Programme Specification ARO 034a

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and of the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if they take full advantage of the learning opportunities provided.

This document is published on the University website and will be a publicly available record of the named programme.

The information contained in this form should be included in the Programme Handbook, either as presented below or in a format determined by the Faculty.

Section 1 Key Facts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Awarding Body</th>
<th>University of Stirling</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Partner Institution</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme Name</td>
<td>Business Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Award</td>
<td>e.g. BSc (Hons), MA etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty</td>
<td>Arts &amp; Humanities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Division (if applicable)</td>
<td>Law &amp; Philosophy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UCAS Code (UG only)</td>
<td>M2212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme Code</td>
<td>UHX12 BSL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mode of Study</td>
<td>Full Time x Part time x (if both please provide two Degree Programme Tables in the Outline Programme Structure)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location/Method of Study</td>
<td>On Campus – UK x International ◻ Where: Online ◻ Blended x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admission Points</td>
<td>September x January ◻ Other (if more than one entry point please provide a Degree Programme Table for each in the Outline Programme Structure)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length of Programme</td>
<td>4 YEARS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCQF Level</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Credit Value</td>
<td>480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECTS Credit Value</td>
<td>240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark</td>
<td>QAA Benchmark statement (July 2015)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Section 2 Overview

PROGRAMME SUMMARY

A comprehensive summary of the programme.

This degree in Business Law allows you a chance to study a range of subjects reflecting the importance of law in all areas of society and with an emphasis on looking at the law associated with business in the UK. It enables you to understand in more depth how law interacts with society. You will develop even further the intellectual skills needed for what is a demanding yet rewarding subject. These include autonomy, determination, intellectual curiosity, clear thinking and concise expression. All are highly valuable, whatever career you pursue.

Key Features of the Programme (including what makes it distinctive)

Although the LLB is the degree to follow if you wish to join the legal profession, the BA degrees offers a strong in-depth knowledge of the law, enhancing many personal and intellectual skills to allow you to enter many different areas of employment.

You will specialise in law but the University’s modular system allows you in addition to dip into other areas of study for your first two years such as languages, management, economics, criminology, psychology, politics, the environment and much more before concentrating on law honours modules in 3rd and 4th year. This gives our BA students the great advantage of a diverse and varied education and the ability to place legal studies in a wider social or business context.

Study with the people who have written the books: The law modules have been designed by staff who publish and research in key areas linked to the module. Develop your research potential with our excellent research staff: the course offers a wide range of Honours options in Years 3 and 4 too and these are taught by staff who are experts in their field. You will often use their original research in your own research into subjects as diverse as Intellectual Property law, environmental law, commercial arbitration, labour law, Energy Law, Competition law, European law and International law.

There are wide and varied teaching methods used on this Programme from group work, presentations, Digi essay writing, academic poster presentations as well as the usual lectures and seminar format. We try to ensure that we have guest speakers and lecturers every semester on relevant topics and we also have annual careers events for our Law students.

The culmination of your Honours degree is the dissertation process in the final year which allows you to get your teeth into a topical subject in law and to develop your own research skills even further. We have supervised dissertations in a wide range of subjects from the banking crisis to father’s rights to the regulation of genetically regulated crops and all points in between.
PROGRAMME AIMS

Overarching Programme Aims
On successful completion of this programme, you should be able to:

1. demonstrate your knowledge of the principles, concepts, values and substantive rules of the legal system in the UK, Scotland and Europe, the wider social context within which the legal system operates and what are the main legal institutions of Scotland, UK, Europe and Internationally too.
2. problem solve and carry out in-depth research to an advanced level.
3. assimilate academic information from your research into a well structured argument, whether written or orally
4. benefit from the particular intellectual skills studying law can provide.

WHAT WILL I BE EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE?

