

DIPLOMA CENTRE | PROSPECTUS 2024/2025



WELCOME Claire O'Mahony Solicitor, Head of the Diploma Centre c.omahony@lawsociety.ie

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the Diploma Centre Prospectus for 2024/2025. We are delighted to open this new academic year with a diverse range of award-winning courses that includes certificates, diplomas, master's programmes, and a Professional Doctorate in Law.

As ever, our commitment is to enhance the skills and opportunities of our learners. This autumn, we are excited to launch a suite of certified micro-credentials to the profession. These new courses enable self-paced learning for a range of specialised areas, with the capacity to stack several micro-credentials, which lead to a greater award – that is, a certificate or diploma. Further details on this exciting new initiative are available on page 4.

We are also proud to add a new **Certificate in Legal Skills for Legal Secretaries** to our portfolio and believe it will add substantial value for participants and indeed their firms (see page 23).

A look back at the past year shows that 1,192 professionals chose to study with us on 33 courses, and 475 trainee solicitors chose our advanced elective courses. Our blended-learning options continued to attract participants from all over Ireland and internationally.

The Diploma Centre won its fourth award in five years, with our Diploma in Aviation Leasing and Finance scooping Best Learning/Professional Development Programme at the Association and Institutes Awards 2024.

It was the tenth year that we offered our popular Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) and, in 2024, our MOOC on Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) attracted 3,500 participants from 78 countries. In addition to this, we successfully relaunched the international excellence programme Legal Skills through English for our international lawyers in summer 2024.

On behalf of the Law Society of Ireland and the Diploma Centre,
I would like to thank you most sincerely for your continued support
and wish you every success in your future studies.

Claire O'Mahony,

Claire & Mahony

Solicitor, Head of the Diploma Centre

HOW TO APPLY

MEMBERS

You can pay for a course via the course webpage online-booking function or, alternatively, by completing an application form and emailing it to diplomateam@ lawsociety.ie. A member of the team will then be in touch to arrange payment.

NON-MEMBERS

Unless otherwise stated, all Diploma
Centre courses are open to suitably
qualified non-members. If you are a nonmember, then you will need to submit an
application form and CV to diplomateam@
lawsociety.ie. Application forms can be
found in the download section of any of our
course webpages.

DISCOUNTS

- · A 10% discount is available for trainees,
- When a firm is paying for three or more solicitors to attend the same diploma course, there is a 10% discount on the group invoice,
- Where an applicant has paid for two Diploma Centre certificates or diploma courses, the applicant is entitled to a 10% discount on subsequent diploma courses.

FEES

Applications from non-members are subject to a supplemental fee on top of the fee advertised on each course page:

CERTIFICATE COURSES: €175
DIPLOMA COURSES: €335









LLM PROGRAMMES



LLM EMPLOYMENT LAW IN PRACTICE

The LLM Employment Law in Practice is specifically designed for those who have completed our Diploma in Employment Law. Uniquely, the LLM provides participants with the opportunity of using the diploma as a building block to achieve a further recognised academic qualification. The award of the LLM requires 180 credits – the Diploma in Employment Law provides 120 credits, and the research-based dissertation then provides the remaining 60 credits required.

The programme begins with an induction day, followed by a self-paced online module, while researching and writing a dissertation on an agreed employment law topic. Candidates undertake in-depth study of the topic under indi-

vidual tutor supervision, with supervisors drawn from a panel of employment law experts, comprising both internal Law Society staff and senior external practitioners/academics.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Those who have completed the Diploma in Employment Law are eligible to apply for the LLM Employment Law in Practice. Please note that places on this course are limited.

LLM ADVANCED LEGAL PRACTICE

This course is specifically designed for those who are qualified solicitors. The LLM provides participants with the opportunity of using their solicitor qualification as a building block to achieve a further recognised academic qualification. The award of LLM requires 180 credits – the solicitor qualification already provides 120 credits towards this and the research-based dissertation then provides the remaining 60 credits required.

This LLM programme focuses on legal research and coherent presentation of legal research in a written form. The dissertation is the sole assessed element of the course and the topic of study is of your choosing, but generally must relate to an area of Irish law.

The dissertation module includes the following units of study:

- · Finding the research idea,
- · Developing the research idea,
- Methods and methodology,
- Literature review.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Applicants must either be:

- Qualified as a solicitor in this jurisdiction, or
- Enrolled on the PPC at the same time as enrolment on the LLM Advanced Legal Practice.



OUR LLM PROGRAMMES ARE OFFERED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE LEEDS LAW SCHOOL AT LEEDS BECKETT UNIVERSITY.

START DATE:

Both LLMs start on Saturday 14 September 2024 **DELIVERY METHOD:**

Distance learning

ASSESSMENT:

Dissertation of 15,000 words

FEE:

€3,600

COURSE LEADER:

Judith Tedders, Solicitor **E:** j.tedders@lawsociety.ie

PROFESSIONAL DOCTORATE IN LAW





The Professional Doctorate in Law is offered in partnership with the Northumbria University Law School and is specifically designed for qualified solicitors. It is a part-time programme structured to facilitate those in full-time employment. The programme is designed to provide a structured and supportive learning experience that will enhance a solicitor's theoretical understanding of their profession and will assist in the development of practice, through critical insight and evaluation, building on academic and research skills acquired via formal subject delivery and the doctoral research subsequently conducted.



