

Programme Title:



Programme Specification (PG)

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| Awarding body / institution: | Queen Mary University of London |
| Teaching institution: | Queen Mary University of London |
| Name of final award and programme title: | LLM (Flexible study) |
| Name of interim award(s): | Postgraduate Diploma, Postgraduate Certificate |
| Duration of study / period of registration: | 1 year |
| Queen Mary programme code(s): | |
| QAA Benchmark Group: | Law |
| FHEQ Level of Award: | Level 7 |
| Programme accredited by: | |
| Date Programme Specification approved: | |
| Responsible School / Institute: | Centre for Commercial Law Studies |

Schools / Institutes which will also be involved in teaching part of the programme:

Department of Law

Collaborative institution(s) / organisation(s) involved in delivering the programme:

QM Online

Programme outline

The LLM is an innovative postgraduate programme offering students the opportunity to develop academic and professional expertise in specialised areas of law including international dispute resolution, banking and finance, environmental law, human rights, intellectual property and international business law and other areas.

This flexible LLM option is for anyone who wishes to study modules offered across our London, Paris and Distance Learning programmes.

We envisage students designing their own LLM (subject to timetabling and practical restraints) using the following delivery options combined with a compulsory dissertation:

- London LLM modules
- Paris LLM modules
- Distance Learning LLM in Technology, Media and Telecommunication Law modules
- QMUL Online modules in International Dispute Resolution

All modules currently being offered on the London, Paris and Distance Learning LLMs mentioned will be available to those choosing this mixed delivery LLM. However students will not be able to take duplicate modules delivered in different locations.

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This flexible LLM will cater for students who would like to enhance their professional knowledge and career development through studying modules across our London, Paris and Distance Learning programmes. Leading to a prestigious Queen Mary University of London qualification, this course will provide in-depth immersion in commercial law from both comparative and international perspectives, within a common law framework.

Aims of the programme

- To assist students to develop a detailed, critical and advanced knowledge of key areas of law, not typically covered (or not adequately covered) by an undergraduate syllabus.
- To respond to the needs of students who wish to enter into practice in a specialist area – the courses will assist students to acquire essential theoretical and practical skills in their subjects; this relates to students who are located locally, regionally and internationally.
- To provide students with first-class and comprehensive teaching materials.
- To provide students with an in-depth understanding of key issues in advanced law subjects.
- To broaden and deepen students' understanding of their own systems of law by giving them the opportunity and the tools with which to explore the international and comparative law context.
- To enhance the students' learning experience through regular interaction with course teachers, practitioners, visiting academics and fellow students.
- To ensure a balance of theoretical rigour and practical application and relevance in the examination of the law.

What will you be expected to achieve?

Students who successfully complete the programme will be able to:

- Understand the key legal principles, issues and debates arising out of the law and practice of chosen subjects.
- Recognise the standard of materials expected from a post-graduate law student and be capable of producing that standard.
- Be capable of analysing legal problems and drafting detailed responses addressing the key issues.
- Be capable of producing papers through self-study that examine particular legal issues with the intellectual rigour appropriate to post-graduate legal students.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the topic at an advanced level by successfully dealing with issues in both a practical and a scholarly manner.
- Acquire practical and transferable skills, such as the capacity to make presentations and work in a team.

Academic Content:

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| A 1 | Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of key legal principles, issues and debates arising out of the law and practice of chosen subjects |
| A 2 | Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the practical implications of the legal issues arising within the specialist area |
| A 3 | Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of comparative and international approaches to legal issues within the selected specialist area |
| A 4 | Recognise the standard of materials expected from a post-graduate law student and be capable of producing that standard |

Disciplinary Skills - able to:

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| B 1 | Be capable of analysing legal problems and drafting detailed responses addressing the key issues |
| B 2 | Be capable of producing papers through self-study that examine particular legal issues with the intellectual rigour appropriate to post graduate legal students |

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| B 3 | Proficiently use legal research resources to carry out appropriate legal analysis for a variety of problems |
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| Attributes: | |
| C 1 | Acquire and apply knowledge in a rigorous way |
| C 2 | Demonstrate self direction and independence in solving complex or unfamiliar problems |
| C 3 | Use clear language to effectively communicate ideas, both orally and in writing |

How will you learn?

You will learn through direct interaction with lecturers using a variety of teaching, learning and assessment strategies, including traditional and interactive lectures, small group teaching, seminar sessions, tutorials and e-learning (particularly for those taking distance learning modules). You will also be expected to invest a significant amount of time on independent learning including reading materials in advance of lectures/seminars, preparing class presentations or doing assignments. You will also have to carry out research to complete your dissertation. For this purpose you will be provided with a variety of legal resources and you will receive training on how to use them for your dissertation.

