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 Online Chat session for students interested in our Legal Practice Course (LPC) course. The session, which runs from 13:00 - 14:00 (BST), is for you to ask any questions you have regarding the course and life at City, University of London. During the session we may also share videos, polls or documents related to the 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 you question. Please be patient as it might take some time for us to respond to your question.

Hi my name is Chris and I work in the Marketing team here at City, I hope you enjoy the session!

Hello, my name is Saralyn and I work in the Marketing Team Welcome to this LPC session.

Good afternoon all, my name is James, and I am the LPC Course Director - welcome to this session, please do ask any question about the course!

Hi everybody good afternoon though its night here

Hello

Hi everybody good afternoon though its night here

Good evening

Good afternoon everyone

Will they be delivered face2face, online or a mixture of both or is this still being deliberated?

In the ideal world, they would be face to face - but with the current climate we are looking to reversion our sessions so that they are capable of being delivered in either the real world or virtual

Will they be delivered face2face, online or a mixture of both or is this still being deliberated?

We are obviously waiting to find out what we will be permitted by the government and under social distancing requirements, so we are planning for online delivery
Good Afternoon, Team

My intention is to further my knowledge and skills in Law of Maritime, Air and Outer Space. I’m looking into a module/s aiming to facilitate a holistic understanding of public and private international law issues in the contemporary legal regulation of the sovereign and non-sovereign parts of maritime, airspace and outer space territories.

Hi do you wish to practice as a lawyer within these fields or gain knowledge in these areas?

Hi everyone, are there any plans to take teaching online in September for the LPC if the situation with Covid-19 is not resolved enough?

Hi Yes we will be online - whilst not our traditional environment, we have some great team members who have vast experience from delivering elsewhere in the online environment so we are looking to move online more fully as the virus will permit us.

Hi, I have a question regarding international students and how this course will proceed given the current situation?

If you are not able to fly in to join us we will certainly look to enrol you and keep you busy in an online/Virtual world with live sessions until you can come and join us - the time difference is obviously something to consider.

Are all LPC modules exam based or some coursework excluding the masters?

Assessments are varied:
There are invigilated assessments, take away assessment and live assessment depending on the subject.

Hello

Hello everyone! Hey James! Are we expecting a September start? and would you expect international students to be in London for the start of the course? or would it be possible to study remotely for a while?

Hi - hopefully so, virus permitting, though it may be slightly later/different to what we would ordinarily do.

Hello

Hello

If lessons are delivered online will this reflect in the cost of the course?
This is something we are keeping under review at the moment - there will be full access to the materials online etc.

What is the entry requirement for students to join LPC program from India? Is it a full time program?

The LPC is full time - we typically look for the equivalent of a 2:1 in part because we know that is what employers look for, and given the demands of the course at a level we know you will cope with the work load etc.

The reason I ask is that I am currently looking at bursaries, student loan etc... and need to have some idea about what the LPC fee will be.

We do have some very generous scholarships - [https://www.city.ac.uk/about/schools/law/support/financing-your-study](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.

The reason I ask is that I am currently looking at bursaries, student loan etc... and need to have some idea about what the LPC fee will be.

Are you a UK or even a current City student?

Hello All - please also check our Coronavirus FAQ webpage for particular questions relating to this. - [https://www.city.ac.uk/study/coronavirus-info-for-prospective-students](https://www.city.ac.uk/study/coronavirus-info-for-prospective-students) It is updated regularly to reflect the changes that are always occurring.

**Coronavirus information for prospective students**

Information for prospective students on the impact of the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic on activities at City, University of London.

If its delivered online, would there be any problems with the visa requirements?
My current understanding is that it would not impact on the visa application, and we would certainly support you joining us in the UK when you are able.

I am based here in Hampstead (London) and was hoping to attend on site, I am a proactive student and much prefer to be in a classroom. I hope by September things will have moved forward and we are able to move around more freely.

To be honest, so do we - we much prefer to see and meet you - one thing that we enjoy is getting to know you and see you develop and progress.

My question is I applied to another school for LPC but admission results are not out. Can I apply to City too for my fulltime LPC? I completed UOL GE programme.

Yes do apply - do contact our Admissions Officer, he will be only too happy to help: Sean Carrigan, <Sean.Carrigan.1@city.ac.uk>

What does City accept in terms of proving English language requirements?

Hi, if you did not complete your degree within the United Kingdom, you will have to have an IELTS score of seven with no score less than six in any element of the assessment. We are also currently accepting the TOEFL IBT Special Home Edition. We require a score of 25 in Speaking and at least 24 in every other component of the test.

