

THE CAYMAN ISLANDS LAW SCHOOL

INFORMATION FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS



CAYMAN ISLANDS

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE LAW SCHOOL

Thank you for your interest in the Law School. I hope that the information in this booklet gives you the information that you need. If you need any further information, do not hesitate to contact me or any of my staff. You will find all our contact details at the end of this booklet.

Why choose to do a Law degree at CILS?

- Intellectually challenging and stimulating course of study
- Excellent tuition by a small, approachable and expert staff
- Modern legal education, including IT training
- Custom designed facilities
- Distinguished graduates
- Excellent career opportunities both within the legal profession and elsewhere

ABOUT THE LAW SCHOOL AND ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL

The 2007/08 academic year marked the 25th anniversary of the founding of CILS. From humble beginnings which witnessed an enrolment of some seven pioneering law students, the law school now boasts a total enrolment of in excess of 110 students. Indeed, the Law School is now operating at very close to current full capacity.

The popularity of CILS is undoubtedly due to its affiliation with the University of Liverpool in the United Kingdom with whom CILS enjoys an enduring and close relationship. An important consequence of the affiliation with the University of Liverpool is that all CILS graduates of the LL.B programme have their degrees conferred upon them by the University of Liverpool. The relationship with the University is therefore very real as further demonstrated by the attendance at the CILS 2008 graduation ceremony of the incoming Vice Chancellor of the University of Liverpool, Sir Howard Newby and his wife Lady Sheila along with the Liverpool Law School Dean Professor Arora. In 2009, the CILS graduation ceremony was again attended by Professor Anu Arora.

As a result of the long standing affiliation with the University of Liverpool, all CILS lecturers are recognised law teachers of the University of Liverpool. All CILS lecturers are also members of the Cayman Islands Attorney General's Chambers.

In August 2002, the relationship between the institutions was, for the first time, placed on a formal footing by the signing by the Attorney General of the Cayman Islands and the Vice-Chancellor of the University of an Institutional Agreement. This document operates to cement the strong relationship between the institutions and specifically recognises degree students at CILS as registered students of the University. Amongst the many benefits which this provides is access to legal data bases through University subscription such as Westlaw and Lexis/Nexis as well as the University's online academic service, VITAL (Virtual Interactive Teaching At Liverpool) which includes lecture and tutorial outlines, past examination question and other teaching and learning aids.

In October 2009, CILS was subjected to a departmental audit by the University of Liverpool with five University staff visiting CILS for this purpose. The Review was extremely favourable with the Review team concluding: "It is clear that CILS continues to

operate as a well run establishment supported by a committed team of staff. The meeting with the students was very positive. It is clear that the student experience at CILS is comparable to that at the University of Liverpool”.

CILS provides tuition for both full and part-time programmes leading to the Bachelor of Laws (Honours) Degree of the University of Liverpool and the qualification of Attorney-at-Law of the Cayman Islands, which follows successful completion of the postgraduate Professional Practice Course (PPC).

The aim of CILS is to provide students with a standard of legal education equivalent to that prevailing at good UK universities. Students successful in the honours degree programme are eligible to pursue further postgraduate study at institutions of higher learning across the common-law world. Consistent with the legal education experience in other law schools, CILS students should anticipate an exciting and challenging experience; less commonly however, CILS students will not encounter over-populated classes and elusive and uncaring lecturers.

The courses of study leading to the degree of Bachelor of Laws are designed to provide exposure to a wide range of English legal principles, and at the same time to develop skills of analysis, logical thought, conciseness, and critical ability. The courses offered by CILS will be attractive therefore not only to those students who wish to enter the legal profession but also to those having a variety of other career aspirations.

QUALIFYING LAW DEGREE STATUS

In March 2002, following a five-day inspection of CILS, the Law Society of England and Wales and the Bar Council of England and Wales each, for the first time, conferred Qualifying Law Degree (QLD) status directly on the CILS for the purpose of the Liverpool LL.B degree. Conferral of QLD status signifies that the holder of the degree has a qualification recognised by the English professional bodies for the purposes of completing their legal professional training in England. In other words, the holder of a degree from CILS can utilise it to the same extent as the holder of any LL.B degree obtained in England and Wales from an institution having QLD status. CILS is believed to be the only institution in the Caribbean to have had QLD status conferred upon it.

