

GCE Subject Level Guidance for Law

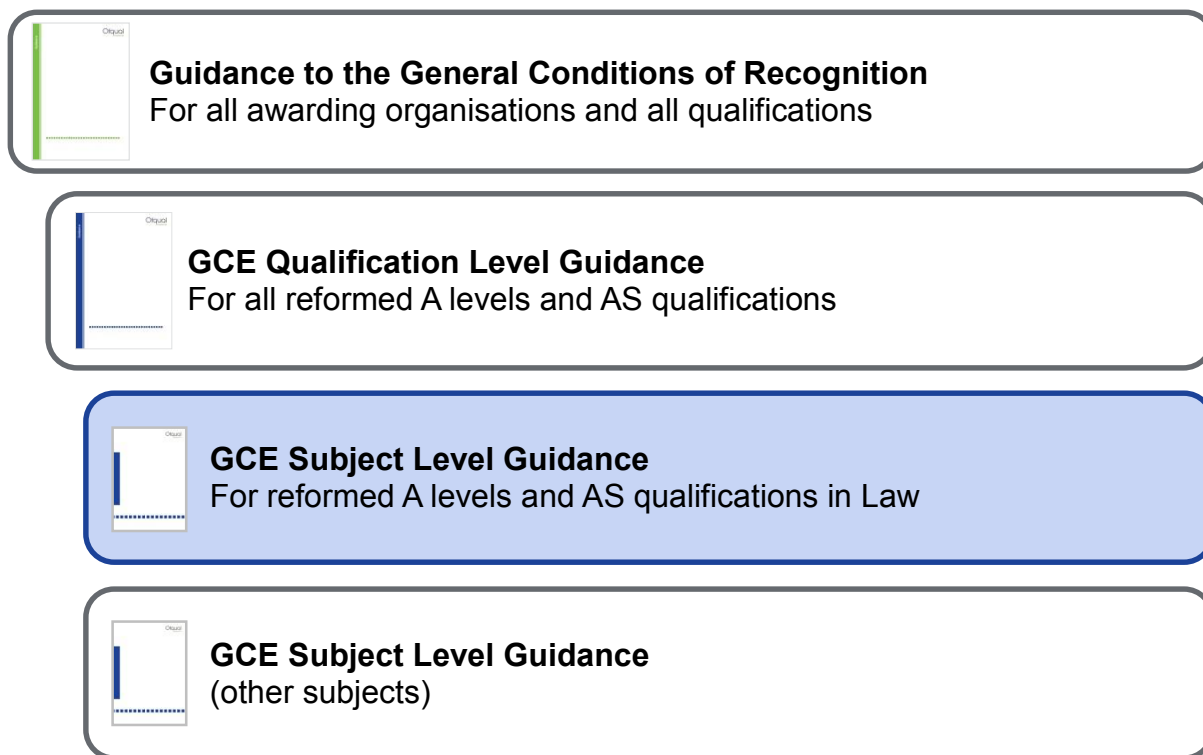
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Introduction

This document (highlighted in the figure below) is part of a suite of documents which outlines our guidance for awarding organisations offering GCE Qualifications.



This document sets out guidance which applies to the following qualifications:

- all GCE A levels in Law awarded on or after 1 April 2019; and
- all standalone GCE AS qualifications in Law awarded on or after 1 April 2018.

This guidance supports the *GCE Subject Level Conditions and Requirements for Law*.¹

This document constitutes guidance for the purposes of section 153 of the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 (the '2009 Act').

An awarding organisation has a legal obligation under the 2009 Act to have regard to this guidance, where relevant, in relation to each GCSE Qualification in Law that it makes available or proposes to make available. Condition GCE(Law)1 imposes the

¹ www.gov.uk/government/publications/gce-subject-level-conditions-and-requirements-for-law

same obligation in respect of the guidance below which is issued under that Condition.

An awarding organisation should use the guidance in this document to help it understand how to comply with the *GCE Subject Level Conditions and Requirements for Law*.

Guidance set out in this document

<p>This document provides guidance on assessment objectives for GCE Qualifications in Law.</p>
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Guidance on assessment objectives for GCE Qualifications in Law

Condition GCE(Law)1.2 allows us to specify requirements and guidance relating to assessment objectives for GCE Qualifications in Law.

We published our requirements in relation to assessment objectives in *GCE Subject Level Conditions and Requirements for Law*, and reproduce them in the table below.

