



1 Advertisement

Post Title: Professor of Law (Education & Scholarship)

School/department: School of Law, Politics and Sociology/ Sussex Law School

Hours: Full time or part time hours considered up to 1FTE. Requests for [flexible working](#) options, including job sharing, will be considered (subject to business need).

Contract: Permanent

Reference: 10815

Salary: Competitive

Placed On: 24 February 2023

Closing date: 11 April 2023 - applications must be received by midnight of the closing date.

Interview date: 18 May 2023

Expected start date: 01 September 2023.

Sussex Law School is delighted to invite applications for the role of Professor in Law. The position is open to outstanding candidates who will be able to demonstrate a sustained and substantial track record of Scholarship relevant to Student Experience, teaching and learning. Your established expertise in Legal Education with bring valued leadership and mentoring to colleagues within the Law School.

As part of this role, you will work collaboratively to develop and lead the Law School's strategy for Student Experience and help embed processes that support our students in their journey at Sussex Law, through aspects such as academic advising and the student voice. Key responsibilities will include working with current Education Leads and the School's Director for Student Experience to enhance our community.

Sussex Law School is a well established, thriving and successful Law School, ranked 15th for research power by THE in the 2021 REF and currently has approx. 1400 students and 75 member of faculty.

This is an incredibly exciting opportunity to join a friendly, diverse and collegiate community who are dedicated to high quality legal education through which we encourage critical thinking and a supportive and inclusive environment. Our colleagues are committed to academic excellence, social justice and supporting all our students, colleagues and researchers.

Home to over 19,000 students and situated in one of the most beautiful campus locations in Britain, the University of Sussex has challenged convention since it was established more than 60 years ago. As we enter our seventh decade, the early emphasis on innovation, interdisciplinarity, intellectual rigour, and internationalism – in education, research, and external engagement – continues to define the University. Sussex's success as a world-leading university is built on these practices and is underpinned by the institutional values that we strive to enact – courage, collaboration, inclusion, kindness, and integrity

For informal enquiries, please contact Head of Department, Prof Amir Paz-Fuchs (A.Paz-Fuchs@sussex.ac.uk).

For full details and how to apply see our [vacancies page](#)

The University of Sussex values the diversity of its staff and students and we welcome applicants from all backgrounds.

2. Sussex Law School

Sussex Law School is a thriving and ambitious department which has grown significantly in strength and numbers, both of staff and students, over the past years, enabling the creation of a strong and vibrant research and scholarship culture as well as an extensive portfolio of undergraduate and postgraduate courses offering both traditional and innovative legal study. There are approximately 75 members of Faculty in the Law School. The total undergraduate and postgraduate student population is currently around 1400 students, and we are located in the Freeman building on the University of Sussex campus.

For further information regarding Sussex Law School see [Law : University of Sussex](#) and information about the School of Law, Politics and Sociology (LPS) at <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/lps/>

Research and Scholarship

Research within the Sussex Law School is rooted in the Sussex traditions of critical scholarship and a commitment to equality and social justice and covers areas including intellectual property and information technology, crime and criminal justice, critical legal theory, human rights and anti-colonial justice, migration studies, and international law. Contributing to a wide range of sub-disciplines, our research adopts doctrinal, theoretical, critical, contextual, social-legal, and interdisciplinary approaches. Our research ethos accords with the University aims of 'thinking differently' and 'pushing the boundaries'. Staff are engaged in interdisciplinary international research and our research has made positive changes to society regionally, nationally and internationally.

In REF2021, we were ranked 15th for research power by the THE. 78.4% of our outputs were graded as world-leading (4*) or internationally excellent (3*) as were 60% of our impact case studies demonstrating the positive social, economic and environmental impacts, nationally and internationally. Our research environment was graded 100% 4 and 3* recognizing the supportive and collaborative environment which underpins what we do individually and collectively enabling us to explore new topics, adopt new approaches to existing topics and push the boundaries of the discipline.

Many members of the Law School contribute to collaborative, cross-disciplinary research through [research centres](#) based in or led by Law or LPS, including the Sussex Centre for Human Rights Research, Crime Research Centre, Sussex European Institute, the Sussex Centre for the Study of Corruption, the Centre for Gender Studies, the Centre for Information Governance Research, and the Sussex Sustainability Research Programme.

There are a number of [research groups based in Law](#) in Family, Relationship and Kinship; Art and Law; Property Law and Environment; Critical Theory: Legal Education Research and Practice; European Law and Policy; Social and Legal Issues in Science and Health; and, Sussex Terrorism and Extremism Network. Faculty are encouraged to explore new groups to provide a supportive environment for individual and collaborative research.

