

University of the West of Scotland
Undergraduate Programme Specification

Session: 2023/24

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Status: Proposal

Named Award Title:	BA (Hons) Law Single
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Award Title for Each Award:	BA (Hons) Law BA Law Dip HE Law Cert HE Law
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Date of Validation:	March 2017
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Details of Cohorts Applies to:	Those entering Level 7 from September 2017 onwards
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Awarding Institution/Body:	University of the West of Scotland
Teaching Institution:	University of the West of Scotland
Language of Instruction & Examination:	English
Award Accredited By:	
Maximum Period of Registration:	
Mode of Study:	Full Time Part Time
Campus:	Paisley

School:	School of Business & Creative Industries
Programme Board	Accounting, Finance and Law
Programme Leader:	Clive Mitchell

Admission Criteria

Candidates must be able to satisfy the general admission requirements of the University of the West of Scotland as specified in Chapter 2 of the University Regulatory Framework together with the following programme requirements:

SQA National Qualifications

Entry to this programme at SCQF Level 7 with the following SQA qualifications:
Grades B, B, B, C at Higher including English. Mathematics at least at National 5.

or GCE

Grades B, C, C at A level plus 3 GCSEs including English and Mathematics.

or SQA National Qualifications/Edexcel Foundation

Entry to Level 8 of this programme is only possible with an HNC Legal Services (or equivalent HNC in Law). Entry to Level 9 is only possible with an HND Legal Services (or equivalent HND in Law). No other Higher National programmes will be considered for advanced entry to the programme. The Programme Leader will determine the suitability of any equivalent HNC or HND in Law for advanced entry to the programme.

Other Required Qualifications/Experience

Applicants for this programme who do not meet the formal entry requirements set out above will be considered for entry on the basis of other qualifications and/or experience.

Further desirable skills pre-application

Not applicable.

General Overview

The BA (Hons) Law programme seeks to promote knowledge, understanding, and critical awareness of a range of major concepts, values, principles, and rules of the Scottish legal system while also introducing students to comparisons with other European and non-European legal systems. Students undertaking this programme learn about the Scottish legal system and court structure in general while also pursuing in-depth knowledge of a variety of specialist branches of law. The study of law is contextualised throughout the programme as students will learn about the relevant social, economic, and political contexts in which law operates. Whilst the programme provides students with in-depth knowledge of Scots law and a more general knowledge of laws from other jurisdictions, it also enables students to develop generic and specialist transferable skills relevant to a career within the legal profession or in any other sector. Students undertaking this programme of study will be expected to develop a variety of communication skills, research skills, and skills of analysis, synthesis, and critical judgment suitable for a variety of forms of employment.

The programme is delivered both full-time and part-time. Full-time study lasts, normally, four years for the Honours title and three years for the Ordinary title. Part-time study lasts for a maximum of six years. However, part-time students can study between 30 and 119 credits per academic session thus shortening the length of time taken to obtain the qualification. Full-time and part-time delivery will, on the whole, be during the day. However, certain modules will be delivered in a blended manner whereby face-to-face contact is limited to one day per month supported by online learning materials. The delivery of the programme is designed in such a way as to maximise student participation and engagement with their learning. Many modules are delivered by means of on-campus workshops and online supported learning. The delivery of modules is tailored to the learning experience sought. Students, in workshops, will be expected to prepare in advance, using online materials provided via the Virtual Learning Environment and then explore, through discussion and student led activities such as presentations, the wider context in which the law is situated.

At SCQF Level 7 students study five core modules which provide a strong foundation in key principles of Scots Law. Students will study subjects such as Introduction to Legal Study, Public Law, Criminal Law, Scots Private Law 1: Contract Law, and Scots Private Law 2: Delict alongside modules designed to support their learning at University, in particular support their development as Law students. These modules assist in the development core skills and competencies required to progress the student's legal study and include Legal Advocacy Skills 1 and Contemporary Legal Issues 1. They provide students with the opportunity to reflect on their own personal learning, and professional skills and, where appropriate, aid the identification of strategies to further develop the student's personal learning and professional needs.

SCQF Level 8 builds upon the foundation skills and knowledge developed at Level 7 and introduces students to further in-depth study of key legal subjects. The core modules at Level 8 comprise 20 credit modules in areas of law identified as essential to ensure that students have a broad understanding of all of the main legal subjects. Students will study Law of Scots Private Law 3: Property, Scots Private Law 4: Family, Scots Private Law 4: Succession and Trusts and Company Law. There will be a range of optional modules to study such as Agency and Partnership Law, Consumers and the Law, Welfare Rights and Legal Advocacy Skills 2 as well as some modules from the wider BCI school.

