

Programme Title: LLM in Criminal Justice



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)
Name of Interim Award(s)	N/A
Duration of Study / Period of Registration	1 Calendar Year/2 Calendar Years for Part-time students
QM Programme Code / UCAS Code(s)	M3QF, M4QF
QAA Benchmark Group	
FHEQ Level of Award	Level 7
Programme Accredited by	
Date Programme Specification Approved	
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

N/A

Programme Outline

The proposed Programme permits students to study a range of law modules relating to criminal justice, examining the challenges in their wider theoretical, practical, social and political contexts. It introduces students to national, international and comparative aspects and draws on research strengths within the School of Law.

Entry requirements: The programme is open to law graduates and graduates from other disciplines with relevant professional experience.

As with other LLM Programmes, students will study the Programme over 12 months (24 months for part-time students). In all cases, enrollment will take place in September. Students will take taught modules to the value of 135 credits, of which, at least, 90 must be within the LLM in Criminal Justice. Up to 45 credits can, if a student wishes, be drawn from the full range of taught modules available on the other LLM programmes. All students must write a 45 credit dissertation in the area of criminal justice.

These modules within the proposed LLM in Criminal Justice are:

- The Law of Economic Crime QLLM 068 (45 credits) [already exists]
- International Criminal Law QLLM 053 (45 credits) [already exists]

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- Policing in Local and Global Contexts (22.5 credits) [new; subject to approval]
- Comparative Criminal Justice (22.5 credits) [new; subject to approval]
- Punishment in England 1750 - 1950 (22.5 credits) [already exists]
- EU Criminal Law QLLM 101 (22.5 credits) [already exists]
- Mental Health Law QLLM 078 (45 credits) [already exists] (Considering that a mental health related problems of suspects/defendants influence the practice of policing and processes within criminal justice systems significantly, this module is seen as a valuable addition to the curriculum, not only for students, but in particular for law enforcement and criminal justice professionals)
- Dissertation on Criminal justice (45 credits) [new; subject to approval]
- Terrorism and Human Rights QLLM130 45 credits (also available as two 22.5 credit modules QLLM 173 or QLLM 174)
- International Cybercrime and Investigations QLLM 161 (45 credits) [already exists]
- Criminal Justice and Surveillance Technologies (22.5 credits) [new; subject to approval]

There is no established programme in the United Kingdom that offers a similarly comprehensive range of modules with an international comparative focus in this area of law. Students will have the opportunity to study models and problems in criminal justice at international, supranational and domestic levels and to understand the rationale and operation of the law in context.

The School is able to offer this programme thanks to the wide range of expertise in criminal law in the Law Department, including Professor Valsamis Mitsilegas, Professor Elspeth Guild, Dr Saskia Hufnagel and Dr Amber Marks. The programme will draw on their (and other colleague's within the School of Law) expertise and, in turn, help enhance the visibility and research profile of the School as a global hub of knowledge creation and dissemination at national and international level in this area.

Aims of the Programme

The programme aims to:

- offer a unique opportunity for PGT students to acquire mastery in criminal law/justice - at international, supranational and domestic levels;
- provide students with expert supervision for the pursuit of individual study in the area;
- foster an understanding of the major challenges in criminal justice in context and in a comparative setting;
- provide a potential route to post-graduate research in the area of criminal justice.

What Will You Be Expected to Achieve?

Students who successfully complete the Programme will be able to:

- understand and explain in detail the a wide range of aspects relating to criminal justice;
- advance arguments relating to criminal justice in a manner that is supported by evidence and demonstrates knowledge of a wide range of relevant sources and of the social and cultural context of legal rules.
- construct a 15,000 word dissertation that (i) demonstrates mastery of an issue within criminal justice, (ii) is well-structured and expressed effectively in English, and (iii) is presented in appropriate scholarly form.

Academic Content:

A 1	Comprehension of the impact of criminal justice issues in real-world situations.
A 2	Show an in depth knowledge of criminal justice issues in the global context.
A 3	Effective employment of legal terminology, both orally and in writing, to convey technical legal information in the area of criminal justice at an advanced level.
A 4	Apply legal knowledge in criminal law/justice to a practical situation and draw reasoned conclusions supported by legal argumentation and authority.

Disciplinary Skills - able to:	
B 1	Identify, locate and retrieve relevant legal and non-legal source material in the area of criminal justice, through different means and in different formats.
B 2	Demonstrate advanced legal skills, including critical analysis and awareness of relevant policy and doctrinal debates around criminal justice under international, regional and domestic law.
B 3	Analyse, evaluate and interpret source material, including national statutes, regional and international law reports, treaties, and case law in the area of criminal justice.
B 4	Synthesise information from primary and secondary sources to achieve detailed knowledge and comprehension of the law, case law and relevant literature on criminal justice.

