

Law

"I feel that I've gained a great deal of knowledge and practical skill from studying Law at AS/A level. Not only have I been able to develop my evaluating, analytical and critical thinking skills, but I have also learnt how to apply this to the Law and legal principles, wider society. The skills gained from studying Law are guaranteed to compliment any other subject and are a valuable asset in building a strong and appealing set of skills to apply in the future."

Why study Law?

"Law is the cement of society and also an essential medium of change. A knowledge of law increases one's understanding of public affairs. Its study promotes accuracy of expression, facility in argument and skill in interpreting the written word, as well as some understanding of social values" - Glanville Williams - 'Learning Law' (Cyfieithiad).

The course aims to provide a knowledge and understanding of the legal system in England and Wales and, by an in depth study of a particular area of law, to provide a sound knowledge and understanding of a body of legal rules. It aims to stimulate critical awareness of fundamental legal concepts and of the nature of law. The course also stimulates a critical and analytical approach to legal principles by promoting familiarity with current debate and proposals for the reform of law.

Law is a constantly changing subject and new statutes, cases, reports and editions of textbooks appear regularly. Candidates will be expected to keep up to date with relevant material and will be asked to read a quality newspaper regularly and keep a press cutting file and case book throughout the course.

Entry requirements

Securing a B grade at GCSE in English, Science and Mathematics will guarantee your place on this course. C grades in these subjects may be accepted following consultation with the Head of Department or Head of Sixth Form.

Course details and assessment format

AS

Unit 1: The nature of Law and the Welsh and English Legal Systems

Written Examination - 1 hour 45 minutes 80 marks [25%]

Unit 2: The Law of Tort

Written Examinations - 1 hour 30 minutes 60 marks [15%]

A2

A2 builds upon the foundation paper and concentrates on one area of law viz: Criminal Law and Human Rights Law, where students study substantive criminal law including homicide offences (Murder, Manslaughter) and non-fatal offences (Assault, Battery, Grievous bodily harm etc) , duty of confidentiality, contempt of court, police powers, rule of criminal law and theory, theft and robbery.

Unit 3 - The Practice of Substantive Law

Written Examination - 1 hour 45 minutes 100 marks [30%]

Unit 4 - Substantive Law Perspectives

Written Examinations - 2 hours 100 marks [30%]

Skills which are developed and possible progression

Some students take A Level Law because they already know that they want a career in law. The A Level gives an excellent introduction for students who want to read law at university or start a legal apprenticeship. However, A Level Law is not just for students who want to enter the legal professions. It is a well respected subject and is a welcome addition to many A Level programmes of study. A Level Law links well with science subjects and humanities and social science subjects including, history, sociology, philosophy, economics and business.

Students wishing to continue their legal studies after A Levels can opt for a university degree or work-based apprenticeship. Both of these routes can lead to the qualifications required to become a solicitor, barrister or legal executive. Other popular careers include the police, teaching, social work, business and accounting.

