

POSTGRADUATE LAW CAREER LEARNING PATH

SUMMER TERM & BEYOND

- PREPARE** for and sit Exams
- COMPLETE** and submit Dissertation
- MAKE** applications
- EXPLORE** contacts network and arrange informational interviews
- JOIN** Inn of Court 31st May – Barristers

PRE-START

- COMPLETE** pre-enrolment **Questionnaire**
- REVIEW** **Careers Website**
- COMPLETE** a **Skills Audit**

WELCOME WEEK

- ATTEND** scheduled introductory seminars and networking events
- SIGN** onto **Career Hub**
- BOOK** Careers **1:1 appt**
- READ** PG Law Careers Information Booklet
- REVIEW** Careers events on Career Hub

YOUR LLM COURSE AT LSE

LENT TERM

- EXPLORE** **Career Hub** for relevant events and book places
- APPLY** for a **spring or summer vacation scheme** (if considering a career as a UK solicitor) or **pupillage**
- APPLY** for **PhD** or research role – first week in Jan if relevant
- APPLY** for **training contract** – main deadline 31st July
- APPLY** for qualifications – GDL/LPC/QLTS if appropriate for 12 months +
- APPLY** for **EC traineeships** if relevant
- PRACTICE** **Watson Glaser and Situational Judgement Tests**
- ATTEND** a **practice interview**
- PREPARE** for written exercises, assessment centres and attend **Legal Case Study Seminar**
- CONSIDER** how you want to **promote your LLM** and attend “How to market your LLM session”
- APPLY** for part time summer jobs or internships

MICHAELMAS WEEKS 5-10

- CHECK** **visa and right to work status** if considering a role outside home country
- MEET** with your Academic Mentor to discuss progress
- CHECK** if you have a **Qualifying Law Degree** and seek advice from the Careers Department if you are interested in qualifying as a solicitor in England and Wales
- RESEARCH** **law firms** or organisations and select a manageable number that you want to apply to, check if they offer **training contracts** and their deadlines
- DEVELOP** and practice your “elevator pitch” or short introduction to you
- DRAFT** your **CV** and **Cover letter** and attend a careers appointment to review both
- REVIEW** **Career Hub** for vacancies and legal work experience opportunities
- CONTACT** **English Language Department** for additional language support if required
- EXPLORE** options for attending court, shadowing or marshalling as appropriate
- MAKE** decision about qualification via LPC and training contract/ **QLTS** (or **SQE** if relevant) if following solicitor route and apply from September onwards
- MAKE** decision about **qualification via BPTC** and pupillage applications if following barrister route
- APPLY** for a **work placement or winter vacation scheme** (for careers as a UK solicitor) or a mini pupillage (barristers)
- APPLY** for a **training contract** (UK solicitors)/pupillage (UK Barristers)
- REVIEW** **funding options** for further study

MICHAELMAS WEEKS 1-4

- PICK UP** law brochures from 5th Floor Saw Swee Hock
- ATTEND** Careers **1:1 appt** to discuss career options, cover letters, CVs interviews
- JOIN** Societies – LSE Law, Debating or Mooting Societies etc.
- SIGN UP** for volunteering experience
- BOOK** relevant **Fairs/Events** e.g. Law Fair, Internet Orgs Day
- REVIEW** your LinkedIn profile and update
- DEVELOP** your Commercial Awareness – regularly read City AM, FT, Legal and National Press
- START** research into legal career options and qualifications required
- DEVELOP** your career research plan
- RESEARCH** skills/competencies required by law firms and conduct a **skills assessment** to help you prepare applications
- PLAN** essential career skills development

POSTGRADUATE LAW CAREER LEARNING PATH



DOING

The majority of the time you are dedicating to your career search should go into researching careers options and gaining experience or skills through:-

1. Careers Research:

- Career options, Law Firms, In-house roles, Barristers Chambers, Public/International roles, Alternative Careers in Law
- Law Careers Websites (e.g. SRA/ Chambers Student Guide/Lawcareers.net/The Law Society/Bar Council/Bar Council Board, Training and Pupillage Handbook)
- Employers' Websites (Law Firms, Corporate, Public Sector, GDL/CPS, Barristers Chambers etc.)

2. Participating in extra-curricula activities and projects to build skills by:

- Joining and actively participating in Societies: Law Society, Bar Society, SSLC/PGT, student newspaper etc.
- Mooting/Debating
- Work shadowing
- Visiting Courts/Attending Tribunals

3. Volunteering/ProBono work:

- Legal Aid Clinics
- Legal research – within department or external
- LSE Volunteering

4. Working:

- Vacation Schemes, Legal internships, Overseas secondments, Professional Support lawyer roles, Paralegal project roles, Legal technology roles etc.
- Part time roles in another sector which develop new and transferrable skills



CONNECTING

Try to spend at least 25% of your career search time making connections, networking and learning from others through:-

1. Networking Opportunities:

- Registering for Law Firms, LSE Societies, Departmental, Social, External events
- Employer dinners or presentations, Barristers Chambers or Inns of Court Open Days, National Pupillage Fair, Aspiring Solicitors Conference etc.
- Requesting informational Interviews with potential employers, alumni etc.
- Making contact with LSE Alumni via "Meet an Alum sessions", Careers Panels, Informal and proactive contact with Alumni

2. Appointments:

- Careers one-to-one meetings to discuss career options, review your CV, cover letter or application forms, and prepare for interviews. Wednesday afternoons in Law Department, and 9-5 Mon to Fri, and until 8pm on Thurs in Careers Department
- Meeting regularly with your academic mentor to discuss course and progress updates, dissertation topics, career aspirations potential for being your referee, asking for feedback etc.

3. Social Media:

- Updating your Linked In profile
- Joining Facebook, Student Hub or Law-specific Networks
- Professionalising your social media presence

4. Mentoring:

- Finding a mentor for yourself
- Volunteering to be a mentor to undergraduate law students or via Widening Participation

5. Promoting yourself and getting noticed:

- Writing and publishing a blog or piece of thought leadership/opinion for departmental or student publications
- Presenting at a meeting or conference
- Helping out at a law event



PREPARING

Preparing yourself for the job market will include a mix of more formal learning about careers, reading and further study or courses, through:-

1. Attending Career Skills Events:

- Workshops – CV Preparation, Training Contract or Pupillage Application Forms, Cover Letters, Interviews, Legal Case Studies
- Core Career Skills Programme, seminars, panels and the Law Fair
- Law department skills seminars and talks e.g. drafting, influencing, language skills etc.

2. Reading to build Commercial Awareness and research Careers Options:

- Legal Press and Free Law Publications (e.g. Chambers, Nota Bene, The Lex 100, Law Careers.Net, Training and Pupillage Handbook etc.)
- City AM, FT, national press and online etc.
- Books: (e.g. Richard Susskind - Tomorrow's Lawyers: An Introduction To Your Future / Adam Kramer and Ian Higgins - Bewigged and Bewildered etc.)

3. Attending external conferences:

- For professional/legal skills development
- For specialist knowledge e.g. Legal technology

4. Completing Online Modules or Courses/MOOCs:

- Advanced MS Office, Project Management
- Business/Legal English

5. Applying for and completing further training to qualify as a solicitor or barrister in the UK:

- GDL, LPC, QLTS, SQE
- BPTC
- PhD or further Masters study
- Applying for training contract or pupillages

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COURSE
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