

# Expert Witness Training

Courses and qualifications for expert witnesses acting in civil, criminal and family proceedings





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*I would urge all experts to receive training from either Bond Solon or a similar organisation. I think you will find it critical that you do so.*

**Lord Woolf**  
**former Lord Chief Justice**  
**and Master of the Rolls**

## Why undertake expert witness training?

As well as having the relevant qualifications and expertise in your professional field, it is now regarded as essential that experts, however experienced, undertake recognised expert witness training.

Important changes to both the Civil and Family Procedure Rules and the Supreme Court's decision to abolish expert witnesses' immunity from suit has resulted in solicitors being more careful than ever when assessing the suitability of an expert.

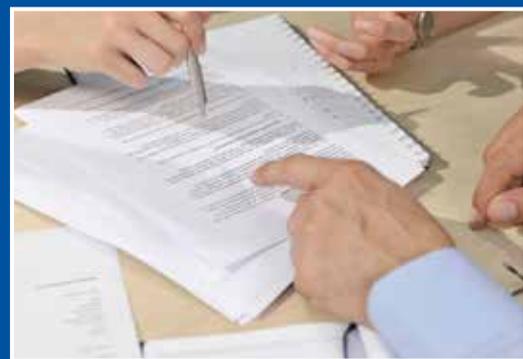
Solicitors must adhere to the Protocol for the Instruction of Experts and ensure the expert has "training appropriate to the value, complexity and importance of the case." Solicitors now look for experts who can demonstrate that they are able to meet deadlines, produce court compliant reports, have credibility in the witness box and have a thorough understanding of the relevant Procedure Rules.

Bond Solon expert witness training will enable you to comply with your legal obligations, reassuring instructing parties and the courts of your ability as an expert witness and differentiating you from other experts within your field.

## What training should I undertake as an expert witness?

Expert witnesses play a fundamental role within the UK's judicial system by providing opinion-based evidence to assist the courts in reaching decisions. Expert witnesses may be asked to write reports or statements and be called to give evidence in a wide variety of legal forums including: civil, criminal and family courts, tribunals, arbitrations, inquiries and professional conduct hearings. In carrying out this role we recommend experts should undertake, as a minimum, training covering:

- Expert report/statement writing
- Giving evidence in court
- Relevant law and procedure



## Can these training courses lead to a qualification?

Yes – experts undertaking five training days, with assessments, may be eligible for the Cardiff University Bond Solon (CUBS) Expert Witness Certificate.

Introduced in 2002, this is the first university accredited expert witness certificate in the UK and is seen as the gold standard. Experts who hold this certificate are able to demonstrate to both instructing solicitors and the courts that not only have they undertaken specific expert witness training, but that they have been assessed and hold the core and requisite competencies to act as an expert.

Currently there are three Expert Witness Certificates available: Civil, Criminal and Family.



The certificate must be completed within two years. Further details on the Cardiff University Bond Solon Expert Witness Certificate can be found on pages 12 to 14.

Bond Solon has also developed two online assessed web learning certificates:

- Civil Procedure Rules for Expert Witnesses Certificate
- Family Procedure Rules for Expert Witnesses Certificate



Further details on these web learning certificates can be found on pages 8 and 9.

## Public and in-house courses

Public courses are run throughout the year in central London and Manchester. Each course is delivered to small groups to ensure that there is sufficient time for focused tuition, feedback and questions.

If you have four or more experts interested in a course it may be more cost effective to run the training in-house at your organisation. In-house courses are delivered anywhere in the UK and can be tailored to meet the specific needs of those attending.

## Who should attend the training?

These courses and qualifications are suitable for both new experts and for those with many years of experience. The courses have been successfully delivered for a wide variety of professions, from A&E Consultants to Zoologists.

