

Programme Title: LLB Law and Politics



## Programme Specification (UG)

Awarding body / institution:	Queen Mary University of London
Teaching institution:	Queen Mary University of London
Name of award and field of study:	LLB Law and Politics
Name of interim award(s):	Certificate of Higher Education (Cert HE) Diploma of Higher Education (Dip HE)
Duration of study / period of registration:	3 years (36 months), Maximum registration period: 6 years
QMUL programme code / UCAS code(s):	ML13
QAA Benchmark Group:	Law
FHEQ Level of Award :	Level 6
Programme accredited by:	*See programme Specific Rules and Facts
Date Programme Specification approved:	
Responsible School / Institute:	Department of Law

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

Department of Law

School of Politics and International Relations

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

### Programme outline

The LLB Law and Politics joint honours programme offers students the opportunity to study the closely related disciplines of Law and Politics side by side over the course of a three-year programme. It is a Qualifying Law Degree (QLD) satisfying professional requirements for the foundations of legal knowledge and skills in England and Wales. It is a common occurrence for students on this programme to have previously studied politics or have a particularly keen interest in politics, while however wishing to pursue legal studies at University. This degree offers them the opportunity to study both these subjects side by side over three years while obtaining a LLB degree. It is a degree that can be pursued by those aspiring to pursue a career in the law as well as those, amongst others, who wish to pursue a career in which knowledge of both legal and governmental systems is of major importance.

### Aims of the programme

The LLB programme offers intellectually able students the opportunity to study the closely related disciplines of law and Politics

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In a supportive environment. Teaching is strongly underpinned by the research taking place in both the Department of Law and the School of Politics and International Relations. The programme encourages students to explore legal rules, principles, reasoning and ideas in their comparative, social, political, economic, historical, philosophical, and practical contexts. Beyond this, the programme enables students to select modules covering a wide variety of subjects to reflect their interests and aspirations.

Outside the programme, students may choose to take part in the wide range of extracurricular activities offered as well as the work of the Queen Mary Legal Advice Centre - a student-led Pro-Bono legal advice scheme - and mooting which is based on written and oral presentation of legal arguments in a simulated court environment.

**What will you be expected to achieve?**

Students who successfully complete the programme will demonstrate achievement in all the following areas.

Subject-specific

1. Identify and apply knowledge to difficult situations of significant legal complexity, through the analysis of facts and the production of well-supported conclusions in relation to them.
2. Recognition of sophisticated legal and related non-legal issues and formulation of a clear and coherent research plan.
3. Production of a clear and accurate presentation of the law on a topic directly from primary sources and use of techniques of legal interpretation to complex issues arising from them.

Skills

1. Take initiative in the design and managing of their own projects and find their own sources (both legal and non-legal).
2. Make independent assessment of their own progress, present work in timely fashion for feedback and assistance, and establish a programme of action based on feedback given.
3. Write and use orally fluent and complex prose, using legal terminology correctly.
4. Read and compare a range of complex works within and about law and to summarise their arguments accurately.

**Please note that the following information is only applicable to students who commenced their Level 4 studies in 2017/18, or 2018/19**

In each year of undergraduate study, students are required to study modules to the value of at least 10 credits, which align to one or more of the following themes:

- networking
- multi- and inter-disciplinarity
- international perspectives
- enterprising perspectives.

These modules will be identified through the Module Directory, and / or by your School or Institute as your studies progress.

Academic Content:

A 1	<p>Knowledge: Students should demonstrate a basic knowledge of modern political ideologies and key political concepts, and a basic knowledge and understanding of the principal features of the legal system of England and Wales and that of the European Union and should be able to:</p> <p>(a) demonstrate knowledge of a substantial range of major concepts, values, principles and rules of those systems;                  (b) explain the main legal institutions and procedures of those systems;                  (c) demonstrate the study in depth and in context of some substantive areas of the legal systems.</p>
A 2	<p>Application and problem-solving: Students should demonstrate a basic ability to apply knowledge to a situation of limited complexity in order to provide arguable conclusions for concrete problems (actual or hypothetical).</p>
A 3	<p>Sources and research: Students should demonstrate a basic ability to</p> <p>(a) identify accurately the issue(s) which require researching;                  (b) identify and retrieve up-to-date legal and political information, using paper and electronic sources;                  (c) use primary and secondary legal and political sources relevant to the topic under study</p>

<b>Disciplinary Skills - able to:</b>	
B 1	<p>Analysis, synthesis, critical judgment and evaluation. Students should demonstrate a basic ability to:</p> <p>(a) recognise and rank items and issues in terms of relevance and importance;                  (b) bring together information and materials from a variety of different sources;                  (c) produce a synthesis of relevant doctrinal and policy issues in relation to a topic;                  (d) make a critical judgement of the merits of particular arguments;                  (e) present and make a reasoned choice between alternative solutions.</p>
B 2	<p>Autonomy and ability to learn: Students should demonstrate a basic ability, with limited guidance to:</p> <p>(a) act independently in planning and undertaking tasks in areas of law and politics which they have already studied;                  (b) be able to undertake independent research in areas of law and politics which they have not previously studied starting from standard legal and political information sources;                  (c) reflect on their own learning and to seek and make use of feedback.</p>

<b>Attributes:</b>	
C 1	<p>Communication and literacy: Both orally and in writing, students should demonstrate a basic ability:</p> <p>(a) to understand and use the English language proficiently in relation to legal and political matters;                  (b) to present knowledge or an argument in a way which is comprehensible to others and which is directed at their concerns;                  (c) to read and discuss legal and political materials which are written in technical and complex language                  act independently in planning and undertaking tasks in areas of law and politics which they have already studied</p>
C 2	<p>Other key skills: numeracy, information technology and teamwork: A student should demonstrate a basic ability:</p> <p>(a) where relevant and as the basis for an argument, to use, present and evaluate information provided in numerical or statistical form                  (b) to produce a word-processed essay or other text and to present such work in an appropriate form;                  (c) to use the internet and email                  (d) to use some electronic information retrieval systems                  (e) to work in groups as a participant who contributes effectively to the group's task</p>

### How will you learn?

Active learning is promoted within a context of clear learning objectives. Students are encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning. All modules make use of an online learning environment. Most modules have a weekly course element and in

some this will require collaborative group work. Clear guidance on basic and supplementary reading is given.

Teaching for core modules is typically through lectures (to the whole year group) and tutorials (small groups of up to 15 students). Lectures may have several different goals: to provide an introduction to a particular topic; to cast light on the context of a module; to provide alternatives to orthodox approaches; to provide an overview of the topic; to explain particularly difficult aspects of a topic; to introduce comparative aspects of a topic; to cover reform proposals and recent reforms in the law which are not covered in the textbooks.

Elective modules make use of a variety of teaching methods. Small group work often include discussion structured around questions and readings distributed in advance. Being able to talk about the law and politics fluently is a vital part of the degree. By expressing ideas you are able to refine and reflect on them. Tutorials and seminars are supportive environments in which ideas can be exchanged and difficulties can be ironed out.

A considerable amount of independent study is expected throughout the programme. This will involve reading cases, legislation, academic and non-academic texts. Independent study may also involve working with other students in pairs or small groups: students are encouraged to set up informal study groups to help each other get to grips with topics before or after tutorials and seminars.

### How will you be assessed?

Modules in Law and Politics are assessed by a combination of coursework, presentations, in-course tests, dissertations and final examinations. Clear guidance on coursework requirements are given, emphasising approaches to coursework of various types and how to avoid plagiarism, together with rules and procedures.

Examinations are typically of a two to three hour paper undertaken in the January, or May/June examination periods.

### 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 is delivered full time.

Students are required to take 120 credits each year and the programme consists of 360 credits in total. Law and Politics modules are either 30 credits or 15 credits. In year I, 105 credits are from compulsory modules (75 credits in Law, and 30 credits in Politics), and 15 credits are from elective Politics modules (from a choice of two). In year II, 75 credits are from compulsory Law modules, and 45 credits are from elective Politics modules. In Year III, 60 credits are from compulsory Law modules, 30 credits are from elective law modules, and 30 credits are from elective Politics modules.

