

Legal Life Skills

Helping legal professionals master the softer skills needed to be effective and successful in their legal life.



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Introduction

With the post-pandemic climate and increasing numbers of new solicitors qualifying via the SQE route, the legal industry has seen plenty of change in recent years. We were keen to understand what impact these changes were having on the learning and development needs of legal professionals and law firms.

We surveyed law firms and paralegals to learn more about their learning and development requirements and to identify any challenges they may be facing.

What's clear is that while the Solicitors Qualifying Exam (SQE) assesses legal knowledge required for qualification, the development of practice-ready, legal life skills remains a priority for all aspiring legal professionals and firms looking to future proof their careers.



Why choose Legal Life Skills courses?

At BARBRI we have been designing and delivering professional skills courses for the legal industry for 45 years. We are committed to helping junior legal professionals master the skills needed to be effective and successful in their legal lives.

Our courses are:

- Short and easily digestible
- Online and on-demand to fit around busy schedules
- Practical and interactive so new skills can be immediately applied
- Affordable
- Designed with 45 years of experience
- Relevant to 2024 and beyond, reflecting the current legal landscape and technological developments

Who is this for?

These courses and masterclasses are available for legal professionals anywhere in the world. Specifically, they have been designed for those early in their careers, particularly aspiring, trainee and junior solicitors, but they are also useful for paralegals and other legal support professionals. There are no specific entry requirements for these courses.

Certification

- These courses and masterclasses are eligible for the **continuing competence requirements** of the Solicitors Regulation Authority.
- They're also ideal for meeting **professional development goals** at work.
- Upon completion, we issue a **Credly badge**. This is digital credential that can be added to a CV or LinkedIn, linking to an individual's digital certificate to demonstrate skills to potential employers.

Advocacy Skills

COURSE

Settling a Dispute

COURSE CODE: AC1

This course provides a comprehensive introduction to civil disputes, exploring the various types that may arise and the broader dispute resolution ecosystem. Participants will gain insight into the roles of key parties involved and an understanding of the advantages, disadvantages, and core principles of litigation, mediation, and arbitration.

The course covers the essential elements of a valid arbitration agreement, guiding learners through the process of initiating and advancing an arbitration. Additionally, the module explains the purpose and common features of pre-action protocols, and examines the implications of making or rejecting a Part 36 Offer.

Designed as a concise yet thorough module, this course equips participants with the knowledge and practical skills needed to confidently advise clients on the most appropriate dispute resolution methods.

Key topics:

- Mediation
- Arbitration
- Part 36 Offers



DURATION: 5 hours



DELIVERY: Online, on-demand



FEES: £199 standalone or £269 inc. masterclass

COURSE

Advocacy Trial Strategy

COURSE CODE: AC2

This course provides a comprehensive exploration of essential advocacy trial strategies, focusing on key areas critical to success in the courtroom. Participants will learn how to strategically plan for trial or other hearings, ensuring a structured and effective approach. The course covers the techniques for opening a case, conducting examination-in-chief, and mastering the art of oral presentation.

Participants will also gain skills in witness preparation, including cross-examination and re-examination techniques, as well as strategies for staying in control of witness evidence to secure favourable testimony. Additionally, the course addresses the typical contents of court bundles and provides guidance on structuring and delivering a compelling closing speech.

By the end of the course, learners will have the knowledge, theory, and practice needed to confidently develop and refine their advocacy skills.

Key topics:

- Trial strategy planning
- Witness preparation and examination
- Closing speeches



DURATION: 5 hours



DELIVERY: Online, on-demand



FEES: £199 standalone or £269 inc. masterclass

MASTERCLASS

COURSE CODE: AM1

Keeping Disputes Out of Court

In this interactive masterclass, participants will enhance their ability to resolve disputes and negotiate effectively before resorting to the courtroom. Participants will learn practical tips and techniques for fostering amicable agreements and managing both their own emotions and those of others.

 **DURATION:** 90 mins

 **DELIVERY:** Online, live, interactive

 **FEES:** £89 standalone

MASTERCLASS

COURSE CODE: AM2

Handling Expert Witnesses

In this interactive masterclass you will develop your handling and cross examination of expert witnesses by learning tips and techniques for confidently selecting and working with experts as well as challenging those chosen to represent the case for the opposing side.

