

A photograph of a group of students sitting on a lawn in front of a large stone building with many windows. The students are sitting in a circle, and there are several wooden barrels in the background. The building has a stone wall and a large tree in front of it. The students are sitting on a green lawn, and there are some white lines on the grass. The background is a large stone building with many windows. The students are sitting in a circle, and there are several wooden barrels in the background. The building has a stone wall and a large tree in front of it. The students are sitting on a green lawn, and there are some white lines on the grass. The background is a large stone building with many windows.

ADVANCED ELECTIVES BROCHURE 2025



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LAW SOCIETY OF IRELAND ADVANCED ELECTIVES

Introduction

You are welcome to the advanced elective component of your training. You must complete four or more advanced electives as part of your overall training. Advanced electives can be completed at any point during your traineeship, including during the in-office training period. A programme of advanced electives will be provided by the Law School at the Law Society of Ireland and some will be co-provided. External advanced electives will also be accredited by the Law Society. Representation of the Law School in a Moot Court or Skills Competition at international level is also considered to be the equivalent of an advanced elective.

You are welcome to register for and attend as many advanced electives as you wish but you must complete at least four.

Law School Advanced Electives 2025

This booklet sets out the advanced electives to be provided by the Law School at the Law Society of Ireland in 2025. Our commitment, as always, is to enhance the skills and career opportunities of trainee solicitors. We strive to do this by providing a diverse range of advanced electives that cover core areas for every solicitor's practice, together with more niche innovative topics including topics outside the strictly legal domain.

Law School advanced electives will be offered following the completion of the compulsory element of the Professional Practice Course (PPC), commencing on 28 April 2025 and running until end June 2025.

Micro-credentials leading to a Certificate in Advanced Legal Practice/ Diploma in Advanced Legal Practice

Each Law Society advanced elective will result in the award of a certified micro-credential. These microcredentials will count towards a broader award of a Certificate or Diploma. For example, trainees successfully completing two advanced electives with the Law School, and as such having attained two microcredentials, will be awarded an **Advanced Certificate in Legal Practice**. Trainees that successfully complete four advanced electives with the Law School, and as such having attained four micro-credentials, will be awarded an **Advanced Diploma in Legal Practice**. Such micro-credentials only apply to Law School advanced electives.

Furthermore, such micro-credentials may also provide prior credit towards a Diploma in a specific area of practice. A discount of 15% will apply if a trainee progresses from a Law School advanced elective to a Diploma course in the same subject area offered by the Society's Diploma Centre. This discount applies for up to two years after the completion of the advanced elective. Further details of the relevant advanced electives and related Diplomas to which the discount applies are provided within the brochure.

Credit applications for advanced electives

You can be exempted from one or more advanced electives if you complete a course of academic study during your training period. Any course of legal education at Diploma or Masters level offered by an Irish University or by the Law Society will be recognised. Certain other courses are also recognised, such as the Institute of Tax examinations (level 2 or above). Applications for such credit must be made with a certified copy of proof of successful completion of the relevant course.

Trainees may also seek to claim elective credit for other activities, such as participation in the public legal education initiative or an access to justice project. If you are seeking to rely on such an activity for the purposes of advanced elective credit, please contact the PPC Team at advancedelectives@LawSociety.ie in advance to discuss the possibility of attaining advanced elective credit for such an activity.

When will I be expected to return to the office?

This depends on how you choose to complete your advanced electives and should be agreed between you and your firm. For example, if you choose to complete all four advanced electives with the Law Society in May/June 2025, then the expectation is that you would remain full-time with the Law School during that period and up until the last teaching day of those advanced electives. Alternatively, if you choose to only complete one or two advanced electives as part of the Law School's 2025 offering, then it may be that you agree with your firm that you will return to the office on a part-time basis once examinations on the core-PPC have been completed. If however you choose not to complete any advanced electives in May/June 2025, but rather to complete the advanced electives at some other time during the training period, the expectation is that you will be available to return to the office on a full-time basis once the examinations on the core-PPC have been completed.

What are the fees for the Law School advanced electives?

The fee for advanced electives undertaken with the Law Society is €710 for each course. However, trainees choosing to take multiple advanced electives with the Law Society will benefit from discounts.

Fee Structure	1 Advanced Elective	2 Advanced Electives	3 Advanced Electives	4 Advanced Electives	Any further electives
Advanced Elective Fee (€710 each)	€710	€1,390	€2,000	€2,600	€650 each
Discount	€0	€30	€130	€240	€60
Percentage Discount	0%	2%	6%	9%	9%

How do I choose my advanced electives?

You will be required to access the advanced elective application form on the Hub. You will be required to make your selections by mid-February 2025, with payments due by March 2025. There will be a minimum requirement of **30 trainees** for any advanced elective to run. This is to ensure an optimum learning experience and appropriate community of practice within the group.

When does my period of in-office training commence?

The in-office training period commences 14 days after the last exam on the core curriculum of the PPC and this is regardless of how you choose to complete the advanced elective component of your training.

Therefore, for example, even if you elect to complete all four advanced electives with the Law Society in May/June 2025 and hence remain full-time in the Law School for that period, your period of in-office training will still commence 14 days after the last exam on the core PPC.

Onsite only dates

Advanced electives will comprise a mix of onsite and online learning. For each advanced elective, there will be certain dates where onsite attendance is required (i.e. there won't be the option to attend the session online), most usually for tutorial sessions. To assist trainees with their advanced elective selection, dates where onsite attendance is required are listed in the course specific information contained in this booklet (Please note, these onsite dates may be subject to changes in exceptional circumstances and on a limited basis). **(Please note, these onsite dates may be subject to changes in exceptional circumstances and on a limited basis).**

Attendance policy

All advanced electives are interactive, with lectures and tutorials/workshops designed to build on knowledge gained in previous sessions, thus providing a scaffolding learning experience. This attendance policy applies to all advanced electives and covers attendance requirements for both tutorials/workshops and lectures.

Lecture attendance

Trainees are required to attend all 'live' lectures, including mixed mode lectures, where trainees can attend the live lecture either onsite in the lecture theatre, or online via the live Panopto webcast. Trainees are also required to review any pre-recorded lectures in advance of the relevant tutorials/workshops.

Trainees are not required to notify their absence from lectures. Attendance at live lectures will however be monitored periodically throughout the advanced elective, with onsite and online attendance being automatically logged at the point of lecture delivery. If a trainee fails to attend/review at least 80% of lectures on any given advanced elective, the trainee's training manager may be informed of the trainee's lecture attendance record.

Tutorial/workshop attendance

It is essential that all trainees fully prepare for and attend

all tutorials/workshops as their effectiveness depends on the full participation of all trainees. Attendance at tutorials/workshops is accordingly compulsory and will be closely monitored, with at least 80% tutorial/workshop attendance required for each advanced elective. Failure to meet the requirements for tutorial/workshop attendance will have the following consequences:

- the trainees' training manager may be informed of the trainee's tutorial/workshop attendance record.
- the trainee may be required to complete exercises and produce a portfolio of this work within a specified timeframe to reflect the learning they have missed and to meet the tutorial/workshop attendance requirements ('completion work'). In these circumstances the trainee will not be eligible to be declared as having passed the relevant advanced elective until they have submitted satisfactory completion work.
- if the trainee fails to attend **any** tutorials/workshop for a particular advanced elective, the trainee will not be permitted to sit the assignment or any part of the assessment and will need to re-attend the same advanced elective or else attend an alternative advanced elective at a later date.

These tutorial/workshop attendance requirements apply regardless of the circumstances surrounding a trainee's absenteeism. It is the responsibility of each trainee to ensure that their attendance is recorded on each occasion.