*Experts producing reports should undertake recognised expert witness training. MLP Injury Lawyers will now only instruct an expert who can demonstrate an understanding of the law and the requirements of being an expert. I would be happy to recommend all experts to take Bond Solon training.*

**Kevin Walker**  
Partner

**Myers Lister Price Solicitors**

*Being an Expert Witness goes well beyond having an expertise in a particular field. Since Jones v Kaney solicitors are going to be much more careful about their selection of Expert Witnesses. We always look for experts who can demonstrate that they have a thorough understanding Practice Direction 35, Pre-Action Protocols and of CPR Part 35 are able to produce court compliant reports and give evidence in court.*

**Steven Murrell**  
Litigation Solicitor  
Macfarlanes LLP



## Excellence in Report Writing (1 day)

*As a director of a medico-legal report writing company, I have written and overseen thousands of medico-legal reports. Having recently completed the Bond Solon Report Writing course I would thoroughly recommend this training for all GPs or Consultants looking to undertake instructions to provide expert legal reports, or to brush up their skills as part of their annual clinical appraisal.*

**Dr Chris Renfrew**  
Medical Director  
Pegasus Medical

*The main benefit for me has been in 'seeing the medico-legal process from the other side' and in understanding more completely what instructing solicitors want and the language they use. This has also been of great benefit in Barristers conferences.*

**Andrew Quaile**  
Spinal Orthopaedic Surgeon

*Following the training the feedback on my reports from instructing solicitors has been so great that they in turn have recommended me to other law firms.*

**Simon Thackeray**  
Dentist

An expert's report is a vital element in litigation. It must be clear, succinct, independent and well presented. An excellent report is also one of the most effective marketing tools that an expert will have in their career. Reports are seen by many professionals during litigation and often new instructions are received from opposition lawyers.

Many experts create their own report writing style or adopt other people's generalised formats, having rarely received constructive feedback from lawyers on what is required from their written evidence.

This course explores what lawyers and the courts expect and require from an expert's report. You will be taught how to assess your own and other experts' reports. Working with our model format and techniques received during the training you will be able to produce, quickly and consistently, reports that are court compliant and can withstand cross-examination.

### KEY LEARNING POINTS

- Identifying the issues to be addressed in your report
- A structured approach to preparation and writing
- Expressing an independent view and arguing your conclusion
- Dealing with supporting information
- The Expert's Declaration and other procedural requirements
- Developing an objective and critical eye in relation to your report

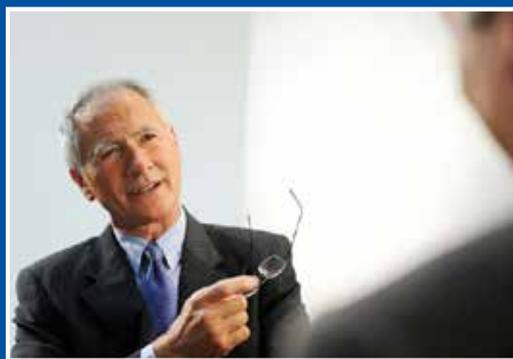
Public courses: London and Manchester  
Cost: £395 + VAT  
Delegates: maximum of 14

4 or more experts? Contact us for more information on in-house training at your organisation

6 hours CPD

Compulsory module for one or more of the Cardiff University Bond Solon Expert Witness Certificates





## Courtroom Skills (1 day)

The witness box is a lonely place. Many experts feel they are on trial, standing in the dock rather than giving independent testimony to assist the court. Often, experts are unfamiliar with this environment, as few cases go to a full trial. But a poor performance can undermine confidence and credibility.

Courtroom Skills is an intensive and highly practical training day. First we examine the theory, practice and procedure of giving evidence, demystifying the process. Then you are cross-examined on a case study you prepare on your field of expertise. A professional trainer, who is an experienced lawyer, gives constructive feedback on your witness box presentation. As with all our courses, you will receive a comprehensive workbook and aide memoire.

### KEY LEARNING POINTS

- How the court system works
- Your role as an independent educator of the court
- Key skills of presenting effective evidence
- Techniques lawyers use in cross-examination and how to handle them
- Expressing an opinion based on the foundation of fact
- Giving confident, clear testimony under cross-examination

Public courses: London and Manchester  
Cost: £395 + VAT  
Delegates: maximum of 8

4 or more experts? Contact us for more information on in-house training at your organisation

6 hours CPD

Compulsory module for one or more of the Cardiff University Bond Solon Expert Witness Certificates



*“The Bond Solon courtroom skills training was thorough as well as enjoyable. The trainer, a practising and very experienced barrister, showed us what to expect and how to cope with it. I became aware of little things which might make me seem less professional, such as peering over my specs and saying “er.” With the confidence gained in the training I was able to cope with cross examination and give my evidence clearly at a hearing a couple of days later. I fully intend to complete the CUBS course because I know it will enhance my performance and, hopefully, bring more work in the future.”*

