



SCHOOL OF LAW

UNDERGRADUATE HANDBOOK 2009-2010

FACULTY OF LAW AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF LAW

SCHOOL OF ORIENTAL AND AFRICAN STUDIES

ALL APPLICATIONS ENQUIRIES TO:

Admissions Office
School of Oriental and African Studies
University of London
Thornhaugh Street
Russell Square
London WC1H 0XG
admissions@soas.ac.uk

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Student Support Office, room 251, 2nd floor
Faculty of Law and Social Sciences
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Opening hours 10-4 (subject to change at very busy periods)

This handbook was prepared in June 2009. Every effort has been made to ensure that information presented in this handbook is correct at the time of publication. For the latest version, see the web handbook
<http://www.soas.ac.uk/law/>

Undergraduate Student Handbook For Courses in Law Academic Year 2009-2010

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This booklet is designed to be of use to prospective and current undergraduate students in the School of Law at SOAS.

We have therefore included information about what we teach, how we teach it and how we assess students. However, we also want to give a vivid and accurate picture of the life of the School, both in its teaching and research interests and in its extra-curricular activities. We want to convey a sense of what makes the School of Law distinctive.

The booklet also contains guidelines on assessment, on the procedure to be used when applying for leave of absence and on student support including the School of Law Personal Tutor system.

NB Every effort has been made to ensure that the information given in this booklet is correct at the time of publication. However, anything stated in this booklet is for general guidance only (for authoritative statements and detailed accounts of rules and regulations, please consult the relevant official document such as the SOAS Regulations) and in any event, in a rapidly changing university environment, all information is subject to alteration from time to time.

The School of Oriental and African Studies

The School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) received its Royal Charter and became a College of the University of London in 1916. In 1943 it moved to its present premises in Bloomsbury, which were greatly extended with the completion of the New Building in 1973 and the Brunei Gallery in 1996. It is situated in central London, just off Russell Square, close to the British Museum, the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, London University Senate House and Library, the University of London Students Union (ULU - which has a wide range of recreational and sports facilities), Waterstones University Bookshop (one of the largest in the country) and other specialist bookshops.

SOAS is now the leading centre of Asian and African Studies in the Western world, and its academic staff of about 300 is the largest concentration of scholars concerned with the whole of Asia and Africa at any university in the world. In addition to departments relating to the languages and cultures of Africa and Asia, there are Departments of Anthropology, Development Studies, Economics, Music, Political and International Studies, History, Linguistics, Art and Archaeology, and Study of Religions as well as the School of Law. The world-famous Library acts as a national library in the fields it covers. The School's role is to provide for the integrated study of Asian and African societies in all their aspects. At the same time it ensures that, with the great importance of Asia and Africa in the modern world, Asian and African Studies attain their proper place as an integral part of education in Western society.

The School of Law

The School of Law has an unrivalled concentration of expertise in the laws of Asian and African countries, human rights, transnational commercial law, environmental law, international law and comparative law.

It is home to a thriving research community including the Centre for East Asian Laws (CEAL), the Centre for Law and Conflict, the Centre for Ethnic Minority Studies (CEMS) and the Centre of Islamic and Middle Eastern Law (CIMEL), offering an invaluable resource to staff and students. In 2009, 85% of the law school return in the RAE was rated as being of internationally recognised, internationally excellent or world leading quality.

In addition to the numerous publications produced by individual members of staff, several publications are edited in the School, including the Journal of African Law, the Journal of Comparative Law and the Yearbook of Islamic and Middle Eastern Law.

Lecturers in the School are acknowledged experts in their fields and remain at the forefront of fostering both professional and interdisciplinary study. They maintain close links with professional practice and frequently have first-hand knowledge of the latest developments in business, government and international organisations. Each year, the School attracts a number of distinguished lawyers as Research Fellows or Visiting Instructors. The School also has close links with the internationally-renowned Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (IALS).

Founded in 1947, with Professor Vesey-Fitzgerald as first Head of Department, in the early years the Department had only postgraduate students, but in 1975, during the headship of Professor A N Allott, the Department embarked on a vigorous undergraduate programme, offering both an LLB degree course and two-subject BA degree courses in Law and another discipline or a language. The single-subject Law degree (the LLB) is recognised as a 'Qualifying Law Degree' for the purpose of the completion of the academic stage of legal training, provided students have taken and passed the seven "exemption subjects" plus one other area of legal study (see page 7 and table at page 10). A two-subject BA degree courses can in theory be a Qualifying Law Degree, but *it is very unlikely* that a student will be able to take all the courses necessary. A students wishing to qualify as a barrister or solicitor should normally apply for the LLB. For more information on routes to qualification, see page 14.

Although some of the law courses at SOAS therefore embody a substantial element of English ("common") law, they are taught as far as possible in a comparative or international manner and with an emphasis on the way in which law functions in society. Thus law studies at SOAS are essentially broad and comparative in their orientation. All students study a significant amount of non-English law (African, Asian and Continental European) and it is possible to take specialised courses in the laws of selected geographical areas or countries in Asia and Africa as well as to study legal issues in a trans-regional context. The existence of a wide range of two-subject degrees (BA degrees) makes it possible for a student to study law in an interdisciplinary fashion (i.e. law and

another discipline) or to study law and to develop linguistic skills at the same time (i.e. law and a language).

The School of Law also has:

- an expanding and varied LLM programme which provides a number of advanced courses both on comparative and international law and on aspects of the legal systems of Asia and Africa; and
- ten different MA programmes in the field of international and comparative legal studies. Nine of these programmes are specialist programmes centred upon clusters of expertise and research interest within the Law School, the tenth programme (the MA in International and Comparative Legal Studies) is for those who want to study a variety of different subjects which do not fall within the scope of any one particular programme. These programmes are for those students who wish to acquire legal knowledge at postgraduate level, but who do not have the necessary legal background to take the LLM.

If you are interested in applying for the LLB or BA (Law and discipline/language) described in this booklet we would be glad to send you the illustrated SOAS Undergraduate Prospectus which has further details of courses offered at the School, admissions procedures and information about the School generally. Please e-mail study@soas.ac.uk or write to:

Student Recruitment Office
School of Oriental and African Studies
Thornhaugh Street
Russell Square
London
WC1H 0XG

Tel: 020 7637 2388
Web: www.soas.ac.uk
Email: study@soas.ac.uk

Formal application to undergraduate programmes should be made through the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS). The UCAS Handbook and an application form can be obtained from your school or from:

UCAS
Rosehill
New Barn Lane
Cheltenham
Gloucestershire
GL52 3LA

Tel: 0870 1122200
Web: www.ucas.co.uk
Email: enquiries@ucas.co.uk

B. DEGREE STRUCTURES

Law may be studied as a single subject degree (LLB) or in combination with another subject (BA).

Those wishing to pursue a career in law usually opt for the LLB, which is recognised by the Law Society and the Bar for the purpose of completion of the academic stage of legal training.

ADMISSIONS POLICY

Entry Requirements

Minimum entry requirements are:

- A-levels – AAA;
- IB - 38 points.

Candidates with non-standard qualifications may be invited for interview.

The School looks for high motivation, good communication skills, and an interest in Asia and/or Africa as well as Law. Students are taken from a wide variety of backgrounds, and mature applicants and those with qualifications other than A-levels or IB are encouraged to apply. Among these applicants, those with Access to Law qualifications and SOAS Intermediate Certificate Course students are preferred.

Second Year Entry to the LLB

Due to the particular nature of the LLB at SOAS, with its strong emphasis on comparative law, admission direct to the second year of the course is not permitted, except for certain students who have done exceptionally well on the University of London External LLB programme.

If you wish to be admitted into Year 2 of the LLB you must apply through UCAS. In order to be considered for admission, you must pass all 4 papers of the Intermediate Examination of the External LLB of the University of London on one occasion and obtain a total of at least 200 marks overall. Fulfilling these requirements does not guarantee you a place.

Year 2 entrants must in their first year take LSAA, Public Law, Law of Obligations II and one more approved LLB subject, other than those restricted to Part II students (LLB Regulation 6.3).

BA Two-Subject Degree

Applicants for the BA two-subject degree also have to satisfy the admission requirements for the other subject chosen.

LLB Honours Degree

Duration: 3 years

Exemption from the academic stage of legal training

The SOAS LLB is normally recognised as a Qualifying Law Degree for the purpose of the completion of legal training in England and Wales, provided the required subjects have been taken and passed. It is also recognised for similar purposes in a number of other Commonwealth jurisdictions. The relevant bodies may have requirements for recognition over and above the School's criteria for the award of the degree. It is the responsibility of students intending to seek exemption from the academic stage of legal training to satisfy themselves that their qualifications will meet the requirements of the relevant professional bodies.

A student who intends to qualify as a solicitor or as a barrister in England and Wales will need to take and pass the 7 "exemption subjects" plus one other area of legal study (detailed on the following page) in order to benefit fully from this exemption.

In addition students have the opportunity to select courses from a range of regional and trans-regional options that particularly reflect the School's expertise and students' interests. Not all the courses listed are offered every year, but the School of Law is committed to offering as wide a range as possible and to enable every student to obtain exemption from the professional examinations. The courses are described in outline below (section entitled '*Outlines of Course Units*'). LLB students are required to take a total of 12 courses over three years, and must take and pass 4 courses in each year.

LLB Syllabus

All students take a total of 4 units per year.

First year (four courses)

Criminal Law (compulsory and exemption)	155200034
Introduction to Law & Legal Processes (compulsory)	155200049
Legal Systems of Asia and Africa (compulsory)	155200029
Obligations I (Contract) (compulsory and exemption)	155200004

You must pass all 4 units to proceed to the second year and to gain exemption from the professional bodies in England and Wales.

Second year (four courses)

Obligations II (Tort) (compulsory and exemption)	155200014
Public Law (compulsory and exemption)	155200005

plus any two subjects from the list below:

Chinese Law	155200055
European Human Rights Law/EU Law (exemption)*	155200051
Family Law	155200006
Islamic Law	155200037
Law and Development	155200030
Law and Society in Africa	155200033
Law and Society in South Asia	155200032
Property Law (exemption) **	155200019
Public International Law	155200025

* **European Human Rights Law/EU Law:** Most people choose to take European Human Rights Law/EU Law this year, but it can be taken in the third year if you wish. For example, you may wish to take a particular course unit in your second year instead of European Human Rights Law/EU Law because you know that it is not available in your third year.

****Property Law:** Although you do not have to take Property Law this year, it is strongly recommended that you do as it lays the ground for studying Equity in the Third Year (doing both together is not advisable, and you must see the Undergraduate Tutor if you are contemplating doing this).

Third year (four courses)

Any four subjects, chosen from the subjects listed as second–year options plus:

Company Law	155200053
Equity (exemption)	155200017
Ethnic Minorities and the Law	155200040
Independent Study Project	155200041

Note: not all of the optional subjects will be available in any one year. In some years, the number of optional subjects may, for various reasons, be substantially reduced. Additional subjects may be available from time to time: if this is the case, students will be notified as early as possible.

The Independent Study Project provides the opportunity to do original research and write a dissertation on a selected legal topic instead of sitting an exam in a taught course. Permission must be obtained from the course convenor. For further details, see the section entitled '*Outlines of Course Units*'.

