

Programme Specification (Postgraduate)

FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2025/26

Date created: 21/04/2021

Last amended: 27/11/2024

Version no. 1

1. Programme title(s) and code(s)

LLM in Employment Law

Postgraduate Diploma in Employment Law

Postgraduate Certificate in Employment Law*

Notes

* An award marked with an asterisk is only available as an exit award and is not available for students to register onto.

[HECOS Code](#)

HECOS Code	%
100485	100%

2. Awarding body or institution

University of Leicester

3. a) Mode of study

Part-time

b) Type of study

Distance learning

4. Registration periods

The normal period of registration for the LLM is 24 months

The maximum period of registration for the LLM is 48 months

The normal period of registration for the PG Diploma is 19 months

The maximum period of registration for the PG Diploma is 38 months

5. Typical entry requirements

Either a first or good second class honours degree or hold an approved professional qualification, coupled with suitable practical experience.

6. Accreditation of Prior Learning

N/A

7. Programme aims

The programme aims:

- To provide an understanding of the legal basis of individual and collective employment relations.
- To provide a working knowledge of the UK and European Union statutes and case law in the employment sphere, and international instruments relating to employment law.

- To identify change in the structure of the contemporary labour market and contemporary employment relations.
- To provide an understanding of the legal regulation and of the variation in the terms of employment.
- To appreciate the scope and limitation of the law in relation to combating discrimination and providing for equal opportunities.
- To understand the legal regulation of termination of employment, including alternative dispute resolution.
- To analyse the role of collective bargaining and employee participation in the workplace and the provision of a legal framework within which these activities may take place.
- To consider the interaction between national and supra-national law, including the relationship between human rights and employment law.

8. Reference points used to inform the programme specification

- QAA Benchmarking Statement
- Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)
- UK Quality Code for Higher Education
- [University Education Strategy](#)
- [University Assessment Strategy](#) [Login required]
- University of Leicester Periodic Developmental Review Report
- External Examiners' reports (annual)
- United Nations Education for Sustainable Development Goals
- Student Destinations Data

9. Programme Outcomes

Unless otherwise stated, programme outcomes apply to all awards specified in 1. Programme title(s).

a) Discipline specific knowledge and competencies

i) Knowledge

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Employment law: Advanced knowledge of United Kingdom and related EU and international law on employment relations.	Reading of course materials, independent research, tutorials, lectures, and seminars at residential teaching events and study schools, plus mid-module webinars	Assessed essays, group discussion and the dissertation.

ii) Concepts

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Enhanced grasp of legal principles and concepts relating to UK law and, where relevant, European and international employment law.	Reading of course materials, independent research, tutorials, lectures, and seminars residential teaching events and study schools	Assessed essays, group discussion and the dissertation.

iii) Techniques

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Command of bibliography, research methods, writing, and critical skills.	Reading of course materials, independent research, tutorials, lectures, and seminars at residential teaching events and study schools, plus online workshop on study skills	Assessed essays, group discussion, discussion board, and the dissertation.

iv) Critical analysis

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to apply command of concepts and techniques with independence, rigour and reflection.	Independent research, preparation for assessed essays and the dissertation	Assessed essays, group discussion, discussion board, and the dissertation.

v) Presentation

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<p>Ability to organise reading and research material in a manner appropriate to the assessment task.</p> <p>Ability to be discriminating in the use of material having regard to relevance.</p> <p>Writing essays and the dissertation to a professional standard using the conventions of the discipline.</p>	Writing guide, course materials, seminars and independent research, plus online workshop on study skills.	Assessed essays, group discussion, blackboard discussion boards, and the dissertation.

vi) Appraisal of evidence

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<p>Ability to analyse and assess a complex variety of sources both primary and secondary.</p> <p>Ability to mount and sustain an independent level of enquiry at an advanced level.</p>	Writing guide, course materials and independent research, plus Foundations of Law online workshop and online workshop on study skills.	Assessed essays and the dissertation.

b) Transferable skills

i) Research skills

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Progressive improvement in the ability to locate, organise and marshal evidence, report on findings, analyse complex ideas and construct sophisticated critical arguments	Through progression through the course modules; use of research techniques, participation in seminars and tutorials at residential teaching events and study schools.	Assessed essays, discussion groups, and the dissertation.

