching block, September – January, students study and are assessed in:

- English Legal System and Method
- Obligations I – Contract
- Obligations II – Tort
- Criminal Law

European Union Law is studied during this block but is not assessed until the second teaching block. In addition, students are required to research an assessed Independent Research Project which is submitted during the assessment period in June

In the second teaching block, February – June, students study and are assessed in:

- Equity and Trusts
- Property Law
- Public Law
- European Union Law







The class contact takes place over 4 days a week and focuses on highly interactive workshop-style sessions designed to help each student to develop understanding of the Foundation subjects and to acquire his or her 'lawyerly' skills.

#### Course Structure – Part-time

For examination and course work assessment purposes part-time course members are treated in the same way as full-time course members. In September each year there is a three day residential session at UWE, Bristol (following on from the Preliminary Directed Study). This is followed by five 'residential sessions' between October and May (**these sessions will not be held on weekends**). Each residential session involves attendance over two days and requires an overnight stay at a local conference centre. During these sessions there will be intensive seminars, lectures, workshops and the opportunity to discuss individual problems with both personal and academic tutors.

#### Year One

The Part-Time course is preceded by a distance learning Preliminary Directed Study Course concentrating on English Legal System and Method.

In the first year, students study and are assessed in:

- English Legal System and Method
- Obligations I – Contract
- Obligations II – Tort
- Criminal Law

European Union Law is studied during the year but is not assessed until the second year of the course. Students are expected to begin the research project over the summer between the end of year 1 and the start of year 2.

#### Year two

Year two begins with preliminary directed study intended to support the Year Two subjects.

In the second year, students study and are assessed in:

- Equity and Trusts
- Property Law
- Public Law
- European Union Law
- Independent Research Project

#### Assessments - Full and part-time courses

The course is assessed by a mixture of coursework 25% and examinations (selected statutes are provided) 75%. The word limit for the Research Project is 4000 to 5000 words.

#### Law Library

In common with all students of the University, students of the School of Law have access to the Bolland Library collection, housed at the Frenchay Campus. A recent extension costing nearly £7 million has added 3450 sq metres to the existing area of 4753 sq metres. The law library comprising an extensive Law collection, with access to a wide range of legal data bases, has long been recognised as an excellent library, but the extra available space allows students much greater access to materials and to specifically-designed study areas. The law library section of the extension allows for an expanded CD-ROM access, together with the facility to place more material on the shelves.

Students have access to the electronic databases both on and off campuses.









## UWE and the City of Bristol

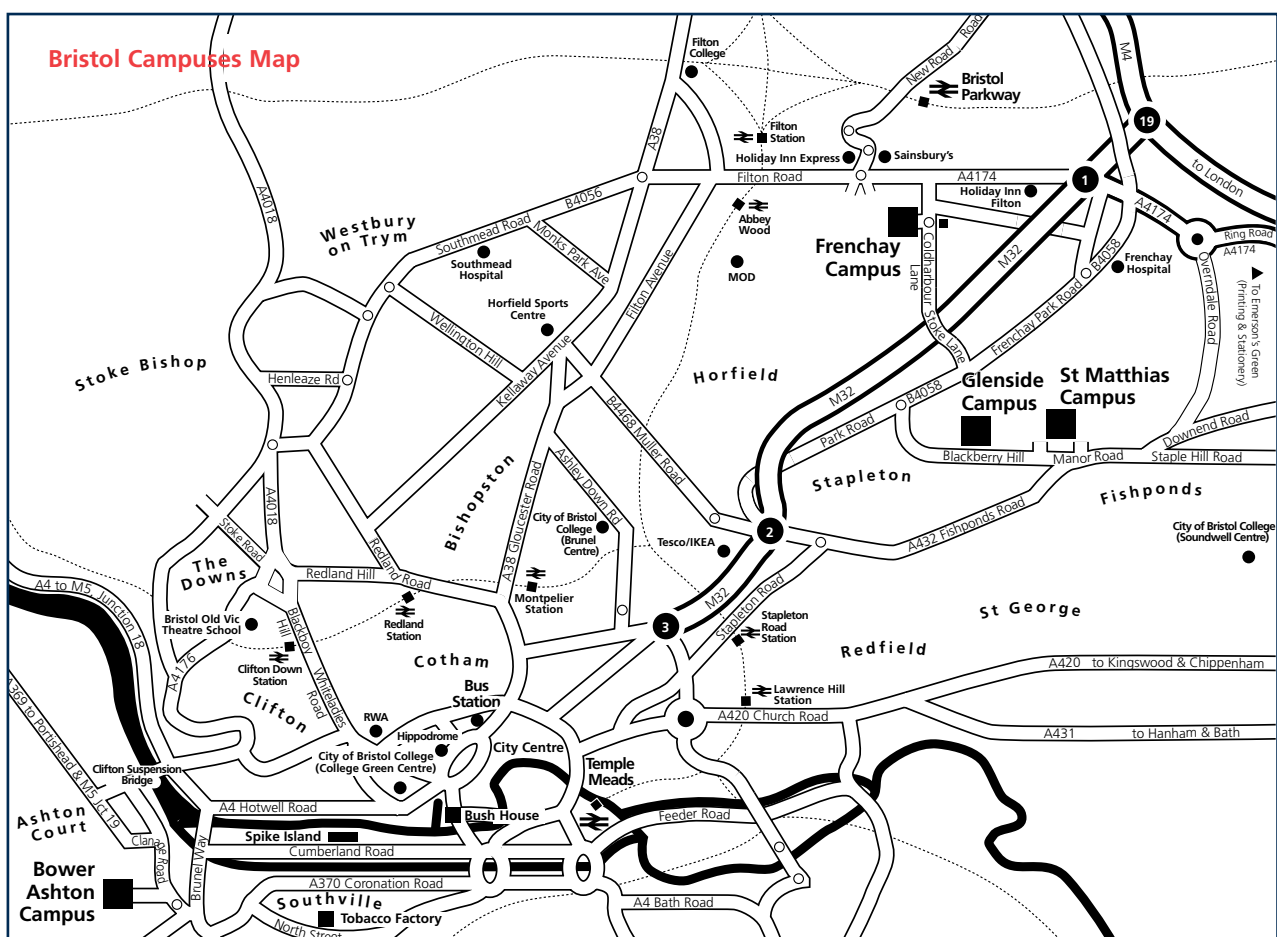
Bristol is not just an attractive place in which to study. It is also an attractive place in which to live. The city centre contains an ideal mix of historic and new buildings, waterfront scenery and the greenery of parks and open spaces, while shops, sports facilities and entertainment are never far away. In the Great Western Dock you can see the ss Great Britain, the first ocean-going, propeller-driven iron ship, built by Brunel, which was launched at Bristol in 1843. The dramatic suspension bridge, also built by Brunel, spans the Avon Gorge 245 feet above the river at Clifton, and there are superb views from the nearby Clifton Downs or from the Clifton Observatory and Giant's Cave.

