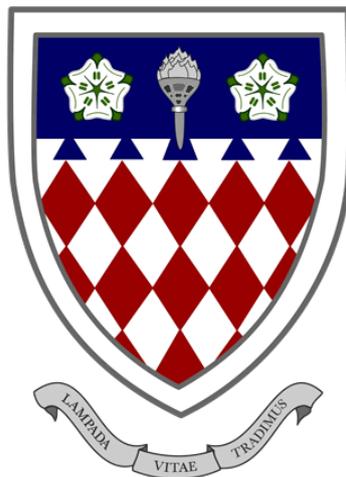


Spalding High School Sixth Form

A Level Law



Why Choose A Level Law?

A Level Law attracts students of many different kinds. Many students study Law because they want to go on to study the subject at university and pursue a career as a solicitor or barrister. The subject also provides a background for occupations such as the police, social work, civil service or business. Whatever your vision, an A Level in Law is a valuable first step in achieving your ambition.

Studying Law gives students an understanding of the role of Law in today's society and raises their awareness of the rights and responsibilities of individuals. By learning about legal rules and how and why they apply to real life, students also develop their analytical ability, decision making, critical thinking and problem-solving skills. All these transferable skills are highly sought after by higher education and employers.

What is the content of the course and how is it assessed?

The Law Department teaches the AQA specification for which there is no coursework element and no previous knowledge of the subject is required. This qualification is linear which means that students will sit all their exams at the end of Year 13. There are three papers, the subject content of which is set out below:

Paper 1:		How each paper is assessed: • Written exam: 2 hours • 100 marks • 33% of A Level Questions: A combination of multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions.
The nature of law and the English legal system	Criminal law	
Paper 2:		
The nature of law and the English legal system	Tort	
Paper 3:		
The nature of law and the English legal system	Human Rights	

What do universities say about A Level Law?

“The view that students should not read law at A Level before university is misguided; it represents the incorrect opinion that the law is ONLY an academic discipline. The law is in fact a dynamic vehicle for carrying rights, responsibility, obligations and punishments in the real world. It lives, it is and it should be learnt without discrimination.

I have never actually yet met an admissions person who does discriminate against A Level Law in any way (bar some Scottish universities who do not accept English or Welsh A Level law).

So, in terms of students electing not to take law in case HEIs don't accept it? In my view, this is nonsense and double nonsense. Please will you correct any careers 'experts' in your schools who tell you otherwise? They are about 40 years out of date in the advice they give.”

Nottingham Trent University

“On balance, as long as students arrive at university realising that the A Level does not mean they don't have to study hard during their undergraduate degree, the study of A Level Law is a positive step. The people that do it are far less likely to drop out during the course of their studies because they know what studying Law is like. That said, students do not need to have studied A Level Law in order to undertake our LLB.”

University of Surrey, School of Law

What do students say about A Level Law?

“The Criminal Law module in the LLB programme overlaps a lot with A2 Law so having an A Level in Law provides a great foundation for studying Law as a degree. I have found that this gives you a huge advantage over the students who have not studied Law before, as you can focus purely on the new material rather than having to learn all the basic principles, e.g. precedent, from scratch. I really can't understand why you would want to jump straight in at degree level without having first tried Law out at A Level!”

Lizzie, University of Exeter (1st year undergraduate, LLB)

“At the point I chose my A Levels, I had no aspirations to become a lawyer. It certainly opened my eyes to a career in law, a career I had never considered previously. Had I not studied A Level Law, at no point would I have considered law for a career. It was also useful in giving me something of a head start in my degree as I had an understanding of basic issues at a much earlier stage. At A Level, skills are developed to identify a legal issue, understand why it is an issue and provide reasoned legal arguments using case law as to what the effects will be. At degree level, new areas of law are brought in, detail is added and the 'technical' aspects considered in more detail. Also, more technical legal issues are studied.”

Ben has recently qualified as a solicitor and now works in Leeds, where he practises in the corporate team.

Specification

Exam Board— AQA

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/law/as-and-A Level/law-7162>

Entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 or above in English Language or English Literature.

For further details please contact

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