

SOUTHAMPTON





LOOK BEYOND THE COURTROOM

LEARN MORE THAN THE THEORY – LEARN TO APPLY IT. AT SOLENT LAW SCHOOL, YOU'LL BECOME AN AGILE LEGAL PROFESSIONAL, EQUIPPED WITH THE SKILLS, MINDSET AND EXPERIENCE TO ADAPT TO THE FAST-CHANGING LEGAL ENVIRONMENT.

Looking to become a solicitor? We are one of the first law schools in the country to design a programme informed by the new central assessment. A barrister? Our LLB (Hons) Law meets the Bar Standards Board requirements for a qualifying law degree.

But law means more than courts and criminal justice. There's a whole world of legal practice out there – from commerce to the civil service, charities to big business, in-house to start-ups, you can find the organisation and the work that matters to you.

Whatever path you choose, you'll need flexibility, versatility and a hunger to keep learning. That's what we offer, at Solent Law School – along with a highly sought-after set of legal skills, the kind that can open doors.

Our focus on professional practice? It's an approach that students seem to value. Our LLB (Hons) Law ranked second in the UK for student satisfaction, and first for academic support, in the latest National Student Survey (NSS 2020). *The Guardian's* 2021 league table of best UK universities? We're in the top ten for law, the highest ranking uni south of London. Workshops. Guest lectures. Work experience. Networking events. As well as industry-leading teaching, as well as exceptional facilities like our brand new Solent Courtroom, Solent offers the perfect chance to get inside the legal profession before you even graduate.

That's why you'll leave Solent feeling confident for life. Ready to impress, with the skills to embark on a successful career in law – or to use those transferable skills in a broader business career.

1st in the UK academic support

2nd in the UK student satisfaction

NSS 2020

SOUTHAMPTON POWERHOUSE OF THE CENTRAL SOUTH

WITH CLOSE TO 25,000 BUSINESSES IN KNOWLEDGE-INTENSIVE SECTORS, EMPLOYING 163,000 PEOPLE ACROSS THE REGION, WE'RE IDEALLY PLACED FOR GRADUATE JOBS.



IN THE UK TOP THREE FOR GREEN SPACES (ACCOR, 2021) WITH FIVE CITY-CENTRE PARKS RIGHT ON SOLENT'S DOORSTEP AND MORE THAN 300 ACRES OF WOODLAND AND OPEN SPACE AT SOUTHAMPTON COMMON

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THE HOME OF WORLD-FAMOUS PREMIER LEAGUE TEAM SOUTHAMPTON FC AND INTERNATIONAL CRICKET AT HAMPSHIRE CCC'S HOME GROUND



PERFECTLY PLACED FOR ACCESS TO THE SOUTH AND BEYOND, INCLUDING BOURNEMOUTH, PORTSMOUTH AND THE NEW FOREST



A VIBRANT AND DIVERSE **STUDENT POPULATION OF AROUND 40,000**, IN A CITY OF OVER 250,000



JUST 75 MINUTES FROM LONDON BY TRAIN



A FANTASTIC SHOPPING DESTINATION – IKEA, WESTQUAY SHOPPING CENTRE, HIGH STREET BOUTIQUES AND MORE



180+ PUBS, BARS AND NIGHTCLUBS



OVER **£3 BILLION OF CITY INVESTMENT** SINCE 2012



OUR GREAT CITY

Southampton is a vibrant maritime city at the heart of a healthy and growing regional economy. It's been one of the top three cities in PwC's Good Growth for Cities index for three years running, and it's home to some of the UK's flagship organisations, including Ordnance Survey, B&Q, Carnival and Ageas.

Hampshire is recognised as one of the most successful economies in the UK and has the largest sub-regional economy in the south east of England, with economic output totalling £50 billion. Southern England enjoys the largest business population in the UK, and the finance and business sector in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight is worth around £4.5 billion.

The city also boasts Premier League football, world-class sailing, and international cricket. It has a wealth of live music venues, theatres and exhibitions, with ambitious plans to become UK City of Culture in 2025. The city's historic walls and old town bring to life Southampton's rich maritime heritage, with major redevelopments complementing this and bringing new leisure, retail and employment opportunities into the heart of the city.









PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE AND REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCE

Taught by experts with strong links to the legal profession, our law school gives you plenty of opportunities for practical experience and to develop your own professional network.

Building real-world experience is a key element of our law courses, and our Professional Practice option gives you the chance to interact with real clients as part of your studies. You will be encouraged to find placements during the summer period to develop your learning further, and you will also have the option to undertake a full-year industry placement between years two and three.

Whatever you choose, the law team's practical expertise and open-door policy ensure you will be well supported academically, while the University's dedicated support services offer plenty of help with any other aspects of student life.

And as a founding member of Southampton City Law Network, we offer a programme of workshops and guest lectures from visiting professionals – as well as events, work experience opportunities, and chances to explore the legal profession and decide which career path to follow.

I've been volunteering with the Citizens Advice Witness Service at the local magistrates and crown court since my first year, after being signposted by one of my lecturers. I've gained valuable court-based work experience, and really enjoyed helping people through the court process – and now I've even been offered a position as part-time team leader at the witness service! I'm really pleased to gain a legal position through Solent's connections.

Paige Symn LLB (Hons) Law, third-year student

PREPARING YOU FOR YOUR LEGAL CAREER

Our LLB (Hons) Law course complies with Solicitors Regulation Authority requirements for graduate entry and Bar Standards Board requirements for a qualifying law degree, and is designed to prepare you for the Solicitors Qualifying Examination (SQE) – giving you a recognised base of legal and professional knowledge that can make you the ideal choice for a wide range of legal and corporate roles.

- Work shadowing and volunteering opportunities in the criminal justice system.
- Regular optional study visits, including to US criminal justice agencies.
- Brand-new mock courtroom on campus, ideal for building practical experience and honing your debate and advocacy skills.
- Based in the state-of-the-art Spark Building, in the heart of Southampton and close to the city's legal district.
- A founding member of the Southampton City Law Network.
- Strong engagement with students, including our popular student Law Society and Mooting Team.

TAUGHT BY EXPERTS, WITH EXTENSIVE LINKS WITH INDUSTRY

The course team's close links with industry give you the chance to hear from legal guest lecturers, offering valuable insight into the profession and the range of careers available to you. Recent speakers have included legal professionals, judges and other key industry, business and professional figures.

LAW FACILITIES

Our brand-new Solent Courtroom gives you the opportunity to practise your legal and professional skills and knowledge in a realistic setting.

Our library features a dedicated law library, access to online legal journals, a fully networked resource centre equipped with high-end computers, and both open plan and private group working spaces.



SEBASTIAN GRAVES-READ

LLB (Hons) Law, 2019 Senior Policy Advisor, UK Home Office

Why did you choose Solent?

Solent jumped out at me because I knew it was a place where lecturers go the extra mile. They are there to teach and enjoy time with students, unlike other institutions which can be more research-oriented.

What was the best thing about your course lecturers?

When I showed interest in the subject, and put the effort in, the lecturers saw that and put a lot of time into making sure they were there to support me. This was especially the case when I presented my final-year thesis at the British conference for undergraduate research! My lecturers – particularly my supervisor – went out of their way to give me the support I needed to excel.

Do you feel like your studies helped prepare you for a career in the industry? How?

We had whole modules on employability, law in business and understanding the context that the legal system exists in. This approach meant that I was always able to contextualise a job in its wider industry – even if it wasn't legally focused – which really helped when I was applying for the civil service, as I was able to take what I knew about wider government projects and agendas and weave that into my interview answers.

What did you learn which really stuck with you over the years?

When we were introduced to mooting – legal arguments in front of a judge – I remember thinking that this is cool. Especially in criminal law, where there are surprisingly plentiful 'grey areas', I found it fascinating to think that this gladiator-style system between two barristers is still how we deal with issues in the twenty-first century.

What was life like as a Solent student?

