

Law & Politics

Syllabus Guide
For Ages 16 – 18



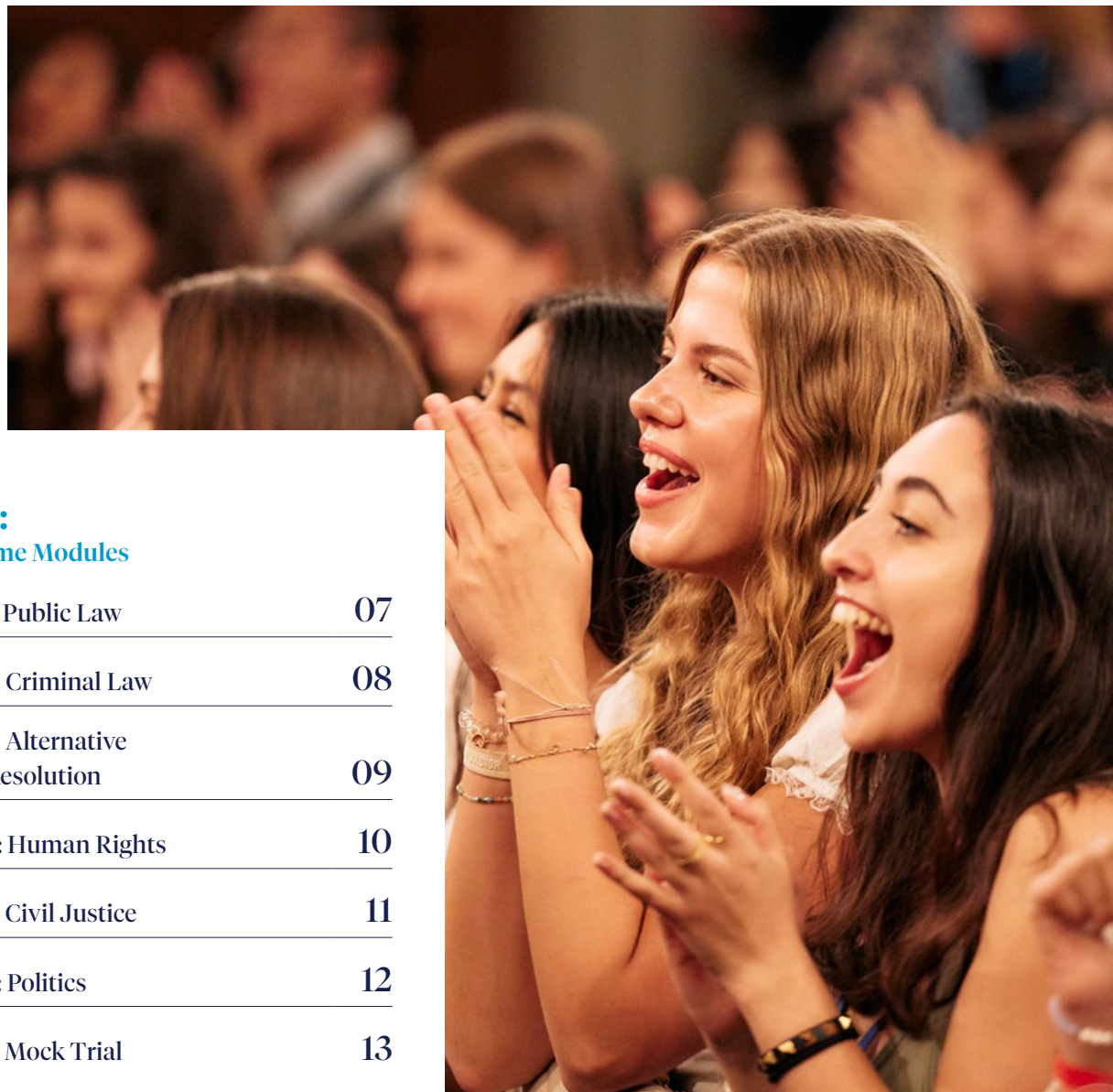
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Programme Overview

Our Law & Politics programme is designed to provide you with a comprehensive introduction to these two interconnected subjects, guiding you towards a legal or political career.

The course explores definitions of Law & Politics, emerging issues in both fields, and various areas of Law. You'll dive deep into dominant political ideologies and the structure of the UK government, getting to grips with the general election process and the effect issues such as climate change and the rise of populism have on the vote, before showing off your understanding as you engineer your own political campaign.

Finally, you'll explore the inner workings of courtroom justice as you participate in a mock trial simulation, drawing upon the legal and political cases you have analysed in class, and honing the powers of public speaking and argumentation that every successful lawyer or politician needs.

Who It's For

Whether you aspire to become a lawyer, make an entry into the world of politics or diplomacy, or you see yourself working as a researcher in the social sciences, this programme will equip you with the intellectual and rhetorical skillset to kick start your career.

The course is excellent preparation for a degree in either Politics or Law (or a related social science discipline) at university, whether as a complement to the advanced study of either subject at school, or as a first experience of formal tuition in Law or Politics.



“I really like that we are getting so much more in depth, we are studying topics about morality and International Law and Family Law, topics that I have never thought of, and subjects I had never even considered doing in the future. Now, I am really interested in them.”

