



Programme Specification (PG)

Awarding body / institution:	Queen Mary University of London
Teaching institution:	Queen Mary University of London
Name of final award and title:	Postgraduate Certificate in Aviation Law
Name of interim award(s):	
Duration of study / period of registration:	1 semester
Queen Mary programme code(s):	PCPF-QMCCLS1
QAA Benchmark Group:	
FHEQ Level of Award:	Level 7
Programme accredited by:	
Date Programme Specification approved:	January 2025
Responsible School / Institute:	Centre for Commercial Law Studies

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

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

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Programme outline

The PG Certificate in Aviation Law offers the opportunity to students interested in specialising in aviation law to acquire comprehensive knowledge of public and private aviation law in a single semester. It consists of two 30-credit modules, one on public international and European air transport law and one on private international and European air transport law. Each module consists of ten three-hour lessons. The programme is specifically designed for those who wish to pursue a career in aviation law, either in private practice or the public sector. It is addressed to postgraduate students, legal practitioners, as well as aviation experts from adjacent fields, such as economics or management. Upon graduation, students will be able to work confidently in the area of aviation law or continue their studies to obtain a PhD in aviation law. In addition, graduates of the PG Certificate in Aviation Law will have the option to use the 60 credits earned towards obtaining an LLM in any specialisation.

Aims of the programme

The programme aims to prepare students for a successful career in aviation. Given that aviation law is a rarity in law curricula, practitioners tend to learn aviation law "on the job". This can be a daunting exercise. The programme addresses this problem by offering a comprehensive diet that enables the students to tackle any aviation law-related issue confidently. Upon graduation, students should be able to capitalise on the scarcity value of their aviation law expertise and make good use of it professionally,

regardless of their chosen field (eg practice, civil service, academia, etc.).

What will you be expected to achieve?

The PG Certificate in Aviation Law aims to demystify aviation law and enable you to tackle any aviation-related legal issue confidently. You are expected to attend (irrespective of the fact that the lessons are recorded and available on QMPlus) and participate in the lesson by posing questions or contributing your own view on the various issues discussed in class. To achieve so, you would need to be committed to your studies, doing the necessary reading pertaining to each seminar. You are expected to acquire concrete knowledge in aviation law through attending and studying, as well as transferable skills, such as critical thinking, legal reasoning, ability to synthesize and ability to research, through working on your assessments.

Academic Content:

A 1	By the end of the programme, students will be able to illustrate a comprehensive approach to study, using different learning methods and distinct research strategies.
A 2	By the end of the programme, students will be able to understand and examine the interplay between air transport law and economics, politics and technology.
A 3	By the end of the programme, students will be able to explain how research-led teaching and content inform learning.

Disciplinary Skills - able to:

B 1	By the end of the programme, students will be able to comprehend relevant complex legal issues in the subject area, utilising a holistic approach to knowledge, interdisciplinarity and communication, including developing research output.
B 2	By the end of the programme, students will be able to enhance the skills and knowledge necessary to construct in-depth and micro-research.
B 3	By the end of the programme, students will be able to demonstrate interdisciplinary research in understanding how study can be enhanced through evaluating other, related fields of study.

Attributes:

C 1	The graduates of the programme will apply the knowledge learnt via specific case studies to apply theory to facts.
C 2	The graduates of the programme will practice self-direction and independent problem solving when analysing essay questions.
C 3	The graduates of the programme will understand and critically evaluate current research and advanced scholarship in a highly specialised discipline.

How will you learn?

You will learn by attending, studying and working on your assessments. Teaching is research-led, the seminars are interactive

and student questions are answered on the spot. The slides are comprehensive, they are explained in class thoroughly and are accompanied by a reading list that helps the students prepare. The lecturer offers feedback on the students' draft assessments and is available throughout the semester for a private meeting to discuss the students' progress.

How will you be assessed?

The assessment is by means of a short essay and an oral presentation.

Students have the opportunity to perform a formative assessment and receive extensive feedback prior to submitting their essay and delivering their presentation.

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.

