

Laws Graduation Ceremony 2019 Award of LLB, LLM and PhD

Award of LLD *Honorary Doctorate of Law* to **The Rt. Hon. Baroness Scotland of Asthal QC** The Commonwealth Secretary-General / UCL LLB 1976

Award of *Honorary Fellowship* to Angelina Lee UCL LLB 1970

Thursday 4 July 2019

LAWS GRADUATION



Welcome

For almost 200 years, UCL Laws has been one of the leading centres of legal education in the world. Recognised as offering an outstanding educational experience to our students, we combine a strong theoretical foundation in the law with practical teaching from world-leading academics and practitioners.

As part of UCL, the first university in England to admit students regardless of their religion and the first to admit women on equal terms with men, we have offered an unrivalled educational environment for our students, helping our graduates to flourish in the evolving, and often challenging, global legal landscape. Testament to this are the many members of our community of outstanding alumni who have held distinguished positions in the UK and around the world, not only in law, but in fields including politics, international relations, business, finance, the media and science.

Under the stewardship of our Dean, Professor Piet Eeckhout, we continue to uphold our historical reputation as a world-class institute for education and research. Across a range of university league tables, UCL Laws has been consistently ranked as one of the top law schools in the UK.

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UCL Faculty of Laws Graduation 2019

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FROM THE PRESIDENT & PROVOST Professor Michael Arthur DM FRCP FMedSci PFHEA



This is my sixth year as President and Provost of UCL. It is a tremendous honour to be leading this University and it is my pleasure to congratulate you on your graduation.

I am very pleased to see the progress that we are making in enhancing the experience of students at UCL and entrenching the close connection between research and education. We have gone a long way in developing and implementing our strategy for the next 20 years and UCL is set to move on to even greater heights. I am delighted that the Faculty has now moved back into a new reconfigured and refurbished Bentham House. The Faculty of Laws will continue to be a key player in our world-leading profile and reputation for many decades and centuries to come.

I want to congratulate all of you on your wonderful achievement of graduating from UCL Laws, one of the most famous and historic faculties of law in the United Kingdom and a major force in legal education and research on a global scale.

The teaching and education that you have received at UCL is amongst the very best in the world and it will give you a great start to your legal, and other, careers. I know you will have been challenged and stretched during your studies here, but today you emerge from that experience equipped with everything that you will need to be successful.

As graduates of UCL, there is an expectation on our part and a responsibility on your shoulders to make a real difference and to contribute effectively to the society in which we live. We anticipate that many of you will be 'leaders of the future'. Some of you will become high profile and distinguished leaders: UCL expects nothing less. I wish you well in that endeavour and all the very best for your future.

Finally, for all our new graduates today, welcome to becoming new members of the UCL alumni community. I look forward to continuing to work with you to further build the reputation, profile, and academic excellence of UCL. Enjoy a wonderful day and have a great celebration.

WELCOME FROM THE DEAN OF LAWS Professor Piet Eeckhout

There are few occasions in the academic calendar as uplifting as graduation. After all the hard work of the past few years, today is an opportunity for your family, your peers, the staff of UCL Laws, and distinguished guests to come together to recognise your achievements and success.

To graduate from UCL Laws represents a significant step in what I hope will be long, fulfilling and varied career paths for you all. Whether your path takes you to the practice of law or to one of the many other areas of endeavour that your degree has prepared you for, I know that the skills you have developed and the essential values with which you are now imbued will serve you well in the future. The knowledge and confidence you have gained are powerful assets to use for the benefit of society.

I also want to say to our graduates how proud we are of you all. Although this



ceremony marks the culmination of your studies, it is the beginning of the next phase of your life and of your relationship with the Faculty. During your time with us, you will have made enduring friendships. Wherever your path leads, you remain part of the UCL Laws global community and we want you to stay connected with us. We in the Faculty will continue to take pride in your achievements and we hope that you, in turn, will stay in touch and continue to be involved in the Faculty's activities.

Enjoy this momentous day and we wish you every success in the future.

FAREWELL TO GRADUANDS Olga Thomas, Vice Dean (Education) and Faculty Tutor



I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to you all on your graduation. I am sure you are overwhelmed today by feelings of sheer joy, pride for what you have achieved and excitement as to what comes next, as, I am sure, are your family and loved ones. We here at the Faculty, who have in the past few years watched you develop, thrive and excel, are also incredibly proud of you.

