

**Postgraduate Diploma in Law (PgDL)  
MA Law (SQE1)  
MA Law (Conversion)**

**Full and Part Time  
Blended Attendance and Online Study  
from September 2023 and January 2024**

## **Course Demands**

28 June 2023

---

## Contents:

1. Introduction.....	3
2. Preliminary Knowledge .....	3
3. Pre-Course Demands .....	3
4. Student Route Visa.....	3
5. Modes of Study and Attendance Requirements .....	4
5.1. Learning Model and Time Commitment.....	4
5.2. Attendance requirements .....	5
6. Summary of Key Learning Outcomes .....	6
7. Learning Pattern and Environment .....	7
8. Assessments (Coursework, Orals and Examinations) .....	8
8.1. Core Assessments .....	8
8.2. Additional Assessment on the MA Law (Conversion):.....	9
8.3. Additional Assessments on the MA Law (SQE1): .....	9
8.4. Time Limits.....	9
8.5. SRA Time limits for Completion of SQE 1 .....	9
8.6. Assessment and learning adjustments.....	10
9. Learning Outcomes for PgDL, MA Law (Conversion) and MA Law (SQE1) .....	11
9.1. PgDL – Postgraduate Diploma in Law .....	11
9.2. MA Law (SQE1) .....	13
9.3. MA Law (Conversion).....	16

---

## 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 Postgraduate Diploma in Law, MA Law (Conversion) and MA Law (SQE1) (together referred to as the 'Conversion Programmes'), commencing in September 2023 (or January 2024, as appropriate). Students who enrol on the course will be subject to the course regulations in force at that time.

Details of the Conversion Programmes, including subject coverage and the learning environment, can be found on the University website.

## 2. Preliminary Knowledge

Generic skills associated with the attainment of a recognised first degree in a non-law discipline consistent with the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland Level 6 awards.

These include:

- Ability to acquire through study coherent and detailed knowledge of a new subject.
- Ability to deploy accurately established techniques of analysis and enquiry within a discipline.
- Conceptual understanding that enables student to devise and sustain arguments and/ or solve problems using ideas and techniques.
- An appreciation of the uncertainty, ambiguity and limits of knowledge.
- Ability to manage own learning to make use of scholarly reviews and primary sources.

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 course materials for the first term are made available on the VLE two weeks prior to induction. There is a short element of pre-course study on elements of the English Legal System totalling around 20 hours. If you can, it is important to complete the study by the end of your induction week.

Students do not need any prior legal knowledge to start the course.

## 4. Student Route Visa

If you are an international student and are coming to the UK to study, then you must apply to the Home Office for a visa. In most cases you will need to obtain a [Student Route Visa](#). In order to apply for this visa you must be sponsored by an education provider which is licensed by the UK Home Office.

