

SQE2 Preparation Course

**Full and Part Time
Blended Attendance and Online Study
from March 2024 onwards**

Course Demands

26/2/24

1. Introduction

This document is produced by The University of Law (the University) to provide information about the demands of the course for prospective students.

The information included is an indicative guide for all modes of the University's SQE2 Preparation Course commencing from March 2024 onwards. Students who enrol on the course will be subject to the course regulations in force at that time.

Details of the course, including subject coverage and the learning environment, can be found on the University's website.

Information about

- Minimum IT requirements
- Disability and Inclusion Service information
- Study Skills information

is also available on the website (<https://www.law.ac.uk/study/course-demands/>).

2. Preliminary Knowledge

The following skills are outlined in the SRA's SQE2 Assessment Specification:

Client interviewing and completion of attendance note/legal analysis – planning for and conducting an interview with a client, producing an attendance note recording a client interview and initial legal analysis.

Advocacy - planning for and conducting a piece of advocacy before a judge.

Case and matter analysis – producing a written report to a partner giving a legal analysis of a case and providing client-focused advice.

Legal Research – conducting legal research from a variety of paper and electronic resources, producing a written report.

Legal Writing – producing a letter or email as the solicitor acting in a matter, which clearly and correctly applies the law and is appropriate to the recipient.

Legal Drafting – drafting full or part legal documents, use of precedents.

The SQE2 skills are assessed in the SRA's practice areas.

The practice areas are as follows:

- Criminal Litigation (including advising clients at the police station)
- Dispute Resolution
- Property Practice
- Wills and Intestacy, Probate Administration and Practice
- Business organisations, rules and procedures (including money laundering and financial services).

Questions in these practice areas may draw on underlying black letter law in the Functioning Legal Knowledge (FLK) as follows:

- Criminal Litigation: Criminal liability
- Dispute Resolution: Contract law and tort
- Property Practice: Land law
- Wills and Intestacy, Probate Administration and Practice: Trusts
- Business organisations, rules and procedures: Contract law.

As with SQE1, professionalism and ethics will also be core parts of SQE2. Questions on ethics will be pervasive throughout SQE2. Ethical issues will not be flagged, and candidates will need to identify any ethical and professional conduct issues and exercise judgment to resolve them honestly and with integrity.

Questions involving taxation may arise in Property Practice; Wills and Intestacy, Probate Administration and Practice; and Business organisations, rules and procedures.

Details of the examinable content is set out on the SRA's website in annex 1 of the SRA's SQE2 assessment specification. The annex sets out the different legal principles a candidate will be expected to know in relation to the practice areas and related academic black letter law. It is described by the SRA as being a subset of the FLK required for SQE1.

The SQE2 Preparation Course does not teach the FLK set out above and all students are expected to have prior knowledge of it before joining the course either through having completed SQE1 or having studied on an LPC.

All components of the SQE2 Preparation Course are taught at master's level.

A sufficient command of English to follow the course to a successful conclusion (an English Language level equivalent to IELTS 6.5 with a minimum of 6.0 in each component).

3. Pre-Course Demands

The induction week consists of various sessions which introduce students to the different modules they will be studying, the basis upon which they will be assessed by the SRA's centralised SQE assessments.

Before joining the course, students will be asked to complete a pre-study diagnostic test on the FLK subjects with which the SQE2 assessments are based to identify any knowledge gaps in these subjects. Students who do not gain satisfactory results in these tests will be contacted and support/advice offered to them about progressing onto the course.

The course materials are made available on the VLE, 2 weeks prior to first teaching week. Students may also wish to refresh their knowledge of FLK ahead of the diagnostic testing.

In addition, it is recommended that all students who are returning to learning complete the *Getting Ready for Academic Study* module which is available in the Skills4Study package available through ELITE / The Skills Academy

4. Modes of Study and Attendance Requirements

Our courses are delivered using the Prepare – Engage – Consolidate (PEC) Model. This is summarised in the diagram below:



4.1 Learning Model and Time Commitment

The SQE2 Preparation Course is delivered both online and by blended attendance learning. It is envisaged that each course will be delivered via both modes, and in full and part time study options.

The blended delivery course is studied on the VLE and using timetabled classes, usually 6 workshops per week typically timetabled over 3 to 4 days for full time students; or two workshops per week for part time students, typically timetabled over two evenings, one day for day mode, or at the weekend, depending on the part time study option selected.

