

# AS and A-level Law

## Your companion guide to our new specifications

First teaching from  
September 2017

First assessment for AS  
summer 2018

First assessment for  
A-level summer 2019



Find out more at:  
[aqa.org.uk/law](http://aqa.org.uk/law)

# AS and A-level Law are changing

We've created this guide to clarify how the AS and A-level changes from Ofqual and the Department for Education will affect you and your students.

These changes will apply to all exam boards offering AS and A-level Law from September 2017.

## AS and A-levels will be linear

All exams will take place at the end of the course.

## AS will be decoupled from A-level

The AS qualification won't contribute to the A-level grade.

## AS and A-levels will be co-teachable

The AS and the first year of the A-level can be taught together.

| AS and A-level Law key dates   |                |
|--|----------------|
| Download our draft specifications from <a href="http://aqa.org.uk/law">aqa.org.uk/law</a>      | July 2016      |
| Book your place at our free launch event (also available online)                               | TBC            |
| Download our accredited specifications from <a href="http://aqa.org.uk/law">aqa.org.uk/law</a> | Autumn 2016    |
| Download papers and mark schemes from the AS and A-level Law page on our website               | Autumn 2016    |
| Start teaching our new AS and A-level Law  | September 2017 |
| First exams for the new AS Law   | Summer 2018    |
| First exams for the new A-level Law  | Summer 2019    |

For more information about AS and A-level changes, visit [aqa.org.uk](http://aqa.org.uk)

# Specifications for you and your students

Creating new AS and A-level Law qualifications that meet the needs of you and your students is extremely important to us. That's why we've worked with teachers and subject experts to design new specifications that you'll enjoy teaching as much as your students will enjoy learning.

1. We're confident you'll find our new specifications engaging, interesting and practical to teach.
2. Topic changes have been kept to a minimum so you'll be familiar with lots of the content.
3. Discover teaching resources to help you plan your lessons, teach and assess your students.
4. We're also hosting free, 'preparing to teach' and 'specification launch events', to ensure you're fully prepared to teach the new specifications in September 2017.

## We're here if you need us

Want to speak to someone in the AS and A-level Law team?

T: 01483 477 822

E: [law@aqa.org.uk](mailto:law@aqa.org.uk)

Explore our draft specifications:  
[aqa.org.uk/law](http://aqa.org.uk/law)



# Reasons you'll enjoy teaching these new AQA specifications

- We've clearly highlighted the knowledge and understanding students need to demonstrate so you know exactly what you'll need to teach.
- We've kept the most popular topics from our existing specifications, so you can teach your areas of expertise and interests and re-use your existing resources.
- The English Legal System will now be taught within the context of the substantive law areas, helping students to see the relationships between different areas of law.

## How the new assessments will work

Our assessments will use a mixture of question styles including multiple choice, short answer and extended answer questions, to give all students the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of legal issues.

# Specifications at a glance

## AS

| Paper 1   | + | Paper 2   |
|---|---|---|
| <p><b>What's assessed</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• English legal system</li> <li>• Nature of Law</li> <li>• Criminal Law</li> </ul> |   | <p><b>What's assessed</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• English legal system</li> <li>• Nature of Law</li> <li>• Tort Law</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>How it's assessed</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 hour 30 minute exam</li> <li>• 80 marks</li> </ul>                           |   | <p><b>How it's assessed</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 hour 30 minute exam</li> <li>• 80 marks</li> </ul>                       |

## A-level

| Paper 1   | + | Paper 2   | + | Paper 3/4  |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| <p><b>What's assessed</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• English legal system</li> <li>• Nature of Law</li> <li>• Criminal Law</li> </ul> |   | <p><b>What's assessed</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• English legal system</li> <li>• Nature of Law</li> <li>• Tort Law</li> </ul> |   | <p><b>What's assessed</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• English legal system</li> <li>• Nature of Law</li> <li>• Human Rights Law</li> <li><b>or</b></li> <li>• Contract Law</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>How it's assessed</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 hour exam</li> <li>• 100 marks (33.3%)</li> </ul>                            |   | <p><b>How it's assessed</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 hour exam</li> <li>• 100 marks (33.3%)</li> </ul>                        |   | <p><b>How it's assessed</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 hour exam</li> <li>• 100 marks (33.3%)</li> </ul>   |

You can see full details of the new specifications at: [aqa.org.uk/law](http://aqa.org.uk/law)

# Clear assessments and marking you can trust

We know the time and effort that you and your students put in to exams. We also understand how essential it is that the marks we give are fair, reliable and trustworthy.

## Getting the right results

Our Centre for Education Research and Practice (CERP) provides statistics and research evidence to ensure we assess and mark your students' work fairly and accurately. We also recruit and train the highest calibre examiners and continually monitor their work.

## Clear question papers

Students of all abilities will understand our clearly worded exam papers.

## Well structured mark schemes and exemplar materials

Our mark schemes demonstrate how to help your top ability students get the best marks. Our exemplars use real student answers with comments from senior examiners to explain how our mark schemes are applied.

## More exam help and advice available

1. Watch our videos on 'assessment explained' or see 'how we create a specification' at [aqa.org.uk/exams](https://www.aqa.org.uk/exams)
2. Analyse student results with our free Enhanced Results Analysis tool [aqa.org.uk/era](https://www.aqa.org.uk/era)
3. More exam-related help is available at [aqa.org.uk/results](https://www.aqa.org.uk/results)

## Assessment support

Our exam resources will help you prepare for exams, these include practice questions, tests and revision exercises. If you'd like to talk to us about the new exams, call us on 01483 477 822.

# Free resources help you bring the new specifications to life

We've worked closely with some fantastic teachers to create resources you'll find useful and inspiring.

Each resource will help you with a specific aspect of teaching – either planning your lessons, teaching them, or preparing your students for exams.

## Free resources include:

- events to introduce you to the new specifications and advise on how you can teach it
- schemes of work and lesson plans
- specimen question papers
- mark schemes
- student exemplar materials
- training and professional development opportunities
- textbooks
- digital resources.

## Want to improve your teaching skills?

We offer subject specific continued professional development courses throughout the year.

Browse our courses at [coursesandevents.aqa.org.uk](https://coursesandevents.aqa.org.uk)

To improve your professional skills, search [aqa.org.uk/professional-development](https://aqa.org.uk/professional-development)



Join the conversation  
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## Meet the team

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Manager

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## Keep in touch

To contact our law team:

T: 01483 477 822

E: [law@aqa.org.uk](mailto:law@aqa.org.uk)

To receive regular updates about  
AS and A-level Law, register at:  
[aqa.org.uk/from-2017](http://aqa.org.uk/from-2017)

Want to know about our  
new specifications, launch  
meetings and resources?

[aqa.org.uk/law](http://aqa.org.uk/law)

The information in this guide is based on the draft specification submitted to Ofqual in July 2016 and is subject to change. We will publish the accredited specification and specimen question papers as soon as we receive Ofqual accreditation expected in the autumn.

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