All tutorial/workshop absences should be notified as soon as possible to ppcattendance@lawsociety.ie. Absences cannot be excused, but where trainees are absent for reasons such as certified illness, this may be considered when a tutorial/workshop attendance review is carried out, particularly where absences are close to the 20% point.

It is important that trainees are punctual when attending tutorials/workshop. Trainees are advised to arrive at their assigned tutorial/workshop location five minutes in advance of the scheduled commencement time. Trainees who are significantly late arriving for a tutorial/workshop will be recorded as absent.

In addition to this general attendance policy, some advanced electives may have specific compulsory attendance requirements for certain sessions. Relevant Course Managers/ Executives will advise you of those specific attendance requirements during the course delivery.

AVIATION LEASING AND FINANCE



DATES: 06 May to 29 May 2025



ONSITE ONLY DATES: 22 May and 29 May 2025



COURSE LEADER: Claire O'Mahony



ASSESSMENT METHOD: Assessment by way of continuous assessment (20%) and letter of advice to a client that will cover key areas of the course (80%).

Learning outcomes

On completion of this advanced elective, participants will be able to:

- Analyse the key legal issues pertaining to the sale and leasing of aircraft.
- Assess the finance structures involved, how to finance an aviation transaction, and the funding available.
- Explain the key regulatory issues pertaining to aviation.
- Discuss the legal issues relating to key aviation matters such as engines, maintenance reserves, security, taxation, insurance, records, and repossession.
- Recognise the key legal and financial documents as well as structures in aviation leasing and finance transactions.
- Understand the career pathway in the aviation industry.

Programme overview

Ireland is internationally recognised as the global hub for aviation leasing and finance, with 14 of the top 15 global aircraft lessors enjoying a presence here. More than 60% of the world's fleet of leased aircraft is owned, leased, or managed in Ireland. The major industry players have been attracted by Ireland's stable political regime, membership of the EU, favourable time zone, and talented workforce – not to mention our legal and regulatory advantages. In addition, Ireland's network of over 70 double tax treaties, combined with the absence of withholding tax on aircraft lease rentals and a corporate tax rate of 12.5%, makes Ireland a commercially attractive place to set up and run an aircraft leasing company.

This advanced elective introduces the legal issues pertaining to the aviation leasing and finance industry. It provides coverage on the core legal and practical issues that parties typically encounter in aircraft leasing and finance transactions. It delivers a solid introduction to the regulatory environment and technical issues. It will also examine the impact of global events on the aviation sector (e.g. Covid-19, the war in Ukraine and in the Middle East) as well as career pathways in the aviation industry.

Programme structure, content and approach to learning

This advanced elective will provide lectures with accompanying presentations and a range of academic resources. The programme will feature a number of expert-led interactive practical workshops where trainees will consolidate their knowledge. Trainees will be in small working groups to facilitate collaboration. The teaching faculty will consist of lawyers from private law firms and aviation leasing companies. Following the successful completion of the advanced elective, trainees may wish to pursue the Diploma in Aviation Leasing & Finance offered by the Diploma Centre. A 15% discount will apply if the Diploma is commenced within the relevant time frame.



BANKING AND FINANCE



DATES: 08 May to 06 June 2025



ONSITE ONLY DATES: 08 May, 23 May and 06 June 2025



COURSE LEADER: Joanne Cox



ASSESSMENT METHOD: Participation workshop (20%) and a drafting exercise in the form of a letter of advice (80%).

Programme overview

Advising on the financing of corporate transactions and understanding the legal and regulatory parameters applicable to banking and finance is a key part of the practice of any firm undertaking corporate, banking and finance work. This advanced elective will help trainees develop a practical and in-depth understanding of the key steps, clauses, documentation and central issues involved in the financing of transactions in the corporate world, including loan documentation, security documentation, guarantees, legal opinions, financial assistance as well as transactions with directors and connected persons. The steps, documentation and substantive law involved in a transaction of this nature remain the same irrespective of the size of the deal. This elective is therefore relevant to trainees from all types of firms who have an interest in banking and finance law.

Programme structure, content and approach to learning

The advanced elective will be taught in a way that is realistic and relevant, with an emphasis placed on experiential learning. Trainees will focus on transaction and problem-based exercises which will reflect/mimic the real-life tasks that practitioners would undertake in this field. The trainees will engage in role-plays, presentations and drafting exercises which will incorporate peer-to peer learning and tutor feedback. This integrated approach to learning is designed to better equip trainees for the in-office training period and ensure a smoother transition into practice.

Learning outcomes

The course is designed to equip trainees with the necessary legal skills to undertake and advise clients on banking and finance transactions. A strong emphasis will be placed on the role of a trainee/newly-qualified solicitor in these scenarios. By the end of this advanced elective, trainees will be able to:

- Explain the distinction between a facility letter and a loan agreement.
- Discuss different types of loans and key clauses in a loan agreement.
- Demonstrate an understanding of different types of finance.
- Describe different forms of security.
- Discuss the effect of acceleration and enforcement provisions.
- Outline mortgagee's rights and powers and receiver's rights and powers.
- Demonstrate an understanding of what a guarantee is.
- Assess restrictions on transactions set out in sections 82, 238 and 239 of the Companies Act 2014.
- Determine necessary post completion requirements for a secured lending transaction.
- Identify law and regulation relevant to consumer and SME lending.
- Discuss the banking authorisation process in Ireland.
- Outline the steps in a security review and understand and discuss basic restructuring options.
- Describe the key features and documents in an asset finance and a project finance transaction.





BEYOND THE BRIEF: DRIVING PURPOSE, PERFORMANCE AND PROFITABILITY



DATES: 30 April to 28 May 2025



ONSITE ONLY DATES: 30 April, 14 May, 28 May



COURSE LEADER: Amanda Zahringer, Former Law Firm Partner | Dual Qualified Solicitor (NP) | International Keynote Speaker | Executive Mentor & Coach | Non-Executive Board Director



ASSESSMENT METHOD: Participants' progress will be evaluated through their active, ongoing engagement, a personalised action plan, and a discussion of the same.

Programme overview

This innovative programme is designed to empower trainees with essential business and client-focused skills for exceptional performance in the legal profession. By integrating advanced business insights with critical legal skills, participants will gain a thorough understanding of law firm economics, client service, and business development strategies. These core competencies are vital for immediate career impact and for cultivating future leaders who can drive sustainable growth and client satisfaction. The programme ensures that trainees are fully prepared to excel within their firms and throughout their careers.

Note: there are limited places available on this advanced elective.

Programme structure, content and approach to learning

The course will be led by Amanda Zahringer, a highly regarded Non-Executive Director with over 25 years of international experience in corporate law and executive management. As a former partner at major law firms in London, Madrid, and Dublin, Amanda has led high-stakes transactions and strategic initiatives as General Counsel and Executive Director for top global financial institutions. Her expertise spans board governance, business strategy, fintech, and risk management, positioning her as a leading authority in the field.

The programme is delivered through a dynamic combination of live online lectures, interactive workshops, and peer-to-peer discussions to ensure practical application of key business and legal skills. Trainees will engage in hands-on exercises, group discussions, and pre-course readings to maximise workshop effectiveness.

To personalise learning, each participant will develop an individual action plan focused on a specific growth area. Additionally, a virtual alumni coaching and mentoring call, scheduled three months post-course, will offer participants the chance to reconnect with peers, review progress, address challenges, and receive continued guidance, ensuring sustained development and practical application of skills.