I was part of, and ran, several societies at Solent. I was the president of Enactus, a social entrepreneurial society which became one of the top 10 teams in the country! I was also president of the mooting society, taking part in the national OUP competition.

I was part of other societies as well; the variety of options really helped me meet a mixture of people and get a range of experiences, all of which were super useful when I applied for jobs in the third year and after.

Tell us a little about your career so far.

After doing a master's degree I joined the civil service, and have learned so much already, though I don't think I could have settled into my role so quickly without the experiences I got at Solent. Mooting taught me how to think on my feet, while social enterprises taught me how to run complex projects efficiently.

One of the challenges for me was something that is common to lots of new graduates – imposter syndrome. It felt like I was still a student and should not be dealing with such important projects! That wore off after a while, though. Now I have some standard responsibilities, but the rest of my job is in a support role, so it's very varied. One moment I could be pulling together advice for ministers, the next I could be helping to write the plan for one of our business areas. Because the civil service is such a large organisation, you end up doing a bit of everything.

The proudest moment to date, though, was writing my first piece of ministerial advice. To me, that is the cornerstone of the civil service, and the fact that I was given the opportunity to pull together a piece of advice so early in my career was surreal.

"THE PROUDEST MOMENT TO DATE, THOUGH, WAS WRITING MY FIRST PIECE OF MINISTERIAL ADVICE."





ELLIS SWEETENHAM LLB (Hons) Law, 2016

Solicitor, Lawdit Solicitors

How did university prepare you for your career?

Not only did my time at Solent teach me the finer details of the law, which enabled me to navigate the path I wanted to take, but it also created a good foundation of core skills, such as time-keeping, maintaining deadlines and professional communication, which are essential to be a solicitor.

Favourite Solent memory?

Being able to build my knowledge and succeed alongside my fellow students, who have now become my friends for life.

Tell us a little about your career story.

I began my LLB Law degree at Solent in 2013. During my time there, with the support of my tutor, I secured a placement at a local intellectual property specialist, Lawdit Solicitors. This really sparked my interest in intellectual property as an area of law. I continued to volunteer at Lawdit on a weekly basis throughout the second and third years of my degree.

After graduating in July 2016, in September 2016 I began studying the LPC LLM at the University of Law in Guildford. I maintained my weekly attendance at Lawdit while studying, and following this I began my training contract with Lawdit Solicitors in July 2017.

Tell us about what you are doing now and what it involves.

I am a trainee solicitor at Lawdit Solicitors, a commercial firm based in Southampton which specialises in intellectual property and social media law. I am currently in the trademarks department, working closely with Lawdit's sister company, The Trademarkroom.

A typical working day involves sending emails to clients explaining the process of registering a trademark in the UK and beyond. I also talk to clients over the telephone, offering an insight into trademarks as an intellectual property right and giving an explanation of the registration process. Building on this, I complete pre-filing searches for clients and file trademarks in the UK and EU. I also assist the contentious trademark team in preparing for opposition.

What's your career highlight so far?

Meeting the team at Lawdit Solicitors, who have taught me so much already – and I have so much more to learn. Also achieving high grades in both my LLB Law degree and my LPC LLM, which was such a relief after the hard work I put in.

In one sentence, what is your area of study to you?

Law is not always popular, but as a bottom line, it is there to protect people and businesses.

What tips would you give to someone wanting a career in your industry?

Be prepared to work hard, as that hard work will pay off, even if at the moment you can't see the light at the end of the tunnel. Enjoy your time at Solent – you will make friends for life. And take every opportunity with both hands as you never know what is around the corner.



BRAND NEW <u>Solent</u> courtroom



LOUIS MANCINI

LLB (Hons) Law, 2017 Trainee Solicitor, Goughs Solicitors

Why did you pick Solent?

One of the major factors was the level of student satisfaction that appeared in the reviews and rankings of Solent. I read extensively into the thoughts and reviews of past students to ensure that Solent was the right place for me. Not only was it about the academic side, but it was also based on the excellent location and vibrant student culture in the city.

What was the best thing about your lecturers?

