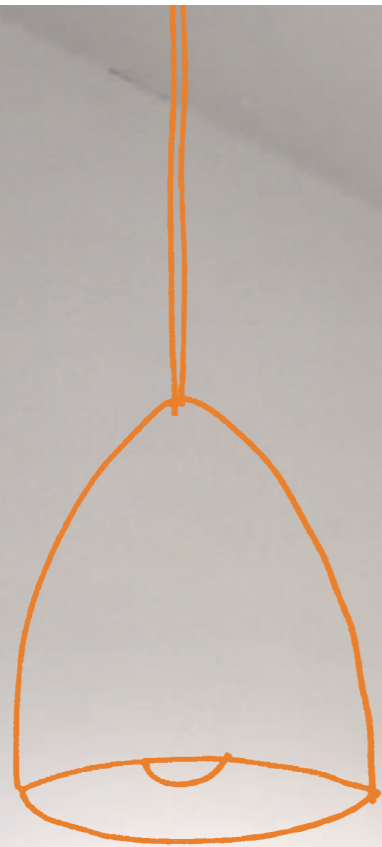


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OLSWANG



If there's one thing we can't imagine life without at Olswang, it's an imagination. That's the quality all of our lawyers have in common, whether they're solving a particularly tricky problem for a client or planning how their own careers are going to develop in years to come. Since we started out, we've gained quite a reputation for doing things our own way. Not for its own sake, but because original thinking tends to lead to original solutions. It's an approach that's taken us a long way in a short time. Just imagine what it could do for you.

It's possible that you've spent your whole life harbouring a burning ambition to work for Olswang and no one else. Possible, but extremely unlikely.

The chances are you're still undecided. And quite right too. It's clearly a big decision, which will not only determine where you spend two years of your life, but also – the direction in which your career progresses as a result.

This brochure isn't designed to sell Olswang to you. The fact is, we won't be right for everyone. It may be that you'd prefer the environment of a global giant, or thrive in a smaller, more specialised firm than our own. Read the brochure, check out the website, come and meet us at the careers fairs – and then see what you think.

Of course, we'll also be hoping to find the perfect match. We're looking for that spark of something different. That extra quality that makes you the right choice for us – and us the right choice for you. Hopefully we'll both know it when we see it.

From day one, we encourage all of our lawyers to challenge convention and look for possibilities where others may only see problems. Maybe that's why so many are now regarded as leaders in their field.



The best way to inspire an Olswang lawyer is to say that something's impossible.

Use your imagination

To work at Olswang you need a pretty sharp brain – and the ability to use both sides of it at once. Our lawyers are used to thinking creatively as well as analytically, laterally as well as logically. After all, they often find themselves tackling problems that have never been addressed before. Which is when a little imagination can make a lot of difference.

Consider the possibilities

Even as a trainee, you'll often find yourself dealing directly with clients who have ambitious plans of their own – to launch a new product or take on what seems like an impossible challenge. So you need to be the type who is inspired, rather than intimidated, by the idea of breaking new ground. Someone who can not only imagine new possibilities, but also find ways to make them happen.

Feel free

The way we see it, there's little point in employing some of the best brains in the business unless you allow them to think for themselves. So we've never been great believers in rigid hierarchies and inflexible ways of working. Quite the opposite. We expect everyone to think for themselves and do things their own way – from the freshest recruit to the most senior partner.



One of the first things you'll notice when you walk into our offices is that they're not quite what you'd expect from a law firm. There's a distinct lack of stuffiness for one thing. And the people who work here tend to believe in having a good time.

The training is designed to cover as broad a range of disciplines as possible. And when you look at the areas of law and sectors of industry we cover, you can see it's about as broad as it gets.

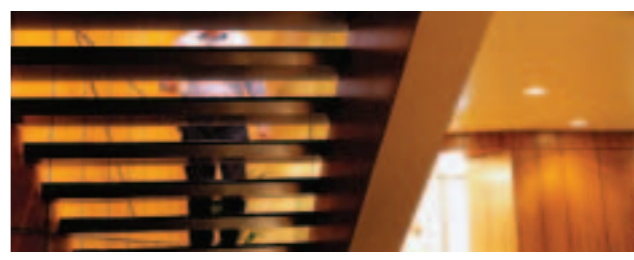
**Banking & Finance, Commercial
Dispute Resolution, Media
& Entertainment** Film, Music,
Publishing, Marketing Services, TV & Radio,
Corporate Mergers & Acquisitions,
Corporate Finance, Fundraisings/Initial Public
Offerings, Joint Ventures, Corporate Property,
Reconstructions/Reorganisations,
**Internet & E-commerce, Company
Secretarial Services, Data
Protection, Information Technology,
Employment, EU & Competition,
Energy, Intellectual Property,
Media Litigation, Leisure Sport,
Betting & Gaming, Outsourcing,
Patents, Biosciences, Private
Equity/Venture Capital, Property
Litigation, Property Investment,
Construction & Development, Planning,
Share Incentives & Employee
Benefits, Telecommunication
Services, Tax, Trademarks**

To get a good idea of what we're about, you can start by looking at the kind of clients* we attract. You can see they come from a broad range of areas, from media to property, retail to technology. If they do share one thing in common, it's a reputation for being among the more forward-thinking names in their field. We like to think they choose Olswang because they recognise something of themselves in us.