Detailed Learning Outcomes
On successful completion of this programme, you should be able to:

Knowledge and Understanding:
have a thorough knowledge of the key legal issues which affect society and the business world. This will include the sources and systems of law and the role of the Scottish, UK and EU Parliaments, institutions and courts in law making, the way in which the law of contract and delict affect the lives of citizens, criminal law, Partnership law, Company Law, Insolvency and Law of Commerce as well as an opportunity to study other areas of law such as International Law, Environmental Law, Sports Law, Journalism and the law as well as Intellectual Property Law, Labour Law. As well as this we look at law in the digital age, from our first year module if Law in the 21st century, covering digital services, media and environmental law to our honours module Digital Legal Landscape.

Intellectual, Practical and Transferable Skills and other graduate attributes:
1. Be an autonomous and engaged learner capable of completing independent and collaborative work to a high standard.
2. Become a critical thinker with analytical and problem-solving abilities, able to reshape and transform knowledge to generate new understandings, which are then applied creatively in different contexts.
3. be an effective communicator
4. be a team player

Values and Attitudes:
1. demonstrate an awareness of how law fits in society
2. be aware of the divergent needs of all sections of society, nationally and internationally, in respect of their relationship with the law
3. want to make an impact on society with your intellectual curiosity and skills developed through this programme.

HOW WILL I LEARN?

Outline of the teaching methods and approach to be used on the programme.

Most modules in first and second year are taught by way of two one hour lectures and one tutorial per week. Honours modules are often taught through attendance at one two hour seminar per
week. Tutorial questions are gone over with tutors every week and contain a mix of problem and essay type questions. You will be encouraged to develop techniques to tackle answering problem questions using the law and ensuring proper citation of the law is given eg cases and legislation. During tutorials you will be encouraged to participate in discussions and work with your classmates to investigate the subject further.

There is an emphasis on writing skills and you will learn to be able to read and write about the law through your degree. You will be able to develop your research skills and learn how to properly reference and cite the law to support your arguments. This will culminate in your writing a 10,000 word dissertation in your final year.

Often, there is presentation work either individually or in a group, assessed or unassessed. This helps develop communication skills, teamwork and organisational skills and encourages active learning. The role of feedback in learning cannot be underestimated so there will be extensive feedback given on all assessed work as well as feedback given by tutors for Practice questions submitted in tutorial, or there can be peer feedback too.

**WHAT TYPES OF ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK CAN I EXPECT?**

*Outline of the assessment methods and approach to be used on the programme.*

**Assessment and Assessment Criteria**

You will of course require to be assessed for each module taken throughout your degree. To cater for all learning types, we have various formats on offer per module throughout your degree such as:

- Essays
- 2 hour end of term exams
- Class tests
- Multiple choice tests
- Online tests
- Digi Essays
- Peer assessed presentations
- Academic poster display

A common format is mid-term essay for 40% of your overall grade with an end of term exam for 60%. There are a few Honours modules favouring 2 essays over the semester, with no exam. Some areas of the law lend themselves better to one particular format or another.

**Feedback on Assessment**

You will receive feedback on coursework within 3 weeks of completion of the assessment. Feedback is usually provided electronically on formal coursework. Feedback and Guidance sessions with teaching staff are available on all modules. These provide regular opportunities to discuss feedback further.

More information about feedback on assessment can be found here: [http://www.stir.ac.uk/academicpolicy/handbook/assessment/](http://www.stir.ac.uk/academicpolicy/handbook/assessment/)

**Assessment Regulations**

If you would like to know more about the way in which assessment works at the University of Stirling, please see the full version of the assessment regulations at: [Undergraduate](http://www.stir.ac.uk/academicpolicy/handbook/assessment/)

**WHAT WILL I STUDY?**

*Outline Programme Structure*
The list below shows compulsory and option modules for this programme. Option modules are revised over time and, in some cases, will be dependent upon pre-requisite and/or co-requisites being taken. More information about these requirements can be found in the relevant Module Descriptors. The options available each year can be subject to change due to student demand and availability of teaching staff.

