

**SOLENT**  
UNIVERSITY  
SOUTHAMPTON

[www.solent.ac.uk](http://www.solent.ac.uk)

20  
24

# Law

2024 undergraduate courses



**8th out of 109 for learning  
opportunities, Law courses,  
NSS 2023**

**4th out of 109 for student voice,  
Law courses, NSS 2023**



# Solent Law School

Graduates from Solent Law School are equipped with the key skills and mindset to be prepared for the range of job roles and industries to enter as solicitors, barristers and a wide variety of connected roles.

Our courses have an industry-led approach, so students learn the core areas of theoretical knowledge needed for practice, and we maintain strong networks with law organisations to ensure that all our law graduates are prepared with industry experience.

We are proud to be able to develop our law graduates to adapt to the fast-changing legal environment, and to be work-ready, world-ready and future-ready so that they can not only gain their aspirational jobs, but excel in them too.



**Claire Hughes**  
**Head of Academic Department, Business and Law**  
**Solent Business School**  
**Solent Law School**





A photograph of a law school classroom. In the foreground, a young woman with long dark hair, wearing a yellow and white striped sweater and blue jeans, is looking towards the camera. Behind her, several other students are seated at long wooden desks, some looking at laptops. In the background, a large blue banner features a white scales of justice logo and the text 'CPS' and 'DELIVER'.

## Gold-standard teaching and opportunities

Learn more than the theory – learn to apply it. At Solent Law School you'll become an agile legal professional, ready for a wide range of legal roles – from corporate law to police or central government – along with transferable skills that will support your employability across a wide range of industries, ensuring you have maximum flexibility when choosing your future career.

That focus on practical knowledge and employment opportunities is just one of the reasons we're rated gold in the latest Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) review from the UK government Office for Students. TEF recognises excellence in teaching, learning and achieving positive outcomes for students - with gold status awarded only to universities offering outstanding student experience and career outcomes.

If you are looking to become a solicitor, we are one of the first law schools in the country to offer preparation for the Solicitors Qualifying Exam (SQE) at no additional cost.

Or if you are seeing your future as a barrister, our LLB (Hons) Law meets the Bar Standards Board requirements for a qualifying law degree.

And 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, Solent Law School offers a highly sought-after set of legal skills – the kind that can open doors.

14th

out of 109

for teaching  
in the UK  
NSS 2023

3rd

out of 109

for learning  
resources  
NSS 2023

8th

out of 114

institutions in  
the UK for  
law  
Guardian League  
Table 2024

No.6

UK university  
for sustained  
employment\*

Out of 155  
\*Longitudinal  
Education  
Outcomes (LEO)  
2022

TEF  
2023

Gold





## Specialist law facilities

### Moot room

Our purpose-built Solent Courtroom gives you the opportunity to practise your legal and professional skills and knowledge in a realistic setting. Mimicking the key features of a real-life courtroom, this gives our students an excellent opportunity to practise advocacy of cases.

The moot court gives valuable practical experience in both research and persuasive argument, as well as giving students the chance to make contacts with practising lawyers. Mooting experience is also a crucial, point-earning activity on both the Bar Professional Training Course and the Solicitors Qualifying Examination (SQE) application process.

### What is mooting?

Moots are mock trials which usually take the form of an appeal to the Court of Appeal or the Supreme Court on a point (or points) of law. Students take the role of leading and junior counsel for the appellant and respondent, supported by a team of legal researchers, and have 20 minutes each to argue their mooting case using binding or persuasive decisions in previously decided, analogous cases which often do not bear directly on the point in question, or are contradictory.

The moot is heard by a judge who may be a barrister or solicitor, a real-life judge or a lecturer – and who, will after due consideration, decide (a) who has won the appeal in law, and (b) which team produced the best advocacy based on their use of authorities, courtroom manners and speech.

### Law library

Books and information are a lawyer's tools. The ground floor of the Mountbatten Library hosts a dedicated law collection which includes thousands of textbooks in most areas of law, including several copies of our courses' recommended texts, practitioner texts, academic journals, and all the main general law report series. Resources which are not part of the law library collection can be ordered by final-year and postgraduate students through the inter-library loan system.

