Get ready for LLB(Hons) Law

I hope that you are enjoying your summer holiday and are looking forward to starting at UWE Bristol. As your Programme Leader, I warmly welcome you onto **LLB(Hons)Law**.

I have provided some information below that will help you to prepare for starting with us. I look forward to you starting at UWE.

Dr Nancy Siboe
Programme Leader, LLB

If you are a Direct Entry student starting at Level 2 or Level 3, please see course information from your Direct Entry Tutor, Maylene Jalleh maylene.jalleh@uwe.ac.uk.

Before you start

We are looking forward to welcoming you in the week commencing 14th September for Starting Block and the beginning of your programme.

The Starting Block will help you settle into university and to help you get to know your teaching team and course mates. We will help you find your way around, get used to our systems, and practice the skills you need to make a strong start. Look out for further emails and explore the Starting Block website with more details.

Your timetable will be available to you via MYUWE (login required) once you have started the enrolment process. Please visit the 'Understanding your teaching timetable' website to find out when your timetable will be published.

Preparing and arrival
You can find everything you need to know about enrolment, Starting Block and the start of teaching, on our Preparing and Arrival webpage. Take a look at our website to familiarise yourself with our facilities and services such as the library, study skills, academic support, health and wellbeing support and much more.

Enrolment
Once you have satisfied all admissions requirements, we'll send you your login details for our IT systems to enable you to activate your university email account. Once your account

has been activated, you'll gain access to the MYUWE platform where you can enrol. Note that your login details for MYUWE are different to those used for the UWE Welcome website. Enrolment for September programmes will only be open from August onwards. You can find guidance and further information on our Enrolment website.

ID card - upload your photo now

We can only print your ID card if you have added your photo to MYUWE. To avoid delays, upload your photo as soon as you receive login details. For help, go to our student card guidance.

Engage with your programme

Start your learning

Have a go at these activities to start preparing for your programme and starting block:

- **Watch or listen to current affairs programmes**. In particular, Law in Action on Radio 4 and the Weekly Politics programme on BBC television.

- **Attend your local Magistrates' Court and/or Crown Court (if permitted)** as it's a really good way of gaining some useful insight into the criminal justice system.

  When you attend, try to sit in the public gallery that is part of the courtroom as you can see everything that is going on (not the upstairs public galleries of some larger courtrooms). Take a notebook with you. Tell the usher you are a law student and ask permission to take notes (even if you don't take any!). This requires the usher to ask permission from the judge who will preside over the court. This alerts the judge and lawyers that there are law students in the room, and this often results in conversation with barristers, solicitors and the judge themselves! This is networking!

  This is more likely to happen in Crown Courts due to the fact Magistrates' Courts generally involve a constant flow of cases with little time for chat between the lawyers or anyone else.

  You do not need to dress up to go to court, but you should be quiet, respectful and observe normal court etiquette. You can enter and leave the court whenever you wish, but it is good practice to wait until a natural pause, if it is possible to do so. Remember, if you take a bag, it will be searched when you enter the court, and your mobile phone should be switched off.

  When you sit in the public gallery it is likely that you will be sitting next to the relatives and friends of the defendant and/or victims, so be aware of this and be respectful.

- **Start reading! Read anything that is *NOT* social media!** Reading a quality

newspaper daily is highly recommended. When you embark on alaw degree you are 'reading for a law degree'. You will be required to read a lot.

There is evidence that suggests reading speeds improve and increase when we practice reading. It is argued that reading anything will help with this. If you cannot remember the last time you read a book, a novel, a biography, an autobiography or even a full-length article from a quality newspaper, it is suggested you should do so. Reading soundbites from social media is no preparation for the textbooks, articles and law reports you will be expected to read. You should get into the habit of sustained periods of reading. It will widen your vocabulary too!

Read around your subject

A key skill which is required to achieve a high level of success within your chosen programme is the ability to think critically about key issues and practices. To help you to enhance these skills and be ready to engage with your studies, you should start to read and research around your subject before you arrive. Explore the Library web pages to see the wide range of resources available to you once you become a UWE Bristol student.

In preparation for study as a law student, we encourage you to read broadly, choosing books and subjects that will interest you. This can include novels! There are some texts which are considered 'classics' for those about to study law, and many of these 'classic' texts are available to purchase second hand or to borrow through local libraries.

Should you want to read books that are law or university related, the list below contains an eclectic mix of reading that you can choose from. Some of the books will help to prepare you for University life, and provide you with hints, tips and guidance to make the transition to University level study easier. Some of them may shock or surprise you, or take you on an emotional rollercoaster from laughing to crying. Some of the books listed may even make you think! My hope is that whatever else they do, if you choose to read some of them, they will keep you interested and entertained over the summer! It is not an exhaustive list, just some ideas:

Study Skills:

- Sarah Ivory ~ Becoming a Critical Thinker
- Stella Cottrell ~ The Study Skills Handbook
- Trevor Day ~ Success in Academic Writing
- Stella Cottrell ~ Critical Thinking Skills
- Jeanne Godfrey ~ How to Use Your Reading in Your Essays

Critiques of the law:

- The Secret Barrister ~ Stories of the Law and How It's Broken
- Helena Kennedy ~ Just Law
- Helena Kennedy ~ Eve Was Framed: Women and British Justice
- Geoffrey Robertson ~ The Justice Game

Introductions to aspects of the law:

- A T H Smith ~ Glanville Williams: Learning the Law (a classic text)
- Tom Bingham (Lord) ~ The Rule of Law (a classic text)
- Berlin & Dyer ~ The Law Machine
- Harry Potter ~ Law, Liberty and the Constitution: A brief history of the Common Law
- Tony Wright ~ British Politics: A Very Short Introduction
- Martin Loughlin ~ The British Constitution: A Very Short Introduction
- Allan C Hutchinson ~ Is Eating People Wrong? (Great legal cases & how they shaped the world)

Make your module choices
If you are transferring direct into second or third year study with us, you have optional modules to choose. Please look out for a separate email about this and choose your options promptly to avoid disappointment.

Be prepared

Access support
Check the information on our Disability web pages so you know what you need to do. If you need any urgent additional mobility or other support to fully access all activities during your studies, contact me as your programme leader.

Get equipped
The University has computers on all our campuses for you to use during your studies. These provide access to our core digital learning tools and any specialist software required for your course. You may have scheduled sessions in computer labs or other specialist facilities, and you will be able to use open-access PCs for self-study.

UWE Bristol licenses many specialist software packages for use on personal laptops for the duration of your course. If you're struggling to meet the financial demands of your course, please contact the Student Money Service team for advice and guidance.

See the UWE webpage for detailed information on choosing your IT equipment including recommended specifications.

For this programme we recommend the **Core Specification**.

International students
The Global Student Support Team offer information and advice to ensure you receive all the support you need to get the best from your time at UWE Bristol. They are here to help you to settle in when you first arrive at UWE Bristol and organise social events to help you to adapt to your new environment.

Next steps

Before you arrive, you will receive an online workbook to introduce you to the School and help you to prepare for university life. You can go through the workbook then, and it will be revisited during your induction activities.

Who to contact if you have questions

For any questions about the programme, please contact me: **Nancy Siboe** via email at nancy.siboe@uwe.ac.uk.

Please note: this information has been provided on the assumption that you will meet the conditions of your offer and be eligible to take up your place.

Entry: September 2026 Last updated: Spring 2026