

# Law

**Law is fascinating and dynamic. It is critical to all societies, to relationships between people, organisations, individuals and the state as well as between states. Law is an important part of social and global ordering while being a weapon of both the powerful and the weak.**

In an increasingly interconnected world, the idea of studying the law of a single jurisdiction has become more and more difficult to contemplate. Legal issues often transcend national borders and legal ideas have travelled beyond their places of origin.

With decades of studying and teaching the laws of the developing world to undergraduate and postgraduate students, the SOAS Law degrees continue to provide our students with an understanding of law and a set of skills reaching far beyond more traditional law degrees.

Our LLB programme provides all our students with a Qualifying Law Degree (QLD), allowing its graduates to take the next steps towards legal practice. The LLB covers the foundational areas of English Law and allows students to study the legal traditions and practices of a number of other jurisdictions, providing a rich understanding of the role and meaning of law in the world today. The SOAS Law degree equips its law students for international and transnational work, whether in legal practice or in other areas of law and aims to produce a generation of highly skilled, civic minded and critically engaged law graduates.

Our undergraduate students, like their peers in other law schools, attend on average between 10 and 12 hours in class each week and devote the rest of their week to private study in preparation for tutorials, lectures and assessments. The study of law is both stimulating and highly challenging and SOAS School of Law invites applications from highly motivated and intellectually inquisitive individuals.

## Structure and assessment

Students take taught modules to the value of 120 credits per year – unless stated otherwise.

## Minimum entry requirements

A-Levels: A\*AA-AAB (from three A-levels with at least two A-Levels from a list of preferred subjects. Please see our website for details.)

IB: 37 points with 6/6/6 at Higher level

See p160 for more on entry requirements, application assessment, Widening Participation and joint degrees.

## English language requirement

Overall IELTS grade of 6.5 with 6.5 in writing and speaking and 6.0 in reading and listening. Visit [www.soas.ac.uk/english-requirements](http://www.soas.ac.uk/english-requirements) for alternative acceptable qualifications.

## Duration

Three years, or four years when combined with another subject.

## Skills gained

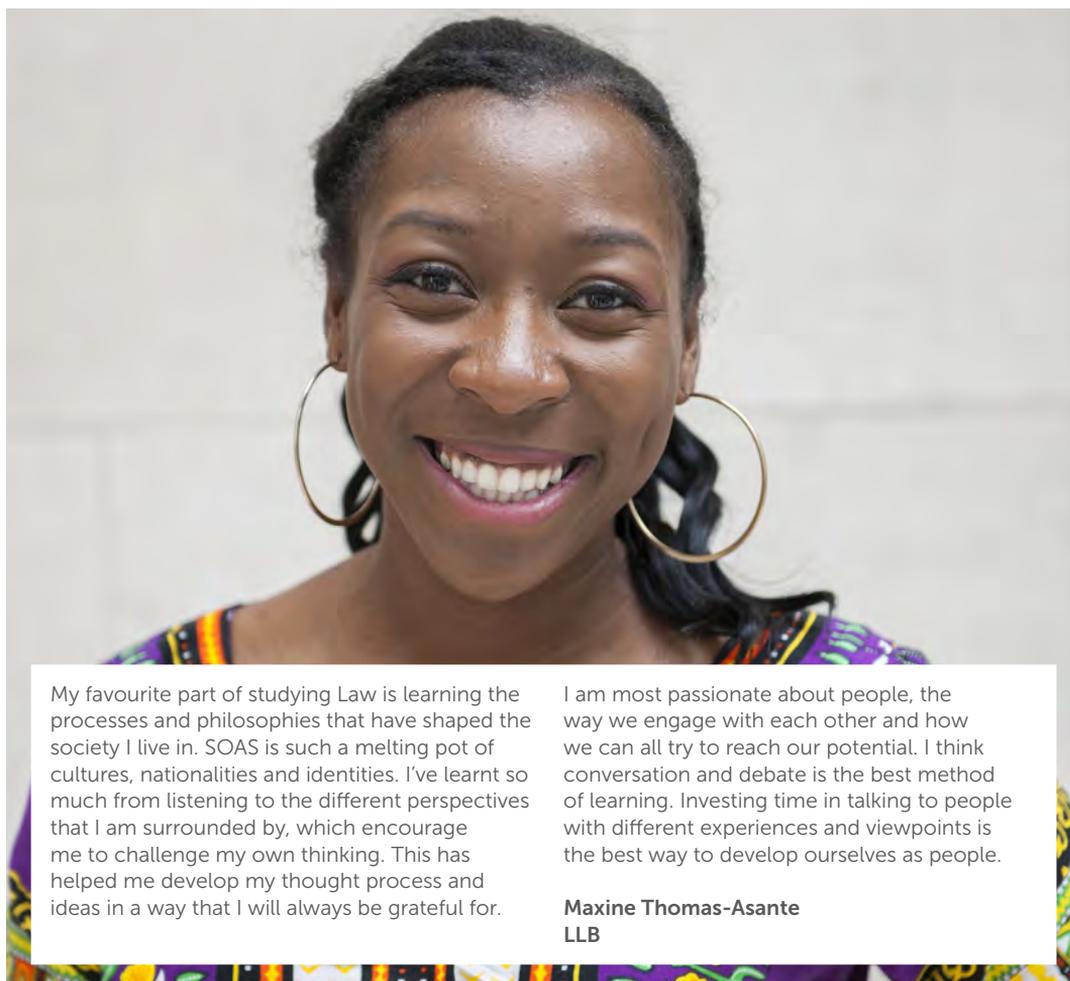
A SOAS law degree provides exemption from the academic stage of legal training being recognised by both the Law Society and the Bar Council for that purpose. Many SOAS law graduates have become successful solicitors and barristers, working internationally or in central or local government, or within the Crown Prosecution Service.

