The Law School
Studies in Law and Criminology

lancaster.ac.uk/law
Welcome

Hello, and welcome to the Law School. Whether you are intending to read for a law degree, a criminology degree or both, the Law School at Lancaster University is an exciting place to study.

Our degree programmes are designed to offer you a broad learning experience. Our world-leading team of researchers teach on our modules; meaning you are taught by experts. Our staff advise the United Nations, the OSCE, the EU, national and local criminal justice agencies. We train judges, prosecutors and police officers from all over the world meaning that you will be taught by those who shape both law and policy.

At the Law School we are proud of our international links, being a founding member of Lancaster University Ghana, the first campus in West Africa to be established by a UK university. We welcome students from all across the world to study with us and also provide international travel opportunities for our students, helping them to be at the centre of an increasingly globalised world.

I hope that you decide that Lancaster University Law School is somewhere you would like to study. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact our recruitment team. By signing up to visit us on one of our open days you will also see what we do and can ask us questions in person.

I look forward to welcoming you in due course to Lancaster University and its Law School.

Professor Alisdair A. Gillespie
Head of Lancaster University Law School
Why study with us?

- Best Law School in the North West
- Careers programme run by a qualified barrister
- Pro-bono opportunities
- Mooting competitions
- Dedicated Law library provision
- Criminology and Law placement opportunities
- Small-group teaching
- Student mentoring scheme to support first year undergraduates
- Careers mentoring scheme with alumni

Degrees and entry requirements

All of our LLB Law degrees are qualifying law degrees in England and Wales. This means that by taking and passing several core courses that satisfy the requirements of the professional bodies, you can gain full professional exemptions to qualify as a solicitor or barrister. We are accredited by both the Bar Standards Board and the Solicitors Regulation Authority.

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<tr>
<th>LLB Honours degrees</th>
<th>Degree length</th>
<th>UCAS code</th>
<th>Typical offer</th>
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<tr>
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<td>3 years</td>
<td>M100</td>
<td>AAA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law (Study Abroad)</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>M101</td>
<td>AAA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Law with Criminology</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>M112</td>
<td>AAA-AAB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law with Politics</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>M122</td>
<td>AAA-AAB</td>
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<table>
<thead>
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<th>BA Honours degrees</th>
<th>Degree length</th>
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<td>3 years</td>
<td>M930</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminology and Sociology</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>LM39</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
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“Coming to Lancaster to study Law has been an amazing experience from the start. As a first year student, both the staff and existing students have gone out of their way to make myself and my year group feel at home. This warm welcome, followed by an enjoyable and interesting course, all the while supported by a wide range of activities provided by the Law Society, has led to a year packed with fond memories. Both the University and the course have been excellent, and I would thoroughly recommend Law at Lancaster to anyone looking to study an interesting course at a brilliant institution.”

Daniel Jacklin, third year LLB Law student
The Law School prides itself on the quality of its teaching and has a commitment to small group teaching across all years of our undergraduate programmes.

Students have the opportunity to study Law and Criminology in a variety of different teaching environments, ranging from lectures and seminars to workshops in the computer labs, interactive and practical workshops, and case classes.

Students are timetabled for approximately 10 hours per week of formal study but drop-in sessions and staff office hours mean that you will have regular access to staff outside of the classroom. Assessment varies across modules, but often consists of a coursework component involving either an essay or problem-based question and an end of year exam. You will be taught by those who are undertaking research related to what you are studying. Several of our lecturers have had their teaching excellence recognised through a number of national award nominations by our students.

Facilities

Law students have access to specific law library provision and study areas in the University's recently refurbished, state of the art library. We are currently in the process of building a mock court room to allow students to practice their mooting and advocacy skills.

Both Law and Criminology students are taught in a variety of learning environments including lecture theatres and seminar rooms. The library, learning zone and computer labs are open 24/7 during term-time.

