

**Professional Requirements – England and Wales –  
UCD Sutherland School of Law Graduates**

**2013/2014 onwards**

If you are considering a legal career in England or Wales:  
Further information is available (for solicitors) from the Solicitors Regulatory  
Authority ([www.sra.org.uk/students/academic-stage\\_page](http://www.sra.org.uk/students/academic-stage_page))  
and for barristers from the Bar Standards Board  
([www.barstandardsboard.org.uk/qualifying-as-a-barrister/academic-stage](http://www.barstandardsboard.org.uk/qualifying-as-a-barrister/academic-stage))

**PLEASE NOTE: Regulations regarding required modules and exemptions may be subject to further changes, and, as the case may be, fees may be incurred for additional (i.e. not in the programme structure) modules.**

Applicants for admission to the Legal Practice Course (solicitors) or the Bar Professional Training Course (barristers) must either pass the Common Professional Examination or have an approved law degree. Degrees offered outside England and Wales (e.g. UCD) are not recognised as qualifying law degrees for this purpose. However, the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) has recently recognised that UCD Sutherland School of Law graduates who have successfully completed the modules listed below “**will have met the joint academic stage requirements and will be exempt from having to complete the Common Professional Examination**”. This will be reflected on the SRA website in due course.

Under a Joint Statement issued by the Law Society of England/Wales and the General Council of the Bar the conditions for the recognition of undergraduate law degrees are set out. These are:

- The course of study includes the study of legal subjects for the equivalent of not less than two years out of a three year or four year course of study, (for example, a student must gain not less than 120 credits in the study of legal subjects in a 180 or 240 credit degree programme) and
- The coverage of those legal subjects referred to in the professional bodies’ qualifying regulations as the Foundations of Legal Knowledge (FLK) must involve not less than one and a half years study i.e. the coverage of the Foundations shall amount to not less than 90 credits<sup>1</sup>.
- The FLK are the key elements and general principles of the following areas of legal study:
  - Public Law, including Constitutional Law, Administrative Law and Human Rights;
  - Law of the European Union;
  - Criminal Law;
  - Obligations including Contract, Restitution and Tort;
  - Property Law;

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<sup>1</sup> The SRA / BSB Joint Statement provides that other courses involving the study of aspects of the English legal system will be allowed to count towards the required 90 credits.

- Equity and the Law of Trusts

<b>FLK subject</b>	<b>Corresponding School of Law Modules</b>
<b>Public Law</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Constitutional Frameworks <b>AND</b> Constitutional Rights <b>AND</b> Administrative Law: Review <b>AND</b> Administrative Law: Remedies <b>AND</b> English Public Law</li> </ul>
<b>Law of the EU</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EU Constitutional Law <b>AND</b> EU Economic Law</li> </ul>
<b>Obligations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contract: Formation <b>AND</b> Contract: Vitiating Factors <b>AND</b> Negligence and Related Matters <b>AND</b> Nominated Torts</li> </ul>
<b>Criminal Law</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Criminal Liability <b>AND</b> Criminal Offences and Defences</li> </ul>
<b>Property Law</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Property Law I <b>AND</b> Property Law II <b>AND</b> English Land Law</li> </ul>
<b>Equity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Equity</li> </ul>
<b>Law of Trusts</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Law of Trusts</li> </ul>

The Bar Standards Board requires a minimum 2.2 honours degree. It will **NOT** normally accept passes by compensation in foundation subjects. The Bar Standards Board also requires applicants to pass a Bar Course Aptitude Test (BCAT).

Experience suggests that applicants to either of the England and Wales professional bodies are likely to be asked for detailed curricula in respect of each of the modules listed below as part of an application for exemption. Detailed module descriptors can be found online on the curriculum archive at the following link - [www.ucd.ie/students/course\\_search.htm](http://www.ucd.ie/students/course_search.htm) and the appendix to this document gives the relevant module codes.