The research may be doctrinal, perhaps in a practice-based area such as criminal justice and evidence, or the law in action in areas such as human rights or data collection and privacy or legal education. Those who complete the doctorate will have made a significant and original contribution to the creation and interpretation of a body of knowledge and be at the forefront of practice development. The programme aims to enable candidates to:

- Acquire a range of research skills and to be able to apply these to the conceptualisation, design, and implementation of a project, adjusting design in the light of unforeseen problems,
- Be able to translate ideas into a form understandable by and meaningful to their profession,
- Produce a thesis portfolio of original quality in the professional area,
- Disseminate/publish that research and its outcomes to the professional audience.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

The programme is open only to Irish-qualified lawyers and is designed for two kinds of candidate – first, those with professional experience and a master's degree within the last five years, or those with professional experience but without a master's degree.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



START DATE:

Autumn 2025

DELIVERY METHOD:

Research-based with limited online taught content – 3.5 years' duration

FEE:

€7,300 per year; €3,650 for the last half year **COURSE LEADER:**

Rory O'Boyle, Course Coordinator, Ireland E: r.oboyle@lawsociety.ie

MICRO-CREDENTIALS

COMING SOON





We are delighted to offer this initiative in 2025. We are aware of the demands to keep abreast of legal changes, and these new short, flexible courses will enable participants to do just that. Completing a micro-credential provides a recognised accreditation, and the knowledge gained can add real value to the participant's career and also to their firm.

T P Kennedy,
Director of Education
at the Law Society of Ireland

In 2025, we are excited to launch a new approach to learning at the Law Society – micro-credentials.

A suite of these new bite-sized courses, on a range of topics such as ESG, mediation and more will be available to the profession in the coming months.

Micro-credentials are short, stand-alone accredited courses designed to offer maximum accessibility and flexibility for busy working professionals. They are delivered using the blended-learning model and allow for self-paced learning.

The advantage of completing micro-credentials is that each one can be 'stacked' to lead to a greater award, in time.

The completion of two micro-credentials results in the award of a certificate and the completion of four leads to an award of a diploma.

Law Society micro-credentials will offer an opportunity to study new topics, to upskill in evolving legal developments, and to receive accreditation for each subject you undertake!

Further information, including specific topic information, course dates and how to apply will be added to the website shortly.



To register your interest for this exciting new initiative, please contact the Diploma Centre by emailing diplomateam@lawsociety.ie



DIPLOMA IN LAW





An intensive postgraduate diploma spread over eight modules, this course is designed for those who require an introduction to the discipline of law in a number of core areas.

This course is unique, in that it integrates academic theory with the practice of law.

Students can choose between a oneyear or two-year option of study to best suit their needs. Those students who select the two-year option generally elect to study two modules per semester. Our innovative blended-learning approach affords ultimate flexibility in terms of accessing our course, and this may appeal to those who are working or based outside Dublin while undertaking the diploma.

MODULES

Semester 1 (September – January)

Module 1: Constitutional law

Module 2: Criminal law

Module 3: Contract law

Module 4: Tort

Semester 2 (February - May)

Module 5: Company law

Module 6: EU law

Module 7: Property law

Module 8: Equity or employment law

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

The diploma is open to non-law graduates from any discipline or suitable non-graduates with a demonstrable level of work experience in the area of law. It can act as a gateway course for those who are thinking of commencing the solicitor qualification.



START DATE:

Friday 6 September 2024

DELIVERY METHOD:

Wednesday evening lectures, 6pm to 8.30pm; one block weekend each month (Friday and Saturday, 9.30am to 4pm)

ASSESSMENT:

Modules are assessed through a mix of written assignments, online tasks, and a written examination

FEE:

€2,400 per year if taken over two years; €4,800 if taken over one year

COURSE LEADER:

Patricia Harvey BL E: p.harvey@lawsociety.ie

DIPLOMA IN EMPLOYMENT LAW





Framed by the *Workplace Relations Act 2015*, this diploma provides a comprehensive understanding of employment law, covering all aspects of the employer/employee relationship from recruitment through to termination. Relying on contributions from leading practitioners, stakeholders, and decision-makers in the area, we highlight how new developments are likely to affect your practice. For example, we will focus on recent practice and procedural developments arising out of the switch to remote working for many workers and the *Protected Disclosures* (Amendment) Act 2022.

MODULES

Module 1: Intro to employment law

- Workplace Relations Act 2015
- Forums and redress,
- Recruitment and status of workers,
- Data protection in the workplace,
- The HR perspective.

Module 2: Workers and allowances

- Pay, benefits and pensions,
- Statutory leave,
- Organisation of Working Time Act 1997.

Module 3: Rights of the worker (part 1)

- · Equality in the workplace,
- Age discrimination,
- Bullying and harassment,
- · Health and safety,
- Mediation,
- Social media in the workplace.

Module 4: Remote working and rights of the worker (part 2)

- Work Life Balance and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2023,
- · Right to disconnect,
- Gender Pay Gap Information Act 2021.

Module 5: Resolutions

- Trade disputes,
- Industrial relations,
- Grievance and disciplinary procedures,
- Whistleblowing,
- Injunctions.

Module 6: Issues when leaving work

- Transfer of Undertakings Regulations,
- · Severance packages,
- Redundancy,
- · Practical advice when using WRA.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

This course is suitable for solicitors, barristers, and trainees who advise or wish to advise on employment law matters. It would also be of interest to other professionals working in the employment sector, such as HR professionals.

LLM EMPLOYMENT LAW IN PRACTICE

Participants may be interested in progressing to the LLM Employment Law in Practice upon successful completion of the diploma. See page 2 for more details.

START DATE:

Friday 20 September 2024

DELIVERY METHOD:

Blended learning: block release lectures and workshop sessions over six weekends (Friday and Saturday)

ASSESSMENT:

Three-hour closedbook written examination

FEE:

€2,660

COURSE LEADER:

Suzanne Crilly, Solicitor E: s.crilly@lawsociety.ie

DIPLOMA IN TRUST AND ESTATE PLANNING





Offered jointly by the Law Society and the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP), the course has been designed by practitioners with specialist expertise to give a practical insight into key estate planning, legal, and tax-based concerns for private clients. The focus of the course is to enable successful candidates to advise clients on all aspects of the creation of wills, the operation of trusts, associated tax implications, and overall estate planning for clients. Practical in its approach, this course provides students with real-life situations that practitioners face and real solutions to problems encountered.

