Undergraduate Studies in Law

warwick.ac.uk/law
The University ranks amongst the leading ten research and teaching institutions in the UK. The Law School is located in the Social Sciences Faculty of the University. The School has a student population of about 1,000 (850 undergraduates and 150 postgraduates) with approximately 60 academic staff and 15 administrative staff. The School has a strong research culture and staff are active researchers in their own areas of expertise.

Students taking Warwick law degrees start from the basis of the “core” legal subjects - for example, criminal law, property law, tort, constitutional and administrative law, European law and contract law – and acquire all the traditional skills of a lawyer, such as analysis and synthesis of a wide variety of legal materials, problem-solving and written and oral presentation. These are the skills required of a qualified lawyer, but they are also skills that equip a person for any walk of life. But the Warwick degrees take the study of law much further.

Two distinctive features of the Warwick Law School are its contextual approach to the study of law and its commitment to offering international and comparative perspectives across a range of modules. At its establishment, Warwick Law School pioneered the “law in context” approach, encouraging students to examine law in its social context. Warwick law students are not just asked to “learn the law”. They are encouraged to think about it in a critical but constructive way, and to use interdisciplinary approaches in the best tradition of modern legal scholarship. Our teaching examines law and legal institutions within a wider context. It encourages students to consider the social, economic, political and philosophical dimensions of the law. Thus, our core and optional modules assess the impact of law beyond the courtroom and the lawyer’s office. Some modules examine the relationship of law to major social issues, such as crime, labour relations, human rights, asylum, the family, health, and the environment, while other modules examine law from different viewpoints such as economics, gender, history, literature, philosophy and sociology.

Warwick law degrees also highlight the role of law beyond the narrow confines of individual nation states. We offer students a range of modules on different aspects of international law, as well as comparative law, including German, French, Japanese and Islamic law. A large proportion of our teaching staff has knowledge and practical expertise in the law of other countries. The School has academic links with universities in France, Germany, Hong Kong, Hungary, the Netherlands, Norway, Finland, Italy, Japan, India, Latin America, Africa, the USA, Australia, and Canada. It is not surprising that students from all over the world choose to come to Warwick to study law - the student and staff body is drawn from over 60 countries worldwide.

Warwick law degrees aim to produce graduates who can take a critical view of law’s role, its strengths and weaknesses and its potential for improving society.

Warwick provides excellent facilities and support for students. The University Library contains in excess of 750,000 volumes and students have free access to the key law databases such as Westlaw as well as other electronic resources. The University has a fully developed Campus Data Network providing access to a central core of computer services, to personal computers and to workstations across the University.
Learning in a Research Environment

Warwick Law School offers a vibrant, internationally-recognised research environment within which to study. Academic staff work at the cutting-edge in areas that range from legal change in post-colonial Africa to financial regulation, international arbitration, family law, European public policy and comparative human rights.

Students have the opportunity to work with specialists in a diverse range of fields, and are encouraged to discuss their projects and essays with knowledgeable staff members, whether or not they are taking that particular module. Our degree programmes are structured to provide opportunities for substantial field-based or theoretical projects. It is also possible to take a dissertation option instead of a taught module. The School’s Research Centres provide a research focus for the school. They host visiting fellows and other speakers who present their work in talks open to staff and students. The Centres also arrange conferences, and publish collections of papers in collaboration with external publishers. The research culture of the Law School is enhanced by the growing number of postgraduate students in the student body. This includes students carrying out Doctorates and research Masters, as well as taught postgraduate programmes. Our departmental emphasis on international legal developments attracts students from across the globe.
High Quality Teaching

The School believes in offering substantial flexibility and choice in modules taken and on methods of assessment.

We emphasise skills rather than the absorption of information. These skills include the ability to locate, understand and evaluate policy and theoretical literature; analysis of legal judgments and statutes; and communication skills (written and oral). We also ask students to bring to their studies a keen sense of inquiry, a willingness to explore law’s flaws and limitations, and an interest in identifying new possibilities whether practical or theoretical.