In addition a third year student may be permitted to take **either** or **both** of the following:

- an LLB course not offered at SOAS which is offered at one of the other University of London Law Schools (King's College, London School of Economics, Queen Mary, University College and Birkbeck College); and/or
- a course offered in another SOAS department.

These options are subject to various conditions, including the availability of places on the course in question and the approval of the Head of the School of Law (for more detail see Regulation 7.2 of the LLB Regulations in the School Undergraduate Handbook). Please note in particular that final year students wishing to take any course designated as 'introductory' must obtain the consent of the Associate Dean for Learning and Teaching.

LLB Bachelor of Laws 2009/10

YEAR 1

1 Legal Systems of Asia and Africa 155200029**

AND

2 Introduction to Law & Legal Processes 155200049**

AND

3 Criminal Law 155200034*

AND

4 Obligations I (Contract) 155200004*

YEAR 2

1 Public Law 155200005* & **

AND

2 Obligations II (Tort) 155200014* & **

AND

3 Any **TWO** courses from the following options:
 Chinese Law 155200055
 Comparative Legal Theory (Not running 09/10)
 European Human Rights Law / EU Law 155200051* ⊕ ⊕
 Family Law 155200006
 Islamic Law 155200037
 Law and Development 155200030
 Law and Society in Africa 155200033
 Public International Law 155200025
 Law and Society in South Asia 155200032
 Law in a Globalised World 155200052 (*Not running 09/10*)
 Law of Property 155200019* ⊕
 Law And Institutions In Contemporary China 155200054 (*Not running 09/10*)

YEAR 3

1 Any **FOUR** courses from the Year 2 optional list plus:
 Company Law 155200053
 Equity 155200017 *
 Ethnic Minorities and the Law 155200040
 Independent Study Project 155200041

Plus: A third year student may be permitted to take **either or both of the following:**

An LLB course that is offered at one of the other University of London Law Schools; (Kings College, London School of Economics, Queen Mary, University College and Birkbeck)
 or
 A course offered within another SOAS department

Notes

You must pass **ALL 4** units in order to progress to the next year.

* **Exemption course unit** : Exemption course units must be passed for your degree to be recognised by the professional bodies in England and Wales.

** **Compulsory unit** . Compulsory units are required to be taken by SOAS Regulations.

⊕ **Law of Property** : Although you do not have to take this course in the 2nd year, it is strongly recommended that you do as it lays the ground for studying Equity in the 3rd Year (doing both together is not advisable, and you must see the UG Tutor if you are contemplating doing this).

⊕ ⊕ **European Human Rights Law / EU Law** : Most people choose to take European Human Rights Law / EU Law this year, but it can be taken in the third year if you wish. For example, you may wish to take a particular course unit in your second year instead of European Law because you know that it is not available in your third year.

BA Two-subject Honours Degree

BA Law can be combined with: Arabic*, Burmese**, Chinese*, Development Studies, Economics, Geography, Georgian, Hausa*, Hebrew*, Hindi**, History, History of Art/Archaeology, Indonesian**, Korean*, Linguistics, Nepali**, Persian, Politics, Social Anthropology, South Asian Studies, South East Asian Studies, Study of Religions, Swahili*, Thai**, Turkish*, Urdu, Vietnamese**

* 4 year degree with language year abroad

** 3 or 4 year degree with option of a year abroad

Important: please note.

The BA combined degree is designed primarily to allow you to gain insight into certain areas of legal knowledge, rather than lead you towards professional legal practice.

Although the holder of a 'Qualifying Law Degree' automatically gains exemption from the academic stage of legal training, and the BA can be a Qualifying Law Degree if you pass all the Foundations of Legal Knowledge course units, *it is very unlikely* that you will be able to take all these units. If you cannot, you will have to apply to the Solicitors Regulation Authority or the Bar Standards Board for exemption from the Common Professional Examination.

If you wish to qualify as a barrister or a solicitor you should normally apply for the LLB.

If you wish to take the BA as a step towards qualification as a lawyer you must contact the School of Law's Undergraduate Admissions Tutor before applying for the course.

Routes to qualification other than through the LLB are set out on page 14.

BA Syllabus

All students take a total of 4 units per year.

First year (four courses)

If the other subject has 3 compulsory units (most Language courses), then you must take:

Legal Systems of Asia and Africa

155200029

If the other subject has 2 compulsory units, then you must take:

Legal Systems of Asia and Africa	155200029
<u>and</u>	
Introduction to Law and Legal Processes	155200049
<u>Second and subsequent year (four courses each year)</u>	

If 'Introduction to Law and Legal Processes' has not been taken in Year 1, then you must take it in Year 2 (or Year 3 if you have been abroad in Year 2).

There are no other compulsory Law units in the degree.

A minimum number of course units must be taken for the degree title to contain the word 'Law'. Students studying the BA joint degree in Law are required to complete at least five units in the subject named first in the degree title and at least four in the subject named second (eight and five units respectively in a 4 year degree).

BA (Hons) Law and ... (two subject degree)
2009/10

IMPORTANT NOTICES

The BA two-subject degree is designed primarily to allow you to gain insight into certain areas of legal knowledge, rather than lead you towards professional legal practice. **It is very unlikely that you will be able to take the number of subjects necessary to gain exemption from the academic stage of legal training. If you wish to qualify as a barrister or a solicitor you should normally apply for the LLB.**

Legal Systems of Asia and Africa and Introduction to Law and Legal Processes are compulsory; there are no other compulsory Law units. Students studying the BA joint degree in Law are required to complete at least five units in the subject named first in the degree title and at least four in the subject named second (eight and five units respectively in a 4 year degree).

YEAR 1

If **the other subject has 3 compulsory units** (most languages) then you must take:

1
Legal Systems of Asia and Africa 155200029

OR

If **the other subject has 2 compulsory units** (mostly other disciplines, but also some languages), then you must take:

1
Legal Systems of Asia and Africa 155200029

AND

2
Introduction to Law & Legal Processes 155200049

YEAR 2

If **'Introduction to Law and Legal Processes'** has not been taken in Year 1, then you must take it in Year 2 (unless you are abroad).

YEAR 3

If **'Introduction to Law and Legal Processes'** has not been taken in Year 1, nor in Year 2 (because you were abroad), then you must take it in Year 3.

Other courses available in the Law Department

Chinese Law 155200055	Law and Development 155200030
Company Law 155200054	Law and Society in Africa 155200033
Comparative Legal Theory (<i>not running 09/10</i>)	Law and Society in South Asia 155200032
Criminal Law 155200034	Law in a Globalised World 155200052 (<i>not running 09/10</i>)
Equity 155200017	Obligations I (Contract) 155200004
Ethnic Minorities and the Law 155200040	Obligations II (Tort) 155200014
European Human Rights Law / EU Law 155200051	Law of Property 155200019
Family Law 155200006	Public International Law 155200025
Independent Study Project 155200041	Public Law 155200005
Islamic Law 155200037	

ROUTES TO QUALIFICATION

There are two possible routes to qualification as a lawyer:

- via a Qualifying Law Degree; and
- via another degree (includes a law degree which is not a Qualifying Law Degree).

Route 1 to Qualification

Qualifying Law Degree (usually 3 years); followed by a professional qualification course (Law School for solicitors, Bar School for barristers); followed by a training period (traineeship for solicitors - 2 years; pupillage for barristers - 1 year minimum).

For training contracts, see: <http://www.sra.org.uk/students/training-contract.page>.

For pupillage, see

<http://www.barstandardsboard.org.uk/Educationandtraining/whatispupillage/http://www.lawsoc.org.uk/>.

Route 2 to Qualification

Non-qualifying degree; followed by the Common Professional Examination (1 year of basic subjects; also known as the Graduate Diploma in Law); followed by a professional qualification course and training as above.

Route 2 is common. Many well-known lawyers did not do a law degree (including the most famous judge of the twentieth century, Lord Denning).

Please note. As explained earlier, the BA programmes are NOT designed as routes to qualification and hardly any can be Qualifying Law Degrees. If you want to qualify as a lawyer, then it is usually better to do the LLB. However, it is perfectly possible to take the 'other degree' route, concentrate on your degree, then qualify via the Common Professional Examination/Graduate Diploma in Law (CPE/GDL, one year full time, two years part time). You could also take as many exemption subjects as possible, then return to SOAS as an occasional student in order to take the remaining exemption subject(s). If you follow this route, you must also pass an additional law course. At present, the Solicitors Regulation Authority and the Bar Standards Board require this course to be in a substantive area of English law.

Internal Transfers

Students wishing to transfer:

- to the School of Law from another department;
- from a BA joint law degree to the LLB; or
- from the LLB to a BA two-subject law degree;

should see the Admissions Tutor in the first instance. Any application must be made as early as possible.

Where the transfer is requested at the beginning of the student's first year, the matter is dealt with by the Admissions Tutor alone. Where the transfer is requested at any other time, the matter is dealt with by the Admissions Tutor and the Undergraduate Tutor jointly.

The minimum requirement for students wishing to transfer after their first or subsequent years is an Upper Second in all subjects. An Upper Second is not, however, any guarantee of acceptance by the School of Law, which has absolute discretion in such matters.

Any plea of special circumstances must be supported by the applicant's original department, who need to assure the School of Law that the applicant is in fact of Upper Second standard.

Please note that you should carefully consider the question of exemption from the requirements of the legal professional bodies when you are thinking about a transfer. Read carefully the section above headed 'Professional Recognition', and consult a member of staff on this matter before you take any decision.

TEACHING METHODS AND ASSESSMENT

Most law courses are taught through a mixture of lectures and seminars or tutorials: on average, one two-hour lecture per week and one tutorial every two weeks per student per course or, in the case of compulsory and exemption subjects, one tutorial every week. Where a course has a fairly low number of students, it is likely to be run entirely on a seminar basis. However, all courses involve a degree of student participation. Students are expected to prepare for classes and to contribute to discussions.

All law courses (except for the Independent Study Project) are examined by a three-hour written examination at the end of the academic year. In addition students are expected to submit coursework during the year, and a student's assessment is based, normally to the extent of 20%, on coursework.

Normally, if less than 10 students choose to take a course in a particular academic session, it will not run. In this instance, students who have selected it will be notified and asked to select an alternative course.

OUTLINES OF COURSE UNITS

CHINESE LAW (155200055)

Dr Sanzhu Zhu and Elisa Nesossi

LLB Year 2 or Year 3

BA Year 2 onwards; whether or not a BA student should take this course depends on your particular circumstances, always ask for advice.

The object of this course is to study the classical foundations of law and legal institutions in China and to examine some of the modifications to the established system from the middle of the nineteenth century onwards. This is a field with a large and impressive scholarly literature (some of which is contributed from other disciplines). It is also an area of practical importance and one in which a substantial and extremely interesting body of case law has developed. Most of the relevant reading materials are readily available at SOAS and in the Internet and these materials will be more than adequate to support the teaching of the course and to assist students in the preparation of coursework.

Following an examination of the evolution and early history of Chinese law, and the jurisprudential debates surrounding these developments, the central focus of the first part of the course is on the general features of the Chinese legal system as found during the Qing dynasty (1644-1911). This part of the course will also examine developments which occurred during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

The second half of the course examines in detail a number of areas of substantive law - the family, marriage and divorce, concubinage, property (including ancestral property and religious and charitable endowments), and commercial law. Each of these areas will be examined primarily as an aspect of the law of mainland China. It will also be looked at where relevant as part of the "Chinese" law applied to Chinese persons and institutions by the courts of various jurisdictions in East and South East

Asia - in particular Hong Kong. Some consideration will also be given to developments and continuities in the Republican and Communist periods.