The online course is studied on the VLE asynchronously with usually 6 units per week to complete for full time students and two units per week for part time students. Asynchronous learning is supported by timetabled Live Subject Support Sessions (LSSSs) which give online students an opportunity to interact with their subject tutors in an online session in Collaborate and raise any queries they have about the unit they are studying in that week. In addition, there are a number of timetabled Mock Review Sessions (MRSs) following the mock assessments.

Online study will not require campus attendance although online students are able to use campus facilities, such as the library, if they chose to do so. Unfortunately, we cannot offer this facility at our satellite campuses so please do check with the Campus before arrival.

Blended delivery study will be available full time at all campuses and selected satellite locations depending on student demand. Part time blended delivery study will be a variable at most campuses, subject to student demand.

Learning format	Hours Full Time (Indicative)	Hours Part Time (Indicative)
Prepare consisting of independent learning and preparation for Engage activities	30	10-15
Engage activities	9	3
Consolidate	6	2
Total	45	15-20

4.2 Attendance Requirements

- For students studying on the blended attendance delivery mode, you must attend at the relevant University campus on the days per week timetabled in your teaching weeks and for any scheduled mocks, MRSs. Attendance is not usually required during any consolidation weeks.
- For blended delivery students, attendance at all timetabled activities and workshops is compulsory.
- Online students are expected to engage with all their learning activities on the VLE and will have a number of timetabled LSSSs scheduled each week, the number depending on whether they are studying on the part time or full time mode. In addition, there will be MRSs.
- Online students are encouraged to take advantage of these scheduled opportunities to interact with tutors.

5. Summary of Key Learning Outcomes

Development of the legal skills required to successfully pass the SRA's SQE2 assessment comprising assessments in the 6 legal skills of client interviewing, advocacy, case and matter analysis, legal research, legal writing and legal drafting.

6. Learning Environment

- In SQE2, there is 1 module comprising client interviewing, advocacy, case and matter analysis, legal research, legal writing and legal drafting.

- Preparation for each unit is around 5 hours in the University's VLE. This can include manual reading, bite sized lecture content and other media which is recorded and available on the VLE.
- Engage activities for blended delivery students take place in face-to-face workshop sessions of up to 24 students and for online students through participating in online learning activities in the VLE and attending a timetabled LSSS.
- Consolidate exercises of around 1 hour at the end of each unit on the VLE.
- Test your knowledge exercises are available as part of your preparation and/or consolidation via the VLE.
- There is a comprehensive Practice Areas and Skills Revision Workbook containing materials to support the revision of FLK and a number of additional practice assessments in the written skills with feedback, which students will complete within their course.

Students are expected to participate fully in all Engage activities and carry out independent learning and preparation as directed.

7. Assessments

A summary of the assessment schedule for this course is explained below.

The University operates a fit to sit policy, which means that students who attend an assessment are deeming themselves to be fit to sit that assessment. It is therefore not possible to submit a concession or mitigating circumstances application for impaired performance for an assessment that has been sat, unless there was a procedural defect in the conduct of the assessment.

7.1 Assessment and learning adjustments

If you have any queries regarding support or adjustments whilst studying at the University please contact the Disability and Inclusion Service on disabilitysupportservice@law.ac.uk or 01483 216657.

7.2 Professional Body Assessment Requirements

Assessments on the Solicitors' Qualifying Examination (SQE) are administered and delivered by Kaplan on behalf of the SRA. Requests for examination adjustments need to be made directly to Kaplan. Further information about the SQE assessment and adjustment applications can be found at <https://www.sra.org.uk/students/sqe/supporting-sit-sqe/>

The University will attempt to replicate the adjustments put in place by Kaplan for mock assessments and any University-organised assessments, however we are unable to guarantee that Kaplan will grant the same adjustments that the University would usually provide.

7.3 Summary of Assessment Demands

The assessments for SQE2 are under the control of the SRA's chosen assessment provider Kaplan.

At present we have limited information about the length and structure of these assessments, but our current understanding is as follows:

SQE2 – oral skills two half days, written skills three half days.

7.4 SRA Time limits for Completion of SQE2

Irrespective of any adjustments made, in order successfully to complete the SQE, all students are required under the SRA regulations to pass all elements of the assessment within 6 years of the date of the first assessment of SQE1.

8. Additional digital and technological resources and requirements

The learning model will require you to collaborate and interact online. Therefore, if you are using a laptop we would recommend that you are able to connect this to your Internet Router and use an Ethernet cable.