Appointment of lecturers in law (three posts, Lecturer A)

March 2020
Prof David Sklansky, of Stanford Law School, delivering Goldsmiths Law’s 2019 criminal justice lecture

Kirsty Brimelow QC, Visiting Professor in Law at Goldsmiths, speaking to prospective students about her conflict resolution work in Colombia

Former Justice at the UK Supreme Court, Lord Hughes, discussing how criminal law thinks of international human rights

Prof David Sklansky, of Stanford Law School, delivering Goldsmiths Law’s 2019 criminal justice lecture
A significant opportunity has arisen to join the Department of Law in one of the world’s most creative and progressive institutions.

Part of the University of London, Goldsmiths is known for its academic strengths in the creative arts, humanities and social sciences; its unique focus on public and community engagement; the outstanding alumni from every generation of students; and its ground-breaking multi-disciplinary research.

Our forward-looking, cosmopolitan and distinctive Department of Law draws on, and further strengthens, Goldsmiths’ rich heritage of social awareness and social engagement, strong entrepreneurial mindset, and unique ability to foster radical, critical and creative thinking.

Goldsmiths is home to a lively community of 10,000 students and 1,200 staff drawn from across the globe to form a diverse and multicultural population, learning and working together on a vibrant and eclectic single-site campus in South East London, which is located just 10 minutes from London Bridge.

Following a period of academic development and growth, and the appointment of an Inaugural Professor in Law, we are now seeking to add to our team of enthusiastic, intellectually vibrant, highly engaging lecturers, who will lead initially in the delivery of Year 2, and will contribute to further development of the academic offer in Year 3, of the LLB programme, particularly in (but not limited to) the following areas: Intellectual Property, Equity and Trusts, Commercial Law, International Trade, Company Law, Land Law, Law and technology, Immigration Law, Tort, International Human Rights.

The academic lecturers appointed will be given excellent opportunities to set in motion, and take ownership of, an exciting range of educational, research, public engagement and community engagement initiatives, and to develop cross-disciplinary, intra-professional, collaborations, particularly across the University of London and across the range of leading organisations that the Law programme is linked with.

The successful candidates will be at the heart of Goldsmiths’ Law’s ambition to deliver a highly distinctive and professionally relevant LLB programme and research culture.

You will be able to demonstrate, dependent on the stage in your academic career, research leading to publications of the highest standard as well as the desire and ability to lead from the front on undergraduate Law modules that centre on the integration of abstract theoretical concepts with the law in action, and allow for the study of Law in its socio-political, institutional, ethical and cultural context.

Applications should be made online and must include:

- a letter of application setting out your interest in the role and details of how you match the person specification, including examples of research, educational, public engagement or professional development initiatives you may have led on in your current roles and institutions, or initiatives of this nature you would aim to develop at Goldsmiths.
- a comprehensive curriculum vitae (CV)
- details of two referees.

Interviews will be held online.
Goldsmiths has a rich heritage of the highest standards of research, teaching and practice. This finds academic expression in a remarkable range of original thinking and innovative interdisciplinary collaborations. Our success in the QS World University Rankings saw us ranked in the top 400 universities and 76th most international, and is a testament to our academic success and diverse student body.

Our generous access agreement demonstrates our commitment to creating opportunities for students from all backgrounds and, importantly, reflects our presence in the Borough of Lewisham.

Creativity has always been the hallmark of Goldsmiths. Academic excellence and imaginative course content combine to make a place where creative minds can thrive and ideas are allowed to grow. Our courses and research activities span the arts, humanities, social sciences, cultural studies, computing, business and management across 18 academic departments.

Our academics cooperate across disciplines to create exciting new courses and develop novel approaches to research issues. And our interdisciplinary ethos has helped us to become a national leader in many subject areas. In 2014 the Research Excellence Framework rated us in the UK’s top 25 Universities for the quality of our research and top ten for research intensity.

From Creative and Social Technologies to Forensic Psychology and Forensic Architecture our teaching and research staff are combining their specialist knowledge to fashion new insights into 21st-century challenges.