Secondly, the School aims, within a set of coherent degree programmes, to give students a wide choice of modules so that they create a combination that best suits their interests. While there are some core modules across all years, and most students decide to fulfil the professional requirements for exemptions, there is still room to select from a large number of optional modules. These include subjects as diverse as Shakespeare and the Law, European Contract Law, Medicine and the Law, Introduction to the Law and Culture of Japan, Foundations of Commercial Law, Financial Services Regulation, and Comparative Criminal Justice (not all modules are offered every year).

We also offer students a range of assessment forms, with emphasis placed on continuing assessment through class tests, essays and research projects. One innovative aspect of Warwick is the choice we give students to decide whether they wish to weight their degree towards examinations or essays submitted during the year. Some modules not only allow students to choose their own essay topics, but also to decide what size of essay to submit for assessment, e.g. 2,500 words for 20% or 5,000 words for 40% (making up the difference in end of year examinations).

We see education as a shared, collective enterprise, which involves learning between students as well as between students and staff. Collaboration is encouraged, and seminars will often involve students chairing discussions on policy, ethical or doctrinal topics. A contextual approach to law demands consistent work and effort over the full degree programme in order fully to understand both legal doctrine (rules, principles, decisions etc.) and wider issues (government policy, legal theory, social implications etc.) We expect students to be committed to their education and to take legal study seriously. In return, the School provides as much support and advice as each individual student needs in order to get the most from their degree.
Resources

Support
The Law School is a close-knit and friendly department and is proud of its long tradition of good and informal relations between staff and students. Students with concerns about their work are encouraged to talk to their lecturers and tutors. In addition, each student has a personal tutor, whom they will see on an individual basis several times each year, and who is someone they can go to in case of problems (e.g. health, money, housing) affecting their studies. The School also has a Director of Student Support and Wellbeing, who oversees the personal tutor system and the general welfare of the students. In addition there is an excellent (and confidential) University counselling service.

Library and Information Technology
Warwick has a large library on campus situated next to the Law School, with a wide range of electronic and printed resources for law. There is a dedicated Law Librarian able to answer enquiries and provide a variety of training in the use of both paper sources and electronic information retrieval systems such as Lexis and Westlaw. The Library provides a range of facilities for individual study or collaborative group work, with informal social areas in the Main Library and separate Learning Grids based in Rootes, Leamington Spa and in University House, the latter of which is open 24/7. The Main Library also provides areas for quiet and completely silent working, to serve a range of study styles. Facilities provide interactive smartboards and other AV and IT equipment, as well as PCs and wireless access to the Internet.

The Law School has been at the forefront of developing the use of information technology in legal education, and we make extensive use of our own website to provide access to teaching materials and other information for students. Staff and students have access to an excellent computer network and electronic databases.

The Law School Community
Students in the School are active in running their own societies: the Law Society arranges social, educational and careers events during the year and publishes a law review, *Obiter Dicta*. There are also more specialized student-run societies, such as the Commercial Law Society and European Law Society. Warwick law students also participate very successfully in national and international mooting competitions (mock court cases where legal arguments are made before a judge) and there is an active internal mooting programme. Students also engage in a range of activities related to their studies, designed to put into practice the skills and knowledge that they have acquired. This includes work with local Law Centres, delivering human rights awareness courses in schools, working with defence counsel on death row cases in the USA and other pro-bono projects.

Further details of current projects in the Law School can be found at: [warwick.ac.uk/law](http://warwick.ac.uk/law)

Law students have a say in departmental issues. Student representatives and staff members sit on Staff Student Liaison Committees which meet several times a year to discuss student concerns; the Committee also provides a forum for student consultation on proposed changes. Two student representatives also attend and participate at Staff Meetings, the governing body of the Law School. Finally Law School students are active in the University students’ union. Most students belong to one or more of the students union’s societies, and many participate in its policy processes, for instance, through membership of its executive committee.
“Undergraduate study at the Warwick Law School is exciting, challenging and rewarding”
Law Degrees at Warwick School

- 3 year LLB Hons Degree
- 4 year LLB Hons Degree
- 4 year LLB Hons Degree (Year Abroad)
- Law with French Law LLB Hons Degree
- Law with German Law LLB Hons Degree
- Law and Sociology BA Hons Degree
- Law and Business BA Hons Degree
- BA Law with Humanities
- BA Law with Social Sciences

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The 3 year LLB Hons Degree
(UCAS code M100) The Law School’s largest programme with an intake of about 235 students from the UK and abroad, our three year LLB allows students to study a range of optional modules as well as the requisite qualifying degree modules.