MODULE

Module 1: Course introduction

- · Lifetime and estate planning,
- · Legal and tax principles.

Module 2: Taxation issues

- CGT, income tax, stamp duty, CAT,
- Double taxation agreements.

Module 3: Lifetime and estate planning

- · Passing of value on death,
- · Lifetime gifting,
- · Wealth planning structures,
- · Financial planning.

Module 4: Trust drafting

- Requirements of a valid trust,
- Classification of trusts,
- Drafting an effective trust deed.

Module 5: Administration of trusts

- Office of trustee and trustee powers,
- · Breach of trust,
- Tax issues in trusts.

Module 6: Will drafting

- · Testamentary capacity,
- · Solicitors' duty of care,
- · Assisted decision-making.

Module 7: Administration of estates

- · Applying for the grant,
- Litigation,
- · Distribution of assets.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

The diploma is intended for those who have experience in the areas of wills, trusts, estate planning, probate, and the administration of estates in Ireland. To participate, you must have relevant work experience of at least one year and one or more of the following qualifications: solicitor, barrister, or another professional qualification deemed eligible by the Law Society and STEP.



The diploma is well-rounded and it really gave me confidence in my knowledge and skills. The lecturers involved were true experts in their fields. I found the content really interesting and practical – the balance between the academic merit of the topics and the practical application was especially noticeable. As a solicitor, I specialise in the area of trust and estate planning and I still have copies of my study and lecture notes by my desk. Any communication I had with the course coordinators and the Law Society was seamless. On a personal level, I think this diploma in particular is an excellent way of meeting colleagues.

Jane O'Quigley,

Associate, O'Connell Brennan LLP



START DATE:

Saturday 21 September 2024

DELIVERY METHOD:

Live online lectures on Wednesdays, 6pm to 9pm; interactive on-site workshops on Saturdays

ASSESSMENT:

Written assignment (20%) and two closedbook exams in May 2025 (40% each)

FEE:

€3,300

COURSE LEADER:

Riona Leahy, Solicitor E: r.leahy@lawsociety.ie

DIPLOMA IN INSOLVENCY LAW AND CORPORATE RESTRUCTURING





This course provides a comprehensive, practical overview of the current legislative framework in Ireland concerning insolvency and corporate restructuring, from an analysis of basic concepts of debt restructuring to a consideration of more complex issues, such as financing considerations that may arise during the corporate restructuring process. The diploma will also delve into the effects of insolvency on companies in Ireland. It will examine the obligations of the directors and the options for the company from initiating the corporate restructuring, to court procedures, to the enforcement of judgments.

MODULES

Module 1: Introduction to insolvency and corporate restructuring

- Insolvency law in Ireland,
- Current trends in corporate restructuring,
- Life-cycle of a distressed company,
- Restructuring professionals.

Module 2: Liquidation, examinership and receivership

- Voluntary and compulsory liquidation,
- · Powers of the liquidator,
- · Receivership,
- · Insolvency litigation,
- · Examinership,
- SCARP,
- Schemes of arrangement.

Module 3: Restructuring, debt recovery, enforcement, and mediation

- Debt restructuring and rescheduling,
- Financing a restructuring process,
- · Equity capital raising,
- · Debt recovery in court,
- · Enforcement of judgments,
- · Mediation.

Module 4: Bankruptcy and personal insolvency

- Personal Insolvency Act 2012,
- Debt resolution mechanisms,
- Insolvency Service of Ireland,
- Bankruptcy law practice and procedure.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Solicitors, barristers, and trainee solicitors who are seeking to gain expertise in the area and other suitably qualified professionals wishing to expand their knowledge and practical application of corporate recovery.



START DATE:

Tuesday 1 October 2024

DELIVERY METHOD:

Online lectures on Wednesdays, 6pm to 8pm, with occasional online lecture releases; interactive workshops on Wednesdays, 6pm to 8pm

ASSESSMENT:

Three-hour closed-book exam (60%) and written assignment (40%)

FEE:

€2.660

COURSE LEADER:

Megan Murphy Byrne, Solicitor E: m.murphybyrne@ lawsociety.ie

DIPLOMA IN TECHNOLOGY AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW





This advanced-level programme provides a wide-ranging analysis of issues relating to intellectual property rights and technology law. Leading experts consider IP infringements and defences, domain disputes, e-commerce and consumer regulations, software licensing, data security breaches, and the world of cybercrime.

Relevant torts such as defamation will be examined, in addition to the rights and duties attaching to social media, blogging, and internet usage. Recent regulatory and legislative changes relating to online safety will be considered. The course also analyses the law relating to emerging and key technologies, such as FinTech, Blockchain, LawTech and AI.

MODULES

Module 1: Intellectual property

- Trademarks.
- · Patents,
- Copyright,
- · Design law,
- Trade secrets.
- Contracts.

Module 2: Data protection

- GDPR Regulation 2016/679,
- · Data access requests,
- International data transfers,
- New technologies,
- · Data breaches.

Module 3: Technology contracts

- · Technology contract clauses,
- · Software licensing agreements,
- E-commerce, online contracts, and consumer protection
- Website terms and conditions,
- Outsourcing.

Module 4: Social media

- · Defamation and blogging,
- · Hosting, caching, conduits,
- · Advertising standards online,
- · Liability for online content,
- · Social media and employment,
- Regulation of social media and Coimisiún na Meán.

Module 5: The law and technology

- Al text and data mining, Al copyright infringement, machine learning, Al ownership, the Al Act,
- · Cybersecurity and cybercrime,
- Cookies, apps, the Cloud,
- FinTech and Blockchain,
- LawTech.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

This course is suitable for solicitors, barristers, and trainees who wish to augment their knowledge in the area of IP and technology law to better advise their clients, as well as professionals with an interest in specialising in the topics covered on the course.