Attributes:	
C 1	Develop critical reasoning skills and analytical capabilities to deal with complex sets of source material.
C 2	Utilise problem-solving skills in complex theoretical and practical contexts.
C 3	Develop time management and prioritisation skills by working to deadlines.
C 4	Develop individual and group communication skills through seminar presentation.
C 5	Take ownership and responsibility for own performance, organising time in an efficient and productive way.
C 6	Develop reading and legal reasoning skills, analysing and synthesising different viewpoints and presenting their findings and conclusions in a clear, comprehensive and structured format, either orally or in writing.
C 7	Work independently and in groups to explore issues, seek solutions for problems, and reach common objectives.

How Will You Learn?

The learning process will take place in a variety of ways to cater for the range of transferable skills useful for pursuing a professional career in the field. Teaching will be in small groups, taking the form of interactive seminars, allowing students to test their understanding and to learn from both the seminar leader and their peers. In that framework, there will be opportunities for students to present arguments in oral and written form and to conduct independent research. The seminars will be supported by an online learning environment, provided via QMPlus. Students will conduct an independent research project under the guidance of a research supervisor, producing a 15,000 word dissertation. Research and writing skills sessions will be delivered to support the learning process and the preparation of the final dissertation.

How Will You Be Assessed?

Mastery of the law and knowledge of the context within which it has developed will be assessed by means of unseen examinations, essays, coursework and a 15,000 word dissertation. Legal research and writing skills will be assessed by means of the dissertation. The precise methods of assessment for each module are recorded in the respective module specifications.

How is the Programme Structured?

Please specify the full time and part time programme diets (if appropriate).

The School of Law has a number of LLM Programmes. Each focuses on a particular area of law. The LLM in Criminal Justice is an addition to this very successful cluster of Programmes. Its structure will conform with the overall structure applied to all LLM Programmes. Accordingly, full-time students will study the Programme over 12 months (24 months for part-time students). In all cases, enrolment for the Programme will take place in September.

As noted above, students will take taught modules to the value of 135 credits (at least 90 credits of which must be in subjects within the LLM in Criminal Justice Programme). Students will also research and write a 15,000 word dissertation on a relevant topic.

The Programme will be assessed in accordance with the regulations currently applying to existing LLM specialisations.

Academic Year of Study FT - Year 1

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
The Law of Economic Crime	QLLM 068	45	7	Elective	1	Semesters 1 & 2
International Criminal Law	QLLM 053	45	7	Elective	1	Semesters 1 & 2
Policing in Local and Global Contexts	QLLM311	22.5	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Comparative Criminal Justice	QLLM312	22.5	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Punishment in England 1750 - 1950	QLLM169	22.5	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
EU Criminal Law	QLLM 101	22.5	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Mental Health Law	QLLM 078	45	7	Elective	1	Semesters 1 & 2
Dissertation on Criminal Justice	QLLM234	45	7	Compulsory	1	Semesters 1 & 2

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Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Terrorism and Human Rights	QLLM 130	45	7	Elective	1	Semesters 1 & 2
International Cybercrime and Investigations	QLLM 161	45	7	Elective	1	Semesters 1 & 2
Terrorism & Human Rights: Constitutional Perspectives	QLLM 173	22.5	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Migration, Security and Human Rights	QLLM 174	22.5	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Criminal Justice and Surveillance Technologies	QLLM313	22.5	7	Elective	1	Semester 2

What Are the Entry Requirements?

For Law graduates, the usual qualification for entry to the LLM programme is a degree in law or a degree with a substantial law content, normally of at least upper-second class honours (or equivalent). For non-law graduates, they may be considered on the basis of exceptional professional experience that directly relates to the subject area. Non-law graduates with good honours, that have also obtained the equivalent of good honours in CPE and Bar Finals/Legal Practice examinations, or passed the solicitors' qualifying examination, may qualify. Law graduates with high 2.2 honours and at least five years professional legal experience may also qualify.

How Do We Listen 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 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 NSS and module evaluations.

Academic Support

Each module will be taught by a subject specialist and students will have expert academic supervision for the dissertation. Students will also be able to take advantage of the general academic support available to all LLM students within the School. The School runs an induction period which includes guidance on module choice, information on research resources and introductory teaching sessions. Throughout the year, classes on dissertation proposal formulation, study skills and research and writing skills are available. Students are supported throughout by LLM tutors and the programme is supervised by a Programme co-ordinator.

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and Programme Directors, who are members of academic staff within the School. Extensive library resources are available at QM Library and at the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies Library. Both are served by expert professional support.

Programme-specific Rules and Facts

These will be the same as those which apply to our other LLM programmes.

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)
- Access to specialist mentoring support for students with mental health issues and Autistic Spectrum Disorders.

Links With Employers, Placement Opportunities and Transferable Skills

As mentioned above, the learning process will take place in a variety of ways to cater for the range of transferable skills useful for pursuing a professional career in the field, including critical reasoning and analytical capabilities, problem-solving skills, time management and prioritisation skills, writing and oral communication skills, and independent and team-work capabilities.

Programme Specification Approval

Person completing Programme Specification

Dr Saskia Hufnagel

Programme Title: LLM in Criminal Justice

Person responsible for management of programme

Dr Saskia Hugnagel

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

18 Dec 2014

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