The 4 year LLB Hons Degree
(UCAS code M101) allows students to take an extra year in order to undertake wider studies, including a wider range of options from other departments than would be possible within the three year LLB.

The 4 year LLB Hons Degree
(Year Abroad in English)
(UCAS code M108) This variant of the four-year programme provides students with the opportunity to study abroad in English at one of a number of partner universities. These currently include Utrecht and Rotterdam in the Netherlands; Helsinki, Finland; Budapest, Hungary; Rome, Italy; the University of Hong Kong; and Monash University in Melbourne, Australia.

Law with French Law LLB (UCAS code M10A)
Law with German Law LLB (UCAS code M10C) are four year Hons degrees and each take around 5-10 students each year. Both enable students to study the legal system of another European country in considerable detail, both at Warwick and through spending the third year of the degree at one of Warwick’s partner universities in France or Germany, undertaking studies in the native language. In some cases our partner University offers the opportunity complete a Masters degree in addition to the LLB by completing a dissertation (for more information on this, contact uglaufadmissions@warwick.ac.uk).

The Law and Sociology BA Hons Degree
(UCAS code ML13) is a four year joint degree offered by the Law School and the Sociology department for students with a strong interest in both subjects. It combines compulsory and optional modules from both departments and offers a unique introduction to a contextual, as well as professional understanding of law.

The Law and Business BA Hons Degree
(UCAS code MN11) This is a three or four year joint degree offered by the Law School and the Business School. It combines jointly taught modules with individual subjects from each department. Emphasis is placed on the overlap between the two disciplines, such as forms of business organisation, finance and market regulation. Students may opt for either a three or four year degree. However, in order to obtain a Qualifying Law Degree, which provides exemption from the first part of the professional law examinations, students must take the four year degree with the relevant qualifying modules.

The Law with Humanities BA Hons Degree
(UCAS code MV21) can be studied as three or four year undergraduate degree programmes. Both year variants are available as Qualifying Degrees, providing exemption from the first part of the professional law examinations. Students who choose the non-qualifying variant will have a greater degree of choice across the optional modules offered from the Humanities department. Modules are available from the following departments: Classics and Ancient History, Comparative American Studies, English, Film and Television Studies, French, German, History, History of Art, Italian, Philosophy, Theatre Studies.

The Law with Social Sciences BA Hons Degree
(UCAS code ML23) can also be studied as three or four year undergraduate degree programmes. Both year variants are available as Qualifying Degrees, providing exemption from the first part of the professional law examinations. Students who choose the non-qualifying variant will have a greater degree of choice across the optional modules offered from the Social Sciences department. Modules are available from the following departments: Economics, Education, Philosophy, Politics and International Studies, Sociology, Warwick Business School.
Structure of our LLB Degree

**Year 1** (five core modules)
- Criminal Law
- Tort Law
- Introduction to the Law of Property Relations
- Modern English Legal System
- Introduction to Legal Theory

Each module is taught by two hours of lectures a week, where all students in the year attend, and seven seminars per term, which are taught in smaller groups of roughly 16. Assessment is by a combination of class tests, essays written during the year and an exam in each subject at the end of the academic year. For all Warwick law degrees, the first year is a qualifying year in which a pass/fail mark is awarded, though the year does not contribute to the final degree classification.

**Year 2** Students take four full or the equivalent number of half modules. General Principles of Constitutional and Administrative Law and Contract Law are compulsory. In addition most students take a half module in Foundations of European Union Law to obtain professional law exemptions. Students select other modules from the list of available options, including external modules from other departments.