Our staff and their research

We are a research intensive Law School and over 80% of our research has been rated as internationally excellent or world leading. All of our staff teach undergraduate students, allowing for research led teaching. A crucial part of the student experience at Lancaster is the chance to learn from experts in the field. Our academic staff frequently advise governments, business, the profession, the Crown Prosecution Service and the police. Our staff also advise international bodies, organisations and NGOs including the World Bank, the United Nations and the International Monetary Fund.

“I have always found that the approachability, helpfulness, and passion of the teaching staff within the Law School, has given me the confidence to approach them if I feel I need help with anything. Although lecturers do have office hours, I have never come across a lecturer who would not accommodate you, if you needed help outside of these. All the staff in the Law School make an effort to know who you are and build a friendly rapport as a result. I think it is rare in a university to walk through the Law School and have lecturers walk past, saying hello and knowing most of the students by name. But this is what we have in Lancaster, and I think we are incredibly lucky for that.”

Catherine Hughes, LLB Law graduate
Law degrees

LLB Law
Students on any of our Law degrees will take a set of compulsory modules, as well as being able to pursue their own interests through an extensive list of optional modules.

Year 1

**English Legal System and Methods**
Enables students to develop their critical awareness of the social and political context in which law operates, by identifying the law as a historical, sociological, cultural and political phenomenon. The module will examine the sources, nature, role and significance of law in modern society and the roles of people working in the legal system.

**Public Law**
Introduces students to the principal features of the UK constitutional order, judicial review and the Human Rights Act. The module will constantly question whether law acts as a ‘real’ regulator of the legitimacy of government or as a symbolic one.

**Contract Law**
Provides students with an understanding of the fundamental features of contract law, exploring substantive topics such as remedies, offer and acceptance, mistake and misrepresentation, frustration and duress.

**Criminal Law**
Addresses key concepts of criminal law including the actus reus and mens rea elements, conceptions of harm, causation and criminal liability; accomplice liability and specific offences such as homicide; non-fatal offences against the person; theft and deception offences; and general defences.

Year 2

**Law of Torts**
Introduces students to the law of torts, covering topics such as negligence, trespass, nuisance, breach of statutory duty, defamation and privacy.

**EU Law**
Gives students a basic understanding of the EU, exploring the institutions of the EU, the way the law is created and developed, and the principles governing relations between the EU and its Member States.

**Land Law**
Examines the law of real property, including issues around co-ownership, mortgages and other rights in land such as adverse possession, rights to park and the law relating to landlords and tenants.

**Up to 2 optional modules**

Year 3

**Equity and Trusts**
Examines the nature of the trust device and its varied uses, including tax avoidance, wills, and charities.

**Up to 7 optional modules**

Optional Law modules
Here is a sample of some of the modules you will select from.

**Dissertation**
Final year Law students can opt to study for a dissertation on a subject of their own choosing. Previous topics explored by students include; forced marriage, intellectual property, sexual offences, vexatious litigants, mental health law, legal aid reform and the history of the United States Supreme Court.

**Company Law**
Covers the key areas of law from incorporation to insolvency, including the corporate personality and piercing the corporate veil, the company’s constitution, director’s duties and minority shareholder protection.

**Principles of Employment Law**
Gives students an understanding of how the law regulates employment relationships within the context of the British industrial relations system and explores substantive, practical areas of employment law such as redundancy and unfair dismissal.

**Immigration and Asylum Law**
Considers the general issues in relation to the asylum process through the study of particular topics such as the nature of an asylum claim, the link between human rights and asylum, immigration detention, the foreign prisoner crisis and deportation.

**Family Law**
Students’ assumptions about family law will be tested and challenged. The module will promote awareness of the implications for family law of the incorporation of the European Convention on Human Rights into the UK. It will also examine the relationship between families and the state; the interface between family law and family policy; the roles of individuals within families; and various theoretical perspectives on family law.

