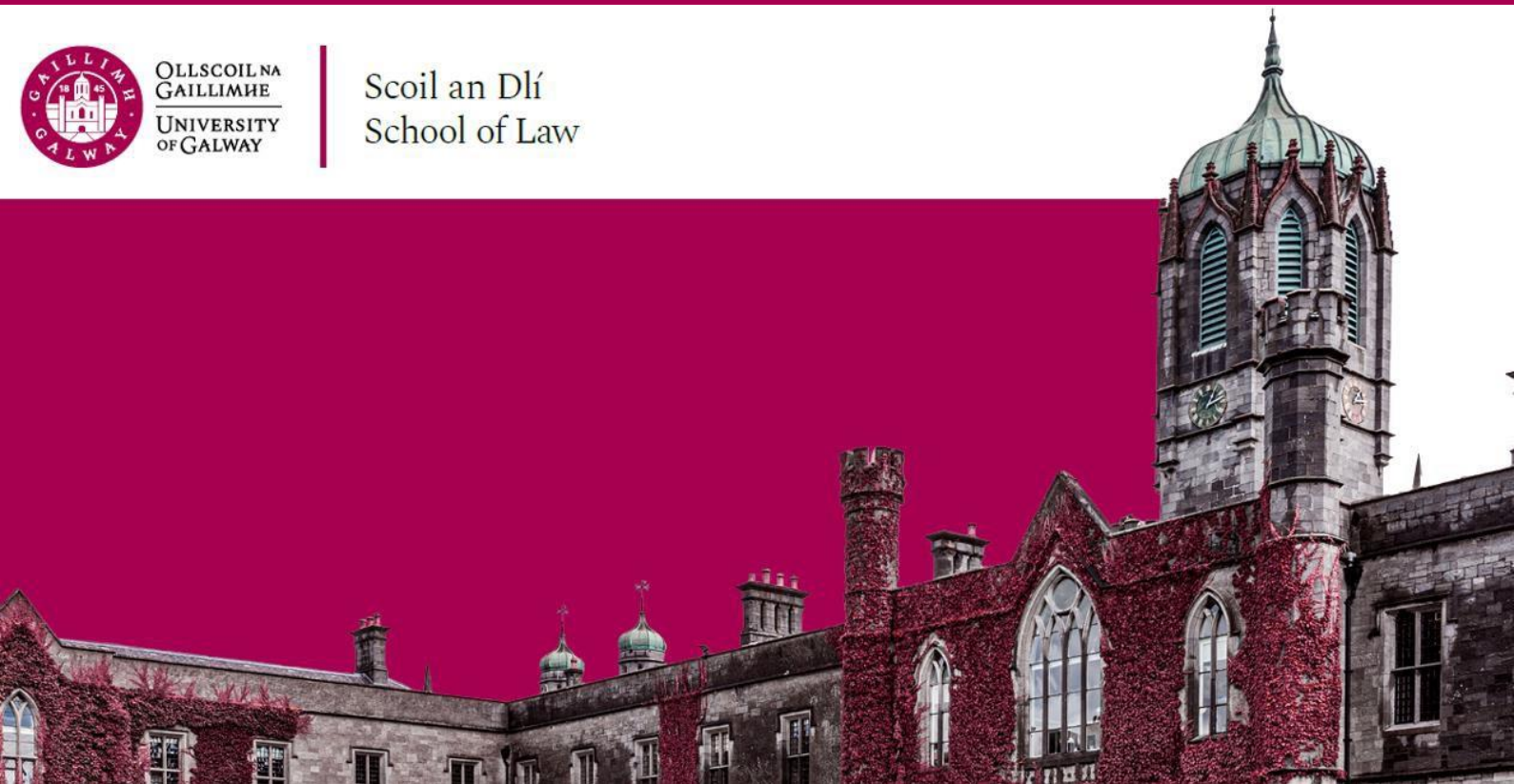




OLLSCOIL NA
GAILLIMHÉ
UNIVERSITY
OF GALWAY

Scoil an Dlí
School of Law



Scoil an Dlí
Leabhrán Acadúil

School of Law
Academic Booklet

2026 – 2027



Please note that the information contained in this document is subject to change.

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BA LAW PROGRAMME CONTACTS

BA Law Queries: For queries on Law in the BA please contact your Programme Director: Dr Ursula Connolly at ursula.connolly@universityofgalway.ie

BA Queries: For queries about the BA generally, please contact your Catherine McCurry at the College of Arts at undergradarts@universityofgalway.ie
Follow us on social media to keep up to date with what is happening in the School of Law.