**Sue Corbin**  
Costs Lawyer

*“Particularly useful were the opportunities to review real cases and get constructive feedback from the trainer. I will have no hesitation to recommend Bond Solon to anyone who should ask in the future.”*

**Christine Webb**  
Modern Matron  
Rotherham Doncaster  
& South Humber NHS  
Foundation Trust



*I have been on three of the Bond Solon courses the most recent being Cross Examination Day. All of the courses were excellent, very hands on with practical advice on being an expert witness. The Cross examination Day allowed me to practice the cross examination experience which tremendously increased my confidence in what can be a very daunting situation. All of the courses have undoubtedly improved my ability as an expert witness and I would recommend Bond Solon courses to anyone considering or starting out in expert witness work.*

**Elizabeth Roberts-Harry**  
**Dentist; Specialist**  
**Periodontist**

*The Courtroom Skills and Cross-Examination Day training were particularly beneficial as experience of the witness box is something often only gained under actual cross-examination in the courtroom. A series of valuable lessons learned through the hands of experienced lawyers.*

**John Stone**  
**Master Mariner**  
**C F Spencer & Co Ltd**

## Cross-Examination Day (1 day)

The Cross-Examination Day is a follow-on course to the Courtroom Skills Training. Experts seeking intensive training in cross-examination skills use this course to refine and enhance their performance and gain mastery of their presentation.

Each expert is cross-examined on one of their completed reports, once in the morning and once in the afternoon. The second cross-examination is recorded. If undertaking the Cardiff University Bond Solon Expert Witness Certificate then this will be submitted for assessment; experts not working toward the qualification can keep their DVD.

### KEY LEARNING POINTS

- Dealing with in-depth cross-examination on a full report or statement
- Making full use of supporting documents, plans, photographs, etc.
- Getting to the essence of a complex case and communicating clearly with the judge
- Handling difficult cross-examination techniques confidently

Public courses: London and Manchester  
Cost: £395 + VAT  
Delegates: maximum of 8

4 or more experts? Contact us for more information on in-house training at your organisation

6 hours CPD

Compulsory module for one or more of the Cardiff University Bond Solon Expert Witness Certificates



## Civil Law and Procedure (2 days)

Experts involved in civil proceedings in England and Wales need to understand the basics of law and legal procedure to work effectively and confidently and comply with various mandatory requirements. The programme explains the principles of liability and quantum of damages through case studies. The practical implications of the Civil Procedure Rules, legislation, guidance and judicial comment on the roles and responsibilities of experts are studied.

### KEY LEARNING POINTS

- The court structure and other means of dispute resolution
- Contract and Tort law essentials
- Relationship between the expert, court and solicitor
- The Civil Procedure Rules, Practice Directions and Protocols
- The role of the expert
- Disclosure

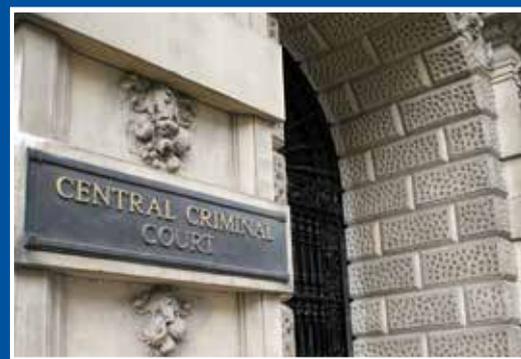
Public courses: London and Manchester  
Cost: £550 + VAT  
Delegates: maximum of 20

4 or more experts? Contact us for more information on in-house training at your organisation

6 hours CPD per day

Compulsory module for the Cardiff University Bond Solon Civil Expert Witness Certificate





## Criminal Law and Procedure (2 days)

Experts involved in criminal proceedings in England and Wales need to understand the basics of law and legal procedure to work effectively and confidently and comply with various mandatory requirements. Experts will consider the practical implications of their duties and responsibilities to the court as set out in Part 33 of the Criminal Procedure Rules 2011 and will learn the essentials of disclosure, continuity of evidence and how to maintain professional objectivity and impartiality.