Both modules are taught in the same semester. There are in total ten 3-hour lessons per module. The assessment deadline is after the end of the lessons (during the examination period) and is arranged centrally.

SOLM 151 is structured as follows (please, note that the content is updated when necessary to account for new developments):

Week 1 - Historical regulation of international civil aviation – The era of regulation
Week 2 - Historical regulation of international civil aviation – The era of de-regulation/liberalization
Week 3 - Competition law and air transport - Strategic airline alliances v. airline mergers
Week 4 - Subsidies in aviation – WTO regime v. EU State aid law regime
Week 5 - Air Transport – An economic activity or a public utility? Public service obligations in air transport
Week 6 - Study Week
Week 7 - Flags of convenience in aviation – Case study: Norwegian Air International
Week 8 - Fair competition in international air transport: Do sixth freedom carriers distort the level playing field? – Case study: the Gulf carriers
Week 9 - National security and air transport – Case studies:
(i) Air blockade of Qatar
(ii) Russian invasion of Ukraine
Week 10 - Covid-19 and air transport
Week 11 - Aviation and the environment

SOLM 152 is structured as follows (please, note that the content is updated when necessary to account for new developments):

Week 1 - Introduction – On the artificial divide between public and private law
Week 2 - Air carrier liability towards passengers and shippers I – The Warsaw Convention
Week 3 - Air carrier liability towards passengers and shippers II – The Montreal Convention
Week 4 - EU consumer protection law I - Regulation (EC) No 261/2004 on compensation for denied boarding, cancellation and delay of flights

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Week 5 - EU consumer protection law II – Jurisprudence of European Court of Justice on Regulation (EC) 261/2004
Week 6 - Study week
Week 7 - Persons with disabilities and their right to fly
Week 8 - The international law regime for surface damage liability
Week 9 - The international law regime for aircraft financing and aircraft nationality – The Cape Town Convention
Week 10 - The economics of aircraft financing and aircraft nationality
Week 11 - The regulation of drones

Academic Year of Study

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Public International and European Air Transport Law	SOLM151	30	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 2
Private International and European Air Transport Law	SOLM152	30	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 2

What are the entry requirements?

Entry requirements are the same as for the LLM programmes:

UK

Degree requirements

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.

Other routes

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

English language requirements

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 Student Voice 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. Student Voice Committees meet regularly throughout the year.

Each school/institute operates an Education Committee, or equivalent, which advises the School/Institute Director of Education 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 and the Directorate of Governance and Legal Services (DGLS). 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 operates Programme Reviews of their taught undergraduate and postgraduate provision. The Programme Review is a continuous process of reflection and action planning which is owned by those responsible for programme delivery. Students' views are considered in this process through analysis of the PTES and Module Experience surveys.

What academic support is available?

Inductions are organised for all CCLS programmes. In addition, students have access to short videos with more comprehensive information about each module, posted on QMPlus.

The convenor is the students' point of reference and first port of call. Students are encouraged to contact the convenor whenever they need support with their studies, including their assessment. The module convenor holds individual meetings with each student to help them calibrate their essay topic and structure their essays. The formative assessment for both modules consists in comprehensive feedback on the students' draft essays.

The students benefit from access to QMUL library, as well as IALS library. They have access to all the resources that LL.M. students have, such as training courses and participation in conferences and other academic events organised by QMUL.

Programme-specific rules and facts

N/A

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
- Examination Access Arrangements
- 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)

Links with employers, placement opportunities and transferable skills

The students have access to all the guest lectures, conferences and events organised by CCLS/QMUL, where practitioners from law firms and other employers are invited. The lecturer offers an extra employability seminar to aviation law students at the end of the semester. Guest lecturers in aviation are also asked to discuss employability in their field as part of their lecture.

Placements are not part of the PG Certificate in Aviation Law.

The module is designed, delivered and assessed such as to offer transferable skills to the students as opposed to mere technical knowledge.

Programme Specification Approval

Person completing Programme Specification:

Fatima Nazir

Person responsible for management of programme:

Antigoni Lykotrafiti

**Date Programme Specification produced / amended by
School / Institute Education Committee:**

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

January 2025