Assessment weighting: 20% coursework (two essays each of 2500 words, worth 10% each); 80% unseen examination.

Resubmission of coursework regulations do not apply to this course.

COMPANY LAW (155200053)

Mr Nick Foster and Dr Vivienne Bradwell

LLB Final year only

BA Final year only **plus permission** from the course convenors; permission will only be granted if you have sufficient grounding in English law

The course will provide a sound foundation of knowledge of English company law, a very important topic for legal practice and general legal knowledge. It also helps the understanding of issues in development, human rights, the environment and globalisation generally.

The course covers a selection of the main topics of English company law and other matters of topical interest. Set out below is a representative selection. The list of topics taught may vary from year to year, and may include subjects not included in this list.

Types of Business Association; Introduction to Companies and Company Law; Separate Personality and Lifting the Veil of Incorporation; Company Formation and Constitutional Documents; Disclosure; Shares and their Transfer; Organs and Officers; Management and Meetings; Binding the Company; Director's Duties; Shareholder Remedies; Control of Maladministration; Criminal Responsibility of Corporations; Offering Shares to the Public; Corporate Governance; Corporate Collapse; History and Reform; and the European Community Aspect

Assessment weighting: 20% coursework (two essays, each worth 10%); 80% unseen examination.

Resubmission of coursework regulations do not apply to this course.

CRIMINAL LAW (155200034)

Dr Prabha Kotiswaran and Ms Janet Loveless

LLB Year 1

BA Year 2 onwards; whether or not a BA student should take this course depends on your particular circumstances, always ask for advice

The Criminal Law course introduces students to the general principles of criminal law and to the social, political and moral context in which they have developed. The course concentrates on fatal and non-fatal offences against the person and offences against property as well as the range of defences that may be available on a criminal charge. The course also devotes time to questions of law reform.

Assessment weighting: 20% coursework (one essay worth 10%, one in-class test worth 10%); 80% unseen examination.

Resubmission of coursework regulations do not apply to this course.

EQUITY (155200017)

Mr Andrew Huxley

LLB Final year only

BA Final year only; whether or not a BA student should take this course depends on your particular circumstances, always ask for advice

The bulk of this course examines the law of Trusts, which is perhaps the most distinctively English part of English law. During the last twenty years, Equity's focus has shifted from Land Law towards Commerce and Global Markets. Our teaching reflects that change. In addition the course covers equitable remedies.

Assessment weighting: 20% coursework (two essays, each worth 10%); 80% unseen examination.

Resubmission of coursework regulations do not apply to this course.

ETHNIC MINORITIES AND THE LAW (155200040)

Prof Werner Menski

LLB Final year only

BA Final year only; whether or not a BA student should take this course depends on your particular circumstances, always ask for advice

Ethnic Minorities and the Law offers an inter-disciplinary study of legal issues involving ethnic minorities in the UK. Prominent topics are legal uniformity and legal pluralism, ethnicity and its legal recognition, processes of adaptation, assimilation and integration and their reflection in the law, conflict areas of family law (for example arranged marriages, divorce and maintenance problems), race relations legislation, race and criminal justice, aspects of multi-cultural education, and selected areas of immigration law.

Assessment weighting: 20% coursework (two essays, each worth 10%); 80% unseen examination.

Resubmission of coursework regulations do not apply to this course.

EUROPEAN HUMAN RIGHTS LAW/ EU LAW (155200051)

Dr Clara Della Croce, the 2nd convenor is TBC

LLB Year 2 or Year 3

BA Year 2 onwards; whether or not a BA student should take this course depends on your particular circumstances, always ask for advice

This course offers a unique combination of European human rights law and the law of the European Union. Students will be introduced to the European Convention on Human Rights and to some of the leading decisions of the European Court of Human Rights, all of which have acquired a greater significance in the UK since the Human Rights Act 1998. The second part of the course deals with the history, institutions, powers and processes of the EU and the major doctrines of European Community law. It also examines the relations between the EU and the developing world.

Assessment weighting: 20% coursework (two essays, each worth 10%); 80% unseen examination.

Resubmission of coursework regulations do not apply to this course.

FAMILY LAW (155200006)

Ms Maria Moscati (Term 1) and Prof Fareda Banda (Term 2)

LLB Year 2 (or Year 3)

BA Year 2 onwards; whether or not a BA student should take this course depends on your particular circumstances, always ask for advice

The main emphasis is on family law in England and Wales. The course deals with marriage, divorce and children, but also considers topics such as domestic violence and advances in fertilisation.

Assessment weighting: 20% coursework (two essays, each worth 10%); 80% unseen examination.

Resubmission of coursework regulations do not apply to this course.

INDEPENDENT STUDY PROJECT (155200041)

Dr Martin Lau

LLB Final year only

BA Final year only

A 10,000-word essay on an approved legal topic of the student's choice. Students must obtain prior approval from Dr Martin Lau, (ml1@soas.ac.uk).

As part of the School of Law's encouragement of a research culture, all students, whether LLB or BA, are encouraged to embark on an Independent Research Project (ISP) in their final year. The general SOAS rules concerning ISPs apply to this option also and are found in the SOAS Undergraduate Handbook under the heading "*Code of practice: Undergraduate Independent Study Projects*".

In addition, special School of Law rules require that a Law ISP has to be submitted on Tuesday 6th April 2010, not on 1st May, as is the general SOAS rule. This is so that students may keep their Easter vacation free for revision and exam preparation instead of finishing the ISP. The usual penalties for late submission apply. To be able to comply with the timetable, students wishing to write an ISP should consult potential supervisors during the second year and are advised to start thinking about their Law ISP as early as possible. Ideally, preparatory work, including any fieldwork (for which there are some limited School funds) should be done in the vacation between the second and third year of the LLB, and students should plan to have a first draft ready by, or just after, Christmas.

100% of assessment weighting (coursework)

INTRODUCTION TO LAW AND LEGAL PROCESSES (155200049)

TBC

LLB Year 1

BA Year 1 for BA students taking two course units in Year 1; Year 2 for BA students taking only one course unit in Year 1.

Introductory: final year students wishing to take this course as a floater or for any reason must first obtain permission from the Associate Dean for Learning and Teaching

This course constitutes an introduction to English common law and the traditions of Continental Europe, laying the foundations for the study of English law subjects and those parts of African and Asian systems which derive from European influences.

Assessment weighting: 20% coursework (one in-class test worth 10% and mooting 10%); 80% unseen examination.

Resubmission of coursework regulations do not apply to this course.

ISLAMIC LAW (155200037)

Prof Mashood Baderin

LLB Year 2 (or Year 3)

BA Year 2 onwards; whether or not a BA student should take this course depends on your particular circumstances, always ask for advice

Islamic Law considers from a comparative perspective the history and development of Islamic law and its application in contemporary jurisdictions. An overview of historical and jurisprudential themes in the first term includes the relationship between sacred texts and human reason in the development of the law, dissent and consensus in the articulation of the law, law and morality and normative pluralism. In the second term a detailed examination is made of the various applications of Islamic family law, with a regional focus on countries of the Middle East and South Asia.

Assessment weighting: 20% coursework (two essays, each worth 10%); 80% unseen examination.

Resubmission of coursework regulations do not apply to this course.

LAW AND DEVELOPMENT (155200030)

Dr Ioannis Glinavos

LLB Year 2 (or Year 3)

BA Year 2 onwards; whether or not a BA student should take course depends on your particular circumstances, always ask for advice.

Law and Development aims to consider critically the role of law and legal institutions in the developing world. The theoretical and practical relationship between law and development is considered through a comparative study of specific topics; relevant international arrangements and institutions such as GATT, IMF, the World Bank, and the Lome Convention; the legal profession; legal issues in land reform and the status of women and environmental law.

Assessment weighting: 20% coursework (two essays, each worth 10%); 80% unseen examination.

Resubmission of coursework regulations do not apply to this course.

LAW AND INSTITUTIONS IN CONTEMPORARY CHINA (155200054)

This course will not run in 2009/10

Dr Sanzhu Zhu

LLB Year 2 or Year 3

BA Year 2 onwards; whether or not a BA student should take this course depends on your particular circumstances, always ask for advice.

The first half of the course examines the principal features of the pre-Communist Chinese legal tradition, the impact on law of thirty years of Maoist rule, the post-Mao Chinese leadership's changing policies toward law, constitutional law and governmental structure, elections, sources of law and law enforcement and dispute resolution institutions and their personnel. The second part considers: the policies and laws in respect of crime, marriage, family, adoption, as well as: civil law (in outline, but including general principles, contract, and succession), legal protection of the socially disadvantaged.

The course presumes no prior knowledge of Chinese language, but students will be expected to familiarise themselves with Chinese legal terms.

Assessment weighting: 20% coursework (two essays, each worth 10%); 80% unseen examination.

Resubmission of coursework regulations do not apply to this course.

LAW AND SOCIETY IN AFRICA (155200033)

Ms Cathy Jenkins (Term 1) and Prof Fareda Banda (Term 2)

LLB Year 2 (or Year 3)

BA Year 2 onwards; whether or not a BA student should take this course depends on your particular circumstances, always ask for advice

Law and Society in Africa is designed to introduce students to the role of law in Commonwealth African countries. Although it is taught thematically, at the end of the year a student should have an understanding of the legal policies and culture of most of these countries. The themes discussed include principally customary law, courts and the settlement of disputes, land reform, family law, human rights, and one-party states. Particular emphasis is placed on the relationship between law and society, and the effectiveness of law as an instrument of social change.

Assessment weighting: 20% coursework (two essays, each worth 10%); 80% unseen examination.

Resubmission of coursework regulations do not apply to this course.

LAW AND SOCIETY IN SOUTH ASIA (155200032)

Dr Martin Lau, Prof Werner Menski, Mr Alex Fischer, Dr Prabha Kotiswaran

LLB Year 2 (or Year 3)

BA Year 2 onwards; whether or not a BA student should take this course depends on your particular circumstances, always ask for advice

Law and Society in South Asia is a comparative study of the current laws of India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and other South Asian countries. Major areas of study in the first half of the course are family law, including, for example, the dowry problem, the control of bigamy, joint Hindu family law, and the project of a uniform civil code. The second half focuses on constitutional laws and includes a study of fundamental rights and directive principles of state policy in India, secularism and freedom of religion, positive discrimination, public interest litigation, and the abolition of bonded labour.

Assessment weighting: 20% coursework (two essays, each worth 10%); 80% unseen examination.

Resubmission of coursework regulations do not apply to this course.

LAW OF OBLIGATIONS I (CONTRACT LAW) (155200004)

Dr Carol Tan

LLB Year 1

BA Year 2 onwards; whether or not a BA student should take this course depends on your particular circumstances, always ask for advice

Law of Obligations I is designed to introduce students to elements of the English law of contract, and together with Obligations II covers the whole of the English law of obligations. It examines fundamental concepts such as consideration, privity of contract, misrepresentation and mistake, as well as the remedies arising from breach of contract.

Assessment weighting: 20% coursework (two essays, each worth 10%); 80% unseen examination.