START DATE:

Tuesday 8 October 2004

DELIVERY METHOD:

Lectures on Wednesdays at 2pm, with five interactive workshops on Saturdays

ASSESSMENT:

Continuous
assessment through
online activities (10%),
multiple-choice quiz
(10%), and three-hour
closed-book written
examination (80%)

FEE:

€3,065

COURSE LEADER:

Sara Van den Bergh, Solicitor E: s.vandenbergh @lawsociety.ie

DIPLOMA IN CONSTRUCTION LAW





This course takes a practical approach to the complex issues that arise from the multiparty nature of the construction process. Students will be introduced to the standard forms of construction contracts, with particular focus on the public works and RIAI contracts. There will be specialised introductory streams for lawyers and non-lawyers and specific modules on the tendering process, construction dispute resolution, allocation of risks, collateral warranties and bonds, and specialists and subcontractors.

MODULES

Module 1: Intro to construction law

- Specialised streams for lawyers and non-lawyers,
- Standard form contracts.

Module 2: Construction procurement – the tendering process

- Public Procurement Directive,
- The tendering procedure,
- Remedies.

Module 3: Construction contracts

- Responsibility for design,
- Lump sum and quantities contracts,
- · Supply chain: subcontracting,
- Time and completion,
- · Security and overall liability,
- Ordinary certification and payment.

Module 4: Construction dispute resolution

- Multiparty construction litigation,
- · Conciliation and mediation,
- Adjudication and arbitration.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

This course is suitable for solicitors or barristers working in the area, those who would be interested in practising in this area, and dispute-resolution solicitors and barristers looking to broaden their understanding of this area of law. It will also appeal to many construction professionals and other professionals working in the sector.



START DATE:

Saturday 12 October 2024

DELIVERY METHOD:

Live online lectures on Wednesdays, 6pm to 9pm, with a number of interactive workshops on Saturdays

ASSESSMENT:

Continuous assessment and threehour closed-book written examination

FEE:

€2,660

COURSE LEADER:

Geraldine Rafferty BL E: g.rafferty @lawsociety.ie

CONFERRAL CEREMONIES

- 1) A number of the Diploma in Mediator Training conferees with (front l-r) the Hon Ms Justice Bronagh O'Hanlon; Richard Hammond S.C., Chair of the Education Committee; Claire O'Mahony, Head of the Diploma Centre; and the Hon Mr Justice Barry O'Donnell.
- 2) Diploma in Sports Law prizewinner Stefan O'Connor with the Hon Ms Justice Bronagh O'Hanlon.
- **3)** Diploma in Trust and Estate Planning conferees, Patrick O'Driscoll and Jacinta Lynch.
- **4)** A number of the Diploma in Law conferees with (front l-r) course executive, Patricia Harvey; the Hon Mr Justice Liam Kennedy; Richard Hammond S.C., Chair of the Education Committee; Judge Shalom Binchy; Sandra Meade, Chairperson STEP Ireland; and Claire O'Mahony, Head of the Diploma Centre.
- **5)** Diploma in Regulation Law and Practice prizewinner Aisling Pierse with the Hon Mr Justice Barry O'Donnell.
- 6) Diploma Centre conferees.
- 7) Diploma in Sports Law conferee Pamela Bastable with the Hon Ms Justice Bronagh O'Hanlon.
- 8) Diploma in Aviation Leasing and Finance conferee Neha Dadhwal with Maria McElhinney, Partner, A&L Goodbody
- 9) A number of conferees from the Diploma in Aviation Leasing and Finance class with (front l-r) the Hon Ms Justice Bronagh O'Hanlon; Richard Hammond S.C., Chair of the Education Committee; Claire O'Mahony, Head of the Diploma Centre; the Hon Mr Justice Barry O'Donnell; course executive Geraldine Rafferty; and Maria McElhinney, Partner, A&L Goodbody.



















DIPLOMA IN FINANCE LAW





This diploma provides participants with an in-depth understanding of the law in relation to the provision of financial services from a national and international perspective. This dynamic area is constantly subject to regulatory and statutory changes at both a European and national level, and the modules will consider the current financial services market in Ireland and the regulatory framework in which it operates.

MODULES

Module 1: Financial services market

- · Legislative provisions,
- · The Central Bank and regulation,
- Investment firms,
- FinTech.

Module 2: Industry sectors

- Investment funds,
- Insurance,
- · Pensions.

Module 3: Banking sectors

- Regulation of banking in Ireland,
- Codes of practice,
- Corporate banking,

 Individual Accountability Framework and SEARS.

Module 4: Loan financing

- Loan Market Association.
- · Equity financing,
- · Recovery and restructuring.

Module 5: Capital markets and corporate governance

- Bond markets.
- International swaps/derivatives,
- · Corporate governance,
- · Money-laundering,
- · Insider dealing.

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

Solicitors, trainees, paralegals, and other suitably qualified professionals who wish to expand their knowledge of the financial services industry with a view to moving into or progressing into the area.



START DATE:

Tuesday 15 October 2024

DELIVERY METHOD:

Lectures on Tuesdays, 6pm to 9pm, with interactive workshops

ASSESSMENT:

Three-hour closedbook written examination (60%); written assignment (40%)

FEE:

€2,660

COURSE LEADER:

Megan Murphy Byrne, Solicitor E: m.murphybyrne @lawsociety.ie

DIPLOMA IN JUDICIAL SKILLS AND DECISION-MAKING





This diploma will provide participants with case-management leadership skills and practical training on how to run a case in any forum. It will also prepare participants for adjudicatory and tribunal roles and will explore the skills needed to preside over various forums. Practical workshops on arriving at a determination and drafting judgments will be facilitated by means of case studies.

An interactive online module on mediation will take a look at the challenges arising from integrating the mediation process with the legal system, examine key mediation skills, and give students an insight into how the *Mediation Act 2017* affects traditional court-based proceedings.

MODULES

Module 1: The exercise of judicial skills and decision-making

- Ethical considerations; types of judicial roles/quasi-judicial bodies,
- Understanding and managing the trial process,
- Rules of evidence from the decision-maker's perspective.

