# DIFC ( ) Academy



## **DIFC Laws Certificate Programme**

May 2023 - October 2023

Accredited CLPD Points I 120 Learning Hours

- · Acquire relevant skills to practicing law within the DIFC
- Acquire exercising rights of audience before the DIFC Courts
- Understand the Common Law and DIFC Regulatory framework

Register now academy.difc.ae



In partnership with







#### **OVERVIEW**

# LEARNING OUTCOMES

The DIFC Laws Certificate aims to provide education and training that will equip legal practitioners with the necessary knowledge and skills to support their practice in the hybrid UAE legal system. The course covers the relevant areas of common law; the foundation of the DIFC legal system;, DIFC laws and DIFC Courts procedures; advocacy and legal drafting legal tech and tax law.

This programme will prepare lawyers in the Middle East for international commercial law practice and provide legal education with global value by cross training learners in multiple legal systems with a focus on DIFC Laws.

The programme comprises of the following modules:

- English Common Law, Basic Advocacy and Legal Draffing | 36 hours
- Legal Tech | 10 hours
- Tax Law | 6 hours
- ADR & Arbitration | 8 hours
   Developed and delivered by Middlesex
   University Dubai, Department of Law and Politics.
- DIFC Laws & Courts Procedure I 30 hours Developed and delivered by DIFC Legal Practitioners
- Advanced Advocacy | 24 hours
   Developed and delivered by Outer Temple
   Chambers, London based Chambers.
- Cryptocurrency and Dispute Resolution 1 6 hours
   Developed and delivered by KBH

On completion of the programme, participants should be able to:

- Understand and explain the operation of the English legal system
- Demonstrate a knowledge of areas of substantive English common law such as contract law; tort; company law; law of agency; land law; law of trusts; employment law and arbitration
- Demonstrate knowledge of DIFC laws and Courts procedures, particularly company and insolvency; trust and foundations; employment; real property and arbitration

Upon completion of the course, participants will have acquired several skills relevant and necessary to practicing law within the DIFC and to exercising rights of audience before

- the DIFC Courts, enabling them to: Research, evaluate and retrieve information from a variety of sources
- Analyse, synthesise and apply the law in common law settings
- Draft legal documents in common law settings
- Make oral submissions in common law settings

#### Mode of Delivery:

The course will be delivered through a blend of online, hybrid and in-person\* sessions.

\*The in-person sessions will be broadcasted live through MS Teams.



#### **STRUCTURE**



#### **ASSESMENT AND AWARDS**

The course consists of a number of modules ("units") that can be taken together as a whole to qualify for the DIFC Laws Certificate of completion or as individual components that will warrant individual certificates of completion per module. The units are as follows:

**Unit 1 Common Law:** ELS Principles of Common Law; Contract Law; Tort Law; Company Law; Employment Law; ADR, Arbitration; Data Protection Law; and Equity Law.

#### **Unit 2 DIFC Laws and Courts Procedure:**

Overview and Introduction; Basic DIFC Laws; Basic DIFC Procedures; DIFC Company Law and DIFC Insolvency Law; DIFC Arbitration; DIFC Employment Law DIFC Data Protection Law; DIFC Trust Law

Unit 3 Advocacy Skills: Court Etiquette; Advocacy Basics; Trial Advocacy and witness handling and examination; Oral Submissions and Appeal Advocacy; Written and Oral Appeal Advocacy

**Unit 4 Legal Drafting:** Legal Drafting Basics; Legal Drafting Advanced

**Unit 5 Legal Tech:** Legal Technology Foundations

**Unit 6 Tax:** UAE Tax Law; Applications of tax legislation; Implications of tax legislation for legal practitioners

**Unit 7 ADR & Arbitration:** Overview of ADR, Mediation; International Arbitration; Arbitration in the UAE

**Unit 8 Cryptocurrency and Dispute Resolution:** Overview of regulatory regime for crypto and issues arising in litigation

All modules f the programme are assessed to evaluate participants' achievement of the module learning outcomes. Participants who successfully complete assessments are awarded a Certificate of Completion, indicating the number of training hours and the modules studied. Participants who have studied and were successfully assessed on individual units of the course will receive a certificate of successful completion of the specific module(s) completed.

Participants are required to meet the minimum requirement of 65% attendance of the course components they have enrolled in, to be eligible for receiving the Certificate of Completion.

