

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	BA (Hons) Law and Ethics
Awarding Bodies	University of Suffolk
Level of Award ¹	FHEQ Level 6
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	None
Credit Structure ²	360 Credits Level 4: 120 Credits Level 5: 120 Credits Level 6: 120 Credits
Mode of Attendance	Full-time and Part-time
Standard Length of Course ³	3 years full-time
Intended Award	BA (Hons) Law and Ethics
Named Exit Awards	None
Entry Requirements ⁴	Typical Offer: 110 UCAS tariff points or equivalent
Delivering Institution(s)	University of Suffolk at West Suffolk College
UCAS Code	M200

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the BA (Hons) Law and Ethics course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 4 in the 2017-18 academic year.⁵

Course Summary

Law and Ethics go together particularly well.

Law

Arguably the law exists to implement the moral code by which a society collectively chooses to live and many individuals and pressure groups campaign to change laws which they perceive as being out of step with changing ethical standards. Understanding the moral ideals underpinning the laws, both as it exists now and in terms of how it may change in the future, is a fascinating area to explore. This course introduces students to the structure of the English legal system and key aspects of law including contractual and tortious liability and property law, developing deeper understanding through more specific legal aspects such as employment law and EU law. The course also places emphasise on the practical management of legal practice such as case management, client care, tribunals and civil court practice.

¹ For an explanation of the levels of higher education study, see the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

² All academic credit awarded as a result of study at the University adheres to the [Higher education credit framework for England](#).

³ Where the course is delivered both full-time and part-time, the standard length of course is provided for the full-time mode of attendance only. The length of the part-time course is variable and dependent upon the intensity of study. Further information about mode of study and maximum registration periods can be found in the [Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards](#).

⁴ Details of standard entry requirements can be found in the [Admissions Policy](#)

⁵ The University reserves the right to make changes to course content, structure, teaching and assessment as outlined in the [Admissions Policy](#).

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Ethics

Ethics are pervasive throughout all aspects of life, informing people of the moral way to act in any given situation. Understanding Ethics also enables us to gain insight into the motives and choices of other people, who may follow different moral codes from our own. A grasp of Ethics enables the student to develop their skills in dispassionate, logical debate and the capacity to analyse the internal logic of other people's arguments – valuable skills in life generally! This course guides the student through applying ethics to such issues as bodily autonomy and medical decision making, the treatment of other animals, how ethical issues are addressed and controlled within the media, and the application of moral codes to the courtroom and prison systems

Course Aims

Law

- Provide opportunity in the locality of West Suffolk for access to honours degree Law combined with another subject, either in preparation for a career in the legal/paralegal sector, or as study for its own sake, complementing their other chosen subject
- Meet the learning outcomes and subject benchmark standards for a “mixed degree” that includes Law, set out in the QAA benchmark statements for Law (2015) www.qaa.ac.uk/Publications/InformationAndGuidance/Documents/Law15
- Provide students with knowledge of the principal features of the English legal system, including relevant aspects of the law of the European Union, the European Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms
- Produce graduates with accurate knowledge of specific aspects of Law e.g. property law, wills and succession and employment law
- Develop a more detailed knowledge of practice and procedure in specific aspects of Law e.g. property law, wills and succession and employment law
- Develop an appropriate level of ability to apply knowledge and to solve problems in relation to specific aspects of Law through a range of teaching and learning methods e.g. role play, case studies, tutorials and problem questions set via written examination
- Develop an ability to handle legal facts and data and apply abstract concepts to them
- Provide the opportunity to develop an appropriate competence in carrying out research using both legal and non-legal sources through both module assignments and an undergraduate dissertation
- Develop powers of analysis enabling the student to be able to discriminate between the legally relevant and the irrelevant, identify flaws in an argument and offer reasons for a point of view
- Demonstrate an ability to learn independently and reflect critically on their learning
- Develop written and oral communication to the appropriate standard i.e. to be able to read complex primary materials and to find the key statements from them

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

- Develop an appropriate ability to understand and present numerical and statistical information as relevant to property law, wills and succession and employment law
- Offer the opportunity for eventual accreditation by relevant professional bodies; e.g. The Institute of Paralegals