Year I consists of the following: Public Law (a 30 credit compulsory Law module); Contract Law I: Formation and Vitiatio (a 15 credit compulsory Law module); Contract Law II: Terms, Breach and Remedies (a 15 credit compulsory Law module); Law in Context (a 15 credit compulsory Law module); Thinking Politically (a 30 credit compulsory Politics module); a second semester 15 credit elective module in Politics which is either Background to British Politics or Global Histories.

Year II consists of the following: Land Law (a 30 credit compulsory Law module); Criminal Law (a 30 credit compulsory Law module); Law of the European Union (a 15-credit compulsory Law module); 45 credits of elective modules in Politics.

Year III consists of the following: Tort Law (a 30 credit compulsory Law module); Equity and Trusts (a 30 credit compulsory Law module); 30 credits elective module(s) in Law; 30 credits elective module(s) in Politics.

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Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Public Law	LAW4001	30	4	Compulsory	1	Semesters 1 & 2
Legal Skills Methods and Context	LAW4014	15	4	Compulsory	1	Semester 1
Contract Law I: Formation and Vitiatio	LAW4104	15	4	Compulsory	1	Semester 1
Contract Law II: Terms, Breach and Remedies	LAW4105	15	4	Compulsory	1	Semester 2
Thinking Politically: Introduction to Concepts, Theories and Ideologies	POL110	30	4	Compulsory	1	Semesters 1 & 2
Background to Politics	POL108	15	4	Elective	1	Semester 2
Global Histories	POL109	15	4	Elective	1	Semester 2

Academic Year of Study FT - Year 2

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Law of the European Union	LAW5105	15	5	Compulsory	2	Semester 1
Land Law	LAW4006	30	4	Compulsory	2	Semesters 1 & 2
Criminal Law (level 5)	LAW5005	30	5	Compulsory	2	Semesters 1 & 2
Elective level 5 Politics module(s)		45	5	Elective	2	Semesters 1 & 2

Academic Year of Study FT - Year 3

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Tort Law	LAW5001	30	5	Compulsory	3	Semesters 1 & 2

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Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Equity and Trusts (level 6)	LAW6056	30	6	Compulsory	3	Semesters 1 & 2
Elective Law module(s)		30	6	Elective	3	Semesters 1 & 2
Elective politics module(s)		30	6	Elective	3	Semesters 1 & 2

### What are the entry requirements?

The normal offer for admission to the LLB programme is Grades A\*AA at A-Level. Excludes General Studies and Critical Thinking. Full entry requirements (including contextual admissions) can be found here: <https://www.qmul.ac.uk/undergraduate/coursefinder/courses/2025/law/#entry-requirements>

Applicants offering other qualifications will, if successful, receive offers at an equivalent level (e.g. the International Baccalaureate Diploma with 36 points overall and at least 6, 6, 6 at higher level).

Applications are welcomed from suitably qualified and motivated mature applicants (those over 21 years old). In addition to academic profile, the Department will consider skills and qualifications acquired since mature candidates were last in full-time education as well as evidence of a commitment to study law at degree level.

In terms of access and foundation students, all UCAS applications will be held until January. The Access to HE entry requirements is 45 credits at level 3.

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

The Programme Directors are responsible for the academic content and quality of the programme and any changes to the curriculum, in addition to ensuring the maintenance of a consistent quality of teaching across the programme.

The overall management and enhancement of the programme lies with the Department of Law's Education Committee chaired by the Director of Education.

The Student Voice Committee provides a formal means of communication and discussion between the Department of Law and its students. The committee consists of student representatives from each programme and each year in the Department together with appropriate representation from staff within the Department. 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 academic year. The School of Politics and International Relations Committee has a similar committee which operates in a similar fashion its law department counterpart.

Student views are incorporated formally through representation on the Education Committees in the Department of Law and School of Politics and International Relations.

All schools/institutes at Queen Mary operate an Annual Programme Review of their taught undergraduate and postgraduate provision. This 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 the analysis of the NSS and Student Experience Surveys.

### What academic support is available?

In each module, tutors are responsible for marking written assignments (see feedback below), and are responsible for recording tutorial attendance. Additionally they report on students progress in written assignments and contributions to tutorial

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discussions.

The Senior Tutor and Programme Leads are available to help with any problems that arise that cannot be resolved by your module tutors.