Resubmission of coursework regulations do not apply to this course.

LAW OF OBLIGATIONS II (TORT) (155200014)

Mr Andrew Huxley

LLB Year 2; regulations allow this unit to be taken in Year 3, but in practice all LLB students take it in Year 2

BA Year 2 onwards; whether or not a BA student should take this course depends on your particular circumstances, always ask for advice

Law of Obligations II introduces students to the English law of torts. Half the course is spent studying the traditional torts such as libel, trespass and nuisance, and the other half studying the modern tort of negligence.

Assessment weighting: 20% coursework (two essays, each worth 10%); 80% unseen examination.

Resubmission of coursework regulations do not apply to this course.

LAW OF PROPERTY (155200019)

Mr Paul Kohler

LLB Year 2; regulations allow this unit to be taken in Year 3, but in practice all LLB students take it in Year 2, and are strongly advised to do so

BA Year 2 onwards; whether or not a BA student should take this course depends on your particular circumstances, always ask for advice

Property Law is often caricatured as 'dull and difficult' but it is neither. The idea of property is fundamental to what it is to be human, which is why one of the first words a baby learns is the assertion of ownership encapsulated in the grunted exclamation 'mine!'. In the tradition of the great American universities, the property course at SOAS attempts to explore the concept by disabusing you of your preconceptions and asking you to question why we have property in the first place. This is the norm in many US law schools - which is why, in John Grisham's *Pelican Brief*, comic reference is made to the fact that, all US law students do in their first year is sit round arguing about property rights - but rarely occurs under the more conservative English approach to legal education. The course therefore goes beyond the technical private law rules of real property (ie land) to cover the philosophical, economic and sociological aspects of the concept both in western society and beyond, not only in its private law form but also in the guise of communal and state property. This course consequently exercises all aspects of your brain, requiring students to master both dry technical detail and a broad sweep of ideas and arguments - we guarantee you will not have studied anything like it before - and to help you meet the challenge there is a weekly two hour Socratic seminar (for which you are expected to prepare and contribute) and a two hour smaller group session in which YOU take the lead. The set text is Clarke & Kohler's *Property Law* (Cambridge University Press) which is available via Amazon, the SOAS bookshop, Waterstones or Foyles.

Assessment weighting: 20% coursework (two essays, each worth 10%); 80% unseen examination.

Resubmission of coursework regulations do not apply to this course.

LEGAL SYSTEMS OF ASIA AND AFRICA (155200029)

Prof Werner Menski

LLB Year 1

BA Year 1 Introductory: final year students wishing to take this course as a floater or for any reason must first obtain permission from the Associate Dean for Learning and Teaching.

The course first offers an introduction to legal theory, with particular focus on different types of legal pluralism and major theories in a broadly historical context and then proceeds to introduce students to traditional and modern aspects, respectively, of Hindu law, Muslim law, African laws and Chinese law. In most years, depending on availability of teachers, the scope of the course also covers specific jurisdictions, such as Japanese law, Southeast Asian laws, Namibian and other Southern African laws, Turkish law and Pakistani law.

Assessment weighting: 20% coursework (one essay worth 10%, one in-class test worth 10%); 80% unseen examination.

Resubmission of coursework regulations do not apply to this course.

PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO ASIA AND AFRICA (155200025)

Dr Gina Heathcote

LLB Year 2 or Year 3

BA Year 2 onwards; whether or not a BA student should take this course depends on your particular circumstances, always ask for advice

This course aims to provide you with a critical introduction to public international law. In the first term, we will cover the 'building blocks' of international law: its nature and sources, treaties, statehood and recognition, international institutions, jurisdiction, immunities and the law of state responsibility. In the second term, particular areas of public international law will be considered in detail. This term will have two broad themes: firstly, the enforcement of international law, its limitations and potential (covering weeks 1-5), and secondly, the intersection of development laws, globalisation and international economic law (covering weeks 7-11). Throughout the course, you will be encouraged to think critically about the role of law in international affairs. Scholarship from Asia and Africa will be used where possible to highlight the range of approaches to international law.

Assessment weighting: 20% coursework (two essays, each worth 10%); 80% unseen examination.

Resubmission of coursework regulations do not apply to this course.

PUBLIC LAW (155200005)

Mr Alexander Fischer & Prof Peter Leyland

LLB Year 2; regulations allow this unit to be taken in Year 3, but in practice all LLB students take it in Year 2

BA Year 2 onwards; whether or not a BA student should take this course depends on your particular circumstances, always ask for advice

This course provides an introduction to the basic principles of public law and administrative law. The course aims to familiarise students with the nature and purpose of the British constitution, the working of the institutions of the state, as well as the ways in which these institutions are rendered subject to legal control mechanisms. Within this framework, the course also adopts a comparative perspective which takes in elements of the public law of the European Union and the public law of selected African and Asian states.

Assessment weighting: 20% coursework (two essays, each worth 10%); 80% unseen examination.

Resubmission of coursework regulations do not apply to this course.

LANGUAGE COURSES

Many language courses have a limited number of places, so students who wish to study a language as a 'floater' are advised to enquire at the Languages and Cultures Faculty Office (room 351) at the earliest opportunity.

ASSESSMENT GUIDELINES FOR UNDERGRADUATES IN THE SCHOOL OF LAW – WRITTEN WORK

The guidelines below reflect the standards of work expected at undergraduate level in the School of Law. All essays are made available to the external examiner, should they request them. Please feel free to discuss your essay and how your grade was arrived at with the appropriate member of staff, during their office hours.

Coursework submission will involve either manual submission to your faculty office or online via **Blackboard** www.ble.ac.uk Further information about online submission will be passed to you.

70%+ (First Class)

*as for the Upper Second (60-69%) below plus:

- shows clear evidence of wide and relevant reading and an engagement with the conceptual issues
- develops a sophisticated and intelligent argument
- shows a rigorous use and a good understanding of relevant source materials, balancing appropriately between factual detail and key theoretical issues.
- may show original thinking and a willingness to take risks

60-69% (Upper Second Class: 2i)

* as for the Lower Second (50-59%) below plus:

- shows evidence of critical insight and critical thinking
- shows a good understanding of the major sources of law (cases, statutes, etc), factual and/or theoretical issues and legal reasoning and addresses the relevant literature on the topic
- develops a focussed and clear argument and articulates a sustained train of logical thought
- shows clear evidence of planning and appropriate choice of sources and methodology

50-59% (Lower Second Class: 2ii)

- shows some understanding of the major sources of law (cases, statutes, etc), factual and/or theoretical issues and legal reasoning involved
- shows evidence of planning and selection from appropriate sources, demonstrates some knowledge of the literature
- the text shows, in places, examples of a clear train of thought or argument
- the text concludes appropriately

45-49% (Third Class: III)

- shows some awareness and understanding of the sources of law (cases, statutes, etc), factual or theoretical issues and legal reasoning, but with little development
- misunderstandings are evident
- shows some evidence of planning, although irrelevant/unrelated material or arguments are included
- fails to develop a clear or coherent response to the question, but shows occasional knowledge or insight

40-44% (Pass below Honours)

- shows a patchy awareness and understanding of the sources of law (cases, statutes, etc), factual or theoretical issues and legal reasoning, but the substance is very thin and there is little or no development
- misunderstandings are evident
- shows too little evidence of planning, and irrelevant/unrelated material or arguments may well be included
- fails to develop a clear or coherent response to the question, but shows occasional knowledge or insight

39% or less (Fail)

- fails to answer the question or develop an argument
- fails to demonstrate a knowledge of the key issues or arguments or an understanding of legal reasoning
- contains clear conceptual or factual errors or misunderstandings
- poorly organised and/or poorly written

D. Guidelines for students

Attendance

Attendance is required at all elements of courses - lectures, tutorials, seminars and presentations. Course convenors and tutors report non-attendance to the Faculty Office who issue formal warning letters. After two formal warning letters regarding lack of attendance students may be excluded from the relevant exam(s).

Assessed Written Work

Deadlines for coursework essays are set by the course teacher or (where more than one teacher is involved in a course) the course convenor. The final deadline will not be later than the School's final deadline but it *may be earlier*. Students will be informed of these deadlines in writing at the commencement of the course. If an essay is delivered late it will be marked as normal but (by SOAS regulation) will then be subject to deduction of marks at the rate of two percentage points for each working day beyond the submission date. Exceptions to these rules will be permitted only as provided below (see 'Concessions'). Where any element of coursework is not submitted a final mark of zero will be recorded for that element.

Two copies of every assessed essay must be submitted by students to the faculty office (room 251) by 4.00 p.m. on the due day. Students must see that the date and time of receipt are noted on the copy of the essay, and must receive a receipt. Students who submit their essays on time are entitled to receive one copy of each essay back with comments and a provisional mark, within at most three weeks in term time. One copy will be retained by the teacher/convenor (together with a copy of the general comments returned to the student) so that it is available at the time of the examination.

Independent Study Projects (ISPs) must be submitted to the Faculty Office by 4.00 p.m. on Tuesday 6th April 2010. See page 19 for more information on ISPs.

Concessions

Very important: If you feel that, for any reason, you might not be able to fulfil the requirements of any course, consult the relevant course teacher/s and your Personal Tutor at the earliest opportunity.

Plan to complete all assessed written work with time to spare. Do seek help in good time if the work presents unexpected difficulties.

In regard to attendance, for absences of up to one week, 'good cause' will be accepted without documentation at the discretion of the course convenor. For class presentations, delays of up to one week will be accepted similarly by the teacher. Documentation must be provided to show 'good cause' for absences or delays over one week. These papers must be submitted through the department office and will be kept on file.

Late Submission of Coursework

Assignments handed in after the specified deadline incur a penalty of 2 percentage points per working day. No coursework can be submitted after the School deadline (4pm on Friday 7th May 2010) without written permission of the Associate Dean for Learning and Teaching, Dr Nigel Poole.

If you have a good reason (called "good cause" in the School regulations) for submitting the assignment late, the penalty can be waived or reduced at the discretion of the Undergraduate Sub-Board of Examiners in Law. If you are unable to meet a coursework deadline and wish to request that the Sub-Board waive or reduce the penalty, the procedure is as follows:

1. Go to the Faculty Office (room 251, 2nd floor) as soon as you think you might have a problem meeting the deadline.
2. Collect and complete a Late Submission Request form - ALL parts of the form should be completed.
3. You may ask relevant members of staff to support your claim, for example your Personal Tutor, lecturer or counselor (for details of the Counselling Service, see page 34). If they agree, they should email the Faculty Office, write a letter or note, or add their support on the form. If there are sensitive personal issues, inform the member of staff, and the matter will be handled accordingly.
4. If the reason you are giving for the late submission relates to a medical condition, you must attach a medical certificate covering the relevant time period. If the submission relates to the death of a person close to you, you must attach a copy of the death certificate. If you do not do so, **your request will not be granted**. Requests relating to computer problems (eg a virus, printer breakdown) **will not be granted**.
5. All information you provide will be handled sensitively and confidentially, and will be discussed only as necessary to make a decision on your request.
6. Submit the form to the Faculty Office as soon as you can – certainly no later than the SOAS deadline set out above. All relevant supporting evidence (eg medical certificate, letter from Personal Tutor or counsellor) must be submitted with the form.