This course empowers trainees to become business-savvy, impactful lawyers who not only excel in their roles but also actively contribute to the growth and success of their firms.

Learning outcomes

- **Master Strategic Law Firm Economics:** Gain a clear understanding of financial management and economic drivers essential to improving profitability and influencing strategic firm decisions.
- **Enhance Client-Centric and Business Development Skills:** Develop advanced techniques for building long-term client relationships and implementing authentic business development strategies aligned with firm objectives.
- **Apply Strategic Business and Risk Management:** Integrate business strategy with legal practice, enabling participants to identify and mitigate risks while driving firm resilience and growth.
- **Take Ownership of Personalised Career Development:** Cultivate leadership skills and a proactive approach to career progression through an individually tailored plan, with practical tools to shape future success and achieve personalised professional goals.
- **Build a Lasting Professional Network:** Establish meaningful connections with peers, mentors, and industry leaders, ensuring continued growth and collaboration beyond the course.

Amanda's legal, strategy, fintech, financial and philanthropic expertise has enabled her to have a profound social and economic impact on communities and organisations both nationally and globally - Irish Legal News, 2024

CHILD LAW



DATES: 19 May to 16 June 2025



ONSITE ONLY DATES: 09 June 2025 and 16 June 2025



COURSE LEADER: Cian Monahan



ASSESSMENT METHOD: Assessment by way of a 2,500 word assignment with a problem-based scenario that will cover key areas of the course (80%) together with a reflective writing task (20%)

Programme overview

This advanced elective will provide an overview of the key changes in legislation and the implications of same on the child law landscape in Ireland. The Children First Act has impacted a truly enormous range of organisations and individuals who deal with or have access to children, including schools, health and social care facilities, An Garda Síochána, faith-based organisations, sports and youth clubs, as well as arts and leisure organisations. This advanced elective is designed to help trainees gain an understanding of the scope and implications the legislative requirements imposed on such organisations and individuals. Covering every aspect of child law, from the basic legal status of the child through to

the various systems of alternative care, this advanced elective examines those developments from the different perspectives of those advising the various organisations affected and those advising the child or parents.

Programme structure, content and approach to learning

This advanced elective is based on the below themes.

- Course introduction and the Children First Act: Duties of the State; international obligations; jurisdiction; case conferences; the Children First Act, 2015: to whom does it apply and in respect of what?; best practice principles; reporting abuse and standard reporting procedures; the legal status of the child under the Constitution; constitutional amendments.
- Options for care: Systems of alternative care under the Child Care Act, 1991 (as amended); foster care; placement with relatives; residential care; and children's residential centres.
- Practice, procedure and the involvement of children in the court process: Children giving evidence; making a child party to proceedings; representing children with special needs and mental health issues; the guardian ad litem; representing the child in administrative procedures; practice and procedure in the District Court, Circuit Court and High Court; protecting the welfare of the child in family disputes; medical issues; and child abduction.

Learning outcomes

On completion of this course, trainees will have:

- A comprehensive understanding of the relevant constitutional and legislative structures pertaining to child law in this jurisdiction.
- A detailed knowledge of the options for care that apply and the systems of alternative care under the Child Care Act, 1991 (as amended).
- A detailed understanding of the practice and procedure issues that arise during the involvement of children in the court process.



COMMERCIAL AND COMPLEX PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS



DATES: 08 May to 12 June 2025



ONSITE ONLY DATES: 22 May, 05 June and 12 June 2025



COURSE LEADER: Dr Gabriel Brennan



ASSESSMENT METHOD: **The assessment method will consist of two elements, one oral and one written:**
Submit a first registration application, including the statement of title.

Record and upload a short video to the Hub setting out the potential legal and physical structure of an allocated scheme of development.

Programme overview

The aim of this programme is to equip trainees with the knowledge and skills to act in commercial and complex property transactions. The programme will be delivered against a backdrop of how to manage the increasingly complex nature of property transactions and how a conveyancer can mitigate against the inherent liability and risk in such transactions.

Programme structure, content and approach to learning

The concepts and processes covered on the core PPC will be revisited in greater depth and more complex titles and dealings

will be examined. Commercial and investment property transactions, commercial leases and lending, different types of developments and complex registered and unregistered dealings will be addressed. The programme will also examine the tax obligations of a conveyancer and insolvency issues in property transactions. A good understanding of core land law principles is required and conveyancing or landlord and tenant law office experience is strongly recommended. Following the successful completion of the advanced elective, trainees may wish to pursue the Diploma in Commercial Property offered by the Diploma Centre. A 15% discount will apply if the Diploma is commenced within the relevant time frame.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of this advanced elective, trainees will be able to:

- Examine and assess complex unregistered titles and complete title research.
- Appraise problems on title and recommend possible solutions.
- Draft a first registration application including the statement of title.
- Lodge applications to the Land Registry.
- Address property issues that arise in an insolvency.
- Assess tax issues and the conveyancer's obligations in relation to tax.
- Explain the life cycle of a commercial property transaction.
- Advise a developer on an appropriate legal and physical structure for a scheme of development.
- Demonstrate an awareness of the types of legal issues arising for different types of developments e.g. apartments, multi-unit, mixed use and new developments.
- Advise, in general terms, in relation to legal issues on site purchase, development and management of schemes of development.
- Demonstrate an awareness of issues which may arise in commercial drafting, including drafting the contract for sale in a commercial property transaction.
- Evaluate a draft lease from the point of view of either a landlord or a tenant and appraise the impact of various clauses on either a landlord or a tenant.
- Explain issues arising when acting for companies and in commercial lending transactions.
- Illustrate an awareness of issues that arise in dealing with rural and agricultural land.



COMMERCIAL CONTRACTS



DATES: 08 May to 29 May 2025



ONSITE ONLY DATES: 22 May and 29 May 2025



COURSE LEADER: Geraldine Rafferty



ASSESSMENT METHOD: Assessment by way of a 2,500-word assignment with a problem-based scenario that will cover all key areas of the course.

The course begins with general drafting advice, examining standard boilerplate provisions, before considering issues pertinent to specific practice areas in more depth, such as technology, IP, software, and consumer agreements, while also covering the important area of public procurement.

Programme structure, content and approach to learning

This advanced elective will provide lectures with accompanying presentations and a range of academic resources. The programme will feature a number of expert-led interactive practical workshops where trainees will consolidate their knowledge. The teaching faculty will consist of industry experts in the public and private sphere.

This course will be delivered through blended learning incorporating both online and in-person lectures and workshops offering flexibility with the opportunity to interact with fellow trainees and lecturers. Delivery is by way of a series of live lectures, online releases and interactive workshops, which incorporate discussions, group work sessions and case studies.

Programme overview

This course provides an understanding of the fundamental competencies required by the commercial lawyer when drafting, reviewing, and negotiating commercial agreements. It includes guidance on the structure and format of commercial contracts and emphasises the importance of using clear as well as concise language when drafting such agreements.

Experienced practitioners provide drafting tips and best practice recommendations on how to ensure that a commercial contract provides legal and commercial certainty.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of this advanced elective, trainees will be able to:

- Review commercial contracts and provide guidance on specific sections therein.
- Draft, structure and advise on a wide array of commercial contracts across numerous industry sectors.
- Adapt and amend commercial contracts in order to tailor them to a client's specifications.
- Recognise potential loop-holes or risks in a contract.
- Examine relevant boilerplate clauses in a contract and explain their implications.



CONSTRUCTION LAW



DATES: 28 May to 25 June 2025



ONSITE ONLY DATES: 11 June and 25 June 2025



COURSE LEADER: Emma Snedker



ASSESSMENT METHOD: Assessment by way of continuous assessment, participation in workshops and a drafting exercise.

