

Legal English

Description

The course is aimed at law students and professionals who are non-native English speakers with a focus on the fundamentals of international legal English of Anglo-Saxon and Anglo-American jurisdictions in practice.

The required level of general English proficiency is *intermediate* to *upper intermediate*. Course will be held 100% in English.

Expectations and Goals

The main goals of the course are:

- To increase law practitioners' range of vocabulary of Legal English,
- To practise and increase comprehension of legal texts in various areas of law with a hands-on approach,
- To gain confidence in communicating in applied Legal English language, both in speaking and writing, and
- To extend the knowledge of International Legal English practice.

Methodology

A broadly communicative methodology and a text and task-based approach are used. Pair and group work is an important part of the learning process. The reading texts are authentic or semi-authentic and provide context for international English legal vocabulary.

Content

Among the main areas covered are the following:

- **A Career in the Law:** Course descriptions; graduate recruitment programs; legal systems; bodies of law, types of law and courts;
- **Contract Law:** Contract law; understanding contracts' elements and style of a contract (UK and US law) vs Chile (offer, acceptance, consideration, intention); contracts and statutes; different types and parts of contracts (contract clauses); remedies for breach of contract - litigation; conditions and warranties;
- **Tort Law:** Tort law; case note; letter threatening legal action; frivolous lawsuits;
- **Criminal Law:** Criminal law; white-collar crime: insider dealing and market abuse;
- **Company Law:** Company law; company formation and management (who does what in company law): memorandum of association (UK); articles/certificate of incorporation (USA); corporate governance disputes; letter of advice (lawyer to client); company capitalisation/company; and, fundamental changes in a company; breach of Companies Act;

- **Commercial Law:** Commercial law; commercial agency contract/agreement between an agent and principal in international trade (ICC Model Commercial Agency Contract);
- **Real Property Law:** Real property law; lease or tenancy agreements;
- **Litigation and Arbitration;**
- **International Law;**
- **IRAC Structure** for drafting legal documents.

Further topics that might be included upon request:

Employment Law (or Labour Law); Intellectual Property Law; sale of goods; negotiable instruments; secured transactions; debtor-creditor; Competition Law (Antitrust Law); Environmental Law; transnational commercial law (Conflict of Laws).

Course Materials

Optional Materials

Bilingual and Law Dictionaries

Required Text

Units' reading lists

Bibliography

Adams, K. (2009). *Legal English*. 2nd Ed. Abingdon, Routledge-Cavendish.

Haigh, R. (2009). *Legal English*. 2nd Ed. Abingdon, Routledge-Cavendish.

Krois-Lindner, A. and TransLegal (2008). *Introduction to International Legal English Student's Book with Audio CDs (2): A Course for Classroom or Self-study Use*. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.

Mason, C. (2014). *The Lawyer's English Language Coursebook*. 2nd Ed. Global Legal English Lt.

McKay and Charlton (2005). *Legal English - How to Understand and Master the Language of Law*. Harlow. Pearson Ed.

Oxford Dictionary of Law (2003). 5th Ed. Oxford, Oxford University Press.

Strong, S. (2010). *How to write law essays and exams*. 3rd Ed. Oxford, Oxford University Press.

Exam Schedule

Date	Subject
First session	Initial Assessment
Last session	Final Examination

Additional Information and Resources

Other forms of assessments

Formative assessments:

- Warm-up review questions of mandatory chapters
- Discussions
- Oral T/F quizzes
- Vocabulary in use quizzes
- Vocabulary checks' quizzes
- Dialogues
- Moot courts
- Wrap-up questions & exit tickets
- Personal glossary

Summative assessments:

- End of unit's Vocabulary Tests
- Final Examination Test

Course resources

- Letters of Understanding; Agreements; Letters of Advice; Memos
- Case Studies
- Podcasts
- Internet Resources

Teacher

Francisca García - Huidobro: Master of Arts in Education (TESOL) Oxford Brookes. Law Graduate Pontificia Universidad Católica.

Información General

- Time table: Tuesday and Thursday, 19.00 to 21.15 hours,
- Dates: May 11, 13, 18, 20, 25 and 27; June 1, 3, 8, 10, 15, 17, 22, 24 and 29; July 1 and 6.
- Arancel: \$550.000.-