The largest city in the West of England, Bristol is a major commercial centre and is home to many well known finance, banking and insurance companies. Bristol can also lay claim to being the main legal centre in Western England. There is an active local Bar and a number of law firms who appear regularly in The Lawyer 'Top 100'. The city is one of the three regional centres for the Commercial Court outside London. Industry is concentrated in the north of the city where large employers such as BAe Systems (developers of Concorde) and Rolls Royce are based. Their presence has attracted many high-technology companies such as Hewlett Packard, DuPont and GEC Avionics to move into the area.

UWE has established close links with local companies and the professions through research and consultancy, student placements and short courses. In conjunction with the universities of Bristol and Bath, UWE works to encourage active partnership between higher education and employers in the region.

Bristol is well situated for visiting the countryside of South Gloucestershire and the surrounding counties, stretching from the Cotswolds in the north to the Mendips in the south. Weston-super-Mare and Clevedon on the north Somerset coast are only about 15 miles away, and the beautiful scenery of the Welsh Brecon Beacons, the Black Mountains and the Forest of Dean are in easy reach across the two Severn Bridges. The Georgian city of Bath, the cathedral at Salisbury, Stonehenge and the spectacular caves at Cheddar Gorge and Wookey Hole are also popular attractions.

Bristol is one of the best-provided cities for performing arts outside London with two concert halls, five theatres and numerous other performance centres. A number of events which attract national interest take place annually in the region.

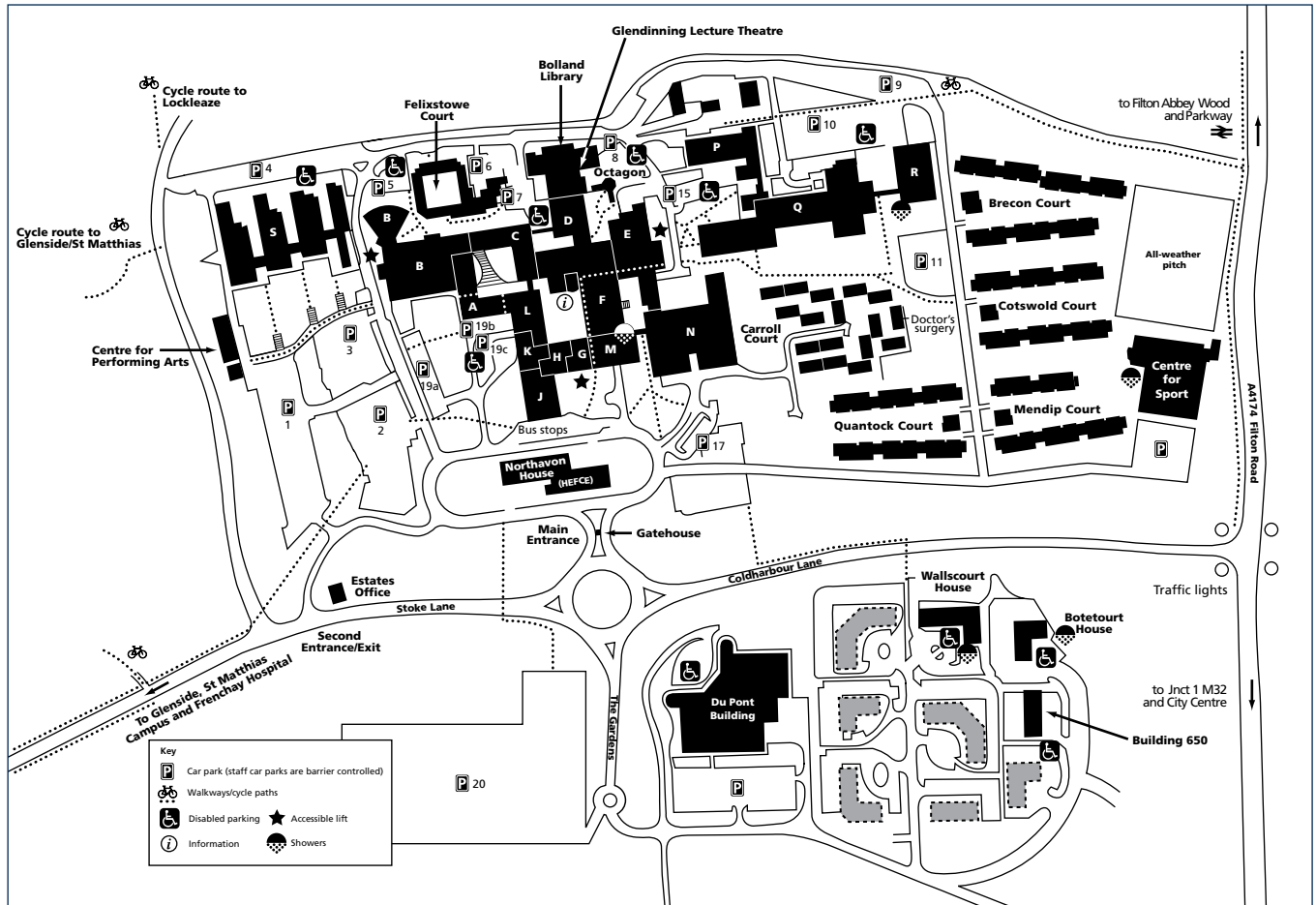








# The Frenchay Campus



The School of Law, along with the majority of the University's Faculties, is to be found at the University's Frenchay Campus situated on the northern outskirts of Bristol.