 **DURATION:** 90 mins

 **DELIVERY:** Online, live, interactive

 **FEES:** £89 standalone



Advocacy Skills Bundle

£529

COURSE CODE: AP3

Bundle includes:
2 courses + 2 masterclasses

BOOK NOW

Business Skills

COURSE

Introduction to Business Development

COURSE CODE: BC1

This concise course provides you with sufficient knowledge, theory and practice to give you the confidence to start developing productive and professional relationships with clients and colleagues.

We explain the business, rather than academic pursuit, of law, how that impacts business strategy and development, and the integral role you play in its implementation. We introduce the concept of using established sales techniques within a regulated profession and explore the importance of creating professional networks, starting with your work colleagues.

At the end of the course, you'll understand what is required of you to become highly effective at business development.

Key topics:

- Business development strategy
- Business and lead generation
- Client engagement
- Networking



DURATION: 5 hours



DELIVERY: Online, on-demand



COMPETENCY SKILLS:
Business Awareness, Successful Communication, People Management



FEES: £199 standalone or £269 inc. masterclass

COURSE

Introduction to Drafting: Effective Commercial Contracts

COURSE CODE: BC2

Drafting commercial contracts is rarely done from a blank page. Most law firms have standard-form documents and templates which required commercial contracts. Added to this, the legal profession is fast adopting legal technologies which can produce first draft commercial contracts quicker, cheaper and (often) more accurately than a junior lawyer. Therefore, this course is slightly different to standard commercial drafting courses, and instead focuses firstly on understanding, interpreting, and reviewing standard commercial contracts and secondly, on how to amend them for the best.

Learn how to confidently review and amend standard contract provisions in line with client requirements without prejudicing the legal efficacy of a commercial contract. Delegates will also come away from the course with the ability to not only reflect clients' commercial concerns in contracts, but also, being able to explain (and often justify the inclusion of) the many technical provisions included within commercial contracts.

Key topics:

- Good drafting skills in context
- Ancillary agreements
- Common issues and clauses
- Why they need to be drafted in a certain way to be effective



DURATION: 5 hours



DELIVERY: Online, on-demand



FEES: £199 standalone or £269 inc. masterclass

MASTERCLASS

Commercial Savviness

COURSE CODE: BM1

Clients and supervisors demand good 'commercial awareness' from their junior lawyers - but they often don't explain what they mean by the term or how to gain it. This masterclass will do both.



DURATION: 90 mins



DELIVERY: Online, live, interactive



COMPETENCY SKILLS:

Business Awareness, Successful Communication, People Management



FEES: £89 standalone

MASTERCLASS

Drafting Tips for Tomorrow's Lawyers

COURSE CODE: BM2

In this masterclass you will explore the drafting skills needed by human lawyers in an age of document generators and large language models. Participants will engage in discussion and practical exercises to gain insights of how document generators work and develop the essential knowledge and skills you need as the human lawyer in the loop.



DURATION: 90 mins



DELIVERY: Online, live, interactive



FEES: £89 standalone

Business Skills Bundle

£529

COURSE CODE: BP3

Bundle includes:
2 courses + 2 masterclasses

[BOOK NOW](#)

Communication Skills

COURSE

Introduction to Effective Business Writing: Engaging the Reader

COURSE CODE: CC1

This course will show you how to write and make your content relevant for a professional audience. It is a short course providing you with sufficient knowledge, theory, and practice to give you the confidence to engage with your business reader more effectively.

We explain the difference between academic and business writing, both in style and purpose, and contextualise this within the logic of effective business communications. We introduce you to a dependable process for writing good content, show you how to structure it, and provide tips on how to compete with the human tendency to skim-read. We also focus on best practice for writing emails and how to proofread your own work - as well as the work of others.

Key topics:

- The key principles of effective business writing
- Methods and tips to improve your business writing
- How to identify problems in writing to ensure impact



DURATION: 5 hours



DELIVERY: Online, on-demand



COMPETENCY SKILLS:
Successful Communication, Solution Finding, Business Awareness



FEES: £199 standalone or £269 inc. masterclass

COURSE

Introduction to Meetings: What You Say & How You Say It

COURSE CODE: CC2

A core part of being a successful lawyer is having the skills to effectively communicate your legal knowledge to your clients and colleagues. This course focuses on in-person communication. Develop highly effective meeting skills whether in-person or online, internal or client-facing, with this practical short course.

