

SCHOOL OF LAW

RAISING THE BAR

“ The School of Law at the University of Reading is a transformative and international learning environment with a world-wide reputation for research. We welcome students from across the globe into our diverse, inclusive, supportive and highly ambitious community. We pride ourselves on achieving excellence in our teaching, learning and research. Our students develop as independent thinkers and both LLB and Criminology students are taught alongside each other. As LLB students you will learn about a variety of laws in relevant social, economic, cultural, political and global contexts. As Criminology students you will learn about how particular types of social problems become understood as crime, how crime is explained and different models of criminal justice. All our students are taught by passionate academics, who work on research that pushes boundaries and has a direct effect on policy and practice. The School of Law is very proud of its strong relationship with alumni and employers. We look forward to welcoming you on an exciting journey that will provide opportunities for you to thrive, in a School that is committed to the development and impact of law and criminal justice at a global level. ”



Professor James Devenney
Head of School and Professor of
Transnational Commercial Law

www.reading.ac.uk/law

“The end of law is not to abolish or restrain, but to preserve and enlarge freedom. For in all the states of created beings capable of law, where there is no law, there is no freedom.”

John Locke



RIGHTING A WRONG



Dr Beatrice
Krebs

Imagine you are asked to defend the following case. The defendant and his friend agree to break into a neighbour's house, with the intention of stealing. The defendant is aware that his friend has violent tendencies and foresees that if the neighbour retaliates, there is the risk that his friend might attack the neighbour with the intention of causing serious harm. The defendant and his friend did carry out the robbery, with the friend inflicting a fatal injury on the neighbour. Can the defendant be found guilty of the offence of murder committed by the friend?

In the past the law said yes. Collectively known as 'joint enterprise', this is a principle of common law stretching back hundreds of years by which a person may be found guilty of another person's crime, if each were acting together for a joint purpose.

Where the person causing death had the intent to kill or cause serious injury, the secondary party was held equally guilty, because of foresight that death or serious injury might occur.

Dr Beatrice Krebs, Associate Professor at the School of Law argued "the threshold for conviction of secondary parties under the joint enterprise principle was lower than that required for convicting the person who actually wielded the knife or gun."

Accepting Beatrice's arguments cited in court by counsel for the defendants in the cases of *R v Jogee* and *Ruddock*

v The Queen on February 18, 2016, the Supreme Court and the Privy Council reversed 30 years of English case law and effectively abolished the doctrine of 'joint enterprise' in murder cases.

Her research helped persuade judges to rule that only those who intend to seriously injure or kill someone and those who intend to assist or encourage others to kill or seriously injure, should be convicted of murder. Defendants' foresight of the possibility that their associate would commit the offence can no longer be treated as equating to intent, although foresight can be regarded as evidence of intent.

The Supreme Court acknowledged that, in contrast to previous courts that had considered the joint enterprise principle, it had the benefit of a far deeper and more extensive review of the topic. In the wake of this decision, a large number of murder convictions in England and Wales may have to be re-examined, and MPs have debated the issues in the House of Commons.

Not only is Beatrice making an impact on the development of criminal law doctrine and practice in the area of accomplice liability, this work is directly informing her teaching of our undergraduate law students. Students of criminal law benefit from her extensive insight and experience which feed directly into their learning experience.

“I am proud to have been part of a team that fought for the correction of this unfair law. At the University of Reading, we strive to have a positive impact on wider society. The impact we are having proves that anything is possible.”



**POLITICAL
LIMBO**



**Dr Reuven
(Ruvi) Ziegler**

As an aspiring postgraduate law student at Oxford University, Dr Ruvi Ziegler's MPhil thesis focused on electoral participation of convicts from an international and comparative law perspective. He queried the potentially adverse effects of exclusion of convicts as members of their political communities and on protection of their rights.

Continuing his intellectual journey, Ruvi's doctorate appraised the unique political predicament of refugees, who are, in the main, in political limbo for an indeterminate period.

Since completing his doctorate, Ruvi has become an authority in matters pertaining to International Refugee Law, recognised as a Senior Research Associate of the Refugee Law Initiative and Editor-in-Chief of its working paper series. Ruvi has also established himself as a global expert on questions of political membership and

participation, contributing to the work of the International Democracy and Electoral Assistance, the GLOBALCIT observatory at the European University Institute and the European Union.