### Law databases

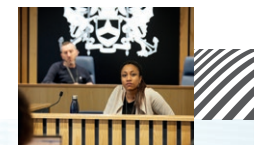
Solent also has an excellent collection of subscriber law databases – including the major collections offered by Westlaw, Lexis Library and i-Law – giving access to a vast array of legal resources both on- and off-campus. These databases offer access to many different series of law reports, legislative material, highly specialist practitioner textbooks and manuals, and a large number of academic journals.

As part of the first year LLB module Legal Research and Literacy Skills, students are given training in using these invaluable resources, and the opportunity exists to take further examinations and gain Westlaw and Lexis certification.

### Mountbatten Journal of Legal Studies

*The Mountbatten Journal of Legal Studies* (MJLS) was launched by the former Master of the Rolls Lord Donaldson in 1997, having developed out of the *Southampton Institute Law Review* which started in 1992.

Offering articles, opinion pieces and book reviews on diverse topics such as environmental law, mental health law, competition law, criminal law, Brexit and ethics, the MJLS is a fully refereed journal and welcomes contributions from the legal community.







“Dutton Gregory Solicitors always enjoys supporting and working with the law students from Solent University. By sharing career journeys, giving employability advice and offering work experience placements, (sometimes leading to job opportunities), we feel we are not only helping to nurture the next generation of lawyers as they start to forge their careers, but also invest in the future of the legal profession as a whole. All of our staff involved, agree it is an incredibly rewarding initiative.”

Lou Earp at Dutton Gregory  
Talent Acquisition Specialist



## 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.

### Real-world experience

During your final year you can choose to undertake a weekly placement throughout the two semesters. This allows you to gain credit towards your LLB, but also boosts your employability prospects with real-world experience.

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.

### Southampton City Law Network

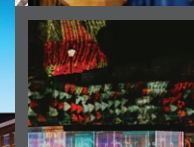
As a founding member of Southampton City Law Network we offer a programme of workshops and guest lectures from visiting professionals, as well as events, work experience opportunities and chances to explore the legal profession and decide which career path to follow.

### Some of the organisations we work with include:

College Chambers  
Dutton Gregory  
Shoosmiths LLP  
Pallant Chambers  
BDB Pitmans  
Stowe Family Law  
Crown Prosecution Service Wessex  
Aspire  
Manton Consultancy  
Foot Anstey  
Lawdit  
Hampshire Constabulary



# Our great city



- **Southampton is a historical maritime city at the heart of a modern and growing regional economy. It's in the top five cities in PwC's Good Growth for Cities index (2022), and it's home to the head offices of 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.

With a vibrant and diverse student population of around 40,000, in a city of over 250,000, Southampton has 180+ pubs, bars and nightclubs, with a vibrant music scene and a wealth of entertainment venues, theatres and exhibitions.

The city also boasts Championship football, world-class sailing and international cricket, and is perfectly placed for access to the south and beyond – including Bournemouth, Portsmouth and the New Forest – with excellent transport links to London, which is only 75 minutes by train.

The city's historic walls bring to life Southampton's rich maritime heritage, with major redevelopments bringing new leisure and retail. It is a fantastic shopping destination, with big brands such as IKEA and Apple complemented by high street boutiques and independent stores.





## Sam O'Toole

Associate, Briffa Solicitors

LLB (Hons) Law, 2016

### What was the best thing about studying at Solent?

All the lecturers are down-to-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. Law at Solent is for you if you are looking to develop academic skills with real-life applications. 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.

“I also got the opportunity to work with the uni at the Glastonbury Festival!”

### What opportunities did you get to build practical experience?

I did a work experience placement with a local specialist law firm, 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 University at the 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 practice while in a big, muddy field.

### What has your career been like so far?

It's been fantastic. I began as a trainee solicitor in 2016, qualified in 2018 and then moved to London to start at a new firm. I've recently moved up to be an associate of the firm. 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 or making formal steps towards court action. Getting a good result for a client is a great feeling.