SCQF Level 9 then introduces the student to more critical approaches to law. The purpose of this year of study is to enable students to develop skills in critical analysis through studying two core modules namely International Human Rights Law and Legal Research Methods. SCQF 9 provides much of the international comparisons within the programme and, where appropriate, students will study Scots law in the context of other global jurisdictions. SCQF Level 9 also allows the student to partake in more independent learning through work-based learning and through the Contemporary Legal Issues 3 module. At SCQF Level 9, students may have the opportunity to study abroad for up to one year.

SCQF Level 10 is taught almost entirely in the form of seminars and it is at this level that students will be expected to apply all of the skills developed in previous years of study to critique the law. Students complete a traditional Honours dissertation on legal topic of their choice supervised by a member of staff. The Honours Dissertation (Law) module spans terms 1 and 2 and is worth 40 credits. Students then select an additional 80 credits of optional modules, 60 of which must be law modules.

At each SCQF level students are given the opportunity to pursue study in other disciplines via their optional modules, although students must take at least 100 credits in law modules at each level to ensure the award criteria for the BA (Hons) Law degree is met. Students may wish to consider modules from the School of

Business and Creative Industries portfolio or indeed from other areas of the University, in particular languages.

Graduate Attributes, Employability & Personal Development Planning

Learning outcomes throughout the programme have been designed to ensure that, in addition to the development of knowledge and understanding of law, students will have the opportunity to develop those skills and attributes valued by employers, such as Universal, Work-ready, and Successful. Students gain Universal skills in that they are globally relevant independent thinkers as developed in assessments throughout the programme and in particular in the Honours Dissertation. Students are Work-ready in that they acquire appropriate knowledge, with good communication skills whilst striving to fulfil personal goals which leads them to Success. All modules are assessed on a knowledge and understanding basis, whereby students have to communicate, to the best of their abilities the knowledge gained. Students enter the workplace ready to utilise and develop the skills learned from their degree.

The programme has embedded employability into the curriculum, ensuring that all students are exposed to the development of key skills and have the opportunity to reflect on their own personal development. The programme has mapped the development of key skills throughout the programme, recognising that many employability skills and capabilities are complex and take time to develop. Deliberate attempts have been made to ensure that skills development is continually reinforced, and that transferability of skills is able to be demonstrated and built upon throughout the programme. There are a number of employability events throughout the year focusing on writing applications/CVs, further study and seeking graduate jobs or internships.

Students will be expected to reflect on and develop, employability skills and personal development planning throughout the length of their study as facilitated by their Year Lead but also more formally in the following modules:

Introduction to Legal Study

Legal Advocacy Skills 1

Legal Advocacy Skills 2

International Human Rights Law

Honours Dissertation (Law)

Work Based Learning/Placement Details

There are opportunities for students to engage in credit bearing work based learning as part of this programme and from the wider School of Business and Creative Industries. Students can take optional modules at Level 9 which allow them to undertake a project or work within a workplace setting.

Engagement

In line with the **Academic Engagement Procedure**, Students are defined as academically engaged if they are regularly engaged with timetabled teaching sessions, course-related learning resources including those in the Library and on the relevant learning platform, and complete assessments and submit these on time.

Where a programme has Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Body requirements these will be listed here:

Students are required to attend all scheduled teaching sessions and engage with the Virtual Learning Environment, lack of which could result in the student being referred to the Student Success Team, and could prevent student progression, and ultimately successful degree completion.

Students have a maximum of 2 years to progress through a module/level, which over 4 levels, could cumulatively take a maximum of 8 years for full-time study.

Equality and Diversity

Further information on the institutional approach to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion can be accessed at the following link: <https://www.uws.ac.uk/about-uws/uws-commitments/equality-diversity-inclusion/>

The Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code underpins student engagement. We aim to make UWS a fair and equal place to study an institution which addresses specific issues covering all aspects of equality, diversity, inclusion and human rights. Where required module assessment will be adapted to meet student requirements.

UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code - <https://www.uws.ac.uk/media/9663/equality-diversity-and-human-rights-code-approved-feb-2023.pdf>

Programme structures and requirements, SCQF level, term, module name and code, credits and awards (Chapter 1, Regulatory Framework)

A. Learning Outcomes (Maximum of 5 per heading)

Outcomes should incorporate those applicable in the relevant QAA Benchmark statements

Knowledge and Understanding	
A1	Demonstrate a broad overview of the Scottish legal system, its institutions, and the evolving nature of law in Scotland, the UK and Europe.
A2	Demonstrate knowledge of some specialist areas of law.
A3	Demonstrate awareness of theoretical concepts of law.
A4	Demonstrate awareness of the difference between civil and criminal law, and between public and private law.
A5	Demonstrate awareness of the sources of Scots Law and the sources of European and International Law, where appropriate.
Practice - Applied Knowledge and Understanding	
B1	Demonstrate knowledge of a range of legal principles, and identify and use primary and secondary legal sources relevant to particular topics.
B2	Identify the most appropriate course of action in given legal situations.
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	
C1	Utilise a wide range of skills for the gathering and basic analysis of data and the presentation of ideas and concepts. This will include the use of information and communications technology.
C2	Convey ideas in a well-structured and coherent form.
C3	Use a range of forms of communication effectively in both familiar and new contexts.
Generic Cognitive Skills - Problem Solving, Analysis, Evaluation	
D1	Use some basic legal skills, techniques, practices, and materials in both familiar and non-familiar contexts.
Autonomy, Accountability and Working With Others	
E1	Exercise some initiative and independence in carrying out defined activities independently or as part of a team under guidance.
E2	Systematically identify, reflect upon and address personal learning needs.

Core Modules

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Name	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
7	LAWW07022	Introduction to Legal Study	20	✓			
7		Public Law *	20	✓			

7	LAWW07013	Criminal Law	20	✓			
7	LAWW07024	Scots Private Law 1: Contract	20		✓		
7	LAWW07021	Scots Private Law 2: Delict	20		✓		

* Indicates that module descriptor is not published.

Footnotes

Optional Modules

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Name	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
7	SPAN07001	Spanish 1.1	20	✓			
7	SPAN07002	Spanish 1.2	20	✓			
7		Legal Advocacy Skills 1 *	20		✓		
7	LAWW07023	Contemporary Legal Issues 1	20		✓	✓	

* Indicates that module descriptor is not published.

Footnotes

Students can take 120 credits of LAWW modules where provided or, if they wish, they can study modules from the wider School of Business and Creative Industries or UWS portfolio up to a maximum of 20 credits.

Legal Advocacy Skills 1 is only available to BA (Hons) Law students.

Criteria for Progression and Award

Students obtaining 120 credits (including all core module credits) at SCQF 7, or above, from the programme are eligible for the exit award of Certificate of Higher Education in Law.

For information on progression with credit deficit, please refer to University Regulation 3.13.

B. Learning Outcomes (Maximum of 5 per heading)

Outcomes should incorporate those applicable in the relevant QAA Benchmark statements

Knowledge and Understanding	
A1	Demonstrate a broad knowledge of a range of legal concepts, and detailed knowledge in respect of the specific legal areas addressed.
A2	Understand how different areas of law relate to each other, and, where appropriate, understand the extent to which they may also impact on other disciplines.
Practice - Applied Knowledge and Understanding	
B1	Carry out investigation into professional level legal problems and issues.
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	
C1	Use a range of routine skills and techniques in more complex situations.
C2	Use a range of communication skills and some advanced and specialised skills to convey complex information to a range of audiences and for a range of purposes.
Generic Cognitive Skills - Problem Solving, Analysis, Evaluation	
D1	Develop skills of investigation and interpretation.
D2	Undertake critical analysis, evaluation and synthesis of legal concepts, information, and arguments relevant to the subjects studied in Scotland and beyond.
D3	Evaluate evidence based solutions/responses to defined and/or routine legal problems.
D4	Use a range of approaches to formulate evidence-based solutions in contexts where the scope of the task and the criteria for decisions are generally well-defined. Additionally the criteria will be

within the common understandings of the legal subjects studied, but where some personal responsibility and initiative is required.

Autonomy, Accountability and Working With Others

E1	Exercise autonomy and initiative in some activities with appropriate guidance.
E2	Take continuing account of own and others' roles, responsibilities and contributions in carrying out and evaluating tasks.
E3	Systematically identify and address own learning needs in current areas.

Core Modules

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Name	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
8	LAWW08013	Scots Private Law 3: Property	20	✓			
8	LAWW08027	Scots Private Law 4: Family	20	✓			
8	LAWW08018	Scots Private Law 5: Succession and Trusts	20		✓		
8	LAWW08023	Company Law	20		✓		

* Indicates that module descriptor is not published.

Footnotes

Optional Modules

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Name	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
8	LAWW08022	Agency & Partnership Law	20	✓			
8	LAWW08025	Consumers and the Law	20	✓			
8	BUSN08058	Business Accelerator	20	✓			
8	HURM08001	Organisational Behaviour	20	✓			
8	LAWW08026	Legal Advocacy Skills 2	20		✓		
8	LAWW08028	Welfare Rights	20		✓		
8	LAWW08024	Contemporary Legal Issues 2	20		✓	✓	
8	MARK08009	Contemporary Consumer Behaviour	20		✓		
8	MARK08014	Customer Service Skills	20		✓		
8	HURM08003	Talent Management	20		✓		

* Indicates that module descriptor is not published.