The Law School is strongly committed to embedding within our research culture the production of research that has a positive impact on society by ensuring that impact is an integral part of planning and support processes. Staff work with stakeholders outside of academia, including law and policy makers, civil society and non-governmental

organisations and members of the general public to ensure that their work has the widest reach and contributes to positive change.

The Law School places considerable emphasis on supporting early career researchers to achieve their full potential, through mentoring and other avenues of support. All staff have an annual personal research planning meeting. There are 6 Research Development Teams in Law, to provide support and guidance and mentoring for colleagues working in cognate areas.

There is an active community of colleagues undertaking Scholarship work on projects including enhancing placements, embedding employability, inclusion in extra-curricular activities, student engagement.

Each faculty member has an annual research grant to support their research by, for example, attending conferences, ad hoc research assistance and the purchase of appropriate research materials. Extra funding is available on a discretionary basis.

For further detail see: <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/law/research>

Undergraduate studies

There are around 1200 undergraduates studying for an LLB in Law. The LLB degree is a three year degree consisting entirely of law modules or a three or four year LLB degree consisting of the following combinations:

- Law with American Studies (4 years)
- Law with Business and Management
- Law with a Language (3 years)
- Law with International Relations
- Law with Politics
- Law with Criminology
- Law with a study abroad year (4 years)
- Law with a placement year (4 years)
- We also run a Graduate Entry LLB (2 years)

All law students take compulsory modules, consisting of the modules covering the foundations of legal knowledge (Law of Tort, Law of Contract, Public Law, Equity & Trusts, Land Law, Law and Constitutional Foundations of the European Union, Criminal Law) and two introductory courses: English Legal System; Justice, Equality and Society. Students on the LLB (Law) can also choose to study either Power, The State and the Individual or Canadian Constitutional Law in year one and either Business Law and Practice or the Single Market of the European Union in year two. All modules are taught and assessed in a single semester, but some subject areas are taught across more than one module/semester. There is also a wide range of level 6 Law options, reflecting faculty expertise. These include subjects such as Intellectual Property Law, Law and the Creative Industries, Internet Law, Adult Family Law, Child Law, Human Rights, Criminology, Clinical Legal Education, Commercial Law, Company Law, Environmental Law, Anti-Corruption Law, Law and Development, Law and Resistance, Media Law, Public International Law.

In 2018, SLS began a successful joint degree with Wilfred Laurier University, Canada, which involves students joining the LLB programme at Sussex after 2 years of study in Canada. This attracts around 50 students annually.

SLS also teaches a number of popular modules on the Sussex pathway, which enables non-law students to take a coherent suite of law-focused modules in their first and second years

of study. The Law Pathway includes Level 4 and 5 modules on Understanding Law; Law, Justice and Inequality; Crime and Criminal Justice; Gender Equality; and Contemporary Issues in Law.

For further information about our undergraduate modules: [Law LLB : University of Sussex](#).

Postgraduate Studies

SLS offers the following postgraduate taught masters degrees, currently to around 130 students, as well as a PhD programme:

- LLM in Intellectual Property and Information Technology Law
- LLM in Criminal Law and Criminal Justice
- LLM in International Commercial Law
- LLM in International Law
- LLM in International Financial Law
- LLM in International Human Rights Law
- LLM in Law
- MSc in Social Research Methods (Law)

In addition, SLS offers an MA Law, a full-time, one-year, course which provides non-law graduates full exemption from all elements of the first stage of professional qualification for barristers, and which lays the foundations for students who wish to continue on to SQE1, the new training approach for solicitors in England and Wales. For further information on this course see: <https://www.sussex.ac.uk/study/masters/courses/law-replacing-the-gdl-ma>

The Student Experience

Securing the overall quality of the student experience is a high priority for the Sussex Law School. The department organises a structured programme of skills, careers and other related events which run throughout the academic year including talks from faculty, practitioners and alumni. Where possible these events are co-curated with our students.

Students have the opportunity to undertake training and participate in internal and national competitions in debating, mooted, client interviewing, mediation and negotiation. The training workshops are generally run by faculty with the assistance of local practitioners. Students have opportunities to be involved in their organisation.

The Sussex Law School is also home to the Centre for Clinical Legal Education. The Clinic works closely with local practitioners and local organisations such as the Brighton Housing Trust and Citizens Advice. The Clinic gives students the opportunity to be exposed to real legal problems, develop practical skills and assist those who have difficulty accessing legal advice from other sources. Further details about Clinical Legal Education can be found here: [Free Legal Advice : Sussex Clinical Legal Education : Law Department : University of Sussex](#)

3. Job Description

Job Title:	Professor of Law
Grade:	Grade 10
School:	LPS (Sussex Law School)
Location:	Freeman Building

Responsible to: Head of Sussex Law School

Role description:

The successful applicant will work with colleagues and students within the Sussex Law School and School of Law, Politics and Sociology. They will provide leadership and mentoring to colleagues within the Law School on Education and Scholarship contracts.