### 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.



## Michael Coyle

Director, Lawdit Solicitors

LLM Intellectual Property, 1998

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](http://trademarkroom.com), [protectyourdesign.com](http://protectyourdesign.com) and [staylegal.co.uk](http://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.”





## Olivia Rodrigues

LLB (Hons) Law, first-year student

During my first year of studying law at Solent University, I made the most of my time through a variety of different extracurricular activities and programmes offered alongside the LLB (Hons) Law degree.

### Mooting

Mooting takes place in Solent's mock courtroom and mimics the scenario of presenting cases in the magistrates' court. In mooting, we practise tasks that a lawyer would have to undertake, such as: writing and presenting your client's case, acting as either prosecution or defence, or writing a plea in mitigation to secure your client a lesser sentence.

It's a great activity, and it also gives you the opportunity to take part in competitions both internally and nationally. Just before Easter we took part in an internal moot competition judged by barristers from local chambers.

### Mentoring

Solent has provided the opportunity to benefit from having a professional mentor – in my case I was paired up with a medical negligence solicitor from a local law firm. My professional mentor was able to help me write my CV and cover letters, give me advice on work experience and job applications, and so much more.

Through Solent's Law Society I've also joined a peer-mentoring scheme where first-year law students are paired up with second- or third-year law students who act as mentors, giving us guidance and advice to help us succeed in our first year.

### Career events

Since I started studying law at Solent, there have been ample opportunities to attend career events and skills workshops; these are great for building up your CV and giving you a greater insight into career possibilities, such as the routes to becoming a solicitor or barrister. I'm very much looking forward to everything the second year has to offer!



## Paige Symns

Solicitor and Accredited Mediator at  
Stone Rowe Brewer LLP

LLB (Hons) Law, 2021

### Tell us about what you do now.

Currently I am a solicitor at Stone Rowe Brewer LLP Solicitors in Twickenham, part of our dispute resolution and litigation department. I cover all sorts of areas such as contractual disputes, commercial disputes, and landlord and tenant issues. I really enjoy the variety of work that the department covers, dealing with all different kinds of commercial and civil disputes.

### How did your studies at Solent help your career?

The degree was practical as well as content-heavy. I learned all of the different areas of law that I am required to do in my day-to-day practice. But it also prepared me to work with colleagues and clients. We would practise client interviews, for example, which really helped prepare me practically for the work I do now, because my role now is very client-focused.

### What advice would you give to those wanting to follow in your footsteps?

The advice that I would give is that patience is key. Law is a high-level kind of role. As a solicitor, you're a professional, an officer of the court. So it will take time to get to the place where you want to be. But everything has a purpose and you learn so much along the way. Therefore, I would just advise that people take it in their stride and really try and make the most of their

time studying. And then, know that the end goal is getting into the legal world and enjoying that, and being proud of yourself once you get to that stage.

### What support did you get at Solent?

The academics on the law course were amazing. They offer such personalised support to their students. They understand that perhaps some people don't want to qualify as a solicitor, but because they have such a broad range of experience, they can offer tailored support to really guide you through the process.

### What practical experience did you gain during your degree?

Solent's law degree has such great opportunities – they have really great partnerships with local organisations and local law firms that allow students to get that real-world experience they need to go into the real world and practise law. Law is obviously very academic, but it's so important to develop your practical skills in order to practise in the legal industry. While I was at Solent, I really developed my advocacy skills – Solent has an amazing moot room where people can practise their advocacy in replica court cases. And I really look back fondly on all of the different arguments that I made in the moot room that allowed me to grow confidence in the advocacy work that I do today.





## Sebastian Graves-Read

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

### 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.

### 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 of Undergraduate Research! My lecturers – particularly my supervisor – went out of their way to give me the support I needed to excel.

### How did your studies help prepare you for a career?

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 I have learned so much already, though I don't think I could have settled into my role so quickly without my experiences 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, and it's very varied. One moment I could be pulling together advice for ministers, while the next I could be helping to write the plan for one of our business areas. Because the civil service is such

**“The proudest moment to date, though, was writing my first piece of ministerial advice.”**

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.

