The Course
The Course in Legislative Drafting was first offered in 1964, under the name of “The Government Legal Ad-\nvisers Course”. Since then it has been attended by more than 3,000 legal officials from 90 countries, mostly\nfrom within the Commonwealth. Many of these officers have attained posts of great distinction either in the\nservice of their Governments or in international organisations. From its modest beginnings in the 1960s, the\nCourse in Legislative Drafting has grown to become the most renowned training programme in legislative\ndrafting. Since 1998 the course is offered under the auspices of the Sir William Dale Centre for Legislative\nStudies at the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (IALS), School of Advanced Study (SAS), University of\nLondon. The host institution follows, and is audited on the basis of, the UK’s framework for academic quality\nassurance in all its programmes of study. Emphasis is placed on the quality of its lecturers, coherence in\nstructure, encouragement of participation, an academic (rather than commercial) approach to learning, regu-\nlar review of courses, and post hoc monitoring through regular feedback.\nThe aim of the course is to empower, rather than prescribe, national drafters to apply best interna-\ntional drafting practices to their own legal system reflecting their own political, cultural, and social intricacies.\nThe programme promotes best practices in statutory drafting, as exemplified in the work of Sir Wil-\lliام Dale, Professor Helen Xanthaki, and Dr. Constantin Stefanou. Central to the programme is the belief\nthat barriers between “developed” and “transitional” jurisdictions, between common and civil law traditions,\nbetween continents and countries are overrated: all drafters can learn from the experience of others provided\nthat lessons learnt serve the same functionality test, and are subsequently naturalised in the context of na-\ntional eccentricities. The rich multi-cultural, multi-lingual, and multi-jurisdictional tradition of the Course as a\nlearning environment enriches drafters with innovative solutions, and a unique preview of the insight of oth-\ners who have already applied and reviewed them.\nThe Course is suitable for both experienced and inexperienced drafters.\nThe Course has created a distinctive school of drafting which encourages modern drafting tech-\nniques with emphasis on effective and user-friendly legislation, and exposure to a variety of drafting styles\nand lecturers, thus allowing participants to select elements that best suit their national laws, and their own\ntradition, culture, and jurisprudence.\nThis culture of respect and collegiality is carried through to our post-training initiatives, such as:\n1. the IALS forum for legislative drafters, a unique opportunity for alumni and others to exchange\nviews and experiences online;\n2. the Sir William Dale Legislative Drafting Clinic, the only free advisory service in legislative draft-\ning run by volunteers from our PhD, LLM, and Course participants;\n3. the extensive free lectures and evening seminars in legislative drafting offered at the IALS; these\ninclude: the Annual Sir William Dale Memorial Lecture, the series of joint evening seminars of-\nfered in cooperation with the Statute Law Society, and the IALS Graduate Series of Seminars in\nLegislative Drafting offered from members of our drafting community;\n4. the extensive publication initiatives of our Centre for members of our drafting staff and graduate\ncommunity; these include: the Sir William Dale Memorial Book “Legislative Drafting: A Modern\nApproach”, the annual Sir William Dale Memorial Issue of the European Journal of Law Reform;\nand guest Sir William Dale Memorial issues at the Commonwealth Law Bulletin and the Statute\nLaw Review.\nWe are proud to declare that many of our past Course participants have come back to the Centre to take one\nof our academic programmes, including the LLM in Advanced Legislative Studies (traditional and via Dis-\ntance Learning), and the PhD programme in legislative drafting.\nThe main lecturers of the Course are Professor Helen Xanthaki and Dr. Constantin Stefanou. Pro-\nfessor Xanthaki is the Academic Director of the Sir William Dale Centre, Professor of Law and Legislative\nDrafting at the University of London, an international author and consultant in Legislative Drafting; a Co-\nDirector to the LLM in ALS via DL; the Convenor of the Legislative Drafting module at the LLM programmes;\nand the Chair of the Drafting Clinic. Dr. Stefanou is the LLM Director for ALS and Co-Director for ALS via DL,
a Senior Lecturer of the University of London; an international author and consultant in the field of the legislative process; and the Convenor of the Comparative Legislative Studies module at the LLM programmes of the IALS. The course draws additional expertise from a pool of serving and retired public figures of international standing among whom are senior professional drafters, practising lawyers, and Sir William Dale Fellows. These include Richard Nzerem, former Director of the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Division of the Commonwealth Secretariat and The Director of the Sir William Dale Centre; Daniel Greenberg, former OPC, IALS Fellow, General Editor of the Westlaw UK Annotated Statutes, editor of Craies on Legislation, Stroud's Judicial Dictionary and Jowitt's Dictionary of English Law; Jonathan Teasdale, former Law Commission, IALS Fellow; John Moloney, Department for the Environment, EIRE, IALS Fellow; John Gilhooly, former Executive, PCO, IALS Fellow; Hayley Rogers, OPC, IALS Fellow; and Lydia Clapinska, OPC, IALS Fellow.

Course structure, textbook, Certificate
The course is taught in intensive daily morning lectures and afternoon exercises over a period of 4 weeks. Each lecture lasts 2 hours. Each exercise session lasts 1.5 hours. Lectures provide the theoretical background of each topic, and exercises provide practical experience in drafting “by doing” through practical drafting tasks. Interactive lecture sessions enable course participants to share common problems, and to identify best practices.

The textbook for the Course is the latest edition of Thornton’s Legislative Drafting edited by Professor Xanthaki. Participants may purchase the textbook via the Course for the majorly discounted price of £40.

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 LLM in Advanced Legislative Studies (Taught or via DL), and to the research degrees of MPhil or PhD in Legislative Drafting.

Additional curricular Activities
Participants undertake study visits to institutions of relevance to the course, such as the Office of Parliamentary Counsel, the Law Commission, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and the Home Office. These offer participants unique insight to their work through a dedicated programme of activities.

Centre Facilities
Participants have full, free use of the internationally renowned IALS library and research facilitation centre, which has one of the most extensive holdings of books, manuscripts, research papers and documents published in Britain, the EU, the Commonwealth and beyond. Free internet access is provided in situ.

Fees
For the tenth year in a row the fee for the Course remains at £4,995. This includes tuition, Course materials, access to the IALS library, and access to the encrypted dedicated webpage with Course materials. Independent accommodation options can be found at http://www.london.ac.uk/accom.

In response to sponsors’ requests, the Course also offers a package option of £6,399. This includes all of the above, plus single room with shared facilities, buffet breakfast, and dinner from Sunday 8 June until Sunday 6 July [inclusive] at the International Hall of Residence of the University of London: see http://www.halls.london.ac.uk/visitor/international/Default.aspx The Hall is safe, and it is within walking distance from the IALS [approximately 5 minutes]; but it offers basic, student style accommodation.

Funding
Funding assistance is not provided by the IALS. Possible funding sources are the regional Legal Officer of the FCO at the local British High Commission, the regional officer of DFID at the local British High Commission, the British Council, the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme, SIGMA, 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/courses/cls_legislative_drafting_course.htm. If you wish to discuss your application informally, please contact Professor Helen Xanthaki, Course Director.