The Law School
Studies in Law & Criminology

lancaster.ac.uk/fass/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

Contact us

@LancsUniLaw

facebook.com/LancsLaw

facebook.com/pages/Lancaster-University-Law-School-Criminology

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www.lancaster.ac.uk/fass/law
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

Our courses overview

All of our LLB Law degrees are qualifying law degrees in England and Wales.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LLB Single Honours Degrees</th>
<th>Course Length</th>
<th>UCAS Code</th>
<th>Typical offer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Law</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>M100</td>
<td>AAA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Law</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>M101</td>
<td>AAA</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LLB Joint Honours Degrees</th>
<th>Course Length</th>
<th>UCAS Code</th>
<th>Typical offer</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Law and Criminology</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>MM12</td>
<td>AAA–AAB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law and Politics</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>M1L2</td>
<td>AAA–AAB</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BA Honours Degrees</th>
<th>Course Length</th>
<th>UCAS Code</th>
<th>Typical offer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Criminology</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>M930</td>
<td>AAA–ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminology and Sociology</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>LM39</td>
<td>AAA–ABB</td>
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Teaching and assessment

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 8 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/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, final year LLB Law student.
Law Degree Modules in-depth

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.

Core Modules (all LLB Law courses)

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

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

**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.

**European Union 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.

**Law of Contracts**
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.

**Property and 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.

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

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**LLB Law (International) Additional Core Modules**

**Third Year Abroad**
As part of this degree, you will spend your third year abroad at one of our partner institutions, these include: University of Lorraine (Nancy) in France, Charles University in Prague, University of Vienna in Austria, University of Trier in Germany, University of Seville in Spain, Maastricht University in The Netherlands and University of Bergen in Norway.

**Courts, Law and Politics in Comparative Perspective**
Compares and contrasts the intersection of courts, law and politics in the former Soviet Union, the Russian Federation, drawing on developments in post-Communist Europe, and Spain. The course investigates how courts function in each country, how the adjudication of criminal justice and the processing of civil disputes connect the legal system to politics, and how ordinary citizens use the courts.

**Introduction to comparative law**
Provides an introduction to the comparative analysis of legal phenomena, such as law, lawyers and courts, and questions the extent to which national legal cultures are converging.

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**LLB Joint Honours in Law and Criminology (Additional Core Modules)**

**Crime and Social Life**
Please refer to the Criminology modules for description, page 12.

**Criminological Thought**
Please refer to the Criminology modules for description, page 12.
LLB Joint Honours in Law and Politics (Additional Core Modules)

**Grievances and the State**
Explores the control of government power in the modern state, examining a range of public grievance mechanisms such as judicial review, tribunals, inquiries and the Ombudsman.

**OR**

**Human Rights and Civil Liberties**
Explores the theoretical foundations for the existence of freedoms and rights, as well as the legal mechanisms through which they are secured and protected. Specific areas are considered, including the right to life, freedom from torture, and freedom of expression.

**AND**

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

**OR**

**The Politics of the European Union**
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 they are secured and protected. Specific areas are considered, including the right to life, freedom from torture, and freedom of expression.

Optional Law Modules include:

**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.

**Issues in Cybercrime**
Discusses key legal issues in respect of cybercrime, including conceptions of cybercrime, jurisdictional issues in cyberspace, improper access to technology, offences relating to data, misuse of devices, fraud and cyber-harassment.

**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.

**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.

Optional Law Modules include: (continued)

**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 & 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.

**Dissertation**
Final year Law students can also 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.

“An invaluable feature of Lancaster University Law School is the truly eclectic range of courses on offer. These allow students to become truly comfortable in legal research, allowing students to successfully navigate further study or those complex research tasks upon which junior lawyers cut their teeth.”

Henry Bennett, Barrister, Her Majesty’s Revenue and Customs
Criminology Degree Modules in-depth

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.