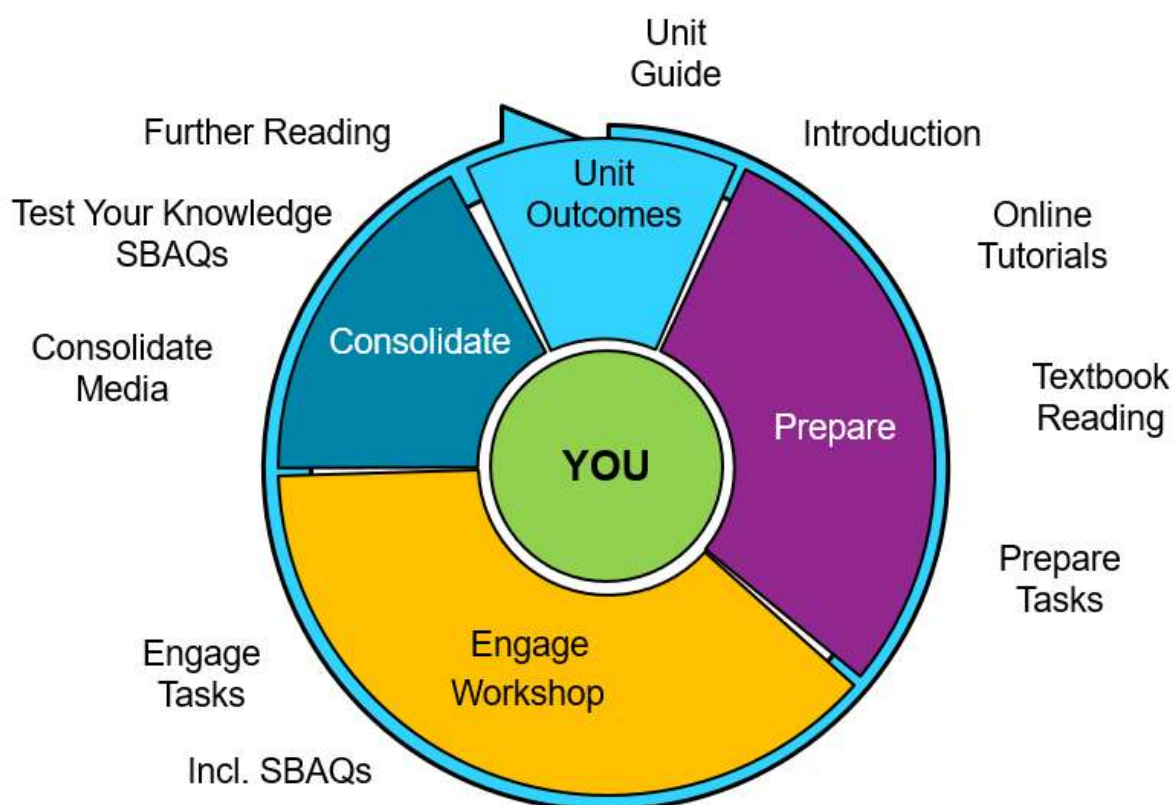
The University of Law is a Student Sponsor approved by the UK Home Office. We are fully authorised by the UK Government to sponsor international students for a Student Route visa under the Points Based System.

We recommend that you read the information on the University of Law [visa webpage](#) alongside [Appendix ST: Student](#) of the Immigration Rules, which contains the Home Office's regulations for the Student immigration route. You must also read our [Student Visa Policy](#).

## 5. Modes of Study and Attendance Requirements

### 5.1. Learning Model and Time Commitment

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



For each unit of study, there will be around 6 hours' preparation, 2 hours' engagement, and 2 hours' consolidation – this may vary from unit to unit, but it is a useful starting point.

Most weeks will incorporate 2 units (part time) and 4 weeks (full time) – so 20-25 hours' work part time, 40-45 hours' work full time. The first two weeks' study incorporate a reduced workload, so that you can acclimatize to studying at the University.

For both attendance and online students, the preparation and consolidation are delivered via our Virtual Learning Environment ('VLE'). The engagement will involve interaction with peers and tutors. For Online Campus students this is mainly asynchronously via the VLE. For attendance students, this engagement is in workshops of up to 24 students.

There are three live streamed lectures per module.

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

## 5.2. Attendance requirements

Specific attendance requirements at Campus (including Online Campus for online study) vary depending on the course selected. Terms are 12-13 weeks long including practice assessments and revision weeks, but not including holidays.

Blended Attendance mode:

- On the attendance version of the programme, students must attend at the relevant University campus up to four days per week in teaching weeks and for your scheduled examinations / assessments in exam weeks. Attendance is not required during any consolidation weeks.
- The normal student day consists of one or two workshops per day.
- In a standard week you will have four workshops (full time) or two workshops (part time).
- Students will, from time to time, have additional sessions such as revision drop-ins and exam practices which will not normally exceed one hour.
- Attendance at all workshops is compulsory.

Online mode

- On the online version of the programme, attendance is not required, but facilities are available at your nominated Campus.
- The online course requires the same level of commitment as a course you attend in person – the only difference is you do not have to travel to a campus to attend the course.
- Online students are expected to engage with all their learning activities on the VLE and will have a number of optional timetabled Live Subject Support Session scheduled each week, the number depending on whether they are studying on the part time or full-time mode.
- Online students are encouraged to take advantage of these scheduled opportunities to interact with tutors.