Student Support Officer: If you are experiencing difficulties and are in need of support please contact your Student Support Officer Dr Rosemary Crosse at rosemary.crosse@universityofgalway.ie

WELCOME!

Welcome back to another academic year! This academic booklet will set out the modules you will study in second and final year, give some limited information on Erasmus and study abroad opportunities, and set out how you pass the academic year (please note that it is quite different to first year but the same for 2nd and final year).

Bachelor of Government students should consult the BAG Student Guide which will explain the major and minor module choice.

MODULE SELECTION

Second Year – BA Law Modules

In second year, you will have five obligatory 5 ECTS modules as set out below. That means that you can choose one optional module if you are in the BA Joint-Honours programme to make up the required 30 ECTS.

Code	Module	Semester	ECTS
LW228	Constitutional Law II (Obligatory)	1	5
LW202	Contract I (Obligatory)	1	5
LW3158	Animal Law (optional)	1	5
LW383	Information Technology Law (optional)	1	5
LW357	Environmental Law I (optional)	1	5
LW415	Law of the Sea (optional)	1	5
LW3161	Advanced Legal Skills (Obligatory)	2	5
LW227	Constitutional Law I (Obligatory)	2	5
LW205	Contract II (Obligatory)	2	5

Note:

1. Students must take and pass in Second Arts the 5 obligatory modules plus 1 optional module from the above list.
2. Students should note that the module *Advanced Legal Skills* is examined by means of assignments. Students must complete and submit the assignments as directed by the lecturer in the course of the first semester lectures in this module.

Optional Modules:

LW3158 Animal Law: The aim of this module is to give students an understanding of law relating to animals in context. It will cover both animal welfare and animal rights. Students will become familiar with Irish legislation, the Animal Health and Welfare Act 2013, which governs the area in Ireland along with its legislative predecessors and relevant case law. It will also cover UK law for comparative purposes and European law. It will consider the status of animals in their historical context and in the contemporary world, engaging with ethical and political debates on the treatment of different animals as farm animals, companion animals, wild animals, and so on. Students will gain an appreciation of the historical, theoretical and global setting of animal law. The emergence of technological innovations such as the creation of human-animal hybrids will be studied as a means to interrogate the manner in which animals are used in comparison with humans. The emergence of debates on personhood for animals and court cases in the Americas and other jurisdictions shall be scrutinised. By the end of the module students will have gained a knowledge of literature and arguments in law and in other disciplines, such as philosophy, where appropriate.

LW383 Information Technology Law: This module examines the use of computers and other aspects of information technology in legal research and practice and in the administration of justice generally. The legal problems created by the use of such technology are also examined, such as data protection, computer crime, legal problems of Electronic Data Interchange, legal protection of interests in software, integrated circuits and other related topics.

LW357 Environmental Law I: This module treats the legal regime regulating planning and development in Irish Law. The Irish planning code and issues of statutory interpretation and public law arising therefrom are examined. The module looks at the institutions of planning control, the application for planning permission, participation by objectors, the appeal process and judicial review of planning decisions and compensation for refusal of development.

LW415 Law of the Sea: This course explores international regulations of the ocean. The course aims to equip students with fundamental knowledge concerning the use of the sea and ocean. It explores history and development of the maritime usage and how the law of the sea has evolved through the history of mankind. In addition, it covers the study of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (LOSC) with the aim to educate

students with necessary maritime zones, features as well as rights and obligations of States in relation to the sea. Having touched upon the fundamental parts of the LOSC, the course takes students through thematic issues ranging from the protection and preservation of marine resources and the environment, the regulation of marine scientific research, and other new emerging concerns such as the South China Sea issues, human rights at sea, and climate change and the ocean.

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Final Year – BA LAW Modules

Students in Final BA Law take six obligatory modules as set out below. There aren't any optional modules in Law in final year.

