

# Law Subject Guide

## Law Study

Law courses are studied at university, and can vary in length from 3-5 years of study. Each institution varies by entry requirements, size, location and course options, so have a good look!

- [The University of Aberdeen](#)
- [The University of Abertay, Dundee](#)
- [The University of Dundee](#)
- [The University of Edinburgh](#)
- [The University of Glasgow](#)
- [Glasgow Caledonian University](#)
- [Edinburgh Napier University](#)
- [Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen](#)
- [The University of Stirling](#)
- [The University of Strathclyde, Glasgow](#)

## Routes into Law

You can do an HNC or HND in Legal Services and use this to meet the entry requirements for an LLB.

The [Law Society of Scotland](#) has more information about the options and how this compares to other [routes](#).

Remember that if you want to become a solicitor, you still need to do a one year Diploma in Professional Legal Practice and two years training on the job before you qualify.

If you complete an Honours degree first, you could use this as your entry requirement for Graduate Law courses (which are often shorter than undergraduate entry). There are a few different options in Scotland but beware that student funding may not cover the costs of a second undergraduate degree.



## General Advice

If you want to go on and practice as a solicitor in Scotland, you need to apply for courses that are an 'LLB' - these are accredited by the [Law Society of Scotland](#) and give you the skills to progress on to the Diploma in Legal Practice. If you're considering a joint degree, check that the course is an LLB and that Law is the first listed subject (and therefore the focus).

Other options are courses that allow you to practice in England, Wales, or further afield; sometimes called Dual Qualification. You could also study an MA/BA course which might suit you if you're more interested in the 'academic' study of law.

Currently, the University of Glasgow is the only Scottish university that requires you to take the [Law National Aptitude Test](#) (LNAT) before applying and uses the scores to help filter the applications. It tests your decision making and reasoning skills, not your legal knowledge. Use the free resources and practice tests available on the LNAT website.

Having legal work experience is not a requirement, so don't worry if you haven't been able to get any. You can show just as much awareness through 'career exploration' instead. This involves research into legal careers, current affairs related to law and the justice system.

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## Resource

Here are some good resources that can help you to get started:

- **Reach Pupil Resource:** Reach Tayside are specialists in Widening Access to Law, check out the additional resources section.
- **Applying to Law Courses in Scotland:** Blog written for Advancing Access by Emma Paterson.
- **Lawyer Portal:** Information and guidance from law schools and law firms.
- **Prospects:** Is a good place to start exploring your law career options.
- **Reflection Tool-Kit:** University of Edinburgh have developed this tool-kit to help build reflective practice skills; these are key qualities for law applicants.

## Checklist

Get ahead and prepare yourself for future law study and applications:

Check entry requirements carefully!

Research your course options: Do you want to study LLB, Dual qualification or MA/BA?

Do lots of career exploration! This doesn't have to be work experience.

Build your reflection skills and use them when writing your personal statement.



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