The Frenchay Campus covers some 82 acres. As well as extensive and specialised teaching, library and computer facilities, the campus houses student facilities: the Students' Union, sports halls, courts and pitches, the refectory and bars, shops, a Bank and living accommodation for students.

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- 680 Yate - Filton
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# Admissions

## The Full-time Course

Application for a place on our Full-Time CPE should be made to the Central Applications Board. To obtain an application form write to:

**The Central Applications Board (CAB)**  
**PO Box 84, Guildford**  
**Surrey GU3 1YX**  
**Telephone 01483 301282**

Applications should be submitted during the academic year prior to the desired year of entry. The deadline is fixed by the CAB and is usually at the beginning of February. Applicants are advised to ascertain the relevant submission date for any given year of entry with the Board.

It is also possible to apply for the CPE/Diploma in Law online. Go to [www.lawcabs.ac.uk](http://www.lawcabs.ac.uk)

## The Part-time Course

Applications for a place on our part-time CPE should be made direct to the Bristol Institute of Legal Practice (see below). Formal decisions on applications will be made from the second half of March onwards preceding the start of the course in September. Applications will continue to be considered up until mid August.

## Entry Requirements

Those eligible to apply for entry include non-law graduates, law graduates with 'stale' degrees (generally where more than seven years have elapsed since graduation), and those with academic or professional qualifications of degree equivalent level.

In determining whether to offer an applicant a place on either course, we will take into account evidence produced by the student (on or with the application form) relating to the following factors:

- The applicant's academic record (while the applicant's degree is the primary factor, other qualifications will be taken into account).
- The applicant's apparent suitability for the course and, where appropriate, the applicant's demonstration of a commitment to qualifying as a solicitor or barrister (e.g. work placements undertaken or legal experience obtained).
- Financial or other reasons governing the applicant's choice of institution.

## The Fee

The fee for each course is set annually and includes the cost of tuition, all course materials, text books where considered essential by the course team, the JASB Registration fee and examination fees (excluding resits). The fees for the part-time course include all residential costs for the duration of the course (but not the examination period in June). Enquiries about fees in any given year should be made direct to the Bristol Institute of Legal Practice.

## Admissions Contact

For fees information, application forms or further enquiries about our CPE course, please contact the CPE Administrator at:

**The Bristol Institute of Legal Practice**  
**School of Law**  
**University of the West of England, Bristol**  
**Frenchay Campus**  
**Coldharbour Lane**  
**Bristol BS16 1QY**  
**Telephone: 0117 32 82604**  
**Fax: 0117 32 82268**  
**E-mail: [bilpinfo@uwe.ac.uk](mailto:bilpinfo@uwe.ac.uk)**  
**CPE website: <http://bilp.uwe.ac.uk/cpe>**  
**School website: <http://Law.uwe.ac.uk>**  
**UWE website: <http://www.uwe.ac.uk>**

Alternatively, if you wish to discuss any admissions related matters, you can contact Ben Reeves, the Deputy Director of CPE Programmes and the Admissions tutor, at [Benjamin.Reeves@uwe.ac.uk](mailto:Benjamin.Reeves@uwe.ac.uk) or Alex Geal, Director of CPE Programmes at [alexandra.geal@uwe.ac.uk](mailto:alexandra.geal@uwe.ac.uk).

Note: The details given in this brochure concerning our courses are accurate at the date of going to press. The Bristol Institute of Legal Practice follows a policy of continual development of its courses, drawing on teaching experience and student views. As a result, and subject to the necessary approval of the JASB and the University, some of the course details described in this brochure may have changed by the time of entry to the course.

## Career Information

For more general information on a career in the law, the following websites may be of interest:

[www.lawcareers.net](http://www.lawcareers.net)  
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[www.lawsociety.org.uk](http://www.lawsociety.org.uk)  
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# Geographic Location

Bristol is well served by both railways and motorways. It is easily accessible from London and its airports. It also has its own regional airport.