**Year 3** Students take four full or the equivalent number of half modules from the list of available options. Most students take Law of Trusts to obtain professional exemptions alongside smaller optional subjects. It is also possible to take a module from another department.

The four year degrees broadly follow this format, although students taking a joint degree will study some first year law subjects in their second and third years in order to fulfil the basic mandatory requirements from both their departments or to qualify for professional exemption.

In the four year degrees involving study abroad, students spend their third year at their overseas partner University. Modules studied during the year abroad also count towards the final degree.
The standard format for the three year LLB, our largest degree programme, is as follows

**Compulsory Modules (for a Qualifying Law Degree)**
- Tort Law
- Introduction to the Law of Property Relations
- Modern English Legal System
- Introduction to Legal Theory
- Criminal Law
- Contract Law
- General Principles of Constitutional and Administrative Law
- Foundations of European Union Law
- Law of Trusts

**Optional Full Modules***
- International Law
- Gender and the Law
- Social Theory of Law
- Law of Business Organisations
- French Law
- German Law
- Dissertation
- Dramatised Dissertation

**Optional Half Modules***
- Refugee and Asylum Law
- Comparative Human Rights
- Writing Human Rights
- Global Intellectual Property Law and Policy
- Medicine and the Law
- Introduction to the Law and Culture of Japan
- Introduction to Competition Law
- An Introduction to Islamic Law
- Introduction to Criminology
- Law and Disorder
- Cultural Heritage Law
- Shakespeare and the Law
- Origins of English Law
- Law and Literature
- Law on Screen
- Child Law
- Family Law
- Law and the Intact Family
- International Family Law
- International Criminal Law
- Law & Policies of the European Union
- European Contract Law
- Criminal Evidence
- Law, Globalisation and the Environment
- Financial Services Regulation
- Foundations of Commercial Law
- Law, Seas, People and Ecosystems
- Taxation Law: Policy and Principles
- Conflict of Laws in a Commercial Context
- Dissertation

* subject to staff availability – check website

For further information about all the degrees the Law School offers visit:
warwick.ac.uk/fac/soc/law/applying/undergraduate/
Applying to Warwick

Admissions

The standard conditional offer for the three year LLB, at the time of writing, is AAA at A2-level. Offers are made to students whom the Law School considers will be successful and benefit from the Warwick approach. Consideration is given to applicants' all round aptitude and interests; we do not select simply according to prospective or actual grades.

How do I find out more about the Law School?
The University runs general Open Days in June, September and October of each year. These include one hour talks, and Q&A sessions run by the Law School where you can meet staff and students. Contact the Student Recruitment Office for details on student.recruitment@warwick.ac.uk.

For information about dates and bookings please visit: warwick.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/visits/warwickvisits

For other queries please email the Law School on: uglaw.admissions@warwick.ac.uk

How do I apply for Law at Warwick?
The only way to apply to the Law School is through UCAS (Universities and Colleges Admissions Service). Applications must be made through the UCAS website: www.ucas.ac.uk

The Law School cannot make an offer except through UCAS, nor can it accept transfers from other universities except into the first year and via UCAS.

Do I have to have A-Levels?
Whilst the majority of students come to the Law School having done A-levels, the School also encourages applicants with other qualifications such as the International Baccalaureate, or non-standard educational backgrounds. Information about standard offers in these circumstances is available from the Law School.

More information can be found at warwick.ac.uk/fac/soc/law/applying/undergraduate/
Interviews

Will I be interviewed before I receive an offer?
Usually only applicants with non-standard educational backgrounds are called for interview. The School may also interview applicants where a fair judgment cannot be made on the basis of the UCAS form. The interview will be with two members of Law School staff, in an informal setting, and last about 30 minutes.

What are my chances of getting an offer?
Law is a popular course and competition for places is keen. The School receives many times more applications than it has places to offer.