DIFC Courts registration for Emirati nationals:

Emirati Advocates who completed the full course and related assessments and obtained the DIFC Laws Certificate of Completion, may be eligible to register with the DIFC Courts. For further information and registration requirements, please refer to the DIFC Courts website:

https://www.difccourts.ae/guidelines-registration-practitioners/

#### **ALUMNI BENEFITS**

Graduates of the course are recognised as DIFC Academy and Middlesex University Dubai alumni. As such, they are entitled to benefits provided to alumni, such as discounted rates on training courses and academic programmes and invitation to alumni exclusive events.



#### ADMISSION AND REGISTRATION

#### **DURATION**

**6 MONTHS** (with holiday and summer breaks)

#### 1. Curriculum Vitae

Please submit a copy of your most recent CV demonstrating your work experience to date.

### ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

**2. A Bachelor's Degree in Law or equivalent.** Candidates holding a higher education degree other than law may be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Please submit a copy of your degree certificate or transcripts

In the absence of a bachelor's degree, candidates will need to demonstrate significant exposure to the legal profession and/or legal practice through their employment. Please submit an additional document with your CV explaining how you are eligible in lieu of a bachelor's degree.

Clear command of the English language

This requirement is important, especially for the advocacy part of the course

To satisfy this requirement, candidates need to submit any of the following:

- A TOEFL or IELTS certificate demonstrating achievement of a good score
- Undergraduate of graduate degree completed in English
- A cover letter (500 words) justifying your interest for the course

#### **COURSE FEE**

Option 1 Full Course

25,000 AED - 10% Early bird discount valid if you register on or before

15 March 2023

**Option 2: 10,000 AED** 

Common Law + Basic Advocacy + Legal Drafting (36 hours; 18 sessions)

**Option 3**: 6,000 AED

DIFC Courts Procedures (30 hours; 18 sessions)

**Option 4:** 7,000 AED

Advanced Advocacy + Basic Advocacy + Legal Drafting (36 hours; 12 sessions)

**Option 5:** 2,000 AED

Legal Tech (10 hours; 5 sessions)

**Option 6:** 1,200 AED

Tax Law (6 hours; 3 sessions)

**Option 7:** 1,600 AED

ADR and Arbitration (8 hours; 4 sessions)

**Option 7:** 1,200 AED

Cryptocurrency Regulation & Dispute Resolution (6 hours; 3 sessions)