The best thing about the law lecturers at Solent was their willingness and desire to help, no matter what. Every member of staff was willing to go the extra mile to help me understand various areas of law that were tricky to get my head around at first. They were so open and approachable, which made it easy to go to them with any issue.

What about the facilities?

The facilities at Solent are fantastic. The lecture theatres are modern and comfortable, and allow you to make the most of your sessions. The law library is peaceful and extensive, and is an excellent place to work on assignments. Away from law, the sporting facilities are top of the range and allow you to get away from your work when you need to.

"EVERY MEMBER OF STAFF WAS WILLING TO GO THE EXTRA MILE TO HELP ME."

Do you feel your studies have prepared you for a career in the profession?

Studying law at Solent certainly prepared me for starting my job as a trainee solicitor. The course was mainly focused on applying the law to solve practical legal problems, as well as how to research legal issues and advise my client.

These skills are exactly what I use in my current role and have served me very well. I shall be eternally grateful to the law staff for teaching me these important skills.

What has stuck with you from your time at Solent?

Studying intellectual property law in my second year really got my interest in the area started and it has stuck with me ever since. The unit really brought the law to life, and it even inspired me to do my third-year dissertation in the area of digital piracy. Not only that, but I went on to study intellectual property further and complete my master's dissertation in the field of intellectual property.

What practical professional opportunities did you get during your studies?

I was lucky enough to secure a week of work experience at Goughs Solicitors at the end of my second year, which proved invaluable – I was able to shadow various solicitors and attend court, and was even tasked with real-life work!

I cannot stress how important it is for law students to undertake work experience to further their understanding of the legal world and to ultimately decide whether they want to be a solicitor.

What was life like as a Solent student?

I had the most incredible three years living in Southampton and being a Solent student. I was nervous arriving at university – undoubtedly like many others – but I soon began to enjoy the best three years of my life. Southampton is a big, vibrant city with plenty of amazing things to do and countless opportunities to make friends. I wish I could do it all over again!

What help and support did the University offer?

Solent was fantastic for providing advice and support. The University made enrolment and sorting out student finance exceptionally straightforward, which allowed me to focus on my studies while Solent took care of everything else. It also offered excellent careers advice, in a way that allowed us to consider our options and potential next steps.

What have you been up to since graduating?

I am now a trainee solicitor at Goughs Solicitors. I started in September 2019 and spent my first six months working in the private client department, before moving to the commercial department. The biggest challenge when starting out as a trainee solicitor is to use your knowledge in a practical situation. It is daunting when the clients are real and you get tasked with your first piece of work. Studying at Solent prepared me well for this as the course was taught in a way that made us apply our legal knowledge to practical scenarios.

What's been your career highlight so far?

Having my own caseload during my private client seat! This is my personal highlight because it showed that my supervisor thought I was ready to start taking on my own clients and that I had earned her confidence. There is no better feeling than meeting a client for the first time and seeing the matter through to completion.

Any advice?

I would advise trying to get as much work experience as possible for your CV and taking every opportunity – it is not just about your academic results. Potential employers want to know whether you will be a good fit for their firm and their team, and they want to learn about you as a person.



MICHAEL COYLE

LLM Intellectual Property, 1998 Director, Lawdit Solicitors

Solent alumnus and Director of Lawdit Solicitors, Michael Coyle, was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Law by Solent University on Thursday 13 July 2017.

Michael formed the company back in 2001 and since then, Lawdit and Michael have represented clients in the courts of England and Wales, as well as giving aspiring solicitors from Solent University a platform from which to learn, train and qualify as solicitors.

He qualified as a solicitor in 1997 and in 1998 undertook the LLM in Intellectual Property at Solent while working in private practice in the city.

On receiving his honorary degree, Michael said: "This day isn't about me, however wonderful this award is. It wouldn't be possible without the students from Solent University who have lent their support and encouraged my firm over the years to help them progress into the law field." Michael founded Lawdit to offer specialist services in intellectual property and IT law, focused on – but not limited to – SME businesses. The firm has offered a number of innovative services to the wider business community, such as trademarkroom.com, protectyourdesign.com and staylegal.co.uk.