Feedback on progress in each module is provided throughout the year in various ways (for example, comments on written assignments, and guidance given in lectures/seminars and tutorials).

All academics have dedicated feedback and advice hours so students may visit them to discuss any aspect of their learning on specific modules.

In addition to the above students are supported by the Law Undergraduate Teaching and Learning Team who are available to meet with students and provide support in an array of areas, such as Student Voice; Assessments; Digital Learning; Student Support. The Teaching and Learning Team includes the Law Department's Student Support Officers (SSO's). Students receive pastoral support in the form of an allocated Student Support Officer. SSO's are the first point of contact for students who need support with life at university. This includes module queries, timetabling queries, attendance issues, and support in wellbeing and mental health issues.

### 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.

### Programme-specific rules and facts

Students are invited to attend Welcome Week before the start of Semester A, during this time students are provided with introductory talks on all the services and support mechanisms available.

Standard bachelors programme academic regulations and progression apply [<https://www.qmul.ac.uk/governance-and-legal-services/media/dgls-media/policy-zone/2024-25/Academic-Regulations-2024-25.pdf>].

Law programmes cover the 7 foundations of legal knowledge as prescribed by the Bar Standards Board and successful completion of law programmes, including passing all 7 of the prescribed modules, should satisfy the academic element of training necessary as part of entry to the Bar. The Bar has additional requirements such as vocational experience which are not included in the law programmes.

The designated modules are as follows:

- Obligations I (Contract): satisfied by taking and passing LAW4104 Contract Law I, and LAW4105 Contract Law II.
- Obligations II (Tort): satisfied by taking and passing LAW5001 Tort Law.
- Criminal Law: satisfied by taking and passing LAW5005 Criminal Law.
- Equity and the Law of Trusts: satisfied by taking and passing LAW6056 Equity and Trusts (Level 6).
- Law of the European Union: satisfied by taking and passing LAW5105 Law of the European Union, AND LAW4001 Public Law.
- Property Law (Land Law): satisfied by taking and passing LAW4006 Land Law.
- Public Law (Constitutional and Administrative Law): satisfied by taking and passing LAW4001 Public Law.

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Law programmes also provide a sound educational basis for students wishing to further their training and take the Solicitors Qualifying Exam by the Solicitors Regulation Authority.

### Links with employers, placement opportunities and transferable skills

The Department of Law has a dedicated Careers Consultant, Careers Adviser, part of the Queen Mary Careers Team, who is regularly available in the department for one-to-one support. The Law Adviser also manages Careers Brief, the School's careers website, and arranges employer workshops in areas such as commercial awareness, applications and interview skills.

The Legal Advice Centre provides undergraduate law students with the opportunity to place law into a practical legal context under the supervision of volunteer lawyers. Lawyers from Allen & Overy, Field Fisher Waterhouse Mishcon de Reya, Nabas Legal and Reed Smith work closely with students, providing guidance and supervision, as well as training and careers advice.

The Queen Mary Student Pro Bono Group (QMSPBG) is a student group created by students for students. As students develop their skills and legal knowledge, they are able to become involved in increasingly challenging and hands-on projects. The Queen Mary Student Pro Bono Group has well-developed links with the London legal community. Students have the opportunity to volunteer at organisations that provide pro bono legal advice and to 'shadow' solicitors. Placement programmes operate through partnerships with leading law firms such as Berwin Leighton Paisner LLP, SNR Denton, Clifford Chance and Reed Smith LLP.

Queen Mary runs a Streetlaw Programme, which is based on a US model to provide an outreach volunteer programme to local schools and communities. Students visit primary and secondary schools to teach pupils relevant parts of the law. The Group also offers exciting opportunities in international law, in the past students have worked with organisations such as A4ID and Lawyers Without Borders.

The Queen Mary Mooting Society plays an active part of undergraduate life at Queen Mary. Under the auspices of the Student Moot Master and Student Mooting Committee, students have the opportunity to become involved in both internal and external mooting competitions.

## Programme Specification Approval

**Person completing Programme Specification:**

Mario Mendez

**Person responsible for management of programme:**

Mario Mendez

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

November 2024

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