From law student to change agent and social reformer, Ruvi has been able to make a real impact on policy and practice. Recently, much of his academic work, as well as public advocacy, has focused on the effects of the 2016 EU referendum on citizens' rights on both sides of the channel.

Speaking at the Liberal Democrat 2018 Autumn conference, Ruvi argued that citizens of other EU countries who are long-term residents in the UK should be granted full voting rights to foster their inclusion. The Conference adopted a policy motion supporting this radical legislative change. He also succeeded in moving amendments to the Liberal Democrat's new Migration

Policy that commits the party to a world-leading progressive and modern approach to asylum.

Ruvi also co-authored a letter to the Israeli Attorney General, signed by 50 leading academics the world over, imploring him not to authorise plans to forcibly deport Eritrean and Sudanese asylum seekers from Israel. The controversial policy was averted with Israel's announcement of cancellation of deportation orders and the subsequent renewal of permits.

As an academic who is regularly involved in presenting contemporary issues in government forums and the media, Ruvi's teaching and seminar discussions link theory with burning political issues. Whether referring to the Israel-Palestine conflict while teaching international human rights law, or referring to the electoral rights of non-resident British citizens in his teaching of UK Public Law, Ruvi encourages

energetic debate in class and an active contribution from his students.

“The challenge was to look at where the law stands and how it needs to be developed. The sense of accomplishment is in being able to set out ideas, engage with scholars, advocate ideas in relevant forums and pursue them until you achieve the desired long term impact.”



CHANGING MONEY



Dr Folashade Adeyemo

Dr Folashade Adeyemo began working on her PhD thesis shortly after the global financial crisis ended and when the UK was coming out of recession. Fola found herself interested in how the law had developed in this particular area, and was intrigued by the regulatory infrastructure that was put in place to deal with the global financial crisis from 2007 to 2009 as well as future financial crises.

Her doctoral thesis focused on Nigeria where she argued that the banking law regime required urgent reform. She also provided a comprehensive critique of Nigeria's then banking law Act, the Banks and Other Financial Institutions Act 1991. She also met with some stakeholders who could influence the redevelopment of the law in Nigeria. In 2020, the country enacted a new banking law and many of Fola's arguments were included in the new regulation.

Recently, Fola designed and introduced a new Banking Law module in collaboration with her students. This module remains one of the most widely selected optional modules since its inception in 2020 and it is available to second year students at the School of Law. This module is also available to students in Henley Business School. This module provides the opportunity to combine the theoretical elements of Fola's research and her passion for banking law and infuse this into her teaching. It also provides the students with an opportunity to consider some overlooked questions such as: Why do we have banking law?

What is the relationship which exists between the banker and customer? What are the implications of having an overdraft? What are the anti-money laundering laws in the UK? These are just a few of the questions Fola addresses in her banking law lectures.

Engaging further with her research, Fola's students refer to her recently published monograph 'Banking Regulation in Africa: The Case of Nigeria and Other Emerging Economies' as the recommended reading material. This important monograph is a comparative study of how different countries responded to the financial crisis. Students not only learn about regulatory responses by developed economies such as the UK and the US, but also get to extend the study to other emerging economies in the global south region and see the approaches they have taken to improve their banking regulatory infrastructure.

Fola's research interests also cover financial and economic crime. To that end she is currently writing a monograph examining issues of unexplained wealth with a particular focus on Nigeria and Kenya. It looks at financial and economic crime and the general issue of corruption in Africa. As a founding member of the Global South Dialogue on Economic Crime network, Fola recently concluded a webinar which specifically discussed unexplained wealth. This is an under researched area and the webinar attracted a large number of attendees, comprising of stakeholders, practitioners, and academics.



CRIMINOLOGY



**Professor
Jo Phoenix**

Studying for a master's in Gender and Social Policy in the 1990s, Professor Jo Phoenix, read a book which was probably the first sustained study of what happens to women in prison in the UK. The book ignited an interest in women who experience poverty, and have also often been the victims of male violence, and how they get caught up in the criminal justice system.

