

LAW AS Level



Course Outline

Law is a fascinating and rewarding subject. It should appeal to those concerned with social justice and who would like to take a critical look at the civil and criminal justice system and the institutions of the English and Welsh legal system.

Entry Requirements

GCSE Grade C or above in English language is essential
5+ GCSE's

What Will I Study?

You will learn about the main principles of English law, the functions of the English legal system and develop an understanding of legal methods. You will develop techniques of logical thinking and the skills necessary to analyse and solve legal problems. You will practise your communication skills by formulating legal arguments. There are 2 units in this AS Level. Students study the English and Welsh Legal System and are required to sit two examinations based on the following units:

LA1 (25%): Understanding Legal Values, Structures and Processes

In this unit, students will have the opportunity to explore the historical development of the law, human rights and morality and the importance of the European Institutions in law making. Students will also study the criminal prosecution process, including the courts, jury trial, bail, the role of the Crown prosecution Service and the Civil Justice System, to include the civil courts, role of tribunals, alternative dispute resolution and Legal Aid.

LA2 (25%): Understanding Legal Reasoning, Personnel and Methods

Head of Department: Miss V Hill
Teacher: Miss V Hill, Mrs R Hussain
Examination Board: WJEC

In this unit, students will learn about the impact of European Law on the legal system of England and Wales, the legislative process including the new role of the Welsh Assembly, the role of the judge in creating case law, areas of recent law reform and the personnel of the legal profession.

How Will I Be Assessed?

You will sit two examinations in the summer of the first year.

Unit 1: UNDERSTANDING LEGAL VALUES,
STRUCTURES AND PROCESSES

25% 1 hour 30 minutes - 50 marks

Candidates answer two essay questions from a choice of six.

UNIT 2: UNDERSTANDING LEGAL REASONING,
PERSONNEL AND METHODS

25% 1 hour 30 minutes - 50 marks

Candidates answer two out of four stimulus response questions

Candidates answer two problem questions from a choice of four from the Criminal Law and Justice option.

Career Opportunities And Progression

A familiarity with the law is invaluable in many careers, for example:

- Legal Profession (Solicitor/Barrister/Legal Personnel)
- Police Force
- Civil Service (Government Offices, Welsh Assembly, Government for example)
- Business (Employment Law, European Law, Consumer Law)

You will have learnt a variety of marketable skills including:

- Developing techniques of ordered thinking
- Developing analytical and problem-solving skills
- Learning to communicate in clear terms

Successful completion of the AS Level will allow you to proceed to full A Level in Year 13.

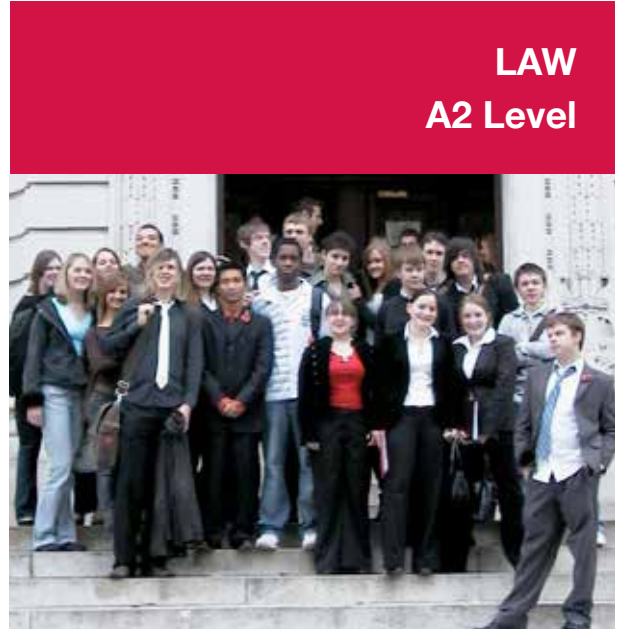
Extra-Curricular Opportunities

Students have the opportunity to visit the criminal courts and view cases, for example the local Magistrates and Crown Court. They will also visit the Welsh Assembly Government.

Guest speakers such as magistrates and solicitors talk to the students about the profession and training routes.

A team of students participate in the National Bar Mock Trial Competition, which involves preparing a mock case for court and taking on the role of barristers/witnesses/judiciary and jurors.

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Course Outline

This course is a progression from AS Level and explores the Criminal Justice System. It should appeal to those interested in Criminal Law and who wish to explore aspects of this fascinating subject such as murder, manslaughter, non-fatal offences (GBH, ABH, assault and battery), general defences and Police law.

Entry Requirements

AS Level Law is desirable.
GCSE Grade C and over in English is essential

What Will I Study?

At 'A' Level students have the opportunity to specialise in Criminal Law and Justice. They are required to sit two examinations based on the following units:

LA3 (20%): Understanding Substantive Law:
Freedom, the State and the Individual

In this unit students will study elements of substantive criminal law, such as murder, manslaughter and non-fatal offences against the person. Also they will have the opportunity to explore the defences available to defendants on trial and the powers of the police.

LA4 (30%): Understanding Law in Context:
Freedom, the State and the Individual

In this unit students will study the principles of criminal law, the role of the Crown Prosecution Service, criminal trial process and sentencing procedures at the Crown and Magistrates Court.

How Will I Be Assessed?

UNIT 3: UNDERSTANDING SUBSTANTIVE LAW:
FREEDOM, THE STATE AND THE INDIVIDUAL
20% 1 hour 30 minutes - 50 marks

Candidates answer two problem questions from a choice of four from the Criminal Law and Justice option.

UNIT 4: UNDERSTANDING LAW IN CONTEXT:
FREEDOM, THE STATE AND THE INDIVIDUAL
30% 2 hours 30 minutes - 75 marks

Candidates answer two out of four questions in Section A and one stimulus response question from a choice of two in Section B from the Criminal Law and Justice option.

Career Opportunities And Progression

The study of A Level Law is suitable for those considering legal professions (solicitor, barrister) or legal executive personnel such as barristers' clerk, as well as health service, social services, human resources, government office (Welsh Assembly) and police.

Students have the opportunity to visit the criminal courts and view criminal cases, for example the local Magistrates and Crown Court.

Links with Glamorgan University Law School allow students to experience criminal law lectures and take part in workshops given by senior law practitioners.

A team of students participate in the National Bar Mock Trial Competition, which involves preparing a mock case for court and taking on the role of barristers/witnesses/judiciary and jurors.