

Prospectus



**DE MONTFORT
UNIVERSITY**
LEICESTER

A prestigious law school
with a personal touch

GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN LAW
Part-time by distance learning
October 2012 – June 2014

LEGAL PRACTICE COURSE
Part-time by open learning
September 2012 – June 2014

Leicester Institute of Legal Practice in
association with ILEX Tutorial College

ITC
ILEX Tutorial College

Join Leicester Institute of Legal Practice

If you aspire to join the legal profession but are not in a position to study full-time, then the part-time courses offered by Leicester Institute of Legal Practice are for you. Leicester Institute of Legal Practice is part of the Faculty of Business and Law at De Montfort University.

We recognise that your needs as a part-time student differ from those of full-time students, and have brought in the distance learning expertise of ILEX Tutorial College to ensure that the administration and management of these courses are optimised for the part-time learner.

Leicester Institute of Legal Practice and ILEX Tutorial College have offered the Graduate Diploma in Law as a distance learning course since 1992 and the Legal Practice Course as an open learning course since 1994. We have more part-time students than full-time students, so you can be assured that our focus is on your needs.



Building your future

One of the most exciting projects ever undertaken at De Montfort University (DMU) is the creation of the new Faculty of Business and Law building, incorporating Leicester Institute of Legal Practice. This impressive new building, completed in 2009, has state-of-the-art facilities including a mock law court and integrated law library. The new £35 million building is part of a £167 million investment which is transforming DMU's Leicester City Campus.

About the courses

Both the Graduate Diploma in Law (GDL) and the Legal Practice Course (LPC) have face-to-face study sessions held at Leicester Institute of Legal Practice. There are five weekend study sessions in Year One of the GDL and four in Year Two. The LPC requires more face-to-face contact due to the skills element of the syllabus. It commences with a five-day foundation course followed by nine weekend teaching sessions in both the first and second years.



‘Difficult subjects were taught with energy and humour.’

Between teaching weekends you can tailor your study times to fit around your work and family commitments. There is a set timetable for submission of work and this provides a framework for your studies which ensures that you keep up the momentum required to achieve your goals.

We strive to give you a great deal of support throughout your course. Academic and administrative staff are contactable while you are studying from home to assist you with queries as they arise. During weekend study sessions student numbers in tutorials and lectures are carefully controlled to ensure that we can give you the time, care and attention that you need.

Travel and accommodation

Leicester is ideally located in the centre of England and served by an excellent rail and motorway network. London is 75 minutes by train, and the M1 and M69 motorways are a 15 minute drive away. East Midlands airport is a taxi-ride from the city, and there is easy access by train from both Luton and Stansted airports.

The new Faculty building is located ten minutes’ walk from Leicester train station. A list of recommended guesthouses and hotels is provided to assist you in booking your accommodation, where it is likely that you will meet up with fellow students.



Graduate Diploma in Law



“I knew that it would be impossible for me to enrol on a full-time course owing to family and employment commitments. After a lot of research I applied to the De Montfort University programme as it seemed to fit perfectly with all my requirements.

Before enrolment I wasn't too sure about the benefit of spending a number of weekends at the university. To be honest, I thought that they would be a waste of time but how wrong I was. The study weekends give you a chance to meet and learn from the lecturers and you also get a much better understanding of the work that needs to be undertaken at home and, just as important in many ways, they give you a chance to meet the other students and to recognise that although there are times when the going gets tough you are not on your own in feeling this way – everyone does at some point.

From making the decision to apply, ITC and DMU couldn't have been more helpful; the administration is straightforward and everyone I've dealt with has been professional and has gone out of their way to make life as easy as possible – even down to having staggered payment of fees for those of us who are paying for ourselves.

I've thoroughly enjoyed all aspects of the course and I'm looking forward to carrying on my legal studies on the LPC – once again with De Montfort University and ITC.”

Susan McCabe, GDL Graduate 2010



We look forward to welcoming you to the Graduate Diploma in Law course. Whether you are a new graduate or a mature career-changer we are confident that you will find that our course structure, course content and administrative arrangements provide an excellent framework for you to achieve your academic and career goals.

