Legal Practice Course (LPC) online chat session

This online chat session is for students interested in studying our LPC at The City Law School. The session will be run by academic staff, giving you the opportunity to ask questions about your chosen course at City, University of London. As this is a typed chat group session, you will be able to see the answers to questions asked by other applicants.

Thank you for joining us for today’s CityChat session. This session is for students interested in studying our Legal Practice course. This session runs from 12:00-13:00 (BST). This is an open chat session for you to ask any questions you have regarding these courses and life at City, University of London. During the session we may also share videos, polls or documents relating to your course.

To ask a question, please type it in the chat box. Your question will not post straight away - it will be sent to our Moderators who will type an answer back. Once their answer is complete, it will be published with your question. Please make sure you say which course you have applied to when you post your question. You are also welcome to post just saying hi and introducing yourself!

Your moderators today are James Catchpole and Shanice Harrison.

Hello, I’m Shanice and I work in marketing here at City. I am looking forward to answering your questions!

What is legal practice course Shanice

Hi

This is the course that you will need to take as part of the route for qualifying as a Solicitor.

What is legal practice course Shanice

There are two parts:
Stage 1- this is all compulsory, and comprises core subject areas of Business, Property and Litigation, together with a number of skills (Writing, Research, Drafting, Interviewing and Advocacy) and professional conduct and solicitors’ accounts
Stage 2 which starts in early March is the elective period when you select three electives that help you build on your knowledge ready for practice.

Hello! I should also have said, I am James Catchpole, I am the Director of the LPC (and the LLM in Legal Practice) - thank you for joining us today, I am only too happy to answer any questions you may have.

Should you be doing the LLM, then it is all that which is comprised of the LPC plus a dissertation that is practice focused - with this we seek to start you on the task of selecting and writing your abstract in about October, with then a greater focus come February onwards (i.e. post the Stage 1 Assessment period), with more supervision and guidance ready for a August submission of your dissertation.

Here is also a link to the course: [https://www.city.ac.uk/study/courses/postgraduate/legal-practice-course](https://www.city.ac.uk/study/courses/postgraduate/legal-practice-course)

Legal Practice Course (LPC) Course

Legal Practice Course (LPC) Postgraduate Diploma - The ideal course for anyone looking to become a solicitor, whatever area of law you are interested in.

Got it, thankyou.

I am interested in any funding or scholarships that are available. Are there any advisors to guide me through the process? Many thanks. Kind regards.

In terms of funding, we do offer a number of scholarships (the link is on the Law School webpage), both full and partial.

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Typically, the way the course is funded, is either through self payment, sponsorship by a firm (ie a future employer), of if the LLM route is selected via the Post-Graduate loan.
I am interested in any funding or scholarships that are available. Are there any advisors to guide me through the process? Many thanks. Kind regards.

The loan funding link is: [https://www.gov.uk/masters-loan](https://www.gov.uk/masters-loan)

**Master’s Loan**

Get a postgraduate master’s loan to help fund a full-time or part-time master’s degree: find out if you’re eligible and how much you can get.

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Please could you tell us a little about the timetable. Are classes usually in the morning or afternoon? Or are they spread across the day?

A typical day in Stage 1 is that we have you in for Mon, Tues, Thurs and Friday for normally a lecture and then two workshops - Wed we try to keep you free to work and consolidate, but sometimes use that for mock live assessments.

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Process for international students please?

Hi, I hope this link is helpful: [https://www.city.ac.uk/study/international](https://www.city.ac.uk/study/international)

**International students**

Learn more about City, University of London’s commitment to international students at the centre of one of the world’s most exciting cities.

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Please could you tell us a little about the timetable. Are classes usually in the morning or afternoon? Or are they spread across the day?

We do split the cohort into a morning (starting at 9am) and afternoon group (12 noon start) so that those that need travel options have them.

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Process for international students please?

Other than the information on the link above, the route for applying for the course is the same as for any other student - you will need to apply via lawcap.ac.uk - you select the institution and the course(s) that you wish to apply for.
Thanks, James, that answers my question. Are there any opportunities over the summer to visit the department and meet some of the lecturing staff?

Of course - generally if you have any further queries or would like to either come and visit us/chat further, do drop me a line - J.catchpole@city.ac.uk

We don't have any specific open days as such, but only too happy to meet and show you around etc.

I am interested in any funding or scholarships that are available. Are there any advisors to guide me through the process? Many thanks. Kind regards...

And link for scholarships: https://www.city.ac.uk/study/fees-and-funding/scholarships-and-bursaries?school=%22The%20City%20Law%20School%22&level=postgraduate

Scholarships and bursaries

Funding support available for students studying at City, University of London.

