



WELCOME TO OUR SPRING NEWSLETTER



How lovely to have some sunshine back in the UK. Spring has most certainly sprung! In this edition of the newsletter, we look back on the visit from the President of the Law Society for England and Wales, our International Women's Day celebration and explore five of the best things about studying law here. If there are reasons we have missed, please let me know.

As the long vacation fast approaches, and unless you have firm plans, please think about using some of this time to get some valuable work experience to help to build your CV. It could be undertaking a week's work experience at a solicitors' office, or perhaps a mini-pupillage with a barrister. Of course, it doesn't have to be law-related and might be helping out with a charity or even going to observe the goings on in a court (just walk in and sit in a courtroom). If you need some help finding something suitable, please contact careers@leedsbeckett.ac.uk.

On 5th June, we are having the official launch of the Law School's new building, which will be a great event with guest speakers. Do come along and help us celebrate, we'd love to see you there.

Enjoy this edition and good luck with the upcoming assessments!

Professor Deveral Capps, Dean of Leeds Law School

COME AND CELEBRATE WITH US

On Wednesday 5th June, we will mark our centenary year with the official opening of our new law building at Broadcasting Place. Please email eventsteam@leedsbeckett.ac.uk to confirm your attendance, everyone is welcome.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY AT



In March, we celebrated International Women's Day with a student-run panel event.

First-year law student Adelina Skarra did a fantastic job pulling the event together: ***"I was over the moon with the turnout. The speakers offered incredible insight into their experiences and progress as women in law and gave some great advice to students entering the profession."***

Congratulations to Sinead Clarkson, LLMEW/PGDL student, who won a prize for her essay discussing the issue of gender inequality within the legal profession and how it can be improved. Sinead said: ***"Writing this essay really opened my eyes to the issues faced by women in the legal sector. Despite positive statistics at entry level, women are poorly represented at the more senior levels of the sector."***

Find out more on the blog visit: leedsbeckett.ac.uk/blogs/leeds-law-school

AI IN THE LEGAL SECTOR: WHAT'S NEXT?



Nick Emmerson, President of The Law Society

It's the buzz topic of the moment in law, so it was our pleasure to host Nick Emmerson, President of The Law Society, to lead a fascinating roundtable on the use of generative AI in legal services in February.

Covering topics such as embracing change, education and training, looking to the future, and regulation, Nick also spent time talking to students about diversity and entry paths into the legal profession. A hugely insightful afternoon, thanks to everyone who took part.



Daisy Livingstone

SUCCESS FOR STREET LAW STUDENTS

Spring term saw a group of savvy students travel the country to teach A-level law students about workplace discrimination.

Daisy Livingstone was one of those to take part. She said: ***"The innovative Street Law programme at the Law School helps to provide young people with the legal knowledge necessary to empower and instil change in our community. I am grateful to have had this amazing opportunity, which has allowed me to develop my confidence, public speaking, teamwork and communication skills."***

Well done to all involved, feedback from colleges and schools was excellent.

Read the latest student stories and discover more about life at Leeds Law School at leedsbeckett.ac.uk/law

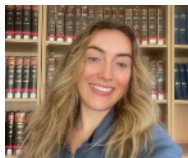


FIVE REASONS TO STUDY AT LEEDS LAW SCHOOL IN 2024

As we celebrate 100 years at Leeds Law School, we asked our community why Leeds Beckett is their top university choice for studying law in 2024.

"The lecturers are the most supportive, informative and approachable there are."

Our academic team of accomplished and inspiring lecturers and researchers have spent their careers exploring the real impact of legislation, and why it matters.



MLaw student Tamara McGaughey said: *"The quality has never faltered. I have a great relationship with my lecturers and they've pushed me to achieve the best results I have ever achieved academically."*

Throughout your time at Leeds Beckett University, you also get the opportunity to pair up with a professional mentor who can provide valuable insights into the industry. Doug Tomlinson said: *"Leeds Law School put me in touch with a criminal barrister working in military law who became my mentor. He's given me so much guidance."*

"Leeds really is the place to be for future lawyers right now."