### KEY LEARNING POINTS

- Criminal law and overview of a criminal prosecution
- The Criminal Procedure Rules, legislation and codes of practice
- The relevance of the Human Rights Act 1998
- Recognising different types of evidence, including oral, documentary and real evidence and issues relating to the admissibility of hearsay and evidence of bad character
- Distinguishing between facts, inferences and opinion

Public courses: London and Manchester  
Cost: £550 + VAT  
Delegates: maximum of 20

4 or more experts? Contact us for more information on in-house training at your organisation

6 hours CPD per day

Compulsory module for the Cardiff University Bond Solon Criminal Expert Witness Certificate

## Family Law and Procedure (2 days)

Experts involved in family law matters in England and Wales need to understand the basics of law and legal procedure to work effectively and confidently and comply with various mandatory requirements. The programme explains the legal principles in children's cases, the different types of evidence and admissibility and the impact of the Human Rights Act. The practical implications of court rules are studied.

### KEY LEARNING POINTS

- The role of the expert witness
- Essential law and procedure in children's cases
- Stages in public and private law children's disputes
- Different types of evidence, including oral, documentary and real evidence
- Facts, assumption, inferences and opinion

Public courses: London and Manchester  
Cost: £550 + VAT  
Delegates: maximum of 20

4 or more experts? Contact us for more information on in-house training at your organisation

6 hours CPD per day

Compulsory module for the Cardiff University Bond Solon Family Expert Witness Certificate

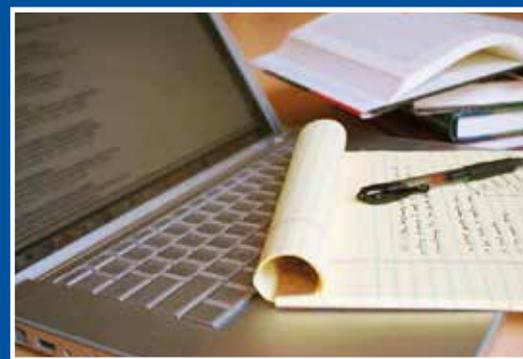


*With the recent changes in legislation, this training has become essential for GPs who are either already experienced in this field or who are considering entering the medico-legal arena. Having completed this training, I am able to demonstrate to interested parties that I have the requisite understanding of the role of an expert. This knowledge has also allowed me to be more confident when corresponding with my legal counterparts and consequently my practice has expanded considerably.*

**Dr Sandy Jackson**  
**Legal Medicine Consultancy**

*I have just completed the final module of the CUBS training course, and I can truthfully say that I found it an extremely beneficial experience. The trainer for each module was excellent, and I found myself understanding and appreciating large aspects of Expert Witness work, that would have remained a mystery had I not invested in the course. For those Experts in any doubt, I can thoroughly recommend doing it.*

**Geoffrey Sagor ChM FRCS**  
**Consultant Surgeon**



## Civil Procedure Rules for Expert Witnesses Certificate

*I write to congratulate you and Bond Solon for the excellent Bond Solon Civil Procedure Rules for Expert Witnesses web learning package. I found some parts quite tricky and underestimated the depth of reading required at first. This is my first real foray into personal online CPD. I can see what a powerful and convenient method of study it is. I enjoyed the variety of formats used in the package. I look forward to using this method of learning for future important updates in CPR and matters pertaining to expert witnesses.*

**Stephen Davies**  
Consultant Radiologist

*I attended Bond Solon Excellence in Report Writing and Courtroom Skills training and having recently given evidence in the High Court I would recommend the training to all those who provide written and oral evidence in a professional capacity. The trainer was excellent and the skills learnt were invaluable when being cross-examined.*

**Dr Jane Hood**  
Consultant Paediatric  
Neuropsychologist

The Civil Procedure Rules state that all experts' reports must contain a statement that they:

"are aware of the requirements of Part 35 and Practice Direction 35, this protocol [the Protocol for the Instruction of Experts to Give Evidence in Civil Claims] and the practice direction on pre-action conduct."

Since the Rules' inception in April 1999 there have been over 50 amendments which has made it increasingly difficult for experts to keep up to date and meet their obligations set out within the rules.

This web learning package conveniently and comprehensively provides experts with the knowledge required to comply with the Civil Procedure Rules that will satisfy solicitors and the courts.

