



Skills Development Programme

June - September 2026



Laura Trussell-Harris

Academic
Representation
Coordinator

Hello ULaw students and staff!

Welcome to this term's iteration of the Skills Development Programme!

For those of you who don't know, the Skills Development Programme is an opportunity to develop your skills in a range of different areas, this might, for example, be a session on a specific area of law, or a session learning 'soft skills' such as minute taking, or public speaking.

We really hope you enjoy the sessions on offer this term, please do let us know your thoughts, or any ideas of other training you would like to see in the SDP! Please email laura.trussell-harris@law.ac.uk with your feedback.

SIGNING UP

Use the form below to sign up for most of our sessions:



<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/6FVFLb0x3z>

Sessions with another sign-up method will be clearly marked on the relevant page.

To read any of the information in this booklet online – visit our SDP Website Page using the QR Code or link below.



<https://studentsunion.law.ac.uk/sdp>

If you have any issues signing up, please email studentsunion@law.ac.uk

CONTENTS

Title	Page	Title	Page
Becoming a Charity Trustee	5	Decision-Making with Incomplete Information	15
What's it Like to Work as a Real Estate Lawyer?	6	The Power of Infographics – Using Infographics to Display Complex Information	16
The Psychology of Sexual Offences	7	Housing Options	17
Co-Producing Consent Education	8	AI Literacy for All	18
Minute Taking for Professional Meetings	9	Identifying Gaming and Gambling Harms in Student Life	19
UK Politics and Civic Engagement	10	Negotiation Skills Course	20
Graphic Design Basics: Short Course	11	Train to be an Accredited Civil & Commercial Mediator	21
Deaf Awareness	12	Workplace Conversion Course	24
Leading with Purpose: Building Impact, Career and Identity at the Same Time	13	The Employability Service	25
Teamwork under Pressure	14		





Becoming a Charity Trustee

Clare Wood, Lecturer at The University of Law and Young Trustees Movement Champion

Being a charity trustee is a great way of gaining leadership experience and boosting your employability, whilst also giving back to your local community or making a difference in your chosen campaign area.

There is a drive within the sector to make big improvements on board diversity, with young adults and BAME applicants in particular being encouraged to consider first time trusteeship. You could be part of this much needed progress.

These sessions will help you to research and find opportunities, prepare for those all-important applications and interviews and (fingers crossed) thrive in your exciting new role.

FREE

1 hour

Friday 14th August, 1pm-2pm



What's It Like To Work As A Real Estate Lawyer?

Chris Carlisle, Lecturer, The University of Law

This session will introduce students to life as a Real Estate lawyer. Chris Carlisle will draw on his personal experience as a former Real Estate solicitor -exploring why Real Estate is a great area of law to practise.

Students will explore the principal types of Real Estate transaction (sale and purchase, development, financing and leasing) and who are the key stakeholders in Real Estate deal-making.

FREE

**1
hour**

Wednesday 24th June, 2pm-3pm



The Psychology of Sexual Offences

**Harriet Smiles, Senior Safe & Inclusive Campus Advisor
(Student Support and Wellbeing)**

This session is designed to bring together academic and practical knowledge on the subject of sexual violence, with the ultimate aim to consider strategies for prevention and supportive responses. This session is particularly suitable for students and staff with a professional or academic connection to this subject, but all are welcome!

The session will start with a consideration of what sexual violence is and how it is defined in the law and in university settings. Then, the psychology of offending and the psychology of victimisation will be explored, to better understand how and why people behave the way they do. Theory from psychology, criminology, sociology, and legal disciplines will be included.

The session will also have a strong practical element, culminating in discussions around the prevention of perpetration.

Please note: there is no expectation of personal reflections or disclosures in the session, and content warnings will be provided throughout.

Harriet has an undergraduate degree in Applied Psychology and is currently writing up her PhD in Criminology, Sociology and Social Policy. She has worked in the field of sexual violence for around a decade, including working with the charity, Rape Crisis. She has a background in supporting universities in their approach to sexual violence/ misconduct and is now working on this approach at the University of Law.

FREE

1 hour

Thursday 16th July, 12pm-1pm



Co-Producing Consent Education

Nathan Shaw, Head of Safe Inclusive Campus (Student Support and Wellbeing)

How would you design consent education for universities if you could start from scratch?

Universities have a responsibility to provide education beyond specific academic material, including education on how to effectively and appropriately interact with others. This is not just for the benefit of supporting students to live and work with one another, it's also necessary to outline the university's expectations of behaviour under student regulations.

Consent education, however, can have a bad reputation, and can sometimes miss the mark. This session is designed to support attendees in co-producing new material that is actually relevant and helpful.