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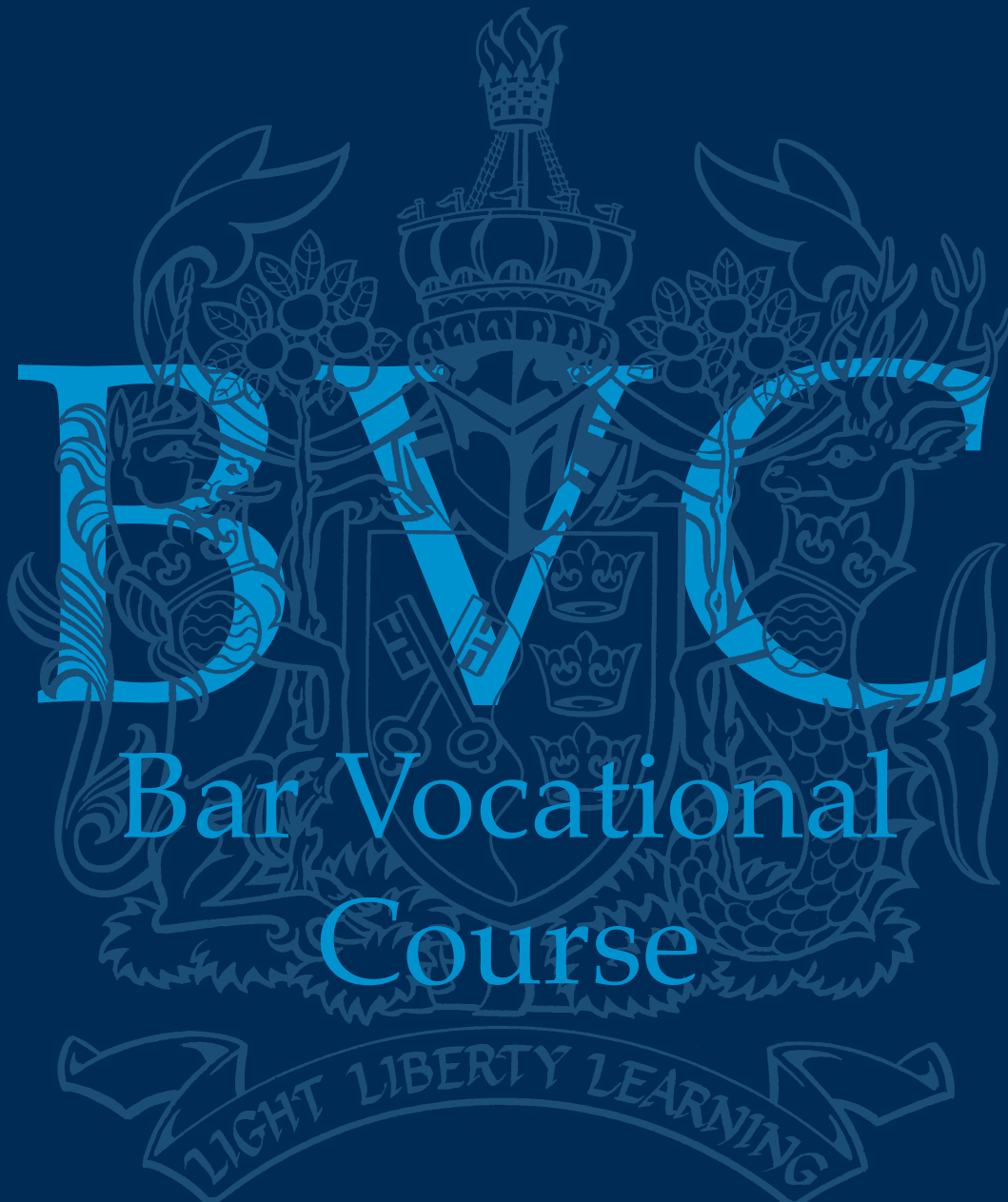
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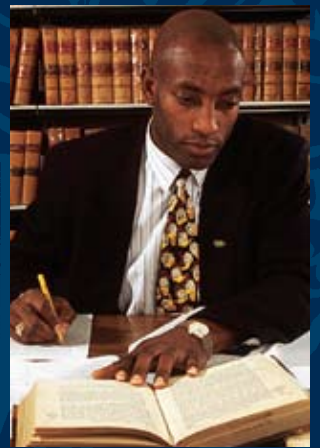


University of the  
West of England

## Bristol Institute of Legal Practice







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# The Bristol Institute of Legal Practice



## The School

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The School is justly proud of its Legal Practice Course, which was continuously graded as 'excellent' by the Law Society from 1996-2006. Since 2006 it has held the highest grading possible under the revised scheme of 'commendation' in all six areas of the programme.

The teaching and research in the School is organised within two departments: The Department of Law and The Bristol Institute of Legal Practice. The Department of Law offers a wide portfolio of courses at undergraduate level, a modular LLM programme and supervision for full or part-time studies leading to degrees of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) or Master of Philosophy (MPhil), supported by specialist training.

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The Bristol Institute's current portfolio of professional legal courses includes:

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**Associate Dean  
Director, Bristol Institute of Legal Practice**





# Bar Vocational Course

## The Bristol Institute of Legal Practice: a leader in professional education

UWE's Bristol Institute of Legal Practice is a leading provider of professional legal education. Our Legal Practice Course, the equivalent course for students intending to practise as solicitors, has been rated as 'excellent' since 1996 by The Law Society. The Bar Council has consistently commended the quality of our BVC over the first five years of its operation and has recently unconditionally revalidated the course for a further six years.

In common with our LPC, the BVC Bristol offers the highest quality student facilities:

- a dedicated practitioner library (in addition to the university law library),
- modern teaching and practice accommodation including courtrooms and client conference facilities,

as well as interactive and other DVD equipment for recording interpersonal skills practice exercises and assessments. The extensive use of communications and information technology is a cornerstone of our learning environment.

## Features of the BVC Bristol - at a glance

- Student/tutor partnership in the learning process;
- An educational philosophy of facilitative and integrative 'learning by doing';
- Collaborative and peer learning within base rooms dedicated to 12 students;
- Base room activities are at the core of learning;

- Base rooms contain dedicated computing and DVD recording and playback; on-line access to practitioner texts and legal databases as well as hard copy mini libraries;
- Three dedicated court rooms plus court room furniture in many base rooms;
- A dedicated chambers-style library in addition to the University law library;
- Role-play practice in weekly three/four hour skills classes;
- Oral and written tutor feedback in addition to peer feedback;
- All oral skill role plays are DVD recorded;
- An intensive advocacy training programme;
- Three complete one day trials - one civil and two criminal - held in the second term, all students participate 'on their feet' in each of our three mock trials;
- Extensive access to high quality IT based information sources;
- Two full placement weeks: one visiting a variety of courts, the other which is optional in a nationally or internationally based law related placement eg a pupillage, Court Martial, International Court in the Hague;
- Opportunities to take on real cases via our Free Legal Representation Service;
- Common assessment scenarios;
- Student reflection on assessment informing final mark;
- Additional and complementary master classes taken by local practitioners.