Course outline

The Graduate Diploma in Law (GDL) is an academic law course. It is also referred to as the Common Professional Examination (CPE), or the graduate conversion course. The purpose of the course is to bring students who have not taken a law degree up to the same standard as law graduates in certain key areas of law, so that they are eligible to move on to the vocational stage of training prescribed by the Solicitors Regulation Authority or the Bar Standards Board.

The GDL is designed for graduates with degrees in subjects other than law and for non-graduates who have other academic or professional qualifications, such as Graduate Members and Fellows of the Institute of Legal Executives. Mature students with relevant experience will also be considered.

Course structure

The GDL begins with an introductory course on the English Legal System and then covers the seven foundation subjects required by the Solicitors Regulation Authority and Bar Standards Board. Teaching sessions are held over five study weekends in Year One and four study weekends in Year Two.

‘Access to cases is essential in order to fully understand points of law. I could not have survived without the online databases for research.’

The course is especially designed with the working professional in mind. The enrolment weekend in October runs over Friday, Saturday and Sunday, and the four subsequent weekends run from Saturday morning to Sunday afternoon. The study weekends for Year One are shown below. Dates for Year Two will be published in winter 2012. The study sessions are compulsory.

Study weekends Year One

19 – 21 October 2012
15 – 16 December 2012
26 – 27 January 2013
2 – 3 March 2013
27 – 28 April 2013

The timetable

The first study weekend focuses on the English Legal System and also introduces you to the four subjects that you will study during Year One – Criminal Law, Law of Tort, Law of Contract and Property Law. The subsequent study weekends all involve a half-day of teaching on each of these four subjects. The face-to-face tuition is complemented by the extensive online resources, which will help you to assimilate and build upon the weekend sessions.

In addition to attending the study weekends you will submit assignments, which you will prepare at home in your own time. Some count towards your final mark, others are designed to allow your tutors to give you detailed feedback about your progress. The table on the right shows the structure of each subject in respect of assignments and exams.

Towards the end of the year you will be given the opportunity to undertake a mock exam in each subject. The final weekend in April focuses on revision and preparation for the exams which are held at the University in June.

Year Two follows a similar pattern, where you will cover three main subjects plus the self-study project, over four study weekends.

Year One

English Legal System

Assessed assignment; no exam

Criminal Law, Law of Tort, Property Law

Non-assessed study assignments and a mock exam in each subject; exam in each subject

Law of Contract

Non-assessed study assignments and mock exam; one assessed assignment; exam

Legal Research

One assessed assignment

Year Two

Equity and the Law of Trusts, European Community Law and Public Law

Non-assessed study assignments, a mock exam and an exam in each subject, plus one assessed assignment which draws on issues relating to one or more of these subjects

Self Study Project

A project on a subject of your choice, which will form part of the Year Two assessment.

Graduate Diploma in Law



“The distance learning GDL was the only way I could entertain the idea of studying law, since financial commitments and full-time employment had previously precluded me.

The course has given me a fascinating insight into many aspects of the law. The lecturers are clearly at the top of their field, making lectures and subsequent study highly entertaining and are always available for guidance and support. The course is interesting enough to make learning fun, but difficult enough to give a genuine feeling of achievement.

The social events were great fun and a good way to bond with fellow students, many of whom have become close friends. In fact, the GDL provides much more than purely a law qualification. I cannot speak highly enough of this course and it was an excellent decision to study the GDL at DMU.”

Charles Steward, GDL Graduate

Course materials and facilities

Extensive course materials include textbooks and a course manual in all the prescribed subjects. Detailed course timetables and assignment booklets set the topics and reading for each study weekend and each assignment.

The course website provides excellent online resources including lectures, a discussion board, course information, study materials and access to on-line databases including Westlaw and LexisLibrary. Individual subject tutors can be contacted via email.

When you are in Leicester you have access to the well-stocked Faculty law library, including the computer facilities. The course also includes individual careers advice and guidance, as well as scheduled careers events which take place throughout the year.