MIDDLESEX UNIVERSITY LECTURERS

Lubna Khan Samantha Roberts Shahila Deena Bhoyroo Sarah Malik Thenji Moyo

OUTER TEMPLE CHAMBERS
BARRISTERS

James Counsell, KC Nicholas Hill
Justina Stewart Jonathan Hand, KC

John McKendrick, KC Helen Pugh

DIFC Specialists/DIFC Legal Practitioners

**DIFC LECTURERS** 



#### **SCHEDULE**

#### WEEK 1

Monday 1 May 2023

4.00PM: Welcome 5:00 - 7.00 PM

Gate Village 2 L1 Lecture Theatre

Tuesday 2 May 2023 5:00 - 6.30 PM

**Microsoft Teams** 

Wednesday 3 May 2023 5:00 - 6.30 PM

**Microsoft Teams** 

#### WEEK 2

Monday 8 May 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

> Microsoft Teams L1 Lecture Room

Tuesday 9 May 2023 5:00 - 6.30 PM

**Microsoft Teams** 

# Unit 1.1 English Legal System Principles of Common Law (1 of 2)

- Historical context
- Sources
- Hierarchy
- Classification

Samantha Roberts - Senior Lecturer in Law, MDX Dubai

#### Unit 2.1 DIFC Laws and Procedures (1 of 11)

Introduction to the DIFC Courts

Ayesha Bin Kalban Registrar, DIFC Courts

#### Unit 2.1 DIFC Laws and Procedures (2 of 11)

**Preparations for Trial** 

Raza Mithani Managing Partner, Conselis Law

# Unit 1.1 English Legal System Principles of Common Law (2 of 2)

- Precedent
- Statutory interpretation

Samantha Roberts - Senior Lecturer in Law, MDX Dubai

#### Unit 2.1 DIFC Laws and Procedures (3 of 11)

Early Disposal of Claims

Louise Wright Barrister/Senior Associate, Al Aidarous



#### **SCHEDULE:**

#### WEEK 2

Wednesday 10 May 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

**Microsoft Teams** 

#### Unit 2.1 DIFC Laws and Procedures (4 of 11)

#### **Case Management**

Adrian Chadwick
Partner, Hadef & Partners

#### WEEK 3

Monday 15 May 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

> Microsoft Teams L1 Lecture Room

#### Unit 3.1 Advocacy Basics (1 of 2)

#### **Court Etiquette**

Sarah Malik Lecturer in Law, MDX Dubai

#### Tuesday 16 May 2023 5:00 - 6.30 PM

**Microsoft Teams** 

#### Unit 2.1 DIFC Laws and Procedures (5 of 11)

#### Commencing a Claim

Patrick Dillon-Malone Partner, Clyde & Co.

#### Wednesday 17 May 2023 5:00 - 6.30 PM

**Microsoft Teams** 

#### Unit 2.1 DIFC Laws and Procedures (6 of 11)

#### Costs

Michael Patchett-Joyce Barrister, 36 Commercial



#### **SCHEDULE:**

#### WEEK 4

Monday 22 May 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

> **Microsoft Teams L1 Lecture Room**

Tuesday 23 May 2023 5:00 - 6.30 PM

**Microsoft Teams** 

Wednesday 24 May 2023 5:00 - 6.30 PM

**Microsoft Teams** 

#### WEEK 5

Monday 29 May 2023 5:00 - 7:00 PM

> **Microsoft Teams L1 Lecture Room**

Tuesday 30 May 2023 5:00 - 6.30 PM

**Microsoft Teams** 

#### Unit 1.2 UK Contract Law(1 of 3)

Offer, Acceptance, Consideration

Lubna Khan Senior Lecturer in Law, MDX Dubai

#### Unit 2.1 DIFC Laws and Procedures (7 of 11)

**Disputing Jurisdiction** 

Sheila Shadmand Partner, Jones Day

#### Unit 2.1 DIFC Laws and Procedures (8 of 11)

#### **Enforcement**

Alessandro Tricoli Partner, Fichte & Co

#### Unit 1.2 UK Contract Law (2 of 3)

- Terms of Contract
- Exclusion Clauses

Lubna Khan Senior Lecturer in Law, MDX Dubai

#### Unit 2.1 DIFC Laws and Procedures (9 of 11)

#### **Interim Remedies**

Philip Punwar Barrister, Outer Temple Chambers



#### **SCHEDULE:**

#### WEEK 5

Wednesday 31 May 2023 5:00 - 6.30 PM

**Microsoft Teams** 

#### Unit 2.1 DIFC Laws and Procedures (10 of 11)

#### **Evidence**

Bushra Ahmed Partner, KBH

#### **WEEK 6**

Monday 5 June 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

> Microsoft Teams L1 Lecture Room

#### Unit 1.2 UK Contract Law (3 of 3)

Lubna Khan Senior Lecturer in Law, MDX Dubai

Tuesday 6 June 2023 5:00 - 6.30 PM

**Microsoft Teams** 

#### Unit 2.1 DIFC Laws and Procedures (11 of 11)

#### **Appeals**

Graham Lovett Partner, Akin Gump Straus Hauer & Feld LLP

Wednesday 7 June 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

**Microsoft Teams** 

#### Unit 1.3 UK Tort Law (1 of 2)

Yasmin Sebah Senior Lecturer in Law, MDX Dubai



#### **SCHEDULE:**

#### WEEK 7

Monday 12 June 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

> Microsoft Teams L1 Lecture Room

Unit 4 Legal Drafting Skills (1 of 4)

Samantha Jayne Roberts Senior Lecturer in Law, MDX Dubai

Tuesday 13 June 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

**Microsoft Teams** 

Unit 1.3 UK Tort Law (2 of 2)

Yasmin Sebah Senior Lecturer in Law, MDX Dubai

Wednesday 14 June 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

**Microsoft Teams** 

Unit 4 Legal Drafting Skills (2 of 4)

Samantha Jayne Roberts Senior Lecturer in Law, MDX Dubai

#### **WEEK 8**

Monday 19 June 2023 5:00 – 7:00 PM

Microsoft Teams
L1 Lecture Room

Unit 1.4 UK Equity Law (1 of 1)