- Where an “Option list” is specified, you have a choice of which module to take at this point in the degree programme and these choices are listed below
- For year 1 and 2 where “Any Module” is used it means that you can choose from all modules available to the year group and you can see the full list by following these links:

**Undergraduate**

**Year 1**

Total year 1 credit value = 120  
Compulsory credits = 40  
Option credits = 80

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Compulsory Modules</th>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>SCQF Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Law in the 21st Century</td>
<td>LAWU9T1</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>ONE</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Law</td>
<td>LAWU9CR</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>TWO</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**OPTION MODULES - PER REGULATION LIST**

**Year 2**

Total year 1 credit value = 120  
Compulsory credits = 40  
Optional credits = 80

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Compulsory Modules</th>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>SCQF Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business Law 2</td>
<td>LAWU9L2</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>THREE</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law of Commerce</td>
<td>LAWU9LC</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>FOUR</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**OPTION MODULES - PER REGULATION LIST**

**Year 3**

Total year 1 credit value = 120  
Compulsory credits = 20  
Optional credits = 100

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Compulsory Modules</th>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>SCQF Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Law Research Methods</td>
<td>LAWU9RE</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>FIVE</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**OPTION MODULES - PER REGULATION LIST**
Year 4

Total year 1 credit value = 120
Compulsory credits = 60
Optional credits = 60

Compulsory Modules

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>SCQF Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Law Dissertation</td>
<td>LAWU9LD</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>SEVEN &amp; EIGHT</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OPTION MODULES - PER REGULATION LIST

For Part time study, students are required to meet the full time Programme Structure in full but will take longer to do so.

READING LIST

Required and Recommended Reading for the Programme:

The following are the recommended books to purchase for the core modules in the first two years of the degree. The books to have after that will depend on your Honours choices in third and fourth year.

Smith & Keenan’s *Company Law*, (17th ed., Pearson 2016),
Timothy H. Jones, Dr. I. Taggart, *Criminal Law*, 6th Revised edition W Green

Section 3 Student Support [PLEASE UPDATE AS NEEDED FOR THE STUDENT COHORT]

SUPPORT FOR STUDENT LEARNING

Induction

You will receive an induction during the first days of your programme. This includes a range of social events, information sessions and activities to help you orientate yourself at Stirling and access the services available to you. These are opportunities to meet staff and other students from across the university, in the Faculty and on the programme.

Our Law First year induction takes place over the first few days in the first week you join us at Stirling. This will include an introduction to members of staff in the Law School as well as Student Services. We will then give a few talks on how to start learning the law and what skills we hope you acquire by the time you complete your studies. We will even have a break out session doing a legal quiz for fun!

Study Skills Support

Student Learning Services (SLS) are committed to providing comprehensive guidance on all aspects of effective and efficient learning. The ultimate aim of the service is to enable you to make the most of your academic studies at the University and for you to become an independent, successful learner during your time at the University of Stirling. This is facilitated through collaborative work with experienced tutors and by offering a variety of courses, workshops and
tutorials.

All students, whatever stage of their academic studies, are welcome to use Student Learning Services. However the service may be particularly beneficial:

- In your first two years of study.
- If you are making the transition from college to Higher Education.
- If you have been out of education for some time.

What SLS are able to do:

- Advise you on academic skills relevant to your studies at University.
- Help you consolidate your previous learning and develop new learning strategies.
- Advise on action-plans to potentially improve grades.
- Suggest practical solutions if you feel overwhelmed by assignment work.
- Help you gain confidence in the transition to Higher Education.

More information can be found here: [http://www.stir.ac.uk/campus-life/learning-support/student-learning-services/](http://www.stir.ac.uk/campus-life/learning-support/student-learning-services/)

STEER
STEER is a University-wide peer support scheme linking in returning student "Captains" with new undergraduate or taught post-graduate "Crew" during their first year at Stirling.