You don't need to have any prior experience of designing training or understanding rules and laws about consent or sexual violence/ misconduct to attend this session – all are welcome!

If you attend, you will be a part of shaping consent education for future students and playing a vital role in tackling unacceptable behaviours including sexual violence and misconduct.

Please note: there is no expectation of personal reflections or disclosures in the session, and content warnings will be provided throughout.

Nathan Shaw is the Head of Safe Inclusive Campuses at ULaw, which incorporates the responsibilities as the University Designated Safeguarding and Prevent Lead. Nathan has worked at the University for nearly 5 years after spending the previous 11 years working in Safeguarding positions within Further Education. Nathan is also a Governor for a local Primary School, with oversight for Safeguarding and attendance.

FREE

1 hour

TBC



Minute Taking for Professional Meetings

Gary Knight, Student Voice Coordinator,
The University of Law Students' Union

Taking minutes for meetings is a skill that many of us will need throughout our working lives, but also one that we aren't often given training on. Although specific practices and formats will vary from business to business, this workshop will give you the skills you need to take professional minutes in meetings. The following topics will be covered:

- Tone and style
- Chatham House rules
- Standard formats
- How much detail is 'too much detail'?

FREE

1
hour

Wednesday 8th July, 1pm-2pm



UK Politics and Civic Engagement

Laura Trussell-Harris, Academic Representation Coordinator & Gary Knight, Student Voice Coordinator, The University of Law Students' Union

When you go to vote, do you feel confused about what you are actually voting for? Or do you avoid voting because you feel that your vote won't make a difference?

This session will cover the basics of the UK political system, including the differences between Parliament and Government, the role of the Prime Minister, and the voting system used to elect representatives to the House of Commons.

How to vote, and the importance of using your democratic voice, will also be covered.

Laura has previously taught A level Government and Politics in secondary schools and has written dissertations on voting and political communication. Gary has UG and PG degrees in History and Politics and has written dissertations on US and UK Politics.

FREE

**1
hour**

Thursday 27th August, 4pm-5pm



Graphic Design Basics

**Chris Parry, Communications & Marketing Coordinator,
The University of Law Students' Union**

Whatever your role, understanding design principles and the ability to produce even basic graphics can help you stand out.

This practical short course introduces some practical guidance on graphic design, growing your confidence to create and manage visual content across digital and print platforms.

You'll explore key concepts such as layouts, fonts, colour, and visual hierarchy, as well as the different ways to build and share your content.

By the end of the session, you'll have a solid foundation to explore your creativity.

FREE

**1
hour**

Tuesday 18th August, 5pm-6pm



Deaf Awareness

Emma Beenham, University of Law Students' Union Manager
and SignBright BSL

This 1-hour session aims to outline the basics of communicating with Deaf and Hard of Hearing people. It covers the important considerations to make in communicating, correct language and terminology when referring to the Deaf community and cultural differences.

FREE

1
hour

Wednesday 5th August, 5:30pm-
6:30pm



Leading with Purpose: Building Impact, Career and Identity at the Same Time

Karo Omu, Project Manager – Strategy & Projects, The University of Law

In a world that often glorifies hustle and constant achievement, many students, and professionals aim to balance ambition, wellbeing, identity, and purpose. This session explores what it means to build a meaningful and sustainable career without losing yourself in the process.

Drawing from experience across programme management, social impact leadership, higher education, entrepreneurship, and community work, the session will explore the realities of leadership, resilience, burnout, navigating pressure, and creating impact in both professional and personal spaces.

Students will leave with practical insights on building careers that are strategic, values-driven, sustainable, and aligned with the kind of life they genuinely want to create.

FREE

1
hour

Wednesday 1st July, 12pm-1pm



Teamwork Under Pressure

Kara Wansbury, Mature Students Officer

Picture your colleagues, your boss and your subordinates. Now imagine them in a submarine, underwater and a long way from home. You're tired and stressed, with no break from work—or from each other. How would you cope?

ULaw Student and Mature Students Officer, Kara Wansbury, spent twenty years in the military, the last ten as a submariner. In this session she will share what she learned about teamwork under pressure.

Kara Wansbury is a former Royal Australian Navy warfare officer. She's a student at the University of Law and an aspiring barrister.

FREE

1
hour

Tuesday 11th August, 5pm-6pm



Decision Making with Incomplete Information

Kara Wansbury, Mature Students Officer

Underwater a submarine has no windows, no internet—only sonar. You can only hear ships and boats and need to determine if they are close or far, where are they headed, what are they doing, and importantly, if they are allies or potential threats. ULaw student Kara Wansbury spent twenty years in the military, the last ten as a submariner. In the second of two sessions she will share her experiences and tips for making decisions without complete information.