Indicative weekly study patterns, both for blended attendance and Online Campus students, are as follows:

Learning format (based on 10 hours per study unit)	Hours Full Time (indicative)	Hours Part Time (indicative)
Prepare (self-study prior to class engage)	24	12
Engage (workshop or online)	8	4
Consolidate (including media)	8	4
	<b>40-45</b>	<b>20-25</b>

## 6. Summary of Key Learning Outcomes

The Conversion Programmes are outcomes-based. We tell you what you should be able to do when you complete the course – these are the learning outcomes. They are designed to address higher level (FHEQ Level 7<sup>1</sup>) attributes.

From these are derived what you should be able to do by the end of each module (you will notice these are very similar across all modules). These are the module outcomes. The outcomes for each unit (an individual part of a Module) are, in turn, derived from the module outcomes. These are the unit outcomes.

These learning outcomes will help you assess your own progress – you can check at the end of each unit how much you have met these outcomes.

You can be confident that the assessments also focus on these outcomes – the assessments are aligned with the relevant module, and therefore the programme as a whole. The outcomes are set out at 9 below, but can be summarised as:

- Knowledge and understanding: Critical awareness and application of knowledge/ principles/relevant area.
- Cognitive skills (including Transferable Skills): Ability to select appropriate information. Logical approach to problem solving with analysis, critical evaluation, and judgement/conceptual evaluation.
- Practical skills (including Transferable Skills): Communicate concepts and principles clearly, in a logical, structured and professional manner.

<sup>1</sup>Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, Level 7.

## 7. Learning Pattern and Environment

There are nine modules on the PgDL, eight of which are credit-bearing and which each have 8 units of study (ELS & Constitutional Law (including Retained EU Law) has 9 units, plus pre-course study). The Skills & Behaviours module is a 5-Unit non-credit-bearing Module, of significant importance to your development.

On the MA Law (SQE1) you will attend the above modules and then two SQE1 Prep Modules - FLK1 and FLK2, which are themselves split into areas of the SQE syllabus. On the MA Law (Conversion) you will attend the PgDL modules above, and then research and write a Dissertation in Law.

The order of study is set out below:

Pre-Course	Term 1 Full Time		Term 2 Full Time		Term 3 Full Time
	Term 1 Part Time	Term 2 Part Time	Term 3 Part Time	Term 4 Part Time	Terms 5 & 6 Part Time
ELS & Constitutional (incl. Ret. EU Law)		Criminal Law	Admin Law & Human Rights	Law of Organisations	Dissertation in Law (MA Law (Conversion) only)
	Tort Law	Contract Law	Land Law	Equity & Trusts	FLK1 & FLK2 (MA Law (SQE1) only)
	Skills & Behaviours				

As set out in 5 above, engagement will involve interaction with peers and tutors. For Online Campus students this is mainly asynchronously via the VLE. For attendance students, this engagement is in workshops of up to 24 students. For all students there are three live streamed lectures per module. Students are expected to participate fully in all workshop activities and lectures.

**NB Visa-sponsored students must attend all sessions in person. Live streamed sessions are not available to visa-sponsored students.**

## 8. Assessments (Coursework, Orals and Examinations)

### 8.1. Core Assessments

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 application for impaired performance for an assessment that has been sat, unless there was a procedural defect in the conduct of the assessment.

The following sets out the nature, duration and number of assessments:

	<b>Formative assessment methods (taken after Unit 3):</b>	<b>Summative assessment methods:</b>
<b>Single Best Answer Questions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integrated within materials and delivery as Test Your Knowledge</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>45 mins, 20 questions</li> <li>SRA-style anonymized SBAQ</li> <li>Comprises 40% of module result.</li> </ul>
<b>Online Written Examination (OWE)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Open-book examination, online</li> <li>One hour</li> <li>One question incorporating advance documentation to allow assessment of Level 7 critical skills.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Online Written Examination</li> <li>Open-book</li> <li>1h45m, two questions.</li> <li>One question incorporating advance documentation to allow assessment of Level 7 critical skills.</li> <li>One unseen question, chosen from two.</li> </ul>
<b>Coursework</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1500 words max</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2500 words max</li> </ul>
<b>Oral</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 minutes, uploaded presentation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>15-20 minutes responding to questions posed by assessors.</li> </ul>