Graduation is a very special occasion in one's life. It is the culmination of all those long hours of hard work you have put into your studies. Reaching today has required tenacity and determination and you have my admiration and heartfelt congratulations. Graduation is a milestone; it is the launching point for the rest of your life. It is the moment you join that small percentage of the world's population who have had the privilege to be educated to university level. I trust it will give you an incredible sense of self-confidence as you go through life, but also a sense of responsibility as to what you are now in a position to achieve. I

hope the experiences you gained at UCL will help you continue on the path to success and that you will continue in your professional life the valuable lessons, both academic and social, you have received here. Pursue the highest ideals. Contribute to the public interest. Become better global citizens.

I would like to thank you all for what you have done for the Faculty, for engaging with a huge array of activities in addition to your intensive workload. For making us one of the departments with the highest number of students engaging in volunteering despite the pressures of a law degree. For the excellent performances in national and international mooting competitions, in debating, in client interviewing and negotiation. For all your pro bono work through our Centre for Access to Justice and our Pubic International Law Pro Bono Project.

I hope you will remember your time at UCL with great fondness and that you will come back from time to time to visit us and share with us what undoubtedly will be your many successes in the future.



MESSAGE TO GRADUANDS Sarah Campling, Director of Graduate Taught Programmes



Graduation is a time for celebration. It is a time to celebrate your success and be proud of your achievements.

We are delighted that you chose to engage in advanced level study at UCL. Each and every one of you has had a truly unique LLM and an achievement that is intensely personal yet internationally recognisable and respected.

You are among the brightest scholars in the world. As you leave UCL, remember that you are following in the footsteps of numerous elite legal scholars. You are now equipped to go forward confident that you have succeeded on a challenging and inspirational course.

As you take this next step in your life please remember that law, whether in practice or in academia, can be used to make a difference and use your knowledge wisely and responsibly.

Celebrate your success and enjoy the day.

Farewell from the Law Society President 2017-18 Firoza Dodhi

Dear UCL Laws LLM Class of 2018,

I hope this letter finds you well. Congratulations - we have just celebrated our graduation from one of the most well-respected and rigorous LLM programmes in the world! As we return to our lives outside of the UCL Laws community, it was important I had the chance to share my farewell message with our cohort.

When we joined the UCL Laws LLM in September 2017, I was instantly inspired by the unique outlooks, abilities and backgrounds of our cohort. The crosscultural and cross-jurisdictional perspectives, as well as the diversity of thought and experience of those in our programme, cultivated a distinct intellectual setting. In academic contexts, during extra-curricular activities and throughout daily campus life, we shared the privilege of engaging with one another. It is with immense pride that I reminisce on the interactions of our cohort: marked with a willingness to listen, a passion for learning and a desire to build connections with those different from us.



Our achievements are the result of our dedication, resilience and focus - thank you for sharing your energy, your sincerity and your courage. The sacrifices and unwavering support of our personal networks of friends and families also enabled us to excel- thank you. UCL tutors, lecturers and staff encouraged our curiosity and guided our focus as we navigated life as LLM students in London - thank you. This is a letter of gratitude to all of you.

The shared potential of the Class of 2018 has empowered and motivated me. Together, we built and fostered an unparalleled collaborative environment. I hope you will continue to remain involved with the Faculty as alumni of UCL Laws. I look forward to hearing about all the ways you change the world and the lives of those around you.

Until we meet again,

Firoza Dodhi UCL Laws, Graduate Law Society President



MESSAGE TO GRADUANDS

Professor Virginia Mantouvalou, Director of Graduate Research Studies



A very warm welcome to our PhD Graduands and their guests. Today is a very special day for you, the Faculty and the broader academic community. It is special because it marks the end of a long, demanding and challenging _journey. As you know well, the PhD requires hard work, passion for your subject and commitment. It is also special because we celebrate your original contribution to knowledge. That you have arrived to the end of this journey is an outstanding achievement. We are very proud of you. Many congratulations.

It has been an absolute pleasure for us to have you as part of the UCL Laws Academic community. You now have the research skills to excel in careers within and outside academia. We look forward to hearing about your next steps and admiring your progress.