**Health Care Law**
Discusses substantive areas of healthcare and medical law with reference to the moral and ethical considerations often inherent in this area of law. Students will be introduced to the underlying conceptual framework and basic principles of health care law and ethics.
Degree pathways

Students on our LLB Law degree have the option to focus their degree in a particular area of the law by following one of our pathways. Students will have to select their options from a specific list attached to the pathway that they wish to study. Our pathways are:

- LLB Law (Criminal Law and Justice)
- LLB Law (Commercial Law)
- LLB Law (Human Rights)
- LLB Law (International Law)

LLB Law (Study Abroad)

This is a four year programme. Students studying for this degree follow the same programme of study as those on the three year LLB Law degree but spend their third year abroad at one of our partner institutions. Therefore the modules that they would have taken in their third year on the LLB Law degree are studied in their fourth year when they return to Lancaster. Recent partner institutions include: University of Louvain (Belgium), Charles University, Prague (Czech Republic), Maastricht University and University of Groningen (the Netherlands), Uppsala University (Sweden), Zagreb University (Croatia) and University of Bergen (Norway).
You can combine the study of Law with either Criminology or Politics.

**Year 1**

**English Legal System and Methods**
Enables students to develop their critical awareness of the social and political context in which law operates, by identifying the law as a historical, sociological, cultural and political phenomenon. The module will examine the sources, nature, role and significance of law in modern society and the roles of people working in the legal system.

**Contract Law**
Provides students with an understanding of the fundamental features of contract law, exploring substantive topics such as remedies, offer and acceptance, mistake and misrepresentation, frustration and duress.

**Criminology**
Addresses key concepts of criminal law including the actus reus and mens rea elements; conceptions of harm; causation and criminal liability; accomplice liability and specific offences such as homicide; non-fatal offences against the person; theft and deception offences; and general defences.

**Crime and Social Life**
Provides a foundation for understanding the social, cultural, political and economic processes associated with crime and the criminal justice system.

**Understanding Politics and Governance**
Introduces students to some of the key areas of politics and international relations, exploring events and ideas that have transformed societies in complex ways.

**Law with Criminology students take:**

**Law with Politics students take:**

**Year 2**

**Law of Torts**
Introduces students to the law of torts, covering topics such as negligence, trespass, nuisance, breach of statutory duty, defamation and privacy.

**Public Law**
Introduces students to the principal features of the UK constitutional order, judicial review and the Human Rights Act. The course will constantly question whether law acts as a ‘real’ regulator of the legitimacy of government or as a symbolic one.

**EU Law**
Gives students a basic understanding of the EU, exploring the institutions of the EU, the way the law is created and developed, and the principles governing relations between the EU and its Member States.

**Criminological Thought**
Introduces and examines theories that have sought to explain crime, criminality and social control.

**Politics of the EU**
Examines the origins, workings and policies of the EU, including the treaties that led to the contemporary union and key strains of thought that have given rise to contemporary debates about the form the EU ought to take through which it is secured and protected. Specific areas are considered, including the right to life, freedom from torture, and freedom of expression.

**Law with Criminology students take:**

**Law with Politics students take:**

**Year 3**

**Equity and Trusts**
Examines the nature of the trust device and its varied uses, including tax avoidance, wills, and charities.

**Land Law**
Examines the law of real property, including issues around co-ownership, mortgages and other rights in land such as adverse possession, rights to park and the law relating to landlords and tenants.

**Optional modules**
Law with Criminology students select modules in Law and Criminology.
Law with Politics students select modules in Law and Politics.
Criminology degrees

Students on any of our Criminology degrees will take a set of compulsory modules, as well as being able to pursue their own interests through an extensive list of optional modules.

BA Criminology

Year 1

Crime and Social Life

Provides a foundation for understanding the social, cultural, political and economic processes associated with crime and the criminal justice system.

2 minor subjects

At Lancaster in your first year of study you are given the opportunity to broaden your studies to include another subject. Subjects our students choose from include: Law, Politics, Economics, Philosophy, Psychology, English Language, Media and Cultural Studies, English Literature.

