



# LLM in Professional Legal Practice

(SQE1 and SQE2)

**POSTGRADUATE**

**ONLINE**





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**Arden University has three decades of experience providing higher education, and we've helped more than 50,000 students globally gain the qualifications they need to succeed. We have a 95% student satisfaction rating, and 9 out of 10 Arden students believe studying with us has helped them transform their careers.\***

\*Graduate survey 2021



# LLM in Professional Legal Practice

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ONLINE

You can visit the Arden University website page for this course [here](#).

Interested in becoming a solicitor? Our newly designed LLM in Professional Legal Practice will build your academic legal knowledge and practical legal skills, all while preparing you to sit both stages of the new Solicitors Qualifying Examination (SQE). Through dedicated SQE preparation and carefully selected modules, the course has been created to prepare you for a successful career as a solicitor whether you have studied law or not.

Upon graduation you will have gained a truly modern LLM, had the opportunity to plan and develop a Qualifying Work Experience (QWE) portfolio, and be prepared to complete the final steps needed to qualify as a solicitor.

## Course at a glance

- Study online at a pace that suits you — full-time or part-time.
- Receive intensive, targeted preparation for the SQE1 and SQE2 exams.
- Develop valued legal and workplace skills above and beyond SQE preparation, to excel as a legal professional.
- Gain opportunities for career development as a practising solicitor in the UK.
- Develop career skills, network with the profession, and have the opportunity to plan and participate in QWE.
- Virtual study days to augment your learning.

## Key facts

**Part-time:** 2 years

**Study Mode:** Full-time and part-time

## Contact us

If you'd like to get in touch to find out more about studying this course, please use the following:

### UK enquiries:

Call 0800 268 7737

Email [study@arden.ac.uk](mailto:study@arden.ac.uk)

### International online learning:

Call +44 20 300 56070

Email [online@arden.ac.uk](mailto:online@arden.ac.uk)

## Entry requirements

- Any undergraduate degree at minimum of class 2.1 (or equivalent) from a recognised university.
- Exemptions may be granted in respect of other prior qualifications subject to Arden's APCL regulations.

English proficiency:

- IELTS 6.5 (no less than 6.0 in any element) or equivalent for those students whose first language is not English.

\*The LLM does not replace the National SQE assessments, you will need to sit these independently.

## Career Progression

The LLM is tailormade to fast-track you to becoming a qualified solicitor\*. To be qualify as a solicitor, you will need to:

- Have a degree in any subject or equivalent level 6 qualification
- Pass both stages of the SQE exam
- Complete 2 years' full-time (or equivalent) QWE
- Pass the SRA character and suitability requirements

**If you'd like to get your application started, please [click here](#).**

## Online learning

**Offered full-time (1 year) or part-time (2 years), this LLM provides flexibility for students to study alongside work or other commitments. Both routes cover SQE1 and SQE2 preparation, MCQ practice, and career development — with time to reflect and apply your learning throughout.**

Studying this course online will provide both convenience and flexibility. You can enrol with us from anywhere in the world and study your degree from the comfort of home, without the requirement to attend classes in a physical location, allowing you to study both on your own terms and at a lower cost.

You will study the course through iLearn, our university campus in the cloud. iLearn provides you with an integrated online learning experience, including your virtual classroom, lecture hall, and online library of

more than half a million books and journals – yours for free while you study with us.

During the course you will have access to facilitated virtual workshops to give you a highly interactive learning experience. These will be conducted synchronously over several weekends and supported by digital materials and audio-visual content covering key concepts and principles.

Immersive experiential learning will also be provided through our simulated practice environment, providing you with opportunities to apply your knowledge to real-world scenarios and bringing you closer to what it's really like working in legal practice.

Your tutors will supplement this with further guided reading, activities, and research to encourage you to pursue self-directed learning.

## Online learning key benefits

- Study anywhere worldwide
- Plan your own schedule
- Benefit from reduced costs
- Study around work and family life
- Virtual study days to support your learning
- Access SQE learning resources for up to 12 months after completion

**Discover why so many students choose online learning with Arden [here](#).**



**Split into diploma and master's stages, and mapped to the topics covered in the Solicitors Qualifying Examination, your course modules offer a practical and rigorous approach to the study of law, preparing you for both stages of the new Solicitors Qualifying Examination; SQE1 and SQE2. With its focus on the latest practice-based learning, the course aims to provide you with real-world insight into your future career and the client-focused skills and knowledge of contemporary law you need to excel as a reflective and knowledgeable legal practitioner.**

Prior to starting the general introduction to the programme, you will undertake a compulsory diagnostic module covering the key principles of the English Legal System. This will both ease your transition onto the course and provide a legal knowledge base on which to build. You will later have the chance to tailor your studies to your areas of interest.