7. All applications will be considered by the June meeting of the Undergraduate Sub-Board of Examiners in Law. The Sub-Board will determine what is acceptable evidence and 'good cause' in consultation with Registry and the Associate Dean where necessary.

Please note that only the Undergraduate Sub-Board of Examiners in Law has the authority to remit the 2% per day penalty for late submission. **Individual members of staff or tutors have no power to grant extensions or to waive the penalty.** **All requests should be made through the procedure described above. If you have any questions about these procedures, please ask at the Faculty Office.**

Failed Coursework

Failed coursework regulations do not apply to LLB students. They do apply to BA Law students.

Details of which courses resubmission of coursework regulations apply to are specified in the course descriptions in this handbook. For the regulations governing failed coursework and resubmission see the School Undergraduate Handbook for the current year.

Plagiarism

Students are reminded that all work submitted as part of the requirement for any examination of the SOAS (University of London) must be expressed in their own words and incorporate their own ideas and judgements. Plagiarism - that is, the presentation of another person's thoughts or words as though they were the student's own - must be avoided. Direct quotations from the published or unpublished work of others must always be clearly identified as such by being placed inside quotation marks, and a full reference to their source must be provided in proper form. A series of short quotations from several different sources, if not clearly identified as such, constitutes plagiarism just as much as does a single unacknowledged long quotation from a single source. Equally, if students summarise another person's ideas and judgements, they must refer to that person in their text as the source of the ideas and judgements, and include the work referred to in their bibliography. Failure to observe these rules may result in an allegation of cheating. Students should therefore consult their course convenor if they are in any doubt about what is permissible. Where students draw on their own previous written work, whether submitted as coursework for their current degree, or for a previous degree or qualification, this must be clearly stated. Coursework essays submitted for one course may not be used for another course without acknowledgement and prior approval. Plagiarism is an examination offence. The penalties for plagiarism are severe.

Exams – Personal Matters

If anything occurs (which may be of a medical, personal or family nature) that is likely to affect your examination performance, you are strongly encouraged to notify the Examinations and Assessment Office (Tanya Kynaston, tk54@soas.ac.uk; see also the regulations at <http://www.soas.ac.uk/registry/degreeregulations/>) and to discuss it as soon as possible with your Personal Tutor (or, if they are unavailable, someone else in the Department). From our experience it is usually much better, if possible, to sit an

examination and submit a request for the circumstances to be taken into account rather than fail to turn up for the examination at all. This is especially true in the final year, as there are no September re-sits and, even if it is possible to retake an exam which has been missed, you will have to wait until the following May/June session to do so. Please note you must submit a request for circumstances to be taken into account, along with the necessary evidence, before the Undergraduate Sub-Board of Examiners in Law meets, as it is not possible to consider matters notified or submitted afterwards.

Timetable

Students should check the up-to-date timetable by referring to www.soas.ac.uk/timetable. Although a printed version of the timetable is displayed in the corridors outside the Faculty Offices (2nd floor, room 251), it is essential that students consult the latest web version of the timetable on a regular basis to check for changes. If you find that your **core** courses clash you should complete the online form at www.soas.ac.uk/timetable or consult the Faculty Office for advice.

Guidelines on Applications for Leave of Absence by Students

Applications for leave of absence must be made to the Academic Registrar on the appropriate form. The power to grant leave of absence rests with the Associate Dean for Learning and Teaching, or the equivalent to this, in each Faculty. Leave of absence is not normally granted between the first and second years of a degree programme. Requests for leave of absence are referred by the Registry to the School of Law Tutor concerned, and simultaneously to the Associate Dean, to whom School Tutors make recommendations.

Requests are assessed on a case-by-case basis, but leave of absence is normally not granted except where there are compelling reasons. These reasons might include certificated illness, pregnancy, or other personal, family or financial circumstances which, in the judgment of the Associate Dean, would make completion of the degree less likely if leave of absence were not granted. Leave of absence may also be granted if, in the view of the Associate Dean, there is a compelling academic reason for this.

An opportunity for a student to visit or work in another part of the world will not normally constitute grounds for leave of absence to be granted. Students should make prompt completion of their SOAS degree their first priority. If a student is a member of two Faculties, then the agreement of both Associate Deans for Learning and Teaching must be obtained. If agreement is not possible, then the matter should be referred to the Pro-Director, who will make the final decision.

Some do's and don'ts

Be professional in everything you do. Do be courteous to everybody (staff and students alike). This includes such things as not talking during lectures (if you are not interested, other people are, and you are stopping them listening); arriving late for no reason, and so disturbing other students' concentration; and failing to notify tutors of absence.

Do attend lectures and tutorials. There are a very small number of people who can study well from books without assistance. **Most people who do not attend**

class simply do badly in exams, either failing outright or obtaining a poor pass mark. Please also read carefully the notice on attendance, set out earlier.

Do treat law seriously: it is a fascinating, but difficult subject. **It needs hard work.** Don't panic. Thinking legally takes time and some initial confusion is inevitable. Keep at it and it should eventually become clear.

Do get the best grades possible in your first year. They do not count towards your degree, but they are vital if you want to qualify as a practising lawyer (if you want a job in the legal profession, you have to have an interview; if you want an interview, you must have had a placement; if you want a placement, you need good first year results ...).

Do ask for help: don't just sit there. Lecturers are not telepathic and they need to be told about problems!

References. See page 40 for information about references.

Do respect lecturers' office hours - every lecturer should have a specific time when he/she will see students, and in accordance with School policy this should be posted outside their door. Do not come at other times unless there is an emergency. The lecturer will probably either not be there or will ask you to come back during the designated office hours, which will also be posted in the corridors near room 251 and on the Student Blackboard (BLE).

Do communicate and make sure that you are contactable. Do make sure that your SOAS email address is set up and that you know how to use it. The School does not have the resources to record everyone's private e-mail address.

Don't plagiarise. If you plagiarise, you are cheating! By resorting to plagiarism you are trying to gain an unfair advantage over another student who is using her or his own words and ideas. In addition to being unfair to other students, you are failing yourself, because you are not gaining the benefit of confronting intellectual challenges and are missing the opportunity of personal development.

Do understand that plagiarism is a very serious offence. At minimum you will receive 0 (zero) for the piece of work in question. You will probably be reported to the University, and may be reported to the Solicitors Regulation Authority/Bar Standards Board. All this could have very grave repercussions on your future career.

Do your coursework and hand it in on time. Coursework can make all the difference (between grades, between passing and failing). Coursework usually counts for 20% of marks, end-of-year examinations count for 80%. Coursework can take the form of in-class tests or essays. The convenor of the course will tell you what the coursework is for that course (the norm is two assignments, except in the first year, where in-class tests are quite common). *Assignment marks are taken into account in September re-sits.*

Do follow the instructions for handing in assignments. Do follow the Faculty instructions if you hand in an assignment late and wish not to be penalised.

Email – check your SOAS account regularly

You will receive email messages from the Student Support Office throughout the year with important information of relevant to you: checking your SOAS email account is vital. In addition, the **School of Law Student Blackboard** <http://www.ble.ac.uk> provides an easy access site for you to access information about coursework deadlines, upcoming events, your personal advisor's office hours, etc.

There are many different sources of help and advice available to students: it is very important that you make use of the support systems if you need to do so. Small, easily solved problems may grow rapidly into big, difficult ones if nothing is done about them. Such difficulties are particularly common in the first year. Some useful procedures and contacts are set out below. Please also see Blackboard for information, <http://www.ble.ac.uk>

Student Support Office

Firstly, administrative questions to do with your courses and your degree should be directed to the Student Support Office (room 251, 2nd floor of SOAS, tel 020 7898 4403, or email law@soas.ac.uk). Opening hours are 10-4, Monday-Friday, but these hours can change during busy times. The UG Student Support Officer for Law is currently Caroline Strickson, cs71@soas.ac.uk

Academic Administration and Pastoral Care

The School of Law has several administrative systems in place for the undergraduate programme (the LLB and the law part of the BA joint degrees), including the provision of pastoral care. These systems impact on the complaints procedure and the provision of references.

The structure is as follows:

- the Undergraduate Tutor;
- Year Tutors for the First, Second and Third/Fourth Years; and
- Personal Tutors.

The Undergraduate Tutor

The Undergraduate Tutor is responsible for the administration of the undergraduate programme as a whole, but not for pastoral care or the matters dealt with by the Year Tutors. It is unlikely that you will need to contact the Undergraduate Tutor unless you have a complaint (see below), or some other serious issue arises, for example if you wish to change your degree.

See page 50 for contact details of the Undergraduate Tutor.

The Year Tutors

Contact your Year Tutor if you wish to take a course for which prior approval is needed, or if you need a **second reference** (see page 39 for the provision of references). You may also come into contact with the Year Tutor if you have attendance problems, as they are responsible for monitoring and following up on attendance in cooperation with the Course Convenors and Personal Tutors, or if your Personal Tutor thinks that your Year Tutor can provide additional assistance. See page 50 for contact details of the Year Tutors.

The Personal Tutors

Each student is allocated a Personal Tutor. The name, contact details and office hours of your Personal Tutor will be emailed to your SOAS account in the first few weeks of term after enrolment. This information will also be on the notice board outside the Faculty Office, room 251 on the 2nd floor of SOAS.

Your Personal Tutor is the first address for personal and pastoral issues affecting your studies. If you have a problem, and are not sure who to go to, ask your Personal Tutor. He/she will either deal with the matter or direct you to other people qualified to assist, such as the Learning and Teaching Unit and Student Services.

Particular matters dealt with by your Personal Tutor include providing your first, and if there is more than one, **your principal reference (see page 40 for the provision of references)** and general advice on course options. (For advice on particular courses, talk to the relevant Course Convenor; if you need to obtain approval before enrolling on a particular course unit, consult your Year Tutor.)

Visit your Personal Tutor at least twice a year so that you get to know each other and to ensure that your Personal Tutor is up to date with your progress. If you do this, it will be much easier to approach your Personal Tutor if a problem arises, he/she will be better equipped to assist, and will be able to give a much fuller and better informed principal reference.

Complaints Procedure

Concerns or complaints about the management or teaching of a particular School of Law course, degree or the undergraduate programme generally should be initially raised with the relevant teacher or Course Convenor. If, however, you feel that this would not be productive, or you have done so and are not satisfied with the result, consult the Undergraduate Tutor. If you do not wish to approach the Undergraduate Tutor (for example, if the Undergraduate Tutor is the teacher concerned), then go directly to the Head of the School of Law.

It is usually helpful to consult the SOAS Student Law Society before raising a serious issue with the Undergraduate Tutor. If you are not satisfied with the result after bringing the matter to the Undergraduate Tutor, contact the Head of the School of Law. If you are still dissatisfied thereafter, contact the Dean of the Faculty of Law and Social Sciences.

Academic Assistance

Your teachers are happy to provide assistance on academic matters such as general guidance on the course, feedback on assignment work, and so on. This assistance is provided only during term-time, and will normally only be given in person. Please do not email your teacher on routine matters. You can approach your teacher after lectures, if you have a minor query, or during her/his office hours, if the matter is more substantial. Academic office hours should not, however, be used as a private tutorial, in other words they are not a substitute for lecture or tutorial attendance. If the matter is very urgent, say you have agreed to participate in a presentation and fall ill, contact the Faculty Office and ask them to relay a message.

