

Programme Title: Master of Laws - LLM



## Programme Specification

Awarding Body/Institution	Queen Mary, University of London
Teaching Institution	Queen Mary, University of London
Name of Final Award and Programme Title	Master of Laws - LLM (see specialist LLM's below)
Name of Interim Award(s)	
Duration of Study / Period of Registration	12 months FT - 24 months PT
QM Programme Code / UCAS Code(s)	M2Q1 and M2Q2
QAA Benchmark Group	
FHEQ Level of Award	Level 7
Programme Accredited by	
Date Programme Specification Approved	6 Jun 2013
Responsible School / Institute	School of Law

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

Institution(s) other than Queen Mary that will provide some teaching for the programme

### Programme Outline

The LLM is an innovative postgraduate programme offering students 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. The programme of study provides a flexible mix of classroom based teaching (assessed by formal examinations or coursework) for taught modules, followed by compulsory research component. One of the distinctive features of the LLM is the exceptionally wide range of modules offered and the flexible structure designed to enable students to choose their own specialist area.

### 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:

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	Decognise 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

#### 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. 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.

## 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?

An LLM will be awarded to students who complete successfully 180 credits. All courses are at postgraduate (M) level. Students will typically have to make sure that 45 of the 180 credits are research credits.

You must take a total of 180 credits. Credits are organised as follows...

- 45 credits for each course taught over two terms and examined in May
- 45 (research) credits for a 15,000 word dissertation to be submitted in August
- 22.5 credits for each course taught over one term to be examined in May or in August
- 22.5 (research) credits for a 7,500 word dissertation to be submitted in August

Students can opt for a General LLM and have free selection from the range of modules approved for the LLM. They must include in this a 45 credit research dissertation within any legal area.

By choosing to take 135 credits in the same specialised area of law - 45 credits of which must be a research dissertation - students can choose to specialise in any of the following:

Banking and Financial Law  
Commercial and Corporate Law  
Comparative and International Dispute Resolution  
Competition Law  
Computer and Communications Law  
Economic Regulation  
European Law  
Human Rights Law  
Intellectual Property Law  
International Business Law  
Law and Development (to be removed from 2014 onwards)

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Legal Theory and History  
Medical Law  
Public International Law  
Public Law  
Tax Law  
Environmental Law  
Media Law  
Insurance Law  
International Shipping Law  
Energy and Natural Resources Law

A full list of all modules available for selection under the general LLM and each specialist area is provided on the website and in the LLM syllabus provided on Registration.

## Academic Year of Study

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
See full list						

## What Are the Entry Requirements?

The usual admissions criteria for the law post-graduate programmes apply, i.e. a degree in law, or a degree with substantial law content, normally of at least Upper Second Class Honours (or equivalent). The following also qualify for entry to the LLM: a non-law graduate with good Honours who has obtained the equivalent of First Class or Second Class Honours in CPE and Bar Finals/ Legal Practice examinations, or passed the solicitors' qualifying examination. In exceptional cases persons not meeting the normal entry requirement may be considered if they have sufficient relevant experience. Evidence of English language proficiency will also be required.

## How Do We Listen and Act on Your Feedback?

The Staff-Student Liaison Committee provides a formal means of communication and discussion between Schools 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 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 this Committee's work in a number of ways, such as through student membership, or consideration of student surveys.

All schools operate an Annual Programme Review of their taught undergraduate and postgraduate provision. The process is normally organised at a School-level basis with the Head of School, or equivalent, responsible for the completion of the school's Annual Programme Reviews. Schools/institutes are required to produce a separate Annual Programme Review for undergraduate programmes and for postgraduate taught programmes using the relevant Undergraduate or Postgraduate Annual Programme Review pro-forma. Students' views are considered in this process through analysis of the NSS and module evaluations.

## Academic Support

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
- Our Postgraduate Dissertation and Student Support Coordinator will also be available to help with any academic matter that cannot be appropriately handled by the previous support mechanisms
- A Critical Thinking and Writing in Law Programme to help you with academic writing

## Programme-specific Rules and Facts

The Programme will be governed by QM general academic regulations and LLM specific regulations. Special regulations will be requested where necessary.

## Specific Support for Disabled Students

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.

The School of Law also has an academic dedicated Disabilities Support Officer in place who can act as a liaison between the School and College services, giving good support.

## Links With Employers, Placement Opportunities and Transferable Skills

LLM modules offered across the LLM are accredited by the Solicitors Regulation Authority and Bar Standards Board and confer CPD points.

A number of modules taught within the the LLM in Tax Law can give an exemption from specific elements of the Association of Tax Technicians (ATT) Exam.

A number of Comparative and International Dispute Resolution LLM modules can lead to exemptions with the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators.

The LLM has a dedicated Career Advisory member of staff, who works closely with many leading law firms to provide a range of presentations from various law firms as well as other career focused events.

## Programme Specification Approval

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**Person completing Programme Specification**

Dr. G. Gari

**Person responsible for management of programme**

Ms A. Flanagan and Mr. J. Griffiths

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

05.06.13

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

6 Jun 2013