Entrance requirements and applications

The Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) and the Bar Standards Board (BSB) have together set eligibility criteria for the GDL. You should hold an undergraduate degree from a UK or Republic of Ireland university or a Certificate of Academic Standing from the SRA or BSB. At Leicester Institute of Legal Practice we specify that your degree should be at least a 2.2 classification. To qualify for a Certificate of Academic Standing you will either need a recognised honours degree in any subject from an overseas university, or you will have experience or qualifications which are recognised by the SRA or BSB as being equivalent to a degree. For example, Graduate Membership and Fellowship of the Institute of Legal Executives are recognised by the SRA. You are responsible for checking your own eligibility with the SRA and BSB and obtaining your Certificate (if necessary). Please contact:

Solicitors Regulation Authority, Ipsley Court, Redditch, Worcestershire B98 0TD. Tel:0870 6062555 Email info@sra.org.uk www.sra.org.uk

Bar Standards Board, 289-293 High Holborn, London WC1V 7HZ. Tel: 020 7611 1444 www.legaleducation.org.uk

It is possible to be awarded a partial exemption from the GDL if you have already passed exams at the requisite level in at least four GDL subjects as part of your degree.

If you are a Graduate Member of ILEX you can study additional ILEX Level 6 subjects to be eligible for exemption. We recommend that you speak to Rosemary Verlander-Smith on 01234 844305 at the earliest possible opportunity (ideally before you finish your ILEX qualification) to obtain advice on subject selection.

‘The lecturers are passionate about their particular subject areas and inspire enthusiasm in their students. All academic and administrative staff are extremely approachable and will do everything they can to help you with your studies.’

Affordable course fees

The GDL at Leicester Institute of Legal Practice is very competitively priced at a total of £6,500 for the two-year course. This includes textbooks worth around £300, and online subscriptions valued at £1,000s if purchased independently. These fees do not include accommodation and other living costs. Payment is spread over two years. A non-refundable deposit of £125 is payable when you accept an offer of a place on the GDL. The balance of £3,125 for Year One is payable two weeks before enrolment day in Year One. The Year Two fees of £3,250 are payable two weeks before enrolment day in Year Two. There is an additional postage fee of £150 per annum for students living overseas.

The fee for students eligible for exemptions comprises a course fee of £600 for each subject to be studied plus an exemption administration fee. The exemption administration fee is payable in respect of the number of exemptions being claimed and the rate is £220 for one subject, £420 for two subjects or £620 for three subjects.

Pay by instalments

Alternatively you may opt to pay by instalments, see below. These payments are in addition to the non-refundable deposit payable on acceptance of a place on the course. There is a £50 administration fee for the instalment option in each year (already included in these figures). Overseas students should add the £150 postage fee on to the first instalment in each year. There is no instalment option for students holding exemptions. Please note these course fees may be subject to change.

Two weeks before enrolment day Year One – £1,175

By 12 December 2012 – £1,000

By 12 February 2013 – £1,000

By 12 July 2013 – £1,000

By 12 December 2013 – £1,000

By 12 February 2014 – £1,300

Study the LPC to achieve a Graduate LLB

If you successfully complete the GDL with Leicester Institute of Legal Practice you will be guaranteed a place on our LPC. This guarantee is available if you commence the LPC straight after completing the GDL, and if you pass all GDL subjects at the first attempt. You will need to submit your application by 30 June in Year Two of your GDL.

Students who complete both the GDL and the LPC at Leicester Institute of Legal Practice can choose to be awarded the Graduate LLB in lieu of a Postgraduate Diploma in Legal Practice.

How to apply

For further information on all courses and an application form, please contact:

Rosemary Verlander-Smith,
ILEX Tutorial College, College House,
Manor Drive, Kempston, Bedford MK42 7AB
Tel: 01234 844305 Fax: 01234 841373
E-mail: r.verlandersmith@ilex-tutorial.ac.uk

Applications can also be made online at
www.ilex-tutorial.ac.uk



“Studying with De Montfort has been an extremely rewarding, if at times a challenging experience. Working towards a Graduate Diploma via distance learning requires commitment and dedication but the course is well structured and helps you to properly focus upon each new topic as you work through the syllabus. An essential part of this is the friendly and approachable encouragement given by the highly experienced teaching staff, however just as important is the excellent support provided by the ILEX Tutorial College team. In short the course is highly recommended.”