Programme overview

This advanced elective aims to develop knowledge, practical skills and competencies in the area of construction law including project finance and project security. Construction law is an area of growth and change as the industry adapts to the consequences of Brexit, the pandemic, construction cost inflation, changes to the insurance market, new case law and regulatory change.

Programme structure, content and approach to learning

This advanced elective is delivered through a blend of online on demand lectures, case studies and practical, in-person interactive workshops with leading experts. Preparation will be required prior to the workshops. All case studies and materials are available in a knowledge resource hub.

The course comprises eleven modules. The modules are:

- Review of law of obligations part one – contract law.
- Review of law of obligations part two – tort case law.
- Typical construction project procurement/standard form contracts.
- Overview of the RIAI Building Agreement.
- Defects.
- Statutory requirements: duties and obligations.
- Development finance and project security.
- Dispute resolution: mediation, conciliation and arbitration.
- Dispute resolution: the Construction Contracts Act 2013 and adjudication.
- Expert evidence and procedure.
- Construction law recent developments.

The lecturers and tutors are leading experts in their field – Martin Cooney, Partner Byrne Wallace and Mary Liz Mahony, Of Counsel, Maples Group.

Learning outcomes

On completion of this course, trainees will have:

- An understanding of the relevant law of obligations including building defects and subsequent issues.
- Knowledge and understanding of the practicalities and laws of procurement, standard form building contracts in Ireland, the key principles and typical amendments of the RIAI Building Agreement and development finance.
- An understanding of methods of dispute resolution and the Construction Contracts Act 2013.
- An awareness of the most recent developments, case law and practical issues in the arena of construction law.



CORPORATE TRANSACTIONS



DATES: 07 May to 04 June 2025



ONSITE ONLY DATES: 07 May, 14 May, 28 May and 04 June 2025



COURSE LEADER: Joanne Cox



ASSESSMENT METHOD: Participation in a negotiation exercise (20%) and a drafting exercise in the form of a letter of advice to a client (80%).

Programme overview

Transactions involving the acquisition of private companies or businesses are commonplace in any firm undertaking commercial/corporate work. This advanced elective will help trainees develop a practical and in-depth understanding of the key steps, documentation and issues involved in buying and selling a company/business. The steps, documentation and substantive law involved in a transaction remain the same irrespective of the size of the deal. This advanced elective is therefore relevant to trainees from all types of firms who have an interest in corporate and business law.

Programme structure, content and approach to learning

An emphasis on sub-group work within tutorials will encourage a student-focused approach to learning, with exercises designed to encourage participation rather than passive listening. The advanced elective will be taught in a

way that is realistic and relevant with an emphasis placed on experiential learning. Trainees will focus on transaction and problem-based exercises which will reflect/mimic the real-life tasks that practitioners would undertake in this field. The trainees will engage in role-plays, presentations and drafting exercises which will incorporate peer-to-peer learning and tutor feedback. The development of trainees' legal skills is therefore a core element of the advanced elective. This integrated approach to learning is designed to better equip trainees for the in-office training period and ensure a smoother transition into practice.

Learning outcomes

This advanced elective will provide trainees with an opportunity to build on their knowledge of mergers and acquisitions, gained on the PPC Business Law Course. Trainees will follow a realistic case study that will take them, step-by-step, through the legal, commercial and practical aspects of a transaction. By the end of this advanced elective, trainees will be able to:

- Explain the legal and practical differences between a share purchase and an asset purchase.
- Describe the different valuation methods.
- Advise on the key processes and documentation involved in an acquisition.
- Analyse the risks for both vendors and purchaser in the context of an acquisition.
- Negotiate and draft suitable protections to mitigate such risks.
- Discuss the different ways that consideration can be structured.
- Determine how different types of assets will be transferred in an asset purchase.
- Assess any employee issues arising in the context of an asset sale and describe the impact of TUPE.
- Outline the structure of an MBO.
- Address company law restrictions on private companies including financial assistance.
- Identify notifiable transactions.



CRIMINAL LITIGATION



DATES: 12 May to 30 June 2025



ONSITE ONLY DATES: 09 June, 16 June and 30 June 2025



COURSE LEADER: Paul Breslin



ASSESSMENT METHOD: Assessment will take place by way of a drafting exercise (60%) as well as a presentation task (20%). 20% of the final mark will also be based on the mandatory preparation of a report in respect of a court visit.

- A thorough grasp of the rules relating to evidence and its subsequent presentation at trial.
- A detailed understanding of the practical application of the law to particular areas including the burden of proof, hearsay, the examination of witnesses, expert evidence, competence and compellability, corroboration as well as unconstitutionally and illegally obtained evidence.
- The ability to understand the reasons influencing the choice of venue in criminal prosecutions.
- A comprehensive knowledge of the key legal issues pertaining to a criminal investigation.
- An awareness of the relevant process and procedure applicable to the commencement and disposal of proceedings.
- A detailed understanding of the practical application of the law to particular areas including the burden of proof, hearsay, the examination of witnesses, the place of juveniles in the justice system, expert evidence, competence and compellability, corroboration as well as unconstitutionally and illegally obtained evidence.

Programme overview

This programme will provide a comprehensive overview of criminal litigation. It will commence with an outline of the key concepts undergirding the area (such as those pertaining to the law of evidence) before examining the case law and legislation applicable to the various stages of the criminal litigation process (from the initiation of a criminal investigation to appeals and judicial review). There will also be a detailed consideration of specific categories of offences which are particularly relevant to practice.

Programme structure, content and approach to learning

The criminal litigation advanced elective is structured so that trainees are given the requisite knowledge and training in order to apply relevant legal principles correctly in a criminal litigation context. It progresses in a linear and logical manner from fundamental introductory principles to the key considerations of which a practitioner must be cognisant at each stage of the criminal justice process of relevance to his/her work.

There will be a strong emphasis placed on practical examples so that trainees can augment their knowledge by seeing how the law actually applies in scenarios which they will encounter during the course of their professional careers. In addition, the trainees' learning experience will be enhanced by the provision of access to relevant resources, such as criminal litigation documentation via the Hub. This platform also supports a course forum which enables trainee questions (thus promoting greater engagement). Following the successful completion of the advanced elective, trainees may wish to pursue the Diploma in Criminal Litigation offered by the Diploma Centre. A 15% discount will apply if the Diploma is commenced within the relevant time frame.

Learning outcomes

Upon the successful completion of this course, participants will have:

- A comprehensive understanding of the law applicable to the criminal litigation process.
- An enhanced awareness of the ethical and regulatory framework which applies.



DATA PROTECTION



DATES: 06 May to 27 May 2025



ONSITE ONLY DATES: 13 May and 27 May 2025



COURSE LEADER: Riona Leahy



ASSESSMENT METHOD: Assessment by way of continuous assessment (20%) and letter of advice to a client that will cover key areas of the course (80%).

Programme overview

The General Data Protection Regulation (Regulation 2016/679) came into force in May 2018 and, as a result, the data protection landscape changed significantly. In this advanced elective, experienced data protection practitioners and privacy consultants will bring participants through the application of the law. There is a strong focus on how to apply the legislation. This course will ensure that participants are equipped to deal with the compliance issues that arise in practice.

The programme will bring trainees through the principles of data protection as they apply to data access requests, data retention, data sharing and data processing. Trainees will understand the key timelines involved and will recognise when a data protection breach has occurred and

the notification requirements for same. The role of the Data Protection Commissioner will be explored, as will the role and responsibilities of a Data Protection Officer in each organisation. Trainees will understand how to conduct a data privacy impact assessment and how to draft data protection policies. Finally, the key area of international data transfers and recent changes in this sphere will be examined. Lecturers will be drawn from private practice, the public sector, and from large multinationals.

