

A LEVEL LAW

WHY SHOULD I STUDY LAW?

- Ever wondered what the difference is between murder and manslaughter? What society hopes to achieve by sending someone to prison for life? What about the difference between theft, robbery and burglary? Or the difference between juries and magistrates, or a solicitor and a barrister, or a crown court and a county court? These and many other questions will be answered during the course
- You may be interested in becoming a solicitor or barrister? Or may just be interested in Law? There is an (unfounded) rumour that if you want to study Law at University you should not take A Level Law. In fact, A Level Law will provide you with a head start on your Law Degree, making English Legal System, Criminal Law, Tort Law and Contract Law modules at university much easier
- Studying Law helps develop specific skills, notably problem solving, analytical thinking, persuading, expressing yourself succinctly in spoken and written forms of communication
- The teaching style uses different techniques to keep studying as interesting as possible. Law A Level is hard work like any other A Level but we try to ensure that the hard work is directed towards interesting studying and excellent grades.



USEFUL SKILLS & INTERESTS

- Enthusiasm, determination and a willingness to work in teams, and share ideas and knowledge.
- An interest in what's going on in the country (TV, newspapers, conversations). We integrate news, reports and cases into our studying wherever possible.
- An ability to read lengthy texts and write detailed essays.

COURSE STRUCTURE & CONTENT

The A Level course has three modules:

1. The Legal System and Criminal Law includes:

- The role of civil courts and how disputes are resolved by alternative methods
- The role of the criminal courts and how juries and magistrates are used
- Access to Justice (funding options for your case)
- Fatal offences against the person: murder and manslaughter plus defences of loss of control and diminished responsibility
- Non-fatal offences against the person: assault, battery, ABH and GBH
- Property offences: Theft, Robbery, Burglary
- Preliminary offences: attempts
- General defences: insanity, automatism, intoxication, self-defence, duress, consent, necessity.

2. Law Making and Tort Law includes:

- How Law is made in the UK by Parliament, local authorities and judges
- How judges interpret laws
- The various influences on Parliament
- Negligence: personal injury and damage to property
- Occupier's liability: visitors and trespassers
- Nuisance: private nuisance and the rule in Rylands v Fletcher
- Vicarious liability: employer liability for the actions of employees
- Defences: contributory negligence, consent, specific defences
- Remedies: damages and injunctions.

3. The Nature of Law and Contract Law includes:

- Law and Morality
- Law and Justice
- Law and Society
- Formation of contracts
- Contractual terms
- Vitiating factors
- Discharge
- Remedies.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

This subject is 100% examination based assessment at the end of the second year.

COURSE COMMITMENT

We expect you to work outside of your timetabled lessons and advise an extra four hours of study a week at home plus two identified private study periods within your college timetable.

COURSE COSTS

Students are expected to contribute to transport costs for some optional enrichment activities.

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

You will not need any prior knowledge of Law as the course starts from the beginning. For entrance on to this course you will need to meet the college standard entry requirements of 5 GCSE passes including a GCSE grade 5 or above in English Language and English Literature (if studied) or another literary subject. You will also need a G Score of 5.5 or above. To work out your G Score please go to the college website and click on the 16 – 18 tab and then entry requirements. If you are not sure how to work this out please get in touch and we will be more than happy to help.

If you are worried about your grades there is a coursework based route, Applied Law which may be a good alternative option.

SUBJECT COMBINATIONS

Law is commonly combined with any of the following A Levels (all available at Prior Pursglove College) Accounting, Business Studies, Economics, English, Geography, Government & Politics, Maths, History, ICT, Psychology, Sociology, Languages and Statistics.

PROGRESSION ROUTES

Law is an extremely versatile subject and is useful for a wide range of professions, such as Journalism, National and Local Government, Broadcasting, The Police Force, Finance, The Prison Service, Charity Work and Management / Business and obviously the legal profession.

A high percentage of students who study Law A Level then decide to study it a degree level. Past students have gained places on Law degrees at Universities such as Cambridge, Newcastle, Northumbria, Durham, Leeds, Manchester, Lincoln, Sunderland, Teesside, York, Nottingham, Birmingham, Cardiff, Swansea, London School of Economics and UC London.

Some of the students who studied this course at Prior Pursglove College progressed on to:

- Cambridge University: **Law**
- Durham University – **Law**
- Newcastle University – **Law**
- Northumbria University – **Law / Business / Criminology**
- York University – **Law / International Relations**
- Liverpool University: **Law / Criminology**
- Leeds University – **Law**
- Hull University – **Law**
- Sunderland University – **Criminology / Law**
- Teesside University – **Law / Business with Law / Crime Scene Science / Criminology**
- Leeds Met – **Law / Criminology**
- Liverpool John Moore University – **Law / Law & Criminal Justice**
- Manchester Met University – **Law**

STUDENT COMMENTS

What our Law students say:

“Law covers such a variety of topics you could never get bored. It’s given me a greater understanding of offences and terms I thought I already knew. It’s one of the most interesting and engaging subjects and I’m more than glad I took it.”

“Law is a great subject that prepares you for a career in the legal system but also provides you with valuable transferable life skills.”

“Law has really helped my confidence to grow! I’ve always wanted to pursue a career in Law and studying it at A Level has given me a taste of the future. Plus, the teachers are all awesome!”

“Law teaches you the things about law that you always wanted to know and the things you didn’t even know existed”

FURTHER INFORMATION

The full course specifications can be found at www.ocr.org.uk.

If you require further information please contact the subject leader, Kate Barnett.

*Please note that the information in this leaflet is correct at the time of publication, but circumstances may arise which cause us to revise our provision.
Feb 2023*