



CTK AQUINAS

A CHRIST THE KING SIXTH FORM

CTK Aquinas Guide to Studying Law

Are you interested in studying Law at university?

If so, now is the time to start preparing. Law is a very competitive subject and career. Exeter University, for instance, in one year recently, was offering 70 places for its LLB course, and had over 2,300 applications.

So how can you improve your chances of being one of the successful candidates?

The first vital requirement is to get a good set of GCSE grades. Any less than mostly 6s and above will put you at a severe disadvantage for top university places, including the likes of Oxbridge, LSE, Durham, Bristol, Exeter, etc.

You will need to have more 7s and 8s than other grades. Universities will look for what are regarded as traditional academic subjects, especially at the most prestigious universities. You should be getting the equivalent of As and Bs at the end of Year 12 to ensure predictions of AAA-ABB as the target at the end of Year 13.



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So how can you improve your chances of being one of the successful candidates?

Alongside the grades, you also need to do some work experience or work shadowing with a law firm or someone in the profession.

Visiting courts and keeping up-to-date with current legal issues is essential. You should take a leading part in the Law Society and get involved in discussions, debates and mock trial competitions, and anything that will sharpen your analytical and communication skills.

Taking on responsibility is important for your CV as it shows you are organised, able to take a lead and also work as part of a team.

Preparing for Law Interviews

Those who apply for certain universities will need to sit an extra exam, the LNAT. Start by having a think about the questions on the following page that are often asked at Law interviews.

If you would like some feedback, email your answers to
h.power@ctksfc.ac.uk



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Example Law Interview Questions

1. What qualities does a good lawyer need to have?
2. What evidence is there that you have them?
3. What is law for?
4. What current legal issues interest you?
5. Is it ever justifiable to break the law?
6. Do you enter a contract when you get on a bus?
7. Does 'the rule of law' mean anything more than the will of the ruling faction?
8. A man stabbed another man in his sleep, not realising that his victim had already died from a heart attack. What legal issues arise?
9. "Law and justice are not always synonymous." Why not?
10. What have you learnt from any work experience/experience of the courts?
11. What are the advantages and disadvantages of trial by jury?
12. Most criminal cases are dealt with by magistrates. Is that a good idea?
13. "Good law reflects the will of the majority." Is that true?
14. What is the difference between 'intention' and 'foresight'?
15. What laws, if any, would you abolish?
16. How do you see yourself using your Law degree?



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Recommended Reading

You could also start some wider reading. The books below are a good place to start. Dip into one or two areas of law to see what you think of them – criminal law, contract law, human rights law, tort and business and consumer law are good starting points.

- ***"Letters to a Law Student: A Guide to Studying Law at University"*** by Nicholas McBride (3rd edition, Pearson, 2014).
- ***"Is Eating People Wrong? Great Legal Cases and How They Shaped the World"*** by Allan Hutchinson (Cambridge University Press, 2010) - all the chapters are useful, but see particularly chapters 1, 2, 6, 8 and 10.

You could also listen to appropriate podcasts such as Radio 4's long-running legal magazine programme, Law in Action, featuring reports and discussion on matters relating to law.

For further reading lists for all the A Level subjects we offer, please visit:

<https://www.ctkaquinas.ac.uk/year-11-virtual-school/>

