

What next after A2 Law ?

Up to 90% of our students go on to do a degree in a variety of subjects at university. Nearly 40% of these choose a law related degree as they have the necessary sound understanding of legal processes. Many of our past students are now practicing Solicitors and Barristers.

A growing number of our law students are moving straight into jobs with local law firms as 'legal executives'.

What do Universities think of Law at 'A' level ?

'Law is not just a professional training. It is an academic discipline, having transferable skills which will be of benefit in a number of areas. It involves analysis, synthesis and argument. We value 'A' level Law students.'

(Law admissions tutor, Aberystwyth University)

Before law was offered at Aquinas College a survey of all the major destinations of our students brought a clearly positive response from admissions tutors - 'A' level Law is now a popular and successful route to study law at degree level. Recent research shows that entry onto a Law Degree Course depends on your grades, not on your subjects.



Students on the London visit

Assessment

OCR Syllabus

AS: (Advanced Supplementary)
2 modules (see 'course details')



A2: (Advanced)
2 modules (see 'course details')

There are four modules, examined as follows:



AS: one two hour and a one hour exam
A2: one exam of two hours and one synoptic special study of one hour and thirty minutes.

THERE IS NO COURSEWORK

You may take AS without progressing to A2 if you wish to mix other subjects into your curriculum choice.

Modules are examined in January and June.



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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Law AS and A2 (Advanced)

Information



The Royal Courts of Justice, the Strand, London.



AS - The Advanced Supplementary course involves study of what is generally known as the English Legal System.

The modules are:

Module 1

Sources of Law

- Precedent - how Judges create law.
- Statutory Interpretation - making sense of Law.
- Legislation - a look at the workings of Parliament.
- European law - how the UK is affected by membership of the EU.
- Delegated Law - control and scrutiny of Secondary Legislation. Such as bye-laws.

Module 2

Machinery of Justice

- Civil and Criminal Courts - how and where to sue or appeal.
- Sentencing of offenders - why and how.
- Police powers - your rights examined.
- Alternative dispute resolution - negotiation mediation and arbitration - 'out of court' settlements.

Legal Personnel

- Legal Professionals - the work of Solicitors and Barristers.
- Lay People - an examination of Jury trials and the role of Magistrates.
- Legal Services - how to get advice and representation.
- How to pay for Lawyers.
- Judges - are they independent of the state ?

A2 - After successfully completing the AS course, students have the opportunity to study and evaluate substantive law in greater depth. Progression to the A2 (full advanced level) is of course dependent on success in the AS. The in-depth study in A2 is in two units:

Module 3

The module is:

Criminal Law

- Principles of criminal liability (Actus reus, Mens Rea, Attempts, Strict liability).
- Fatal offences against the person (Murder / Manslaughter).
- General Defences (Insanity, Automatism, Duress, Necessity, Mistake, Intoxication and Self-Defence).
- Non-fatal offences against the person (Assaults, ABH, GBH and Defences).
- Offences against property (Theft, Robbery and Burglary).
- Provocation and diminished responsibility as defences to murder.

Module 4 (Synoptic Module)

Criminal Law Special Study

Based on source materials provided by the exam board, including knowledge of Criminal Law and topics from the AS syllabus - evaluation and analysis.



Police powers examined!



Law is an academic subject, requiring reading, research and retention of knowledge, in addition to formal teaching you will

- Visit Stockport Magistrates Court, see local criminal issues dealt with.
- Visit Manchester Crown Court, where the more serious criminal cases are heard.
- Practice your debating and advocacy skills.
- Visit the High Court, the Royal Courts of Justice in London, the highest courts.
- Visit the Houses of Parliament, guided tour around Lords and Commons.
- Compete in Mock Trials, playing the roles of legal personnel in court, including entry in a national competition.
- Excellent preparation for University and LNAT tests.
- Visit the Galleries of Justice in Nottingham.

Law is an interesting academic discipline within itself. It highlights skills in communication and literacy.