

## **BPP University Law School**

### **Legal Practice Course (LPC) profile**

**Please note:** The information contained in this profile is supplied by BPP Law School; it is the provider's responsibility to keep this information up-to-date.

#### **Introduction from the SRA**

The SRA's requirements allow providers considerable freedom to design and focus their courses to meet the needs of particular student cohorts and particular types of legal practice. Providers have a corresponding responsibility to provide clear and useful information to those making choices about where to study and which particular course to follow. To enable potential students to make informed choices, the SRA requires all providers to supply a standard set of information about their provision.

#### **General information**

##### **BPP University Law School**

BPP University is one of the UK's leading private Universities dedicated to business and the professions. BPP University is a UK degree awarding body providing its own awards through four Schools including BPP University Law School.

Whichever stage you are at in your legal career, our aim is to equip you with the knowledge and skills you need to progress and maintain your edge in a competitive market. Our law courses have a strong reputation in the legal community and work with a wide variety of law firms based throughout England and Wales.

We deliver a professional, disciplined, student-centred service that encourages professional attitudes in our students to equip them for the transition from student to professional life. We believe that success in the provision of education can only be built on a commitment to, and a consistent delivery of, quality in all aspects of our programmes. This is reflected in the standard of our teaching, the quality of our services and facilities and the professionalism of our staff.

The Legal Practice Course (LPC) at BPP gives you the essential training you need to become a qualified solicitor. It's your bridge between the academic world and professional life in a law firm, giving you the legal knowledge and skills to thrive in today's market. The LPC is awarded by BPP University and is accredited by the Solicitors' Regulation Authority.

Our LPC means business. It's much more than a qualification; it's a grounding in the key skills you will need to succeed. We'll equip you with more than just legal knowledge – we focus on the all-round legal skills and commercial awareness employers are seeking. It's no coincidence that the BPP University's LPC is the first choice of many leading law firms and over 50 exclusively send their trainees to us.

#### **Types of LPC**

All the LPC modes of delivery at BPP follow the same curriculum that meets the SRA learning outcomes. You can choose to study your LPC at BPP full-time, fast track or part-time (see below). There are three start dates throughout the year in January, August and September, so you can begin your studies at a time that suits you.

## **Free upgrade to an MA (LPC with Business) or LLM in Professional Legal Practice**

We know today's firms demand a high level of commercial and business acumen from their trainees, so we've developed a new LPC to help you gain real strength in your knowledge and capabilities.

BPP University LPC students can access a free top-up masters level qualification and study our unique masters programme the MA (LPC with Business) giving you a masters degree in both law and business to help you to stand out from the crowd.

Alternatively you can choose BPP's LLM in professional legal practice as a free top up programme instead if you prefer to show employers that you are specialist in a particular practice area.

### **Key features of the different LPC programmes**

All the LPC teaching at BPP is business-focused to reflect the demand by the profession for commercially-aware trainees. Created in conjunction with leading law firms and BPP's Business School, our LPC is innovative, dynamic and marketing-leading.

To ensure you get the most from your LPC, we teach in small groups delivered by experienced tutors who are qualified solicitors. We believe in offering a high level of tutor-student interaction and, throughout your LPC studies, you'll have the support of a dedicated personal tutor and be able to sign up for one-to-one mentoring.

### **Practice Ready modules**

BPP University Law School offers a range of non-credit bearing short modules and sessions to enable you to gain the professional skills and knowledge you need to secure your ideal training contract and succeed in your future legal career.

For example, all LPC students can study our unique **Law Firm as a Business** module, which introduces you to some of the essential skills of business and commercial awareness and gives an insight into the practicalities of being a trainee in a law firm. Or the BPP **High Street Extra** module gives you the opportunity to focus on areas of law relevant to High Street firms – such as conveyancing, partnerships and insolvency. Our **Preparing for Practice** module covers presentation and negotiation skills for aspiring lawyers and assertiveness training for legal practice. Finally you will have a chance to sample a wide range of workshops in LPC **Employability Week** to improve your skill set to impress your future potential employers.

### **The 4th Elective**

In addition to choosing three electives from our extensive range of elective modules you are given the opportunity to sign up to a fourth choice for no additional fee. This free 4<sup>th</sup> elective will enable you to gain an extra area of expertise not covered by your three LPC electives. The 4th elective is not examinable and does not form part of your LPC studies, you simply have access to all of the teaching materials on-line to utilise as you choose.

## **Modes of delivery**

### **Full-time LPC**

Our full-time programme starts in September and January each year. It is designed to fit around your lifestyle. For example, depending on where you study and the mode you study on, you can select from the following schedules:

- Four days a week, classes between 9am and 6pm
- Four days a week, morning classes between 9am and 1.15pm
- Four days a week, afternoon classes between 1.30pm and 6pm
- Three days a week, classes between 9am and 6pm (with online lectures)
- Two days a week, classes between 9am and 6pm (with online lectures)

Please note these timetables are subject to availability and vary between centres.

### **Part-time LPC**

Our part-time programme is designed to fit around your other commitments such as work and family. All lectures for the part time modes are online for maximum flexibility. For example, you can select from the following schedules:

- Two evenings a week, classes between 6.00pm and 8.00pm
- Every other Saturday between 10.00am and 5.00pm
- One day a week (Monday or Friday, morning or afternoon) depending on your chosen Law School
- A full weekend Saturday and Sunday 10.00 to 5.00pm every third or fourth weekend (Holborn only)

### **Fast track LPC**

Our fast track LPC runs at our Holborn, Birmingham, Leeds and Manchester law schools. It starts in August and your teaching is finished by February the following year.