The web learning package consists of:

- Broadcast quality video interviews with informed specialist contributors
- Comprehensive source material
- Detailed explanatory notes
- Background reading
- Multiple choice tests to indicate progress

For ease of study, it is divided into five manageable modules. On successful completion of the study and tests, the expert is sent the Bond Solon Civil Procedure Rules for Expert Witnesses Certificate and logo to evidence the required awareness of the Rules.

An authoritative programme which includes extensive interviews with Lord Woolf and leading litigators:

- The Right Honourable Lord Woolf of Barnes, author of the Civil Procedure Rules and the Access to Justice Reforms
- John Fordham, Head of Commercial Litigation, Stephenson Harwood
- Guy Henderson, partner, Allen & Overy
- Ben Holland, partner, CMS Cameron McKenna
- Jonathan Lux, partner, Ince & Co



Online training: available at any time and from any computer via secure login

Cost: £120 + VAT

6 hours CPD



## Family Procedure Rules for Expert Witnesses Certificate

Practice Direction 25A of the Family Procedure Rules states that all expert reports must contain a statement that the expert:

“3.3(H)

(iv) understands their duty to the court and has complied with that duty; and  
(v) is aware of the requirements of Part 25 and this practice direction;”

This web learning package conveniently and comprehensively provides experts with the knowledge required to sign this statement with confidence. It is relevant for all experts working in the family courts, including experts in Ancillary Relief involved in the valuation of matrimonial property.

The web learning package consists of:

- Broadcast quality video interviews with informed specialist contributors
- Comprehensive source material
- Detailed explanatory notes
- Background reading
- Multiple choice tests to indicate progress

For ease of study it is divided into four manageable modules. On successful completion of the study and tests, the expert is sent the Bond Solon Family Procedure Rules for Expert Witnesses Certificate and logo to evidence the required awareness of the Rules.

This web learning package includes extensive interviews with some of the most influential practitioners in the field, including:

- The Rt Hon Sir Nicholas Wall, Former President of the Family Division and Head of Family Justice, Chairman of the Family Procedure Rule Committee
- Philip Waller, Senior District Judge of the Family Division, Deputy Chairman of the Family Procedure Rule Committee
- Charles Geekie QC
- Peggy Ray, founding member of Goodman Ray Solicitors
- Christopher Wagstaffe QC



Online training: available at any time and from any computer via secure login

Cost: £120 + VAT

6 hours CPD

*All expert witnesses in family proceedings, including those involved in ancillary relief, are now required to include a statement in their reports that they are aware of the requirements of the new Family Procedure Rules, part 25 and the related practice direction. This web learning package provides experts with the necessary understanding to comply with this requirement and to sign the statement with confidence.*

**The Rt Hon Sir Nicholas Wall  
Former President of the Family  
Division**

*As an independent psychiatrist looking to become an expert witness it was recommended by a colleague that I attend Bond Solon expert witness training. After enrolling on the Cardiff University Bond Solon Expert Witness Certificate I now fully understand the importance and implications of being an expert witness and am now confident in my ability to write a court-compliant report and to stand up against cross examination.*

**Una McDermott  
Independent Psychiatrist**



## Expert Meetings (half day)

Meetings and discussions between experts are increasingly being requested by the courts in an attempt to save court time, reduce legal costs and bring about a settlement between the parties.

These meetings may feel more informal than the courtroom, but can be just as important to the outcome of the case. In *Jones v Kaney* 2011, the Supreme Court ruling that removed expert witness immunity, the expert witness was accused of negligence during expert discussions and the preparation of a joint statement.

This course will ensure that you have the knowledge to carry out this role. Roleplays during the course will highlight the skills and potential pitfalls in an expert meeting, encouraging experts to suggest improvements.

### KEY LEARNING POINTS

- The legal requirements and implications of expert meetings
- Preparation for the expert meeting
- The agenda of the expert meeting
- The Statement of Agreement and Disagreement; minutes of the meeting
- Responding to an instruction from the solicitor to avoid reaching agreement
- Working with an expert who is not complying with their duties to the court

Public courses: London and Manchester  
Cost: £250 + VAT  
Delegates: maximum of 8

4 or more experts? Contact us for more information on in-house training at your organisation

3 hours CPD

## Masterclasses in Report Writing and Courtroom Skills

These advanced masterclasses are designed for experts who have already undertaken the Excellence in Report Writing or Courtroom Skills courses.