Programme structure, content and approach to learning

This advanced elective will provide lectures with accompanying presentations and a range of academic resources. The programme will feature a number of expert-led interactive practical workshops where trainees will consolidate their knowledge. Trainees will be in small working groups to facilitate collaboration.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of this advanced elective, trainees will be able to:

- Develop a comprehensive knowledge of Regulation 2016/679 (the GDPR) and relevant data protection legislation.
- Apply that knowledge, with confidence, to a range of data protection issues such as subject access requests, legitimate processing and retention of data.
- Examine the role and responsibilities of the Data Protection Officer.
- Recognise data breaches and notification requirements.
- Assess the role of the Data Protection Commission.
- Conduct a data privacy impact assessment.
- Understand the rules that surround international data transfers
- Examine data protection challenges in the Employment Law Context



ADVANCED DISPUTE RESOLUTION



DATES: 02 May to 23 May 2025



ONSITE ONLY DATES: 02 May, 09 May, 16 May and 23 May 2025



COURSE LEADER: Paul Breslin



ASSESSMENT METHOD: Participation workshop (20%) and drafting exercise in the form of a letter of advice (80%).

Programme overview

The emphasis of the Dispute Resolution advanced elective is on developing and honing the ability to provide legal dispute resolution and litigation advice/services in a professional, effective and ethical manner across a range of discrete areas.

Reflecting the broad sweep of modern dispute resolution practice, the course will examine in depth specific types of disputes, areas of litigation, and forms of resolution. These will include commercial disputes, disputes pertaining to probate matters, professional negligence, product liability, land, defamation, personal injury, and cross-border issues. It will also address the resolution of these disputes through mediation, expert determination, arbitration and litigation, as well as the recovering of costs.

Programme structure, content and approach to learning

The Dispute Resolution elective is designed to help trainees to expand and deepen their knowledge and understanding of Dispute Resolution. It will consider recent developments in substantive law, practice and procedure through lectures from experienced practitioners in a range of areas with supporting materials provided electronically on the Hub.

Using a scaffolding approach, learning from lectures will be supported and enhanced by interactive small group sessions (tutorials and workshops) which provide the opportunity to analyse and discuss the lecture material. These sessions will integrate the topics, related skills, and forms of resolution (e.g. mediation of a probate dispute) in order to support trainees in developing and interrogating their knowledge and understanding of the topics covered on this advanced elective.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of this course, participants will have:

- A comprehensive understanding of the current substantive law and practice in a range of discrete areas of dispute, encompassing commercial law, defamation, property, land, and probate amongst others.
- The ability to identify issues and advocate on behalf of clients in a variety of types of dispute.
- A detailed understanding of the role of various forms of dispute resolution.
- The knowledge and skill to advise and represent clients in various forms of litigation.
- The knowledge and skill to advise and implement various forms of dispute resolution.
- Demonstrated a good level of knowledge and understanding of the relationship between substantive law, procedure and practice, in addition to how this impacts the client.
- Demonstrated a commercial understanding and a strategic, client-centred approach to dispute resolution.



EMPLOYMENT LAW



DATES: 02 May to 30 May 2025



ONSITE ONLY DATES: 09 May, 16 May and 23 May 2025



COURSE LEADER: Judith Tedders



ASSESSMENT METHOD: Participation workshop followed by a reflective writing task (30%) and drafting of written submission (70%).

Programme overview

A comprehensive understanding of employment law, covering all aspects of the employer/employee relationship from recruitment through to termination. This advanced elective is designed around areas of employment law practice most relevant to newly qualified solicitors, together with areas of particular current interest such as the mandatory retirement age/age discrimination and protected disclosures. This is a highly practical course involving drafting of written submissions and participation in mock employment-related hearings.

Programme structure, content and approach to learning

The employment law advanced elective is specifically designed to help trainees develop the skills necessary to apply the law in the employment context. We focus on the duties and obligations owed by the respective parties during each stage of the employment relationship, from recruitment through to termination. All e-Lectures and related lecture papers will be available on the Hub for trainees to view in their own time. Taken together, the e-Lectures and lecture papers will set out the law, albeit from a very practical perspective. We intend to provide a type of 'scaffolded' learning experience, moving from an understanding of the law to an understanding of how best to then apply the law in a given scenario. This culminates in seven onsite tutorials. This learning experience is further supported by the tutor monitored peer-to-peer discussion forum. Following the successful completion of the advanced elective, trainees may wish to pursue the Diploma in Employment Law offered by the Diploma Centre. A 15% discount will apply if the Diploma is commenced within the relevant time frame.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of this course, participants will have:

- A comprehensive understanding of the practice of employment law in this jurisdiction.
- Detailed knowledge of the impact on employment practice of recent judicial decisions and legislative developments.
- The skills to draft employment contracts, HR policies and other employment-related documentation.
- The ability to identify issues and advocate on behalf of clients in employment related disputes.
- A detailed understanding of the role of mediation and negotiation in the employment context.
- The skill to draft coherent and persuasive submissions.
- The confidence to use effective speaking and advocacy skills in the employment context.



HEALTHCARE LAW



DATES: 28 April to 26 May 2025



ONSITE ONLY DATES: 02 May, 12 May, 19 May and 26 May 2025



COURSE LEADER: Colette Reid



ASSESSMENT METHOD: Assessment essay of between 1750 and 3000 words carrying 100 marks. Trainees will be assigned a choice of two broad topics from the Healthcare Law Advanced Elective. Trainees will decide their own essay title which can be on any aspect of the chosen assigned topic, but must also relate to practice.

Programme overview

The Healthcare Law Advanced Elective recognises the broad ambit of the medico-legal landscape. It addresses key areas including regulation of the healthcare professions; clinical negligence; product liability; consent; confidentiality; inquests; and mental health law. It also addresses mediation, settlement, and litigation as modes of resolving clinical

negligence claims. It is designed to equip trainees with the knowledge and skills to provide advice to both healthcare providers and healthcare recipients.

Programme structure, content and approach to learning

The healthcare law advanced elective is designed to help trainees to develop their knowledge and understanding of healthcare law as well as related practice and procedure. It will consider recent developments in substantive law, practice and procedure through lectures from experienced practitioners with supporting materials provided electronically on the Hub.

Using a scaffolding approach, learning from lectures will be supported and enhanced by interactive small group sessions (tutorials and workshops) which provide the opportunity to actively participate in analysing and discussing the lecture material. These sessions will integrate the key aspects of healthcare law which are addressed in lectures and the skills required for healthcare law in practice, in addition to encouraging trainees to develop their knowledge and understanding of this field.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of this course, participants will have:

- A comprehensive understanding of the current substantive law and practice in key facets of healthcare law.
- The ability to identify issues and advocate on behalf of clients in a variety of healthcare matters.
- A detailed understanding of the role of various forms of dispute resolution.
- The knowledge and skill to advise and represent a variety of clients in relation to clinical negligence claims.
- Demonstrated a good level of knowledge and understanding of the relationship between substantive law, procedure and practice, and how this impacts the client.



HUMAN RIGHTS



DATES: 28 April to 30 June 2025



ONSITE ONLY DATES: 12 May, 09 June and 30 June 2025



COURSE LEADER: Paul Breslin



ASSESSMENT METHOD: Assessment will be by way of a drafting exercise (70%) as well as a presentation (30%).