Module 2: Mediation, managing proceedings, and administering justice

- Mediation overview from a judicial perspective,
- The effect of the Mediation Act 2017.

Module 3: Written judgments and decision-making skills

- · Drafting written judgments,
- Proceedings involving litigants-in-person,
- Assessing credibility; assessing expert evidence.

Module 4: The social context of law

- Cultural diversity in Ireland,
- · Independence and accountability,
- · Equality legislation and inclusion,
- · Consistency in sentencing,
- · Vulnerable clients or witnesses.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

This course is suitable for solicitors, barristers, and other relevant professionals who wish to develop the skill set necessary for adjudicatory, tribunal, and board roles, or the skills necessary to preside over various forums.



The course was very well-run and covered a wide range of relevant topics from judicial independence to unconscious bias, the duties of boards, and drafting. Lectures were delivered by existing and former members of the judiciary, and these were both engaging and insightful. Much of what I learned about the judicial and quasi-judicial decision-making process has already benefitted me in my litigation practice in the CSSO.

Kate Roseingrave, Chief State Solicitor's Office

START DATE:

Saturday 19 October 2024

DELIVERY METHOD:

Lectures on Wednesdays and occasional Saturdays, with interactive workshops

ASSESSMENT:

Written assignment (60%) and continuous assessment (40%) based on participation and completion of workshop assignments

FEE:

€3,065

COURSE LEADER:

Suzanne Crilly, Solicitor E: s.crilly@lawsociety.ie

DIPLOMA IN SPORTS LAW





This course offers an insight into the dynamic area of sports law, both domestically and internationally. The course focuses on topical areas such as child protection, data protection, player protection, contracts and IP rights. It also provides a detailed examination of the commercialisation of sport, including sponsorship agreements, broadcasting, ticketing and merchandising. Key issues such as corruption in sport, violence, and gambling will be examined, followed by an in-depth look at the WADA anti-doping code, disciplinary procedures, and sports arbitration.

MODULES

Module 1: Governance and regulation

- Sporting bodies organisational structure; setting up a club,
- · Rules and regulations,
- · Taxation of sports organisations,
- Funding and grant applications; lottery licences,
- EU law and sport.

Module 2: Commercialisation of sport

- · Sponsorship agreements,
- Ambush marketing,
- Broadcasting,
- · Ticketing and merchandising.

Module 3: Membership

- · Player and management liability,
- Protection of players,
- Club policies and procedures,
- · Social media policies,
- · Equality and discrimination,
- Child protection,
- Data protection.

Module 4: Player rights

- IP and media rights,
- · Image and player rights,
- Player contracts and rights protection.

Module 5: Key issues in sport

- Corruption and violence in sport,
- Concussion; second-impact syndrome,
- Gambling and manipulation of sports,
- · Sport and technology.

Module 6: Anti-doping

- Application of the WADA Code,
- · Therapeutic-use exemption,
- Testing, exemptions, and sanctions.

Module 7: Disciplinary procedures

- Disciplinary codes,
- Internal disciplinary procedures,
- On-field offences,
- · Dispute resolution bodies,
- Arbitration in sport,
- · Court of Arbitration for Sport,
- Suspensions, appeals, and challenging decisions.

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

This course is suitable for solicitors, barristers, and trainees working in sports law or aspiring to do so. It will also appeal to a variety of professionals working in national/international sports governing bodies, administration, or those coaching.

START DATE:

Wednesday 23 October 2024

DELIVERY METHOD:

Live online lectures on Wednesdays, 6pm to 9pm, with four interactive workshops on Wednesday evenings

ASSESSMENT:

Three-hour closedbook written examination (90%) in April 2025 and continuous assessment through online activities (10%)

FEE:

€2,660

COURSE LEADER:

Riona Leahy, Solicitor E: r.leahy@lawsociety.ie

DIPLOMA IN EDUCATION LAW





Now in its ninth year, this advanced-level diploma equips participants with a comprehensive understanding of the complex legal topics that arise when advising on education law matters, including employment law, equality law, conflict resolution, corporate governance, child protection, data protection, and litigation. The course is designed to take place on days during school holidays as well as occasional evening and Saturday lectures.

MODULES

Module 1: Employment law in the school context – part 1

- The contract of employment,
- · Grievance; disciplinary procedures,
- The Teaching Council, registration, and 'fitness to teach'.

Module 2: Employment law in the school context – part 2

- Appointment procedures,
- · Equality in the workplace,
- · Managing bullying and harassment.

Module 3: Admissions policies and student conduct

- · Admissions policies,
- · Disciplinary procedures,
- · Managing parental complaints.

Module 4: School governance

- · Legislative framework,
- The role of boards of management,
- · Financial management.

Module 5: Negligence/litigation management

- · The duty of care,
- · The standard of care.
- · Sporting activities,
- Liability of the school authority.

Module 6: Special educational needs

- Legislative provisions,
- School policies and procedures,
- Equality law provisions.

Module 7: Compliance matters

· FOI and data protection,

- Child protection,
- · Tusla reporting requirements,
- Health and safety.

Module 8: Higher, further, and adult education

- Governance structures at third level,
- · Student conduct issues,
- International students.
- The examination process.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

This course is suitable for solicitors, barristers, and trainees who advise or wish to advise on education law matters. It will also appeal to key stakeholders, decision-makers, and teachers at all levels within the sector.

START DATE:

Friday 1 November 2024

DELIVERY METHOD:

Two Friday and Saturday sessions (coinciding with periods of school leave), together with some evening and Saturday lectures and workshops – this course can be completed online

ASSESSMENT:

Two 2,500-word written assignments

FEE:

€2,660

COURSE LEADER:

Geraldine Rafferty BL E: g.rafferty@lawsociety.ie

CERTIFICATE IN AVIATION LEASING AND FINANCE





This in-depth programme gives you the key knowledge and skills to advance in the aviation finance and leasing industry. There is a focus on commercial debt financing, aviation finance structures, and tax implications. In addition, industry-specific regulation, leasing options and aircraft acquisitions are examined.