This means that all graduates of the University’s LL.B degree have the opportunity (provided they have successfully completed all required Foundation modules, including European Union Law) to obtain a legal qualification in the Cayman Islands that is internationally transferable. Such graduates are accordingly able to pursue legal professional qualifications in England and Wales (in addition to certain US jurisdictions) as well as being able to register for postgraduate academic legal studies throughout the common law world. As of September 2011, eligible students wishing to enrol on the Law School’s postgraduate Professional Practice Course must possess a “Cayman Qualifying Law Degree” which requires that all the Foundation modules have been passed with the exception of European Union Law.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Entry requirements for the full and part-time degrees are laid down in the Legal Practitioners (Students) Regulations (2008 Revision). Generally, the academic entry

requirement for students who are under 21 years of age on 1st May in the year they start their course is at least two General Certificate of Education Advanced Level passes in addition to three General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE) passes of Grade C or higher standard. The GCSE subjects must include English Language and one of Mathematics or a Natural Science subject or Geography or Economics. Other prescribed combinations of passes may be acceptable (but proof of attainment of an acceptably high English Language standard is essential) as may other prescribed qualifications recognised as being of a comparable standard, such as an Associates Degree with a sufficiently high GPA. Students who are over 21 years of age on 1st June in the year of intended entry who do not possess formal qualifications may take the University of Liverpool Mature Students' Entrance Examination. Further particulars of the Law School's admission requirements, together with a copy of the Application Form, can be obtained from our Admissions Policy which can be downloaded from the CILS website: www.gov.ky/lawschool

Your application for entry in September 2011 must be received no later than June 1st 2011.

WHAT TO EXPECT AS A LAW STUDENT

During the course of your studies, you will be required to study a diverse range of legal topics which will equip you well in the future, whether your career ambitions be the practice of law or otherwise. The extent of your success will necessarily correspond to the extent of your commitment to the study of law and the keenness of your desire to succeed. Take full advantage of the low lecturer-student ratio, there are few institutions, which better it in the common law world of legal education. With such 'individual' tuition there can be little excuse for failure, but in the final analysis your success is up to you: conduct your research assiduously, analytically, and with an inquiring mind and be ready to call upon the experience and expertise of your lecturers whenever you encounter difficulties. It is also worth remembering that, just as you are now students rather than pupils, the teaching staff are academics, not teachers. Academic staff, in addition to their teaching duties, participate actively in the life of the Law School as personal tutors, but also undertake and publish research in their areas of interest. Some of the textbooks, case notes and journal articles you will read in the course of your studies here will have been written by members of the CILS or Liverpool Law School staff.

CONTENT OF YOUR STUDIES

The following subjects are considered by agreement between the academic and professional legal bodies in the UK to be the foundations of legal knowledge (also referred to as 'foundation modules'): Crime, Contract, Constitutional and Administrative Law, Tort, Equity and Trusts and European Union Law. Land Law and European Union Law are not compulsory subjects for the award of the degree, but are required subjects if students wish to be awarded a Qualifying Law Degree which is necessary in order to be eligible pursue professional legal training in England by enrolling on either the Legal Practice Course or Bar Vocational Course for intending solicitors and barristers respectively. A "Cayman Qualifying Law Degree" (necessary in order for local students to be eligible to enrol on the Law School's postgraduate Professional Practice Course) requires that all Foundation modules, with the exception of European Union Law, have been successfully completed. International students should ensure that they are aware of any similar professional requirements in their home jurisdictions.

Full -time Degree

The full-time degree is a three-year course of study. It comprises the study of 12 modules. The curriculum is as follows:

Year 1:

Students must take Constitutional and Administrative Law, Criminal Law, Law of Contract and Legal System and Legal Skills;

Year 2:

Students must take Equity and Trusts and the Law of Tort. In addition, students choose 2 optional modules from: Commercial Law; Company Law; Law of Evidence, Jurisprudence; and, Family Law;

Year 3:

Students must take Land Law. In addition, students choose 3 optional modules from: Banking Law; Conflict of Laws; Dissertation Option; Employment Law; Human Rights Law, Intellectual Property Law and European Union Law (which must be successfully completed for award of an English QLD).