Shahila Deena Bhoyroo Lecturer in Law, MDX Dubai

Tuesday 20 June 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

**Microsoft Teams** 

Unit 1.5 UK Company Law & Insolvency (1 of 1)

Lubna Khan Senior Lecturer in Law, MDX Dubai



#### **SCHEDULE:**

#### WEEK 8

Wednesday 21 June 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

**Microsoft Teams** 

#### **Unit 3.2 Advocacy Basics**

Sarah Malik Lecturer in Law, MDX Dubai

#### WEEK 9

Monday 3 July 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

Microsoft Teams
L1 Lecture Room

Tuesday 4 July 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

**Microsoft Teams** 

Wednesday 5 July 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

**Microsoft Teams** 

#### Unit 5 Legal Tech (1 of 5)

Suzanna Kalendzhian Co-Founder & CEO- Legal Advice Middle East

#### Unit 5 Legal Tech (2 of 5)

Suzanna Kalendzhian Co-Founder & CEO- Legal Advice Middle East

#### Unit 5 Legal Tech (3 of 5)

Suzanna Kalendzhian Co-Founder & CEO- Legal Advice Middle East

#### **WEEK 10**

Monday 10 July 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

Microsoft Teams
L1 Lecture Room

#### Unit 5 Legal Tech (4 of 5)

Suzanna Kalendzhian Co-Founder & CEO- Legal Advice Middle East



#### **SCHEDULE:**

#### **WEEK 10**

Tuesday 11 July 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

**Microsoft Teams** 

#### Unit 5 Legal Tech (5 of 5)

Suzanna Kalendzhian Co-Founder & CEO- Legal Advice Middle East

Wednesday 12 July 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

**Microsoft Teams** 

#### Unit 4.2 Legal Drafting Skills (3 of 4)

Samantha Jayne Roberts Senior Lecturer in Law, MDX Dubai

#### **WEEK 11**

Monday 17 July 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

**Microsoft Teams** 

#### Unit 4 Legal Drafting Skills 2 (4 of 4)

Samantha Jayne Roberts Senior Lecturer in Law, MDX Dubai

Tuesday 18 July 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

**Microsoft Teams** 

#### Unit 2.3 DIFC Companies Law

Daniel Partovi Partner, Jones Day



#### **SCHEDULE:**

#### **WEEK 12**

Monday 24 July 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

> Microsoft Teams L1 Lecture Room

Unit 6 Tax Law 1 (1 of 3)

Thomas Vanhee
Partner, Aurifer Tax Consultants

Tuesday 25 July 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

**Microsoft Teams** 

Unit 6 Tax Law 1 (2 of 3)

Thomas Vanhee Partner, Aurifer Tax Consultants

Wednesday 26 July 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

**Microsoft Teams** 

Unit 6 Tax Law 1 (3 of 3)

Thomas Vanhee Partner, Aurifer Tax Consultants

#### **WEEK 13**

Monday 31 July 2023 5:00 – 7:00 PM

Microsoft Teams
L1 Lecture Room

Unit 7 Overview of ADR (1 of 4)

Lubna Khan Senior Lecturer in Law, MDX Dubai

Tuesday 1 Aug 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

**Microsoft Teams** 

Unit 2.4 DIFC Insolvency Law

Dustin Appel Senior Associate, Baker Botts



#### **SCHEDULE:**

#### **WEEK 13**

Wednesday 2 Aug 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

**Microsoft Teams** 

#### Unit 2.9 DIFC Data Protection Law

Lori Baker VP- Legal and Director of Data Protection, DIFC Authority

#### **SUMMER BREAK**

#### **WEEK 14**

Monday 4 Sept 2023 9:00 - 2.00 PM

In Person ONLY DIFC Academy

#### Unit 3.3 Advanced Advocacy 1

James Counsell KC Justina Stewart Barristers, Outer Temple Chambers

Tuesday 5 Sept 2023 9:00 - 2.00 PM

In Person ONLY DIFC Academy

#### Unit 3.3 Advanced Advocacy 1

James Counsell KC Justina Stewart Barristers, Outer Temple Chambers

Wednesday 6 Sept 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

**Microsoft Teams** 

#### Unit 2.5 DIFC Employment Law

Thenji Moyo Legal Director & Head of Employment, Gateley UK LLP



#### **SCHEDULE:**

#### **WEEK 15**

Monday 11 Sept 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

> Microsoft Teams L1 Lecture Room

#### Unit 2.7 DIFC Trust and Foundations Law

David Russell, KC Barrister, Outer Temple Chambers

Tuesday 12 Sept 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

**Microsoft Teams** 

Unit 1.6 UK Employment Law (1 of 2)