The scheme aims to help you make the most of your time at the University, help new students - the Crew - settle in and realise the opportunities available to them. You can find out more information here: [https://www.stirlingstudentsunion.com/representation/studentsupport/steer/](https://www.stirlingstudentsunion.com/representation/studentsupport/steer/)

Stirling Graduate School
For Research Postgraduate Students the Stirling Graduate School as well as your own faculty will provide support. More information can be found here: [http://www.stir.ac.uk/graduateschool/current-pg-students/skills-development/](http://www.stir.ac.uk/graduateschool/current-pg-students/skills-development/)

Academic and Pastoral Support
Adviser of Studies: Advisers have an important role to play in enhancing your academic and personal development and are essential to ensuring you make the most of your time at university. Advisers provide a personalised point of contact for you to discuss academic concerns or queries within the academic community. The general purpose of the role is to provide more in-depth advice on the academic options available to you and on the academic policies and regulations within the University. More information can be found here: [http://www.stir.ac.uk/registry/advisers/](http://www.stir.ac.uk/registry/advisers/)

Personal Tutor: The role of a personal tutor is to help you feel part of the University community. They are a specific and consistent source of guidance, information and support for you throughout your studies. The tutor should be the your first formal point of contact for general academic guidance and pastoral support. More information can be found here: [http://www.stir.ac.uk/tse/personal-tutor/](http://www.stir.ac.uk/tse/personal-tutor/)

Support and Wellbeing: At university you may face non-academic issues where you need some expert help or guidance. There are lots of ways we can help you in your day-to-day life at University. Student Support Services provide a range of high-quality services to assist you during the course of your studies, help prepare you for life after graduation. We aim to enhance the
student experience and help you to get the most out of your time at University. More information can be found here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/campus-life/support-and-wellbeing/

**Student Union:** you can also access support through the Students’ Union, more information can be found here: https://www.stirlingstudentsunion.com/representation/studentsupport/

**Accessibility and Inclusion (A&I)**
A&I are committed to offering a service which is welcoming and supportive of the needs of all students. Our service takes into account the full range of needs you may have, in a wide variety of circumstances including - physical and mobility difficulties, sensory impairments, specific learning difficulties including dyslexia and autistic spectrum disorder as well as medical conditions and mental health difficulties. A&I can also support you if you have short-term, temporary impairments or other difficulties as a result of an accident, injury, illness or surgery. More information can be found here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/student-support/accessibility-&-inclusion-service/

**Learning Resources**
You can find out more about the resources available to support your learning here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/campus-life/learning-support/

---

**Section 4 Programme Evaluation and Enhancement**

### METHODS FOR EVALUATING AND IMPROVING THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

**Module Evaluation**
Module evaluations are carried out each year and are an important way of getting student feedback on the modules we teach. We aim to evaluate every module we teach in every semester. You can find out more here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/registry/studentinformation/moduleevaluation/

**Programme Review**
Programmes are reviewed annually and on a 5 yearly cycle. You can get involved in a variety of different ways; by completing module evaluations, becoming a course representative and attending Student Staff Consultative Committees, or participating in the review process itself. You can find out more here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/academicpolicy/handbook/review-and-monitoring/

**External Examiner(s) (To be added following Stage 2 approval)**
Name of External Examiner: various
Institution: Please add as required.

---

**Section 5 My Future**

### WHAT KIND OF CAREER MIGHT I GO ON TO?
What career avenues does this qualification open up to the student?
Students who have graduated with the BA Law degree go on to work in a wide range of careers. For example, those who graduated in the past five years reported employment as:
- Sales and marketing executive
• Conference events co-ordinator
• Business growth manager
• Revenue and benefits officer
• Trainee accountant
• Factoring consultant
• Book manager
• Tutor

Employers include:
• Aviva Insurance
• Clackmannanshire Council
• The Royal Bank of Scotland
• Glasgow City Council
• NHS Forth Valley
• Govan Law Centre
• Ashurts

How does this programme facilitate your development of the Graduate Attributes?

Connected
We strive to provide you with as many opportunities as possible to meet with employers from all areas of life, including the third sector, with annual careers events, as well as guest speakers.

Innovative
We hope to expose you to current, modern and developing research and thinking to allow you to be innovative and creative as you leave university equipped with the many skills you have honed through your time at Stirling.