An increasing number join large corporate or commercial law firms (such as Clifford Chance, Linklaters and Freshfields) who actively target and recruit from SOAS because of our students' unique global perspective and experience. Others have preferred smaller firms with a substantial legal aid practice, where they have become involved with social issues covered in their studies, such as access to justice and ethnic minorities and the law, or asylum and immigration law. Some of our graduates have focused primarily on human rights legal practice in either a local or international context.

By no means do all our students become lawyers; and we actively encourage students who are fascinated by Law, but are interested in pursuing other careers, to study our degree programmes. This is because the study of Law enables students to develop analytical and writing skills that are useful and transferable to a range of other careers. Students develop a range of skills valued by many employers including:

- analytical and critical judgment skills
- the ability to formulate sound arguments
- effective communication
- problem solving
- the ability to interpret and explain complex information clearly

Our graduates are testament to that diversity be that in government, business, journalism, consultancy, academia and various development programmes in both the UK and overseas.



My favourite part of studying Law is learning the processes and philosophies that have shaped the society I live in. SOAS is such a melting pot of cultures, nationalities and identities. I've learnt so much from listening to the different perspectives that I am surrounded by, which encourage me to challenge my own thinking. This has helped me develop my thought process and ideas in a way that I will always be grateful for.

I am most passionate about people, the way we engage with each other and how we can all try to reach our potential. I think conversation and debate is the best method of learning. Investing time in talking to people with different experiences and viewpoints is the best way to develop ourselves as people.

**Maxine Thomas-Asante**  
LLB

### What do Law graduates do?

Barrister  
Business Developer  
Finance Manager  
Financial Analyst  
Legal Researcher  
Paralegal  
Procurement Manager  
Recruitment Consultant  
Solicitor  
Tax Consultant

### Employers include

Allen & Overy  
Baker McKenzie  
Clifford Chance  
CMS Cameron McKenna  
Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer  
Gibson Young Solicitors  
Linklaters  
Liberty UK  
Lloyds Banking Group  
Slaughter and May  
United Nations



### Taught Programmes

- LLB
- Senior Status LLB
- LLB With Year Abroad
- BA Law and...