Module	Term Full Time	Term Part Time	Credits	Assessment Mode
Contract Law	1	1	15	SBAQ - 20Q, 45m + OWE - 1h45, 2q
ELS & Constitutional Law (incl Ret EU Law)	1	1	15	SBAQ – 20Q, 45m + Coursework - 2500w
Tort Law	1	2	15	SBAQ - 20Q, 45m + OWE - 1h45, 2q
Criminal Law	1	2	15	SBAQ – 20Q, 45m + Oral (20 min)
Land Law	2	3	15	SBAQ - 20Q, 45m + OWE - 1h45, 2q
Admin & HR	2	3	15	SBAQ – 20Q, 45m + Coursework - 2500w
Equity & Trusts	2	4	15	SBAQ - 20Q, 45m + OWE - 1h45, 2q
Law of Organisations	2	4	15	SBAQ – 20Q, 45m + Oral (20 min)
Skills & Behaviours	1&2	1-4	0	None
			<b>120 total</b>	



The table shows the “standard” length of the exam. If you have a University of Law Inclusion Plan (ULIP) with an “additional time” allowance, this will be shown as a percentage.

For example, if the “standard” time for an exam is 2 hours and you have 25% additional time, your exam will last 2 hours 30 minutes.

**Please note – in line with UKVI requirements, visa-sponsored students must sit all written examinations on campus.**

### 8.2. Additional Assessment on the MA Law (Conversion):

Dissertation in Law	S3	S5-6	60	Dissertation 8000 words + 45 min Oral
---------------------	----	------	----	---

### 8.3. Additional Assessments on the MA Law (SQE1):

Note – to complete the MA Law (SQE1), you must pass the SQE1 FLK1&2 external centralised assessments<sup>2</sup>. Assessments for SQE1 (including any adjustments for candidates with disabilities) are under the control of the SRA’s chosen assessment provider Kaplan. Each FLK paper will last around 5 hours, comprising: Part 1 - 90 questions in just over 2.5 hours, Part 2 - 90 questions in just over 2.5 hours and a break of approximately 1 hour in the middle.

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.

FLK1	S3	S5	30	SBAQ - Centralised SQE1 Assessment
FLK2	S3	S5	30	SBAQ - Centralised SQE1 Assessment

### 8.4. Time Limits

For the PgDL, and the conversion component of both MA Laws, every assessment (including any reassessment) must be taken within a three year period for full time candidates or a four year period for part time candidates, commencing on the date on which the candidate commenced the PgDL.

### 8.5. SRA Time limits for Completion of SQE 1

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

<sup>2</sup> Subject to confirmation

---

## 8.6. Assessment and learning adjustments

If you have any queries regarding support or adjustments whilst studying at the University of Law please contact the Disability and Inclusion Service on [disabilitysupportservice@law.ac.uk](mailto:disabilitysupportservice@law.ac.uk) or 01483 216657.

---

## 9. Learning Outcomes for PgDL, MA Law (Conversion) and MA Law (SQE1)

### 9.1. PgDL – Postgraduate Diploma in Law

Upon successful completion of the programme students should be able to:

#### A. Knowledge and Understanding

1. Demonstrate detailed, systematic and comprehensive knowledge, and an in-depth understanding of, principles in the foundational law of England & Wales as studied on the programme, and the context that shapes such principles;
2. Identify and apply legal principles within the foundational law of England & Wales as studied on the programme;
3. Develop an in-depth understanding of principles and values of law and justice, and of ethics; and
4. Understand the core principles required within the modules studied on the programme by the current Solicitors Regulatory Authority Solicitors Qualifying Examination 1 Assessment Specification, and to satisfy the Academic Component of Bar training for the Bar Standards Board.

#### B. Intellectual Skills

1. Critically analyse relevant sources of law and complex real or hypothetical problems, and evaluate a range of solutions in the light of the legal issues raised, making critical judgements on the merits of particular arguments, taking account of relevant legal, financial, commercial and practical considerations;
2. Critically evaluate legal concepts and the relationship between legal concepts, values, principles and the rule of law;
3. Demonstrate intellectual independence including the ability to ask and answer cogent questions about legal issues, identify gaps in and acquire knowledge, and engage in critical analysis and evaluation; and
4. Devise and sustain a legal argument, recognising ambiguity and using synthesis, employing tailored evidence both orally and in writing.

