



Programme Specification (PG)

Awarding body / institution:	<input type="text" value="Queen Mary University of London"/>
Teaching institution:	<input type="text" value="Queen Mary University of London"/>
Name of final award and title:	<input type="text" value="LLM/PGDip/PGCert in International Dispute Resolution (Distance Learning)"/>
Name of interim award(s):	<input type="text" value="Postgraduate Certificate; Postgraduate Diploma"/>
Duration of study / period of registration:	<input type="text" value="2 years (LLM)/ 2 years (PGDiploma)/ 6 months (PGCertificate)"/>
Queen Mary programme code(s):	<input type="text"/>
QAA Benchmark Group:	<input type="text"/>
FHEQ Level of Award:	<input type="text" value="Level 7"/>
Programme accredited by:	<input type="text"/>
Date Programme Specification approved:	<input type="text"/>
Responsible School / Institute:	<input type="text" value="Centre for Commercial Law Studies"/>

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

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

Programme outline

The International Dispute Resolution Programme is a distance learning programme...

The year is divided into three 4-month terms, with one module being offered in each term.

Aims of the programme

To enable students to become experts in the field of international arbitration, to prepare them for careers in this field either in private practice or in the legal department of companies and or State entities, or to provide them with the advanced knowledge of arbitration to help them develop a career in academia in the field.

What will you be expected to achieve?

An in depth understanding of the key legal issues in international arbitration including the regulatory framework, the approach of arbitrators and the courts and the different facets of arbitration as a dispute resolution mechanism. There are modules on both commercial and investment arbitration. You will be expected to understand the main differences between each process. You will gain an understanding of arbitral process from filing the request for arbitration to enforcement of an award.

Academic Content:

A 1	Understand the international regulatory framework within which international arbitration takes place, including its changing nature and the challenges faced by dispute resolution mechanisms in cross border transactions.
A 2	Understand how arbitrators and domestic courts approach the key legal issues (of jurisdiction, arbitrability, enforcement etc.)
A 3	To acquire specialist knowledge of the different facets of arbitration as a dispute resolution mechanism including procedural and substantive aspects

Disciplinary Skills - able to:

B 1	Advise on the application of the arbitration laws of various jurisdictions to real life questions
B 2	Reason and draft opinions in respect of matters relating to procedural issues arising in arbitration
B 3	Critically reflect and account for how law including soft law is applied in international commercial arbitration

Attributes:

C 1	Able to carry out independent research.
C 2	Able to strategically advise clients on key issues of arbitration practice
C 3	Able to apply theory and methods to concrete issues and cases.

How will you learn?

The virtual learning platform will provides students with access to all of the teaching materials including written materials,

videos, practice exercises, quizzes and group discussions. Students will be assessed through written assessments and provided with individual feedback. A tutor will support the online learning engaging with the students and providing feedback.

How will you be assessed?

For each module assessment will be through a take home examination and written assessments provided in the course of the module.

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.

Students will study part-time and complete the compulsory elements for their particular award, as follows:

LLM:

LLM students must take a total of 180 credits which include four compulsory 30-credit taught modules and a compulsory 60-credit Dissertation. LLM students will complete 90 credits per academic year.

Year 1 they will complete the following:

- International Commercial Arbitration Theory and Context
- International Commercial Arbitration: Selected Issues
- Investment Treaty Arbitration

Year 2 they will complete the following:

- Investment Arbitration: Substantive Protection
- Dissertation in International Dispute Resolution - Arbitration

Postgraduate Diploma:

PGDip students must take a total of 120 credits which include four compulsory 30-credit taught modules. PGDip students do not complete a dissertation. PGDip students take all compulsory modules over a period two years.

Postgraduate Certificate:

PGCert students must take a total of 60 credits which include two out of the four 30-credit taught modules.

The year is divided into 3 4-month terms, with one module being offered in each term. Students will be assessed for each taught module through a Take Home Examination and/or in-course assessments.

The programme will have entry points in September and January. September 2025 will be the first intake for the programme.

Academic Year of Study PT - Year 1

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
International Commercial Arbitration Theory and Context		30	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 1 or 2
International Commercial Arbitration: Selected Issues		30	7	Compulsory	1	
Investment Treaty Arbitration		30	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 3

Academic Year of Study PT - Year 2

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Investment Arbitration: Substantive Protection		30	7	Compulsory	2	
Dissertation in International Dispute Resolution - Arbitration		60	7	Compulsory	2	

What are the entry requirements?

Law graduates

The usual qualification for entry to the programme is a degree in law, or a degree with a substantial law content, of at least 2.1 honours (or international 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

Non-law graduates with a minimum 2.2 honours degree who 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 substantial professional experience in a legal area or an area directly related to their programme of study.

In all cases, a full online application is required in order for a fair assessment and decision to be made. Each application is considered on its merits and on sight of comprehensive application documents.

A full and detailed CV is required for all applications and is particularly relevant where professional experience needs to be considered.

International applicants

At Queen Mary we are proud of our global community and we have a long history of welcoming students from around the world. Over the years, many thousands of our international graduates have gone on to pursue successful careers.

To be able to make the most of the modules and teaching on offer, and to keep up with the online discussions, all applicants

must meet a minimum academic English language standard for admission. You will need to provide evidence of sufficient English language ability in line with our standard English requirements. The IELTS requirement is a 7.0 overall and at least a 7.0 in the writing component. Please check the guideline for English language requirements for further information on the English language levels required, and alternative qualifications for English language proof.

If you have not achieved the required English language level, then you should continue to take English language tests in your country to reach the level needed.

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

After each module we conduct a wash up session to discuss student feedback and student voice. Whilst it is not always possible to implement all suggestions e.g. to have a full study week for each of the assignments, we do try to make as many changes suggested as possible.

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. 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 a Programme Review of their taught undergraduate and postgraduate provision. This is a continuous process of reflection and action planning which is owned by those responsible for programme delivery. The aim of the Programme Review is to monitor academic standards, curriculum development and to improve the student experience. Students' views are considered in this process through analysis of the PTES and module experience surveys.

What academic support is available?

Tutors will be available to discuss questions students have in relation to the modules. Students will have a dissertation supervisor to support them with their dissertation topic. The programme directors will also be available to support students with academic issues.

Programme-specific rules and facts

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)
- Mentoring support for students with mental health issues and conditions on the autistic spectrum.

Teaching, learning, and assessment methods are diverse and inclusive, ensuring accessibility and appropriate participation for all students.

Links with employers, placement opportunities and transferable skills

We do not have direct arrangements with law firms for internships but we are the oldest dedicated institution teaching international disputes resolution. The School of International Arbitration was set up in 1985 and maintains a leading reputation in the field. The skills are practical and are useful for both transactional lawyers to understand the impact of including arbitration in your contract and dispute resolution lawyers.

Programme Specification Approval

Person completing Programme Specification:

Laura Edgar

Person responsible for management of programme:

Norah Gallagher and Remy Gerbay

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

Date Programme Specification approved by Taught Programmes Board: