

University of London
Institute of Advanced Legal Studies
Sir William Dale Centre for Legislative Studies

Course in Legislative Drafting 2010

Monday 7 June- Friday 2 July 2010

➤ ***The Course***

The Course in Legislative Drafting was first offered in 1964, under the name of "The Government Legal Advisers Course". Since then it has been attended by more than 1000 legal officials from 60 countries, mostly within the Commonwealth, but many outside it. Many of these officers have attained posts of great distinction either in the service of their Governments or in international organisations. From its modest beginnings in the 1960s, the Course in Legislative Drafting has gradually grown to become one of the most renowned training programmes in legislative drafting. It has created a distinctive school of drafting which encourages exposure to a variety of drafting styles and lecturers, thus allowing participants to select elements that best suit their national laws within their own tradition, culture, and jurisprudence.

Since 1998 the course has been offered under the auspices of the Sir William Dale Centre for Legislative Studies at the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (IALS) of the University of London. This has enabled the practical excellence of the course to be reinforced and guaranteed by the application of the University's framework for academic quality assurance which emphasises such matters as regular review of course objectives and structure, student participation, and post hoc monitoring through regular feedback.

The programme promotes best practices in statutory drafting, as exemplified in the work of its founder, Sir William Dale. Central to the programme is the belief that the barriers between "developed" and transitional jurisdictions, between common and civil law tradition, between continents and countries are in essence false: we can all learn from the experience of others provided that we naturalise lessons learnt by others in the context of our own legal system, society, and culture. After all, barriers succumb to the necessity to serve citizens and subjects, thus serving democracy and the rule of law.

The unique contribution of this course to legal knowledge and training in the field of legislative drafting, and what mainly distinguishes it from other comparable courses lies in the distinctive hands-on experience and seniority of its lecturers. The course draws expertise from a pool of serving and retired public figures of international standing among whom are senior professional drafters, practising lawyers and academics some of whom are also members of the Centre's Advisory Committee. These include Professor Mads Andenas, University of Leicester and former Director of the British Institute of International and Comparative Law; Professor Sir Frank Berman, Essex Court Chambers, former Legal Adviser, Foreign and Commonwealth Office; Sir Edward Caldwell, Law Commission, former First Parliamentary Counsel; Jeremy Carver CBE, Clifford Chance; Lord Clyde; Professor Terence Daintith, former Dean of the School of Advanced Study (University of London); Professor Dr Gerhard Dannemann, Humboldt University; Professor Alan Dashwood, Sidney Sussex College, University of Cambridge; Professor Dr. Frank Emmert, Indiana University School of Law; Sir George Engle, former First Parliamentary Counsel; Dr. Attilia Harmathy, judge of the Constitutional Court of Hungary; Lord Justice Keene; Sir Tom Legg; Jean Massot, President of the Finances Section, Conseil d'Etat; André Newburg, Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen and Hamilton; Richard Nzerem, former Director of the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Division of the Commonwealth Secretariat and the Director of the Sir William Dale Centre; Professor Avrom Sherr, Director of the IALS; and Soli Sorabjee, Attorney General of India. The main lecturer and Course Director is Dr. Helen Xanthaki, Academic Director of the Sir William Dale Centre, and Senior Lecturer at the IALS, University of London, author of many books and articles in legislative drafting, and international consultant in the field to governments, EU institutions, and international organisations.

➤ ***Course structure***

The course is taught in intensive daily morning lectures and afternoon exercises over a period of 4 weeks. Each lecture lasts 2.5 hours and each exercise session lasts 2 hours. Lectures are designed to provide the theoretical background of aspects of legislative drafting. Exercises are designed to provide practical experience in drafting "by doing" through practical drafting tasks. Interactive lecture sessions enable course participants to share ideas and practices with each other and the lecturer: best practices are shared, and common problems are discussed. Additionally, the course benefits from its placement at the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies of the University of London with its world renowned library and electronic materials facilities. And at the heart of London's historic, cultural and tourist attractions.

The Course is recommended to experienced and inexperienced drafters alike. The Course offers participants the opportunity to review modern drafting techniques and prevalent trends in current drafting worldwide. These are then applied to areas of particular difficulty and specialisation, such as criminal laws, taxation laws, extra-territorial laws, and international agreements. Additional topics of interest to course participants may also be accommodated subject to class agreement.

Upon completion of the Course participants are awarded a *Certificate of Attendance to the Course in Legislative Drafting* from the IALS (University of London). Participants whose performance in lectures and exercises demonstrates proficiency in drafting may be admitted to the taught LL.M. in Advanced Legislative Studies, the LL.M. in Advanced Legislative Studies via Distance Learning, or to the post-graduate research degrees of M.Phil. and Ph.D. in Legislative Drafting offered under the auspices of the University of London.

➤ ***Additional curricular Activities***

Participants have the unique opportunity to benefit from study visits to other institutions of significance and relevance to aspects of the programme such as Parliamentary Counsel's Office, the Law Commission, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and the Home Office.

➤ ***Centre Facilities***

All participants have full, free use of the internationally renowned IALS library, which has one of the most extensive holdings of books, manuscripts, research papers and documents published in Britain, the EU, the Commonwealth and beyond. Internet access is provided to all students in situ. Course participants are offered free access to all IALS lectures and a one-year free subscription to the Society for Advanced Legal Studies. Participants are also entitled to a fellowship of the Society for Advanced Legal Studies.

➤ ***Fees***

The fee for the Course is £4,995. This includes tuition, Course materials, access to the IALS library, access to the encrypted webpage with Course materials, and an email account for the duration of the Course upon request. Details concerning accommodation options are available at <http://www.london.ac.uk/accom>.

Participants may opt for the package option of £5,995. This includes all of the above, plus single room with shared facilities, buffet breakfast, and dinner for the duration of the course at the International Hall of Residence of the University of London. The Hall safe, conveniently located within walking distance from the IALS, but accommodation is Spartan and basic.

N.B. In order to receive an official invoice for fees, please complete the *invoice request form* in the application pack.

➤ ***Funding***

Funding assistance is not provided by the IALS. It is possible that, on application by the applicant's Government to the relevant local representative of any of the following, help might be obtained: the regional Legal Officer of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office at the local British High Commission, the regional officer of the Department for International Development at the local British High Commission, the British Council, the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme, or (for citizens of the Arab League and the Arab citizens of Israel) the Karim Rida Said Foundation at www.krsf.org, and the Commonwealth Secretariat.

➤ ***Application Form and Further Information***

If you would like further information about the Centre for Legislative Studies, you may access its website at <http://www.ials.sas.ac.uk/postgrad/cls.htm>. The site also includes last year's Course Syllabus and an Application Form, which can be downloaded and printed. To discuss your application informally, please contact Dr. Helen Xanthaki, Academic Director of the Centre, and Course Director.



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