Just to give you a little more information on the structure of the course; preparation does vary, again by subject and where we are, it is a bit of a shock to the system at the start as we seek to demand a lot from you, and that is deliberate to get you thinking in a completely different way, but once you have the hang of what we require then it is a lot more manageable.

Most workshops require not only reading to be undertaken beforehand but pre-session exercises and task that we then work with you in session (this is generally a typical approach by all LPCs)

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In terms of assessments, as this is a regulated course, you are required to complete a mixture of assessments:
Skills:
Advocacy- this is a live assessment where you make an application
Interviewing & Advising- this is again live when we get you to interview an actor playing the role of the client, and then advise them on the basis of a Wills/ Administration of Estates scenario
Drafting- this is a take home assessment done in the context of Business Law
Research and Writing - this is again take home where you conduct your research and then report on that and write up your findings to a client.
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The Core Practice Areas - what is also called Stage 1:
- Business - this is a 3 and 1 hour paper
- Litigation - you are tested in Civil Litigation (the process of going to court to sue someone) in a 2.5 hour paper; and Criminal Litigation in a 1 hour 10 minute paper
- Property - the buying and selling of property in a 3.5 hour paper

All assessments are open book, but we do restrict what you can bring in so as to ensure you don't go in with too much (!) - typically most students haven't done these styles of assessment before so we do spend some time advising you on how to tackle them.

The electives are all three hours and have a skills element included - one are one of the few Providers of the LPC that continue skills teaching and training into the electives as we regard them as key for your future.

Electives:
- Advanced Civil Litigation
- Commercial Dispute Resolution
- Commercial Law & Practice
- Employment Law & Practice
- Equity Finance
- Family Law & Practice
- Media Law & Practice
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- Private Client

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What I would note about our electives is that whilst we may not appear to have as many as other, those that we provide cover more than enough for practice preparation and content is often covered that may not be within the title - for example, Commercial Law includes both Banking and some aspects of IP; likewise Media include a slightly different approach to IP as well; and Advance Litigation is in the context of Medical Negligence. All told we have more than enough to keep you occupied!

Is there anything more about the course that I can perhaps tell you about?

Thank you for this session it has been extremely informative. Unfortunately I have to leave the chat due to work commitments. Definitely worthwhile for others to log into and I shall catch up in chat history. Kind regards
Not a problem - if you have any further queries or would like to either come and visit us/chat further, do drop me a line - j.catchpole@city.ac.uk

Thank you for this session it has been extremely informative. Unfortunately I have to leave the chat due to work commitments. Definitely worthwhile for others to log into and I shall catch up in chat history. Kind regards

Thank you so much for joining us, I am glad it was useful. Have a great day!

I know that careers is often a topic we get asked about. We run a number of workshops to help you rethink your CVs, Covering Letters, applications, the types of firms, etc and we also do a lot of 1-2-1 appointments with students to help you with your career search, and will happily run mock interviews etc - overall, it is something that we spend a lot of time on with you - in fact - as soon as you accept your place with us, you are welcome to contact us so that we can help you.

Additionally, we also work with a number of firms who look to recruit directly from City, and this last year we have run sponsored competitions where students have been granted internships and employers have run events to recruit students whilst on the course.

Thanks for all this info, James. Am I right in thinking the LLM version is the same price as the non-LLM course? Can I apply for the LLM in September once the course has started?

Yes it is the same.
Ideally it is better to apply for and be accepted onto the LLM first - that way you can apply for the post-graduate loan (if you need to) - it is harder to switch up to the LLM than to switch back to just the LPC.

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Are you considering your options at the moment?

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I have your email so I'll be in touch if I have any more questions or perhaps to arrange a visit

You're only too welcome to do so.

Thanks for this info, James. Yes, that's right. I hadn't considered the LLM but it definitely sounds a good option.

Hi Shanice, please could you tell me if fees can be paid in instalments and, if so, when the instalment dates would be? This is assuming I don’t take a loan.
I may be better placed to answer this - payment is normal split in two, half at the start of the course and then at the end of January. If the post-graduate loan is taken, then it is spread out in accordance with payment is received by you.

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Hi, The City Law School also have a scholarship programme which offers 10 full fee scholarships and up to 100 £3,000 scholarships awarded annually.

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I hope this link is helpful: https://www.city.ac.uk/about/schools/law/support/financing-your-study

Financing your Law Study at City - Law Student Loans, Grants & Bursaries
Find ways to finance your law degree at City University London, with competitive fees for law courses and help from student loans, grants and bursaries.

Thank you, James and Shanice, I'll look into that!

You're welcome :)

Likewise, happy to help.

James

This session has now ended. Thank you for joining us for today’s chat. If you have any further questions please email pgenquiries@city.ac.uk