### **Bespoke LPCs for specific law firm trainees**

BPP runs an accelerated LPC specifically designed for a particular consortium of firms starting in February and August each year. There are other bespoke programmes for particular firms starting in January and July. If your sponsor firm is sending you on one of these programmes you will receive specific instructions.

### **Study locations**

You can study for the LPC in many of the UK's major cities – allowing you to complete the programme without moving from where you live or work.

We have study centres in the heart of the legal and financial districts of the following cities:

- Birmingham
- Bristol
- Cambridge

- Leeds
- Liverpool
- London Holborn
- Manchester

LPC Fast Track study centres:

- Birmingham
- London Holborn
- Manchester
- Leeds

### **Maximum number of students in the different types of teaching and learning sessions**

The programme is delivered via a combination of lectures, small group sessions (SGSs) and online resources. The SGSs will normally be taught in groups of no more than 18.

At the start of each module, you will be provided with a comprehensive 'materials pack' containing chapter (lecture) handouts and Small Group Session (SGS) descriptions. Each module is then delivered by way of lectures (live or online) and SGSs. Lectures typically last 1 hour and SGSs are 2 hours.

In preparation for each SGS, you will be required to read the relevant chapter handout, listen to the accompanying lecture and undertake the preparation detailed in the SGS Description. This preparation might require you to research an area of law, prepare a presentation, draft a contractual clause, prepare a letter of advice or analyse a legal problem.

Small group sessions involve a wide range of different learning and teaching techniques. Activities combine individual and team work, and might involve:

- presentations
- mock hearings
- negotiations
- drafting exercises or problem solving.

Classroom materials are drafted by our tutors, all of whom have worked in practice as either solicitors or barristers. This ensures that the practical activities undertaken in your SGSs are all in the context of realistic case studies which really prepare you for practice.

During your core practice areas (Business Law and Practice, Property Law and Practice, Civil Litigation and Criminal Litigation), you will undertake work for three key 'clients'. By considering their businesses as a whole, you will appreciate how they operate and how decisions made in the context of a property or business transaction might impact upon ongoing litigation.

In the elective term, you will act for a broad range of clients reflecting the diversity of experience in practice. This will help to develop not only your legal acumen but also your commercial awareness.

### **Entry requirements**

To apply for the LPC at BPP you must meet the following minimum admissions requirements:

- Qualifying law degree (minimum lower second class honours), or
- Qualifying non-law degree (minimum lower second class honours) and GDL or CPE, or
- Similar qualifications such as ILEX/FILEX

To apply for the fast track LPC you must have a minimum of an upper second class honours

### **Policy on stages 1 and 2**

Students who have successfully completed stage 1 with another provider may study either one, two or three electives from stage 2 at BPP.

### **Academic qualification that will be awarded to successful students**

Postgraduate Diploma in Legal Practice (LPC).

Note that the LPC at BPP is taught at masters level and is worth 120 master level credits.

### **Learning resources available to support the programme, including library and IT provision**

Our law schools are designed to simulate a business-like environment and are equipped with the latest e-learning technology. This includes our virtual learning environment which offers a variety of resources and revision aids such as interactive modules, podcasts, videos and multiple choice tests.

Our specialist law libraries have long opening hours and our laptop loan scheme allows you to take advantage of wireless networking throughout our law schools. You can log in to our online law library, one of the UK's largest and most advanced, 24 hours a day.

A generous student to computer ratio ensures you are not waiting for equipment to become available and our mock courtrooms reflect the rigours of attending court for our future **solicitors**.

### **Percentage of teaching staff who are qualified as solicitors or barristers**

All teaching staff are either fully qualified solicitors or barristers, the majority being solicitors.

### **Percentage of teaching staff with higher level teaching qualification**

All teaching staff are trained in accordance with current best practice higher education standards and maintain close links with practice. A variety of tutors have higher level teaching qualifications including Masters in Education and the PGCE or the PGCE.

### **Teaching staff profile**

BPP University Law School is committed to providing the highest standard of legal education to all our students. Our tutors are a dynamic mix of academics and practitioners from a variety of backgrounds. Whether you plan to work for a City or commercial firm, a high street practice or the public sector; whether you have already obtained a training contract or

pupillage or are looking for help to do so, we offer you a practice-focused programme with the flexibility to explore different areas of law.

## **Fees**

We offer a wide range of funding and scholarships to provide assistance with fees. Please see our website for further details.

## **Pastoral support, including dedicated careers guidance staff**

At BPP we have successfully established a comprehensive system of support to cater for our students' pastoral needs. We are aware of the pressures our students are under in their progression towards a legal career and aim to lighten that load by providing a system of care and support in the following areas:

### **Careers advice**

From the moment you accept your place on our LPC, you'll have access to our careers service. Once you accept your place on our LPC you can be allocated a named personal tutor who can assist you with careers coaching prior to your course commencing. This will be of benefit to any student looking to apply towards training contracts before starting on the LPC programme.

Once term starts our careers service will help you with applications for placements and training contracts in law firms, companies and the not-for-profit sector, researching firms, CVs and covering letters and preparing for interviews and assessment centres.

### **Pro bono work experience**

Our award winning Pro Bono Centre gives you an unrivalled opportunity to work on actual cases. As well as putting your knowledge into practice, this experience can be crucial in enhancing your CV and getting your career off to the best possible start.

## **Contact details**

For further information, please contact BPP direct:

Website: [www.bpp.com/university](http://www.bpp.com/university)

Email: [admissions@bpp.com](mailto:admissions@bpp.com)

Contact name: Admissions

Telephone: 0845 077 5566

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