Meeting the Person You Need to See – Office Hours

Academic staff publish 'office hours' on their doors showing regular times when they are available for consultation. The hours are also posted on the notice board outside the Student Support Office, room 251, and on <http://ble.ac.uk>, the Student Blackboard. If you are unable to visit your Personal Tutor, Course Convenor or the relevant Undergraduate Year Tutor during advertised office hours, contact them by email and request the arrangement of an appointment at a different time.

Confidentiality

Students often wish to keep certain information confidential. This is understandable, but consider the fact that it is often helpful if you allow the member of staff in whom you confide to tell other, selected, members of academic staff about the problem. For example, your teachers will not be able to help you if they do not know that you are experiencing difficulties.

However this may be, all information given to any member of staff will be treated as confidential unless (1) you authorise its release or (2) the member of staff believes that a serious criminal offence has been committed or (3) that some significant harm may occur to you or to someone else. In these circumstances, unless there is an emergency, the member of staff will discuss the matter with you first. If he/she has made a reasonable effort to obtain your consent to the release of the relevant information, and you do not agree, or there is an emergency, that information may nonetheless be released. In the very unlikely case of legal proceedings, information given in confidence may have to be disclosed.

Student Representatives

Student Representatives are elected to represent each year group. The representatives attend School of Law departmental meetings to raise matters of concern to the undergraduate students, participate in departmental discussions and to report back on Departmental business - these meetings happen around twice a term. Reps also attend the Staff-Student Consultative Committee (SSCC), which usually meets shortly before the School of Law meetings. These meetings are composed of student representatives from years 1, 2 and 3, the three Year Tutors, and the Undergraduate Tutor.

You will be asked by the Student Union to elect your year representatives in October (for the first year) and January (for the second and third years). Do participate, and do ensure you pass your concerns or comments to your student representatives who will have the regular opportunities to raise them to the Department.

Once elected your student representatives are listed on the notice boards and on the School of Law Student Blackboard.

Welfare Advice

The Student Welfare Office is based at Vernon Square and provides impartial and confidential information or advice on all aspects of Student Welfare. The service is available to assist with any non-academic problem that may be affecting your

studies. Areas of expertise include; finance, budgeting and hardship, visas and immigration, special needs, accommodation, childcare and welfare benefits.

Counselling Services

Student Services offer a confidential counselling service to students in the School. Counsellors are professionally trained and accredited by the British Association for Counselling or the UK Council for Psychotherapy and are bound by their professional codes of ethics and practice. This provides an opportunity for you to reflect on personal or academic concerns central to your wellbeing, with respect given to your individuality and your social, cultural and racial identity. They also offer occasional workshops on specific topics relevant to managing the pressures and challenges of student life. They can be contacted through Ambie Rene on 020 7074 5015 or via email on ar40@soas.ac.uk or counsellors@soas.ac.uk.

International Student and Welfare Advice Service

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The International Student and Welfare Advisors provide information, advice and practical help to students on any non-academic problems or issues that may be affecting your studies. They will also assist in immigration matters. They can be contacted on 020 7074 5014 or by email on welfare@soas.ac.uk, or contact Ambie Rene, as above.

Mental Health and Wellbeing Service

The Mental Health and Wellbeing Advisor (Ms Sachiko Kishi) provides confidential support, information and advice on any concerns you may have regarding your mental and emotional wellbeing. She is available on Tuesdays and Fridays and can be contacted by email on sk100@soas.ac.uk

Student Disability Advisers

The SOAS Student Disability Office exists to provide advice and support to disabled students (including students with specific learning difficulties) from when they first apply to when they graduate. We aim to ensure that the varied aspects of student life at SOAS are open to students with disabilities and that staff are provided with the appropriate training for their specific tasks in this area. For more information please email the Disability Advisers, Angie Axon aa113@soas.ac.uk or Zoë Davis zd@soas.ac.uk or you can phone them on 020 7074 5018. To make an appointment to see either Angie or Zoe please contact Ambie Rene on 020 7074 5015.

Dyslexia

If you are, or suspect you may be, dyslexic, then you can be assessed and advised. In appropriate cases, you may be entitled to special arrangements in your examinations. Contact the Faculty Office for more information.

The Learning and Teaching Unit (LTU)

The LTU is involved with a wide variety of projects to help support staff and students and covers a wide range of skills, including essay and dissertation writing, presentation skills, time-management, listening to lectures, reading and note-taking

skills. The LTU is based in G12 on the ground floor in the main campus in Russell Square. For more information, see the website or contact Jeanne Spencer, Co-ordinator for Learner Support, ltu@soas.ac.uk.

Library Facilities

All enquiries regarding law resources should be directed to the Law Librarian - Sarah Spells ss104@soas.ac.uk tel 020 7898 4155. See also <http://www.soas.ac.uk/library/law>.

Also available throughout the year is training in information skills and electronic resources. Please contact Beth Clark (bc3@soas.ac.uk) for more details.

SOAS Library has over a million books covering the humanities and social sciences in Asia, Africa and the Middle East, in European and indigenous languages - including law, economics, development studies, finance management and statistics. The Library subscribes to over 4,500 current journals and also provides access to a wide range of electronic resources including journals, journal indexes, bibliographic databases, news information and legal databases covering various subjects and regions.

Study spaces are available on all levels of the Library including Regional reading rooms a Main Reading Room and a Group Study area.

A separate Short-Loan Collection contains key texts recommended by lecturers and is open only to students and staff of SOAS.

The Library's on-line catalogue (<http://lib.soas.ac.uk/>) can also be browsed and enables access to other library catalogues in London, the UK and worldwide.

All electronic journals and databases are available to SOAS students and staff from computers in SOAS and some can also be accessed off-site. You will be able to connect to all the Library's databases, journals and other general websites from the Library website (see <http://www.soas.ac.uk/library/electronic>). In addition, Regional and Subject librarians have created guides to online information to help you find useful academic resources by subject or region.

See <http://www.soas.ac.uk/library/collections>.

A comprehensive guide for law is available at:

<http://www.soas.ac.uk/library/subjects/law/law-in-the-soas-library.html>).

It provides details of all the legal databases available, information on understanding legal sources and how to find various materials, and provides direct links (with annotations) to a range of online legal resources for various jurisdictions including electronic journals, law reports, other primary materials and e-publications, internet gateways, relevant organisations, other specialist libraries and news resources.

SOAS Library's facilities are complemented by those of other academic and research libraries within the University of London and the London area to which SOAS students have access.

Computing Facilities

There is an ongoing programme of upgrading and increasing the number of available computers for undergraduates. At present approximately 100 computers are available to undergraduates, located in dedicated computer rooms and in the library and the School's IT staff are available to answer general enquiries on computing on the **first floor**, near the double lifts.

Careers

In co-operation with the school's Careers Advisory Service, the School of Law gives advice to students about careers. An annual careers forum is organised and one member of the academic staff is responsible for advising students. The wide-ranging courses at SOAS provide an excellent preparation for a variety of careers.

Many graduates enter the legal profession. Some have gone to work for large firms where legal/linguistic expertise acquired at SOAS has led them overseas, others do work in which they can become involved with social issues covered in their studies. Many graduates pursue careers in international agencies and in nongovernmental organisations (NGOs).

During Term 1, the School of Law Careers Seminars will take place on Mondays at 6pm (please refer to the timetable for details, time is subject to change).

Living and Studying in London

There are several halls of residence close to the School that cater for undergraduates and postgraduates, and there is limited accommodation for families. SOAS has two student residences of its own next to the Vernon Square campus. The convenience and good value represented by the halls of residence are reflected in invariably greater demand than the number of places available, and students are advised to apply for accommodation as early as possible. For further information on the SOAS Residences enquiries should be made to The Accommodation Office, Dinwiddy House, 189-205 Pentonville Road, London N1 9NF.

A booklet listing all University of London halls of residence is available from the Accommodation Office at Senate House, University of London, Malet Street, London WC1 7HU.

Members of the School have access to the University medical services. The School has a full-time student welfare officer and trained counselling staff who provide advice and support on welfare matters.

The School's central position allows easy access to the great museums and libraries of London as well as all the other facilities to be found in a capital city - theatres, cinemas, art galleries and exhibition halls.

The **University of London Students Union (www.ulucos.co.uk)** is only a few minutes walk from SOAS in Malet Street and has a wide range of recreational and sporting facilities.

Financial Support for SOAS School of Law Students

Thanks to the generosity of Professor William Ballantyne, the School of Law has funds available for the support of students in serious financial difficulties.

The amounts available are, of course, limited, and in the present environment there are not many students who do not feel the need for a little extra. Therefore monies from the Fund are only disbursed to those who are in really pressing need and who cannot find finance in other ways, such as working part-time, obtaining grants, and so on.

In other words, the Fund is a last resort for students who are truly in great need. It is important that this scarce resource not be wasted; therefore disbursements will only be made to diligent students who are considered likely to benefit from it. Given the wide variety of problems which arise it is not possible, nor is it desirable, to lay down any more detailed criteria than these.

Applications should be made to the appropriate Undergraduate Year Tutor, email only (**see Section H, Useful Contact Details, on page 49 for details of your Year Tutor**). Decisions are made on the basis of an interview and, where appropriate, consideration of supporting documentation.

SCHOOL OF LAW - Policy on References

Provision of References

Before approaching anyone for a reference, *please read this School of Law reference policy*, and ensure you provide the necessary information. This policy is issued by the School of Law in the interest of clarity and fairness in the giving of references. Please help us to help you. The provision of references is a reasonable expectation on the part of students and alumni, and we wish to assist your career prospects as far as possible. However, this service can impose a substantial burden on academic staff time, and we therefore expect all students to follow this policy to assist us in giving your request the kind of attention that can make a real difference to our application.

References will not be provided by the Head of the School of Law in that capacity unless the institution applied to requires this.

Your first, and usually the only, reference is provided by your Personal Tutor. If a second reference is necessary, this will be provided by your Year Tutor or another colleague who knows you. These will normally be in standard form, confirming your general level of performance (but not your grades or class of degree, this sort of confirmation can only be provided by the Registry).

In exceptional circumstances, such as applications for prestigious scholarships, more, or fuller, references may be necessary. If you need such references, consult your Personal Tutor, (this person's details will be emailed to you shortly after enrolment in Term 1).

Teachers **not** in permanent full or part-time employment at SOAS cannot provide references for you.

References will be provided only for students or alumni of the School of Law, and only for academic-related purposes, i.e. for academic applications and for non-casual employment.

Academic staff will not provide open "To Whom it May Concern" references, but only confidential references for specified institutions.

Official transcripts, degree results and certifications of status or registration are given only by the Registry, and cannot be provided by the School of Law or Faculty. The Registry Office is located on the first floor of the Vernon Square campus. They can also be contacted by email registrar@soas.ac.uk or by telephone 020 7074 5105.

Students are asked to:

- ensure that they have read all instructions carefully and complied with them, providing all necessary documentation, and completed the application form in full;
- provide the referee with full information about themselves (a full CV with grades is helpful, and an indication of the applicant's strong points) together with the application and precise, clear instructions as to HOW AND BY WHEN the reference is to be submitted:

- give the referee AT LEAST 14 DAYS' NOTICE, and check that the referee is actually available to do the reference in time.
- Referees will keep electronic or hard copy of the reference for two months, in case of any dispute, but are not obliged to inform applicants of the sending of the reference unless specifically requested.
- If you do not follow the guidelines above, academic staff are entitled to decline to provide the reference, or provide it at the applicant's own risk as to lateness or efficacy.