Good afternoon, do you offer the program part time?

Unfortunately we do not, we are a comparatively small course so we focus on the full time course.

Would you have assessments early on in term 1 which would require physical attendance? Just want to make sure I’m not at a disadvantage if I am not able to come to London.

Ordinarily they would not - but given the circumstances the SRA have given us dispensation to allow them to be take online under certain requirements.

Thank you for your response.

With regards to elective modules, will the same modules be offered each year?
Yes – we offer:
Advanced civil litigation
Commercial dispute resolution
Commercial law and practice
Employment law and practice
Equity finance
Family law and practice
Media law and practice
Mergers and acquisitions

Whilst not vast, they certainly cover what you would need to move on with for then next stage of your career. Commercial for example includes Banking.

I have just finished my LLB waiting on final 2 grades.

We are already making arrangement under the circumstances to accept applicant where some results will be outstanding - so do apply whilst you wait

I have had friends graduate from City and they speak highly of the employment support centre that you have on campus

I am delighted to hear that - it is something that we enjoy working with you on, helping you identify what your next steps in your career will be - we work closely with the central careers team and have a dedicated team within the LPC staff who assist

Is the 2020 intake still open for application?

Absolutely - you can apply via lawcabs.ac.uk

Thank you James! Lastly from me - what would the application window be?

Apply now

My ultimate goal will be to practice Law in International Trade and Commerce in Maritime and Air Industries. Can CUL guide contemporary methods and provide global access network. The aim will be to align business acumen examination of the key areas of private law such as transportation, liability and business transactions based on artificial intelligence platform in maritime law, the law of the sea, air law and space law.
Hi. The LPC is for those who wish to become a practicing solicitor, with electives in Stage 2 that you can select with a commercial focus. You may wish to consider one of our Master of Laws programmes after you complete your studies, as we have specialist subject areas including Maritime Law - https://www.city.ac.uk/study/courses/postgraduate/master-of-laws

**LLM Master of Laws**

The Master of Laws postgraduate degree from The City Law School is ideal for anyone looking to enhance their legal careers.

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I have researched the scholarships you have online links to but most are for 1st class students and I'm a 2.1 (expected)

They are currently under review - typically they are under subscribed so do apply

Good afternoon, do you offer the program part time?

Hi, unfortunately not. We only have a full time option.

What's the difference in career path for those taking either LPC or BVS?

BVS = Barristers who head off into court and are the advocates
LPC = solicitor route, typically do transnational work and preparatory work before court

James, if I may ask about the civil litigation (elective).

Yes of course!

How will that side of things work if the course has to be run remotely James?

Sorry - so many questions firing in - can you clarify?

Thank you SB, will follow the link
I would like to specialise in this area of law

Ok - it may be best if I explain how the course generally works

The course is in two stages: 1 and 2

The Core Practice Areas - which comprise the following: Business Law and Practice, Property Law and Practice, Litigation, both Civil and Criminal

My story in 3 objects: Bertha Eke, Legal Practice Course (LLM route) at City

https://youtu.be/43Zq8dUw9YE

There are also skills, which include:
Professional Conduct and Regulation, comprising:

- Code of Conduct
- Solicitors’ Accounts
- Money Laundering
- Financial Services
- Taxation
  - Wills and Administration of Estates
  - Advocacy
  - Drafting
  - Interviewing and Advising
  - Practical Legal Research
  - Writing

Then you select 3 electives for what is stage 2 (see above for the list)

Oh apologies! the previous Q. I asked was referring to the employment support centre and how that would work remotely – if there was no access to campus facilities.
Hello everyone! Sorry I am a bit late. I am Jane Bradley-Smith. I am one of the tutors on the Legal Practice Course and also the Associate Dean for Student Experience within City Law School. Welcome to you all! If you have any questions or queries please feel free to message me.

I would like to specialise in this area of law

So if you want to focus on litigation, then you obviously have to do the Stage 1 litigation and the maybe the following electives: Advance Litigation, CDR plus one other

Oh apologies! the previous Q. I asked was referring to the employment support centre and how that would work remotely – if there was no access to campus facilities.

They are remaining fully available on the online world - talks will still take place, advice can still be sought and given

Thank you James, worth considering these points.

Re your Q above, the mediation is covered in CDR

I have switched from BPTC to LPC in my mind over and over! Lol ... my friends say that I am an advocate and should be in the court, I on the other hand think that if one does the LPC their options are broader in terms of future career path. Any thoughts on this anyone?