We want to continue to nurture the next generation of innovative thinkers and thrive in the changing environment of Higher Education. Goldsmiths’ Strategic Plan sets out an ambitious vision to shape our portfolio of academic programmes and research, respond to the full range of students’ needs and expectations, equip graduates with the skills and flexibility to make a difference to the world around them and support research that addresses local, national and global challenges.

Law is the bedrock of our civil society and a powerful tool for challenging social injustice. In these rapidly-changing and uncertain times legal expertise, harnessed for the public good, has never been more important across a range of fields including human rights, commerce, and the creative arts. This is why we are proud to have developed such an inclusive, vibrant, and forward-looking Law degree programme.

We are looking for academics with research leadership credentials and a desire to work internally and externally to drive this project forward. We look forward to hearing from you.
For generations, researchers, practitioners and teaching staff at Goldsmiths have actively campaigned to make real, positive changes to society. The Department of Law at Goldsmiths brings together our academics’ research, teaching expertise and public policy work.

Our Department of Law draws on this wealth of knowledge to educate future lawyers looking to tackle society’s inequalities, injustices and abuses of power.

We are now investing in appointing three academic lecturers that will be at the centre of delivering Years 2 and 3 of the LLB Law degree and will contribute to the creation of new research-led pathways and postgraduate degrees, whilst demonstrating leadership in their primary research area and the potential for wider impact.

These academic appointments will shape our programmes’ distinctiveness and will underpin the creation of an engaging research environment, through undertaking dynamic educational and professional development initiatives, and through research and public engagement leadership.

We are particularly keen to hear from academics who are researching and can teach at least one (and a desirable two) subject(s) in the second and third years of our LLB Law curriculum: Intellectual Property, Equity and Trusts, Commercial Law, International Trade, Company Law, Land Law, Law and technology, Immigration Law, Tort, International Human Rights.

Specialist areas of law particularly relevant to Goldsmiths’ rich heritage in the creative arts, innovation, and social engagement, cover topics such as Criminal Justice, Constitutional Law, Human Rights, Media Law and Ethics, Art Law, Immigration Law, Intellectual Property Law, AI, Disruptive Technologies and the Law, Corporate Law and International Trade Agreements (with an emphasis on alignment with human rights values). We are very keen to hear from academics with expertise in these areas.

As well as being a qualifying law degree, and preparing graduates for a career in law in England and Wales, the LLB Law at Goldsmiths prioritises the study of foreign and international law and aims to shed light on the constitutional, socio-political, cultural, and economic ramifications of the UK’s decision to leave the European Union. At a time of increasing legal and political isolationism, and emerging populist threats, Law at Goldsmiths aims to offer an inspiring cosmopolitan alternative. We are particularly interested in hearing from academics with research interests in these areas.

In addition, the course was designed in anticipation of the Solicitors Qualifying Examination (SQE), to provide a strong foundation to prospective solicitors that will aim to take the exam in order to qualify, and fully embeds the teaching of skills and attributes required of future barristers. An ability to facilitate the integration of theory and practice, to put legal theory in its cultural, institutional, ethical and procedural context, for example via the coordination of guest lectures and study visits, the adoption of experiential learning methods and development of professional development initiatives, will be seen as an important attribute of future Goldsmiths Law academics.
INNOVATION IN TEACHING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Department of Law at Goldsmiths has the strong ambition of developing distinctiveness in interdisciplinary teaching and research, and of embedding experiential learning and professional development opportunities into the law curriculum. It also aims to liberate the curriculum and create a cosmopolitan student experience, developing expertise in novel, challenging, areas of law.

Interdisciplinarity

Goldsmiths Law students will be uniquely placed to study across a wide range of specialisms, in traditional legal doctrine, but also intellectually challenging ‘Law and Society’ topics, drawing on globally leading expertise at Goldsmiths on Law, Sociology, Anthropology, Psychology, Media and Communications and Art, Politics and International Relations.