Core Modules (all Criminology courses)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crime and Social Life</td>
<td>Provides a foundation for understanding the social, cultural, political and economic processes associated with crime and the criminal justice system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminological Thought</td>
<td>Introduces and examines theories that have sought to explain crime, criminality and social control.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measuring Crime</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding Criminological Fieldwork</td>
<td>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.</td>
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BA Criminology and Sociology (Additional Core Modules)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to Sociology</td>
<td>Introduces you to sociological issues, ideas, concepts, evidence and argument by examining some key aspects of living in the contemporary world.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime and Social Life</td>
<td>See above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding Social Thought</td>
<td>This course introduces the development of social theory from the Enlightenment in the Eighteenth Century to contemporary debates about the character of knowing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AND</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding Criminological Fieldwork</td>
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<tr>
<td>Measuring Crime</td>
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<tr>
<td>OR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sociology Research Skills and Techniques</td>
<td>This course 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.</td>
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Optional Criminology Modules include:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Module Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contemporary Crime Problems</td>
<td>Introduces students to a range of contemporary crime ‘problems’ through an exploration of historical, socio-economic and cultural contexts in relation to the process of criminalisation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Justice</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drugs, Crime and Society</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hate Crime: A Global Perspective</td>
<td>Explores key global issues relating to hate crime, including the harms of hate crime, perpetrators and policing.</td>
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Optional Criminology Modules include: (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sexual Offences and Offending</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminology Innovation</td>
<td>Takes students through a process of developing and practicing 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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dissertation</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Lancaster University Law Society

Our Student Law Society offers a range of extra-curricular activities as well as a platform from which members can launch their careers. The extra-curricular 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.
- 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 career 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.

“The Law Society has been invaluable to my experience as a student. From mooting to career dinners, the Law Society has worked to provide a platform from which students can base their future on. The recent increase in social media usage and contacts with major law firms has led to more information being distributed among the students, helping our profile outside the university grow as well.”

Elizabeth George, 4th 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

- Our active student Law Society organise mooting, volunteering, student mentoring in local schools, sporting fixtures, careers events and socials.
- An annual Law School trip takes place to Ghana 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 ‘Criminal Appeals Review’ 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.
- Training and volunteering through The Lancaster Award.
- Careers programme, seminar series and one-on-one career guidance

“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 The Law School

“Life after The Law School

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.”

Martin Bland, District Judge

“Studying law at Lancaster University (including the various extracurricular activities in which I participated, such as mooting) has given me the wherewithal to undertake my current role in Compliance at a Nordic investment bank. I have found that my commercial work experience, which I undertook during my time at university in conjunction with my study, is of great use when considering the way in which law is used to facilitate commercial operations.”

Seema Walji, Merchant Banking Compliance, SEB

“By reading law at Lancaster one truly begins to appreciate that the study of law is not just a dry examination of legal rules but in fact a study of many threads that make up the fabric of society; law is often centre stage in political, economic and even ethical debate. Having this wider understanding of the context in which the law operates, not to mention the ability to critique the law against this background, has been central to my current role as a barrister employed by Her Majesty’s Revenue and Customs.”

Henry Bennett, Barrister

“The diverse nature of the Criminology degree at Lancaster University gave me a fantastic insight into the workings of the criminal justice system. It provided me with an excellent platform to pursue a career in the National Probation Service. I would highly recommend anyone considering a career in the criminal justice system to study in the highly supportive environment offered in the Law School at Lancaster University.”

James Roberts, Trainee Probation Officer, National Probation Service

“My time at Lancaster University was in total the best 8 years of my life (so far!). I did all of my studying at the University progressing from my BA Hons in Criminology to an MRes and finally to a PhD. The staff, the lectures, seminars, the wider university experience, everything as a whole inspired me to the position I am in today which is working as a lecturer in Social Policy and Crime at York University.”

Dr Rachel Morris, Co-Chair British Society of Criminology Postgraduate Committee & Lecturer in Social Policy and Crime, University of York

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