Transformative
You should have the skills, energy, enthusiasm and desire to use your experience at University of Stirling to take part in or even lead the way in helping to transform society for the future.

WHAT STUDY ABROAD OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?
The University’s Erasmus and Study Abroad schemes are available in 3rd year.

WHAT PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?
There are various Work Placement modules offered across the University available to take as options throughout your degree. In particular the Law School offers a Work Placement Module in 3rd year (6th semester) where you are placed with an employer in the legal field for 30 hours of work experience. The employers we have worked with in the past include, Royal Bank of Scotland Plc, Virgin Money, Standard Life, Scottish Power, Scottish Children’s Reporter, the Equality Council, Glasgow City Council and several legal firms. Assessment is by way of a presentation and a piece of reflective writing.

WHAT FURTHER STUDY OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE TO ME?
What programmes of study could the student go on to after successfully completing this one?

Many students go on to further their studies by joining LLM (Masters) Programmes in areas that have interested them, perhaps from their dissertation topic, such as Energy Law, Criminal Law, International Law, etc.
Further, some students realise on completing their Law degree that they really enjoy the law and would like to become a lawyer, so they embark on an Accelerated LLB which is a 2 year post graduate degree covering the professional subjects required by the Law Society of Scotland.

**WHAT OTHER INFORMATION DO I NEED TO KNOW?**

*Information that should be displayed at module registration and/or on the Degree Programme Table webpages to help students understand any programme specific requirements or agreed exceptions to regulations. This could also include useful information that will enable a student to decide to take this programme, prepare for the programme, or that will be useful to them on completion of the programme e.g. professional recognition/accreditations etc.*

Learning the Law is like learning a new language and not many people come to University knowing much about the law. We all begin at the same point and develop our knowledge and skills throughout the time at University - that is what you will be here to do! So you do not need to feel that you are “not smart enough” or are not good enough at debating etc to do a law degree. If you are interested in society and how it works and is regulated and how you can learn to help people and perhaps even make changes to the way society is run, then come and embark on a mind stretching, interesting and challenging BA in Business Law. You will not be disappointed!

### Section 6 Admissions

**HOW DO I ENTER THE PROGRAMME?**

**SQA Higher:**
- AABB - one sitting.
- AAAB - two sittings.

**GCE A-level:**
- BBB

**IB Diploma:**
- 32 points

**BTEC (Level 3):**
- DDM

Other qualifications

**HNC/HND:**
**Year one entry**
- Scottish HNC/D - Bs in graded units
- English, Welsh and NI HNC/D - Merits and Distinctions.

**Advanced entry**
- Year 2 entry may be possible with an HND in Legal Studies. Please consult our Advanced Entry pages for more information.

**Access courses:**
Access courses and other UK/EU and international qualifications are also welcomed.

Law at Stirling is committed to widening access to Higher Education.

**Foundation Apprenticeships:**
- Considered to be equivalent to 1 Higher at Grade B
Additional information

General entrance requirements apply.
If examinations are taken over two sittings, or there are repeats or upgrades, the entrance requirements may be higher.
INTO University of Stirling offers an International Foundation programme for those international students who do not meet the required academic and English-language criteria. This course offers a route to study at University of Stirling through an excellent teaching and learning experience located in the high-quality study facilities on campus. Successful completion of the International Foundation in Media, Humanities and Social Sciences to the required standard provides guaranteed progression to this degree.

English language requirements

If English is not your first language you must have one of the following qualifications as evidence of your English language skills:
- IELTS: 6.0 with 5.5 minimum in each skill
- Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE): Grade C
- Cambridge Certificate of Advanced English (CAE): Grade C
- Pearson Test of English (Academic): 54 with 51 in each component
- IBT TOEFL: 80 with no subtest less than 17

More information on our English language requirements

If you need to improve your English language skills before you enter this course, our partner INTO University of Stirling offers a range of English language courses. These intensive and flexible courses are designed to improve your English ability for entry to this degree.