Module 1: Aviation industry

Module 2: Aircraft leasing

Module 3: Aviation financing

Module 4: Key technical issues

Module 5: Regulatory environment

Module 6: Taxation and aviation

Module 7: Insurance and aviation

Module 8: Career panel event

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

It is an excellent course for those who wish to deepen their knowledge of the leasing aspect of aviation or for those who want to enter the industry.

This certificate also acts as a preparatory course for those intending to join the Diploma in Aviation Leasing and Finance but who do not meet the entry requirements. Those who successfully complete the certificate and wish to progress to the diploma may avail of a discount.



START DATE:

Thursday 26 September 2024

DELIVERY METHOD:

Lectures released on Thursdays at 6pm, with online interactive workshops

ASSESSMENT:

2,500-word written assignment (80%), short multiple-choice quiz (10%), and continuous assessment through online activities (10%)

FEE:

€1,725

COURSE LEADER:

Sara Van den Bergh, Solicitor E: s.vandenbergh@ lawsocietv.ie

DIPLOMA IN AVIATION LEASING AND FINANCE





The advanced-level Diploma in Aviation Leasing and Finance delivers an in-depth analysis of the core legal and practical issues that parties typically encounter in aircraft leasing and finance transactions.



MODULES

Module 1: Aviation industry

- Profile of aviation industry 2024; Ireland as an aviation hub,
- Analysis of main industry players,
- Overview of regulatory framework.

Module 2: Purchase and leasing aircraft

- Reasons for investing in aircraft,
- Aircraft operating lease agreements,
- Purchasing aircraft and delivery; aircraft trading (GATS).

Module 3: Aviation finance

- Commercial debt financing for aviation,
- PDP financing,
- Export credit agencies structures,
- Typical security taken over aircraft.

Module 4: Regulatory environment

- Role of the Irish Aviation Authority,
- ICAO, IATA, EASA,
- Cape Town Convention,
- International Registry of Mobile Assets. Module 9: Fleet planning

Module 5: Taxation and aviation

- Importance of Irish tax residence.
- Tax opinions, legal opinions, double taxation treaties.

Module 6: Insurance and aviation

- Airline aviation insurances,
- Lease insurance provisions.
- Lessor considerations; claims management.

Module 7: Applied leasing issues

- Redelivery of aircraft,
- Helicopters leasing, registration,
- Engine leasing; maintenance reserves.
- Aircraft records management.

Module 8: Repossession and recovery

- Repossession in practice,
- Relevant default provisions; termination,
- Applications to court, enforcement.

Fleet planning by airlines; strategies.

Module 10: Case law and future trends

Irish and UK aviation case law update; future trends.

Module 11: Career panel event.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

This course is suitable for solicitors. barristers, and trainees who advise aviation clients or who wish to join the aviation sector. It will also appeal to professionals working in the aviation industries who wish to expand their knowledge with a view to career advancement or moving laterally to another discipline within the industry.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

You must (a) be a lawyer, or (b) have a minimum of two years' full-time experience in the aviation industry, or (c) have successfully completed the Certificate in Aviation Leasing and Finance, or (d) have successfully completed the aviation leasing and finance advanced elective (trainees).

START DATE:

30 January 2025

DELIVERY METHOD:

Lectures on Thursdays, 6pm to 9pm, with live online workshops on occasional Saturdays; also available to view

ASSESSMENT:

Assignment July 2025

FEE:

€3,165

COURSE LEADER:

Sara Van den Bergh, E: s.vandenbergh@





CERTIFICATE IN AGRIBUSINESS

AND FOOD LAW





This certificate offers an insight into the agri-food sector, which is Ireland's oldest and largest indigenous export sector. The fast-moving dynamic area is thriving and continues to grow domestically and internationally. This course provides a comprehensive overview of the key legal areas for professionals working in or advising on agribusiness and agrifood. The syllabus is designed to give comprehensive coverage of the "farm-to-fork"- related legal issues with an emphasis on the practical issues encountered.

MODULES

Module 1: Regulatory framework

- · Government agencies and bodies,
- · The new Agri Food Regulator,
- · EU and international policy, CAP,
- Environmental regulation.

Module 2: Food regulation

- · Traceability, factories,
- Packaging, labelling,
- · Food Safety Authority of Ireland,
- Food technology.

Module 3: Organic food and farming

- · Relevant regulations and SIs,
- Production/labelling of organic products,
- Importing outside the EU,

Module 4: Enforcement and audit

- Department of Agriculture prosecutions,
- Agriculture Appeals Office,
- · Prosecutions by the Inland Fisheries,
- EPA prosecutions,
- Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive.

Module 5: Farming and the law (part 1)

- Commercial contract issues,
- Solar and wind farms,
- · Collaborative farming models,
- · Boundary/livestock disputes,
- Rights of way and trespass.

Module 6: Farming and the law (part 2)

- · Health and safety,
- Legal separationdivorce,
- · Succession planning/agri-tax.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

This course will appeal to professionals who are looking for a comprehensive and up-to-date guide to the practical issues that arise when advising clients from the agribusiness and food sector.



START DATE:

Saturday 26 October 2024

DELIVERY METHOD:

Online lectures
Wednesdays and
Saturdays with
occasional onlinelecture releases.
Lectures available to
view on demand.
Workshops on
Wednesdays and
Saturdays

ASSESSMENT:

2,500-word written assignment (90%) and continuous assessment (10%)

FEE:

€1,725

COURSE LEADER:

Suzanne Crilly, Solicitor **E:** s.crilly@lawsociety.ie

CERTIFICATE IN LEGAL SKILLS FOR LEGAL SECRETARIES (NEW)





This new course has been designed to give students a greater understanding of the key legal skills required in legal firms. Lecturers will emphasise the practical aspects of working in a legal office, highlight the key documents that legal secretaries deal with on a day-to-day basis, and set out the steps involved in various common types of litigation cases and other legal transactions. The certificate will provide significant value for legal secretaries as well as their employers.