The successful applicant will be responsible for the development and implementation of the Law School's Student Experience Strategy. They will make a significant contribution through excellence in teaching and scholarship.

PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTABILITIES

1. To provide leadership and mentoring to colleagues within the Law School on Education and Scholarship contracts.
2. To develop and lead in the implementation of the Law School's Student Experience Strategy.
3. To deliver high-quality teaching on our undergraduate and, as appropriate, postgraduate courses.
4. To engage in scholarship which supports teaching, learning and/or student experience within Sussex Law School and/or which is more externally-focused.
5. To contribute fully to the School and University through citizenship and by participating in meetings, working groups, committees and other School and University activities.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Student Experience

- 1.1 To act on behalf of the Head of Department on matters relating to the Student Experience.
- 1.2 To develop and lead in the implementation of the Law School's Student Experience Strategy ensuring that this aligns with the University's current practices and vision for the future.
- 1.3 Review the work of academic advisors within the Law School in accordance with the University policy on academic advising.
- 1.4 Lead or contribute to other developments that may enhance the student experience as required such as awarding gaps, curriculum reform etc
- 1.5 To work collaboratively with the Law School's Education Leads and LPS Director of Student Experience to ensure that students have a 'voice' in the Law School.
- 1.6 Active engagement with students to enhance the student experience and sense of community.

2. Teaching

- 2.1 Working with the Law School's Education Leads and with the LPS Director of Teaching and Learning to have strategic responsibility for the enhancement of teaching in Law.
- 2.2 Working together with appropriate colleagues to prepare for and respond to TEF.
- 2.3 Contribute to the planning, delivery and assessment of high-quality undergraduate and postgraduate teaching, in liaison with the relevant course and module convenors.
- 2.4 Supervise the work of undergraduate and, as appropriate, taught postgraduate students, providing them with advice on study skills.

3. Scholarship & Enterprise

- 3.1 Contribute through excellence in scholarship individually and/or in collaboration with others.
- 3.2 Advance knowledge through dissemination of scholarship and publication.
- 3.3 Attract and successfully supervise PhD candidates to completion.
- 3.4 Generate social and/or economic value through knowledge exchange, engagement or impact.
- 3.5 Build internal contacts and participate in internal networks and relevant external networks.

4. Contribution to School & University

- 4.1 Contribute as a member of the Law School's Strategic Advisory Group.
- 4.2 Provide support, advice and mentoring to colleagues in Law on Education and Scholarship contracts through informal and formal processes including Personal Scholarship Planning and Appraisal.
- 4.3 In accordance with line management structures in the Sussex Law School, to line manage colleagues on Education and Scholarship contracts.
- 4.3 Play a leading role in the development of the teaching practice in the Law School.

This Job Description sets out current duties of the post that may vary from time to time without changing the general character of the post or level of responsibility entailed.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

1. Normally educated to doctoral level, or other equivalent qualification in law, or appropriate level of experience. We welcome applications from those with appropriate

substantive professional experience if you have demonstrable and recent higher education teaching experience.

2. Experience of high-quality teaching and supervision at undergraduate and/or postgraduate level.
3. Evidence of innovation in education practice or the development of innovative programmes or courses.
4. An established track record of scholarship and clear and developed one and five year scholarship plans.
5. Publication of highly regarded textbooks, other significant teaching materials for use in higher education, chosen by third parties on a discretionary basis, and/or publication of pedagogically driven research in recognised high quality outlets.
6. Experience of strategic leadership in enhancing the student experience and/or leadership of a major change project at University level designed to improve the student experience.
7. Experience of leadership in education demonstrating an ability to inspire colleagues to develop their own teaching potential.
8. Experience of academic leadership, development, mentoring and career management advice in the area of teaching, learning and/or student experience.
9. Evidence of leadership in administration commensurate with the seniority of the role.
10. Experience of generating social and/or economic value through knowledge exchange, engagement or impact.
11. Experience of building internal and external contacts, or membership of association or body, facilitating best practice in teaching and teaching-related activity.
12. Excellent communication skills, with demonstrable ability to communicate to a diverse range of audiences.
13. Commitment to equality, inclusivity and diversity.
14. Fellow/Senior Fellow Higher Education Academy or willingness to work towards SFHEA.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA

1. Working knowledge of current higher education landscape in terms of education, research and knowledge exchange policies and funding.
2. Membership of advisory boards, working groups or similar that are influential within higher education and/or law.

3. Experience and/or championing of interdisciplinary or transdisciplinary working.
4. Working and successful collaborations with multiple stakeholders in resolving or developing solutions to practice-based issues.
5. Experience of contributing to the Widening Participation agenda