Edoardo
Oxford Royale Law Student

Upon completion of this programme at Oxford Royale, you will:

1. Understand and be able to explain key legal and political principles
2. Be able to analyse case studies and interpret current global affairs from a legal and political perspective
3. Have developed the skills to plan for and successfully participate in debates, negotiations and mediations, simulations, mock trials, and mock political campaigns.
4. Be able to apply legal and political concepts to practical scenarios
5. Have developed your public speaking, debating, critical thinking, and complex analysis skills
6. Be able to formulate and defend a point of view or argument in a formal debate environment

During the programme you will also develop a number of core skills:

1. Collaborate with international peers:

Work with global peers and hone your communication and teamwork skills through workshops and group projects.

2. Develop problem-solving skills:

Enhance your critical thinking and problem-solving abilities with daily lessons and workshops.

3. Build confidence:

Thrive in a supportive environment, think creatively, share ideas, and discover your strengths.

4. Showcase your success:

Showcase achievements, explore peer projects, and engage in critical discourse during subject challenges and Exhibition Days.

5. Gain a taste of independence:

Manage your assignments and schedule while exploring a new location with new friends and staff support.





How You'll Learn

Our Law & Politics programme goes above and beyond what is typically offered as part of a school curriculum, offering hands-on experience of the legal profession and university-style tuition.

You will learn through a combination of lectures, seminars, and practical assignments, including a mock trial simulation and mock political campaign. Furthermore, as part of your academic development, you'll analyse a range of real-world case studies before following a clear structure and referencing guidelines to produce a case study report.



Teaching methods include:

1. Lectures from esteemed legal practitioners and world-class academics in the fields of Law and Politics
2. Seminars
3. Academic workshops
4. Written assignments
5. Case study analysis
6. Simulated legal and political scenarios



Module 1:

Public law

Public law encompasses the legal principles and rules governing the relationship between the state and individuals, as well as the operation of public institutions. As you study this area of law, you will gain crucial insights into the dynamic relationship between law and politics, exploring the distribution of power among UK public institutions; the separation of powers among the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government; rule of law and how individual rights are upheld within the legal system; and the concept of democracy. Additionally, you will examine the function and structure of the UK parliamentary system, comparing and contrasting it with parallel institutions in other countries.



Module 2:

Criminal Law

Criminal law is the body of laws that define criminal offences, procedures for prosecution, and penalties for convicted individuals in England and Wales. Throughout this module, you will learn about the role of criminal law in promoting social cohesion and upholding justice. You'll master its basic concepts, going on to see how these are borne out through in-depth study of the English criminal justice system. You'll critically analyse the concept of murder, examining what constitutes a murder in UK law and the partial defences which can reduce a murder charge to manslaughter. You will also examine how crime is investigated, and the range of legal and law enforcement careers available in this field.



Module 3:

Alternative Dispute Resolution

Alternative dispute resolution (ADR) is the term used to describe methods of conflict resolution used outside of traditional courtroom litigation. This module will provide you with an overview of these processes, and how they are being implemented worldwide to provide a more flexible, efficient, and often less costly means of reaching a resolution compared to the formal court system. You will learn about mediation and negotiation, putting your knowledge into practice as you participate in a mock mediation session based on a real-life case. Furthermore, you will consider the roles of mediators, arbitrators, and diplomats in overseeing local and global conflict resolution.



Module 4:

Human Rights

This module delves into the definition of human rights law and how they are upheld, exploring various struggles to secure human rights on the global stage, and how these have influenced international relations. You will also learn about important UK and international legislation and legislative bodies, such as the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the UK Human Rights Act, which prohibit human rights violations.



Module 5:

Civil Justice

Throughout this module, you will dive into the function of civil law, exploring the definitions of, and distinctions between, contract law and tort law, as well as their intersection with politics and policy-making. You will study the various functions of civil law, including dispute resolution, protection of rights, regulation of conduct, and consumer protection, while getting to grips with the specific terminology of civil disputes and the structure of civil courts. Furthermore, you'll get the opportunity to discuss landmark cases in UK civil law.



Module 6:

Politics

This module will concentrate on political ideologies, presenting you with a range of popular ideological stances – namely, conservatism, liberalism, socialism, anarchism, and populism – and how they influence political behaviour such as voting. Reflecting on these worldviews, you will critically examine visions of political Utopia and party manifestos, policy-making, and campaign strategies. You'll also consider the impact of politics on international cooperation around climate change. Finally, you will study the structure of UK general elections, deepening your understanding of how the law informs democratic processes, and put your knowledge into practice through constructing a successful electoral campaign strategy.



Module 7:

Mock Trials

Throughout this module, you'll develop the ability to analyse complex legal issues and formulate persuasive arguments. You'll study the courtroom process in detail, learning about the roles of prosecutors, defence barristers, judges, and the jury, as well as the processes of examination and cross-examination. Crucially, you'll learn to construct and deliver a masterful court speech, which will not only allow you to advocate effectively and influence judicial decisions in legal contexts, but will also support your development of excellent public speaking skills.



www.oxford-royale.com

All information correct at the time of publication.