Our warmest congratulations and all best wishes for your future.



EXALT: Excellence Awards for Legal Teaching

To underline the value we place on outstanding teaching, UCL Laws has established a series of annual awards, presented each year at graduation, to recognise and celebrate staff members who have made an outstanding contribution to teaching and supporting the student experience. The award winners are those who excel in our mission as teachers to inspire, engage and motivate. The awards are made on the basis of student feedback and popular votes.

Graduate

The winners of the 2019 EXALT awards for Graduate teaching are:

Professor Charles Mitchell

Professor of Laws

Charles Mitchell has degrees in Modern History and Law from Oxford and UCL. He worked at King's College London and Oxford before rejoining UCL as a Professor of Law in 2010. From 2013 to 2016 he was Vice Dean (Staffing) and then Deputy Dean of the UCL Faculty of Laws. In 2017 he was elected a Fellow of the British Academy. In 2019 he was appointed an Honorary Queen's Counsel. Charles Mitchell currently teaches UG courses on Trusts and Unjust Enrichment, and PG courses on Commercial Remedies, International and Commercial Trusts, and Unjust Enrichment.

Dr Kimberley Trapp

Vice Dean (International), Associate Professor

Kimberley Trapp is Vice Dean (International), and Associate Professor of Public International Law at the Faculty of Laws, UCL. Kimberley obtained a BA (philosophy), BCL and LLB (all with great distinction) from McGill University before working for several years as an attorney at Davis Polk & Wardwell (NY, Hong Kong). Following these years in the corporate world, Kimberley returned to academia, completing her PhD at the University of Cambridge and clerking for Vice-President Al-Khasawneh and Judge Simma at the International Court of Justice. Kimberley's doctoral thesis was awarded the Cambridge Yorke Prize and is the basis of her OUP monograph State Responsibility for International Terrorism. Kimberley publishes her research on the use of force, State responsibility, IHL, terrorism and international dispute settlement in leading academic journals and edited collections, and collaborates regularly as an academic advisor on issues of international humanitarian and human rights law with various NGOs and Government departments.

Undergraduate

The winners of the 2019 EXALT awards for Undergraduate teaching are:

Dr Sinéad Agnew Lecturer in Property Law

Sinéad Agnew joined the UCL Faculty of Laws in 2017. She was formerly a lecturer in law at Cardiff University (2015-2017). She is also a barrister (currently non-practising) and an associate member of Serle Court, a leading set of commercial chancery chambers. Before becoming an academic, Sinéad practised law for a decade, first as a barrister in London and, subsequently, as a litigation lawyer in Jersey, specialising in high value trusts disputes and advising trustees on all legal aspects of trusts administration, as well as insolvency, multi-jurisdictional enforcement proceedings, and multi-jurisdictional probate disputes. She is a founding member and former governor of the Institute of Law in Jersey. Sinéad is a fellow of the Higher Education Academy.

Dr Mark Dsouza

Lecturer

Dr Dsouza took his undergraduate honours degree in arts and law (First Class) from the National Law School of India University, Bangalore, India, and was awarded a gold medal for legal ethics. He then worked as a commercial litigator with the law firm Amarchand Mangaldas, in New Delhi, India, where he rose from Associate to Senior Associate. In 2009, he gained an LLM (First Class) from the University of Cambridge, where, although he specialized in commercial laws, he also secured a first class score in a module on the Philosophy of Criminal Law. This module provided the spark for his doctoral research proposal to study the philosophy of criminal law defences at the University of Cambridge. He was awarded a Cambridge International Scholarship for this doctoral research, which he completed in 2014. Dr Dsouza accepted his first full-time lectureship at the University of Liverpool in 2013, and moved to UCL in 2016.

Dr Miguel-Jose Lopez-Lorenzo

Teaching Fellow

Miguel joined the Faculty in 2010, while undertaking his PhD in Legal Theory on a Faculty of Laws Research Scholarship. Previously he was awarded a Pass with Distinction in 2009 on the interdisciplinary MA in Legal and Political Theory offered by the School of Public Policy at UCL. Before that he read for an LLB in Law with European Legal Studies at King's College London and Uppsala Universitet from 2002-2006. Since completing his doctorate in 2017, Miguel has continued to teach the Jurisprudence, Property, EU, and Tort syllabi on the LLB at Bentham House. During that time he has also acted as an Academic Mentor, Associate Editor of the UCL Journal of Law and Jurisprudence, Co-Convenor of the UCL Political Philosophy Working Group, and Co-Convenor of the UCL Legal Philosophy Forum.