Programme overview

This programme will provide a comprehensive overview of the subject of human rights, encompassing the domestic, selected regional as well as international human rights law frameworks with a practical and applied focus. Once the foundational principles underlying these wide-ranging areas have been discussed, there will then be an emphasis placed on specific discrete topics of relevance to solicitors practising in the sphere so that they understand the key concepts, legal instruments and case law which will apply.

Programme structure, content and approach to learning

This advanced elective is designed to enable trainees to develop the skills necessary to apply the law in a human rights context. It is intended that the first module will be introductory in nature so that trainees will gain an understanding of human rights law within the jurisdiction in a broad sense and will

also encompass substantive constitutional rights (in addition to the pertinent practical issues which may arise in respect of litigation in this regard). The second module will focus on selected regional human rights mechanisms of relevance to a solicitor practising within the area while the third module will provide a grounding in international human rights law so that trainees will understand the key actors operating within this system with a view to interacting with them (where possible). The fourth module will focus on introductory lectures pertaining to specific niche areas of law germane to the work of a human rights practitioner in Ireland.

The course will be mainly lecture-based. The expert practitioners delivering the sessions will formulate lecture papers on their topics which will act as a resource for the participants. Trainees will also be afforded the opportunity to augment their understanding by participating in a number of onsite tutorials. These will be interactive in nature and will incorporate case study elements in order to promote engagement with the practical application of the law to the greatest extent possible.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of this course, participants will have:

- An understanding of the key domestic, European and international mechanisms relevant to the protection of human rights within this jurisdiction.
- A knowledge of the particular legal issues that pertain to the practise of human rights law in specific contexts (encompassing relevant domestic as well as international developments where applicable).
- The ability to research human rights law matters.
- An understanding of the issues which arise when advising vulnerable clients in a human rights context.



INSOLVENCY



DATES: 06 May to 05 June 2025



ONSITE ONLY DATES: 06 May, 13 May, 27 May and 03 June 2025



COURSE LEADER: Dr Rachael Hession



ASSESSMENT METHOD: Participation in a group workshop to include a pre-workshop submission (20%) and a drafting exercise in the form of a letter of advice to a client (80%)

Programme overview

This advanced elective will delve into the many aspects of insolvency that solicitors face in practice. The programme will cover all insolvency issues such as: company insolvency; court liquidations; voluntary liquidations; receiverships; alternatives to winding up; personal insolvency and international insolvency. The teaching team are experts in their field and will impart the knowledge necessary to practice in this area. It will provide the legal foundation necessary to advise and act for: liquidators; receivers; examiners; directors and shareholders of insolvent entities; companies and third parties (such as creditors); banks and employees of insolvent entities. Following the successful completion of the advanced elective, trainees may wish to pursue the Diploma in Insolvency Law offered by the Diploma Centre. A 15%

discount will apply if the Diploma is commenced within the relevant time frame.

Programme structure, content and approach to learning

The advanced elective will be taught in a way that is realistic and relevant with an emphasis placed on experiential learning. Trainees will focus on transaction and problem-based exercises which will reflect/mimic the real-life tasks that practitioners undertake in this field.

Learning outcomes

On completion of this course, participants will have a comprehensive understanding of:

- The process for appointment of a liquidator, including the relevant powers, functions and duties.
- The realisation and distribution of assets.
- The effect of winding-up on creditors & third parties.
- Proof of debts/rules as to priorities.
- Directors' duties/liabilities including reckless and fraudulent trading/preferences as well as restriction and disqualification of directors.
- Issues for shareholders of insolvent companies including demand letters and petitions.
- A members' voluntary winding-up.
- Completing a *Declaration of Solvency* and a *Statement of Affairs*.
- Creditors' meetings, including advising the company and convening the meeting.
- The role of the receiver, including eligibility, appointment, powers and duties/resignation.
- The position of directors, shareholders, and employees in a receivership.
- The role of the examiner, including the petition, appointment, duties and powers.
- Schemes of arrangement and compromises.
- International regulation of cross-border insolvency.
- The EU Insolvency Regulation.
- Bankruptcy proceedings.
- The Scheme of the Personal Insolvency Act 2012.



INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS NEGOTIATIONS



DATES: 26 May to 06 June 2025



**ONSITE ONLY
DATES:** 26, 27, 29 and 30 May,
and 03, 04, 05 and
06 June 2025



COURSE LEADER: John Lunney



**ASSESSMENT
METHOD:** 80% of the overall grade
is assessed on a
completed reflective
journal and 20% of the
overall grade is allocat-
ed for active and com-
petent participation.

Programme overview

This course is structured around a simulated negotiation exercise in which half of the trainees in this class will represent a multi-national pharmaceutical company (KJH Pharmaceutical Corporation) and the other half of the trainees will represent an African agricultural production company (Malundian Cassava Corporation). The two companies are interested in working together to exploit a new technology developed by KJH Pharmaceutical Corporation that uses the cassava produced by Malundian Cassava Corporation. The form of their collaboration could be a joint venture, a licensing agreement or a long-term supply contract. The negotiations will take place through written exchanges and through live negotiations.

Programme structure, content and approach to learning

The focus of this course is on class participation and active involvement in the negotiations process. Trainees are expected to spend time outside of class, working in teams, to prepare for class discussions involving the written exchanges as well as to prepare for the live negotiations. Class discussions will focus on the strategy for, and progress of, the negotiations, as well as the substantive legal, business and policy matters that impact on the negotiations.

The lead tutors will be Jay Gary Finkelstein, a partner at DLA Piper LLP (US), who has practised corporate and securities law for over 30 years and Walter W. Bardenwerper, who was for 25 years the Vice President, General Counsel & Secretary of Towers Watson & Co. (now Willis Towers Watson; NYSE: WLTW).

Learning outcomes

The purpose of the course is to provide trainees with an opportunity to:

- Experience the sequential development of a business transaction over an extended negotiation.
- Study the businesses, legal issues and strategies that impact the negotiation.
- Gain insight into the dynamics of negotiating and structuring international business transactions.
- Learn about the role that lawyers and law play in these negotiations.
- Give trainees experience in drafting communications.
- Provide negotiation experience in a context that replicates actual legal practice.

Jay and Walter were exemplary instructors. Their teachings went beyond the theoretical, offering us practical tools and insights that we can readily apply in our professional lives. The course content itself was delivered in an engaging and thought-provoking manner and it fostered critical thinking, teamwork, problem-solving and a myriad of other skills. Overall a thoroughly enjoyable elective.

I really enjoyed the IBN course and I found the experience invaluable. It has really created an interest for me in transactional work and negotiations.

The course was fantastic, a different type than is usually offered in legal education. Walter and Jay were excellent and everyone was engaged with the simulation.

With this course, I was given the opportunity to move from the backseat of a business transaction and into the driving seat – analysing facts, identifying key objectives, determining a negotiation strategy and negotiating a business transaction.

INVESTMENT FUNDS



DATES: 29 April to 27 May 2025



ONSITE ONLY DATES: 20 May and 27 May 2025



COURSE LEADER: Sara Van den Bergh



ASSESSMENT METHOD: Assessment by way of continuous assessment (20%) and letter of advice to a client that will cover key areas of the course (80%).

Programme overview

At the global level, Ireland is the third largest fund domicile and holds the second largest market share in Europe. Ireland provides full market access to the EU and is the only English-speaking common law jurisdiction in the Eurozone thereby providing access to a European market of 500 million consumers. This is a large and important industry for Ireland with lots of career opportunities for lawyers.