### More Information

[www.soas.ac.uk/law](http://www.soas.ac.uk/law)



## LLB Law

### UCAS code: M100

The LLB is assessed over three years through a combination of unseen exams, essays and other projects. Most modules will have a combination of an end of year exam and an essay, where the balance will ordinarily be 80/20, but this does vary depending on the module.

### Structure

#### (Typical course content)

#### Core modules

##### Year 1

- Introduction to Law and Legal Processes
- Criminal Law (30 credits)
- Contract Law (30 credits)
- Common Law, Equitable and Comparative Property 1: Property Interests (30 credits)
- Public Law (30 credits)

##### Year 2

Students must take two core/compulsory 30 credit modules, two core/compulsory 15 credit modules and one 30 credit option (either a law module or open option).

- Legal Systems of Asia and Africa (30 credits)
- Law of Tort (30 credits)
- Introduction to EU Law (15 credits)
- Common Law, Equitable and Comparative Property 2: Property Relationships (30 credits)
- An optional module open to Year 2 students (30 credits)

##### Year 3

Students must take four optional modules from the optional modules list below including (if permitted) an Independent Study Project. Students may also choose to do a final year module offered at one of the other University of London Law Schools: King's College, UCL, Birkbeck, QM and LSE, and/or another SOAS open option module.

#### Typical optional modules

##### (Subject to change)

- Advanced Administrative Law (30 credits)
- Asylum and Immigration Law (30 credits)
- Chinese Law (30 credits)
- Commercial Law (30 credits)
- Company Law (30 credits)
- Alternative Dispute Resolution (15 credits)
- Family Law (30 credits)
- Independent Study Project on a Selected Legal Topic (30 credits)
- Intellectual Property Law (30 credits)
- Islamic Law (30 credits)
- Law and Development (30 credits)
- Law and Society in South Asia (30 credits)

- Law and Society in Africa (30 credits)
- Law of Commercial Arbitration (15 credits)
- Law of Islamic Finance (30 credits)
- Public International Law (15 credits)
- The Art of Persuasion (15 credits)
- International Law of the Sea (15 credits)
- Introduction to Global Commodities Law (15 credits)

## Senior Status LLB

### UCAS code: M102

The Senior Status LLB is an intensive programme designed for advanced students who already hold a non-law degree and are interested in both obtaining a professional qualifying law degree and engaging with law in an academic environment.

### Structure

#### (Typical course content)

#### Core modules

##### Year 1

- Introduction to Law and Legal Processes
- Criminal Law (30 credits)
- Contract Law (30 credits)
- Common Law, Equitable and Comparative Property 1: Property Interests (30 credits)
- Introduction to EU Law (15 credits)
- Public Law (15 credits)

##### Year 2

In Year Two of the Senior Status LLB, you will take three core compulsory subjects (to the value of 75 credits) and modules from the option list to the value of 60 credits, for a total of 135 credits to be studied in the year.

- Legal Systems of Asia and Africa (30 credits)
- Law of Tort (30 credits)
- Common Law, Equitable and Comparative Property 2: Property Relationships (15 credits)

#### Typical optional modules

##### (Subject to change)

- Advanced Administrative Law (30 credits)
- Asylum and Immigration Law (30 credits)
- Chinese Law (30 credits)
- Commercial Law (30 credits)
- Company Law (30 credits)
- Alternative Dispute Resolution (15 credits)
- Family Law (30 credits)
- Independent Study Project on a Selected Legal Topic (30 credits)
- Intellectual Property Law (30 credits)
- International Law of the Sea (15 credits)
- Introduction to Global Commodities Law (15 credits)

- Islamic Law (30 credits)
- Law and Development (30 credits)
- Law and Society in South Asia (30 credits)
- Law and Society in Africa (30 credits)
- Law of Commercial Arbitration (15 credits)
- Law of Islamic Finance (30 credits)
- The Art of Persuasion (15 credits)
- Public International Law (15 credits)

## LLB with Year Abroad

UCAS code: M104

Our students choose from a wide array of optional courses that draw on the unique research expertise of our staff. The emphasis we place on choice, and research-led teaching, will allow you to pursue a number of distinct specialisms as your degree progresses. In the third year students study Law or Language modules in a partner university abroad. Those enrolled on a named pathway will choose from partner universities for that pathway.

