Postgraduate Admissions Statement

MSc Socio-Legal Studies

Programmes covered
Socio-Legal Studies (MSc)
Applicants should also refer to the relevant prospectus entry for further programme details.
This admissions statement should be read in association with the University Admissions Principles and Procedures for Postgraduate Taught Programmes.

Faculty
Faculty of Social Sciences and Law

Admissions team and contact details
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Admissions cycle
2017

Application process

Online application
Applicants should complete the online application form, uploading all required documents directly into the application form. Guidance on uploading documents can be found in the How to Apply FAQs.
Applicants should make every effort to choose the correct programme in the application form by reading the prospectus entry and admissions statements fully. Applicants should contact the relevant Admissions Team if clarification is required.

Application Deadline
There is an application deadline for this programme, which is displayed on the individual programme page within the University course finder.

Required documents
All documents must be translated into English. Degree certificates and transcripts should be certified copies and list subjects taken and grades/degrees achieved. If your degree is not yet complete, please provide transcripts of subjects taken and marks achieved to date. All documents must be uploaded into the online application form unless otherwise noted. Applicants who have already submitted an application can upload additional documents into the ‘Post-submission uploads’ section. You can find information about how to upload documents to your application form in our How to Apply FAQs.
Required documents for this programme are:

- Two references
- Degree certificate(s) from first and subsequent degrees
- Academic transcript(s) from your first and subsequent degrees
- Personal statement
- English language certificates if English is not your native language and your undergraduate degree was not in an English speaking country (please see the English Language Requirements for a list of English speaking countries)

Research statements and research training statements are not required for this programme. However, applicants who are applying for 1 + 3 ESRC scholarships funding should include a research statement.

A research statement, research training statement and CV are not required but may be submitted as part of your application.

**Interviews**

Interviews are not part of the selection process for this programme, but are required as part of the ESRC scholarships selection process.

**Correspondence with applicants**

Applicants will normally receive communication via email to the email address used to set up their application form account. Applicants should ensure that this profile email address is kept up-to-date.

**Admissions criteria**

**Academic entry requirements**

An upper second class honours degree (or international equivalent), in law, social sciences, or another relevant discipline. A background in Law is not essential as training will be given during the programme. Recognised Prior Learning is currently not accepted. Previous or professional experience is not required.

For information on international equivalent qualifications, please see our [International Office](#) website.

**English language criteria for non-native English speakers**

For applicants whose first language is not English, it is necessary to achieve a minimum score in an approved English language test specified in Profile B of the [University's English Language Requirements Policy](#).

You can find information about the University of Bristol's Pre-Sessional English courses at the [Centre for English Language and Foundation Studies website](#).

**Reference criteria**

Applicants should arrange for referees to provide electronic references, which can be submitted through the online application system. Non-electronic references should be on headed paper, with clear contact details and signed by the person who wrote it. We require two academic references. Applicants who have previously studied at undergraduate and postgraduate level should provide an academic reference relating to each qualification. Professional references will only be accepted from applicants who are working in a relevant field and who completed their education more than five years ago.

**Personal statement criteria**

In your statement you should describe the reasons for your choice of postgraduate programme and why this is important to you. Please also explain why you are applying to University of Bristol, why you think you are a suitable candidate for your programme of study, and how your choice of programme fits with your future career plans.

**Research statement and research training statement criteria**

A research statement and research training statement are not required but may be submitted as part of your application. Please see the SWDTC admissions statement for research statement guidance.

A research training statement should describe research training you have received to date, including that received as part of your employment.

**Additional requirements**

There are no additional requirements for this programme.
Selection process and offers

Selection process
All applications are considered in accordance with the University’s policy on equality and diversity. The University of Bristol upholds the principles of equality and diversity, respect and dignity. Candidates are not discriminated against on the grounds of race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, sexuality, religion or belief, disability, health or age.

The initial assessment and recommendation is undertaken by the Postgraduate Senior Admissions Administrator, with the final decision on an application made by the Postgraduate Admissions Tutor. Criteria against which applications will be assessed:

1. Performance in undergraduate degree
2. English language ability (where applicable)
3. References
4. Personal statement

Decisions
Applicants will be notified by email when a decision has been made and decision letters will be available to view and print by logging into their application.

An unconditional offer will be made to successful applicants who have already met the conditions and provided evidence that conditions have been met. Where academic requirements have not yet been met, successful applicants will receive a conditional offer to meet those requirements. The deadline for this is 01 August prior to the commencement of the course. If there is a deadline by which applicants must accept their offer of admission, this will be stated in the offer letter.

Deferrals
Applicants are able to defer their place for one year, after which applicants will need to reapply.

Deposits
International self-funded students are required to pay a deposit of £1000. You can pay this deposit online at http://bris.ac.uk/online-payments/deposits using a credit or debit card. Alternatively you can pay through our PaytoStudy account at www.bristol.ac.uk/paytostudy. PaytoStudy is an international payment solution which offers competitive exchange rates. Where PaytoStudy has a local bank account, all wire fee charges will be eliminated and you will be able to pay in your local currency to a local bank account.

The deposit is non-transferable and non-refundable except under the circumstances outlined in the International Deposits Refund Policy which is available at http://www.bris.ac.uk/academicregistry/office/policies/idrp.html. You may pay your deposit in advance of meeting the conditions of your offer. If you subsequently fail to meet the conditions attached to your offer and are therefore rejected from your course on academic grounds then a refund will be made to you. To make the payment you will need your student number which you will find in your offer letter.

ATAS
An ATAS certificate is not required.