MODULES

Module 1: Introduction to the Irish legal system

- · Sources of law,
- Irish courts and the court structure.
- The role of solicitors and barristers,
- · The role of the Law Society.

Module 2: Litigation

- Injuries Resolution Board (previously PIAB),
- Personal injury litigation
 - taking a case to court,
- Personal injury litigation
 preparing for court,
- · Preparing a brief,
- Dealing with court offices,
- · Criminal litigation and practice.

Module 3: Conveyancing

- · Introduction to conveyancing,
- · Steps in a conveyancing transaction,

- Schedule of documents, title deeds,
- I andlord and tenant law.

Module 4: Wills and probate

- Making a will,
- The probate application.

Module 5: Company law

- Introduction to company structures,
- Documents for company formations/charges,
- · Mergers and acquisitions.

Module 6: Other key areas of law

- · Employment law,
- Family law,
- Alternative dispute resolution.

Module 7: Legal skills

- · Data protection,
- · Cyber-awareness,
- · Anti-money-laundering,

 Communication in a legal environment.

Module 8: Running a legal office

- The business of law and legal office management (part 1) – letters of engagement, time recording, billing, accounting for law firms,
- The business of law and legal office management (part 2) – social media and marketing, the role of the office manager.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

The course is ideally suited to (1) legal secretaries seeking to expand their legal skills and obtain a legal qualification and (2) others hoping to gain the practical skills and knowledge required to work in a legal office.

START DATE:

Tuesday 5 November 2024

DELIVERY METHOD:

Introductory lecture on-site and online; thereafter online lectures on Tuesdays; workshops on-site on Saturdays

ASSESSMENT:

60% assignment (2,000-word written assignment), 40% continuous assessment

FEE:

€850

COURSE LEADER:

Riona Leahy, Solicitor **E**: r.leahy@lawsociety.ie

CERTIFICATE IN IMMIGRATION LAW

AND PRACTICE





This certificate offers an in-depth analysis of immigration law and its application in Ireland. The central legislation covered by the course includes the *Aliens Acts*, the *Immigration Acts*, the *Refugee Act 1996*, the *Illegal Immigrants (Trafficking) Act 2000*, the *Irish Nationality and Citizenship Acts*, the *International Protection Act 2015*, and the numerous statutory instruments covering immigration and citizenship and how they have been interpreted over the years by the courts and other bodies.

MODULES

Module 1: Legal/political context

- · Theories of migration and history,
- Social justice issues,
- International legal framework,
- · Legal framework in Ireland.

Module 2: Entering, residing, and remaining in the State

- · Responsible State institutions,
- Entering: visa application process; preclearance application scheme,
- Residing: registering permission; applications to reside,
- · Permission to remain: change of

status application; leave to remain,

 Citizenship: by birth; by naturalisation.

Module 3: Asylum and forced migration

- 'Subsidiary protection',
- · Credibility assessment in claims,
- Relocation and resettlement; direct provision entitlements,
- · Treatment of unaccompanied minors,
- The Dublin Regulation.

Module 4: Corporate immigration

- · Employment permits system,
- · Immigrant investor schemes,
- · Business visas.

Module 5: Courts and litigation

- Judicial review and injunctions,
- Procedure, relevant documents, time limits, practice directions,
- Deportation, repatriation,
- Trafficking, people-smuggling, and immigration fraud,
- · Garda National Immigration Bureau.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

This course is primarily aimed at lawyers working in the area of immigration. It will also appeal to professionals working in non-governmental organisations and individuals who have an interest in Irish immigration law.



START DATE:

Thursday 7 November 2024

DELIVERY METHOD:

Lectures on Thursdays, 6pm to 9pm, with workshops on occasional Saturdays

ASSESSMENT:

2,500-word written assignment (worth 80%) and continuous assessment (worth 20% of the overall grade)

FEE:

€1,725

COURSE LEADER:

Patricia Harvey BL E: p.harvey@lawsociety.ie

CERTIFICATE IN PUBLIC LEGAL

EDUCATION





The Law Society of Ireland actively supports public legal education (PLE) projects through a series of initiatives and engagement with solicitors, trainees, and the public. PLE aims to increase awareness of the law by teaching people about our legal system and how law has an impact on society, so they can better exercise their legal rights and responsibilities.

This certificate aims to develop the skills of solicitors to run an effective public legal education programme in their community, based on the pedagogical approach and learner-centred methodologies of Street Law.

The steps involved for interested solicitors are:

- Begin to develop your idea around a programme,
- Apply for a place at our orientation training weekend on 27-29 September,
- Implement and evaluate your chosen programme and fulfil the course requirements.

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

This course is suitable for solicitors who are interested in running an effective public legal education programme in their community.

To register your interest or for further information, please contact John Lunney at j.lunney@lawsociety.ie.



START DATE:

September 2024

DELIVERY METHOD:

Attendance at orientation training

ASSESSMENT:

- Attend orientation training weekend,
 - Submit project proposal,
- Implement of a public legal education programme,
- Present evaluation report on your programme

FEE:

This is a free course

COURSE LEADER:

John Lunney, Solicitor E: j.lunney@lawsociety.ie



Our spring programme commences in January 2025. To register your interest for these courses and to be contacted once registration opens, please email: diplomacentre@lawsociety.ie

- Certificate in Company Secretarial Law and Practice
- Certificate in Commercial Contracts
- Certificate in Charity Law, Trusteeship and Governance
- Certificate in Enforcement for Public Bodies
- Certificate in Data Protection Practice
- Certificate in Property Law and Conveyancing for Legal Executives
- Diploma in Aviation Leasing and Finance
- Diploma in In-House Practice
- Diploma in Director Skills and Duties NEW
- Diploma for Legal Executives NEW
- Diploma in Commercial Property
- Diploma in Healthcare Law
- Diploma in Compliance and Risk Management
- · Diploma in Regulation Law and Practice
- LLM Advanced Legal Practice
- MOOC Massive Open Online Course

DIPLOMA IN DIRECTOR SKILLS AND DUTIES





This new diploma takes a practical approach to the various issues that can occur for board directors. Participants will consider the various types of roles, responsibilities and potential liabilities that being a director entails. The course will go beyond corporate governance and examine topical issues such as ESG and social media awareness, as well as exploring how to work effectively alongside non-lawyers as part of a larger board. In addition to on-demand lectures, the course will feature in-person workshops with practical demonstrations and examples of boardroom scenarios. This course is essential for solicitors who want to be effective executive and/or non-executive directors.