It is a unique feature of Law at Goldsmiths that students will be given access to optional modules from other departments, in the second and third year of their LLB studies. Innovative modules on e.g. Globalisation, Crime and Justice; Prisons, Punishment and Society; Criminology (Sociology department); Psychology and Law (Psychology department); Media Law & Ethics (Media & Communications department) or the Anthropology of Rights (Anthropology department) will expose our Law students to philosophies and methods that lie outside their discipline, but can provide a deep insight into the wider significance of its operation for society.

Goldsmiths Law academics with research interests spanning these areas will be supported in the development of research and teaching collaborations with these departments, and will be encouraged to progressively develop Law-based modules with an interdisciplinary focus.

Integrating theory and practice

The programme enables students to put their knowledge into practice throughout the degree, honing skills that will be invaluable in a future legal career. It incorporates a range of opportunities often only available outside of a university curriculum such as study visits, commercial awareness activities, practical experience, research events, and learning from leading legal professionals through guest lectures by Goldsmiths Visiting Professors.

Our academics will have the opportunity to lead on, or support and coordinate, activities such as:

- Annual competitions in mooting, mock trials and debating;
- Virtual reality experiences, exploring e.g. human rights and criminal law scenarios which will inform and initiate discussions in seminars;
- Commercial awareness activities;
- An optional module with a human rights clinic;
- An optional module designed to develop mooting and advocacy skills (Evidence with Advanced Mooting and Advocacy);
- Simulated contract negotiations and dispute resolution workshops;
- Advocacy and client interview training;
- Learning designed to develop skills and knowledge relevant to the upcoming solicitors qualifying exams (SQE);
- Law film screenings at Goldsmiths’ on-campus cinema;
- Field trips and/or international study visits to teach law in action.
Learning in the LLB Law programme does not stop in the classroom. From our campus located just 10 minutes from London Bridge, teaching takes advantage of all that London has to offer. It continues in visits to the heart of the English legal system such as the Royal Courts of Justice, Supreme Court or Parliament and takes advantage of our proximity to law firms, leading chambers, the Law Society and the Inns of Court. A significant proportion of student contact time has been allocated to such activities in a wide range of modules in the curriculum (8 hours in 30 credit modules). The academics joining Goldsmiths Law will be expected to lead on and shape these activities further, allowing for a constructive integration of research-led teaching and practice.

Liberating the curriculum and creating a cosmopolitan student experience

Goldsmiths Department of Law aims to develop a diverse and inclusive curriculum that will dedicate appropriate space to the examination of foreign, comparative and international law, and will place proper emphasis on the outstanding contributions of women in law and the continuous struggle for equality.

Goldsmiths Law academics will aim to become leaders, nationally and internationally, in the use of the comparative law method and/or international law perspectives into their modules, and will work to ensure our pedagogical approach is inclusive and pioneering, engaging with our students to ensure our curriculum and delivery methodologies continue to evolve.

Expertise in specialist areas of law

Goldsmiths is a world leading creative institution, with a rich heritage of focusing on social awareness and social engagement. The Department of Law programme aims to develop teaching and research expertise in aspects of social justice requiring urgent attention, including criminal law and human rights, law and technology and the UK’s future relationship with Europe.

To learn more about our focus on these areas, read our ‘themes’ section on our webpage: https://www.gold.ac.uk/institute-management-studies/law/themes/

Research, Impact, Public Engagement

In 2014, the Research Excellence Framework rated Goldsmiths in the UK’s top 25 Universities for the quality of research. The existing academic team at Goldsmiths Law will be entered into the forthcoming Research Excellence Framework.

We aim for our Law programme to be delivered by academics at the forefront of legal and interdisciplinary research. We will accommodate and support their research via progressive Law-based research centres and initiatives, research mentoring and through emerging collaborations with researchers, and research centres, in other departments at Goldsmiths and further afield.

We also place a strong emphasis on community and public engagement, and strive to create excellent knowledge transfer opportunities for our academics, via mainstream media and other channels.