It is important that an expert's training is up-to-date and relevant. Skills and knowledge can be lost over time if not refreshed and practiced regularly. In addition, the rules and conventions of expert evidence have changed in the last few years, and are likely to continue changing.

These are small-group advanced courses in which past training is briefly recalled and recent changes discussed. The trainer, an experienced lawyer, will then assess each expert's report or cross-examination individually.

Refresher training should be considered every 2-3 years.

The following one-day courses are available:

- Masterclass in Expert Report Writing
- Masterclass in Courtroom Skills

Public courses: London  
Cost: £395 + VAT  
Delegates: maximum of 8

4 or more experts? Contact us for more information on in-house training at your organisation

6 hours CPD

*I was recommended to go on the Bond Solon courses by a barrister when I started undertaking expert witness work and found the training in report writing and courtroom skills to be extremely useful in helping me understand the correct procedures and potential pitfalls when undertaking such work.*

**Alastair Hayton**  
Veterinary Surgeon

*I completed the CUBS certificate training several years ago would recommend it to any educational and child psychologist working or considering working as an expert witness. Whether you complete the full course or selected modules, you will receive a thorough and rigorous training in the requirements of expert witnesses in court proceedings.*

**Dr Yvonne Walker**  
Educational Psychologist  
and Expert Witness



## The Annual Bond Solon Expert Witness Conference (1 day)

This is the largest annual gathering of expert witnesses in the UK and an established event: it has been held every year since 1994. The conference takes place in the first two weeks of November each year, in central London.

The conference is an excellent opportunity to hear from high-profile speakers and keep abreast of the current developments and key issues that are affecting expert witnesses. Past speakers have included senior judges, QCs and government officials.

Parallel sessions for civil, criminal and family court experts are included. This is an essential and extremely worthwhile day for any expert witness.

For details of this year's conference, contact Bond Solon.

Annual conference, held in London in November

Cost: £245 + VAT

An early booking discount is available

6 hours CPD

The next conference, on Friday 7 November, includes:

- Keynote address by The Right Hon Lord Neuberger, President of the Supreme Court
- The Jackson Reforms – are they working?
- The Jackson Reforms – in the real world. We hear from 4 expert witnesses about their experiences and strategies
- The Annual Legal Update
- Growing your Expert Business via LinkedIn
- Budgeting and Proportionality
- Terms and Conditions

There will also be specialist sessions for medico-legal, family, criminal and commercial expert witnesses:

- A solicitor's insights into a negligence action
- Publication of Ministry of Justice funded research into experts in family law cases: implementation of the Family Procedure Rules (2013) and Standards for Experts (2013)
- Rehabilitation of criminal experts
- Complex commercial cases

*This training offered real, practical insight into how to take instruction, structure and deliver accurate, concise and robust reports which can withstand the highest level of scrutiny. Result!*

**Mike Flannery**  
Lead Accident Investigator

*I have attended all 19 annual conferences and booked for the 20th already. Annual updates are invaluable. The problem with success is that it has to be repeated. Please keep repeating.*

**Dr Bashir Qureshi**  
Cultural, Religious and Ethnic Issues in Litigation

*My second conference. Most interesting and enjoyable. Lively discussion in parallel sessions. Lots of practical tips.*

**David Gilchrist**  
Horticulturalist



## The Cardiff University Bond Solon Expert Witness Certificates

*Within days of receiving my certificate I was retained as an expert witness by an international legal practice. The panel of barristers who interviewed me commented that they were pleased and impressed that I chose to invest in the CUBS training course.*

**David Williams**  
Chartered Engineer

*I have attended a number of expert witness training courses over the years. However, training towards the Cardiff University Bond Solon Expert Witness Certificate exceeded all my demanding expectations. Training conferences are well organised, venues carefully chosen, and the trainers are second to none. This is easily the best value-for-money training that I have ever had. I confidently recommend the training to psychiatrists who are acting or seeking to act as expert witnesses.*

**Dr Russell D. Lutchman**  
Consultant Forensic  
Psychiatrist

In conjunction with Cardiff University Law School, Bond Solon offers three expert witness certificates:

- Cardiff University Law School Bond Solon Civil Expert Certificate
- Cardiff University Law School Bond Solon Criminal Expert Certificate
- Cardiff University Law School Bond Solon Family Expert Certificate



This is the first university-accredited expert witness qualification in the UK. The qualification is made up of 5 days of training, which can be attended over a period of 2 years. Experts who successfully complete the corresponding assessments are awarded this widely recognised qualification.