Oh this is a hard one to really cover in this environment, there would be much I’d want to find out about you etc to be able to put different option you'd need to consider - would it help if we had an off-line chat?

The City Law School: The Graduate Entry LLB

https://youtu.be/K6kvoEGO93E

The scope to represent any future clients at court seems to be increasing for Solicitors.
Oh yes - increasingly so; at some point you would be able to look to do the Higher Rights course

Yes! sounds like a good idea James, when are you free?

Drop me a line on j.catchpole@city.ac.uk and we can arrange a chat perhaps next week? And this is an open offer to all, only too happy to be contacted for any further discussions.

My ultimate goal will be to practice Law in international Trade and Commerce in Maritime and Air Industries. Can CUL guide contemporary methods and provide global access network. The aim will be to align business acumen examination of the key areas of private law such as transportation, liability and business transactions based on artificial intelligence platform in maritime law, the law of the sea, air law and space law.

if you want to discuss this later and things that you would need to consider do drop me a line

Interesting; thinking:

Obtaining one's Higher Rights of Audience is a major boost to your credibility and professional practice. I see you are going to chat to James, would be interesting to think about the firms you may be targeting as many now value this.

Hello! I'm currently doing my law conversion course. I've yet to be assessed and my final results will be out in September 8. Will I be able to apply for the LPC before the results are out? Thank you.

Yes - we always come across this sort of issue - you do not have to have completed the LLB before applying; and there are often results outstanding (we are anticipating it more this year) - the application can be made: lawcabs.ac.uk

I have done a lot of self litigating over the past 4.5 years, in particular at FTT & UT level. Deportation cases, 'out of country' appeal, JR - (interim relief order) to block removal and so on. Been through the whole nightmare of waiting lists that don't function, in house non communication and the mad world of immigration Law! Such a complex web of rules!! HR's is another area that I am passionate about - but given the current pandemic and how tribunals are working remotely and expecting far more of counsel in terms of mediation, I thought perhaps it might be worth looking at mediation skills and learning how to improve the ones I have....

I would suggest that chat - there is obviously a lot for you to consider - but in short adding to your skills set is always a good thing!

But with a great set of other life skills!

Often an attraction for some employers!

Can I ask currently how are the live assessments being assessed if its online?
Yes - the SRA have relaxed some of the requirements in the manner that we have to assess.

But with a great set of other life skills! I have a chat with James and by all means I am also available. Jane.Brady-Smith@city.ac.uk.

Can I ask currently how are the live assessments being assessed if its online?

The electives, that are due to take place shortly, will be a 24 hour take-away assessment rather than the 3 hour invigilated assessment.

Can I ask currently how are the live assessments being assessed if its online?

The core subjects however the SRA have insisted that they remain invigilated, and we are in the process of procuring software that will allow this to be done over the virtual environment.

Thank you. I have one more question. How are the modules in LPC Stage 1 carried out? I’m talking specifically about the skills such as advocacy and drafting. Do we have classes for all nine, and how are the skills actually assessed? Sorry if this question is weird. I’m just trying to understand.

Not a problem - Stage 1:
- Business Law and Practice - 2x invigilated assessments
- Property Law and Practice 1x invigilated assessment
- Litigation, both Civil and Criminal 2x invigilated assessment

Thank you. I have one more question. How are the modules in LPC Stage 1 carried out? I’m talking specifically about the skills such as advocacy and drafting. Do we have classes for all nine, and how are the skills actually assessed? Sorry if this question is weird. I’m just trying to understand.

Skills:
- Research is combined with Writing: take away assessment done over 5 days
- Drafting: take away over 5 days
- Advocacy: live
- Interviewing combined with Wills and Admin: live
- Solicitors Account: 1x invigilated assessment
- Professional Conduct: 1x invigilated assessment

Wow! Invigilated in virtual environment, that will be interesting to see how it pans out.

Yes, it will!! there are so many packages out there that is it providing interesting finding out - the SRA are very strict on the need to keep the integrity of the assessment process.

Thank you. I have one more question. How are the modules in LPC Stage 1 carried out? I’m talking specifically about the skills such as advocacy and drafting. Do we have classes for all nine, and how are the skills actually assessed? Sorry if this question is weird. I’m just trying to understand.

Does that help?
The exams are open book are they not?

They are but, we restrict what you take so that you are not over reliant on what you take in - whilst it may seem an advantage it can sometimes be a hindrance - but we carefully advise you on this aspect.