### Bristol and the University Community

As postgraduate university students, BVC students can take advantage of the University's community life, which includes extensive cultural and sporting activities. Bristol BVC students lead active social and sporting lives: the BVC Ball and Bristol Bar Students Dinner are particular highlights. You can expect the usual full range of University facilities: refectories, bars, student union societies, shopping, travel, and banking facilities. Student Advisory Careers and Counselling Services, including a multi-faith chaplaincy, are also available to BVC students.

### How do I Apply?

Applications are made on-line via [www.bvconline.co.uk](http://www.bvconline.co.uk). First round applications have to be made by mid-January. Offers are sent out in March and applicants have two weeks in which to signify their on-line acceptance. Those applying late or who do not receive an offer of a place in the first round go into the clearing system (called 'the pool') which operates between April and July. Full details of the application process is to be found at this web address.

### Am I Qualified?

You will not be admitted to the BVC Bristol if you do not meet the Bar Council's requirements as to educational qualifications and good character. This includes being a student member of an Inn of Court. You must also have completed the academic stage before you can be registered on the course. You should note that your undergraduate degree must be of at least lower second class standard.

In determining whether to admit an applicant, we take into account the following factors:

- Your actual or predicted academic record;
- Your statement in support of your application;
- Commitment to the profession as evidenced by attempts,

successful or otherwise, to obtain placements, mini-pupillage or any other experience in a legal setting;

- Your referee's statement; and
- Any special reasons affecting your freedom to study elsewhere.

The Bristol Institute of Legal Practice at UWE operates a point scoring system to determine which applicants for the Bar Vocational Course will be offered places. Points are awarded for information contained in the on-line application form and the reference as follows:

- |                            |             |
|----------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Academic Qualifications | (42 points) |
| 2. Academic Reference      | (9 points)  |
| 3. Supporting Information  | (47points)  |

Client Care/Empathy  
An Aptitude for Advocacy  
Legal Experience  
Intellectual Ability  
Personal Organisation Skills and an ability to Work Under Pressure

A further 2 points are awarded to students who have already joined an Inn of Court.

Applicants will not normally be interviewed for a place on the course.

Applications for the BVC Bristol will be considered in accordance with the University's policies on equal opportunities.

To receive an offer in the first round (as opposed to clearing) applicants will normally be expected to attain 60 admission points. We do not normally make offers to those who have not obtained a lower second undergraduate degree, even if they have later passed a Masters degree in Law.





### International Students

The BVC Bristol welcomes applications from international students. You are advised to confirm your eligibility with the Bar Council.

We appreciate that your intention is probably to practise in your home jurisdiction. However, the qualification will make you eligible to practice in England and Wales and it is by that standard that you will be assessed.

If English is not your first spoken language, we strongly recommend that before embarking on the course you achieve a level of spoken English equivalent to grade 7.5 in the spoken element of the IELTS test administered by the British Council. Experience has revealed that unless your spoken English is at this high standard you will struggle in the oral skills aspects of the course namely negotiation, conferencing and advocacy.

### The Inns of Court

All students admitted to the BVC Bristol are required first to have joined an Inn of Court no later than 31 May of the year of entry. It is your responsibility to seek membership of an Inn. Your Inn may also be able to assist you with your fees for the Course. There are four Inns of Court. Their addresses are:

Grays Inn, Treasury Office, 8 South Square, London WC1R 5ET  
Tel: 0207 458 7900 Website: <http://www.graysinn.org.uk>

Lincoln's Inn, Treasury Office, London WC2A 3TL  
Tel 0207 405 0138 Website: <http://www.lincolnsinn.org.uk>

Inner Temple, Treasury Office, London EC4Y 7HL  
Tel: 0207 797 8250 Website: <http://www.innertemple.org.uk>

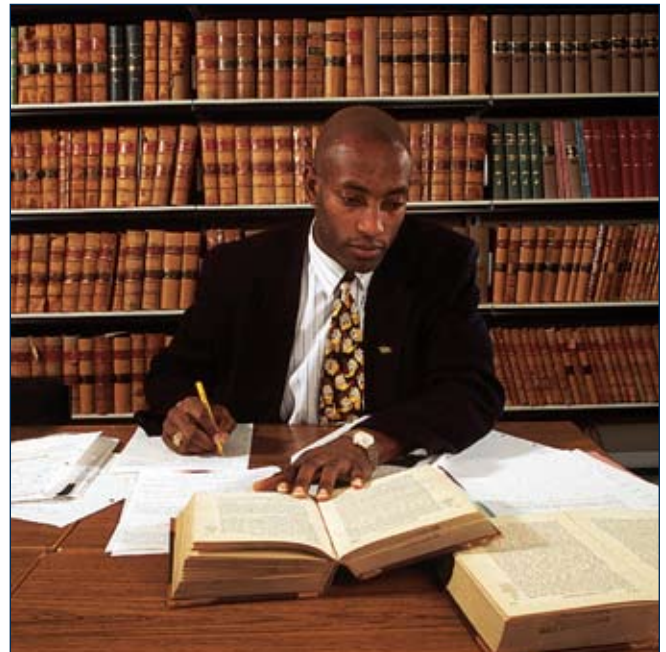
Middle Temple, The Treasury, London EC4Y 9AT  
Tel: 0207 427 4800 Website: <http://www.middletemple.org.uk>

### Keeping Terms

Your Inn will require you to attend a number of 'qualifying sessions' as a precondition to being called to the Bar. We have arranged with the four Inns for each BVC Bristol student to attend, during their period of study, the following qualifying sessions:

- the introductory weekend;
- two Education Days in London;
- the University-based educational dinner.