Footnotes

Students can select 120 LAWW credits where available. As a minimum, students must select 100 credits of LAWW modules at Level 8 including core and optional modules. Therefore, students must choose a minimum of 20 credits of LAWW modules from the list of optional modules above. However, students may also wish to pursue study in other disciplines building on optional module study at SCQF 7. Students can select up to 20 credits from the wider School of Business and Creative Industries or UWS portfolio.

Criteria for Progression and Award

Students obtaining 240 credits (including all core module credits) of which 100 are LAWW credits at SCQF8, or above, are eligible for the exit award of Diploma of Higher Education in Law.

For information on progression with credit deficit please refer to University Regulation 3.13.

C. Learning Outcomes (Maximum of 5 per heading)

Outcomes should incorporate those applicable in the relevant QAA Benchmark statements

Knowledge and Understanding	
A1	Demonstrate knowledge of a substantial range of major concepts, values, and principles of the Scottish and other legal systems, and specific areas of substantive and procedural law.
A2	Demonstrate study, in depth and in context, of a broad range of issues concerning the law.
Practice - Applied Knowledge and Understanding	
B1	Undertake independent research in areas of law starting from standard legal information sources.
B2	Use knowledge and understanding of the law and legal skills to critically evaluate and formulate evidence-based arguments and identify solutions to problems.
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	
C1	Make use of and evaluate numerical information in certain subjects.
C2	Use a range of communication skills and some advanced and specialised legal skills to convey information to a range of audiences and for a range of purposes.
Generic Cognitive Skills - Problem Solving, Analysis, Evaluation	
D1	Use knowledge, understanding and skills to critically evaluate and formulate evidence-based arguments and identify solutions to clearly define problems of a generally routine nature.
D2	Identify and address own learning needs within defined contexts and undertake independent learning with limited guidance.
Autonomy, Accountability and Working With Others	
E1	Identify and address their own learning needs within defined contexts and undertake independent learning with limited guidance in relation to areas of law which they have already studied.
E2	Systematically identify, reflect upon and address personal learning needs in current areas.
E3	Demonstrate a basic ability to work, with minimum supervision, in groups as a participant who contributes effectively to the group's task(s).

Core Modules

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Name	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
9	LAWW09002	Legal Research Methods	20	✓			
9	LAWW09018	International Human Rights Law	20	✓			

* Indicates that module descriptor is not published.

Footnotes

Optional Modules

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Name	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
9	LAWW09021	Information and Communication Technology Law	20	✓			
9	LAWW09031	Tribunal Skills	20	✓			
9	LAWW09027	Public International Law	20		✓		
9	LAWW09028	Immigration and Asylum Law	20		✓		
9	LAWW09015	Law of Employment	20		✓		
9	LAWW09030	Media and the Law	20		✓		
9	LAWW09029	Contemporary Legal Issues 3	20		✓	✓	

9	LAWW09024	Practical Legal Learning	20	✓	✓
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* Indicates that module descriptor is not published.

Footnotes

Students must select at least 100 L9 LAWW credits but may, if they wish, select 120 LAWW credits, where available. Students may elect to study up to 20 L8 credits either in Law or another discipline. Optional modules may be selected from the wider School of Business and Creative Industries or University portfolio as listed above.

Public International Law has a co-requisite with International Human Rights Law.

Criteria for Progression and Award

Students obtaining 360 credits (including all core module credits) with 300 in the subject area, of which a minimum of 100 credits are at SCQF Level 9, are eligible for the exit award of BA Law.

The award of distinction can be made to a student obtaining a pass degree as stated in the University Regulations 3.25. For information on the award of distinction, please refer to University Regulation 3.25.

For information on progression with credit deficit, please refer to University Regulation 3.13.