#### C. General Transferable Skills

1. Use intellectual, practical and technological skills and techniques applicable to legal research, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in law, and apply these skills in order to retrieve and evaluate accurate, current and relevant information from a range of sources, making personal and reasoned judgments in the areas of law studied;

- 
2. Communicate concepts and principles clearly, both orally and in writing, using a range of media, in a structured and professional manner;
  3. Use language proficiently, presenting knowledge or opinions to others, succinctly, accurately, comprehensively and in a way that is grammatically correct;
  4. Collaborate effectively within a group setting, demonstrating collaborative and mutually supportive teamwork, and the ability to achieve identified goals; and
  5. Develop transferable skills for employment requiring the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility, independent learning, and the exercise of initiative in complex and unpredictable situations.

### D. Professional Skills and Attributes

1. Apply legal principles to provide structured responses in the context of academic and problem-based learning, in line with the requirements of the SRA/BSB, including the ability to successfully attempt Single Best Answer Questions as used in centralised professional qualification assessments;
2. Develop the attributes of self-management and self-reflection, including the assumption of personal responsibility for academic, personal and professional development, and the ability to learn from experiences and environments, making effective use of feedback and a willingness to acknowledge and correct errors; and
3. Engage with their own personal and professional development, and take responsibility for their academic integrity.

---

## 9.2. MA Law (SQE1)

Upon successful completion of the programme students should be able to:

### A. Knowledge and Understanding

For the academic Functioning Legal Knowledge (Conversion) Modules:

1. Demonstrate detailed, systematic and comprehensive knowledge, and an in-depth understanding of, principles in the foundational law of England & Wales as studied on the programme, and the context that shapes such principles;
2. Identify and apply legal principles within the foundational law of England & Wales as studied on the programme;
3. Develop an in-depth understanding of principles and values of law and justice, and of ethics; and
4. Understand the core principles required within the modules studied on the programme by the current Solicitors Regulatory Authority Solicitors Qualifying Examination 1 Assessment Specification.

For the practical Functioning Legal Knowledge modules:

5. Demonstrate a high level of knowledge and understanding at the forefront of the areas of law and practice studied.
6. Apply detailed and comprehensive knowledge of relevant law and legal practice to progress transactions or matters relevant to the area of professional practice studied in accordance with any rules of professional conduct or ethics.

### B. Intellectual Skills

For the academic Functioning Legal Knowledge (Conversion) Modules:

1. Critically analyse relevant sources of law and complex real or hypothetical problems, and evaluate a range of solutions in the light of the legal issues raised, making critical judgements on the merits of particular arguments, taking account of relevant legal, financial, commercial and practical considerations;
2. Critically evaluate legal concepts and the relationship between legal concepts, values, principles and the rule of law;
3. Demonstrate intellectual independence including the ability to ask and answer cogent questions about legal issues, identify gaps in and acquire knowledge, and engage in critical analysis and evaluation; and
4. Devise and sustain a legal argument, recognising ambiguity and using synthesis, employing tailored evidence both orally and in writing.

---

For the practical Functioning Legal Knowledge modules:

5. Analyse complex legal issues systematically, making sound judgements in the absence of complete data in complex situations.

## C. General Transferable Skills

For the academic Functioning Legal Knowledge (Conversion) Modules:

1. Use intellectual, practical and technological skills and techniques applicable to legal research, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in law, and apply these skills in order to retrieve and evaluate accurate, current and relevant information from a range of sources, making personal and reasoned judgments in the areas of law studied;
2. Communicate concepts and principles clearly, both orally and in writing, using a range of media, in a structured and professional manner;
3. Use language proficiently, presenting knowledge or opinions to others, succinctly, accurately, comprehensively and in a way that is grammatically correct;
4. Collaborate effectively within a group setting, demonstrating collaborative and mutually supportive teamwork, and the ability to achieve identified goals;
5. Develop transferable skills for employment requiring the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility, independent learning, and the exercise of initiative in complex and unpredictable situations;

For the practical Functioning Legal Knowledge modules:

6. Identify and address, where relevant, the ethical aspects of the areas of professional practice studied;
7. Where applicable demonstrate self-analysis and an ability to reflect on their learning; and
8. Assume responsibility for the continued development of their own learning.