You will have access to a wide range of learning resources within the College. These include: the College Library, the University of London Library at Senate House and the first rate resources of other libraries with London collections (e.g. the British Library); a range of IT resources including networked PCs (with full internet and email privileges), and electronic learning resources (e.g. electronic academic journals).

Students studying our Paris LLM modules at the University of London Institute in Paris (ULIP) premises in central Paris, have access to a library, computing and printing facilities, as well as a café and space in which to meet up outside of classes. You will be able to access WiFi in all of these areas. Students will also have access to local libraries, including the nearby Sciences Po law library.

Like all registered students at Queen Mary University of London Paris and Distance Learning LLM you will have easy access to the full range of electronic resources, as referred above.

How will you be assessed?

Assessment strategies will include a selection (and occasionally a combination) of the following: unseen written examinations, in class presentations, including moot courts and seminar presentations, take home assignments, coursework, dissertations.

How is the programme structured?

Please specify the structure of the programme diets for all variants of the programme (e.g. full-time, part-time - if applicable). The description should be sufficiently detailed to fully define the structure of the diet.

This programme will give students access to all of the LLM modules currently being offered by the School of Law, wherever they are taught and by whatever method.

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It will comprise of existing modules from:

- the LLM in London;
- the LLM in Paris, where block teaching is offered;
- the Distance Learning LLM in Technology, Media and Telecommunications Law; and
- QMUL Online modules in International Dispute Resolution.

The time allowed to study this LLM is one year.

Students will take modules and dissertations amounting to 180 credits.

As part of their LLM students should submit a 30 credits (10,000 words) dissertation that is relevant to their chosen specialism, if they have chosen to specialise. Students have also the option, to write a second dissertation with the same credit value as the compulsory one, if they wish.

Modules will be chosen at the beginning of the programme (September or January) for the academic year.

A dedicated programme administrator will work with students to ensure that their module diet:

- contains no duplication of study of modules
- that sufficient credits are taken across relevant modules to ensure a specialist LLM is achieved if wished
- conforms to college regulations

The Distance Learning LLM Technology, Media and Telecommunications Law modules are generally offered on a 2 year cycle. A selection of 3-4 modules will be offered each term (Sept-Dec; Jan-May; May-Aug). The modules that are offered will change on a yearly basis and also the semester they are offered in.

Academic Year of Study

| Module Title | Module Code | Credits | Level | Module Selection Status | Academic Year of Study | Semester |
|---|-------------|---------|-------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------|
| Every module offered on LLM London (except those specific to Art, Business and Law) LLM Paris, and Distance Learning LLMs at School of Law including QMUL Online modules in International Dispute Resolution. | | | | | | |
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What are the entry requirements?

The usual qualification for entry to the LLM programme is a degree in law, or a degree with a substantial law content, of at least 2.1 honours (or equivalent). Law graduates with 2.2 honours who also have other legal qualifications and/or substantial professional legal experience may also qualify.

Non-law graduates with a minimum second class honours degree, that have also obtained a Merit (or 60 per cent) in the Common Professional Examination (CPE) or Graduate Diploma in Law (GDL) recognised by the UK professional bodies, may also qualify. Non-law graduates may also be considered on the basis of exceptional professional experience (of at least five years) in a

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legal area or an area directly related to their programme of study.

Applicants whose first language is not English must provide evidence of your English language proficiency. The usual English Language Requirements for Postgraduate Law Taught Programmes will apply. These may be accessed at <http://www.law.qmul.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/english-language-requirements/index.html#Postgraduatelawtaughtprogrammes>

How will the quality of the programme be managed and enhanced? How do we listen to and act on your feedback?

The Staff-Student Liaison Committee provides a formal means of communication and discussion between schools/institutes and its students. The committee consists of student representatives from each year in the school/institute together with appropriate representation from staff within the school/institute. It is designed to respond to the needs of students, as well as act as a forum for discussing programme and module developments. Staff-Student Liaison Committees meet regularly throughout the year. Each school/institute operates a Learning and Teaching Committee, or equivalent, which advises the School/Institute Director of Taught Programmes on all matters relating to the delivery of taught programmes at school level including monitoring the application of relevant QM policies and reviewing all proposals for module and programme approval and amendment before submission to Taught Programmes Board. Student views are incorporated in the committee's work in a number of ways, such as through student membership, or consideration of student surveys.