It identifies some of the challenges you may face in conducting in-person meetings, guiding you through how best to conduct and structure a meeting. It also explores the pros and cons of other methods of communication, including online meetings, telephone calls and email. We also offer some thoughts on how best to present or introduce yourself, both in-person and online.

Key topics:

- Conducting and structuring successful meetings.
- The impacts of communication methods and human behaviour.
- Your communication style and how best to present yourself.



DURATION: 5 hours



DELIVERY: Online, on-demand



COMPETENCY SKILLS:
Successful Communication, People Management, Business Awareness



FEES: £199 standalone or £269 inc. masterclass

COURSE

Negotiation: Approach & Style

COURSE CODE: CC3

In a world increasingly influenced by AI, negotiation remains a uniquely human skill, shaped by the complexities and nuances of human behavior. This practical module explores the essential components of effective negotiation, starting with a deep dive into what defines a negotiation, the different phases involved, and how legal negotiations stand apart from others.

Participants will examine various negotiation styles and strategies, with a focus on identifying and refining their own default approach. The course also offers actionable insights on initiating negotiations effectively and highlights the significant role of body language in the process.

The course is filled with practical insights and proven techniques, equipping participants with the tools to excel in any negotiation scenario.

Key topics:

- Different negotiating styles and strategies
- How to plan, prepare and start a negotiation
- The impact of body language on your negotiation



DURATION: 5 hours



DELIVERY: Online, on-demand



FEES: £199 standalone or £269 inc. masterclass

COURSE

Negotiation: Closing the Deal

COURSE CODE: CC4

Negotiations are shaped not only by commercial and legal considerations but also by the underlying emotions, principles, values, needs, and desires that each party brings to the table. This module begins by exploring how to navigate complex and challenging issues that often arise during negotiations. Participants will learn strategies to move past impasses and deadlocks, steering discussions toward a successful agreement.

The course also delves into the tactics and tricks that some negotiators may employ, offering effective countermeasures to ensure a fair outcome. Finally, we focus on the crucial steps for closing a negotiation, emphasising the importance of milestones and deadlines in securing the final deal.

Participants will gain practical, actionable advice that can be immediately applied in their professional legal practice.

Key topics:

- Common negotiating techniques and the challenges they present
- How to handle impasse, deadlock and deceptive tactics
- How to successfully close a negotiation.



DURATION: 5 hours



DELIVERY: Online, on-demand



FEES: £199 standalone or £269 inc. masterclass

MASTERCLASS

Identifying Your Strengths: Confidence through Self- Awareness

COURSE CODE: CM3

Delivered by:

Jay Paul Skelton, The Royal Central
School of Speech and Drama

In this masterclass, participants will be invited to delve into their own values, strengths and personal narratives, fostering a strong sense of self-awareness that can lead to anxiety reduction and enhanced confidence in a variety of professional environments.

In this masterclass, participants will explore their values, strengths, and personal narratives, developing a deeper self-awareness that can help reduce anxiety and lead to enhanced confidence in a variety of professional environments.



DURATION: 90 mins



DELIVERY: Online, live, interactive



FEES: £89 standalone

MASTERCLASS

Reading the Room: Communicating Effectively with Others

COURSE CODE: CM4

Delivered by:

Jay Paul Skelton, The Royal Central
School of Speech and Drama

A dynamic exploration of how vocal modulation and body language can support effective communication with others.

Through practical exercises, participants will enhance their articulation and vocal variety to effectively convey their message, while also learning how to use non-verbal behaviours to project confidence and credibility in any situation.



DURATION: 90 mins



DELIVERY: Online, live, interactive



FEES: £89 standalone

MASTERCLASS

COURSE CODE: CM1

Report Writing

Structuring and writing a professional report that contains all relevant information in a logical and accessible format is difficult. This masterclass will give you the tools to write reports that your professional audience wants to read.