Part-Time Degree

This qualification is open to Caymanian candidates and residents able to establish a substantial connection with the islands. It comprises the study of 12 modules over a minimum of five years and a maximum of six years.

The part-time degree comprises the study of 12 modules over a minimum of five years and a maximum of six years. Candidates are not permitted to study more than two modules per year until year four of the programme when a maximum of three modules may be studied.

Year 1:

Students must take Law of Contract and Legal System and Legal Skills

Year 2:

Students must take Constitutional and Administrative Law and Criminal Law

Year 3:

Students must take Equity and Trusts and the Law of Tort

Years 4: Two or three optional modules (depending upon the length of the programme enrolled upon) offered in the second year of full time programme (see above) must be studied.

5 or 6:

Land Law must be studied in the final year of the programme together with one or two optional modules (depending upon the length of the programme enrolled upon) from the choices available to full-time students in year three (see above).

University of Liverpool Certificate and Diploma

Those students who do not complete the full degree will be eligible to receive a Certificate in Higher Education from the University (the exit award after completion of year one of the full time programme or year two of the part time programme) or a Diploma in Higher Education (the exit award after completion of year two of the full time degree or year four of the part time degree).

Individual Students

Students may enrol at CILS as a General Student studying approved individual modules (normally starting with Legal System and Legal Skills) with or without taking examinations at the conclusion of the course. Such students may register with the University of Liverpool in individual courses with University certification resulting from successful completion of all elements of assessment

ASSESSMENT

Modules are assessed on the basis of examinations, coursework, assessed presentations and/or dissertations. Depending on the module, a combination of these methods of assessment may be used to enable students to achieve their potential through methods of assessment which reflect the acquisition of subject and transferable skills.

Students prepare essays, tutorial questions (often in the form of problem solving), and seminar papers to demonstrate an understanding of aspects of the issues under discussion and to develop skills in communicating both orally and in writing. Assessed and non-assessed oral presentations help develop research, organisation and oral communication skills.

Students undertaking unseen examinations are expected to demonstrate:

- a knowledge and understanding of particular topics;
- an ability to identify and solve problems;
- an ability to apply and analyse relevant aspects of the law.

Coursework is used throughout the undergraduate programmes to enable students to become familiar with research techniques and to explore in depth particular aspects of the module. It requires an ability to structure a written argument. The rules on presentation of coursework require students to demonstrate a familiarity with legal sources and their citation as well as with basic word-processing.

COMMITMENT TO YOUR STUDIES

All modules are taught by a combination of lectures and tutorials. There will typically be two hours of lectures per week per module and one hour of tutorials in alternative weeks. This means that (exclusive of library time) full-time degree students can usually expect ten contact hours per week and part-time degree students five contact hours per week. This does not include preparation/library time! The University of Liverpool's Student Charter (http://www.liv.ac.uk/tqsd/pol_strat_cop/studchart_txt.htm) sets out the

responsibility of students on degree programmes, and it is expected that students will do 300 hours of private study per module.

In higher education, students are expected to be able to study effectively by themselves, and students should prepare thoroughly for sessions.

Great emphasis is placed upon tutorials and it is expected that you will utilize non-contact hours preparing for these bi-weekly sessions. Students who are insufficiently prepared will not be able to maximise the potential of contact with the subject experts, and can expect to be asked to leave the tutorial by the tutor. Typically, lectures begin in Week 1 of the term, and tutorials usually in Week 3 or Week 4 of term one.

Attendance at both lectures and tutorials is mandatory and is strictly monitored. Failure (without legitimate medical cause being evidenced) to attend at least 80% of all lectures and tutorials will result in the automatic exclusion from the end of year assessment in May in the affected module. The next opportunity to sit the assessment will be during the resit examination period in September and pass marks will be capped at a maximum of 40%.

Attendance and student performance in tutorials are recorded on file. This information is used in creating references for job applications, and may also be used in progress issues.