Kara Wansbury is a former Royal Australian Navy warfare officer. She's a student at the University of Law and an aspiring barrister.

FREE

1
hour

Friday 14th August, 5pm-6pm



The Power of Infographics: Using Infographics to Display Complex Information

Dr Chris Martin, Academic Developer – Professional Practice Lead, The University of Law

Infographics are a powerful tool that are used to display often complex information to a variety of audiences. There is a technique to producing an effective infographic that 'walks' the audience through the information in a way that is easier to follow than a written text. This session will introduce you to this technique and will show you some examples of effective and ineffective infographics. You will also become familiar with some of the software available for creating infographics. This is an interactive session, so please come prepared for some discussion and critique!

FREE

**1
hour**

Tuesday 25th August, 10am-11am



Housing Options

BPC LLM Students, Supervised by Robina Munir-Nadeem

This session explores the different types of housing arrangements available to students and young adults, with a focus on legal definitions and real-life implications. It is especially useful for those renting for the first time. The session will clarify the differences between renting, owning, licensing, joint tenancies, and student flat-shares, helping attendees understand their rights and responsibilities when entering housing agreements.

Topics include:

- The difference between renting and owning a property
- What a licence agreement is and how it differs from a tenancy
- The legal rights and risks involved in joint tenancies
- Understanding student housing, including flat-shares and purpose-built student accommodation
- Practical guidance for choosing housing with legal awareness

Delivered by:

Students on the BPC LLM Programme at The University of Law, as part of the Pro Bono module, supervised by Robina Munir-Nadeem, ULaw Lecturer and supervising solicitor with extensive experience in social welfare and housing law.

FREE

45
mins

Tuesday 14th July, 12pm-12:45pm



AI Literacy for All

In partnership with the Digital Education Council (DEC)

The University of Law is committed to using technology to enhance the teaching, learning and achievement experience. We regard the ethical and transparent use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) as a key part of this for all members of our university community, and we actively encourage upskilling through engagement with the training and development opportunities available.

We are delighted to have partnered with the Digital Education Council (DEC) to provide the AI Literacy for all courses.

As part of this course, you will develop skills and understanding in the following areas:

- AI Literacy Fundamentals
- Best Practices for Prompting
- Evaluating AI Output
- Critical Thinking and Creativity in the Age of AI
- Ethics of AI and Respecting Academic Integrity
- Preparing for an AI-Driven Workforce

[Click Here for the Training](#)



We encourage you to reflect on these areas as you progress through the course. Once you have successfully completed it, you may wish to record this achievement as part of your professional development (for example on your CV or to your LinkedIn profile as part of your [Licenses & certifications](#) and [skills](#) achievements and as a new post).



Identifying Gaming and Gambling Harms in Student Life

Ygam (Young Gamers and Gamblers Education Trust)



Ygam are working with the University of Law Students' Union Skills Development Programme to offer students a **FREE online CPD-certified gaming and gambling harm prevention workshop** to raise awareness of gaming and gambling harms.

- Understand the risks
- Spot the signs of harm
- Access help and support.

Once you sign up, you'll receive a booking confirmation along with reminders leading up to the session. You will then receive the Teams joining link 24 hours in advance.

Registration for this workshop is not available via the same form as the rest of the courses in this booklet. Instead, please [click here](#) to sign up.



FREE

1hr 15
mins

Wednesday 1st July, 6pm-7:15pm



Negotiation Skills Course

Philip Brown, Founder of The Negotiation Club

Session 1 – Focusing on introducing the “learning model” and practical practice with single variable Negotiation Cards.

Session 2 - We introduce a “Practice with Purpose” approach and focus on how to introduce negotiation tactics into negotiation practice.

Session 3 - This session focusses on negotiation "Observation & Feedback". Almost all negotiators lack the ability to truly observe how a negotiation progresses and in this session we provide a structure to support this and, of course, plenty of practice.

Session 4 - Negotiations are rarely just about ‘price’. Up until this point you will find there has been a lot of creativity in the previous sessions but when we introduce multi-variable negotiation cards this takes it up a significant notch. We introduce methods for managing multi-variables and, of course, have plenty of practice.

£15

4 x
1.5
hours

Various dates, use the link below to
find out more

There are only 20 students per course, all spaces must be filled. Registration is on first-come first-served. Please book quickly as spaces on these courses get filled extremely quickly.

Courses Available during February, March, April and May.

Booking link: <https://www.thenegotiationclubs.com/student-society>



You must be able to attend all four sessions in the course to take part. Participants will receive a CPD accredited certificate at the end of the course.