### How are you finding the industry?

Weirdly, it's exactly what I always dreamed it would be! I am working as part of the democratic system, in the delivery of a programme which will affect millions, and I'm absolutely loving my job. The only thing that was unexpected is that I always heard public sector work is slow-paced. That is definitely not the case. Work is manic – in the best possible way!







## Ellis Sweetenham

Solicitor, Lawdit Solicitors  
LLB (Hons) Law, 2016

### 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 been 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.

### 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.



“Be passionate. No – love being a lawyer. You are helping an individual, giving them agency and power, often when they're experiencing an injustice. You're using your tools for good.”

Robert Rinder

Barrister and broadcaster

Solent University Honorary Doctor of Law



## Preparation for Solicitors Qualifying Examination (SQE)

Solent Law School is pleased to be one of the first law schools in the country to offer preparation training for the Solicitors Qualifying Examination (SQE) as part of our undergraduate law degree.

In the third year of your LLB you can choose an optional module that prepares you for the SQE1 assessment. This module is fully included in your LLB at no additional cost.

### What is the SQE?

The SQE is the new Solicitors Qualifying Examination which will set you on the path to becoming a solicitor. SQE1 is the first assessment that you will need to take, covering 13 areas of law. Following the completion of this module in the summer term of your third year, you can choose whether to take the SQE1 assessment in July, improving your career prospects and setting you on your path to qualification as a solicitor.

### What is the SQE1 preparation module?

The module is called Solicitors Legal Knowledge and fully prepares you for the SQE1 assessment. It is delivered virtually by the College of Legal Practice, which specialises in SQE preparation training.

The Solicitors Legal Knowledge module is an intensive, high-quality course that guides students through SQE1. Through weekly live individual supervision, supported by group work and a ground-breaking learning portal, this flexible course ensures that every student can develop and perform to the best of their abilities in the SQE. The course would normally cost £1,800 but is offered to Solent University students at no extra cost.

### What's included?

You will study online directly with the College of Legal Practice and the module includes:

- access to the learning portal and virtual student community
- over 1,900 videos, activities, scenarios and flashcards to access as and when you like
- 2,300+ SQE1-style multiple-choice questions and mock SQE1 assessments
- a hard copy and electronic legal knowledge manual
- virtual surgeries on legal content and concepts, and weekly town halls
- 10 individual supervisions to support your performance and progress.

### Background on the College of Legal Practice

The College of Legal Practice is a UK-based postgraduate law school, providing flexible and practical legal education, including preparation courses for the SQE.

The college's goals are to help remove barriers to entry to the legal profession and provide the highest quality of practical legal education.

Solent Law School has entered into a partnership with the College of Legal Practice to offer its Solicitors Legal Knowledge module as an optional third-year module to LLB students at Solent Law School.

**SAVE  
£1,800**





# Course list

Course	UCAS tariff points	Work placement opportunity	Foundation Year available
LLB (Hons) Law	112–128	Y	Y
LLB (Hons) Law with Business	112–128	Y	Y
LLB (Hons) Law with Criminology	112–128	Y	Y
BSc (Hons) Maritime Business and Law (Top-up)	*	Y	-
Business and Law Foundation Year	48	-	-

\* Contact our admissions team for details of entry requirements: [admissions@solent.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@solent.ac.uk)