THE LIBRARY

CILS now boasts one of the Island's finest law libraries with significant lending and reference collections. Since September 2002, the library has fallen under the direct supervision of a qualified librarian, who also has responsibility for the Legal Department and Courts libraries. She is now supported by a library assistant. CILS has a fully equipped computer room with all computers having internet access. The entire Law School also has a wireless internet capability.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

International applicants apply in the same way as home students, although their eligibility is limited to the full-time programme. Following receipt of an unconditional written offer from CILS, international applicants must apply for a student visa from the Cayman Islands Immigration Department. Details of this procedure will be supplied by CILS following the making of an unconditional offer.

If English is not your first language, then you must demonstrate your English Language competence either on the basis of the qualification they are offering (i.e. English is a component) or by successfully undertaking the Mature Students Entrance Examination.

CAREERS

While the LL.B is the first step towards professional qualification, (although not necessarily being a vocational qualification) whether you wish to become an Attorney at Law in the Cayman Islands, or a Solicitor or a Barrister in the UK, you will need to undertake further study and training.

Possession of the University of Liverpool law degree means that it can be utilised in the same way as a law degree obtained from any other reputable English University. In particular, as already noted, the CILS degree is recognized by the Law Society and Bar Council of England and Wales as a qualifying law degree for professional exemption purposes. A Cayman Qualifying Law Degree (see above) is recognized for professional exemption purposes in the Cayman Islands. For information on the status of an English law degree in any other jurisdiction, you are advised to contact the Bar Council in your home jurisdiction.

To qualify as an Attorney at Law in the Cayman Islands, Caymanian graduates of CILS must undertake the Professional Practice Course (see further information below). An alternative approach is to undertake the Legal Practice Course (LPC) or Bar Vocational Course (BVC) in the UK and then return to the Cayman Islands to undertake articles with a law firm, before being called to the Cayman Bar. CILS offers a guaranteed placement scheme with the College of Law for graduates to undertake the LPC.

Recent graduates have been recruited by many leading law firms such as Appleby, Ogier, Maples and Calder and Walkers, to name but a few. Besides entering the legal profession, our graduates have prospered in a diverse range of professions such as banking, insurance and various roles in the public sector.

LAW SCHOOL AND UNIVERSITY FEES

Application Fee (all programmes/courses, effective September 1st 2010): C.I.\$ 150.00

Place Deposit: (effective September 1st 2010): All student acceptances for entry in September 2011 and thereafter must be accompanied by a refundable (from 1st term fees) place deposit of C.I.\$250.

Mature Entrants' Examination Application Fee: (effective September 1st 2010): C.I.\$100.00

LL.B / PPC Examination Fees: C.I.\$50.00 per examination (effective, September 1st 2010).

Tuition Fees

Caymanian Students/Legal Residents of 10 years +

Professional Practice Course (3 terms)	C.I.\$ 9,900 per year
Honours Degree (full-time)	C.I.\$ 6,000 per year
Individual courses studied	C.I.\$ 1,500 per year per subject
Honours Degree (part-time)	C.I.\$ 1,500 per year per subject

Non- Caymanian Students

Honours Degree (full-time)	C.I.\$ 12,000 per year
Individual Courses	C.I.\$ 3,000 per year

Fees must be paid on the first day of each of the three terms.

University of Liverpool Registration Fees

A fee for registration, made payable in £ to University of Liverpool, is due annually in September.

Honours Degree (full-time)	£892.00
Honours Degree (part-time, 3 subjects)	£669.00
Honours Degree (part-time, 2 subjects)	£446.00
Individual Courses (per course)	£223.00

Approximate cost of Textbooks:

Degree (full-time)	C.I.\$ 450 (Sterling 300 approx)
Degree (part-time) (2 subjects)	C.I.\$ 250 (Sterling 150 approx)

* All Fees are subject to change.

When paying tuition fees with a US cheque, the conversion from CI to US is x .82.

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE COURSE

Admission as an Attorney-at-Law of the Cayman Islands, carrying with it the right to practise law locally, is regulated by the Legal Practitioners Law and Regulations made thereunder. Students should be thoroughly familiar with these provisions.