BVC Bristol students receive subsidies from their Inns when they attend for the purpose of completing a qualifying session. Additionally we provide travel subsidies.



### Deferred Entry

Successful applicants are not permitted to defer entry save in exceptional circumstances.

### How Much Does it Cost?

For 2008-9 the fee for the full-time BVC Bristol is likely to be in the region of £10,000 for home/EU students and for overseas students, £11,000. These fees are inclusive of the book fee (currently £485) and all students must pay the Bar Council per capita charge (currently £295). Applicants are asked to check directly with the course administrator for precise details of fees for the proposed year of entry.

Your course fee covers the period from enrolment in September until the completion of assessments in June and includes:

- specially prepared course materials;
- course manuals or other textbooks;
- access to all IT and audio/visual facilities;
- examination fees.

### May I Take the Course on a Part-time Basis?

Yes. The course runs over two years and relies heavily on electronic delivery. There are, however, 10 weekends per year when attendance on campus is required. Please contact the course director Joanne Stringer at [joanne.stringer@uwe.ac.uk](mailto:joanne.stringer@uwe.ac.uk).

There is a separate part-time course brochure.





### The Course - What Do I Study?

The BVC Bristol is a 34 week course commencing in early September and concluding the following June.

The course comprises the following elements:

#### Compulsory 'knowledge' areas

- Civil Litigation
- Criminal Litigation and Sentencing
- Evidence

#### Skills essential for a barrister

- Advocacy
- Conferencing
- Negotiation
- Opinion writing
- Drafting
- Case Preparation
- (Legal research and Fact management)

#### Other key pervasive elements

- Professional ethics and client care
- Human rights
- EU Law
- Remedies
- Computer literacy

#### Two optional subjects

- Clinical Negligence
- Criminal Law
- Employment Law
- Family Law
- International Trade
- Landlord and Tenant
- Mediation

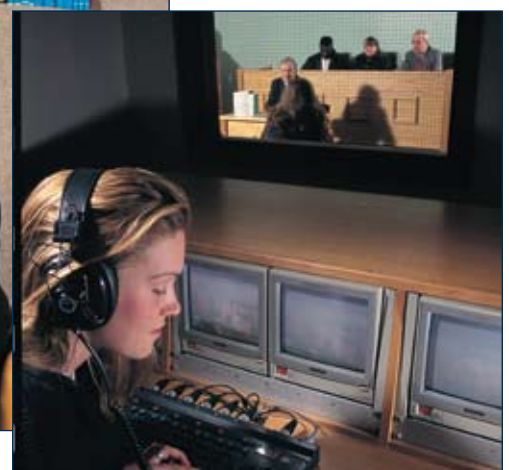
Students take up to two options in the summer term. Our range of options is under constant review, seeking to take account of both relevant areas of specialism and student choice. Availability is dependent on sufficient student demand.

#### Further Information

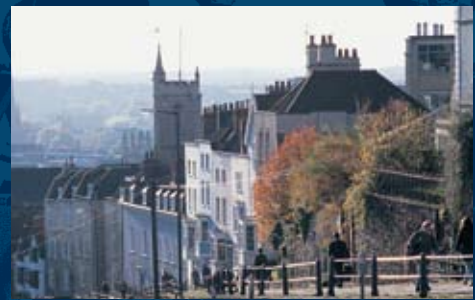
The Bar Council, the governing body for barristers practising in England and Wales, publishes *It's your Call*, which gives further information about becoming a barrister. Its address is:

The General Council of the Bar, 289/293 High Holborn, London WC1V 7HZ. Tel: 0207 242 0082. Website: <http://www.barcouncil.org.uk>