Note also that referees will be better able to provide a reference for those students who have kept in touch with them.

F. DEPARTMENT INFORMATION

Academic Staff

Prof Mashood Baderin (mb78@soas.ac.uk, 020 7898 4715, Rm 217) and Head of the School of Law

LLB (Hons) (Sokoto, Nigeria), BL (Barrister & Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Nigeria), LLM, PhD. (Nottingham), PGCE.

Human Rights and Islamic Law; International and Comparative Human Rights Law; Interaction of International Law with Islamic Law in Muslim States; Islamic Law

Prof Fareda Banda (fb9@soas.ac.uk, 020 7898 4664, Rm 233)

BL, LLB (Zimbabwe), DPhil (Oxon)

Family Law, Human Rights of Women, Law and Society in Africa, Alternative Dispute Resolution

Dr Gunnar Beck (gb18@soas.ac.uk 020 7898 4661Rm 235)

MA, MPhil (Oxon), DPhil (Oxon), Barrister-at-Law, Reader in EU Law and Legal Theory
EU law, legal theory; legal reasoning and method in common law and civil law jurisdictions; moral and political philosophy

On leave 2009-11

Prof Matthew Craven (mc7@soas.ac.uk, 020 7898 4673, Rm 260) and Dean of the Faculty

MA, LLM, PhD (Nottingham), DipEd

Public international law; human rights (particularly economic social and cultural rights); legal theory

Dr Philippe Cullet (pc38@soas.ac.uk, 020 7898 4651, Rm 223)

LLM, MA (London), JSD (Stanford)

Law and environment; law and natural resources; intellectual property; water; human rights; international law; India

Dr Catriona Drew (cd4@soas.ac.uk, 020 7898 4482, Rm 230)

LLB (Aberdeen) PhD (LSE)

Public international law; international legal history; human rights (particularly self-determination of peoples); and legal theory

Mr Ian D Edge (ie1@soas.ac.uk, 020 7898 4665, Rm 235)

MA, LLB (Cantab), Barrister

Islamic law; the general law of Egypt and the Gulf; commercial law in the Middle East; conflict of laws and international transactions

On leave Term 2

Mr Alexander Fischer (af5@soas.ac.uk, 020 7898 4302, Rm 224)

BA (LSE), MA (Heidelberg)

Constitutional & Comparative Public Law, Constitutional Theory, Federalism, Law and Courts, Law and Politics, Laws of South Asia

Mr Nicholas H D Foster (nf4@soas.ac.uk, 020 7898 4666, Rm 237)

MA (Cantab), DESU (Aix-Marseille III), Senior Lecturer in Commercial Law

Comparative commercial and comparative corporate law, with special reference to Islamic law and the laws of the Middle East, in particular the UAE; Islamic Finance

Dr Gina Heathcote (gh21@soas.ac.uk 020 7898 4367 Rm 447)
BA LLB (Australia) LLM (Westminster)
International feminist legal theories; International Law especially laws on the use of force; women's human rights; political and legal theories

Mr Andrew Huxley (ah6@soas.ac.uk, 020 7898 4668, Rm 234)
MA, BCL (Oxon), Barrister
South East Asian law, particularly Burma and Thailand; Buddhism and law; comparative legal theory; trusts; law of tort

Ms Catherine Jenkins (cj3@soas.ac.uk, 020 7898 4676, Rm 232)
MA (Oxon), DESU (Aix-Marseille III), LLM (London), Solicitor
Human rights; civil liberties; European law; law and conflict

Prof David Kennedy (visiting) (David.Kennedy@brown.edu) Vice President of Brown University
Manley O. Hudson Professor of Law, Harvard Law School
AB, MALD, JD (Harvard), PhD (Fletcher/Tufts)
International law, social thought, law and development, American legal thought

Mr Paul Kohler (pk3@soas.ac.uk 020 7898 4656 Rm 231) UG Programme Convenor
MA (Cantab); Senior Lecturer & Sub Dean (UCL) 1997-2001
Property including land, personal and trusts; jurisprudence

Dr Prabha Kotiswaran (pk5@soas.ac.uk, 020 7898 4678 Rm 260a) 1st year tutor
BA, LLB (Hons) (National Law School of India University) LLM (Harvard) SJD (Harvard)
Criminal Law, Feminist Legal Theory, Law and Society

Dr Martin Lau (ml1@soas.ac.uk, 020 7898 4657, Rm 227)
MA, PhD (London), Barrister
Laws of South Asia; comparative environmental law; Islamic law

Dr M F Makeen (mm76@soas.ac.uk, 020 7898 4502, Rm 299a)
LLB (Cairo), LLM, PhD (London), Advocate Court of Appeal Egypt
Intellectual property (particularly comparative copyright law); information technology law; international construction arbitration; contract law; commercial law in the Middle East

Prof Werner Menski (wm4@soas.ac.uk, 020 7898 4674, Rm 229)
MA (Kiel), PhD (London)
Classical and modern Hindu law; laws of South Asia; family law; comparative law; South Asians in the UK; immigration law; ethnic minorities

Prof Peter Muchlinski (pm29@soas.ac.uk, 020 7898 4751 Rm 225)
LLB (London), LLM (Cambridge), Barrister, FRSA.
The regulation of multinational enterprises, international corporate governance and corporate social responsibility, foreign investment law, WTO law and practice, competition law, international commercial law and development.

Dr Lutz Oette (lo8@soas.ac.uk, 020 7898 4727, Rm 231)
First State Exam (Koeln), LL.M (London), Dr. Jur (Koeln)
Public international law; human rights law; implementation of international standards; victims' rights and reparation

Dr Emilia Onyema (eo3@soas.ac.uk, 0207 7898 4717, Rm 224)
LLB (Jos), LL.M (London), PhD (London), BL (Nigeria), Solicitor (England)
International Trade Law, International Commercial Arbitration, Comparative Commercial Law

Mr Scott Newton (sn21@soas.ac.uk, 020 7898 4658, Rm 299)
BA (California), JD, MPA (Harvard)
Post-Soviet law and legal/institutional reform in Central Asia and CIS; law and development (markets and globalisation in developing and transitional states); law, governance and post-conflict reconstruction; human rights
On leave Terms 1 and 2

Prof Michael Palmer (mp@soas.ac.uk, 020 7898 4671, Rm 222)
LLB (Cantab); BSc (Econ), MA, LL.D (London); Barrister
Alternative Dispute Resolution, Arbitration and Civil Procedure; Chinese Law (traditional and modern); Conflict of Laws; Comparative Family Law; Consumer Protection

Dr Carol Tan (ct9@soas.ac.uk, 020 7898 4630 Rm 4415)
LLB (London), LL.M (London), PhD (London)
Contract, legal history, British overseas rule and the law especially in relation to the leased territory of Weihaiwei and to ethnic Chinese communities in Hong Kong and South East Asia, law and society in South East Asia, traditional Chinese law

Prof Lynn Welchman (lw10@soas.ac.uk, 020 7898 4672, Rm 226)
MA (Cantab), PhD (London)
Islamic law; law of the Middle East and North Africa, especially comparative family law; human rights; gender and law, Palestine and the law
On leave Term 1 and Term 3

Dr Sanzhu Zhu (sz8@soas.ac.uk, 020 7898 4667, Rm 236)
BA (Shanxi), LL.M (South Central University of Political Science and Law, Wuhan), PhD (London). Senior Lecturer in Chinese Commercial Law
Chinese law (commercial, corporate and general); comparative commercial law with reference to China; securities regulation and dispute resolution in China; legal and regulatory reform in Chinese financial services law

Senior Teaching Fellows

Dr Vivienne Bradwell

Ms Louise Campbell-Brown

Dr Clara Della Croce

Ms Dita Gill

Dr Aeyal Gross

Prof John Hatchard
LLB, LLM (London), Barrister
Criminal Law; Criminal Procedure; African Law; Comparative Public Law

Dr Doreen Hinchcliffe
LLB (Manchester), Dip Islamic & Comp Law, PhD (London), Barrister, Visiting
Lecturer in Law with reference to Islam
Islamic Law; Islamic Law of Succession

Ms Janet Loveless

Dr David McIlroy

Mr Barrie Nathan

Mr Colin Paul

Dr Prakash Shah
LLB, LLM, PhD (London), Immigration and Nationality Law; Ethnic Minorities and the
Law

Ms Ana Stanič
LLB, B. Commerce (UNSW), LLM (Cantab), Solicitor Advocate

Teaching Fellows

Mr Jeremy Brown, Ms Caroline Derry, Ms Rozeena Ali, Mr Andreas Kotsakis

Honorary Appointments

Dr Hassan Ali Rhadi
Professorial Research Associate

Prof Philip Baker, QC
Professorial Research Associate
MA (Cantab), LLM, PhD (London), MBA, Senior Research Associate International tax
law, Chinese law

Prof William Ballantyne
MA (Cantab), Visiting Professor of Arab Laws
Arab Law; Comparative Commercial Law

Prof His Honour Judge Eugene Cotran
Visiting Professor
LLM (Leeds), DIPIL (Cantab), LLD, Barrister, Circuit Judge, Visiting Professor of Law
with reference to Africa and to the Middle East, Chairman of Centre of Islamic and
Middle Eastern Law, African Law; Middle Eastern Law; Immigration Law

Prof Anthony Dicks
Professorial Research Associate

Prof Peter Leyland
Professorial Research Associate

Prof Ziba Mir-Hosseini
Research Associate, Centre of Islamic and Middle Eastern Law

Dr Robin Munro
Research Associate

Mr Khawar Qureshi
Professorial Research Associate

Ms Marian Roberts
Professorial Research Associate

Prof Katherine Rosenberry
Professorial Research Associate, Centre of East Asian law

Mr John Sangwa
Research Associate

Dr Natubhai Shah
Research Associate, Centre for Ethnic Minority Studies

Mr Henry Siegman
Research Associate, Hotung Project

Dr Xin Zhang
Research Associate, Centre of East Asian Law

G. GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Alternative Assessment

For some students who are unable to sit the examination of a course in May/June for illness or other good cause, there is the possibility of assessment in September. Such assessment is called alternative assessment. This assessment is usually in the form of an examination. First year and final year students are not eligible for alternative assessment. A maximum of two and a half course units can be assessed in this way. If you are considering alternative assessment you should speak to your year tutor in the first instance.

Assessment

Each course is assessed separately using an appropriate combination of assessment methods (e.g. essays, unseen examinations, presentations, oral examinations, practical assessments etc.) The assessment for each course within the School of Law is detailed within the Course Information section of this handbook - as are the summary of key regulations regarding assessment. Full details of assessment regulations are provided in the Registry Handbooks available on-line.

Associate Dean for Learning and Teaching

The Associate Dean for Learning and Teaching is an experienced academic who supervises the structure and development of taught courses across the School. If it is not possible for a solution to a student's problem to be found at the departmental level, the Associate Dean for Learning and Teaching may be contacted for advice.