What about the other Law School Degrees?
For the four year LLB, in addition to meeting the standard requirements, you must be able to justify why you want to take the four year programme. For the European Law degree, the standard offers are, at the time of writing, AAA at A2-level, including an A at A2-level in the appropriate European language.

Applications for the BA Law and Sociology and BA Law and Business are considered by both departments and applicants must express a clear interest in both aspects of the joint degree. The entry requirements are AAB at A2-level, and applicants to BA Law and Business must have a GCSE Grade A in mathematics to cope with some of the Business modules.

For more details please visit our website at: warwick.ac.uk/fac/soc/law/applying/undergraduate/faqs/

Returning to Study

The School welcomes applications from individuals who have been out of education for a while; between 10 and 20 such students are admitted each year. Many come after taking access courses which are geared towards adults who have been out of formal education for some time or who left school without obtaining A-levels. Their aim is to prepare students for the demands of a degree. Most applicants with a non-standard background are interviewed, and may be required to submit a written piece of work.

Part time Study

The School offers a part time LLB degree which is a variant of the three year (full time) LLB degree. Applications for the part time degree are welcomed from people who may have left school some years ago but who have undertaken some formal study in recent years and who have obtained an educational qualification as a result. All applications are given careful consideration by Law School selectors. Applicants may be asked to attend an interview before a decision on their application is made.
International

Context
An important feature of the Law School is its international atmosphere. This has been strengthened through links with universities in Africa, Asia, Latin America, Scandinavia, Canada and Central and Eastern Europe, as well as France, Italy and Germany. Approximately a third of the student body comes from outside of the European Union. Internationalism is also reflected in the modules offered. As well as International Law, students can also choose to study Japanese, German, French, European and Islamic Law. In addition many other courses have an international, and in some instances, a comparative dimension.

International Office
The University of Warwick has a very active International Office, with a staff of over 30 who are dedicated to assisting international students during the application process and throughout their studies; by ensuring a smooth arrival on campus with pre-arrival advice and an Orientation programme; and support and assistance throughout their time at Warwick with trips, events and immigration advice. We also assist with visiting and exchange opportunities. In addition to our UK-based team, we also run a network of overseas representative offices in many countries, who can provide free assistance with any stage of the application.

You can find more information at warwick.ac.uk/go/international

ERASMUS
Through the European exchange programme known as ERASMUS, the Law School welcomes a number of visiting students each year from our partner universities (the ERASMUS programme could change due to the UK’s planned exit from the EU).

International Admissions Policy
The Law School welcomes applications from international students. A number of students from a wide range of countries join the undergraduate programme each year. Each application is considered on its merits by experienced Law School selectors. Students who wish to practice as lawyers in their home country should check before applying that the Warwick law degree is recognised there.

Warwick International Foundation Programme (WIFP) - The Foundation for Success
The Law School contributes to the Warwick International Foundation Programme which is the only foundation course offered by the University of Warwick. As Warwick is one of the top ten universities in the UK, the WIFP offers you the opportunity to benefit from experiencing one of the leading universities with a reputation for new thinking and for doing things differently. The WIFP in Law course is both exciting and challenging, and will provide you with the qualifications and experience you need to progress to a UK University.

For further information please see warwick.ac.uk/study/ifp/

Students who undertake the HEFP in Law will be guaranteed an offer from the School of Law.

Language Requirements
We usually require non-native speakers to demonstrate sufficient knowledge and understanding of the English language – speaking, listening, reading and writing. For all law courses the minimum IELTS score is 7.0 with no less than 6.5 in any component.

On all of our Law Degree Programmes we have a number of students who are from outside the European Union and come from a variety of different countries.
Careers

The University of Warwick is heavily targeted by a large number of national and international employers and students from Warwick have a good record of obtaining employment in a broad range of fields. Law graduates in particular are much in demand by employers, and law firms and chambers are keen to recruit Warwick students. Every year there is a law recruitment fair, run by the Careers Centre, which is attended by at least 60 law firms who want to recruit Warwick students. In addition, many law firms come to Warwick to run presentations. For those students who decide to opt for a career at the Bar, sets of chambers help with the mooting and the debating societies, so that students are aware of the opportunities at the Bar and build contacts within the profession.