### Structure (Typical course content)

#### Year 1

##### Compulsory modules

- Criminal Law (30 credits)
- Contract Law (30 credits)
- Common Law, Equitable and Comparative Property 1: Property Interests (30 credits)
- Public Law (30 credits)

#### Year 2

##### Compulsory modules

- Legal Systems of Asia and Africa (30 credits)
- Law of Tort (30 credits)
- Common Law, Equitable and Comparative Property 2: Proprietary Relationships (15 credits)
- Introduction to EU Law (15 credits)

PLUS

30 credits from Year 2 optional modules list

OR one of the following regional pathways

- Chinese Law (30 credits)
- Law and Society in South Asia (30 credits)
- 30 credits of either language or non-language compulsory modules of the BA Southeast Asian Studies programme

#### Year 3

Students study Law or Language modules in a partner university abroad. Those enrolled on a named pathway will choose from partner universities for the pathway.

#### Year 4

##### Compulsory modules

- Independent Study Project on a Selected Legal topic

PLUS 30 credits from Year 4 optional modules list  
OR 30 credits from open options list OR 30 credits from another University of London module

PLUS 60 credits from Year 4 optional modules list

#### Year 2

##### Optional modules

- Law and Society in South Asia (30 credits)
- Law and Society in Africa (30 credits)
- Islamic Law (30 credits)
- Chinese Law (30 credits)
- Asylum and Immigration Law (30 credits)
- Introduction to Global Commodities Law (15 credits)
- Foundations of Human Rights Law (15 credits)
- Public International Law (15 credits)
- International Law of the Sea (15 credits)
- The Art of Advocacy (15 credits)
- Law and Society in South Asia (30 credits)
- International Environmental Law (15 credits)

#### Year 4

##### Optional modules

- Family Law (30 credits)
- Law and Society in South Asia (30 credits)
- Law and Society in Africa (30 credits)
- Islamic Law (30 credits)
- Independent Study Project on a Selected Legal topic (30 credits)
- Company Law (30 credits)
- Chinese Law (30 credits)
- Intellectual Property Law (30 credits)
- Advanced Comparative Administrative Law (30 credits)
- Commercial Law (30 credits)
- Law, Multiculturalism and Rights (30 credits)
- Law of Commercial Arbitration (15 credits)
- Alternative Dispute Resolution (15 credits)
- Asylum and Immigration Law (30 credits)
- Introduction to Global Commodities Law (15 credits)
- Foundations of Human Rights Law (15 credits)
- Public International Law (15 credits)
- International Law of the Sea (15 credits)
- The Art of Advocacy (15 credits)
- International Environmental Law (15 credits)



## BA Law and...

*May be combined with*

Arabic+	MT16
Chinese+	MT11
Development Studies	LM91
Economics	LM11
History	MV11
International Relations	LMF1
Japanese	
Korean+	MTDL
Politics	LM21
Social Anthropology	LM61

+ 4-year degree with (compulsory) 1 year abroad

++ 3- or 4-year degree with option of 1 year abroad

### Structure

(Typical course content)

#### Core modules

##### Year 1

If the other subject has two compulsory modules then you must take the following modules in Year 1:

- Introduction to Law and Legal Processes
- Criminal Law (30 credits)
- Contract Law (30 credits)

OR if the other subject has three compulsory modules (most language modules do) then you must take the following modules in Year 1:

- Introduction to Law and Legal Processes
- Contract Law (30 credits)

##### Year 2 or 3

Students will take the core/compulsory module Legal Systems of Asia and Africa in second year of study (or third year if abroad in their second year):

- Legal Systems of Asia and Africa (30 credits)