Blackboard

Blackboard is a Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) which is used by some course convenors for making reading lists and other course information available on-line. Contact your Course Convenor to ask if they are using Blackboard for your courses – or logon to www.ble.ac.uk. For further information about Blackboard, please contact blackboard@soas.ac.uk

Once you have registered for your courses, you will be given automatic access to the relevant courses on Blackboard. During the busy registration period, there will be an inevitable short delay whilst your course registrations are verified and the data entered onto the student records system, but Faculty Office staff will do their best to minimise this delay as much as possible. There is no alternative route to getting access to BLE - so you are encouraged to register for your courses promptly to ensure access to BLE before teaching starts.

Core and Compulsory Courses

In the undergraduate degree regulations (1.3), a **core** course is defined as a course the examination of which must be passed before a student is permitted to proceed to the next year of his or her degree. A **compulsory** course is defined as a course in respect of which the minimum attendance and coursework requirement of the degree regulations must be satisfied but the examination of which need not

necessarily be passed before a student is permitted to proceed to the next year of his or her degree, provided that the other regulations governing annual progress have been satisfied.

Course

Each academic year, students study a combination of individual courses to the value of 4.0 units – most courses are worth 1.0 units, although some from other departments may be half units (0.5). Course descriptions are listed earlier in this handbook.

Exam Board

In June each year, all assessment results from that year are considered by the relevant Sub-Board of Examiners. This consists of department staff in addition to the Visiting Examiner(s). Medical notes and requests for reinstatement of marks deducted for late submission are also considered by the Sub-board. Recommendations for final course results, and classification for finalists, are then forwarded onto the School Board of Examiners for their final approval.

Floater

A floater is a course that is in a subject not belonging to the subjects in your degree course title. For example, if you were studying for a BA Law and Politics a course in introductory Chinese would be a floater. The number of floater course units that may be taken during the degree is limited.

Intercollegiate Course

Students may take a course taught at another college of the University of London, subject to approval of their year tutor and the teacher of the course. This course is known as an intercollegiate course unit. The intercollegiate may or may not be a floater. You will need to register formally to take an intercollegiate course – this will include obtaining permission from the Course Tutor (at the other college) and from your SOAS UG Tutor. Please enquire at the Faculty Office or Registry for the necessary form.

Minimum Attendance Requirement

Each course has a minimum attendance requirement. If a student does not meet the requirement, the student may have his or her registration at the School terminated. The minimum attendance requirement in the School of Law is stipulated by teachers for each course. This explanation of the minimum attendance requirement is very simplified and it is very important that students refer to the *Degree regulations for BA or LLB students registering at the School of Oriental and African Studies in and after September 1994* for a full explanation. A copy of these regulations can be obtained from the Registry and the text is on the SOAS website.

Programme of Study

Your overall degree is also known as your programme of study – e.g. LLB, BA Law and Politics.

The Registry

The Registry deals with degree enrolment, fee payments and grant arrangements. It maintains central records on all students and should be informed of changes in address, fee status and course units being studied. It also arranges examinations and should be informed of any wish to withdraw from an examination. Certificates of your registration with the School should be obtained from the Registry. The Registry Office is located on the first floor of the Vernon Square campus. They can also be contacted by email registrar@soas.ac.uk or by telephone 020 7074 5105.

September Resit Exam

This is a course examination taken in September by students who failed or could not for good cause attend the examination of that course unit in May/June. September Resit Exams are not available in all cases and there are strict regulations. For more detail, you should refer to the *Degree regulations for BA or LLB students registering at the School of Oriental and African Studies in and after September 1994*. A copy of these regulations can be obtained from the Registry.

Student Support Office

Room 251, 2nd floor, opening hours 10-4, subject to change.

Tel 020 7898 4403 - law@soas.ac.uk

UG Law Student Support Officer – Caroline Strickson, cs71@soas.ac.uk

The Student Support office, otherwise known as the Faculty Office, is responsible for many administrative matters in the department and faculty – it should be your first port of call for all queries relating to coursework, timetable, registration etc.

Each of the three faculties has its own student support office, so if you are taking a course from a different faculty you will need to liaise with the office associated with that faculty. Contact details for the Arts & Humanities and Languages & Cultures Faculty Offices are listed in the Faculty Handbook.

Tutorials

Courses are generally taught in the form of two one-hourly lectures per week and one one-hourly tutorial per week. A tutorial is a small class comprising approximately 10 - 15 students. Work prepared for the tutorial is discussed and students are often expected to make a presentation.

Visiting Examiners

Each Board of Examiners has at least one Visiting Examiner – an academic from another UK university who is appointed to provide external approval for our academic standards. They do this by approving the exam questions and by moderating a sample of exam scripts and coursework.

H. USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

For enquiries regarding the School of Law, please contact the Faculty of Law and Social Sciences in the first instance;

E-mail: law@soas.ac.uk Tel: 020 7898 4477
Room 251

Faculty Officer - Student Support

Caroline Strickson Tel: 020 7898 4403
E-mail: cs71@soas.ac.uk Room 251

Head of the School of Law

Prof Mashood Baderin Tel: 020 7898 4715
E-mail: mb78@soas.ac.uk Room 226

Undergraduate Tutor (see page 32)

Mr Paul Kohler Tel: 020 7898 4656
Email: pk3@soas.ac.uk Room 231

First Year Tutor

Dr Prabha Kotiswaran Tel: 020 7898 4678
E-mail: pk5@soas.ac.uk Room 260a

Second Year Tutor

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&

Dr Sanzhu Zhu Tel: 020 7898 4667
E-mail: sz8as.ac.uk Room 236

Chair of the Undergraduate Sub-Board of Examiners in Law

Mr Ian Edge Tel: 020 7898 4665
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NB Ian Edge is on sabbatical Term 2, 2010

Careers Tutor

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Associate Dean for Learning and Teaching

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Tel: 020 7898 4034

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Student Services Administrator:

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Tel: 020 7074 5015

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SOAS Bookshop

bookshop@soas.ac.uk

Tel: 020 7898 4470

All at:

School of Oriental and African Studies

University of London

Thornhaugh Street

Russell Square

London WC1H 0XG

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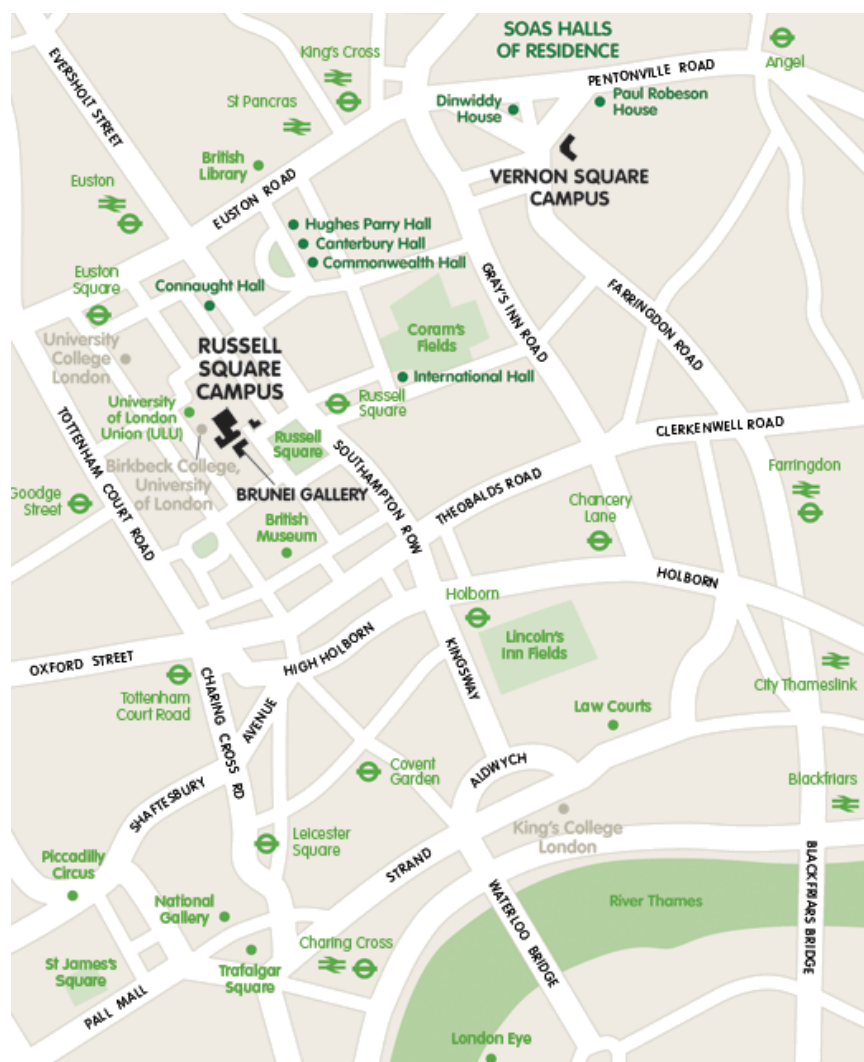
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<p>Prof Lynn Welchman Room: 226 Tel: 020 7898 4672 Email: lw10@soas.ac.uk <i>On leave Terms 1 & 3</i></p>	<p>Dr Sanzhu Zhu Room: 236 Tel: 020 7898 4667 Email: sz8@soas.ac.uk</p>

TERM DATES AND KEY DEADLINES

TERM	STARTS	ENDS
<u>Term one</u>		
Registration week	Monday 28 September 2009	Friday 2 Oct 2009
Start of teaching	Monday 5 October 2009	Friday 18 Dec 2009
Deadline for registration of courses	Friday 9 October 2009	
Reading week	Monday 9 November 2009	Friday 13 Nov 2009
<u>Term two</u>	Monday 11 January 2010	Friday 26 March 2010
Reading Week	Monday 15 February 2010	Friday 19 Feb 2010
<u>Term three</u>	Monday 26 April 2010	Friday 18 June 2010
School Deadline	Final date for submission of coursework	Friday 7 May 2010
Examinations Period	Monday 10 May 2010	Friday 4 June 2010
ISP Deadline	Tuesday 6 April 2010	
Graduation Ceremony	Wednesday 21 July 2010 Thursday 22 July 2010 Friday 23 July 2010	



Teaching at SOAS takes place on different sites. These are often abbreviated as follows:

- RS** Russell Square – this is the main SOAS site, College Buildings.
- VS** Vernon Square – the site at Penton Rise
- B or BS** Brunei Gallery
- F or FB** the Faber Building, just steps away from SOAS and the Brunei Gallery
- 30 RS** this is an address: 30 Russell Square, the west side of Russell Square
- 20/22 RS** this is an address: 20/22 Russell Square, the north side of Russell Square

These abbreviations are used on the **online timetable**, and are combined with room numbers to show you where your class is. Hence:

E.g. B102 means room 102, 1st floor, Brunei; B202 means room 202, 2nd floor, Brunei
 VSG111 means room 111, ground floor, Vernon Square

If you can't find a room number on the timetable, but instead it says S/T, it means that class is a Shared Teaching class. So for example if you're looking at the UG timetable, cross check the time/date with the PG timetable, and the room number will show there.

A number on its own means it is at the main SOAS building

E.g. 500, 459, 502.

Rooms G2, G50 etc, are on the ground floor at SOAS

KLT = The Khalili Lecture Theatre is in SOAS on the lower ground floor.

SOAS Faculty of Law and Social Sciences

TIMETABLE 2009/2010

	09:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00
Mon										
Tue										
Wed										
Thu										
Fri										