

LAW EXAMPLE PERSONAL STATEMENT 1

Why do you want to study this course or subject?

My desire to study law comes from a love of history, firing my interest in the way that society binds itself together and the compromises individuals accept to be part of society.

It is small surprise that people should accept ‘bondage to the law’ to enjoy society’s benefits, but the reasoned debate of the process, making the laws and the practical application of the reasoning, fascinate me. Laws are fundamental to the development of society, the way in which people come together to judge or be judged, the way we submit ourselves to formal institutions and the way in which we give or take away rights from individuals. We accumulate this set of rules allowing us to live together and although conflicts never cease, we seek to resolve these by reference to this body of law. Law is one of the very civilising aspects of our race and I want to study the legal process and the minutiae of that process. I distinguish Law from other subjects I enjoy because of the practical application of the Law. Whereas I enjoy studying History, the knowledge I gain is rarely applicable in the modern world. Law’s extra step however, applying the conclusion and seeing the implications for society, serves to bring the subject vibrantly alive for me.

I studied the case of *Tchenguiz & others v Imerman* [2010] EWCA Civ 908 (‘The Cheats’ Charter’) for my scholarship essay. I loved the challenge of understanding the language of the judgments and getting to grips with the details of the case. It was very interesting to read how the judges resolved the matter of conflicting rights: I’d dealt only hypothetically with this concept in Law Summer School. I have read Tom Bingham’s *Rule of Law*, Lord Denning’s *What Next in The Law* and to further my interest worked in the offices of two different firms of Solicitors: Hempsons, a medical litigator, and Lawrence & Co, a practice specialising in personal injury claims and crime. These allowed me to see the everyday application of law in very diverse areas.

How have your qualifications and studies helped you to prepare for this course or subject?

I chose my A Level subjects to complement my interest in Law, particularly History, for the practice of writing essays and constructing arguments. The logic of Ancient Greek translation and interpretation demands attention to the use of language assisting my appreciation of the judgments I’ve read. I enjoy Maths because it is increasingly about problem solving. At school I established and run a current affairs discussion club and co-chair the Law Society. A trained member of my school’s Peer Support Team, I sit on



the Charities Committee and I am the Treasurer for my school's branch of 'Students Supporting Street Kids'.

What else have you done to prepare outside of education, and why are these experiences useful?

I've attended a number of Law courses, including a five day Law Summer School, touching upon Family, International, Criminal & Human Rights Law as well as Jurisprudence, and as part of this I watched the end of a case in the Court of Appeal. I attended a further one-day Law Master class introducing Contract & Human Rights law and sought to improve my debating skills at a Mock Trial Weekend. I believe the study of law requires a disciplined thought process and to that end I am on my school's debating committee, representing the school at the English Speaking Union Mace Competition last year.

I enjoy kickboxing (training for brown belt), tennis and I fence competitively achieving 12th place in the Public Schools' Fencing Championships. A member of the Lansdowne Fencing Club, I hope to take part in further fencing competitions. I have not yet chosen a career path, but I am determined to study Law to a level beyond that of the GDL, for personal fulfillment and to acquire a legally trained mind: to reason and weigh up opposing arguments before reaching a conclusion. Whatever career or further study I might progress to, I know the study of Law will be invaluable throughout my life.