Leeds is now one of the UK's largest legal hubs, meaning that as a student here, there are plenty of opportunities to take advantage of, right here on your doorstep. John Bailes, owner of Leeds law firm Bailoran Solicitors, explains:

"Leeds is the second largest legal sector outside of London, with some reports suggesting that Leeds is now outpacing London as the fastest-growing legal city in England. In terms of the legal market here, there's a great mix of global and mid-size law firms to choose from, alongside more niche practices where students can really gain hands-on work experience. Leeds is an exciting place to be for lawyers right now, and it's great for us to see the high-calibre future legal talent coming through from Leeds Beckett."

"The new Law School campus is one of the most modern in the country."

We moved into Broadcasting Place in Autumn 2023, and it's fair to say everyone loves our new home. With modern and collaborative facilities, a campus courtroom, high-tech event spaces, reading rooms and tucked-away study booths to grab some time in between lectures, students are spoiled for choice in their diverse learning environment.

Sophie Turner said: *"The new campus is so modern, there's a real vibe here. There are great facilities, like a courtroom with a neighbouring jury room, and lots of social spaces."*

Finn Brown adds: *"Having our own Law School campus has been a breath of fresh air."*

"I love all of the practical learning opportunities we have access to."

From eye-opening trips to court, to inspiring talks from some of the UK's leading barristers, our Law Enrichment programme is dedicated to giving students all the practical learning opportunities they can squeeze in during their time at university.

Kitty Lambert got to travel to New York as part of our innovative Street Law programme last year. *"I am so grateful to have had the opportunity to live in New York for a month. I gained so many skills from the Street Law programme, made some great friends and loved giving students in the Bronx important legal literacy. These things together made it the trip of a lifetime."*

"I like how committed the university is to giving back to the community."

As a student at Leeds Law School, you get to offer members of the public real legal advice and counsel through our very own Law Clinic. Law student Jess Linton said: *"I feel we have made a real impact on people's lives and helped create a more equal society through the Law Clinic. Not only have we helped the community, but I have also developed my analytical and research skills, which is great experience for the legal profession."*



You'll also benefit from our partnership with Support Through Court, a charity that supports people going through the court system. Based right here on campus, students can volunteer and take on work placements with the charity.

For more reasons to study at Leeds Law School, read our student stories on the blog.

Visit: leedsbeckett.ac.uk/blogs/leeds-law-school.

"THE NEW LAW SCHOOL CAMPUS IS ONE OF THE MOST MODERN IN THE COUNTRY."





WHAT'S IT LIKE TO BE A FIRST-YEAR STUDENT AT LEEDS LAW SCHOOL?

Joelsa Domingos joined the LLB Law degree at Leeds Beckett in September 2023. She shares some learnings from her first year.

"I spent my first week getting to know everyone and familiarising myself with the resources available to help me excel in my studies. Being able to meet your academic advisor and some of the module leaders before classes started eased the transition into university, and helped a lot with calming any anxieties I might have had beforehand."

"The independent work takes a while to get used to, but it is definitely a skill that will help me in my future career and everyday life. There are so many areas of law that I am looking forward to expanding my knowledge on, and the law is always changing so there is always something new to explore."

"Overall, I've found my first year at Leeds Law School to be exciting, hopeful and reassuring, and I can't wait to see what's next!"

Find out more about Joelsa's first semester, on the blog.
Visit: leedsbeckett.ac.uk/blogs/leeds-law-school

"MY EXPERIENCE AS AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT"

AKM Tariqul Islam is a final year law student from Bangladesh who's had an overwhelmingly positive experience of studying at Leeds Law School so far.



He said: *"The vibrant and diverse cultural environment of Leeds, combined with the university's commitment to fostering a supportive academic community, made Leeds Beckett an ideal destination for my undergraduate law studies. Being an international student at Leeds Beckett has been an incredibly positive experience. The university's environment is welcoming, and fellow students are cooperative, open-minded, and accepting."*

Head to the blog to read our full interview with AKM Tariqul.
Visit: leedsbeckett.ac.uk/blogs/leeds-law-school

"WHY I CHOSE THE MLAW COURSE"

Tamara McGaughey is an MLaw student in her final year at Leeds Law School. The MLaw is an integrated master's course that joins the academic parts of a degree with the vocational training needed to qualify as a solicitor. She offers some advice to other aspiring solicitors considering the course.