Ethics

- Give an overview of the development of ethical schools of thought from Classical times, through the early modern period and on to current challenges in the 21st century
- Outline the contributions of major schools of moral thought to human understanding of various real world scenarios
- Develop student skills in debate and the advancing and analysis of moral arguments
- Expound research issues both in the study of ancient and modern religions
- Consider the foundations of personhood and what makes someone or something worthy of value and legal recognition
- Create opportunities to consider the artistic, ethical, gendered, social, political and cultural characteristics of ethical codes
- Foster empathetic engagement with both familiar and unfamiliar
- Explore in an interdisciplinary way, the interface between ethics, and other combined honours subjects of Law, History and Religion
- Promote self-critical awareness of presuppositions and encouraging constructive and critical exposition of arguments for a particular position

Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from the BA (Hons) Law and Ethics course will have been judged to have demonstrated in order to achieve the award. These statements, known as learning outcomes, have been formally approved as aligned with the generic qualification descriptor for level 6 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA).⁶

Law

Subject Knowledge and understanding

1. Develop further knowledge of the major principles of English Law and where relevant, European Law supported by some important case-law and statutes and with appropriate references to their economic, social, commercial or political context
2. Know relevant aspects of European Law and how it relates to selected aspects of English Law and legal/paralegal practice

⁶ As set out in the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

3. Demonstrate accurate knowledge of selected substantive and procedural issues in Law in terms of their rules and operational technicalities
4. Demonstrate a broad knowledge of legal practice and procedure

Subject specific and intellectual skills

5. Critically evaluate research and theory in Law
6. Make critical judgments of the merits of particular arguments and make reasoned choices between alternative solutions
7. Understand the impact of European Law and its implications for legal/paralegal practice in England
8. Evaluate Law in terms of doctrinal coherence with perspectives from other disciplines studied on the combined honours programme
9. Demonstrate critical understanding of the professional expectations, management and public promotion of legal/paralegal services
10. Demonstrate an increasing understanding of the theoretical background of selected aspects of Law and the analytic competence to explore it
11. Critically evaluate the importance and relevance of data and evidence as applied to selected aspects of Law

Generic skills

12. Utilise knowledge and understanding of aspects of the management of hypothetical situations relating to professional legal/paralegal practice, including the impact of selected aspects of European Law
13. Use legal terminology and the English language with increasing accuracy
14. Identify and collate relevant statistical or numerical information and use in a report
15. Utilise knowledge and understanding of aspects of the management of hypothetical situations relating to professional legal/paralegal practice
16. Develop existing skills and competences that will enable them to assume significant responsibility within legal/paralegal organisations

Ethics

Subject Knowledge and understanding

17. Discuss and demonstrate, where appropriate, critical comprehension of the origins of ethical schools and their subsequent articulations by some interpreters of the tradition(s) in different historical periods and in different social or geographical settings

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

18. Critique the ways in which moral teachings must adapt to apply themselves to new situations created by technological developments and discoveries
19. Assess the extent to which legal codes either set the agenda for evolving moral codes within a society, or are driven to change in response to developing ethical standards within a society

Subject specific and intellectual skills

20. Apply ethical concepts and ideals to complex contemporary situations
21. Critically evaluate ways in which law makers can respond to situations in which competing and potentially contradictory moral schools seek to influence the structure of social governance
22. Demonstrate intellectual flexibility through the practice of a variety of complementary methods of study, for example, philosophical, historical, dogmatic, phenomenological, linguistic, hermeneutical, empirical, speculative, social scientific, archaeological, practical
23. Demonstrate awareness of and critical assessment of ethical schools contributions to debate in the public arena concerning, for example, values, evil, truth, beauty, identity, health, peace and justice
24. Demonstrate a critical understanding of how personal and communal identities and motivations are shaped by moral campaigns, the importance of such identities and how this has both positive and negative effects
25. Demonstrate a capacity to apply formal learning to concrete social and vocational contexts

Generic skills

26. Engage with empathy, integrity and critical reflection with the convictions and behaviours of others
27. Undertake independent or self-directed study or learning (including time management) and reflect on one's strengths and weaknesses as a learner
28. Identify, gather and analyse primary data and source material, whether through textual studies or fieldwork