Samantha Jayne Roberts
Senior Lecturer in Law, MDX Dubai

Wednesday 13 Sept 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

**Microsoft Teams** 

Unit 7 International Arbitration (3 of 4)

Yasmin Sebah Senior Lecturer in Law, MDX Dubai

#### **WEEK 16**

Monday 18 Sept 2023 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Microsoft Teams
L1 Lecture Room

Unit 1.6 UK Employment Law (2 of 2)

Samantha Jayne Roberts Senior Lecturer in Law, MDX Dubai

Tuesday 19 Sept 2023 5:00 PM - 7.00 PM

**Microsoft Teams** 

Unit 8.1 Global take on crypto

History, developments, jurisdiction, regulation vs deregulation

Bushra Ahmed Partner, KBH



#### **SCHEDULE:**

#### **WEEK 16**

Wednesday 20 Sept 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

**Microsoft Teams** 

#### Unit 8.2 Regulatory Framework in the UAE

Bushra Ahmed Partner, KBH

#### **WEEK 17**

Monday 25 Sept 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

Microsoft Teams
L1 Lecture Room

#### Unit 7 Mediation (2 of 4)

Lubna Khan Senior Lecturer in Law, MDX Dubai

#### Tuesday 26 Sept 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

**Microsoft Teams** 

#### **Unit 2.8 DIFC Arbitration Law**

Sarah Malik CEO and Counsel, SOL International Ltd.

#### **WEEK 18**

Monday 2 Oct 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

Microsoft Teams
L1 Lecture Room

#### Unit 1.7 Data Protection Law (1 of 1)

Samantha Jayne Roberts Senior Lecturer in Law, MDX Dubai

#### Tuesday 3 Oct 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

**Microsoft Teams** 

Unit 8.3 Litigation – case law and tactical considerations

Bushra Ahmed Partner, KBH



#### **SCHEDULE:**

Wednesday 4 Oct 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

Microsoft Teams L1 Lecture Room

#### Unit 2.6 DIFC Contract Law

Philip Punwar, Barrister Outer Temple Chambers

#### **WEEK 19**

Monday 9 Oct 2023 9.00 AM - 2.00 PM

In person ONLY DIFC Academy

#### Unit 3.4 Advanced Advocacy 2

John McKendrick, KC Nicholas Hill Barristers, Outer Temple Chambers

Tuesday 10 Oct 2023 9.00 AM - 2.00 PM

In person ONLY DIFC Academy

#### Unit 3.4 Advanced Advocacy 2

John McKendrick, KC Nicholas Hill Barristers, Outer Temple Chambers

#### **WEEK 20**

Monday 16 Oct 2023 5:00 - 7.00 PM

Microsoft Teams
L1 Lecture Room

#### Unit 7 Arbitration in the UAE (4 of 4)

Sarah Malik CEO and Counsel, SOL International Ltd.



#### **SCHEDULE:**

#### **WEEK 21**

Monday 23 Oct 2023 9.00 AM - 2.00 PM

In person ONLY DIFC Courts

#### Unit 3.4 Advanced Advocacy 3

Jonathan Hand KC Helen Pugh Barristers, Outer Temple Chambers

Tuesday 24 Oct 2023 9.00 AM - 2.00 PM

In person ONLY
DIFC Courts

#### Unit 3.4 Advanced Advocacy 3

Jonathan Hand KC Helen Pugh Barristers, Outer Temple Chambers

#### **AWARDING CEREMONY**

Wednesday 29 November 2023 9.00 AM - 12.00 NN

**DIFC Academy** 

Participants are required to meet the minimum requirement of 65% attendance of the course components they have enrolled in, to be eligible for receiving the Certificate of Completion at this awarding ceremony

# DIFC (\*) Academy

For more information please contact: ACADEMY@difc.ae

For online registrations:

www.difcacademy.ae/training-programmes/

For more information about DIFC Academy: <a href="https://www.academy.difc.ae/">www.academy.difc.ae/</a>