To date over 1000 experts from a wide variety of professions have completed or are in the process of completing one or more of the three Expert Witness Certificates. This unique expert witness qualification enables you demonstrate to both instructing solicitors and the courts that you have been assessed and hold the core and requisite competencies to act as an expert.

For those medical experts that do not give evidence in court, the Cardiff University Law School Medico-Legal Foundation Certificate may be more suitable. Please contact us for more information on the Medico-Legal Foundation Certificate.

### The Training:

In order to qualify for a Certificate it is necessary for you to complete the following compulsory training modules:

- Excellence in Report Writing (1 day)
- Courtroom Skills (1 day)
- The Cross Examination Day (1 day)

Experts can then work toward one of more or the certificates by completing the relevant 2-day Law and Procedure modules:

- Civil Law and Procedure
- Criminal Law and Procedure
- Family Law and Procedure

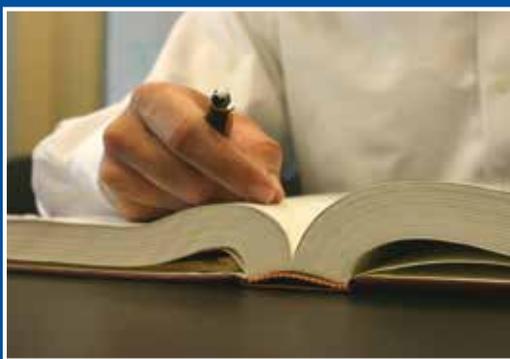
Public courses are held regularly in central London and Manchester.

Cost:

£2205 + VAT if the 5 modules are booked separately (includes the £470 accreditation fee)

£1995 + VAT if the 5 modules are booked together (includes the £470 accreditation fee)

Can be run in-house at your organisation. For details of in-house prices please contact us.



### The Assessment Process:

The certificate is assessed in three parts, all of which must be submitted to Cardiff University within a two year period.

#### Part 1 - assessment of your expert witness report

You can submit your expert witness report at any time during this two year period. You are required to submit two copies in court-ready condition including any photographs, plans etc.

#### Part 2 - review of your performance under cross-examination

A video of your performance will be made during the Cross-Examination Day.

#### Part 3 - multiple choice examination on law and procedure

A multiple-choice examination is sat at the end of the Law and Procedure day 2.

Providing a pass standard is reached in all three assessments, you will then be awarded the Civil, Criminal or Family Cardiff University Bond Solon (CUBS) Expert Witness Certificate. You will also be provided with the certificate logo and specific wording, which can be used on all your marketing material. Holders of the qualification can take advantage of discounts for other expert witness services and products with our partners, including: expert witness indemnity insurance, listings in a number of expert witness directories and adverts in the legal press.

### Continual Professional Development:

Experts who hold one or more of the certificates are expected to keep up to date with any developments and changes to ensure their skills and knowledge are current. In order to achieve this, experts are required to undertake 6 hours of ongoing expert witness training every 2 years.

### Benefits of the Cardiff University Bond Solon Expert Witness Certificates:

- Ensures you are able to fulfil your duties as an expert witness
- Increases confidence in your skills and knowledge, both to yourself and to instructing solicitors
- Widely-recognised certificate logo and wording for CVs, websites, reports and correspondence to solicitors which will differentiate you from other experts within the same field
- Discount expert witness indemnity insurance, listings in a number of expert witness directories and adverts in the legal press

*Along with my other qualifications I cite my accreditation as an expert witness everytime I give evidence in court and often get an approving nod of recognition from the judge. This is always reassuring when it happens. Overall the course has boosted my confidence and increased my expertise and for this I am immensely grateful.*

**Richard J. Marshall**  
Clinical Psychologist

*With over 8 years' experience acting as an expert witness, one of the most valuable pieces of advice I would pass on to new and even to experienced experts is that being an expert in your field is only the start of being an expert witness. The role and duties of an expert witness go well beyond just advising on an expertise. I would recommend all experts to undertake accredited Expert Witness Training with Bond Solon. This has greatly assisted me in fulfilling my duties as an expert witness, has enhanced the credibility of my Expert Reports and has been invaluable in developing this aspect of my practice.*

**John Williams FRICS ACI Arb**  
Chartered Surveyor  
Maple Leaf



## Frequently asked questions about the Cardiff University Bond Solon Expert Witness Certificates:

### **Q: How long do I have to complete the qualification?**

A: All assessments must be passed within 2 years of the date on which the candidate's first pass is achieved. The period may be extended in exceptional circumstances at the entire discretion of Cardiff University Law School. Due to the nature of the training, we strongly advise you to undertake the training over a period of time (usually 3-6 months) and not in a block of 5 days.

