University of Leeds

From the Selected Works of Subhajit Basu

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Legal Education UK

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Available at: https://works.bepress.com/subhajitbasu/44/
Legal Education in UK
UK Education Exhibition 2008

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School of Law
WHY STUDY IN THE UK?

- Work with key faculty in the field.
- Best place for your subject.
- Develop UK-related or comparative research interest.
- Gain professional qualification or develop your career.
- Learn about another culture, lifestyle and educational system firsthand.
- Perhaps obtain funding for studies not available here.
Making the Decision

- Is study in the UK the right step for my career goals?
- Am I ready to commit to the degree course in the UK?
Get a list of the universities which offer your subject.

Talk to your tutors and pinpoint leaders in your field.

Contact universities for information.

When selecting universities, consider:
  - admissions standards
  - the cost of attending
  - financial aid possibilities
  - the location, climate, degree requirements and duration
Degree Courses

- Undergraduate Degree Courses
- Postgraduate Taught Degree Courses
- Postgraduate Research
  - MPhil
  - PhD
Undergraduate Degrees

- LLB Single Honours
- LLB Law with Politics
- LLB Law and Accounting
- LLB Common and Civil Law with Languages
- Bachelor of Legal Science
LLB Single Honours

- 3 years Degree
- To be awarded this degree, a student must obtain credits in 18 modules of study
- 3 modules in each Semester
- Examinations are normally held at the end of each semester
  - Written examination
  - Assessment by Essay
LLB Single Honours

1st year five modules:

• Introduction to Law
• Introduction to Jurisprudence
• Contract Introduction to Property Law
• Constitutional Law and History

2nd and 3rd Year Modules:

• Optional Modules
Each institution has its own criteria

Queen’s: AAA at A-Level (Home)

International students: Offer of 75% at A Level equivalent

Application Procedure

UCAS Information for International Students

http://www.ucas.ac.uk/studyuk/index.html
Postgraduate Taught Courses

- LLM in Computes and Law
- LLM in Human Rights Law
- LLM/MSSc in Corporate Governance and Public Policy
- MSSc in Criminal Justice
- MSSc in Criminology
- LLM in Human Rights and Criminal Justice
- LLM in Commercial Law
HOW TO APPLY

• Applicants must have a good degree in law
• 2.2 or above, or equivalent
• Or have substantial experience in working in a legal environment
• Able to prove that they have sufficient legal expertise to deal with advanced legal topics at the postgraduate level
• Length of Course: 1 year
A Typical Course Structure

- A typical LLM Course will Consist of 4 Modules taught over 2 Semesters
- It is possible that a Course has Core and Optional Modules
- Usually Optional Modules are made available in the Second Semester
- A Student is expected to be able to carry out Independent Research.
Postgraduate Research Degrees

• PhD and MPhil degrees are awarded on the basis of original research work

• A good first degree in law is usually required for entry to this programme

• Short synopsis (100-200 words) of your proposed research area to the Postgraduate Advisor or to the relevant member of faculty

• Usually PhD students are enrolled as “undifferentiated”

• There are no length limits to the dissertation but an MPhil thesis is usually around 50,000 words and a PhD around 80,000 words
MPhil

- Thesis must demonstrate that he or she has acquired an advanced level of knowledge and understanding in the field of study and an understanding of research methods appropriate to the chosen field.

- An MPhil is "normally submitted" within 2 years.
PhD

- Thesis must make a distinct and original contribution to scholarship and afford evidence of originality as shown by the discovery of new facts or by the exercise of independent critical powers.

- It must contain an acceptable amount of original work by the candidate which is of publishable standard

- PhD within 3 years, though - in truth - it usually takes slightly longer to complete
When to Apply

Early application is encouraged to enable arrangements to be made for tests, interviews and collection of confidential reports where appropriate

Taught Courses: 1 April 2007
Research: 30 April 2007

• Application Procedure
• Postgraduate Research Awards
English Language Requirement

- It is important to ensure that your spoken and written English is good enough for you to cope with your studies

- IELTS (the International English Language Testing System)

- Grades are awarded on a scale of 0 to 9

- For more information please see [www.ielts.org](http://www.ielts.org)
University funding least likely for a UG or Master’s Taught degree programme.

University funding more likely for a PhD than a Master’s degree programme.

Deadline for financial assistance occasionally earlier than deadline for application for a place.
Student Life

- Student Services
- Student Mooting Society
- Student Law Society
- Student’s Union
- Sport & Recreational Services
- International Students Overview
- Entertainment: QFT
- Clubs and Societies: SASS
- Indian Community Centre
Route to Barrister

Law Degree: LLB (3 Yrs)
Conversion Courses: PG LLB (2 Yrs), CPE (1 Yr)

Bar Vocational Course (1Yr)

Pupillage (1Yr)
Route to Solicitor

- Law Degree: LLB (3 Yrs)
- Conversion Courses: PG LLB (2 Yrs), CPE (1 Yr)
- Legal Practice Course (1Yr)
- Training Contract (2 Yrs)
Career Prospects

• Careers for Law Graduates
  – Solicitors and Barristers
  – Academic after a PG Degree
• University Careers Service
  – Undergraduate
  – Postgraduate
  – Careers Talk
• The Law Society of England and Wales
• The Bar Council
• Law Careers Advice Network
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>UK</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Legal System</td>
<td>Legal system is compatible with the Indian one</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duration of Studies</td>
<td>LLB: 3 years</td>
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<td></td>
<td>LLM: 1 year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Availability of Seats</td>
<td>Widely available – many high quality education providers welcome law students</td>
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<td>Choice of law Courses</td>
<td>Very varied;</td>
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<td>UG over 70 different courses.</td>
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<td>PG over 80 different courses.</td>
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<td>Degree Value</td>
<td>British degrees are internationally recognized and valued as a reference standard</td>
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<td>Starting Salary of Law Graduates</td>
<td>£15,000 to £30,000 per year</td>
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TO GET MORE INFORMATION

- British Council's Education UK
- Higher Education and Research Opportunities in UK
- Graduate Prospects - offers advice for international students looking to undertake postgraduate studies in the UK
- UCOSA
- Directory of legal education in the UK
- Lawcareers.net - includes a comprehensive database of courses
- International Office