Please see the following pages for overviews of the content of each course module.

## Diploma stage

### Develop the skills to pass SQE1

This stage provides a comprehensive introduction to the legal system, preparing you to pass SQE1. It is also aligned with the national assessments dates so that your learning peaks at the right time for you to sit the exam.

This stage concludes with a dedicated study block for you to consolidate your learning and prepare for your exam, free of distractions. During this time, you will have the opportunity to learn practical strategies and tips, take mock exams, including SQE style multiple choice questions, and start working on your QWE portfolio.

Whatever your background, we aim to give you the best chance of passing this high stakes national assessment.

## Master's stage

### SQE2 and career preparation

This stage is all about preparing you for both SQE2 and your future career as a solicitor. Your modules will cover the core competencies and practical approach needed to pass SQE2, but also go much further to instill essential skills for your future career, such as legal argument and more complex legal research.

The course will conclude prior to the exam, giving you the opportunity to revisit and revise your learning material, including the portable portfolio you'll have developed throughout this course, and to enhance your exam techniques. Once you have completed this stage, you will have graduated with an LLM and the readiness to sit your exam with confidence.

*\*The LLM does not replace the National SQE assessments, you will need to sit these independently.*



All of our diploma modules, and Legal Skills in Context at master's level, have been mapped to the SQE assessment specifications. They will prepare you for the SQE and go beyond to give you the skills needed to practice as a solicitor.

### Diploma Stage

#### **Public Law and Legal Services (20 credits)**

Serving as an introduction to public law and critical accounts of constitutionalism, this module will focus on parliamentary sovereignty and conventions within the British constitution, including the role of the court and topics such as judicial review and the Human Rights Act 1998.

It will also develop your knowledge of ethical considerations, including codes of conduct for solicitors, as well as prepare you for professional practice in the provision of legal services.

#### **Tort and Dispute Resolution (20 credits)**

Unlike criminal law, which determines guilt, tort seeks to apportion liability and award damages to compensate the injured party. This module will introduce you to key areas of tortious liability, negligence, occupiers liability, product liability, and nuisance.

You will gain a broad perspective of actions in tort, including the role of the court in resolving disputes, the purpose of civil rules, and the possible outcomes of court action, as well as alternative methods to resolving disputes outside of court proceedings.

You will also gain the skills to evaluate key principles of the law of tort at an advanced level, apply knowledge of the principles of dispute resolution to practical client-based frameworks, and evaluate current law and practice and proposals for reform in areas of the law of tort.

## Diploma Stage

### **Contract and Business Law and Practice (20 credits)**

This module will explore the fundamental principles of English contract law and its application in practice, including the formation, terms, termination, and remedies of contracts.

It will then introduce a range of personal and corporate business structures (company, partnership, LLP, or sole trader) and their relative tax, financing, and insolvency procedures. You will be given the opportunity to apply this knowledge of business law to real-world client-focused scenarios.

### **Criminal Law and Practice (20 credits)**

Introducing the fundamental principles of criminal law and litigation practice, this module will take you on a journey through the criminal justice system, from arrest to sentencing.

You will be introduced to different aspects of the system, such as the suspect and police station, bail and sentencing, common offences and defences, and ethical and evidential issues. You will develop an appreciation of the principles of criminal law and litigation practice, gain the skills to apply principles of criminal law to complex legal problems, as well as critically evaluate current law and practice and proposals for reform in areas of criminal law and practice.

## Diploma Stage

### Land Law and Property Practice (20 credits)

This module will introduce the law concerning ownership of and rights and responsibilities over freehold and leasehold property. You will develop an understanding of the core knowledge areas of freehold and leasehold real estate law, as well as the key principles and practice of planning law.

The module will go on to explore conveyancing and landlord and tenant practice, alongside core concepts of property taxation. You will also develop the skills to analyse principles of land law and the procedure relating to property transactions at an advanced level, apply knowledge of freehold and leasehold real estate practice to practical scenarios, and evaluate current law and practice and proposals for reform in areas of land law and property practice.

### Trusts, Wills and Administration of Estates (20 credits)

The key principles of equity and its role in governing the creation and operation of trusts will be introduced in this module. You will learn the requirements for establishing a valid trust, the situations giving rise to implied trusts, and the role of trustees and equitable remedies.