Passionate about the subject, Jo began writing about policies and laws that relate to how we deal with people who are at once offenders and victims.

Jo remains particularly interested in understanding the changing conditions in which (some) women and (some) young people are criminalised and punished as well as the challenges facing those people who work with them. Her research focuses on issues of justice for poor, marginalized, contradictory categories of people, who are troubled and troublesome.

She is currently a member of the 'Changing Lives Stage Project Influencers' Group, which is a group of practitioners working with sexually exploited women, MPs, members of the House of Lords and policy makers who are trying to shape national policy by creating national definition and guidance for dealing with sexually exploited adults.

An author and senior professor of Criminology for more than 25 years, Jo has a very long and illustrious career in curriculum development. Heavily involved in publishing and advising policymakers, Jo has helped shape undergraduate programmes and modules in Criminology for many Universities across the UK.

Jo currently teaches a dedicated criminology module to LLB Law finalists at Reading and has recently designed the University's new BSc Criminology undergraduate programme.

On this programme students will gain a critical understanding of crime, criminal justice, and their relationship with the law. Students will develop an understanding of how we as a society, as a modern democracy deal with some of the social problems that we have and become more acutely aware of social justice issues.

Highlighting the importance of getting students involved in criminological research, Jo mentions there will be ethics workshops run in the second year where students will be exposed to real life ethical research problems and they will work out how they would solve them. Case studies will include real life ethical dilemmas faced by academics in the School, in the course of their careers. Students will also work on a dissertation research project; a first-hand analysis of empirical datasets about crime and justice under the guidance of a supervisor.

“Criminology cuts to the heart of how we live in a modern democracy. Poverty is on the rise with all the social welfare issues it brings. Given this, why do we punish people who steal because they're hungry? We are very bad at dealing with the connections between poverty, social welfare and crime, and sadly the only time that a lot of people get the sort of social welfare input and support that they really need is when they have broken the law.”



LEARN FROM EXPERTS



RESEARCH THAT CHANGES LAW

Based at the stunning Grade II listed Foxhill House, you will be taught by leading academics in the field of law, crime and policy.

Their expertise and commitment to their subject and students cultivates a stimulating learning environment that will encourage you to excel.

Our team of experienced academics are passionate about their subject and are recognised as experts in specialist areas such as medical, environmental, international and commercial law and in criminology.

As a student at the University of Reading's School of Law, you will benefit from teaching supported by applied research led by our academics who contribute regularly to global and UK policy development and law and criminal justice reforms through their work with governments and regulatory agencies. They are regularly invited to speak at conferences and to provide their expert opinion in the media. Some of our tutors are advisers to government and policy-making bodies like the Law Commission and the United Nations, whilst others have been involved with, or cited in, cases before courts, including the European Court of Justice and UK Supreme Court or work closely with some of the main penal reform

organisations like the Centre for Crime and Justice Studies. Both our programmes are supported by networking, conference and work experience opportunities for our students, which result directly from the strong industry links that our staff have developed in their disciplines in both academia and practice. Our academics are not only research experts in their specialist fields, many have applied and developed their knowledge and research interests through a career in legal practice.

Joining our School of Law will give you the opportunity to flourish in a dynamic and collaborative teaching environment and immerse yourself in legal debate and developments alongside academics, who are at the forefront of changes to global legal systems and policymaking.

“From day one, I felt that studying law at the University of Reading was the best choice I could have possibly made. I met professors who made me passionate about the subject, tutors who helped to develop my critical thinking, and friends from all over the world. My course has offered so many opportunities for having discussions, sharing ideas, and growing as an individual.”

Flavia Mongiello
LLB Law graduate

The School of Law at Reading is a hub for high-quality research and teaching with impact.

According to the Research Excellence Framework 2021, 99% of our research is of international standing¹. This expertise of our academic staff is fed directly into the undergraduate curriculum, thus enriching the learning experience of all our students.

The research of our academics makes a discernible impact beyond the school. Aside from challenging the preconceptions of law and of criminal justice policy, much of our academic research subjects the process of legal decision-making to strict analysis, as well as the processes of crime and justice to critical scrutiny. Often, our research ignites national and international debate and challenges governments and policy-makers to address imbalances in law and practice.