MESSAGE TO GRADUANDS Karen Scott, Director of Undergraduate Programmes



A very warm welcome to our LLB Graduands and their guests. Today is a very special day for you and the Faculty. It is a celebration of your achievement. Gaining a law degree from UCL requires not only ability, but hard work and commitment. Today is the culmination of your ability, hard work and commitment. You should be very proud of your success. Many congratulations.

It has been my privilege and pleasure to work with you and I hope that you will keep in touch with UCL and, in particular, with the Faculty. Our global community of alumni brings together old friends, colleagues and members of the Faculty at regular networking events and reunions around the world.

With every good wish for the future.

Farewell from the Law Society President 2018-19 Shawn Siah

It must feel just like yesterday that we were wide-eyed freshers receiving our welcome to UCL Laws at Senate House, eagerly anticipating, yet apprehensive of law school. In the blink of an eye, we as members of the graduating cohort find ourselves at the end of a very meaningful, rewarding and transformative chapter of our lives. For many of us, this may also be the final frontier before we face the daunting yet exciting prospect of adulthood.

At a vibrant university like UCL, each of us as unique individuals would have had a different law school experience. However, common takeaways that will stay with us for life are the tremendous personal growth through shared struggles, the cultivation of a global worldview and the privilege of having doors open to us around the world so long as we put our minds to it.

Having successfully surmounted this challenging journey, let us remember the support of our loved ones back home and guidance by members of the Faculty that has enabled this success. And even as we strive for personal successes after

our time at UCL Laws, let us not forget the communities that we have come from – through the work that we do, let us be agents of positive change for the people around us and the world at large, bringing it ever closer through our global connections and mindsets.

Out of tens of thousands of law students around the world, it is special that we as members of the graduating cohort have converged in London and at UCL Laws. Despite our diverse backgrounds, our graduating cohort has grown to be closeknit over the years. Life will take us to many different places after graduation, but let us maintain these strong bonds, forming a global network of support to continue having each other's backs no matter where we find ourselves and what we find ourselves doing in the years to come. Most importantly, let us treasure the friendships formed and transform them into lifelong camaraderie.

As a valedictory statement, let us be very proud of ourselves, for we have fought the race well as one. Regardless whether we feel ready, the next phase of life beckons and I know that we will all do our very best and do well while we are at it. Time truly flies, and trust me when I say that before we know it, we shall soon be looking forward to our ten-year reunion in 2029 with our children in tow.



UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON PRESIDENTS OF THE LAW SOCIETY H.S.ZUBI J.L.MELLOR J.H.HUTTON C.R.DIEL D.B.THOMAS A.W. LYON R.WEDDIGIN MISS MARGARET BOOTH W.C.DANIELS MISS SONIA RITCHIE MISS DIANA WILLIAMSON MISS MARYLA ZAKRZEWSKA C.E.P. COLOMBOTTI H.F.J. BERESFORD WEBB MISS LORNA WILSON I. FORSTER C.S.WELCHMAN G.W. RODDICK M.L.KALLIPETIS

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R.A. DEACON J.H.MARTIN G.S. PEARCE MISS. JANET GIFFORD R.W. ANDERSON D.R.C. CHALMERS G.A.O. WEDLAKE J.R.A. WYLDE L.M. JOHNSTON J. BLACKETT C.B.McCAUL MISS CATHERINE NEWMAN J.L.K.JOHNSTON J.N.CLARK WILL HOLLAND C.A.WHEELDON W.R.L.WHITTAM S.W.LOWE SALLY MOORE **J.S.CAMMEGH**

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2008-04

2009-10

Graduation Ceremony Platform Party

Presiding Officer

Dame Nicola Brewer

Graduand Presenter

Professor Piet Eeckhout

Mace Bearer Mr Peter Vickers

Academic Procession

Faculty

Dr Sinéad Agnew Mark Anderson Rodney Austin Sarah Campling Professor Nicola Countouris Professor Paul Davies Professor Alison Diduck Dr Mark Dsouza Dr Ilanah Fhima Dr Matt Fisher Professor Dame Hazel Genn DBE QC (Hon)