The aim of this advanced elective is to provide an overview of the system of regulation, compliance, supervision, and enforcement affecting investment funds from a national and international perspective. The course will focus principally on the Undertakings for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities (UCITS), alternative investment funds (AIF) products and the regulatory framework which applies to

managers of such products. Allied to this will be a review of the principal legal structures used for Irish fund products and the service providers involved in the day-to-day operation of the fund. The course will also cover other issues such as taxation, exchange traded funds, money market funds and corporate governance.

Programme structure, content and approach to learning

This advanced elective will provide lectures with accompanying presentations and a range of academic resources. The programme will feature a number of expert-led interactive practical workshops where trainees will consolidate their knowledge. Trainees will be in small working groups to facilitate collaboration. The teaching faculty will consist of lawyers from funds practices in law firms, from the Central Bank of Ireland and the asset management industry.

Learning outcomes

On completion of this course, participants will have:

- A comprehensive understanding of the legal structures commonly used to establish investment funds and the different fund products provided for by law and regulation.
- Familiarity with the roles played by each of the service providers and advisers in the establishment and operation of fund products.
- An awareness of the process whereby funds obtain regulatory approval and the documentation required for a fund launch.
- An insight into fund structuring and typical fund strategies followed by asset managers and how they relate to regulatory investment restrictions and product rules.
- An introduction to related topics that arise for funds, such as how they are sold, taxation, compliance, and regulatory supervision and enforcement.
- An insight into career pathways for lawyers in the funds industry.



ADVANCED LEGAL PRACTICE IRISH



DATES: 01 May to 03 July 2025



ONSITE ONLY DATES: 05 June, 12 June, 19 June and 03 July 2025



COURSE LEADER: Paul Breslin



ASSESSMENT METHOD: Assessment will encompass the testing of trainee knowledge of grammar, drafting as well as presentation skills through Irish.

Programme overview

This programme has been designed in order to meet the statutory requirement contained within section 40(2A)(d) of the Solicitors Act 1954 (as inserted by the Legal Practitioners (Irish Language) Act 2008)) which mandates the Law Society to “...provide an advanced course for the practice of law through the Irish language as an optional subject for those pursuing the Professional Practice Course”. It is very practical in its application and places an emphasis on the key skills required of a practitioner who wishes to utilise the Irish language in his/her work (such as grammatical accuracy, legal research

and drafting). The majority of the course will be delivered by way of practitioner-led workshops. These are streamed (where practicable) and enable participants to enhance their learning through exposure to general practice scenarios which they could potentially encounter in an Irish-speaking context.

Programme structure, content and approach to learning

The Advanced Legal Practice Irish elective is designed to assist participants in developing the skills required to utilise and apply the law through the medium of Irish. The introductory lectures focus on the background legal framework/concepts pertaining to the language and also afford trainees the opportunity to hear a practitioner’s perspective in terms of the opportunities/challenges presented. The second part of the course is skills-oriented in nature and includes an augmented grammar offering which aims to assist participants in accurately expressing themselves through Irish. The third segment is entirely workshop-based and seeks to facilitate participant engagement with the language in the context of specific practice areas of relevance (such as probate, land law, business law and criminal litigation) thereby affording valuable opportunities for language development.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of this course, participants will have:

- An enhanced ability to understand and utilise Irish language legal terminology across a range of general practice areas.
- A grounding in core elements of Irish grammar and orthography with the view to facilitating the generation of coherent and comprehensible texts.
- A comprehensive understanding of how to conduct legal research in Irish.



MEDIATION LAWYERING



DATES: 19 May to 13 June 2025



ONSITE ONLY DATES: 12 June and 13 June 2025



COURSE LEADER: John Lunney & Ruth Tracey



ASSESSMENT METHOD: Assessment comprises an online quiz (20%), Task completion (20%) and role-play simulation (60%)

Programme overview

This course is tailored to the role and skills of a solicitor in mediation. Participants on the course will develop their mediation advocacy skills and learn how to manage clients through the mediation process. The course considers the Mediation Act 2017, and its objective to promote mediation as a viable, effective and efficient alternative to court proceedings, thereby reducing legal costs, speeding up the resolution of disputes and relieving the stress involved in court proceedings.

Programme structure, content and approach to learning

This course is structured around three separate learning blocks.

Block 1. Trainees take an online Certificate in Mediation Lawyering provided through the Mediator Academy. This online course enables participants to complete the workload in a self-paced manner and covers 5 units (10 hours learning).

1. Preparing for Mediation
2. Lawyer-Client Teamwork
3. Skills and Strategies
4. Process Management
5. Mediation Law

Block 2. A short series of online discussions (via Zoom) with leading Irish mediation experts on contemporary issues in mediation practice

Block 3. Participation in simulated mediation role-plays. Participants will have the opportunity to engage in the roles of mediator, advocates and client. Trainees are expected to spend time outside of class, working in teams, to prepare for these live simulations.

***Note:** that there are limited places available on this elective due to the focus on simulated role-plays.

Learning outcomes

The purpose of the course is to provide trainees with an opportunity to:

- Learn about the role that lawyers play in mediation.
- Support clients through the mediation process.
- Understand a solicitor's legal obligations in mediation.
- Gain insight into the essential skills of a mediator.
- Develop mediation experience in a context that replicates legal practice.



The mediation advanced elective was highly effective in simulating real world problems that required 'out-of-the-box' thinking to solve. The problem-solving skills developed in this module will prove valuable to future legal professionals in a legal landscape moving towards collaborative resolutions to disputes.

I really enjoyed this advanced elective as it offered the opportunity to expand my problem-solving and communication skills. The various elements of the course and the different learning styles offered meant everyone will take something from this course. The competition at the end was a fantastic opportunity to get to know colleagues and put what we learned into practice. This practice was invaluable and being able to get feedback at the end of each round was equally fantastic.



ADVANCED PROBATE AND TAX



DATES: 21 May to 25 June 2025



ONSITE ONLY DATES: 21 May, 05 June, 18 June and 25 June 2025



COURSE LEADER: Padraic Courtney



ASSESSMENT METHOD: Assessment by way of a 2,500-word assignment with a problem-based scenario that will cover key areas of the course.

Programme overview

This advanced elective follows on from both the Wills, Probate & Estates and Taxation for Solicitors courses of the core PPC and initially ties the two courses together. The advanced elective will demonstrate how taxation is an essential element of any wills, probate & estates practice, before going on to deal with drafting will trusts, covering contentious probates and administering estates and trusts. Trainees intending to practise in the area need to be able to advise clients in detail about the options open to them when drafting wills involving significant business or farming assets where minors may inherit. They also need to advise those clients about potential tax reliefs and their applicability. Trainees also need to be able to advise the Legal Personal Representative (LPR) when disputes arise in the course of administering the estate and on potential taxation issues, particularly when administering a trust.

Programme structure, content and approach to learning

The advanced elective is broken into three parts.

- Wills, Will Trusts and Estate Planning: Estate planning

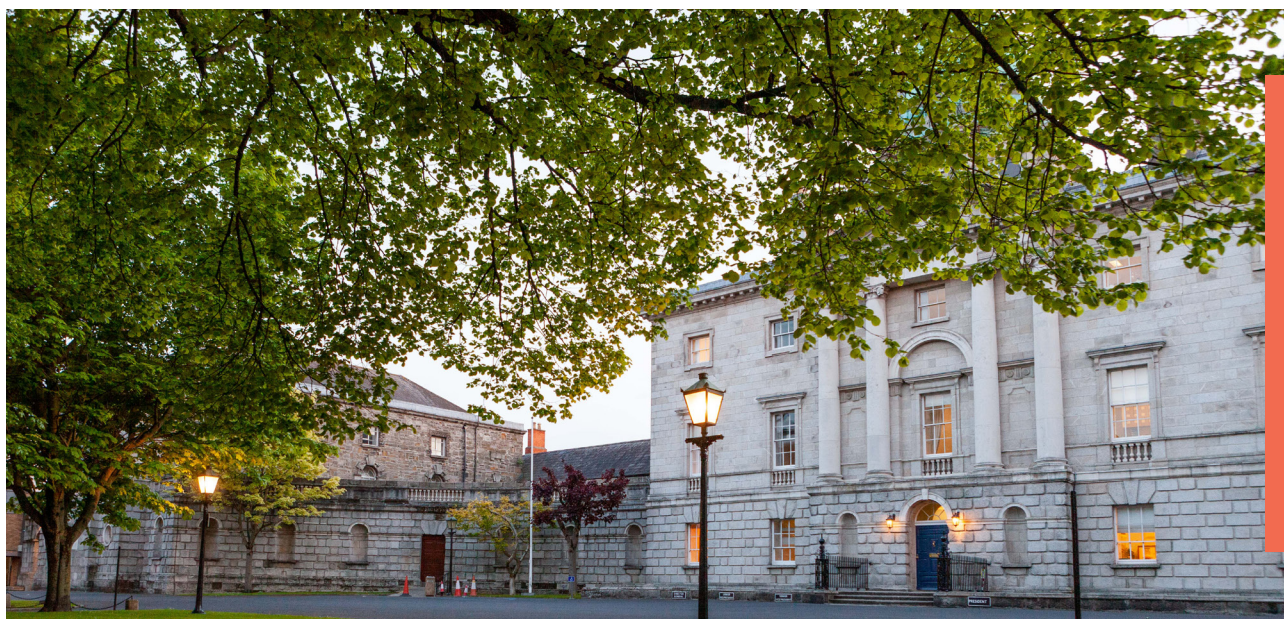
essentially is where, in addition to drafting a will exactly in accordance with a client's informed instructions, the solicitor also provides tax planning advice. An example of such advice would be ascertaining whether an intended beneficiary would qualify as a "farmer" in order to claim Agricultural Relief against Capital Acquisitions Tax. The module then goes on to deal with trusts and in particular will trusts.

- Contentious Probate Procedure: As trainees would be aware from the case law in the area, not every administration goes smoothly. Again, trainees will have covered spouses and children's rights as part of will drafting. Having covered non-contentious probate applications, this part of the advanced elective deals with contentious probate applications and with probate litigation including applications under S. 117 of the Succession Act, 1965.
- Administration of Estates, Trusts and Taxation: Having finally obtained our grant, initially this part of the advanced elective looks at the solicitor's responsibilities across a range of tax heads when acting for the LPR in the administration of an estate. Moving on from there, the advanced elective goes into greater depth and detail in relation to the administration of both will trusts and trusts arising on intestacy, again focusing on the taxation implications and finally looking at tax and other issues arising on the breakup of a trust.

Following the successful completion of the advanced elective, trainees may wish to pursue the Diploma in Trust & Estate Planning Law offered by the Diploma Centre. A 15% discount will apply if the Diploma is commenced within the relevant time frame.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of this course, trainees will be able to advise a client on all aspects of making their will, the LPR of a deceased client through the process of applying for a grant and the administration of that estate at all times taking the taxation implications (liabilities and reliefs) arising across a number of tax heads into account. Trainees will be fully aware of their professional responsibilities to their clients and will be able to comply with those obligations.



PROJECT MANAGEMENT



DATES: 30 April to 10 June 2025



ONSITE ONLY DATES: 30 April, 07 May, 21 May and 10 June (exam) 2025



COURSE LEADER: Anne Burke



ASSESSMENT METHOD: 30% of the marks will be allocated to continuous assessment, 40% to a team assignment, and the final 30% to a multiple-choice questions (MCQ) exam.

Programme overview

In today's fast-paced legal profession, project management skills are becoming a critical business skill for solicitors. Project management plays a key role in successfully achieving your business goals. This advanced elective will provide you with the essential skills you need to apply project management principles, tools and practices in your work. Participants will learn how to plan, execute and control a project to a successful conclusion from industry-expert lecturers and tutors.

Programme structure, content and approach to learning

We will explore project management with a practical, hands-

on approach through realistic project case studies, exercises, lectures and group discussion. Trainees will be provided with a suite of e-Lectures and curated resources to access at their own pace and available to download from the Hub, which will set out the principles and methodologies of project management. Interactive tutorials will give trainees the chance to actively engage in strategic communication, problem-solving, and stakeholder management, using scenarios drawn from real-world situations. Additionally, the course will cover the impact of AI on project management and guide you in assessing the financial implications, benefits, and costs of implementing project management within a law firm. The course will facilitate your transition from the understanding of the principles of project management, to how best to apply these skills in the context of your legal work.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of this course, participants will have:

- Knowledge of project management principles and an overview of key methodologies like PRINCE2, PMP, SCRUM, Lean Six Sigma, and AgilePM.
- Skills to manage projects using different methods, with an understanding of how to assess and implement the best methodologies to achieve business goals.
- Gain a thorough grasp of project lifecycles, including initiation, planning, execution, monitoring, and closure, alongside mastering tools for effective planning and leadership traits for success.
- Knowledge of how to investigate the impacts of internal and external forces in projects across various business and cultural contexts.
- Acquire proficiency in the effects of AI on project management, including its role in decision-making, risk management, and predictive analytics.
- Skills in financial analysis and budgeting.



SPORTS LAW



DATES: 04 June to 18 June 2025



ONSITE ONLY DATES: 04 June, 11 June and 18 June 2025



COURSE LEADER: Deirdre Flynn



ASSESSMENT METHOD: Assessment by way of continuous assessment (20%) and letter of advice to a client that will cover key areas of the course (80%).

Programme overview

This advanced elective will provide participants with an insight into the dynamic area of sports law. Modules will address practical issues, which practitioners from the smallest to the largest firms can advise on. The course begins with a look at the regulation and governance of the sport sector. It outlines the key issues for running a club – child protection, data protection and liability.

This advanced elective will also provide a detailed examination of the commercialisation of sport, including sponsorship agreements, broadcasting, ticketing and merchandising. Key issues such as corruption in sport, violence, gambling, and discipline will be considered, followed by an in-depth look at

the WADA anti-doping code. It will also provide trainees with information on career pathways in sports law.

Programme structure, content and approach to learning

This advanced elective will provide lectures with accompanying presentations and a range of academic resources. The programme will feature a number of expert-led interactive practical workshops where trainees will consolidate their knowledge. Trainees will be in small working groups to facilitate collaboration. The teaching faculty will consist of sports lawyers in private practice and in-house roles, together with a number of professionals working in the area of sports. The course will cover the following modules:

- Regulation of sports bodies
- Commercialisation of sports
- Liability in sports
- Disciplinary Procedures
- Anti-doping

Following the successful completion of the advanced elective, trainees may wish to pursue the Diploma in Sports Law offered by the Diploma Centre. A 15% discount will apply if the Diploma is commenced within the relevant time frame.

Learning outcomes

On completion of this course, participants will have:

- A comprehensive understanding of sports law.
- Acquired the skills to deal with a number of sports law issues in practice.
- An insight into the key legal issues when setting up a sports club and running a sports club.
- An understanding of the key issues to address when representing an amateur/professional sportsperson.
- An excellent grasp of the technical areas of anti-doping, liability and discipline in sport.
- An insight into the career pathways for lawyers who have an interest in sports law.



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