Alburn
Anite Group
Associated Newspapers
attheraces
Avis
BBC Worldwide
Belgacom
Bloomberg
Cable & Wireless
Cantor Fitzgerald
Capital & Regional
Channel 4
Delancey
Dyson
eBay
Freemove.com
Graphite Capital Management
Green Property
Guardian Newspapers
Helical Bar
HIT Entertainment
Kier Property Developments
Ladbroke's
Lonza Biologics
M&C Saatchi
MCI
Minerva
Miramax Film Corporation
Motorola
MTV
Music Choice
New Star Asset Management
Nickelodeon
O2
Ofgem
Paramount
Reed Business Information
Reed Exhibitions
RWE Thames Water
THUS
Tottenham Hotspur
Twentieth Century Fox
UBS
UEFA
Warner Brothers
Warner Music
Whitbread
Woolworths
Yamanouchi Europe

You'll get used to being thrown in at the deep end.



If you do find yourself working late, there are a few creature comforts by way of compensation. A rather good in-house restaurant in our London office for one thing. And a concierge service to ensure you never have to leave your desk if you're having one of those days.

Early responsibility

Training at Olswang certainly isn't an easy ride. But, if you're the kind of person we have in mind, we don't believe you'll want it to be. You'll be given as much responsibility as you can handle, as soon as you can handle it. After all, the best way to learn is always through hands-on experience – which is why you may find yourself in front of clients much sooner than you'd normally expect.

Late nights

You'll need to be ready to work long hours when necessary (and, in this business, it's pretty much unavoidable). You'll also get your fair share of the less glamorous work to do. At the same time, you can expect to find yourself tackling some pretty big cases for some high-profile clients. In previous years, trainees have worked on everything from major intellectual property cases to flotations, often helping to see the case right through to completion.

But we'll always be around to help you out.



The work may sometimes be pressurised, but there's plenty of support to help you through it. We have a tried and tested structure in place to cover not just your first few weeks, but the whole of your time here. Our aim throughout is to make sure you have a major say in how you

develop, giving you all the guidance you need along the way. As well as the formal support, you'll also find everyone who works here is ready to offer a friendly word of advice, from the most senior partners to fellow trainees who have already been here for a year.

Getting down to details.



What you'll need

You'll certainly have a strong academic background, with good A-levels and a 2:1 degree or better. Beyond that, you'll bring what we can only describe as 'that extra special something'. It might be that you already have some specific commercial experience, or maybe you just exude the unmistakable energy and enthusiasm that makes a successful Olswang lawyer. One thing we don't expect is for you to live and breathe law for seven days a week. Having wider interests and a broader perspective on life can only be a good thing.

How the training works

Your training is made up of four seats, each lasting six months. These are intended to cover each of our four main practice areas: Corporate; Property; Litigation and Media, Communications and Technology. However, it will also depend on the demands of the business at the time as well as on your own personal preferences, which we'll try to accommodate wherever possible.

We provide full fees and a maintenance grant to finance you through the Legal Practice Course and (where applicable) the Common Professional Exam. In almost all cases you do have to be an EU citizen. There are legal requirements when it comes to obtaining work permits for applicants, which mean we'll only normally do so if the applicant is offering a skill or attribute that we do not already have within the firm and have been unable to obtain from anywhere else in the EU. You'll also need to demonstrate that you're committed to working in the UK after qualification.



Elle Todd Practice: Energy & Utilities

When I graduated in politics, I had no particular intention of becoming a lawyer. I went off and travelled the world while I pondered my options. And I actually ended up having a telephone interview with Olswang while I was in Mexico. I did a summer placement and then got offered a training contract. I've now been here for three years, having qualified last year.

The summer placement was really useful – it's what convinced me to go for Olswang. You get to see the reality, which is important. A firm can have the best reputation in the world, but it's only once you walk in there that you really know if it's right for you.



My training gave me a lot of insight into different areas of law. The best thing is that you feel you're genuinely trusted and encouraged to do things your own way. It's not like you have to serve time here before your views are respected.

Right now, I'm working on a major project in the utilities sector, which involves drafting new regulatory codes to apply to a radically restructured industry. So you're often working from a blank sheet of paper and solving new problems for the first time. It's a good feeling.

"There's a perception that getting into law is all about who you know. But I for one had never met a lawyer in my life until the information day. You should definitely try to get on the vacation scheme if you can – it's a great introduction."