Dr Oliver Gerstenberg Professor Jane Holder Professor Maria Lee Vice-Provost (International), UCL

Dean, UCL Faculty of Laws

UCL Provost's Beadle

Lecturer in Property Law, UCL Laws Honorary Professor, UCL Laws Senior Teaching Fellow, UCL Laws Director of Graduate Taught Programmes, UCL Laws Professor of Law, UCL Laws Professor of Commercial Law, UCL Laws Vice-Dean (Staffing), Professor of Law Lecturer in Law, UCL Laws Reader, UCL Laws Senior Lecturer, UCL Laws Professor of Social Legal Studies; Director, Centre for Access to Justice, Dean UCL Laws Professor of Environmental Law, UCL Laws Professor of Law, UCL Laws Miguel-Jose Lopez Lorenzo Murilo Lubambo De Melo Professor Virginia Mantouvalou Dr Despoina Mantzari Professor Ben McFarlane Dr Lucinda Miller Dr Alex Mills Professor Charles Mitchell QC (Hon) Dr Magda Raczynska Dr Prince Saprai Karen Scott Dr Daniela Simone Dr John Sorabji Professor Cheryl Thomas

Olga Thomas Dr Kimberley Trapp Dr Steven Vaughan

Honorary Fellows

Georgina Butler (LLB 1968; HF 2003) Alexander Duma (LLB 1968; HF 2006) Daniel Fung (LLB 1974; LLM 1979; HF 2005) Angelina Lee (LLB 1970; HF 2019) Andrew Ng (LLB 1985; HF 2014) Patricia Scotland (Hon LLD) Maurice Watkins CBE (LLB 1963; LLM 1965; HF 2011)

Teaching Fellow, UCL Laws Teaching Fellow, UCL Laws Professor of Human Rights and Labour Law, UCL Laws Lecturer in Competition Law and Policy, UCL Laws Professor of Law, UCL Laws Senior Lecturer in Laws, UCL Laws Reader in Public and Private International Law Professor of Law, UCL Laws Lecturer in Law, UCL Laws Associate Professor UCL Laws Director of Undergraduate Taught Programmes, UCL Laws Lecturer in Law. UCL Laws Senior Teaching Fellow, UCL Laws Professor of Judicial Studies, Director of UCL Jury Project, Co-Director of the Judicial Institute, UCL Laws Vice Dean (Education) and Faculty Tutor, UCL Laws Associate Professor UCL Laws Senior Lecturer, UCL Laws

Former British Ambassador to Costa Rica & Nicaragua Former Director, Smith New Court Securities Limited Chairman, Des Voeux Chambers Honorary Graduand Founder & Principal, Andrew W. Y. NG & Company Honorary Graduand Senior Partner, Brabners LLP

Distinguished Alumni

Laura Devine (LLB 1986) The Hon. Mr Justice Joseph Fok (LLB 1984) Vivian Lee (BSc Engineering 1970) Richard Kilsby (LLB 1973) Managing Partner, Laura Devine Permanent Judge, Hong Kong Court of Final Appeal Former Deputy Chief Executive, Lloyds TSB Retired Former Chairman, Telit and 888 Holdings

UCL HONORARY DOCTORATE

Patricia Janet Scotland Secretary-General of the Commonwealth



Patricia Scotland, The Rt Hon Baroness Scotland of Asthal QC, who took office as Secretary-General of the Commonwealth in April 2016, serves the 53 governments and 2.4 billion people of the Commonwealth.

Born in Dominica, she moved to the UK at an early age and was brought up in a large close-knit Caribbean family where she was taught the importance of hard work, education, pride in her heritage and the obligation to give back to the region of her birth and to the society in which she was raised. This ethic has guided her throughout her dynamic career in law, public service and politics.

A lawyer by profession, she became the first black and youngest woman ever to be appointed Queen's Counsel. She is the only woman since the post was created in 1315 to be Attorney General for England and Wales, and was also Attorney General for Northern Ireland.

Appointed to the House of Lords as Baroness Scotland of Asthal in 1997, she has been Alderman for Bishopsgate Ward in the City of London since 2015.