Year 2

Criminological Thought

Introduces and examines theories that have sought to explain crime, criminality and social control.

Measuring Crime

Gives participants a critical understanding of the different methods of measuring crime. A practical component involves the use of SPSS and Excel to examine data from the Crime Survey for England and Wales.

Understanding Criminological fieldwork

Provides an introduction to the different research methods in criminology. Students critically examine the means of producing evidence within criminology and the planning and evaluation of policies in criminal justice.

Up to 4 optional modules

Year 3

Up to 8 optional modules
Optional Criminology modules

This list is a sample of some of the modules you will select your options from.

**Dissertation**
Final year Criminology students can also opt to study for a dissertation on a subject of their own choosing. Previous topics explored by students include: status dogs, punishment and incarceration, violent video games and aggression, legal highs, profiling criminals, the police and policing.

**Youth Justice**
Focuses on the criminal justice response to children in conflict with the law, exploring trends in youth justice policy and the range of possible responses to youth crime.

**Drugs, Crime and Society**
Explores topics such as illegal drug use, supply, trafficking and manufacture, as well as the current academic debates on legal and illegal drugs including the emergence of novel psychoactive substances.

**Hate Crime: A Global Perspective**
Explores key global issues relating to hate crime, including the harms of hate crime, perpetrators and policing.

**Sexual Offences and Offending**
Introduces students to a range of sexual crimes and forms of sexual offending, the ways in which sex crimes and offending behaviour are explained and how these crimes are dealt with by the criminal justice system.

**Criminology Innovation**
Takes students through a process of developing and practising enterprise and innovation skills via a series of interactive lectures and the delivery of a live project for an organisation within, or connected to, the Criminal Justice System.

### BA Criminology and Sociology

#### Year 1

- **Crime and Social Life**
  - Provides a foundation for understanding the social, cultural, political and economic processes associated with crime and the criminal justice system.

- **Introduction to Sociology**
  - Introduces you to sociological issues, ideas, concepts, evidence and argument by examining some key aspects of living in the contemporary world.

- **Minor subject**
  - At Lancaster in your first year of study you are given the opportunity to broaden your studies to include another subject. Subjects our students choose from include: Law, Politics, Economics, Philosophy, Psychology, English Language, Media and Cultural Studies, English Literature.

#### Year 2

- **Criminological Thought**
  - Introduces and examines theories that have sought to explain crime, criminality and social control.

- **Understanding Social Thought**
  - This module introduces the development of social theory from the Enlightenment in the Eighteenth Century to contemporary debates about the character of knowing.

- **Understanding Criminological Fieldwork**
  - Provides an introduction to the different research methods in criminology. Students critically examine the means of producing evidence within criminology and the planning and evaluation of policies in criminal justice.

- **Measuring Crime**
  - Gives participants a critical understanding of the different methods of measuring crime. A practical component involves the use of SPSS and Excel to examine data from the Crime Survey for England and Wales.

- **Sociology Research Skills and Techniques**
  - This module enables students to acquire research skills and techniques to support their research-based coursework and dissertations. Topics include interviewing, participant observation, questionnaire design, graphical analysis, statistical methods, visual analysis, bibliographical databases, ethnography and research design.

#### Year 3

- **Up to 4 optional modules in Criminology**
- **Up to 4 optional modules in Sociology**

### EITHER:

- **Up to 2 optional modules**

### OR:

- **Up to 4 optional modules**
Our Student Law Society offers a range of extra-curricular activities as well as a platform from which members can launch their careers. The activities on offer will help to make any aspiring professional stand out from the crowd, no matter the profession.

The Society runs a number of events including:

- An in-house Mooting Competition with questions set by both the Society and lecturers and judged by local solicitors, barristers and judges. The Society also participates in the inter-varsity Lawyers Aware competition and in the VIS Moot, one of the largest mooting competitions in the world.

- A Negotiation Competition which is judged by local lawyers, for those students with a more commercial focus.