## Postgraduate study at Solent

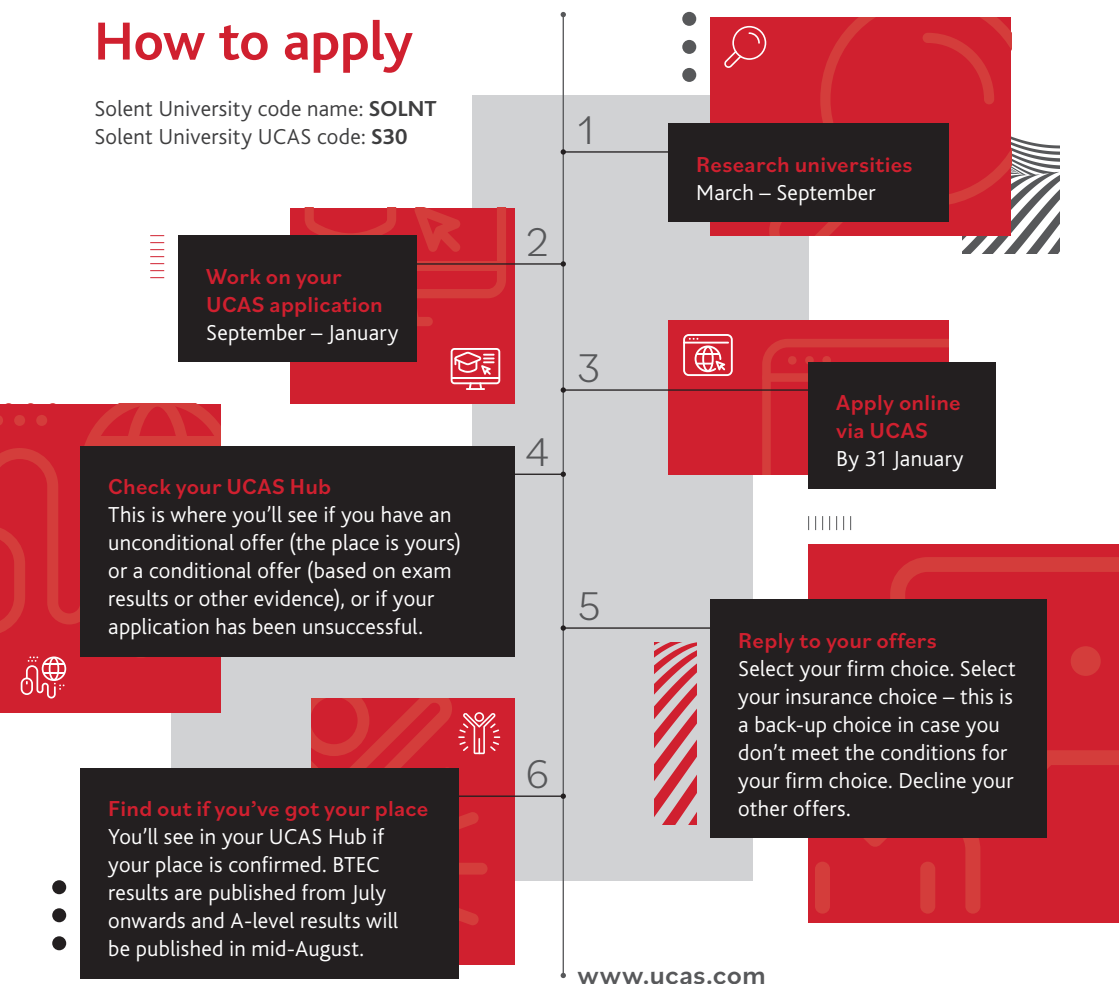
Solent University also offers a range of postgraduate courses in fashion and beauty, meaning that if you decide to continue your studies after your undergraduate degree, there are many options available to you.

Whether you are looking to progress in your current career or enter a new area, Solent offers a range of courses to help you reach your goals.

Course	Course length	URL
LLM Commercial Law and Professional Legal Practice	1 year full-time 2 years part-time	<a href="http://www.solent.ac.uk/llm-commercial-law-and-professional-legal-practice">www.solent.ac.uk/llm-commercial-law-and-professional-legal-practice</a>
LLM Intellectual Property Law and Professional Legal Practice	1 year full-time 2 years part-time	<a href="http://www.solent.ac.uk/llm-intellectual-property-law-and-professional-legal-practice">www.solent.ac.uk/llm-intellectual-property-law-and-professional-legal-practice</a>
LLM International Trade and Maritime Law (Top-up)	1 year full-time 2 years part-time	<a href="http://www.solent.ac.uk/llm-top-up-international-trade-and-maritime-law">www.solent.ac.uk/llm-top-up-international-trade-and-maritime-law</a>

# How to apply

Solent University code name: **SOLNT**  
Solent University UCAS code: **S30**



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