

Thames Valley University

Legal Practice Course provider institutional profile

Please note: The information contained in this institutional profile is supplied by Thames Valley University; it is not endorsed by the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA).

General information

The Law School at Thames Valley University is based at Ealing, a pleasant and vibrant suburb of west London, which has excellent rail, underground and bus links to central London. As a longstanding provider of academic and professional legal education TVU's Law School has extensive experience of delivering the Legal Practice Course (LPC), which was consistently rated "Good" from 1997. In the most recent monitoring visit within the new grading scheme the LPC achieved the highest grade of "commendable practice" in 4 out of the 6 areas assessed, including student support, with the next best grade of "confidence in the provision" in the remaining 2 areas.

The course is staffed by a dedicated teaching team who are all qualified solicitors with recent practice experience. A great deal of emphasis is given to supporting students as individuals and numbers are normally maintained at approximately 40 students in order to achieve this. The LPC maintains very close links with the local Middlesex Law Society on both a professional and social level. This provides students with many opportunities to meet and network with members of the profession including legal practice update lectures held at the University, joint social events, and a solicitor mentoring scheme for LPC students. There is also an opportunity for students to participate in the Law School's Community Advice Programme, providing free legal advice to the local community.

Facilities include a large dedicated LPC teaching room equipped with PCs and a specialist Legal Practice Resource Room in the Learning Resource Centre with exclusive LPC access to PCs and practitioner texts, as well as access via the internet to a comprehensive range of electronic legal resources. The University Careers Advisory Service, with Matrix accreditation, provides excellent careers support, including a series of legal careers seminars specifically designed for TVU's LPC students.

Course fee	Course fees for 2007-8: Full time (FT) £6,950 (UK/EU), £8750 (non EU) per annum. Fees include manuals and the SRA registration fee. There is an early settlement discount available of approximately 5%.
Validated places	50 FT
Enrolled nos	Normal intake is 40 FT students.
Course length	36 weeks.

Foundation course	A thorough four week induction course introduces students to the legal skills, pervasive subjects, learning resources and the style of learning, teaching and assessment on the LPC.
Electives offered	Advanced Litigation (Personal Injury); Commercial Leases; Employment Law; Family Law; Housing and Residential Landlord and Tenant Law; Immigration Law; Insolvency Law.
Delivery methods	One hour large group sessions, two hour small group sessions/skills workshops. Students are further supported by remote IT access to course materials and legal research resources.
Class size	Large group sessions – whole group (up to 40 students) Small group sessions/ skills workshops (up to 20 students)
Staffing	Easily within Solicitors' Regulation Authority staff/student ratio of 1:12. Supportive and friendly staff with recent practice experience.
Disabled access	Good. There are lifts and the buildings are wheelchair accessible.
Catering	Student canteen, coffee bars and vending facilities on site, wide range of cafes and restaurants just off campus and in nearby Ealing Broadway centre.
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