From policing, court decisions and public policy made by central and local government and international organisations, to the activities of NGOs and charities, we aim to create positive change

often for some of the more vulnerable and excluded members of society. Our subject experts undertake a wide variety of research, around themes such as Global Law; Commercial Law and Financial Regulation, Law, Justice and Society and Crime and Justice.

Our recent research projects include making climate targets legally binding; use of Artificial Intelligence to identify potential disputes; international law and cyberspace; preventing sexual exploitation and abuse by peacekeepers; safeguarding women and children in a variety of contexts, including prisons, whistle-blower protection and banking regulation.

As a student, you will benefit directly from this and further research projects, as our academics encourage lively debate around their findings and invite their students to join them in thinking beyond existing laws and policies, to create positive change at a national and global level.

¹ REF 2021, combining 4*, 3* and 2* submissions – Law.



PRO BONO & MOOTING



WHEREVER NEXT

The School of Law at the University of Reading offers one of the widest ranges of pro bono activities of any law school in England and Wales.

For LLB Law students, pro bono experience gives you the opportunity to work, on a voluntary basis, with local charities and other institutions where you will give legal advice and support to real people with real problems.

Pro bono work also enables you to make a meaningful contribution within the local community.

Recent pro bono projects include: the local CommuniCare Legal Advice Clinic, where you act as an adviser supported by local practitioners; our Streetlaw project, where you can work with local school students to give them an insight into law; and mediation training with Resolve, where you can apply in subsequent years to deliver mediation-related work.

For both LLB Law and BSc Criminology students, there is a wide range of volunteering opportunities open to you. Past students have volunteered with the Citizens Advice, Thames Valley Police, Launchpad, Reading Youth Offending Service and Reading Refugee Support Group. The School of Law is constantly updating and looking for new possibilities for our students.

In addition to pro bono activities, both LLB Law and BSc Criminology students will be given the opportunity to participate in our popular mock trials, known as moots. A moot usually involves arguments on a point or points of law. You will be required to argue either for or against a hypothetical decision, referring to relevant case law precedents and put forward a legal argument in the most convincing way. Students find that mooting improves their ability to formulate and present legal arguments.

Through participating in our moots, as well as our negotiation, mediation and client interviewing competitions, you will have the chance to represent the University of Reading at national and international competitions, some of which are sponsored by leading law firms who offer work experience placements to winners.

“In my first year I did a lot of pro bono work at the Youth Offenders Institute in Reading. There’s a programme called ‘Children Heard and Seen’ which focuses on children whose parents or carers are in prison. I also completed some legal work with solicitors back home, which I doubt I would have been eligible for without my connections from the University.”

Rebecca Walker
LLB Law graduate

Our focus on commercial awareness, access to well-established industry and workplace connections and breadth of placement opportunities are all designed for you to expand your knowledge and will prepare you for the world of work or further study.

We have a dedicated careers adviser and a calendar full of career-orientated events built into your degree. This includes help with CV writing, placement applications and interview techniques, regular commercial awareness workshops and other career-orientated events, including employer visits, alumni conversations, and career talks, which feature practitioners from a range of legal and criminal justice fields discussing their work.

We have excellent links with industry, with criminal justice agencies and a number of well-respected law firms and criminal justice organisations support us with work experience placements ring-fenced exclusively for University of Reading School of Law students.

Successful completion of your law degree provides you with the first qualification for entry into the legal profession and it also equips you with a wide range of transferable skills that are widely sought after by employers.

Past students who have continued in the legal profession have progressed to work with global corporations in the City of London, as advisers to national and European businesses, and as barristers in chambers as well as in government for the Crown Prosecution Service. Outside law, our graduates are successful in global accountancy firms, the civil service, local government, and in the music and entertainment industries.

Your BSc Criminology degree will help develop your research, analytical and communication skills as well as subject specific knowledge relevant to careers in government (particularly Civil Service), criminal justice (police, prison service, youth justice service), social work, non-governmental organisations, welfare and service charities, social research and investigative journalism. The degree also provides you with a wide range of social scientific research skills that are sought after by a wide range of employers outside criminal justice – such as think tanks and policy agencies.

Having completed a criminology degree that integrates some parts of the LLB, you can also undertake further study to work as a solicitor or in other legal professional jobs.

