

COURSE GUIDE 2021

# LAW

The power of the

# LAWYER

IS IN THE  
UNCERTAINTY  
OF THE LAW.

JEREMY BENTHAM



Law plays a vital role in society. The law helps define a society's values and also provides a means to solve problems and disputes without resorting to violence. A Level Law enables you to further explore the relationship between Law, Society and the Individual.

### What will the course involve and how is it organised?

It is unlikely that you will have studied Law before, but don't worry; the course is designed to remove any feelings of uncertainty and confusion that may arise from taking a new subject.

When you begin A Level Law you will be introduced to the English Legal System as a whole. This will involve looking at how Law is made, who can make Law and how Judges interpret Statutes. Here you will also study the role of legal personnel including barristers and solicitors as well as the role lay people have in the Law (i.e. Juries and Magistrates).

You will study both the theory and application of Criminal Law. This will involve looking at the fatal offences of murder, voluntary manslaughter and involuntary manslaughter and non-fatal offences of assault, battery, assault occasioning actual bodily harm, wounding and grievous bodily harm with intent. You will also look at property offences, including theft and robbery as well as the capacity defences of insanity and intoxication, the necessity defences of self defence, duress, and duress of circumstances and the preliminary offences of attempt.

In Tort Law you will study liability in negligence for injury to people and damage to property, occupiers' liability, vicarious liability and you will consider any defences.

You will also be asked to look at the Law of Contract.

The course will be assessed by examination. There is no coursework.



At Carmel, I feel like my academic ability is always being challenged and I am constantly supported by my tutors to excel to my fullest potential.

Through studying Law at A Level, I have learned to conceptualise and apply the law in complicated real life scenarios, which has developed my understanding of the inner workings of society.

I have participated in the National Bar Mock Trial competition twice in which our team came second in the North West. I also took part in the Law Vocational Programme where I completed 3 days of work experience at a Manchester Law Firm where I met with a Barrister and got the chance to sit in with him for a client meeting.

The Law department at Carmel has impressed me in their commitment to not only challenging students to enable them to achieve amazing grades, but through their support with exam preparation and real life experiences in the legal sector which attracts offers from prestigious universities. I have applied to do LLB Law at university and I'm very excited for the future and the legal career ahead of me!

**Divya Biju**  
De La Salle  
Studying: Law,  
Chemistry, English  
Lang & Lit



### What will this course prepare me for and where will it lead?

The course encourages you to develop the skills necessary to analyse and solve problems by applying rules and to develop the ability to communicate arguments and conclusions clearly and succinctly. It will help you substantiate arguments and develop an enquiring and critical mind. As such, Law at Carmel provides an excellent background for university and careers not only in law, but also in journalism, local and central government, public relations, teaching, and a range of management and business areas.

Many of our students go on to study Law at the top universities including Oxford, Cambridge and Durham.

### What support will I receive?

At Carmel we encourage you to develop as an independent learner. This does not mean however that help is not available. We are committed to supporting all our learners to achieve their personal best. A range of support materials is available both to simplify difficult concepts, and to extend your learning so you should never be without the appropriate support!

### What is the department like?

Law is an established and thriving department, with around 200 students. Law is taught in well resourced student bases. The department has its own VLE site to assist student study. Students spend a lot of their free time in the Law department participating in enrichment activities and tutorials. Links have been forged with firms of solicitors, barristers chambers and local law enforcement agencies through the community involvement projects, legal professionals and courts.



Trip to London

Law students participating in the National Bar Mock Trial Competition at Manchester Crown Court.



## Vocational Programme

The Law Department has set up a programme where students are invited to apply for a placement at a Solicitor's firm or Barristers' Chambers for a period of 3-5 days. This is a fantastic opportunity for our students as not only does it give them links to Law firms, and develops their employability skills, it also helps them when applying to study at university.

## How can I enrich my Law studies?

Law is such a dynamic subject that you will have many opportunities to enrich your studies such as visiting the Crown Courts in Liverpool and the Houses of Parliament at Westminster in London. Other activities may include applying for a place on the Law Vocational Programme or entering the National Bar Mock Trial Competition. Students over the last few years have also had the opportunity to take a trip to New York where they visited a night court and went on tours of the United Nations and NYPD museum. Students will also be able to attend talks in college from Solicitors, Barristers and universities.

## How successful are Carmel's Law students?

The answer to this question is a simple one, VERY! Since the Law department was established in 2000, academic excellence has been at the core of the department's vision. Each year our students achieve significantly above the national average across all grade boundaries.

Almost all of our Lawyers gained entry to their first choice of university and many have decided to develop their study of Law further either through Higher Education or Vocational Training.



My experience at Carmel has been nothing but pleasurable; alongside varying social opportunities comes the college's strong academic ethos.