Law and Ethics

Key Skills

29. Manage own learning, and to make use of scholarly reviews and primary sources
30. Demonstrate competence in research skills through practical activities
31. Initiate, design, conduct and report an empirically-based research project under appropriate supervision

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

32. Use communication and information technology effectively for a range of applications, e.g. web and internet, databases, spreadsheets, word processing, PowerPoint

33. Communicate relevant subject knowledge and evidence accurately and reliably with structured and coherent arguments

34. Communicate ideas and research findings by written, oral and visual means

Course Design

The design of this course has been guided by the following QAA Benchmarks:

- Law (2015)
- Philosophy (2014)

Course Structure

The BA (Hons) Law and Ethics comprises modules at levels 4, 5 and 6.

Module Specifications for each of these modules are included within the course handbook, available to students on-line at the beginning of each academic year.

Module	Credits	Module Type ⁷	Module	Credits	Module Type
Law			Ethics		
Level 4					
The English Legal System	20	R	Introduction to Ethics	20	R
Contractual and Tortious Liability	20	R	The Ethical Mind	20	R
Land Law and Conveyancing	20	R	The Ethical Body	20	R
Level 5					
Dissertation/Project Preparation (20 credits) NB This is a mandatory module pre-requisite for the final year undergraduate Dissertation. For the remaining modules at Level 5, choose two modules from one subject and three modules from the other					
Family Law	20	O	Media Ethics	20	O
Law of Wills and Succession	20	O	Ethics beyond Humanity	20	O
Client Care and Practice	20	O	Medical Ethics	20	O
Level 6					
Undergraduate Dissertation/Project (40 credits) The undergraduate Dissertation is mandatory and may focus on one subject or may be interdisciplinary. If Dissertation is to be interdisciplinary, i.e. in Law and Ethics choose two Law modules and two Ethics modules If Dissertation is to be in Ethics, choose three Law modules and one Ethics module It is not permissible to register for a Dissertation in Law for this joint combination					

⁷ Modules are designated as either mandatory (M), requisite (R) or optional (O). For definitions, see the [Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards](#)

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

European Union Law	20	O	Cyber Ethics	20	O
Professional Legal Development	20	O	Legal Ethics	20	O
Commercial Law	20	O			
Employment Law	20	O			

Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded a BA (Hons) Law and Ethics.

Course Delivery

The course is delivered at the University of Suffolk at West Suffolk College. Students studying full-time on BA (Hons) Law and Ethics are likely to have approximately 10 contact hours per week. The contact hours will be a mix of lecture, seminar discussion and site visits where appropriate. Students will normally be expected to undertake 25 hours of independent study in an average week if studying full-time, but should be prepared for this to vary based on assignment deadlines and class exercises.

Course Assessment

A variety of assessments will be used on the course to enable students to experience and adapt to different assessment styles. The assessment methods used will be appropriate to assess each module’s intended learning outcomes. Assessment on the Law course overall will be mostly coursework (including essays, reports, presentations, group work, case studies etc.) and up to 8 written and oral examinations depending on the module options chosen. There is only 1 exam within Ethics, the greater focus being upon coursework and the development of debating skills.

Course Team

The academic staff delivering this course are drawn from a team that includes teaching specialists and current practitioners. All staff are qualified in their subjects with their own specialist knowledge to contribute.

Course Costs

Students undertaking BA (Hons) Law and Ethics will be charged tuition fees as detailed below.

Student Group	Tuition Fees
Full-time UK/EU	£9,250 per year
Part-time UK/EU	£1,454 per 20 credit module
Full-time International	£10,080 per year
Part-time International	£1,680 per 20 credit module

Payment of tuition fees is due at the time of enrolment and is managed in accordance with the Tuition Fee Policy.

Students are likely to incur other costs for books, materials and optional trips. As a law student, you will be expected to invest in a number of key texts (likely to total around £300 over the three years) and to fund some visits (a total costs of around £150 over the three years).

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Academic Framework and Regulations

This course is delivered according to the Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards and other academic policies and procedures of the University and published on the [website](#).