In 2003, Michael qualified as a solicitor advocate and has recently started a course to become a notary public. He has not forgotten his time as a student at Solent; he and his firm continue to support the University through lecturing and working with our students in practice workshops.

He finished his speech with some top tips for graduates: "Law can be a brutal industry; it can be exhilarating and also disheartening; it is driven by money and driven by time. We encourage people to not forget where you have come from on your journey to becoming valued members of the law profession, but also valued members of society."

"WORK EXPERIENCE IS KEY – KNOCK ON EVERY DOOR POSSIBLE, DON'T TAKE NO FOR AN ANSWER AND NEVER GIVE UP."





SAM O'TOOLE

LLB (Hons) Law, 2016 Solicitor, Briffa Solicitors

Why did you decide to come to Solent?

I came to Solent from college – though after doing very (very) badly in my A-levels I took two years out between college and uni to work as a ski instructor in Austria. I picked Solent because I wanted to do the law foundation year.

What was the best thing about your course?

Law at Solent is for you if you are looking to develop academic skills with real-life applications. All of the lecturers are downto-earth, knowledgeable and approachable; they're very friendly and always happy to help. No question was a silly one to ask, and they all genuinely care about students' progression.

The library is also good, and for law the online subscription services that the University provides are industry-standard, so very up to the job.

What did you learn or study which has stuck with you over the years?

The things I learnt at uni, such as legal research and writing, are my daily tools for work.

But the thing that's really stuck with me is intellectual property – I think it's cool how brand owners use a range of legal rights to protect others from copying their brand. This certainly stuck with me as I now work with brand owners to protect their rights.

What opportunities did you get to build practical experience?

One of my lecturers put me in contact with a local specialist law firm where I ended up doing a work experience placement, and ultimately this led to me being taken on as a trainee solicitor once I graduated.

I also got the opportunity to work with the uni at Glastonbury Festival! I was a copyright clearance officer, meaning I was signing contracts with big artists. That whole experience was great for putting my academic knowledge into place while in a big, muddy field.

What's life like in law?

It's been fantastic. Sure, there are occasional late nights at the office, but getting a good result for a client is a great feeling.

I began as a trainee solicitor in 2016, and qualified in 2018. Getting used to the nine-tofive routine was a shock to the system – learning to be organised was tough at first, but it did come eventually.

Now, no two days are the same. I usually begin the day by dealing with emails; then it can range from preparing court documents to having meetings with clients whose rights have been infringed.

What are you working on at the moment?

I recently moved to London to start at a new firm. At the moment I am working on a letter of claim – my client's intellectual property rights have been infringed and I am just finalising the first formal step towards court action.

What's been your career highlight so far?

Winning my first case is probably the biggest highlight. I was a trainee solicitor who had never said a word in front of a judge, but somehow all the planning came together and we won.

"I ALSO GOT THE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK WITH THE UNI AT GLASTONBURY FESTIVAL!"

COURSE LIST

UNDERGRADUATE	UCAS TARIFF	WORK	FOUNDATION
COURSE	POINTS	PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITY	YEAR AVAILABLE
LLB (Hons) Law	104–120	Y	Y
BSc (Hons) Maritime Business and Law (Top-up)	*	Υ	

* Refer to admissions for entry requirements

HOW TO APPLY Solent University code name: SOLNT Solent University UCAS code: \$30 **RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES** www.ucas.com March – September September – January By 26 January CHECK UCAS TRACK This is where you'll see if you have an unconditional offer (the place is yours) 4 or a conditional offer (based on exam results or other evidence), or if your application has been Select your firm choice. unsuccessful. Select your insurance choice this is a back-up choice in case you don't meet the conditions for your firm choice. FIND OUT IF YOU'VE Decline your other offers. GOT YOUR PLACE You'll see in UCAS TRACK if your place is confirmed.

BTEC results are published from July onwards and A-level results will be published in mid-August.

52 THINGS TO DO

Prepare for university in less than an hour each week with our tips, guides and quizzes. www.solent.ac.uk/52-things





SOUTHAMPTON