## D. Professional Skills and Attributes

1. Apply legal principles to provide structured responses in the context of academic and problem-based learning, in line with the requirements of the SRA/BSB, including the ability to successfully attempt Single Best Answer Questions as used in centralised professional qualification assessments;
2. Develop the attributes of self-management and self-reflection, including the assumption of personal responsibility for academic, personal and professional

---

development, and the ability to learn from experiences and environments, making effective use of feedback and a willingness to acknowledge and correct errors;  
and

3. Engage with their own personal and professional development, and take responsibility for their academic integrity.

---

## 9.3. MA Law (Conversion)

Upon successful completion of the programme students should be able to:

### A. Knowledge and Understanding

1. Demonstrate detailed, systematic and comprehensive knowledge, and an in-depth understanding of, principles in the foundational law of England & Wales as studied on the programme, and the context that shapes such principles;
2. Identify and apply legal principles within the foundational law of England & Wales as studied on the programme;
3. Develop an in-depth understanding of principles and values of law and justice, and of ethics;
4. Understand the core principles required within the modules studied on the programme by the current Solicitors Regulatory Authority Solicitors Qualifying Examination 1 Assessment Specification, and to satisfy the Academic Component of Bar training for the Bar Standards Board; and
5. Demonstrate detailed, systematic and comprehensive knowledge, and an in-depth understanding of:
  - (a) new areas of law including current issues or developments at the forefront of the areas studied; and
  - (b) current research and practical scholarship in relation to specific areas of law and practice both domestically and internationally, as appropriate.

### B. Intellectual Skills

1. Critically analyse relevant sources of law and complex real or hypothetical problems, and evaluate a range of solutions in the light of the legal issues raised, making critical judgements on the merits of particular arguments, taking account of relevant legal, financial, commercial and practical considerations;
2. Critically evaluate legal concepts and the relationship between legal concepts, values, principles and the rule of law;
3. Demonstrate critical evaluation of current research and advanced scholarship in the areas studied on the programme including, where appropriate, evaluation of methodologies;
4. Devise and sustain a legal argument, recognising ambiguity and using synthesis, employing tailored evidence both orally and in writing;
5. Demonstrate appropriate research strategies across both primary and secondary sources, including Law Commission reports, legal opinions and academic opinions, and apply such strategies to present reasoned conclusions;



---

6. Critically evaluate current research and scholarship in selected areas of study, and provide personal and reasoned judgements on the selected areas of study based on that evaluation; and

7. Process a large quantity of complex data and apply that information to the resolution of individual problems.

## C. General Transferable Skills

1. Use intellectual, practical and technological skills and techniques applicable to legal research, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in law, and apply these skills in order to retrieve and evaluate accurate, current and relevant information from a range of sources, making personal and reasoned judgments in the areas of law studied;

2. Communicate concepts and principles clearly, both orally and in writing, using a range of media, in a structured and professional manner;

3. Use language proficiently, presenting knowledge or opinions to others, succinctly, accurately, comprehensively and in a way that is grammatically correct;

4. Collaborate effectively within a group setting, demonstrating collaborative and mutually supportive teamwork, and the ability to achieve identified goals; and

5. Develop transferable skills for employment requiring the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility, independent learning, and the exercise of initiative in complex and unpredictable situations.

6. Appraise relevant ethical and policy issues which underpin the areas of law and practice studied;

7. Develop techniques applicable to advanced legal scholarship and research, including those relating to engagement in high level synthesis and critical evaluation; and

8. Critically evaluate established methods and methodologies of legal research and enquiry, and use such methods to create, interpret and communicate advanced legal knowledge.

## D. Professional Skills and Attributes

1. Apply legal principles to provide structured responses in the context of academic and problem-based learning, in line with the requirements of the SRA/BSB, including the ability to successfully attempt Single Best Answer Questions as used in centralised professional qualification assessments;

2. Develop the attributes of self-management and self-reflection, including the assumption of personal responsibility for academic, personal and professional

---

development, and the ability to learn from experiences and environments, making effective use of feedback and a willingness to acknowledge and correct errors;  
and

3. Engage with their own personal and professional development, and take responsibility for their academic integrity.