Goldsmiths Department of Law currently hosts the Britain in Europe think tank and Knowing Our Rights research project. Goldsmiths Law academics with relevant research interests will be offered opportunities to contribute to these research initiatives, and to lead on specific activities, and will be strongly supported in setting up similar research groups and centres in tune with the Law programme’s research aims and ambitions.
Interdepartmental collaborations and external partners
The Department of Law at Goldsmiths has started to develop links with a number of research centres, projects and academic units within Goldsmiths, including Forensic Architecture, Forensic Psychology Unit, the BA in Criminology programme and the Brexit Brits Abroad research project.

In addition, the programme features some of the UK’s foremost experts on human rights law and criminal justice, with visiting professors including: Martha Spurrier, Executive Director of Liberty, the UK’s leading human rights campaigning organisation; Kirsty Brimelow QC, Chairwoman of the Bar Human Rights Committee; Sir Geoffrey Nice QC, renowned for leading the prosecution of Slobodan Milošević and a leading figure on international criminal law; Judge Donald Cryan, a Family Law judge and former Treasurer at the Inner Temple; Liora Lazarus, Associate Professor in Law at Oxford and the Head of Research at the Bonavero Institute of Human Rights; Alison Levitt QC, who was previously the principal legal adviser to the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP); Adam Wagner, a leading barrister at Doughty Street Chambers.

Goldsmiths Law academics will have excellent opportunities to partake in, and further strengthen, these collaborations, and will be strongly supported in pursuing similar collaborations within Goldsmiths and outside.

We aim to deliver a highly active, research-led, interdisciplinary, intra-professional programme, drawing on the latest pedagogical methods, including technology-driven ones, to provide students with an outstanding learning experience and achieve research excellence and impact.

We understand the critical importance of offering our law academics time and space to produce leading research, and have the ambition at the same time to work together, in our research centres and projects, and with our many external partners, to transfer knowledge and influence public policy, and offer our students the chance to be part of these invaluable knowledge-generating processes.

We will forge a working relationship based on equal opportunity, mutual respect and rewarding commitment of energy and intellectual rigour.

Some of our joint work will be produced in formal committees and environments (where we will strive for speed and efficiency). But our discussions will also start, and ideas will often be generated, in less formal settings, including a regular Law team coffee or lunch.

The team of Law academics at Goldsmiths has been given the rare opportunity to contribute to the building of an ambitious new Law programme, and the adoption of a fresh approach to legal studies, at a leading institution in the University of London, and we naturally value very highly collegiality, the ability to work intensively as part of a team, a high degree of initiative as well as enthusiasm and motivation for the role.

We’ll be very excited to work with you if you share this vision.
Job description
Lecturer A, reporting to Professor Dimitrios Giannoulopoulos, Head of Department and Inaugural Chair in Law.

Summary
For a detailed description on the main duties and person specification see the job advert on our website: https://jobs.gold.ac.uk/vacancy/lecturer-in-law-three-posts-available-374767.html

Duties to include:
• To work with academic staff to develop teaching materials, teach, set assessments, mark, provide timely feedback and contribute to the Law degree portfolio, including in supporting or coordinating appropriate experiential learning and professional development activities;

• To lead core and optional modules and co-ordinate the operation of these modules with Law colleagues and central administration staff to ensure student needs are met;

• To conduct and publish research in high-impact journals in the area of Law, and contribute to a dynamic research culture in the department, including in supporting the activities of relevant research centres and projects;

• Translate knowledge of advances in the subject areas into the course of study and respond to pedagogical and practical challenges;

• To supervise research by undergraduate, LLB, LLM and MPhil/PhD students;

• To attract external research funding in areas related to e.g. Intellectual Property, Equity and Trusts, Commercial Law, International Trade, Company Law, Law and technology, Tort, International Human Rights;

• To act as a personal tutor to students;

• To represent Law on College boards and committees;

• To take an active role in developing and growing Law, in areas such as student numbers, external funding, external speakers, and prestige.