**Mark Leaning, Cdr RN, FAA Branch Manager,
GDL Graduate**

Legal Practice Course

We look forward to welcoming you to the Legal Practice Course at Leicester Institute of Legal Practice.

We are confident that this course offers you the ideal framework upon which to achieve academic success while maintaining your other commitments.

When the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) last reviewed our LPC, the course was awarded 'Commendable practice', the highest grade in the SRA's grading system, in the following areas:

- Teaching, learning and the curriculum
- Assessment
- Students and their support
- Leadership and management
- Quality assurance and enhancement

"Tutors provide an excellent level of support, both formal and informal, to both full-time and part-time students. Particularly commendable are a number of recent initiatives in support of part-time students and careers support for all students."

SRA – LPC Executive Summary



Course outline

The Legal Practice Course (LPC) is a course of vocational and skills training for those who wish to become solicitors. Upon successful completion of the course you will receive a Postgraduate Diploma in Legal Practice from De Montfort University, and you will be entitled to start a training contract and to enrol on the Professional Skills Course.

As our students enter a diverse spectrum of legal practice, our LPC is broad-based, giving equal weighting to each of the Core Practice Areas. In Stage Two we offer a choice of nine wide-ranging electives from very different areas of legal practice, so that you can tailor the course to suit your aspirations.

The course includes the following elements:

Stage One

Core Practice Areas – Business Law and Practice; Litigation (Civil and Criminal); Property Law and Practice

Skills – Advocacy; Drafting; Interviewing and Advising; Practical Legal Research; Writing;

Additional Areas – Professional Conduct and Regulation; Solicitors Accounts; Taxation; Wills and Administration of Estates

Stage Two

Vocational Electives – Students select three elective subjects from the following list:

Child Law, Commercial Law and Practice, Commercial Litigation, Commercial Property, Employment Law, Law and the Elderly Client, Matrimonial Practice, Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence, Sport and Media Law

Please note the University reserves the right to withdraw an elective if insufficient numbers of students choose that subject.

‘All the lecturers make a point of being available by phone and e-mail to answer queries. This access to the lecturers, in addition to the study weekends, provides me with as much support as I would receive on a full-time course.’

Course structure

The course starts with a five-day foundation course in September, running from Wednesday to Sunday, after which there are nine weekend teaching sessions (Saturday and Sunday) during the first academic year, running monthly during term time. The face-to-face sessions in the second year are also held over nine study weekends. The programme is especially designed to enable you to carry on full-time work and other commitments while working through your LPC.

The dates for the teaching sessions in 2012-2013 are shown on the right. These sessions are compulsory.

You will be provided with reading materials and preparatory work for you to undertake in advance of the study weekends. Lectures will be available to listen to on-line. A plan for each subject will be provided as part of your course materials, showing the pre-reading and preparation required for each session, so that you can get the most value from the time spent in Leicester.

The face-to-face teaching is conducted in small group sessions, usually of 16 – 18 students. You will work on realistic practical exercises, some of which you will have prepared beforehand; others will be given out during the session for you to work on in groups. Practice of skills is integrated into these sessions. The small group format of these teaching sessions allows for plenty of personalised feedback on your work from tutors. These sessions are all designed to help you to apply your knowledge and to propose legally accurate, practical client advice.

Teaching sessions

2012

12 – 16 September 2012
6 – 7 October 2012
3 – 4 November 2012
8 – 9 December 2012

2013

12 – 13 January 2013
9 – 10 February 2013
16 – 17 March 2013
13 – 14 April 2013
18 – 19 May 2013
8 – 9 June 2013

Legal Practice Course



“The DMU lecturers clearly know their subject, and inject a dynamism into their teaching that makes understanding the topics a whole lot easier. The fact that they are qualified solicitors helps hugely.