"During my final year of undergraduate studies in Law, I knew I wanted to become a solicitor and would need to do either the Legal Practice Course or SQE to do so. The MLaw lets me do the LPC without the requirement to complete a separate master's and provides the same funding as undergraduate students get. I come from a low-income background, so being able to access the maintenance loan has helped me greatly in terms of financial security."

...LEEDS LAW SCHOOL HAS NOT ONLY HELPED ME WITH CAREER ADVICE AND LEGAL KNOWLEDGE, BUT HAS ALSO HELPED MY CONFIDENCE GROW SIGNIFICANTLY...



Tamara McGaughey

"Even though the lecturers explain how much is expected of you for this professional course, I was still overwhelmed in the transition from LLB Law to MLaw. You are effectively doing at least triple the workload, in university approximately 18 hours a week, all whilst completing exams. I have had to be prepared, disciplined and organised."

"Leeds Law School has not only helped me with career advice and legal knowledge, but has also helped my confidence grow significantly. My long-term goal is to become a Solicitor with higher rights of audience. Leeds Law School has really pushed me in the right direction with advocacy skills."

"The MLaw is a very demanding course and you will have to make sacrifices to make it work, but just work hard and be consistent and it will be worth it: it's brilliant!"

To find out more about the MLaw and LPC routes, visit the postgraduate section of the website.

Visit: leedsbeckett.ac.uk/blogs/leeds-law-school

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FOCUS ON: LEGAL AND EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS MODULE

The Legal and Employability Skills module is a core module for all first-year students. We spoke to Dr Jill Dickinson, Module Leader, to find out why it's bigger and better than ever.



Hi Jill! Tell us why this module is so popular with students.

It provides real, practical opportunities for first year students to further develop their transferable skills, confidence, and contact networks to support them with applications for work placements and graduate recruitment.

What can students get involved with on this module?

Students engage in a variety of simulated activities such as speed networking, client interviews, an assessment centre, and taking on the role of recruiters in assessing and evaluating CVs and mock career interviews.

We also work with employers in the design and delivery of the module; for example, this term a solicitor from a global law firm worked with us to develop some materials around the importance of developing a professional social media profile, and two alumni provided top tips to stand out in interviews.

We also have a comprehensive guest speaker series with different law practitioners.

Who teaches on this module?

The module involves colleagues from both Leeds Law School, including Academic Advisors, and across the university, including: Careers, Skills for Learning, the Library Team, Wellbeing, Experiential Learning, alongside alumni and practitioners.

What does it look like in practice?

We share pre-recorded materials with students each week and then have live, large group sessions which are held in a lecture theatre, often with guest speakers and an audience Q&A. The students also have fortnightly seminars on particular themes, such as developing communication skills, building a professional profile, and recruitment and selection.

How long does it last for?

The module runs in semester 2 (January-May), so for 12 weeks in total. For the assessment, students are asked to choose a job advert and tailor a pre-recorded extract from a careers interview, and a CV and covering letter to that advert.

How can students use the skills they learn going forward into their studies?

From the start, the module includes opportunities for students to develop their skills and confidence; for example, around independent study, research, communication skills, and time management. They also learn teamwork and collaboration through group assessment work, as well as analytical skills and problem-solving.

To find out what students have to say about this module, visit: leedsbeckett.ac.uk/blogs/leeds-law-school

IN BRIEF



20 years of academic partnerships in India

Dean of Leeds Law School, Professor Deveral Capps, recently visited New Delhi to celebrate our academic partnerships in India. Marking 20 years of our South Asia office in Delhi, we have gone from recruiting just 100 students to Leeds Beckett in 2004, to a student intake of 2,000 last year. Here's to many more.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONFERENCE

Leeds Law School will host a conference on Human Rights on Wednesday 12 June. We will be welcoming sixth form students from all around the region. If you are interested in helping and supporting this day, please email david.norris@leedsbeckett.ac.uk.

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