UCL HONORARY FELLOWSHIP

Angelina Lee Solicitor and Senior Partner, Woo Kwan Lee & Lo



Mrs Angelina Lee received a Bachelor of Laws degree from UCL in 1970. She is a Solicitor and a Senior Partner of Woo Kwan Lee & Lo, Solicitors, in Hong Kong. Her principal practice areas are corporate and commercial law and corporate finance. She is also a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

Angelina's previous public appointments include serving as Member of the Exchange Fund Advisory Committee of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority; Non-Executive Director of the Securities and Futures Commission and the Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes Authority; Member of the Standing Committee on Company Law Reform, the Hong Kong Stock Exchange Listing Committee, the Takeovers and Mergers Panel of the Securities and Futures Commission, the Town Planning Board, the Land Development Corporation, the Hong Kong Government Central Policy Unit and many

appeal boards. She was also a Council Member of The Law Society of Hong Kong. Angelina is also Non-Executive Directors of a number of listed companies in Hong Kong.

The Hong Kong Government appointed Angelina a Non Official Justice of the Peace in 1997 and awarded her the Silver Bauhinia Star in 2011 for her "distinguished public service, particularly her significant contributions to the work of various advisory bodies and regulators in the financial services sector".

UCL Ceremonial Mace & University of London Kneeling Stool

The UCL Ceremonial Mace was forged in 2006 by Tom Lomax, a tutor at the Slade School of Fine Art who specialises in sculpture. The project was funded by the Friends of UCL, a network of philanthropists who give to the University in order to further both the institution's and its students' success.

The meaning behind the Mace itself is twofold. First, it symbolises both the Provost's power and his independence from outside influence. Second, the design of the Mace aims to invoke the social radicalism at the heart of the UCL ethos: demonstrated initially by the admittance in 1878 of women as full-time degree students to two of the university's principal faculties, Laws and Science & Arts.

This bold moment in UCL's history is exhibited through Lomax's use of sweeping lines on the Mace handle, meant to echo a lily which symbolises purity and beauty. Inside the lily there are two orbs, one representing the Faculty of Science and Arts, the other Laws. A third separate orb represents the Faculty of Science. Embellished across all three is an intricate design of the geometric male and female symbols which signify the bringing together of male and female intellects at UCL.

Tom Lomax described the design as "something that encourages the viewer to make their own interpretation of the Mace's meaning through their experience at UCL, and how the College's ethos has influenced them."

The Mace is used during UCL's Graduation Ceremonies, where it is carried by the Ceremonial Beadle. It is also used when bestowing honorary degrees on individuals.

The 'Hooding Ceremony' is a special recognition ceremony for doctoral degree candidates. The size and length of academic hoods increases with the level of degree. Hoods for advanced degrees, such as the LLD, are the largest and longest. During the ceremony, the candidate kneels on a velvet and wooden kneeling stool and a senior member of the University or Faculty places the doctoral hood over the head of the graduate, signifying their accomplishment in being awarded the doctorate.

UCL Faculty of Laws Graduation 2019



UCL Ceremonial Mace



Head of the UCL Ceremonial Mace

University of London Kneeling Stool





Base of UCL Ceremonial Mace

History of Academic Dress

Academic dress developed from the everyday dress of men and women in the Middle Ages, generally consisting of a tunic (or toga) and cloak. Hoods were worn over the tunic or cloak to protect the head and shoulders. The ancient universities in the 11th and 12th centuries began as communities of scholars in religious schools based around great cathedrals or monasteries. Students at the early European universities such as Bologna, Paris, Oxford and Cambridge were clerics (clerks), who were not necessarily priests, but would be in minor holy orders. They were subject to church law and discipline and were expected to dress soberly. Their clothing was similar to that of everyone else, but was distinctive in being long and closed, with one or two openings for the hands. This closed cloak, or *cappa clausa*, was adopted by English clergy in the 13th century to bring them into line with the rest of Europe. As Universities developed and became more separate from the church, they retained the *cappa clausa* and it became the main item of academic dress at Bologna, Paris and Oxford.

In the second half of the 15th century outer clothing was worn open, sleeves increased in size and it became fashionable for coloured linings of silk or fur to be seen at the front of garments or in sleeves. The hoods originally intended to keep the head warm started to be replaced by caps. These changes were reflected in academic dress.