Thank you. I have one more question. How are the modules in LPC Stage 1 carried out? I’m talking specifically about the skills such as advocacy and drafting. Do we have classes for all nine, and how are the skills actually assessed? Sorry if this question is weird. I'm just trying to understand.

Stage 1 modules comprises Business Law and Practice, Property Law and Practice, Litigation which covers both Civil and Criminal. You then have the skills. These are taught in smaller groups - usually up to 8 - we do get to know you and give you an awful lot of 1:1 feedback and support.

Wow, that is a lot of assessments for Stage 1. Do you mind if I ask how the two assessments are differentiated? For those having two assessments, like BLP and Litigation.

BLP - 1x 3 hour paper based on advance materials and short answers, and 1 x 1 hour MCQ paper
Litigation: there is one paper for civil and one for criminal.

There are 10 minutes left for this Online Chat session. Please ask any further questions you might have now.

Thanks Chris - any further queries, please do contact me directly: jcatchpole@city.ac.uk

Can you tell me the exact fee pls? - or is this something that will be under review until there is more clarity on how the course will be run?

The current fees are £14,750 - but we are keeping that under review at the moment

The exams are open book are they not?

We support you before the assessments so you know what to expect and what you can bring into the assessment. You are also able to access all the City Wide support for students, such as Academic Learning Success programmes. They are currently running invaluable sessions helping students adapt to online learning.

I will email you James to arrange a chat, thank you everyone for your input.

Not a problem
How will the teaching of the course change if it is moved all online?

A combination of live delivery together with pre-recordings for key topics.

When applying on the lawcabs portal, if I want to opt for the LPC course with the research module, is it the LLM in Legal Practice that I must choose?

Yes - but we will offer you either course when the offer is made.

Thanks so much for clarifying, will be interested in the outcome! Would you say effectively you’re looking at having stage 1 (sem 1) online then? I’m asking because being 8 hours ahead, having classes every day might be an issue.

Yes - they will be recorded in any event, and we are seeking to rationalise some of the current f2f delivery if we have online delivery.

The question on fees?

The fee is the same for both courses - the LLM is essentially the LPC plus an additional 30 credit module.

do you have any tips on writing an effective personal statement for the application?

Keep it short and sweet - we are not looking for essays, just that you understand what you are applying for and know what is expected of you (not that you have wanted to be a lawyer since watching Suits!)

do you have any tips on writing an effective personal statement for the application?

I am happy to send you some stuff on this. Email me on Jane.Bradley-Smith@city.ac.uk. Our Careers Team will be sending newsletters to students over the summer and I believe CV’s and enhancing LinkedIn profile is one of things they will be considering.
A Guide to Writing a Personal Statement

Why do I have to write a Personal Statement? The primary purpose of a personal statement is for university admissions staff to find out information about you outside of the rest of your UCAS application. Remember, you are writing the personal statement for the university not yourself, so focus on your studies and preparation rather than your life story. Essentially, you need to answer this question: "Why do you want to study this subject, and what makes you the right person for the course?" The priorities are to show: genuine interest and enthusiasm in the course; how you enjoy the subject beyond the sixth form syllabus; skills developed through sixth form, work experience and extra-curricular activities that relate to your chosen course or university life; how these skills will be useful on your chosen course.

But remember: you write one personal statement for all five of your choices and you only get 4000 characters including spaces. How do I write a Personal Statement? The personal statement is usually made up of these paragraphs:

- Introduction: Love of subject evidence - Your studies - Work experience - Extra activities: Conclusion. Let's start with the easy parts: the introduction:

A few short sentences that tell us what subject you are interested in, why you’re interested in it, where your interest has come from, and how you have developed this over the years. The conclusion: a few concluding sentences that either summarise your statement, let us know your future career plans, or let us know what you’re most looking forward to at university.

Now, the order of the middle paragraphs is more flexible but the general rule is that your best content should go after your introduction. This is typically 'love of subject evidence' or your work experience (if you’re applying for a practical course like Nursing, Midwifery, Teaching etc). Love of subject evidence: this is where you let us know what you have done outside of the sixth form...
Thanks for all your help! Looking forward to seeing everyone in sept hopefully!

Thank you for joining us! Will be good to get to meet you in September.

Likewise - hopefully, it will be in the f2f world!

Thank you all! Take care.

Thank you for joining us - happy with any further queries

Thanks for your help with our questions!

A pleasure - just drop me a line if any further queries come up: j.catchpole@city.ac.uk

This Online Chat has now ended. If you have any further questions, please email law@city.ac.uk or you can email either j.catchpole@city.ac.uk or Jane.Bradley-Smith@city.ac.uk directly!