org.uk











## UWE and the City of Bristol

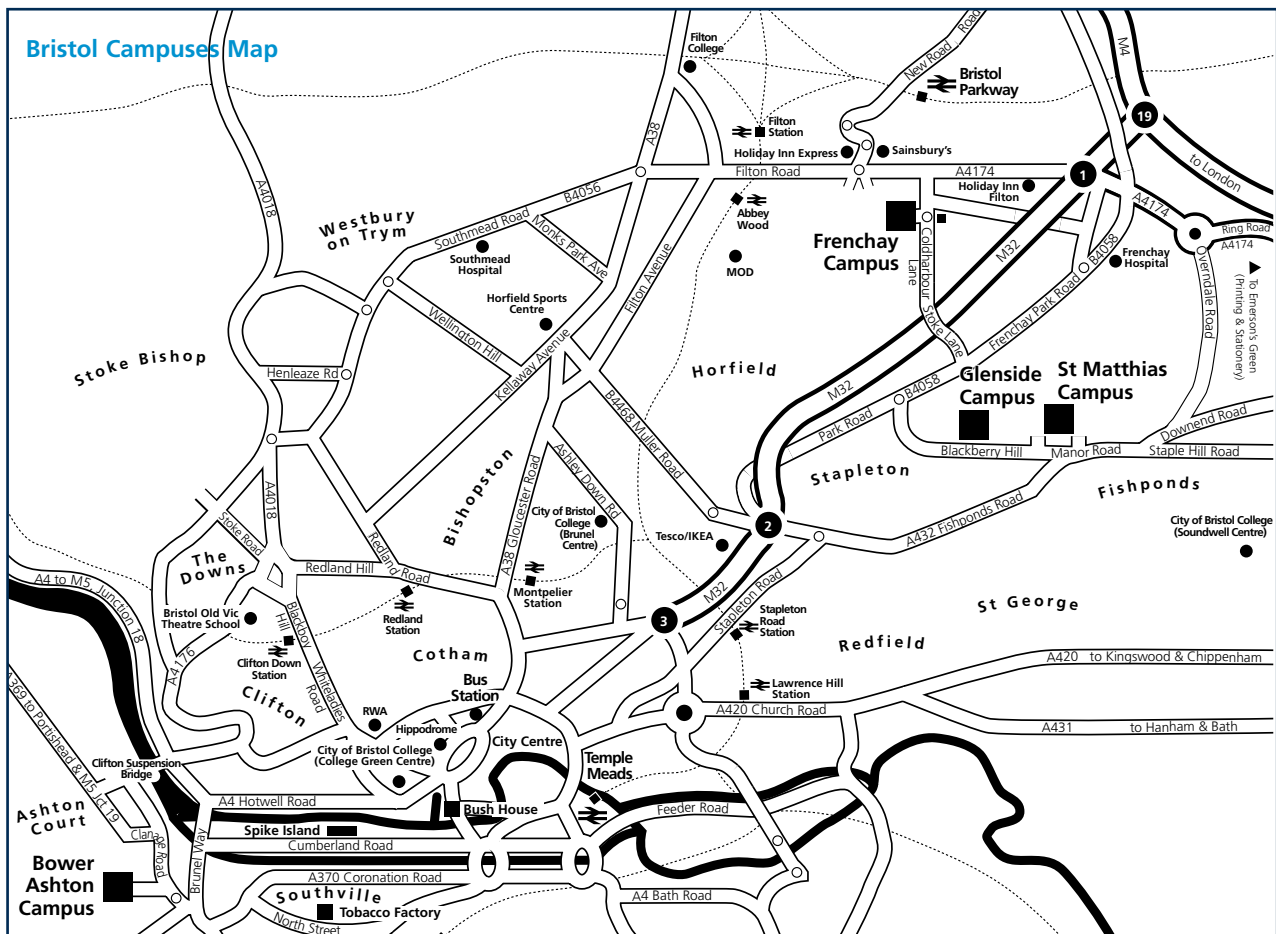
Bristol is not just an attractive place in which to study. It is also an attractive place in which to live. The city centre contains an ideal mix of historic and new buildings, waterfront scenery and the greenery of parks and open spaces, while shops, sports facilities and entertainment are never far away. In the Great Western Dock you can see the ss Great Britain, the first ocean-going, propeller-driven iron ship, built by Brunel, which was launched at Bristol in 1843. The dramatic suspension bridge, also built by Brunel, spans the Avon Gorge 245 feet above the river at Clifton, and there are superb views from the nearby Clifton Downs or from the Clifton Observatory and Giant's Cave.

The largest city in the West of England, Bristol is a major commercial centre and is home to many well known finance, banking and insurance companies. Bristol can also lay claim to being the main legal centre in Western England. There is an active local Bar and a number of law firms who appear regularly in The Lawyer 'Top 100'. The city is one of the three regional centres for the Commercial Court outside London. Industry is concentrated in the north of the city where large employers such as BAe Systems (developers of Concorde) and Rolls Royce are based. Their presence has attracted many high-technology companies such as Hewlett Packard, DuPont and GEC Avionics to move into the area.

UWE has established close links with local companies and the professions through research and consultancy, student placements and short courses. In conjunction with the universities of Bristol and Bath, UWE works to encourage active partnership between higher education and employers in the region.

Bristol is well situated for visiting the countryside of South Gloucestershire and the surrounding counties, stretching from the Cotswolds in the north to the Mendips in the south. Weston-super-Mare and Clevedon on the north Somerset coast are only about 15 miles away, and the beautiful scenery of the Welsh Brecon Beacons, the Black Mountains and the Forest of Dean are in easy reach across the two Severn Bridges. The Georgian city of Bath, the cathedral at Salisbury, Stonehenge and the spectacular caves at Cheddar Gorge and Wookey Hole are also popular attractions.

Bristol is one of the best-provided cities for performing arts outside London with two concert halls, five theatres and numerous other performance centres. A number of events which attract national interest take place annually in the region.