Code	Module	Semester	ECTS
LW503	European Union Law I (Obligatory)	1	5
LW4103	Administrative Law I (Obligatory)	1	5
LW409	Criminal Law I (Obligatory)	1	5
LW504	European Union Law II (Obligatory)	2	5
LW4104	Administrative Law II (Obligatory)	2	5
LW413	Criminal Law II (Obligatory)	2	5

Study Abroad

Students can spend their third year studying abroad as part of an Erasmus (within the EU) or international (outside the EU) exchange. There are three categories of students who can study abroad and the procedure is different for each category:

1. For students taking French, German, Italian or Spanish, their exchange will be arranged by their language module co-ordinator.
2. BA (Global Experience) students not taking a language will be contacted by the College mobility co-ordinator in October, and invited to an information session to explain the application process. Places will be allocated in early December.
3. BA Government students and BA Law students who do not take a language will be contacted by the College mobility co-ordinator in January, and invited to an information session to explain the application process. This is highly competitive, as there is a limited number of places available. Second year Semester I results will be the deciding factor.

Entry to the LLB

The LLB is a three-year programme. However, **completing BA Law exempts you from the first and second years of the LLB**. Further information on the LLB generally is available [here](#) and for BA graduates [here](#).

During the LLB students have the opportunity to complete the remaining core law modules to meet the entrance and examination requirements of the legal professions i.e. solicitor training with the [Law Society of Ireland](#) and Barrister-at-Law training with [Kings' Inns](#).

You are not required to make an application for the programme via the Postgraduate Applications System.

The School of Law Administration Office will be in contact with all final-year BA Law students in Spring with details of how to accept a place on the LLB programme via direct entry.

To be eligible for the intake, you must complete your undergraduate Bachelor of Arts programme in full (i.e. passing all subjects including Law) prior to commencing study on the LLB programme.

Passing 2nd and Final BA Law

This section sets out how you pass the academic year in 2nd and final year.

- **Is passing in 2nd and 3rd/Final year the same as in first year?**

No. The rules are different from first year.

In first year, the focus was on passing the subject of Law, and it was possible to pass based on your average results across the subject.

From 2nd year onwards, the important result is the result in each individual module. The same rules apply in 2nd and 3rd/Final year and are explained below.

- **What is a pass in a module?**

A result of 40% or higher in a module means that you have passed that module.

If you get 40% or more in a module, you have passed it and you will not have to repeat it, even if you fail another module in that subject or in another subject.

If you get **less than 40% in a module**, you have failed that module. Whether you have

to repeat the module depends on whether you are eligible for **compensation**. If you fail a module in semester 1 at 35% or above, you will not know if you have to repeat it until you receive all of your results in June.

- **What is compensation?**

Compensation is a rule that might allow you to pass a module or modules in which you have received 35-39%, without having to repeat the module.

Compensation does not apply automatically. Whether you can compensate depends on:

- the mark you received in each failed module: it must be between 35-39%. If it is lower than 35% you will have to repeat that module.
- the total number of ECTS (modules) you have failed: you cannot fail in more than 15 ECTS in total..
- how those failed ECTS (modules) are distributed across our subjects: you can only compensate in up to 10 ECTS in any one subject and then up to 5 ECTS in the other subject.
- your marks in other modules: you must be able to make up the missing marks in other modules (so if you fail one module at 36% you need a module at 44% or higher to be able to make up the marks).
- Application of compensation rules means that you pass overall.

These rules are set out in detail in the BA Handbook.

How will I know if I have to repeat anything when I receive my results?

When you receive your results in June (or if repeating, in August) see what it says at the bottom of your results. If your overall result for the year is **Fail/Absent/Incomplete or Deferred, you will have to repeat all modules that have a result less than 40**. These second sitting exams take place in August. See [here](#) for details of the timetable of the second sitting. If you were eligible for compensation, your results will say 'Pass' with the average for that year.

What happens if I am not happy with my results when I receive them in June?

As in first year, students can meet with their lecturer on Consultation Day to discuss their performance and results. See here for details of the [date](#). Following consultation day, you can also request a recheck or an appeal of marks. Details for rechecks are [here](#) and details of appeals are [here](#).

Overview of Year 2026-2027 - Important Semester Dates

ACADEMIC YEAR 2026-2027	
Start of semester 1 teaching	Monday 7 th September 2026
End of semester 1 teaching	Friday 27 th November 2026
Semester 1 Exams	Monday 7 th December – Friday 18 th December 2026
Semester 2 teaching	Monday 11 th January – Friday 2 nd April 2027
Semester 2 Exams	Monday 19 th April – Thursday 6 th May
Autumn Second Sitting Exams	Tuesday 3 rd August – Friday 13 th August

Holidays (no classes):

- Bank Holiday Monday 26th October 2026
- St Brigid's Day: Monday 2nd February 2027
- Public Holiday: Wednesday 17th March 2027