

Programme Title:



Programme Specification (PG)

Awarding body / institution:	Queen Mary University of London
Teaching institution:	Queen Mary University of London
Name of final award and programme title:	Postgraduate Certificate in Law (PG Cert)
Name of interim award(s):	
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 programme offers students the opportunity to study 60 credits worth of modules from the London, Paris and DL programmes and to receive a PG Certificate in Law. The programme is aimed at a range of audiences including those who already have an LLM, those who wish to study 2-4 modules in a specialist field and those who are not currently able to embark on the full LLM but who may wish to take further credit at a future date.

Students will be able to develop academic and professional expertise from across the range of Laws modules offered at Queen Mary. Various pathways are recommended and there is scope to specialise in the fields currently offered as specialist LLMs including comparative and international dispute resolution; technology, media and telecommunications law; energy and natural resources law; banking and finance law; environmental law; human rights law; international tax law; insurance law; intellectual property law; international business law. There is also scope to undertake sufficient credit at Certificate level to specialise in certain other fields, such as Interactive Entertainment Law, where the School of Law also has particular research strengths.

Students will be able to study modules from the following programmes:

- London LLM modules
- Paris LLM modules

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

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 or enhance knowledge and expertise in particular aspects of law. 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 selected topics at an advanced level by successfully dealing with issues in both a practical and a scholarly manner.

Academic Content:

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 chosen subject area
A 3	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of comparative and international approaches to legal issues within the selected subject 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:

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
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 have access to a wide range of learning resources, both physically and online. You will have access to libraries including the College Library at Mile End, the University of London Library at Senate House, the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies library and the first rate resources of other libraries with collections in London (e.g. the British Library). You will also have access to a wealth of online learning resources, notably online databases (LexisNexis, Westlaw, etc.) and electronic books and journals via the QMUL and IALS subscriptions. Via its online learning environment QMPlus, Queen Mary also offers you access to a range of learning materials, study guides and other support to complement teaching and promote your navigating through all that is available to you.

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 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 Cujas 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.

All registered students at Queen Mary, regardless of their location or mode of study outside of London, will have access to the electronic resources referred to 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.

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.

The Postgraduate Certificate will provide:

- a pathway for students to undertake existing QM LLM modules as a stand-alone 60 credit award
- a "taster" or stepping stone" to a full LLM should a student decide to transfer to the full LLM via Advanced Standing

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- a route for non-legal practitioners in fields such as tax, shipping and insurance to gain relevant legal training
- manageable flexibility in terms of module choice and ability to specialise – with the expectation that students would enrol onto a Postgraduate Certificate in Law with a broad diet and be able to have the specialism noted on their degree Certificate if they complete all 60 credits from specialist modules.

This programme will give students the opportunity to choose from LLM modules currently being offered by the School of Law. It will comprise of existing modules from:

- the LLM in London (15 and 30 credits);
- the LLM in Paris, where block teaching is offered (15 and 30 credits);
- the Distance Learning LLM in Technology, Media and Telecommunications Law (15 credits); and
- QMUL Online modules in International Dispute Resolution (30 credits).

The maximum time allowed to study the certificate is one year, though students could alternatively complete the 60 credits over one, two or three terms

Since each module is offered just once in any given year, students can choose to undertake:

- 60 credits in one semester, starting in September
- 60 credits in one semester, starting in January
- 60 credits in one academic year, starting in September
- 60 credits in one calendar year, starting in January

Students will be expected to take 2 - 4 modules leading to a total of 60 credits. They will be able to choose across a range of modules offered for the LLMs in London and by Distance. The "default" PG Certificate will be in Law. However, students will be able to undertake a specialist Certificate, graduating with the same specialisation titles as for the LLM. In order to do this, a student will need to undertake 100% of their 60 credits (i.e. all taught modules) from those listed within an LLM specialisation.

Students may take no more than 50% of modules by Distance Learning. Should a student wish to take more then they should join one of the Distance Learning programmes.