LLB LAW

M100 3 years full-time

Our LLB Law course is accredited by the Solicitors Regulation Authority and Bar Standards Board and provides you with the first qualification for entry into the legal profession, with the Law Society and Bar Council exempting our graduates from the first stage of professional training.

Gain a thorough understanding of the workings of the English legal system, with the chance to tailor your studies to your interests. You can complement your legal study selecting from a wide range of specialised optional modules including those offered by the Department of Languages and Cultures and Henley Business School.

Our induction programme is available to all students, as well as a dedicated Student Support Adviser, an excellent academic tutor system, and an established student peer support programme. You will benefit from integrated IT and e-learning within the curriculum, in addition to a well-resourced library and electronic legal databases including Westlaw and LexisNexis.

“The teaching across various modules allows you to see where law fits into your life. For example, contract law has made me aware of the importance of the next contract that I sign, and tort law encourages me to consider issues of negligence and duty of care. Seeing law in the real world is what appeals to me.”

William Page
LLB Law graduate

INTERNATIONAL **FOUNDATION PROGRAMME**

If you want to study law at a British university but don't have the correct qualifications, this course will prepare you for an undergraduate law degree. You will study the law module in the foundation year, which includes the English Legal System, Contract Law and Tort Law. Subject to successful completion of the International Foundation Year, you'll be guaranteed a place on the three-year LLB Law course at the University of Reading in September of the same year.

GO GLOBAL

The LLB Law with International Legal Studies is our year-abroad programme open to students by internal transfer who are on the three-year LLB to spend an additional year studying abroad, subject to the availability of placements with our partners.

If you wish to pursue a career in international law, business, human rights, or within an international or government organisation, or simply wish to travel and study as part of your law degree, this could be an excellent option to consider.



YEAR 1

Compulsory modules:

Legal Skills

Tort

Contract

Public Law 1

Criminal Law

Plus 1 x optional module:

Research and writing skills

Law and Society

YEAR 2

Compulsory modules:

Equity & Trusts

Land Law

Public Law 2

EU Law

Plus 2 x optional modules:

Legal Writing Credit

Foundations of International Law

Banking Law

War in Ukraine

Research Project

YEAR 3

One compulsory module from the following:

Research Writing Credit

Pro Bono and Professional Placement

Dissertation

Plus a choice from a list of optional modules such as:

Company Law

Criminology

Intellectual Property Law

Family Law

Gender and Law

International Human Rights Law

Medical Law

Technology, Privacy and Internet Regulation

Commercial Law

International Global Security

Jurisprudence

Revenue Law

Children, Family and The State

Environmental Law

International Children's Rights

Labour Law

Law in Philosophy and Literature





BSc CRIMINOLOGY

M900

3 years full-time

Study criminology to an advanced level whilst you acquire an understanding of legal skills, public law, criminal law and criminal justice with our new BSc Criminology programme.

Throughout your studies you will encounter a variety of sociological and criminological legal concepts and methodologies. You will explore these in ways that will help you to develop a critical understanding of 'crime' and 'criminal justice' in relation to the law.

At the end of your degree, you will leave with a strong grounding in the legal framework and challenges in which matters of crime and justice play out.

WHERE CRIMINOLOGY MEETS LAW AND POLICY

Explore the main theoretical and empirical questions that criminology addresses. What is crime? What is justice? To what extent is rule breaking a result of human nature or wider social context? To what extent is it possible to have a just criminal justice system in societies shaped by profound social inequalities?

Topics covered will include processes of criminalisation and victimisation, causes and organisation of crime, crime management and prevention, interrelationship between crime, social inequalities and rights, official and unofficial responses to crime and punishment and media representations.

You will be inducted into the criminological community of practice by being trained in how to research matters of crime and justice as well as what counts as ethical practice in social science research. You will end with a dissertation research project where you will undertake first-hand analysis of empirical datasets about crime and justice under the guidance of your supervisor. This may also include the opportunity to analyse data and questions connected with live research projects being undertaken by academic staff.

YOUR DEGREE YOUR WAY

This degree is flexible enough to allow you to pursue other interests by taking criminology relevant modules outside School of Law or continue to pursue your interests in studying law by taking modules from within the School of Law.

