

Section 2 - Connect with your University



Reading List – Law

Please check with your individual university to see if there is a reading list for your course.

This is the list for King’s College, Cambridge which is a good starting point:

You will find the start of the law course a lot easier if you do some introductory reading before coming to Cambridge. There are many books that provide an introduction and useful tips for law students. The following books may help in introducing you to legal skills/how lawyers think (don't worry if you can't find the latest edition):

- Nicholas McBride, *Letters to a Law Student: A Guide to Studying Law at University* (3rd edition, Pearson, 2014).
- Glanville Williams, *Learning the Law* (14th edition by ATH Smith, 2010) - this is a popular introductory book. It will *not* give you any specific, substantive legal knowledge, but it *will* provide you with useful information ranging from how to read cases to what the abbreviations mean.
- Allan Hutchinson, *Is Eating People Wrong? Great Legal Cases and How They Shaped the World* (Cambridge University Press, 2010) - all the chapters are useful, but see particularly chapters 1,2,6,8 and 10.
- Catherine Barnard, Janet O'Sullivan and Graham Virgo (eds), *What about Law: Studying Law at University* (2nd revised edition, 2011) - some leading cases are discussed in a highly accessible manner in this book, and it provides an introduction to the study of each of the foundation subjects, as well as to the study of law as an academic discipline. You might find chapter 1 and the chapters on Crime, Tort and Constitutional Law especially useful.
- Tony Honoré, *About Law: An Introduction* (Oxford University Press, 1996)
- Ian McLeod, *Legal Method* (9th edition, Palgrave Macmillan, 2013)
- Karl N. Llewellyn, *The Bramble Bush: On Our Law and Its Study* (Oxford University Press, 1960)

- Peter Clinch, *Using a Law Library: A Student's Guide to Legal Research Skills* (2nd Edition, 2001) - Sooner or later you're going to have to do legal research (i.e., find your way around a law library quickly and competently in order to look up material).

Preparing to study law at university:

A good Law student will have a broad awareness of current affairs (in particular relating to legal issues). We recommend that one of the best ways to prepare for your Law degree is to read a good quality British newspaper or news website every day.

Many newspapers have specific sections for legal news:

- [The Independent](#)
- [Daily Telegraph](#)
- [The Guardian](#) (Follow them on Twitter: [@GdnLaw](#))
- [AllAboutLaw](#)

Useful websites and blogs:

The BBC's website [Law in Action](#) is really useful and you can also download their podcasts:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006tgy1>

Other recommendations are the [Guardian's law pages](#) and the [Counsel magazine](#)

- <https://www.theguardian.com/law>
- <https://www.counselmagazine.co.uk/>
- <https://thestudentlawyer.com/#>
- <https://studyinglaw.co.uk/marks-blog/recommended-reading-preparing-for-a-law-degree/>

There are a number of **legal blogs** that you may find interesting, including:

- The [blog of Leicester Law School graduate Philip Henson](#), who is now a partner and Head of Employment Law at an award winning London Law firm. He is regularly quoted as an expert in employment law in the national, international and HR media; including several appearances on BBC News 24, BBC Radio, ITN News and Sky News.
- Two blogs focussing on legal issues in the UK: [Law and Lawyers](#) and [Charon QC](#).
- [Law Actually](#), the blog of a in-house lawyer from the telecoms industry.
- [Pupillage and How to Get It](#) - The blog of a Leeds-based barrister who writes about the realities of entering the profession.