- Careers events on offer throughout the year, of which the main two are the careers fair and the annual careers dinner. Both events offer fantastic opportunities for students to network with prospective employers from a variety of law firms from around the country.

- Pro-bono activities, which include events and competitions for schools.

- The Law Society also runs a football and a netball team, both of which compete in the university leagues, as well as against teams from law firms.

- Regular socials are organised including the annual Law Ball, a summer BBQ to celebrate the end of exams and the annual overseas trip which in previous years has visited Berlin, Barcelona and Amsterdam.

One of the most appealing aspects of studying Law at Lancaster is the lively, engaging and progressive student-led Law Society. The largest on campus, the Society provides various opportunities to undergraduates, ranging from international mooting to pro-bono activities in local schools. There exists a wide array of competitions and careers events run by the Society, whilst maintaining a refreshing emphasis on social activities including the annual trip abroad. In conjunction with the excellent Law School the Law Society really seeks to enrich the experiences of undergraduate students.”

James Byrne, final year Law student
Volunteering and the Lancaster Award

All of our students have the opportunity to participate in the Lancaster Award. The Award encourages students to participate in extra-curricular activities alongside their undergraduate study. Students then record these activities and reflect on how they have helped them to develop the skills required by employers. The Lancaster Award is a great way for graduates to stand out from the crowd.

Our Criminology students regularly volunteer with Lancashire Youth Offending Team and as Police Special Constables and both our Law and Criminology students often volunteer at the Citizen’s Advice Bureau. Volunteering allows students to further develop their skills and apply the knowledge they have learned during their studies in practical scenarios, advising clients.

Additional opportunities

- An annual Law School trip to Ghana takes place where students have the opportunity to visit Lancaster’s partner campus, visit local schools to discuss being students, participate in Lancaster-Ghana’s Annual Inter-University Debate and explore Ghanaian history and culture.
- Our students gain practical experience, including pro-bono work in the court system and through participation in the student-led ‘Innocence Project’.
- Criminology students deliver a live project for an organisation within, or connected to, the Criminal Justice System.
- Placement opportunities for both Law and Criminology students.
- Careers programme, seminar series and one-on-one career guidance.
- Expertise and advice from our alumni.

“The best careers advice is not available on the internet or in corporate promotional literature, but is to be found by actually speaking to highly accomplished professionals who have dedicated their working lives to studying the areas of law that you want to practice in, and that is what you get at Lancaster.”

Adam Coomer, LLB Law graduate
Life after your degree

Careers
Our graduates go on to be successful in a wide variety of careers, including:
- The legal profession as solicitors, barristers and members of the judiciary
- Politics
- Business and Finance Analysts
- The Police
- The Probation Service
- Human Resources
- Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Education
- Management Consultancy

Our Alumni

“...My time at Lancaster University set me up for life. Lancaster gave me life chances and I could not have done what I have without it. It was a real revelation. You were not ‘fed’, you had to think for yourself and I felt I really thrived. The tutors challenged your assumptions in a way that stayed with me.”

Martin Bland, Law graduate
District Judge, Northern Circuit

“...Part of what makes the Law School really stand out, is the quality of the staff. Their passion about their subjects really shines through and is part of what makes the Criminology course so engaging.”

Olivia Loboar-Self, Criminology graduate
Research and Policy Intern for The Police Foundation.

“...I felt I grew as a person during my time at Lancaster. The first of my family to go to university, I quickly found that I found the academic side of things stimulating and that, from a commercial point of view, I ‘got it’. The small, friendly atmosphere of the Law School meant that it was easy to develop relationships with the Faculty and that doors were always open if I had questions or concerns. This really improved my confidence and meant that I was not afraid to apply to the biggest and most prestigious graduate employers.”

Tom Grogan, Law graduate
Trainee Solicitor at Allen and Overy LLP.

Please visit our website for more Alumni profiles:
www.lancaster.ac.uk/law/undergraduate/alumni