Train to be an Accredited Civil & Commercial Mediator

Emma McAndry, Founder and Director of Essential Mediation Solutions



Course Credentials

The Course is accredited by the Civil Mediation Council (“CMC”) and the International Mediation Institute (“IMI”), so a worthwhile qualification for domestic and international students.

The lead trainer is a practicing mediator who gained Fellowship of the CMC in recognition of her ‘extensive mediation experience’. She is award-winning, nationally and internationally, including Mediation Trainer of the Year from the National Mediation Awards presented at the House of Commons. Her previous law students have won awards at national and international competitions, including first place two years in a row at the INADR international competition.

£600

The cost of this course to you as a student is £600. This course is usually £1800 per person, but we have negotiated a deal with Essential Mediation Solutions to cut this price by 67%

5 days

This 5-day course is delivered online, with a mix of asynchronous self-study videos and live interactive delivery with emphasis on practice and role plays. Teaching is mostly front-loaded, reducing daily, to allow practice of role plays to increase confidence.

There is a requirement of 100% attendance of the live sessions to pass the course.

Since March 2022, nearly 250 ULaw students have completed the course and achieved their IMI and CMC qualifications with outstanding feedback.



Train to be an Accredited Civil & Commercial Mediator

Emma McAndry, Founder and Director of Essential Mediation Solutions



CMC Organisation
Member 2024



More Information on Content:

The process and principles of mediation
Mediation theory and ethics
The mediator's role and techniques
How to prepare for a mediation
Managing the mediation process
How to guide parties to agreement
The use of negotiation within mediation
Communication skills

Assessment for Accreditation:

CMC: 2 x 1 hour role plays (recorded online)

IMI: 1 hour role play (recorded online) and submission of a 2500-word portfolio.

Full guidance will be given, plus a 'mock' assessment to prepare for the assessment.

Why do this course?

Additional qualification to add to your cv

Enhanced employability

To gain important transferable skills

To start your own mediation practice

Be able to help to set up and join a mediation clinic.

Many barristers practice mediation alongside their Chambers work.

Many solicitors have mediation departments to work alongside their practice.

Equip yourself to succeed in national and international competitions.

It's fun! See our testimonials! - www.essentialmediationsolutions.co.uk





Train to be an Accredited Civil & Commercial Mediator

Emma McAndry, Founder and Director of Essential Mediation Solutions



Times Available:

Places on these courses are limited to 12 per course and are first-come first-served. Small amounts of individual preparation work are required before each live session.

June 5 Day Course: Monday 22nd June to Friday 26th June, 10am to 6pm daily (online)

September 5 Day Course: Monday 21st September to Friday 25th September, 10am to 6pm daily (online)

October 5 Day Course: Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October, 10am to 6pm daily (online)

Registration for these courses is not available via the same form as the rest of the courses in this booklet. Instead, please email admin@emsolutions.uk for an application form.

On returning the booking form, a non-refundable deposit of £100 is then required to secure your place and the balance of £500 for the course fee is due 3 weeks before the course start date. The deposit of £100 is non-refundable unless EMS cancels the course for any reason.



Skills
Development
Programme



Workplace Conversion Course

Emma McAndry, Founder and Director of Essential Mediation Solutions



If you already have the civil and commercial mediation qualification, take one of our workplace conversion courses and after just 8 hours of training, you will be dual qualified.

Thursday 2nd July and Friday 3rd July (9:30am to 2pm each day)
September mornings – Dates TBC, please email admin@emsolutions.uk for further details.

£395 +
VAT

Registration for these courses is not available via the same form as the rest of the courses in this booklet. Instead, please email admin@emsolutions.uk for an application form.



The Employability Service

The University of Law Employability Service has a wide range of opportunities for you to develop skills and enhance your employability.

All of the services are accessed through the [Employability Portal](#); provision is flexible to accommodate student needs and offers both in person and online opportunities.

Local experts with knowledge and relationships in their community can help you with career planning, reviewing applications, CVs and cover letters, navigating aptitude tests, preparing for interviews and assessment centres. There are also a range of pro bono schemes available supporting those unable to pay for social justice, which provide invaluable exposure to the workplace and develop skills.

The [Portal](#) is also the place for you to book to attend employer events, including Careers Fairs, and employability workshops; to find out about our mentoring scheme; to access useful resources; and to browse a range of job vacancies.

SIGNING UP

Use the form below to sign up for most of our sessions:

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/6FVFLb0x3z>



Sessions with another sign-up method will be clearly marked on the relevant page.

To read any of the information in this booklet online – visit our SDP Website Page using the QR Code or link below.



<https://studentsunion.law.ac.uk/sdp>

If you have any issues signing up, please email studentsunion@law.ac.uk