The distinctive square cap or 'mortarboard' worn by the graduates is thought to have developed from similar hats worn by clergy. Today it comprises a horizontal square board fixed on a skull-cap, with a tassel attached to the centre. The tassels of the caps are worn on the left side by those who already possess a bachelor's degree. All undergraduates during the ceremony wear their tassels on the right before the ceremony, and move them to the left once they have officially 'graduated'. Academics holding doctorates generally wear a soft round velvet 'Tudor Bonnet' with a cord encircling the hat and a hanging tassel.

The bachelor's gown is simple, with long, pointed sleeves. Academics with higher degrees and officers of universities generally wear more elaborate gowns. The hood retains its symbolic function, and the colours of its silk lining represent the institution granting the degree (purple in the case of UCL Faculty of Laws). This is why the academic procession is so colourful – the hoods worn by staff represent the institution at which they earned their highest degree.

Source: P. Goff University of London Academic Dress, University of London Press, 1999.

Graduation Attire





UCL Honorary Fellow







UCL LLM



UCL LLB



University of London LLD



UCL LLD



100 YEARS OF WOMEN IN LAW

100 Years of Women in Law

This year marks the centenary of the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act of 1919, which enabled women to participate fully in civil life. Before this time, women were effectively barred from participating in the legal profession, being unable to become magistrates, jurors or solicitors, and being restricted from admission to the Inns of Court, by virtue of being female.

As we celebrate this landmark legislation, we want to recognise UCL's important role in the changing attitudes that enabled progress to occur. At a time when other institutions did not allow female students to matriculate, UCL pioneered women's access to education. 30 years before the Act was passed, Eliza Orme became the first woman in England to receive a law degree, when she graduated from UCL in 1888.

Since then, UCL has continued to support women to become academics, professionals and legal practitioners. Although we can't include every ground-breaking woman who has passed through our halls, we want to shine a light on a number of inspirational women who have worked for or studied at UCL Faculty of Laws, and have opened countless doors for future generations of women.

#First100Years https://www.ucl.ac.uk/laws/100-years-women-law

Eliza (Elizabeth) Orme

UCL Laws LLB 1888 The first woman to achieve a law degree in England (1888), which she studied at UCL. While studying, Elizabeth Orme opened a practice as a conveyancer and patent agent (1875) with fellow UCL student Mary Richardson.

Dorothy Bonarjee

UCL Laws LLB 1917 The first woman to achieve an internal law degree from UCL Faculty of Laws.

Professor Valentine Korah

UCL Laws LLB 1949, UCL Laws LLM (Distinction) 1951, UCL Laws PhD 1965 One of the first three female law professors in the UK, and the first at UCL.

Dame Margaret Myfanwy Wood Booth DBE

UCL Laws LLB 1955, UCL Laws LLM 1959, UCL Fellow 1992 One of the first women to serve as a High Court Judge.

Eleanor F Platt QC

UCL Laws LLB 1959 Involved in developing the first statute concerning surrogacy and parental orders.

Dame Bernice Lake QC UCL Laws LLB (Hons) 1967 The first Eastern Caribbean woman appointed to Queen's Counsel.

Ruth Fox UCL Laws LLB 1976 The first female partner at leading law firm Slaughter and May

Patricia Scotland, The Rt Hon Baroness Scotland of Asthal QC

UCL Laws LLB 1976 The first female Secretary-General of the Commonwealth.

Elizabeth Barrett

UCL Laws LLB 1978 The first woman to head Slaughter and May's Dispute Resolution Group.

Catherine Newman QC

UCL Laws LLB 1978 A leading silk at the commercial Chancery Bar.

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Kate Gibbons UCL Laws LLB 1980 Global Knowledge and Finance and Capital Markets partner for global law firm Clifford Chance.

Professor Dawn Oliver Dean of UCL Laws 1993-1998 First female Treasurer of the Middle Temple; first female Dean of UCL Laws.

Professor Dame Hazel Genn QC Dean of UCL Laws 2008-2017 Leading authority on civil justice.

Anna Howell

UCL Laws LLB 1990 Partner at international law firm Gibson Dunn & Crutcher, where she co-chairs the global Oil and Gas practice group.

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