

# A Level Law

Examination Board: OCR  
Specification Code: H415 – A Level

## Why Law?

Do you enjoy a good debate? Are you interested in justice and fairness? Would you like to develop your understanding of current affairs and of many of the contentious issues of the day? If so, you will enjoy studying A Level law. If you are thinking of studying law at university, this will allow you to sample it first to make sure it is the right course for you. Even if you are not thinking of studying law at university, A Level law at QEHS will develop many skills (comprehension, reasoning, communication, research, problem solving and critical evaluation) that future employers and university admissions tutors value. As long as you are prepared to work hard there is no reason why you cannot attain a high grade.

## Entry Requirements

QEHS standard entry requirements will apply, including a grade 6 in English.

## Course Content

The three components in the OCR law specification are:

- **Component 1. The legal system and criminal law:** including criminal and civil courts, lay people in the legal system, legal personnel and access to justice. The criminal law element includes the principles of criminal liability, fatal and non-fatal offences against the person, offences against property, defences and critical evaluation of the offences against the person and against property including ideas for reform.
- **Component 2. Law making and the law of tort:** including Parliamentary law making, delegated legislation, statutory interpretation, judicial precedent, law reform and European law. The tort law element includes tort law rules and theory, negligence, occupiers' liability, torts connected to land, vicarious liability, defences, remedies and critical evaluation of these torts including ideas for reform.
- **Component 3. Further Law.** This component includes the nature of law and *either* contract law *or* human rights law. The nature of law includes the Rule of Law, law and morality, law and justice, law and society and law and technology.

Each component will be assessed by a 2 hour written examination at the end of the course. The examination will include a combination of medium tariff and extended response questions. The questions will require students to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the law, problem solving skills by application of the law to given scenarios and the evaluation of legal rules and concepts.

## How does this learning differ from Pre-16 study?

High level skills of analysis and reasoning are required and you are encouraged to keep yourself abreast of events in the wider world. The law department runs a lunchtime law group: all students with an interest in legal matters are invited to attend. Here, among other things, we debate controversial legal issues, discuss books, hold mock trials and invite speakers. You will need to be prepared to read around the subject to increase your understanding, to enter into class discussions, take part in role plays (scripted or unscripted) and prepare short presentations.

## Prospects

Our law students regularly go on to study law (and other subjects) at many 'top twenty' and Russell group universities, including Oxford, LSE, Manchester, KCL, Bristol, Durham, Nottingham, Newcastle and Leicester. Students with law A Level have gone on to study for degrees in subjects as diverse as medicine, economics, English, psychology and mathematics as well as criminology. Some have gone directly into employment as trainee legal executives.

## Contacts

Please contact Mrs. B. Hudson, Head of Law, if you wish to discuss this qualification further.