DURATION: 90 mins



DELIVERY: Online, live, interactive



COMPETENCY SKILLS:
Successful Communication, Solution Finding, Business Awareness



FEES: £89 standalone

MASTERCLASS

COURSE CODE: CM2

Presenting

Speaking in front of an audience is daunting even for the most eloquent. This masterclass will give you tips and best practice on structuring a presentation as well as how to present in a more confident, efficient and memorable manner.



DURATION: 90 mins



DELIVERY: Online, live, interactive



COMPETENCY SKILLS:
Successful Communication, People Management, Business Awareness



FEES: £89 standalone

Communication Skills Bundle 1

£529

COURSE CODE: CP5

Bundle includes:

- What We Say & How We Say It
- Effective Business Writing
- Presenting Masterclass
- Report Writing Masterclass

BOOK NOW

Communication Skills Bundle 2

£529

COURSE CODE: CP6

Bundle includes:

- Negotiation Skills: Approach & Style
- Identifying Your Strengths: Confidence through Self-Awareness
- Reading the Room: Communicating Effectively with Others
- Negotiation Skills: Closing the Deal

BOOK NOW

Management Skills

COURSE

Introduction to Time, Stress & Teamwork

COURSE CODE: MC2

When in a high-stakes professional environment such as law, you need to manage your personal resources - your time, your emotions and your personal wellbeing.

In this course you'll learn how to maximize these personal resources and apply them to your professional working life. You'll be able to identify your weaknesses and leverage your strengths to increase performance at work and improve personal wellbeing. You will also have the opportunity to identify your default behaviour in teamwork situations and learn more about associated strengths and weaknesses of different team player roles.

Key topics:

- Stress, its management and its potential benefits
- Time management and improving productivity
- Your behaviour in teamwork
- Your personal accountability for maintaining professional standards



DURATION: 5 hours



DELIVERY: Online, on-demand



COMPETENCY SKILLS:
Personal Management, People Management, Project Management



FEES: £199 standalone or £269 inc. masterclass

COURSE

Introduction to Project Management

COURSE CODE: MC1

As a lawyer, you'll be required to be good at working well independently - but you also need to project manage broader work streams, scope required resources and communicate effectively with different stakeholders.

In this course, you'll learn what is required of you to become highly effective at project management and you'll get the confidence to start developing productive and professional relationships with your clients and colleagues.

We cover the importance of time spent scoping the resources required, the associated risks, and the proper execution of a client matter so that you can confidently deliver on time and on budget. We explain stakeholder management, communication challenges within disparate teams and where you might fit into that process.

Key topics:

- Scoping time and resource requirements
- Stakeholder and risk management
- Utilising appropriate legal technologies



DURATION: 5 hours



DELIVERY: Online, on-demand



COMPETENCY SKILLS:
Project Management, Dynamic Thinking, Solution Finding



FEES: £199 standalone or £269 inc. masterclass

MASTERCLASS

Beating Imposter Syndrome

COURSE CODE: MM1

It's frustrating to be an over-achiever and yet under confident about your performance at work. Don't worry - you're not alone, imposter syndrome is rife within the legal profession. This masterclass will help you recognise the signs and effects of imposter syndrome and give you the tools to master it.



DURATION: 90 mins



DELIVERY: Online, live, interactive



COMPETENCY SKILLS:
Personal Management, People Management, Project Management



FEES: £89 standalone

MASTERCLASS

Embracing Innovation

COURSE CODE: MM2

Being good at managing complex tasks is not just about being organised, it's also about being innovative. This masterclass will give you tools to improve your efficiency, productivity, and work quality in managing cases and transactions.



DURATION: 90 mins



DELIVERY: Online, live, interactive



COMPETENCY SKILLS:
Personal Management, Dynamic Thinking, Solution Finding



FEES: £89 standalone

Management Skills Bundle

Bundle includes:
2 courses + 2 masterclasses

BOOK NOW

£529

COURSE CODE: MP3

Bundles

Maximise your learning by taking a skills bundle.

1 x course + 1 x masterclass = £269

2 x courses + 2 x masterclasses = £529

Still got questions?

Our team of Legal Education Consultants are on hand to help. Please complete the short form and we'll call you straight back.

[REQUEST A CALL](#)

Need a **group booking** or or a **customised training bundle??**
Our Business Development team is happy to help.

[CONTACT THE TEAM](#)

Ready to get started?

[BOOK NOW](#)