Behind the scenes is ILEX Tutorial College who streamline the administration of the course. I always found their staff very helpful. They processed the many pages of assignments and tasks that I sent in and swiftly dealt with any query that I had. I could always rely on them to get back to me or answer any question I had.

I have forged friendships with fellow students from all around the UK and further afield, which I hope may prove to be lifelong in their endurance.

As I was a Fellow of ILEX before starting the course I was able to qualify as a solicitor almost immediately and am now a partner in my firm.
Thank you!”

**Simon Cross, LPC Graduate,
Partner, Humphries Kirk**

Course materials and facilities

All the course materials are covered by the course fee. You will receive a set of printed materials for each subject including a subject textbook and teaching materials.

There is a dedicated password-protected course website giving access to law lectures, timetable information and pre-session exercises, so that you can gain access to these from any location, as well as additional practice exercises and online services including Westlaw and LexisLibrary. You will also have your own university email account to receive ongoing communication throughout the course and to enable you to contact tutors when you need help.

The facilities in the new Faculty of Business and Law building include a well-stocked law library, a specialist LPC library with computer facilities, a mock court room and postgraduate common room.

The timetable

During the foundation course you will be introduced to the Skills and the Additional Areas as detailed on page six. Information technology training is also provided to enable you to get the most out of the course features.

Two of the Additional Areas – Solicitors Accounts and Wills and Administration of Estates – will be examined during the first academic year of the course. You will continue to study the Core Areas, Skills and remaining Additional Areas until these are examined, which (save for Professional Conduct and Regulation) will be in November/December 2013. You will begin the study of Stage Two – your elective subjects – in January 2014 and these will be examined (along with Professional Conduct and Regulation) in June 2014. You need to attend the University to sit your exams, and this attendance requirement is in addition to the face-to-face teaching dates provided earlier.

‘The way the course is structured with teaching running over weekends makes it accessible even if, like me, you live at some distance from Leicester.’

Assessment

The Core Practice Areas, Vocational Electives, Solicitors Accounts, Wills and Administration of Estates, and Professional Conduct and Regulation are assessed by examination only. All are open book examinations save for Solicitors Accounts. You will also be assessed once in each of the Skills.

In order to prepare you for the examinations, you will take mock examinations which will be marked and on which you will receive detailed feedback. Similarly you will have the opportunity to complete individual practice assessments in the skills of advocacy and interviewing and timed written practice assessments in the skills of writing, drafting and practical legal research. These all provide opportunities for tutors to comment on your work and to provide feedback which will assist you in your revision and preparation for the actual assessments.

Entrance requirements and applications

You are eligible to apply to join the LPC if you have satisfied the Solicitors Regulation Authority's (SRA's) academic stage of training, either through completing a qualifying law degree or Graduate Diploma in Law (GDL). If you are relying on a qualifying law degree generally you will need to have attained at least a 2:2 classification to join our LPC. Additionally you can satisfy the requirements if you are a Graduate Member or Fellow of the Institute of Legal Executives (ILEX) and have passed the ILEX Level 6 exams in the subjects required by the SRA within the specified time limits. You must obtain a Certificate of Completion of the Academic Stage of Training from the SRA to confirm your eligibility. Please contact the SRA (0870 6062555) as soon as possible, as it can take some time for Certificate applications to be processed, particularly in the summer months.

If you do not yet have your Certificate please do not delay your application for a place. We can process your application conditional upon receiving your Certificate before enrolment day.

You will also need to join the SRA as a Student Member.

“The quality of teaching on the part-time LPC was exceptional, and the course was outstandingly delivered with superb materials. The staff had so much enthusiasm and were always prepared to assist the student further with any difficulties experienced. I would thoroughly recommend the course to others.”

Jude Thomas-James, LPC Graduate

A typical study weekend during Stage One

Business Law and Practice

1 x 2½ hours small group session

Litigation (Civil and Criminal)

1 x 2½ hours small group session

Property Law and Practice

1 x 2½ hours small group session

Solicitors' Development

1 x 2½ hours small group session covering practical legal skills such as time recording, time management and billing as well as the traditional skills of writing, drafting and research. Some Solicitors Accounts teaching is also included under this heading. The inclusion of these sessions illustrates our commitment to give you the best preparation to enter the legal profession.

