

Pro bono projects

Leeds.

BPP Legal Advice Clinic (BLAC)

BLAC gives students the opportunity to gain practical legal experience by interviewing and advising clients (under supervision) and giving free legal advice to the community. There are also ad hoc opportunities to provide additional support to clients. We also run a Commercial Clinic in partnership with law firms, giving advice to start-up businesses and social enterprises.

Course eligibility: LPC, BPTC as advisers, GDL, LLB as assistants

Employment Law Telephone Advice Line (ELTAL)

Students interview clients on the telephone, obtaining the case background to pass to volunteer solicitors, who then provide initial free telephone advice to the public. Students develop interviewing, note-taking and client-handling skills.

Course eligibility: all

Human Rights Unit (HRU)

HRU educates students on the importance of human rights laws by running a series of talks from external speakers. HRU publish articles on human rights issues, via the blog, and get practical experience of legal research by assisting charities and non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

Course eligibility: all

LEASE Case Summaries

This is a joint-working project with the Leasehold Advisory Service, LEASE, where students summarise cases from the Residential Property Tribunal which are then made available to the public on the LEASE website.

Course eligibility: all

Legal Translation Service (LTS)

The LTS aims to provide legal advice centres and not-for-profit organisations with free interpretation and translation, both in writing and in person, by involving students with native or fluent foreign language abilities. Students develop good listening and client skills and are exposed to varied real-life legal issues.

Course eligibility: all

Personal Support Unit

The Personal Support Unit is a charity that gives practical and emotional support to unrepresented litigants at court. Students meet unrepresented litigants to talk through their cases informally and to accompany them around the courts and in hearings.

Course eligibility: BPTC, LPC and GDL

Research Project

This involves students working in groups to research areas of law relevant to the pro bono sector, including all areas of social welfare law and environmental law. Students will research and write articles to be published on BPP University Law School Pro Bono Centre social media. Their work will be supervised by a qualified lawyer and may be used as the basis of future Streetlaw presentations.

Course eligibility: all

Shadowing

Students attend the Leeds Combined Court Centre with the Duty Housing Solicitor Scheme. Students generally observe the solicitors in court as they represent defendants in possession proceedings. Students may be asked to take notes or complete forms with the clients. The scheme gives students an insight into the fast-paced, high-pressure role of the duty solicitor as they support clients at risk of losing their home.

Students attend the Social Security Tribunal in Leeds, where they gain an insight into the work of the Tribunal by spending time with a Judge, in the Tribunal room, and with a Tribunal caseworker in chambers. The scheme provides students with a better understanding of the Tribunal process, from both the perspective of the litigant and the judiciary.

Course eligibility: all

Streetlaw

Streetlaw promotes understanding about legal rights and responsibilities to individuals who would not otherwise have access to legal knowledge or education. Streetlaw projects benefit both the wider community and law students, who learn valuable legal and professional skills. Law students deliver interactive presentations on the law to local school children.

Course eligibility: all

For more information

🌐 probono.bppuniversity.ac.uk
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Mock Trials

Students visit local schools and run mock trial workshops, giving young people an introduction to the criminal justice system and the court process.

Course eligibility: all

Tribunal Services

From time to time, student volunteers will have the opportunity to provide moral support and administrative assistance to a client at the Leeds Employment Tribunal, particularly by taking notes during hearings. Tribunal Services is a project that enables students to develop a number of career-ready skills and gain first-hand experience of the Tribunal process.

Course eligibility: all

Law Ambassador Programme (“LAP”)

The LAP partners BPP University with secondary schools and law firms. It is designed to provide young people with legal education, as well as guidance on studying law and working in the legal field. The Programme enables Year 12 and 13 students to work alongside law students and legal professionals through a range of legal activities, experiences and challenges. These include firm and court visits, mock trials, careers talks and Streetlaw workshops. The two-year programme is delivered by the BPP University Law School Pro Bono Centre’s staff and BPP law students, alongside the legal mentors from the partner law firm.

Course eligibility: all



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