Whether you have a particular passion or want to learn about a broad range of criminological, socio-legal or law topics, you can create your own pathway throughout your degree. Our extensive range of optional modules reflect the breadth of our academic expertise. Possible pathways may include: Sex, Gender and the Law, International Law and Security, Human Rights, Children and Families, Financial Crime and, Youth Justice.

YEAR 1

Compulsory modules:

Introduction to Criminology

Introduction to Criminal Justice

Criminal Law

Legal Skills

Law and Society

Optional module:

Select from a list of modules available in the School of Law or modules offered by other Schools in the University.

YEAR 2

Compulsory modules:

Contemporary Criminological Theory

Criminal Justice Policy

Criminological Research Methodology

Optional module:

Select from a list of modules available in the School of Law or modules offered by other Schools in the University. Sample modules include:

Foundations of International Law

War in Ukraine

YEAR 3

One compulsory module from the following:

Contemporary Issues in Crime and Punishment

Criminology Dissertation

Optional module:

Select from a list of modules available in the School of Law or modules offered by other Schools in the University. Sample modules include:

Financial Crime

Youth Justice

Family Law

Gender and Law

International Children's Rights

Medical Law



Disclaimer

This brochure was issued in 2022 and is aimed at prospective undergraduate students wishing to apply for a place at the University of Reading (the University) and start a course in autumn 2023. The University makes every effort to ensure that the information provided in the brochure is accurate and up-to-date at the time of going to press (May 2022). However, it may be necessary for the University to make some changes to the information presented in the brochure following publication – for example, where it is necessary to reflect changes in practice or theory in an academic subject as a result of emerging research; or if an accrediting body requires certain course content to be added or removed. To make an informed and up-to-date decision, we recommend that you check reading.ac.uk/study. The University undertakes to take all reasonable steps to provide the services (including the courses) described in this brochure. It does not, however, guarantee the provision of such services. Should industrial action or circumstances beyond the control of the University interfere with its ability to provide the services, the University undertakes to use all reasonable steps to minimise any disruption to the services.

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Modules

Sample modules are provided as a taster of some of the modules that may be available on each course. The sample modules listed may be compulsory (core) or optional modules. Information is correct at the time of going to press (May 2022) but the University cannot guarantee that a module appearing in this list will definitely run. Teaching staff on specific courses or modules mentioned in this prospectus may be subject to change. For optional modules, the University cannot guarantee that all optional modules will be available to all students who may wish to take them, although the University will try to ensure that students are able to take optional modules in which they have expressed interest at the appropriate time during their course. Optional modules vary from year to year and entry to them will be at the discretion of the Programme Director.

Joint courses

Our joint courses may have extra requirements, including English language requirements. Please check the individual course pages on our website for further details.

Year abroad and placement fees

Some courses include an optional or compulsory year abroad or placement year. During this year you will only pay a partial fee which is currently set at 15% of the normal tuition fee. Check the website for the latest information: reading.ac.uk/fees-and-funding

Placements

Programmes with a Professional Placement Year (also known as 'Year in Industry' or 'Placement Year') are fully dependent on students securing their own placement opportunity, normally through a competitive recruitment process. The University provides dedicated career and application support for placement year students. Students who do not secure a placement or who are unable to complete the placement year due to extenuating circumstances, have the option to transfer to a three year variant of their programme with agreement from their School/Department.

Study abroad

The partnerships listed are correct at the time of publication (June 2022). For up to date information on the University's partnerships contact studyabroad@reading.ac.uk. Where Study Abroad is not a compulsory part of the degree programme, the University of Reading cannot guarantee that every applicant who applies for the scheme will be successful. Whilst efforts are made to secure sufficient places at partner institutions, the number of places available and the University's partners can vary year-on-year. In all cases, the University cannot guarantee that it will be possible for applicants to choose to study abroad at a particular institution. Further, certain courses and/or institutions may require you to satisfy specific eligibility criteria. It can be a competitive process. For further information on the University's Study Abroad Scheme please contact studyabroad@reading.ac.uk



School of Law

www.reading.ac.uk/law

 UniRDG_Law

Ask us a question

www.reading.ac.uk/question