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

A 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 certificate 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
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Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Every module offered on LLM London (except those with pre or co requisites, those that are capped and the practical skills based modules), LLM Paris, and Distance Learning LLMs at School of Law including QMUL Online modules in International Dispute Resolution.						

What are the entry requirements?

These would be equivalent to the LLM, i.e.:

For applicants with a law degree:

- A 2:1 or above at undergraduate level in Law or a degree with substantial law content.
- Law graduates with a 2:2 honours degree who also have other legal qualifications and/or substantial professional legal experience may also qualify.

Applicants without a law degree may also qualify, with:

- A minimum second class honours degree and a Merit (or 60 per cent) in the Common Professional Examination (CPE) or Graduate Diploma recognised by the UK professional bodies.
- A minimum second class honours degree and exceptional professional experience (of at least five years) in a legal area or an area directly related to their programme of study.

For the Certificate, we would aim to include a pre-sessional course in the route to admission for non-lawyers:

- A minimum second class honours degree and sufficient specialist professional experience (e.g. in tax or insurance) to be admitted to the CCLS pre-sessional programme, the assessment of which must be passed successfully.

We would also ask that Admissions accept an anglophone/Anglosaxon LLM or PhD in law as evidence of meeting entry in their own right, without the need for candidates also to submit undergraduate degree transcripts.

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

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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 PTES and module evaluations.

What academic support is available?

The LLM Director, Specialism Directors and Module convenors will be able to assist with any academic matter relating to the programme

Programme-specific rules and facts

FOR THOSE STUDENTS WISHING TO SPECIALISE:

In addition to the PG Certificate in Law [non-specialist], we are offering all of the specialisms currently offered by the School of Law. We will also offer a specialist certificate in Interactive Entertainment Law. In order to specialise, PG Certificate Students must undertake all of their modules (i.e. 100% of their 60 credits) from those modules listed as relevant to the LLM specialisms (see below). In certain instances, we recommend particular combinations of modules which work well in a 60-credit scenario – these will always be from amongst the broader lists of LLM specialist modules. The students will be able to receive an award in the following specialisms:

Postgraduate Certificate in Law (Banking and Finance)
Postgraduate Certificate in Law (Commercial and Corporate)
Postgraduate Certificate in Law (Comparative and International Dispute Resolution)
Postgraduate Certificate in Law (Competition)
Postgraduate Certificate in Law (Criminal Justice)
Postgraduate Certificate in Law (Energy and Natural Resources)
Postgraduate Certificate in Law (Environmental)
Postgraduate Certificate in Law (European)
Postgraduate Certificate in Law (Human Rights)
Postgraduate Certificate in Law (Immigration)
Postgraduate Certificate in Law (Insurance)
Postgraduate Certificate in Law (Intellectual Property)
Postgraduate Certificate in Law (International Business)
Postgraduate Certificate in Law (International Economic)
Postgraduate Certificate in Law (International Shipping)
Postgraduate Certificate in Law (Legal Theory)
Postgraduate Certificate in Law (Public International)
Postgraduate Certificate in Law (Regulation and Compliance)
Postgraduate Certificate in Law (International Tax)
Postgraduate Certificate in Law (Technology, Media and Telecommunications)
Postgraduate Certificate in Law (Interactive Entertainment)

All students register initially to the Certificate in Law with the specialisation information being sent to Registry after enrolment and upon confirmation by the Taught Programmes Office that the student's module choices meet the necessary requirements. Upon successful completion of studies, the award conferred to the student can then be a PG Certificate in the specialist field.

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,

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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. 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.

Students will have access to career planning and development skill events. We also organise seminar series with visiting practitioners in specialist areas.

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.

Students will have scope to network and be part of a community of students and alumni with a range of profiles and a wealth of experience and links amongst them.

Programme Specification Approval

Person completing Programme Specification:

Laura Edgar, Anna Gray

Person responsible for management of programme:

Laura Edgar

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

13th January 2021

Date Programme Specification approved by Taught Programmes Board:

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