All schools/institutes operate an Annual Programme Review of their taught undergraduate and postgraduate provision. APR is a continuous process of reflection and action planning which is owned by those responsible for programme delivery; the main document of reference for this process is the Taught Programmes Action Plan (TPAP) which is the summary of the school/institute's work throughout the year to monitor academic standards and to improve the student experience. Students' views are considered in this process through analysis of the NSS and module evaluations.

What academic support is available?

You will have access to the following academic support mechanisms:

- An individual dissertation supervisor
- Themed dissertation sessions to assist you in exploring possible dissertation topics in more detail
- LLM Research Director will also be available to help with any academic matter that cannot be appropriately handled by the previous support mechanisms
- LLM (Flexible Study) Director will be able to assist with any academic matter relating to the programme
- Critical Thinking and Writing sessions (dissertation support)

Programme-specific rules and facts

FOR THOSE STUDENTS WISHING TO SPECIALISE:

In addition to the Laws LLM (non-specialist), we are offering all of the LLM specialisms currently offered by The School of Law, except, for the time being, Art, Business and Law. Specifically, for those students wishing to specialise, we offer the following specialisms with the award title listed below

LLM in Banking and Finance Law
LLM in Commercial and Corporate Law
LLM in Comparative and International Dispute Resolution
LLM in Competition Law
LLM in Criminal Justice
LLM in Energy and Natural Resources Law
LLM in Environmental Law
LLM in European Law
LLM in Human Rights Law
LLM in Immigration Law
LLM in Insurance Law
LLM in Intellectual Property Law
LLM in International Business Law
LLM in International Economic Law
LLM in International Shipping Law

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LLM in Legal Theory
LLM in Public International Law
LLM in Regulation and Compliance
LLM in International Tax Law
LLM in Technology, Media and Telecommunications Law

The total credits required to successfully complete an LLM is 180. Students can specialise by doing 120 credits in a certain area of law (90 credits of taught modules and a 30-credit dissertation). Module choices will be sent to Registry when completing the programme to allow specialist LLMs to be awarded.

How inclusive is the programme for all students, including those with disabilities?

Queen Mary has a central Disability and Dyslexia Service (DDS) that offers support for all students with disabilities, specific learning difficulties and mental health issues. The DDS supports all Queen Mary students: full-time, part-time, undergraduate, postgraduate, UK and international at all campuses and all sites.

Students can access advice, guidance and support in the following areas:

- Finding out if you have a specific learning difficulty like dyslexia
- Applying for funding through the Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA)
- Arranging DSA assessments of need
- Special arrangements in examinations
- Accessing loaned equipment (e.g. digital recorders)
- Specialist one-to-one study skills tuition
- Ensuring access to course materials in alternative formats (e.g. Braille)
- Providing educational support workers (e.g. note-takers, readers, library assistants)
- Access to specialist mentoring support for students with mental health issues and Autistic Spectrum Disorders.

Links with employers, placement opportunities and transferable skills

We continue to offer our students who are graduate lawyers from around the world the opportunity to engage in academic specialist study that promotes their legal expertise and as well to engage in their own professional development in a number of ways. We have developed what we think of as our own model for postgraduate law that is based on our evaluation of what attributes law graduates must have to succeed. This encompasses our extensive range of specialisms and the specialist modules therein and the co-curricular activities and student-led extra-curricular specialist social, academic and career activities. Essential components can be distinguished: 1) facilitation of internships (frequently leading to recruitment); 2) Senior Lawyer (including alumni) Student Mentorship Programme; 3) Career planning and development skill events; 4) Professional Skills Training (e.g. negotiation, time-management, skills etc) and 5) Seminars with Practitioners, including the qLegal programme that provides hands-on clinical practice experience and training under the supervision of senior lawyers in providing legal services to start-up companies. We also have an embedded programme of Critical Writing and Thinking in Law that we offer to all students, run and taught at CCLS and Mile End by the Language Centre faculty that enhances the writing skills necessary for legal practice. We believe that it is important to have the specialist team of career advisers and the senior legal practice consultants who participate at all levels in our activities, as this is not expertise we can otherwise provide in-house.

Programme Specification Approval

Person completing Programme Specification:

Laura Edgar

Person responsible for management of programme:

Laura Edgar

Date Programme Specification produced / amended by School / Institute Learning and Teaching Committee:

13th January 2021

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**Date Programme Specification approved by Taught
Programmes Board:**

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