Legal Practice Course



“I studied the GDL at De Montfort and was then offered a place on the LPC.

Since the law faculty moved to the new building the facilities that are now available to students are impeccable. I have been really inspired by the way the teachers approach their subjects and show their passion and commitment to their students. They are committed and dedicated to their students passing the course, and give the time and additional support when needed.

I have become a lot more confident as an individual and have learnt so many skills that will help me progress with my career. The tutors push you to your maximum capacity to get the best out of you and the way in which the course is designed and taught achieves that.

Undertaking the LPC at the Leicester Institute of Legal Practice at De Montfort University was the best choice I ever made.”

Nirmala Devi, LPC Graduate 2010



Exemptions for Fellows of ILEX

Fellows of ILEX may be exempt from the Solicitors Regulation Authority's training contract requirements provided they have obtained Fellowship before completion of the LPC. Please contact ITC for more details.

Affordable course fees

The LPC is very competitively priced at £7,995. This fee does not include the Solicitors Regulation Authority registration fee of £120. The fee includes all the course materials and access to all facilities described opposite, but does not include accommodation or other living costs. There is an additional postage fee of £150 per annum for overseas students.

Payment is spread over two years. A non-refundable deposit of £150 is payable when you accept an offer of a place on the LPC. The balance of £3,907.50 for the first year, including the Solicitors Regulation Authority registration fee of £60 per annum which we remit to the Solicitors Regulation Authority on your behalf, is payable two weeks before enrolment day in the first year. The second year payment of £4,057.50 (including the Solicitors Regulation Authority registration fee) is due two weeks before enrolment day in the second year.

Pay by instalments

Alternatively you may opt to pay by instalments. These payments are in addition to the non-refundable deposit payable on acceptance of the course. There is a £50 administration fee for the instalment option in each year (already included in these figures). Overseas students should add the £150 postage fee on to the first instalment in each year. Please note these course fees may be subject to change.

Two weeks before enrolment day in the first year – £1,357.50

By 12 December 2012 – £1,300

By 12 February 2013 – £1,300

By 12 June 2013 – £1,307.50

By 12 September 2013 – £1,400

By 12 December 2013 – £1,400

‘Course materials are excellent and provide everything needed to complete assignments.’

Other costs

To enrol on the LPC you first have to join the Solicitors Regulation Authority as a Student Member. The Student Membership fee is different to the Solicitors Regulation Authority’s Registration fee. The former is paid by you to the Solicitors Regulation Authority direct, whilst the latter is collected by the University and paid by the University to the Solicitors Regulation Authority.

Upgrade your LPC to an LLM

By completing your LPC with Leicester Institute of Legal Practice you will earn 120 Master’s level credits and be two-thirds of your way towards gaining an LLM in Legal Practice.

In order to be awarded the LLM after passing the LPC, you will need to attend the Research Methodology day and successfully complete a practical legal research assessment, a dissertation proposal and a 20,000 word dissertation. Apart from attendance at the Research Methodology day the LLM is entirely distance learning. You will also be allocated a supervisor who will provide you with academic support whilst you study. If you wish to, you can start preparatory work towards the Masters element while studying Stage Two of the LPC. A separate fee is payable for the Masters element of the course.

How to apply

For further information on all courses and an application form, please contact:

Rosemary Verlander-Smith,
ILEX Tutorial College, College House, Manor Drive,
Kempston, Bedford MK42 7AB.
Tel: 01234 844305 Fax: 01234 841373
E-mail: r.verlandersmith@ilex-tutorial.ac.uk

Applications can also be made online at
www.ilex-tutorial.ac.uk

“My personal circumstances dictated my choice to study for the legal practice course by open learning. De Montfort and ITC seemed to me to be the most experienced of all providers. ITC was very attentive and friendly during the application and enrolment process, and this has continued throughout my period of study. I have now completed the LPC and would recommend this LPC most strongly to others.”