	Objective	Weighting (A level)	Weighting (AS)
AO1	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the English legal system and legal rules and principles	30-40%	40-50%
AO2	Apply legal rules and principles to given scenarios in order to present a legal argument using appropriate legal terminology	25-35%	25-35%
AO3 (A level)	Analyse and evaluate legal rules, principles, concepts and issues.	30-40%	n/a
AO3 (AS)	Analyse and evaluate legal rules, principles and concepts.	n/a	20-30%

We set out below our guidance for the purposes of Condition GCE(Law)1.2. This guidance explains how we expect awarding organisations to interpret these assessment objectives in terms of:

- the discrete 'elements' within each assessment objective that questions and tasks could target and/or seek to credit – our expectation is that each and every question/task should target or seek to credit at least one of these elements, and may target or seek to credit multiple elements across one or more assessment objectives;
- the coverage expectations, such as in relation to the different elements within each assessment objective and how those elements should be sampled over time; and

- the key areas of emphasis in each assessment objective and the particular meaning for the subject of any key terms and phrases used; defined terms are shown in bold text, followed by their definitions.

In line with the obligations set out in Condition GCE(Law)1.2, we expect awarding organisations to be able to demonstrate how they have had regard to this guidance. For example, an awarding organisation could map how it has regard to the guidance as it:

- develops its sample assessment materials;
- delivers the qualification;
- develops and applies its approach to sampling the elements into which the assessment objectives are divided; and
- monitors the qualification to make sure it addresses all elements appropriately.

AO1: Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the English legal system and legal rules and principles			30-40% (A level) 40-50% (AS)
Strands	Elements	Coverage	Interpretations and definitions
n/a	This assessment objective is a single element.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full coverage in each set of assessments² (but not in every assessment) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The English legal system, legal rules and principles are aspects of subject content. Awarding organisations should explain and justify their approach to targeting them in their assessment strategy.

² For the purposes of this guidance, a 'set of assessments' means the assessments to be taken by a particular Learner for a GCE Qualification in History of Art. For clarity, the assessments taken by Learners may vary, depending on any possible routes through the qualification.

AO2: Apply legal rules and principles to given scenarios in order to present a legal argument using appropriate legal terminology			25-35% (A level) 25-35% (AS)
Strands	Elements	Coverage	Interpretations and definitions
n/a	1a – apply legal rules and principles to given scenarios 1b – present a legal argument using appropriate terminology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full coverage in each set of assessments (but not in every assessment) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legal rules and principles are aspects of subject content. Awarding organisations should explain and justify their approach to targeting them in their assessment strategy.

AO3 (A level): Analyse and evaluate legal rules, principles, concepts and issues			30-40% (A level) n/a (AS)
Strands	Elements	Coverage	Interpretations and definitions
n/a	1a – Analyse and evaluate legal rules and principles.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Full coverage in each set of assessments (but not in every assessment) ■ A reasonable balance between the elements in each set of assessments (but not in every assessment) ■ Awarding organisations should justify the balance between elements in their assessment strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ In the context of this assessment objective: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ analyse means deconstructing information and/or issues to find connections and provide logical chains of reasoning; □ evaluate means appraising and/or ascribing value to information and/or issues; and □ evaluation may, but need not always, include making judgements and/or drawing conclusions. ■ Legal rules, principles, concepts and issues are aspects of subject content. Awarding organisations should explain and justify their approach to targeting them in their assessment strategy.
	1b – Analyse and evaluate legal concepts and issues.		

AO3 (AS): Analyse and evaluate legal rules, principles and concepts			n/a (A level) 20-30% (AS)
Strands	Elements	Coverage	Interpretations and definitions
n/a	1a – Analyse and evaluate legal rules and principles.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Full coverage in each set of assessments (but not in every assessment) ■ A reasonable balance between the elements in each set of assessments (but not in every assessment) ■ Awarding organisations should justify the balance between elements in their assessment strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ In the context of this assessment objective: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ analyse means deconstructing information and/or issues to find connections and provide logical chains of reasoning; □ evaluate means appraising and/or ascribing value to information and/or issues; and □ evaluation may, but need not always, include making judgements and/or drawing conclusions. ■ Legal rules, principles and concepts are aspects of subject content. Awarding organisations should explain and justify their approach to targeting them in their assessment strategy.
	1b – Analyse and evaluate legal concepts.		

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