In recent years, the following top city law firms delivered individual presentations at Warwick:

» Allen & Overy
» Baker & McKenzie
» Clifford Chance
» CMS Cameron McKenna
» Gowling WLG
» Herbert Smith
» Jones Day
» Kendal Freeman
» Linklaters
» Norton Rose
» Slaughter & May
Data on the destinations of Warwick law graduates (2009) shows that almost half had gone into further study, with the majority choosing to start the LPC (Legal Practice Course) to become a solicitor. A significant number also went on to the BPTC (Bar Professional Training Course) to become a barrister.

However, not all Warwick Law students enter the legal profession; law is seen by many students as a good foundation for careers in a variety of fields. Some have chosen to enter the social area of law and pursue careers within international organisations such as the United Nations; others choose national or international non-government organisations, including charities. Others have chosen careers in accountancy, banking and the public service in the UK or the EU. Some students decide to pursue further academic study, such as a Masters degree.

The study of law at Warwick teaches analytical skills and the ability to organise a heavy workload, as well as giving students an appreciation of the way law operates within society. Students find that they are much in demand, as the intellectual rigour of the degree, combined with their own abilities make them very attractive as recruits for a wide range of employers. Student Careers and Skills based in University House, is able to provide support tailored to students’ needs, including one-to-one appointments, workshops, mock interviews and resources online and in the Careers Hub. There is a dedicated Careers Consultant for law students, Claire Leslie, who can help you make the most of your time at Warwick and assist you with choices for after your studies.

For further information please go to warwick.ac.uk/services/careers/

Pathways to Law
A number of students in the Law School participate in the delivery of Pathways to Law - an innovative and ambitious programme running at the University of Warwick and at a number of other universities across the UK. Pathways to Law is a two year programme which offers a wealth of opportunities through a structured series of information, advice and guidance sessions to school/college students in Years 12 and 13 who wish to enter the legal profession. www2.warwick.ac.uk/study/outreach/programmes/pathways
Widening Participation

Equal Opportunities
Warwick Law School aims to provide a departmental culture which welcomes and includes all students. The School is committed to non-discrimination on grounds of race, gender, age, sexuality, and disability in its admissions practices, teaching and research. The Law School is committed to ensuring that all students with the ability to succeed on our degree programmes have the opportunity to demonstrate their potential. We believe that many students have the ability and potential to succeed at Warwick and that this ability is not always reflected solely in examination results. We look at the whole profile of our applicants, including academic qualifications and predicted grades, but also the information included in the personal statement and academic reference. AWARDS (Access to a Warwick Degree Scheme) offers applicants the opportunity to submit contextual information relating to their individual circumstances. The Law School participates actively in the Warwick Undergraduate Aid Programme (WUAP).

Full details of Guaranteed Funding Bursaries, Scholarships and work / study opportunities can be found on the University website: warwick.ac.uk/services/academicoffice/ourservices/funding

About the University of Warwick
Founded in the mid-1960s, the University of Warwick now has approximately 23,500 full time students (Undergraduate and Postgraduate) studying in the Faculties of Arts, Sciences, Medicine and Social Sciences. Its attractive landscape campus, on the borders of Coventry and Warwickshire, is at the centre of the UK road and rail network, and within easy reach of Birmingham International Airport. The campus is completely self-contained, with excellent sports facilities and the largest Arts Centre of its kind outside London, with a recently refurbished concert hall, a theatre, cinema, art gallery, bars and shops. This stunning venue attracts nationally and internationally renowned artists. Our Students’ Union has recently undergone an £11 million redevelopment to make it one of the largest and most versatile in the UK. High quality, fully supported on-campus accommodation, comprising halls of residence and campus flats, is offered to all first year students, providing they accept an offer of a place at the University before 31 July and that their accommodation application form has been received by Warwick Accommodation before 31 July.

Please visit: warwick.ac.uk/go/visit
Further Information

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