Ian Felstead
Practice: Media Litigation

I remember it being pretty daunting at first. You get nervous about your first client meeting, or your first time standing up and speaking in court. But it becomes second nature before you know it. I've been here three years now. I qualified a year ago and now work in Media Litigation, dealing mainly with content-related issues for broadcasters and publishers.

My training included a six-month placement at Mirror Group Newspapers, which was obviously directly relevant to what I do now. I worked alongside their in-house legal department and found myself giving pre-publication advice on some of the biggest news stories around at that time.

That meant talking to the editor or journalist involved, and giving on-the-spot advice with a press deadline looming. It's certainly not the kind of thing where you can find all the answers in a textbook. You have to be practical, constructive and willing to take a calculated risk. And you need to think laterally. If a story looks problematic, you need to suggest ways in which it can be tackled differently.

So you certainly get your fair share of pressure to deal with, but there's also plenty of support. You're not just left to sink or swim. The partners are all very approachable and a lot of them are among the top people in their fields. So you know you're learning from the best in the business.



"Olswang does live up to its relaxed reputation. But there's no getting away from the fact that law's a serious business. You need to be sure that this is what you want to do – and then be prepared for some hard work."

Once I finished my training, it was an automatic choice to stay here if possible. Now I'm doing what I've always wanted to do.



Shima Heydari
Seat: Property

I started my training in a property department at another firm and then joined Olswang. So I've been here for the last six months. I'm just finishing a seat in Property, which I'm now seriously thinking about concentrating on in the long term. Having said that, my next seat is in Biosciences – a subject quite close to my heart given that I studied Biochemistry at Imperial College.

That's one of the good things about training here – you get to try a lot of different areas. Plus, you're not treated as just a humble trainee. Of course, you do your fair share of humdrum stuff, but the next minute you can be involved in a major deal. In fact, you're given a lot more responsibility that you'd normally expect so early on.

"You come across lots of different characters and senses of humour. Although the formal training counts for a lot, you probably pick up even more just from the people around you."

I recently worked on the purchase of a major shopping centre, a job that lasted around two months and certainly got stressful at times. You'd be involved in site visits, drafting contracts – whatever needed to be done. But it's a great feeling when it all goes well and the client gets in touch to say thanks.



“The hours can be long, but not all the time. One of the good things about Olswang is that people recognise you have a life outside the office. My advice is to do a lot of research before you start applying. Don't assume the biggest are necessarily the best.”

Euan Briggs
Seat: General Corporate and Private Equity

I studied Management Sciences at UMIST, where I was always interested in the more entrepreneurial side of business – particularly in technology and media. So when I decided to go into law, Olswang seemed the perfect fit. I've been here a year now, doing one seat in General Corporate and another in Private Equity.

You're certainly given as much responsibility as you can handle. A couple of weeks back, around 6.30pm, I was all set to leave the office when I got a call from one of the senior assistants, asking if I could stick around and help with an urgent job. It turned out to be a particularly high-profile media deal, which they were completing that night.

I sat at my desk frantically drafting and checking into the small hours. The pressure was intense, with the rest of the team counting on me to work quickly so they could get on with their part of the job. We ended up successfully completing at around 6am. When I finally went home around lunchtime the next day, I picked up a copy of the Evening Standard – and there, on page 3, was a big article on the deal I'd just spent the whole night helping to complete. An incredible buzz.



When to apply

You can apply for our vacation schemes and training contracts from October onwards. The best way to keep track of deadlines is by visiting our website at **www.olswang.com**. As a general guide, you'll need to apply for vacation schemes by the beginning of March and training contracts by the beginning of August.

We also run a series of information days to give you the chance to find out more about what we do and how we do it. These take place in January and February. Again, check our website for more details.

How to apply

You can send in your application via our website at **www.olswang.com**, where you'll also find further information on the application process. Alternatively, you can apply through **www.cvmailuk.com**.

A taste of what's to come.

As a trainee, you're likely to be spending a lot of your waking hours with us for the next two years. So it's only right that we should get to know each other better first. Our vacation schemes give you the chance to find out what it's really like to work here. We also hold information days, which take place in January and February.



We'll leave the rest to your imagination.



To find out more about our information days, vacation schemes and how to apply, visit us at www.olswang.com. Or email graduate@olswang.com. You can also come and talk to us in person at the careers fairs, or contact our graduate recruitment team on **020 7067 3054** or **020 7067 3107**.

We're committed to providing equal opportunities for everyone working here or applying to work here. We don't discriminate on grounds of sex, race or disability and we aim to ensure that everyone is selected, trained, compensated, promoted or transferred solely on the basis of their ability, qualifications and merit. When you apply to work here, we ask that you fill in our Equal Opportunities form. This helps us monitor how well we're doing in this aspect of our recruitment. However, none of the information is used when we're considering your application.