### **Q: Do I have to take the training in any particular order?**

A: You may take the courses in the order you wish, although the Courtroom Skills training must precede the Cross Examination Day. We recommend that you allow a gap of at least 1 month between Courtroom Skills and the Cross Examination Day in order to revise your report, if necessary.

### **Q: When and where are the courses run?**

Public courses are held throughout the year in London and Manchester.

Alternatively, if you have a group of 4 or more colleagues interested in a course it may be more cost-effective to deliver the training in-house at your organisation. In-house training can be delivered anywhere in the UK.

### **Q: I have taken expert witness training courses with Bond Solon in the past. Do I get credit for these courses?**

A: You may claim credit for attending the Bond Solon Courtroom Skills and/or the Excellence in Report Writing courses if you have taken them within two years prior to the first day of the certificated training. You must still, however, submit a report for assessment as part of your overall assessment. Alternatively you may opt to re-attend either training day at a reduced fee.

### **Q: Is the qualification appropriate for new or more experienced expert witnesses?**

A: The qualification is suitable to both new experts and those who have been undertaking this work for many years. Please note that new experts who are looking to undertake this programme will need to be able to provide an expert witness court report for the assessment.

### **Q: What happens if I fail any of the assessments?**

A: You will be able to repeat the relevant modules and resubmit any of the assessments, subject to an additional course and marking fee. Alternatively, you can go through the Cardiff University Law School appeal process.

### **Q: I act as an expert in Civil, Criminal and Family Proceedings, can I hold more than one certificate?**

A: Yes. Once you have completed the three core modules (Report Writing, Courtroom Skills and Cross-Examination) you are able to complete the relevant Law and Procedure modules to achieve one or more of the certificates.

### **Q: How do I enrol on the programme?**

A: Call Bond Solon on 020 7549 2549 for further information or to enrol.



## A selection of our clients...

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### COMPANIES

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### CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

Air Accident Investigation Branch, Environment Agency, Health Protection Agency, HM Revenue and Customs, Home Office, Information Commissioner's Office, Insolvency Service, Maritime & Coastguard Agency, MOD, Office of Fair Trading, Ofgem, Ofsted, Parliamentary & Health Service Ombudsman, Scottish Legal Complaints Commission, Scottish Public Service Ombudsman, Serious Fraud Office

### HEALTH

Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board, Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust, Ashford and St. Peter's Hospitals NHS Trust, Barnet and Chase Farm Hospitals NHS Trust, Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Basildon and Thurrock University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board, Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust, Care Quality Commission

### PROFESSIONAL/AWARDING BODIES, INSTITUTES, ASSOCIATIONS

AQA, British Psychological Society, Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, City and Guilds, Institute of Marine Engineering Science & Technology, Institution of Mechanical Engineers, Natural History Museum, OCR, RICS, Royal College of Midwives, Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, Royal Veterinary College, Society of Biology, Solicitors Regulatory Authority, The Law Society

### POLICE

British Transport Police, Cheshire Constabulary, City of London Police, College of Policing, Cleveland Police, Derbyshire Constabulary, Dorset Police, Durham Constabulary, Dyfed-Powys Police, Gloucestershire Constabulary, Greater Manchester Police, Hampshire Constabulary, Lancashire Constabulary, National Crime Agency, PSNI, South Wales Police, Surrey Police, Staffordshire Police, Thames Valley Police

## About Bond Solon

Bond Solon is the UK's leading expert witness and evidence training company, specialising in training non-lawyers in legal matters. Bond Solon was established in 1992 and since then has trained in excess of 250,000 delegates on its training programmes. Bond Solon has been at the forefront of designing and delivering training to expert witnesses and improving the standards of expert witnesses in the UK.

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