By studying Law, I have gained a range of analytical and critical thinking skills through class discussions and challenging extra-curricular Law debates. Upon application to Carmel's Law Vocational Scheme, I was offered a week's work experience with international firm, Eversheds Sutherlands, followed up with experience in court shadowing a Solicitor.

My application to study Law at the University of Cambridge was guided by the Law department and supported through multiple mock interviews, personal statement 'coaching' and high quality teaching. However, I will be studying Law with European Studies at the University of Leeds in September, spending a year in Italy; a tough decision which was supported by the department.

I have been given the practicability to pursue a career as a Solicitor or Barrister, via a highly academic and engaging course, combined with a friendly environment and approachable tutors.

**Adam Smith**  
St Edmund Arrowsmith,  
Ashton  
Studying: Law, English  
Literature, History, EPQ



New York Trip



BUSINESS MANAGEMENT  
PSYCHOLOGY  
CIVIL SERVICE  
LEGAL  
EXECUTIVE  
PUBLISHING  
BARRISTER  
POLICE  
SOLICITOR  
LAW  
EDUCATION  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
MANAGEMENT  
EUROPEAN UNION

	2018			2019			2020		
	A*-B	A*-C	A*-E	A*-B	A*-C	A*-E	A*-B	A*-C	A*-E
A Level	83%	96%	100%	53%	71%	98%	66%	92%	100%

Trip to London





The teachers at Carmel are extremely welcoming, creating a friendly work environment and pushing me to achieve beyond my target grade.

Studying Law has allowed me to explore a subject that I've always been interested in but wasn't previously available to me. It has developed not only my debating and essay writing skills but also improved my confidence in being able to achieve my goals.

Taking part in the National Bar Mock Trial competition at Liverpool Crown Court was great fun. I improved my advocacy skills and ability to form a persuasive argument, and it also looks good on my CV.

The best part of studying at Carmel has definitely been the experience of meeting so many new people and the support from the teachers, as they really care about helping their students to achieve the best grade they are capable of.

After Carmel, I hope to study Law at Cambridge and go on to become a successful Barrister. The teachers at Carmel have really helped and encouraged me to achieve this goal.



**Amy Maxwell**  
Rainford High  
Studying: Law, Maths,  
Further Maths

## Ten Reasons to choose Law at Carmel

1. Law is relevant to all aspects of everyday life. At Carmel, real life scenarios are used to contextualise complex issues.
2. Improves critical thinking skills. At Carmel we encourage you to challenge the validity of the law and its institutions.
3. Improves problem solving skills. The modules we study at Carmel focus on problem solving skills from identification of offences, through to sentencing. Problem solving skills are required in every aspect of life and can be transferred to any other subject.
4. Knowledge of how and why law changes is useful background knowledge for a whole range of subjects including Psychology, Sociology, History, Business and Politics. We encourage cross curricular links and encourage learners to bring knowledge from other subjects into their work.
5. Improves communication skills. All lawyers need to be able to formulate a strong argument. At Carmel, we encourage you to take part in many debates, presentations and role plays to develop your ability to 'think on your feet'.
6. Learning not to take everything at face value is a useful skill. We encourage you to develop analytical skills by questioning decisions in cases, and developing a 'friendly critical eye'.
7. In many situations it helps to be able to distinguish the important issues from the unimportant issues, especially when debating or presenting an argument.
8. Knowledge of current affairs is developed by reference to issues reported in the news. We encourage you to keep a legal journal recording articles from the Times Law Reports each Tuesday.
9. Going to court is not just an activity for offenders and lawyers, but an activity for our Carmel learners. At Carmel, we encourage you to take part in the National Bar Mock Trial Competition, where you could give evidence or act as a Barrister in the Crown Court.
10. To study Law at university you do not need A Level Law – **BUT IT HELPS.**

## What are the entry requirements for this course?

You will need grade 5 in GCSE English Language.

## Do universities accept Law A Level? I have been told that they don't!

This is a common question and the simple answer is YES they do! All universities accept Law A Level, in fact some prefer you to have it. A Level Law is not offered in all Sixth Form Colleges/ Schools. They do not require you to have Law A Level, but it can't be denied, it helps!

## What subjects should I choose to complement Law?

It links particularly well with English, Psychology, Business Studies, Sociology, Politics and History. However, through Law's literate and logical aspects, it complements virtually any subject.

## MEET THE TUTORS

**Karl Reid**  
Head of Department

**Laura Forsyth**  
Subject Tutor

**Nicola Walker**  
Subject Tutor  
Head of High Achievers



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## More Information

Contact any member of the Law team in person, or email: [karlr@carmel.ac.uk](mailto:karlr@carmel.ac.uk)