Sean Mercer, LPC Graduate, Bond Pearce LLP

Entering the legal profession

We know that securing a training contract is a key goal for LPC students. Our careers service will support and guide you in your search, to maximise your chances of success. We also offer pro bono opportunities so that you can gain experience of 'real life' cases to enhance your applications.

“The tutors on the LPC were knowledgeable, approachable and experienced in their individual fields obtained from reputable local law firms. Having completed the first year of a commercial training contract I am delighted at how well prepared I was following my LPC at DMU. When I started training I was confident and ready for the legal environment and the diverse range of work I was expected to undertake.”

Mitchell Evans, LPC Graduate, Howes Percival



Careers advice

Our careers service combines a structured schedule of events with one-to-one support and advice throughout your period of study. The staff seek to ensure that you receive all the support you need in your search for employment in the legal profession.

The timetable begins with a careers presentation during your foundation week where you can meet the careers team and find out about the support that is available. This is followed by careers talks by employer representatives from the legal profession, government departments and other commercial sectors. There are also informal 'Meet the Practitioner' events. Individual support includes one-to-one sessions to give initial advice, to assist with completing job applications, to review progress or to conduct a practice interview.

The course website contains excellent careers resources including lists of vacancies, advice on how to search for vacancies, how to write a good CV, covering letter or application form, and how to prepare for an interview. All the most relevant books, guides and periodicals, are available in the library for you to use when you are in Leicester. A copy of the Training Contract and Pupillage Handbook and Chambers Guide to the Legal Profession is made available to all LPC students. LPC students will be invited to join the Mentoring Scheme which seeks to allocate all interested students to a Mentor from their chosen practice area.

‘Studying with De Montfort has been an extremely rewarding, if at times a challenging experience.’

Pro bono opportunities

Another key way in which you can develop your knowledge of practice and prepare for a career in law, is through taking part in our pro bono programme. By getting involved you will:

- Learn the core legal and interpersonal skills more effectively
- Build on the legal practice knowledge gained in the teaching sessions
- Have the opportunity to work independently and demonstrate initiative
- Increase your awareness of key professional, ethical and business issues
- Be exposed to real legal problems which promotes an awareness of case management and a client centred focus
- Contribute to the wider community
- Establish links with the profession and other business groups including the not for profit sector
- Engage in peer reflection and critical analysis

During the foundation course our pro bono coordinator will introduce you to the opportunities available, after which you will be encouraged to arrange one-to-one sessions throughout the year to discuss your interests. The course website has a dedicated pro bono section containing information about the latest initiatives. We aim to provide every student who expresses an interest in pro bono work with the opportunity to engage in activities in their chosen area.

Leicester Institute of Legal Practice is part of the national LawWorks project. This provides our students with a variety of benefits including support for pro bono activities, training and an online forum for discussion.

Pro bono initiatives include:

- An in-house law clinic providing free legal advice and assistance to staff and students of De Montfort University. It is run by LPC students under the supervision of academic staff together with direct and indirect supervision from members of the local profession. Students work in small teams and are given the opportunity to reflect upon their clinic experience with their supervisor. The clinic has the benefit of a dedicated interview suite within the Business and Law Faculty building providing professional and comfortable surroundings for the clinic teams and their clients.
- A community-based Street Law scheme which involves a small student team preparing and presenting an informal seminar to a target audience on a specific topic. Past projects have included presentations to Women’s Aid, Refugee Projects, a Leicester homeless charity and to small businesses in Leicester.
- Placements for individual students with a number of organisations including Citizens Advice, Reunite, Leicestershire County Council, Shelter and Leicester Money Advice.
- Volunteering opportunities through De Montfort University’s Involve project including working with the Youth Offending Team and on Immigration programmes.

A prestigious law school with a personal touch

For further information on all courses and an application form, please contact:

Rosemary Verlander-Smith,
ILEX Tutorial College, College House,
Manor Drive, Kempston,
Bedford MK42 7AB

T. 01234 844305

F. 01234 841373

E. r.verlandersmith@ilex-tutorial.ac.uk

Applications can also be made online www.ilex-tutorial.ac.uk