

## Programme Specification (PG)

Awarding body / institution:	Queen Mary University of London
Teaching institution:	Queen Mary University of London
Name of final award and programme title:	LLM in Medical Law
Name of interim award(s):	Postgraduate Diploma, Postgraduate Certificate
Duration of study / period of registration:	1 year full time, 2 years part time
QMUL programme code(s):	
QAA Benchmark Group:	
FHEQ Level of Award:	Level 7
Programme accredited by:	
Date Programme Specification approved:	
Responsible School / Institute:	Department of Law

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 LLM in Medical Law offers graduate level students and professionals the opportunity to develop an advanced understanding of key concepts, methods and substantive legal principles underpinning Medical Law. LLM students will be taught to work critically with general and specific legal principles, such as consent to ordinary medical treatment, detained treatment in cases of mental illness, reparation for healthcare harms, and participation in practices like organ donation or collaborative reproduction. The programme will enable students to use different methods of doing medical law, such as rewriting doctrinal rules, developing professional regulation, prescribing ethical alternatives, and drawing on stories to promote legal understanding. Students will have the opportunity to explore, apply, and contribute to key developments in the research literature as they address concepts such as autonomy, regulation, rights, paternalism, embodiment, technology and relationality.

The programme builds on and complements the strengths of the school in related areas, such as human rights, comparative and international law, and law and society. Distinctive features of the LLM in Medical Law include its combination of practical and theoretical activities which equip students to explain and develop the law in innovative and sustainable ways, drawing on expertise across bioethics, human rights and socio-legal studies.

The programme includes both taught modules and a research component in the form of a dissertation in the field of Medical law.

### Aims of the programme

The purpose of the LLM in Medical Law is to enable individuals to acquire or strengthen their skills and knowledge base to develop in-depth expertise in Medical law informed by leading scholarship in the field.

It aims to give students opportunities to:

- develop analytical skills enabling them to understand, use and apply Medical Law effectively, whether in an academic or professional context;
- acquire an insight in the driving forces, dynamics and constraints that shape medico-legal developments;
- strengthen their critical skills and ability to place medico-legal developments in their wider context;
- enhance their ability to carry out thorough, focused and comprehensive research in the field of Medical Law
- enhance the students' learning experience through interaction with lecturers, practitioners, visiting academics and fellow students

### What will you be expected to achieve?

Students who successfully complete the programme will:

- acquire a deep and broad understanding of the evolution and practical application of medical law, ethics and policy in diverse areas;
- develop skills in critical analysis that enable them to evaluate the subject matter studied and provide expert commentary on legal developments;
- identify how cultural, social and economic context has an impact on medico-legal developments
- be able to carry out thorough, focused and comprehensive research in medical law.

#### Academic Content:

A 1	acquire a thorough understanding of the legal principles, rules and policies applicable in the areas of Medical Law under study.
A 2	develop an understanding of the specificity of the concepts, methods and processes used in Medical law.
A 3	situate medico-legal developments in their economic, social and political context.

#### Disciplinary Skills - able to:

B 1	select, use and analyse a range of primary and secondary legal materials, including legislation, case law and administrative guidance and the academic and professional literature.
B 2	adopt a critical and contextual perspective on medico-legal issues and put forward an informed, reasoned, structured argument
B 3	autonomously plan and successfully conduct a research project in an area of Medical Law.

#### Attributes:

C 1	Take charge of one's own learning, including reflecting on one's own learning, making use of feedback and seeking appropriate assistance when required.
C 2	Communicate ideas clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing.
C 3	use information competently, including using appropriate technologies to access information, evaluating the reliability of sources and relying on appropriate information as evidence to support arguments and decision-making.

### How will you learn?

Students will learn through direct interaction with lecturers using a variety of teaching, learning and assessment strategies, including traditional and interactive lectures, seminar sessions, tutorials and e-learning. Students will also be expected to invest a significant amount of time in independent learning, including reading materials in advance of lectures/seminars, preparing class presentations, completing assignments and preparing for examinations.

In addition, students will need to carry out extensive research to complete the dissertation. Students will be provided with a variety of legal resources and receive training on how to use them.

### How will you be assessed?

Assessment is by examination, oral presentation, essays and/or coursework for taught modules and by dissertation.

### 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.

Master of Laws (LLM)

- Students on the LLM have to complete 180 credits including the compulsory Dissertation in Medical Law SOLM912.
- Full-time students have to take between 60 and 90 credits of taught modules in each semester.
- Part-time students are normally expected to take 90 credits each year of their programme but this may be varied by special permission.
- Part-time students are normally expected to take 45 credits in each semester of their programme but this may be varied by special permission.

An additional dissertation (SOLM901) can be taken instead of taught modules by LLM students only with special permission from the LLM Programme Coordinator.

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Introduction to Medical Law	SOLM099	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Regulating Health Professions	SOLM100	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Introduction to Bioethics	SOLM101	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
New Medical Technologies: Medical Research and Product Regulation	SOLM102	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Law's Relations: Autonomy, Consent and Confidentiality	SOLM103	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Mental Health Law: Capacity to Consent and Best Interests	SOLM104	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
EU Healthcare Law: Rights, Policies and Instruments	SOLM105	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Competition and Regulation in EU Healthcare Markets	SOLM106	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Law's Bodies: Donation, Reproduction and Dying	SOLM107	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Advanced Medical Negligence	SOLM108	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
New Medical Technologies: Emerging Technologies	SOLM109	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Mental Health Law: Compulsory Detention and Treatment	SOLM110	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Regulating Health Systems	SOLM111	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Dissertation in Medical Law	SOLM912	30	7	Compulsory	1	Semesters 1-3
Dissertation	SOLM901	30	7	Elective	1	Semesters 1-3

### What are the entry requirements?

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

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 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 PTES and module evaluations.

### **What academic support is available?**

Students will receive a comprehensive induction. Students will be assisted with the preliminary stages of selecting a research topic, drafting a research proposal, considering their methodology and developing the skills needed to identify and use relevant materials. Lecturers on taught modules shall be available to discuss any concerns students might have with regard to the particular module or its content.

### **Programme-specific rules and facts**

Students can take up to 45 credits outside of their programme within the postgraduate programmes offered by the School of Law.

In order to specialise in Medical Law, LLM students must take at least 135 credits, including their dissertation, in modules on the Medical Law programme.

### **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

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- 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**

There is a mentoring programme that matches students with available mentors from the profession. An embedded Careers and professional development team provide guidance in identifying and obtaining relevant internships, valuable employment-related skills and other work-related opportunities. There is a programme of co-curricular activities designed to foster professional development and related skills.

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## **Programme Specification Approval**

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**Person completing Programme Specification:**

Dr Ruth Fletcher

**Person responsible for management of programme:**

Dr Ruth Fletcher

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

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