In the case of persons who are not qualified to practice as barristers or solicitors in other Commonwealth jurisdictions, admission to the Cayman Bar is based upon successful completion of: (i) The Qualifying Examination of the Professional Practice Course, certified by the Cayman Islands Legal Advisory Council; and (ii) An eighteen month period of articles of clerkship.

Those graduates who go on to qualify as an Attorney at Law are eligible to take the Qualified Lawyers Transfer Test with a view to converting their qualification to that of English solicitor. For further details of this scheme please contact the Director or Ms Barker.

The entry requirements for the PPC are laid down in the Legal Practitioners (Students) Regulations (2008 Revision) as amended by the Legal Practitioners (Students) (Amendment) Regulations 2009. Candidates must be Caymanian or have Caymanian status, or hold the consent in writing of the Governor in Cabinet. In addition, students must have successfully completed the Liverpool University LL.B. degree or a qualification deemed to be equivalent to it by the Legal Advisory Council.

The Professional Practice Course comprises of an intensive full-time nine-month period of study in Cayman law and procedure. Courses to be studied include Cayman Statute Law, Corporate Practice, Criminal Litigation and Evidence, Civil Litigation and Evidence, Conveyancing, Probate and Succession Law, Legal Accounts, Professional Conduct and Ethics, Practical Legal Research and Legal Skills. Locally produced manuals form the basis of the courses in Conveyancing, Civil Procedure and Criminal Procedure and are available for purchase from the Law School. Successful completion of all courses (the Qualifying Examination) allows eligible candidates to apply to register Articles of Clerkship.

The second element of professional training is service under Articles of Clerkship with a practising Attorney-at-Law who will provide the trainee with practical experience in differing aspects of legal work. Articles must be registered with the Clerk of the Court after the Attorney General's certificate has been obtained which signifies his satisfaction that the articulated clerk will receive an appropriate level of legal training. Securing articles is the student's responsibility and it is up to the attorney and the clerk to agree the usual conditions of the clerk's employment such as salary, annual leave etc. A legal practitioner in the Cayman Islands has a broad spectrum of matters to deal with: his clients may well be involved in sophisticated international trusts, banking, insurance and commercial transactions, or have problems of a more domestic nature. An articulated clerk will study practical issues of many aspects of the law and should use this time to assist his or her principal to the full in order to gain the widest experience possible.

CONTACTING US

The opening hours of the General Office (Second Floor, #54 Edward Street) are Monday-Friday, 8:30 am – 5:00 pm (closed weekends & public holidays)

Further information about details contained herein is available from the Law School. General enquiries should be directed, in the first instance, to Mrs Morales-Levy (morales.levy@gov.ky) or to Antonette Vernon-Hamilton (Lovisa.Vernon-Hamilton@gov.ky)

Application forms can be downloaded from: <http://www.gov.ky/lawschool>

Postal Address:

The Cayman Islands Law School
PO Box 1568
George Town
Grand Cayman KY1 1110
Cayman Islands

Tel: 345 945 0077

Fax: 345 946 1845

Name	Position	Email Address	Phone Ext No.
Mr. Mitchell Davies	Director of Legal Studies	Mitchell.Davies@gov.ky	222
Ms. Deborah Barker	PPC Course Leader	Deborah.Barker@gov.ky	224
Ms. Rhian Minty	Lecturer	Rhian.Minty@gov.ky	230
Mr. Matthew Rollinson	Lecturer	Matthew.Rollinson@gov.ky	225
Mr. Andrew Woodcock	Lecturer	Andrew.Woodcock@gov.ky	228
Mrs. M. Ramsay-Hale	Part-time Recognised Teacher	c/o Mitchell.Davies@gov.ky	222
Mrs. Beverley Speirs	Librarian	Beverley.Speirs@gov.ky	231
Mr. Victor Villarin	Library Assistant	Victor.Villarin@gov.ky	221
Mrs. Lisa Morales-Levy	Administrative Assistant	Lisa.Morales-Levy@gov.ky	226
Mrs. Lovisa Vernon-Hamilton	Receptionist/front Office Manager	Lovisa.Vernon-Hamilton@gov.ky	233