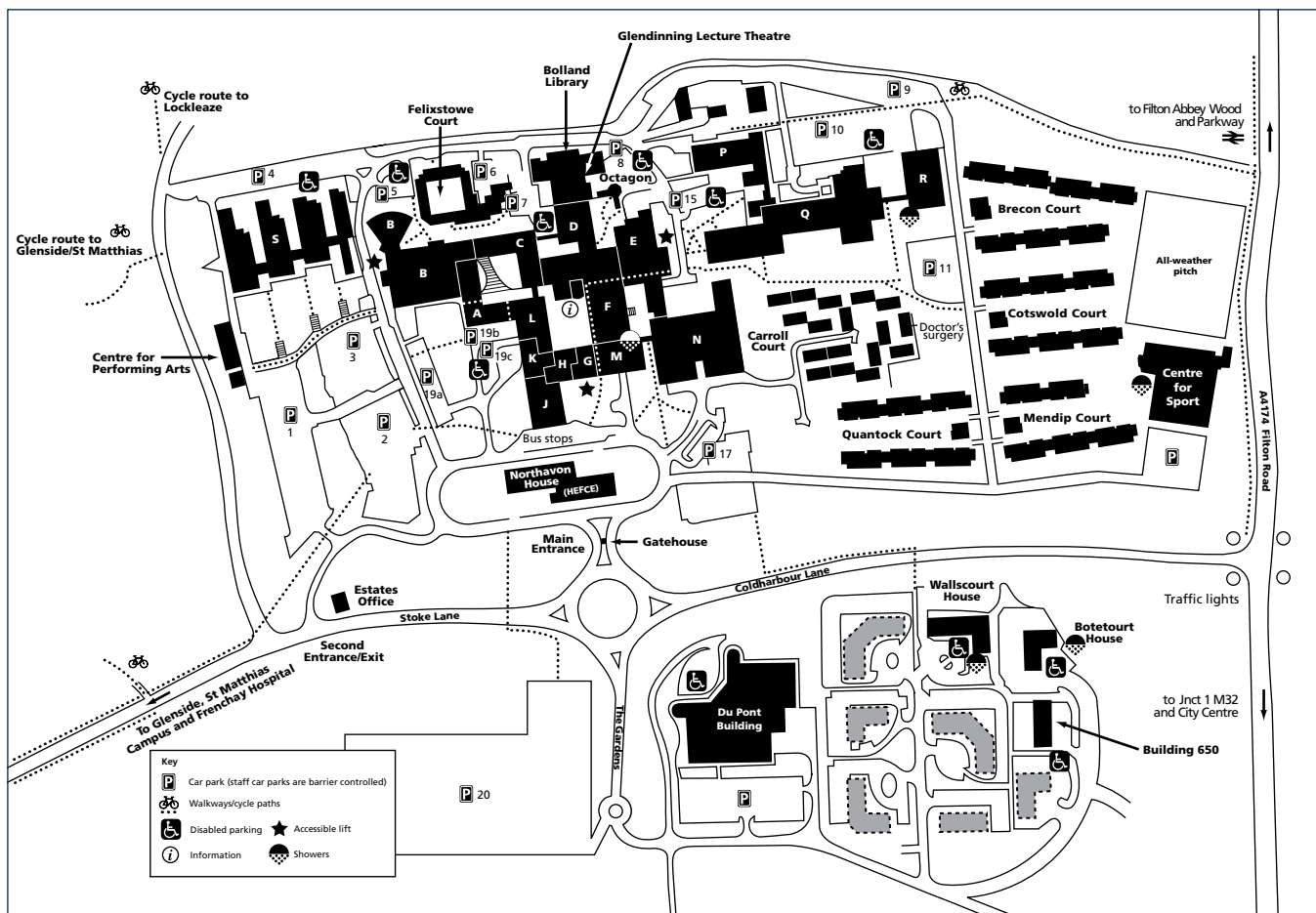








## The Frenchay Campus



The School of Law, along with the majority of the University's Faculties, is to be found at the University's Frenchay Campus situated on the northern outskirts of Bristol.

The Frenchay Campus covers some 82 acres. As well as extensive and specialised teaching, library and computer facilities, the campus houses student facilities: the Students' Union, sports halls, courts and pitches, the refectory and bars, shops, a Bank and living accommodation for students.

Being close to Junction 1 of the M32 motorway, the University has easy and swift access to Bristol's city centre, yet at the same time London, the West country, the Midlands and South Wales are within easy reach. Parkway station, one of Bristol's two mainline railway stations, is less than a mile away.

**By rail From Bristol Parkway:** take bus number X84, 318, 319, 518, 58, 680 or 681 to the Frenchay Campus (a five minute journey).

**From Bristol Temple Meads:** from the Station Approach take bus number 8 or 9 to Haymarket (Debenhams). Cross via underpass to bus stops by Travel Inn and take X84 or 70 to the Frenchay Campus (15 or 30 minute journey).

**By road From M4:** exit the M4 at junction 19 on to the M32. Almost immediately, exit the M32 at junction 1. Turn right at roundabout onto A4174 ring road (dual carriageway) following signs for Filton and Bristol Parkway railway station. Past the Holiday Inn Hotel on the left, turn left at the first set of traffic lights into Coldharbour Lane. Turn right at the roundabout into the Frenchay Campus.

**From M5:** exit the M5 at junction 15 onto the M4 eastbound towards London. Exit the M4 at junction 19 onto the M32 and following the directions from the M4 given above.

**From the south:** from Bristol City Centre follow signs for the M32. Exit M32 at junction 1. Turn left onto the A4174, and follow directions above.

**By bus** the following buses go to the Frenchay Campus:

- 70 Centre – UWE X84 Centre-UWE
- 99 Centre – Whiteladies Road-Redland-Gloucester Road- UWE
- 318 Cribbs Causeway - Keynsham
- 319 Cribbs Causeway - Bath
- 518 Shirehampton - Downend
- 581 Cribbs Causeway - Longwell Green
- 680 Yate - Filton
- 681 Yate - Filton







# UWE Contact Details

## Bar Vocational Course

Bristol Institute of Legal Practice  
School of Law, University of the West of England  
Frenchay Campus, Coldharbour Lane  
Bristol BS16 1QY  
Telephone : 0117 32 83769  
Fax: 0117 32 82268  
email: [bilpinfo@uwe.ac.uk](mailto:bilpinfo@uwe.ac.uk)

## The Full Time Course

Stephen Migdal, BVC Course Director  
Telephone: 0117 32 82540  
E-mail: [stephen.migdal@uwe.ac.uk](mailto:stephen.migdal@uwe.ac.uk)  
For further information about our Full Time BVC, please contact the BVC Course Administrator at:

## The Part Time Course

Joanne Stringer, (by Open Learning) Course Director  
Tel: 0117 32 83472  
E-mail: [joanne.stringer@uwe.ac.uk](mailto:joanne.stringer@uwe.ac.uk)

For further information about our Part Time BVC, please contact the BVC Course Administrator at:

Bar Vocational Course  
Bristol Institute of Legal Practice  
School of Law, University of the West of England  
Frenchay Campus, Coldharbour Lane  
Bristol BS16 1QY  
Telephone: 0117 32 83769  
E-mail: [bilpinfo@uwe.ac.uk](mailto:bilpinfo@uwe.ac.uk)  
BVC Website: <http://bilp.uwe.ac.uk/bvc>  
School Website: <http://law.uwe.ac.uk>  
UWE Website: <http://www.uwe.ac.uk>



# Geographic Location

Bristol is well served by both railways and motorways. It is easily accessible from London and its airports. It also has its own regional airport.

## Travelling distances

City	Miles	Kilometres
London	119	191
Birmingham	88	142
Exeter	85	137
Cardiff	47	76
Heathrow Airport	102	164
Gatwick Airport	145	233











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