You will then acquire professional skills in relevant procedure and documentation processes, such as the practical application of trusts laws in the context of will drafting, probate practice, and estate administration.

The module will also help you to analyse key principles of the law of trusts and procedure relating to wills and the administration of estates, and evaluate current law and practice

## Master's stage

### Legal Skills in Context (40 credits)

This module builds the core legal skills tested in SQE2—client interviewing, advocacy, case analysis, research, writing, and drafting—through practical scenarios in areas like criminal law, dispute resolution, property, wills, and business.

You will focus on solving client problems and applying SQE2 assessment criteria, while building a portfolio of work to support your exam preparation. Aligned with SQE2, QAA, and SRA standards, the module equips you with strong communication and professional legal skills.

You will learn how to show a clear, systematic understanding of the legal skills expected of a newly qualified solicitor, evaluate and use multiple sources of information, judging their reliability effectively and apply legal principles to develop solutions that best meet a client's needs.

### Legal Practice Research Report (20 credits)

The research report will provide you with the opportunity to deepen your understanding of a legal practice-based topic. Drawing from current issues in academic law, proposals for reform, or your own work experience, you will originate a research topic in an area of law in which practical application is not as effective as it could be, and work independently to engage in critical thinking and writing.

Additional learning outcomes include demonstrating in-depth knowledge and understanding of a complex legal practice issue, conducting legal research appropriately, ethically, and independently, synthesising research data and information, and presenting your findings in a structured and coherent written format.

## Master's stage

### **Family Law and Practice (20 credits)**

This module will cover the law in England and Wales regarding families, including various forms of domestic partnerships, relationship breakdown, financial orders, parents, children, assisted reproduction, domestic abuse, and international child abduction.

You will gain an appreciation of the development of these topics, as well as law reforms both historically and at the current time. The impact of the European Convention of Human Rights and the Human Rights Act 1998 will be examined, as well as the future of family law in England and Wales.

You will gain a critical awareness of the principles of family law and practice on this module, as well as learning drafting and professional communication skills relevant to professional practice in family law, and how to develop legal arguments and procedural analysis to provide legal advice within a family context.

### **Employment Law and Practice (20 credits)**

The aim of this module is to introduce the key areas that impact business operations within commerce and industry, whilst developing your ability to apply the necessary relevant principles and remedies.

You will be given the opportunity to analyse employment law concepts and models and apply them in the context of changing employment environments. You will also be introduced to key documentation and claims that may arise on contract termination, as well as contemporary developments in employment law.

Key skills gained include the ability to analyse the nature of the employment relationship and the law relating to the employment contract, apply principal employment rights, duties and liabilities to genuine client-focused scenarios, and conduct and present independent legal research in employment law.

## Master's stage

### Research Project (40 credits)

Building on the taught elements of the course, the research project will give you the opportunity to conduct in-depth, independent research on a legal practice-related topic of your choice, drawn from either your master's material or prior relevant experience.

At the end of the module, you will be able to demonstrate a critical understanding of the issue you have researched, leading to a range of transferable skills and enhanced opportunities for higher level study, legal research, and employability.



## Professor Carl Lygo

Vice-Chancellor

Here at Arden, the breadth of knowledge and experience held by our academic team means that law is part of our DNA. Our CEO and Vice-Chancellor, Professor Carl Lygo, is a barrister and a Professor of English Common Law, and has specialised in comparative German Commercial Law. Professor Lygo has also previously sat on the boards of the Office for Students (OfS) and the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE).

### About the team behind our LLM

Our staff at the School of Law also share a wealth of experience in solicitors' practice in a wide range of specialist areas. This means you'll be taught by real professionals in the field. The team is also accomplished in designing solicitor-focused courses including LPC, LLB, and LLM which successfully integrate legal skills, legal process, and substantive law, as well as innovative programmes such as the City LPC in conjunction with the major City Law Firms.



### Why study with Arden University?

**At Arden University we believe everyone, everywhere has the right to gain the life and career benefits that higher education can bring. We are dedicated to making the university experience convenient and accessible to ambitious and motivated individuals worldwide.**

Our mission is to connect adult learners like you with higher education study opportunities that give you the tools you need to fulfil your career and life goals. We challenge conventional perceptions of degree study by providing flexible, vocational courses with timetables and learning options that fit around your life commitments.

As an education provider that is not constrained by bricks and mortar or traditions, we are able to offer courses that are innovative, affordable, and which help students and employers reap the benefits of contemporary training and skills development.


Arden is the university that comes to you, on your terms, helping you achieve the life and professional success you want.



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