D. Learning Outcomes (Maximum of 5 per heading)

Outcomes should incorporate those applicable in the relevant QAA Benchmark statements

Knowledge and Understanding	
A1	Demonstrate a detailed knowledge and understanding of a wide range of legal subjects and an ability to maintain the currency of the subject knowledge.
A2	Evaluate the effectiveness of the law in the context of wider social and legal issues, proposing areas for reform where appropriate.
A3	Demonstrate a critical understanding of the principal legal theories, concepts and principles of the subjects studied.
A4	Demonstrate understanding of the ways in which the law in the subject areas being studied has developed and continues to develop.
Practice - Applied Knowledge and Understanding	
B1	Analyse problems in terms of a wide range of legal concepts and principles and apply the relevant concepts and principles to propose solutions.
B2	Interpret and explain complex legal concepts.
B3	Retrieve, interpret, and manipulate primary and secondary legal and, where appropriate non-legal, information from a variety of sources including electronic sources.
B4	Identify accurately key legal issues which require researching.
B5	Maintain the skills of enquiry, investigation, analysis, evaluation, and judgement necessary to undertake a sustained piece of individual research on a chosen topic with minimal guidance.
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	
C1	Communicate effectively and appropriately in speech and writing in relation to a wide range of complex legal matters.
C2	Read complex primary materials and identify the key statements from them.
C3	Distinguish, through the use of coherent and logical argument, between alternative opinions on the basis of evidence.
C4	Make effective use of information retrieval systems and use information technology applications to present documents in an appropriate form.
C5	Present knowledge and/or a sustained argument in a way which is comprehensible to others and which is directed at their concerns.
Generic Cognitive Skills - Problem Solving, Analysis, Evaluation	

D1	Maintain expertise in the skills of enquiry, investigation, analysis, evaluation and judgement necessary to undertake a sustained piece of individual research on a chosen topic.
D2	Engage in discourse in relation to legal and ethical issues.
D3	Give reasons for opinions and identify flaws in arguments and discriminate between legally relevant and irrelevant material.
D4	Adopt an evaluative approach to the study of legal subjects.
D5	Bring together information from a variety of sources, including academic research publications.
Autonomy, Accountability and Working With Others	
E1	Work effectively together with others in groups or teams, taking a leadership role where appropriate.
E2	Systematically reflect upon, evaluate, and address own learning needs both in current and new areas, making use of research, personal development and professional materials, including those related to the forefront of legal developments in Scotland and beyond.
E3	Demonstrate the ability to learn independently with minimal guidance.

Core Modules

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Name	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
10	LAWW10010	Honours Dissertation (Law)	40	✓	✓		

* Indicates that module descriptor is not published.

Footnotes

Students must select the Honours Dissertation (Law) module.

Optional Modules

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Name	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
10	LAWW10024	Advanced Public Law	20	✓			
10	LAWW10022	Advanced Criminal Law	20	✓			
10	LAWW10011	Advanced Company Law	20	✓			
10	LAWW10019	Medical Law and Ethics	20	✓			
10	LAWW10020	Scottish Administrative Law	20		✓		
10	LAWW10023	International Criminal Law	20		✓		
10	LAWW10017	Advanced Law of Obligations	20		✓		
10	LAWW10014	Contemporary Legal Issues 4	20		✓	✓	

* Indicates that module descriptor is not published.

Footnotes

Students may select a full 120 LAWV credits from the modules listed above. However, should students wish they may select up to 20 L9 credits in a Law subject not previously studied. Students may select up to 20 L9 or L10 credits from the wider School of Business and Creative Industries or University portfolio assuming all pre-requisite requirements are met.

All Level 10 Optional Law modules are subject to availability/resourcing.

Criteria for Award

Students obtaining 480 credits, with a minimum of 100 LAWV module credits from each SCQF Level (Levels 7, 8, 9 and 10) including all core modules, are eligible for the exit award of BA (Hons)Law.

For information on the award of Honours classification, please refer to University Regulations 3.20-3.24.

Regulations of Assessment

Candidates will be bound by the general assessment regulations of the University as specified in the [University Regulatory Framework](#).

An overview of the assessment details is provided in the Student Handbook and the assessment criteria for each module is provided in the module descriptor which forms part of the module pack issued to students. For further details on assessment please refer to Chapter 3 of the Regulatory Framework.

To qualify for an award of the University, students must complete all the programme requirements and must meet the credit minima detailed in Chapter 1 of the Regulatory Framework.

Combined Studies

There may be instances where a student has been unsuccessful in meeting the award criteria for the named award and for other more generic named awards existing within the School. Provided that they have met the credit requirements in line with the SCQF credit minima (please see Regulation 1.21), they will be eligible for an exit award of CertHE / DipHE or BA / BSc in Combined Studies.

For students studying BA, BAcc, or BD awards the award will be BA Combined Studies.

For students studying BEng or BSc awards, the award will be BSc Combined Studies.

Changes

Changes made to the programme since it was last published:

Core and optional modules at Level 7 updated.

Core and optional modules at Level 8 updated.

Optional modules at Level 9 updated.

Core and optional modules at Level 10 updated.

Version Number: 1.05