



Presented by
Falconbury

Legal Writing and Drafting Skills for Commercial and Contracts Managers

29 April 2026
+ 2 October 2026

This course will empower commercial and contracts managers to navigate legal writing and contract drafting complexities with knowledge and confidence.



Format:
Live online



CPD:
6 hours for your records



Certificate of
completion

Course overview

Commercial and contracts managers don't usually need to write contracts from scratch, but they do have to draft new clauses, amend, or update contracts, and write legal letters.

A good understanding and grasp of clear legal writing and drafting skills is essential to fulfil this element of the role.

Under the careful guidance of the expert trainer, this course will ensure you gain a comprehensive understanding of the common pitfalls to be aware of. This intensive day will make sure you're up to date with the key areas of risk and have a full understanding of the latest drafting techniques and writing skills in clear English.

This course is also relevant for business owners and managers - well-written contracts are essential for protecting your company's interests. Business managers have valuable experience and knowledge to contribute to contracts and this can help make legal documents more precise, better-written and more effective for a company's goals.

This is a highly practical course including many exercises to help embed the learning. There will also be time during the course to ask your questions and get clarity on contract drafting and legal writing technicalities. By attending this course and enhancing your skills and knowledge you will ensure you protect your organisation against unnecessary risk and be successful in your role.

Benefits of attending

By attending this highly practical course you will:

- **Learn** how to recognise drafting inaccuracies and effectively re-draft poorly written clauses
- **Draft** effective standard clauses that can be used across the organisation to manage exposure to legal risk
- **Understand** the principles of using plain English within your contracts to reduce uncertainty
- **Discover** how to avoid over-complex sentences and structures to limit the risk of dispute
- **Develop** more effective legal writing skills that can be used in all your legal and business communications

Who should attend?

This course has been specifically designed for Commercial and Contract Managers who need to draft, amend or update contracts and write legal letters but don't have a legal background.

The content is also relevant for business owners and managers who want to understand how to protect their businesses through well-written contracts and legal correspondence.

Programme

Guidelines to writing/drafting contracts in clear English

- How to structure clauses
- Using the language of obligation and discretion accurately: shall, may and must
- Avoiding old-fashioned language
- Effective use of provisos and exceptions (e.g. 'provided that' and 'notwithstanding')
- Avoiding ambiguity

PRACTICAL EXERCISE: Redrafting clauses in clear English

During this practical session, participants will apply the principles above to redrafting a range of clauses from international commercial agreements. Both individual and group work exercises will be undertaken with results reviewed in a group forum and constructive feedback and guidance supplied by the expert trainer.

Legal correspondence: writing emails and letters with precision and clarity

- Different types of written communication and their appropriate use
- Examples of standard opening and closing
- Differences between semi-formal and informal register
- Structuring a letter of advice
- Differences between British and American English

PRACTICAL EXERCISE: Drafting emails with precision and clarity

The participants will apply the principles above by redrafting a badly written piece of legal correspondence under the guidance of the expert trainer.

Advanced contract drafting practical exercise

With guidance from the expert trainer, participants will be working in small teams to draft a number of clauses from scratch based on written instructions taken from a case study agreement and a commercial lease.

Legal vocabulary

There will be a series of exercises to develop the knowledge of the participants of legal vocabulary.

Presenter



Alan Simmons

Alan Simmons LLB (Hons) in Law with French , LLM in International Human Rights Law, RSA CETEFELA. Alan is a highly experienced trainer of legal English who has been working with international lawyers across the globe for nearly 30 years. He shares his expertise by delivering legal and business skills and language training to lawyers, other professionals and businesspeople to enhance their skills at drafting concise and watertight contract clauses in the English language.

He qualified as a solicitor in England having studied law in the UK, Strasbourg and the European University Institute in Florence and then went on to train as a solicitor in an international law firm. He spent some years practising commercial law in law firms in London in the areas of corporate law, construction law, employment law, intellectual property, advertising and media law.

He is fluent in French and Portuguese and has good written and spoken Spanish, Italian and Albanian. He has completed legal translations from French, Spanish and Portuguese and he also has conversational German, Japanese, Croatian, Dutch, Finnish, Norwegian and Romanian. His passion for different writing systems in languages means he has learnt to read and write Hindi, Persian, Japanese and Arabic.

He has used his skills and experience to successfully train legal staff from junior counsel to judges in all elements of international commercial law across the world. Alan is a dynamic trainer and applies a highly interactive style to ensure complete understanding and an enjoyable learning experience.

Course dates

29 April 2026

Live online

09:00-17:00 **UK (London)** (UTC+01)

Course code 16172

GBP ~~499 599~~

EUR ~~699 839~~

USD ~~803 959~~

Until 25 Mar

2 October 2026

Live online

09:00-17:00 **UK (London)** (UTC+01)

Course code 16373

GBP ~~499 599~~

EUR ~~699 839~~

USD ~~803 959~~

Until 28 Aug

How to book



Online:

ipi.academy/2807

Alternatively contact us to book, or if you have any queries:



Email:

info@ipiacademy.com



Phone:

[+44 \(0\)20 7749 4749](tel:+44(0)2077494749)

Discounts

- Booking more than one delegate on any one date qualifies for a **30% discount** on the second and subsequent places.
- Most events qualify for an **early booking discount** prior to 6 weeks before the course date. Be sure to check on our website, where the latest discounts will be shown.

Further information

Fee

The fee includes all meals and refreshments for the duration of the course (for venue-based courses) and a complete set of course materials (provided electronically). If you have any particular requirements, please advise customer services when booking.

Please note

IPI Academy (and our training partners) reserve the right to change the content and timing of the programme, the speakers, the date and venue due to reasons beyond their control. In the unlikely event that the course is cancelled, we will refund the registration fee and disclaim any further liability.

Terms and conditions

The rest of our terms, the event cancellation policy and the terms and conditions are on our website, please visit ipi.academy/content/terms-and-conditions

Reviews



Despite already having a legal background, this course makes you realise how subjective drafting can be and ways to improve. I got constructive feedback for all the clauses I had drafted and found one to one feedback via email a good way of learning. Overall, I found this course to be very helpful and have recommended it to my colleagues also.



Isha Mirza-Bari

Senior Contracts Specialist and Solicitor
Simbec Orion
Oct 3 2024

Run this programme in-house for your whole team

Coming to IPI Academy for your in-house training provides an all-inclusive service which gives you access to a wide variety of content, learning platforms and delivery mechanisms as well as your own personal training adviser who will work with you from the initial enquiry through to feedback and follow-up after the programme.

With over 600 trainers, all practitioners and experts across a huge range of fields, we can provide the training you need, where you need it, when you need it, and at a price which suits your budget. Our approach to tailored learning and development consists of designing and delivering the appropriate solution for each client.

For your FREE consultation and to find out more about how we can work with you to solve your training needs, please contact our training advisers:



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IPI
Academy

IPI Academy is a training initiative of Falconbury and Management Forum; leading providers of industry training for over 30 years, based in the UK.

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