MODULES

Module 1: Different types of directorships and initial considerations

- Overview of the marketplace for company director roles,
- Various types of director roles, responsibilities and liabilities.

Module 2: Board fundamentals

- Understanding the typical board structure and the director's role in relation to the board,
- · Becoming a trustee of a charity.

Module 3: Governance

- Overview of governance considerations,
- Environmental, social and governance (ESG) matters,
- Risk management.

Module 4: Financial matters, personal financial considerations, and risk assessment

- Understanding management and financial accounts,
- Director duties,
- Media awareness, personal reputational risk and personal liability.

Module 5: Available opportunities and next steps

- · Where and how to find opportunities,
- Assessing the likely workload involved and potential issues.
- Panel session and Q&A.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

This course is suitable for seasoned solicitors and other appropriately qualified professionals seeking an additional challenge or responding to a request to serve on a board. This course will attempt to leverage solicitor training and experience and equip solicitors with additional competencies and skills required to make the most of their role as a company director in both paid and unpaid positions.

START DATE:

Saturday 1 February 2025

DELIVERY METHOD:

Live online lectures
Wednesdays, 6pm
to 9pm, with five
interactive halfday workshops on
Saturdays. Lectures
available to view on
demand

ASSESSMENT:

Mixed method approach with part written and part practical elements

FEE:

€3,000

COURSE LEADER:

Sara Van den Bergh, Solicitor E: s.vandenbergh@ lawsociety.ie

WHAT OUR PAST STUDENTS SAY





I had considered doing the Diploma in Sports Law for a few years but was finally nudged into it by my business partner. It took a bit of time to get back into the routine of attending lectures, even if remotely and on demand, but the course content was very interesting and the speakers very engaging, so it never felt like a chore. The in-person events were a great opportunity to get to know many of my fellow classmates and make some important new connections. I was delighted I took the diploma and am looking forward to using that new knowledge in practice.

Stefan O'Connor, Partner, Mannion Solicitors

Diploma in Sports Law student





The diploma afforded a unique opportunity to delve deep into the insolvency realm. By undertaking the course, I have gained a comprehensive and practical understanding of the procedures available to both individuals and distressed companies, in the event of an insolvency situation. As a real estate solicitor, undertaking this course has greatly expanded my knowledge, thereby empowering me to comfortably advise on commercial areas involving liquidators, receivers and examiners by applying the knowledge acquired.

Gemma Casey, Associate, Flynn O'Driscoll

Diploma in Insolvency Law and Corporate Restructuring student





The LLM Advanced Legal Practice has given a tremendous boost to my career. I really enjoyed the process of legal research, and I was very proud to make a small contribution to the corpus of what is fast becoming an important area of criminal and family law. Since obtaining my LLM, I have been invited to speak at several events as a specialist on coercive control. These events have greatly increased my profile as a family lawyer and, in turn, broadened my client base. I would not have had these opportunities without having enrolled on the LLM Advanced Legal Practice.

Ronan Deasy, Solicitor, O'Donoghue & Associates Solicitors

LLM Advanced Legal Practice student



KEEPING YOU INFORMED

Course timetables and content are subject to change, and date and time alterations may occur due to factors beyond our control. Students will be notified of any changes by a member of the team as soon as the details have been confirmed.

Our courses are designed with the busy professional in mind. Certificate and diploma sessions are delivered online and on-site, with lectures available to view on demand. We ask that students attend course workshops on-site at the Law Society of Ireland.

As the delivery method for each course varies and some courses can be completed entirely online, we encourage you to visit our course webpages for detailed information on individual courses:

www.lawsociety.ie/diplomacentre.



TERMS AND CONDITIONS

For further information on the application process, discounts, attending our courses, examinations, and assessments, please visit www.lawsociety.ie/diplomacentre/info.

If there is a diploma, certificate, or other postgraduate course you would like to see introduced, or if you are interested in lecturing or tutoring on a diploma or certificate course, please contact Claire O'Mahony, Head of the Diploma Centre, at c.omahony@lawsociety.ie.

The Diploma Centre reserves the right to change the courses that may be offered, and course prices may be subject to change. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained in these pages is accurate and up to date. We cannot guarantee that places will be available for any particular course. In the unlikely event we need to cancel or reschedule a course, all fees are fully refundable. Course participant cancellations will only be accepted if submitted in writing no later than two weeks before the start of the course. Refunds may be subject to an administration charge. Fees will not be refunded once the course has started.

Course fees are non-transferable. Care has been given to confirm the accuracy of the information presented in this prospectus, on our webpages, in personal communications, during course modules, and in all written materials. However, the Diploma Centre is not responsible for errors or omissions and makes no warranty, express or implied, with respect to the contents of the material delivered. The Diploma Centre cannot be held responsible for any consequences from the application of the information contained on the website or in the lectures, manuals, printed materials, and other communication and training provided.

CONTACT

Diploma Centre, Law Society of Ireland, Blackhall Place, Dublin 7

t: 01 672 4802

e: diplomateam@lawsociety.ie

w: www.lawsociety.ie/diplomacentre











CONTACT