ii) Communication skills

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<p>Ability to present written work cogently and clearly, and to participate in group discussion at residential events.</p> <p>Ability to respond to questions, defend ideas, and to contribute to discussion.</p>	<p>Writing guide; feedback on assessed essays as course progresses; proposals event for the dissertation; working with supervisor on dissertation.</p>	<p>Assessed essays, group discussions and the dissertation.</p>

iii) Data presentation

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<p>Ability to present written work clearly and effectively using appropriate IT resources and following the conventions of the discipline.</p>	<p>Writing guide; online workshop on study skills; feedback on assessed essays as course progresses; proposals event for the dissertation; working with supervisor on dissertation.</p>	<p>Assessed essays and the dissertation.</p>

iv) Information technology

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<p>Ability to access, search and use all electronic sources and databases available freely on the internet and in the library. To access and use Blackboard, email and word-processing software</p>	<p>Presentation at teaching events and tutorials on Blackboard, IT resource based learning, online workshop on study skills, independent research</p>	<p>Word-processed assessed essays and dissertation. Online submission of coursework. Successful use of Blackboard, internet resources and email.</p>

v) Problem solving

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<p>Ability to solve problems in relevant legal areas</p>	<p>Presentation at teaching events and tutorials on Blackboard</p>	<p>Assessed essay and the dissertation</p>

vi) Working relationships

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<p>Knowing how and when to draw on the knowledge and expertise of others; ability to contribute and comment on ideas; developing effective group work skills.</p>	<p>Participation in residential teaching events; encouragement to form 'remote' study groups; specific dissertation residential; specific dissertation proposal and writing workshops</p>	<p>Assessed essays, group discussions and the dissertation.</p>

vii) Managing learning

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Organising time to read course materials and to write course assessments; identifying a credible research project and completing it to an agreed timetable.	Writing guide, course materials, tutorials and seminars at in residential teaching events and study schools	Assessed essays and the dissertation.

viii) Career management

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate ability to reflect upon individual professional strengths and identify areas for development.	Engagement with careers service, tutors and professional practitioners. Personal Tutor Meetings	Discussions with personal tutor. Support of the Career Development Service Selection of a specific dissertation topic (LLM level)

10. Special features

This is a distance learning course. Attendance at residential teaching events and study schools is strongly encouraged, but not required. Independent learning is a key feature of this programme.

10a. Research-inspired Education

Students on this programme will advance through the four quadrants of the University of Leicester Research-inspired Education Framework as follows:

RiE Quadrant	Narrative
Research-briefed Bringing staff research content into the curriculum. Research-based Framed enquiry for exploring existing knowledge. Research-oriented Students critique published research content and process.	<p>The programme provides students with a comprehensive and academically rigorous advanced legal education. It provides students with the specialist legal knowledge to pursue a career in legal practice, legal policy-oriented organisations, whether commercial, non-governmental organisation or government based. The programme is research-informed in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research briefed: students will be exposed to thought-provoking and challenging learning, informed by and drawing upon seminal and contemporary legal research, including research conducted by experts at Leicester Law School. Research based: Students will engage with problem-based scenarios that will challenge them to critically apply substantive legal principles to real-world contexts. This approach provides students with the opportunity to explore foundational legal concepts and both primary and secondary sources of legal knowledge while simultaneously evaluating their interaction within contemporary social, economic, and political contexts. Research oriented: students will read and analyse academic journal articles and books, including work authored by experts at Leicester Law School, to develop their knowledge and explore different perspectives that enhance their skills of critical thinking and application of the law. Students are given guidance and training on how to critically appraise published reasoning and develop their legal reasoning.

<p>Research-apprenticed</p> <p>Experiencing the research process and methods; building new knowledge.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research apprenticed: students will be provided with training and practice on reading primary and secondary sources of law, academic legal writing, and library skills (searching legal databases and referencing). Through the completion of the dissertation, students will experience the research process and methods, demonstrate sophisticated research skills, and generate new knowledge, which is reflected in the critical analysis of the thesis.
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As part of studying at a research-intensive university, students on this programme have the following extra or co-curricular opportunities available to them to gain exposure to research culture:

Students on the programme are able to attend departmental research cluster events and inaugural lectures to gain exposure to the research culture at Leicester Law School. In addition, students can take advantage of events hosted by Centre for European Law and Internationalisation (CELI) and Centre for Rights and Equality in Health Law (CREHL).

Teaching on this programme will be research-informed (it draws consciously on systematic inquiry into the teaching and learning process itself) in the following way:

The School supports all staff involved in teaching to gain an accredited Higher Education teaching qualification, in which they demonstrate their use of teaching theory to support their own practice and reflect on their current teaching and continuing professional development.

Teaching on this programme is research-informed in two ways. First, a proportion of academic staff are involved in the production of internationally-leading and world-leading pedagogical research, which is shared with colleagues and, where relevant and appropriate, incorporated into the learning and teaching methods employed throughout the curriculum. Secondly, the Law School hosts away-days and workshops to support the pedagogical development of academic staff and their teaching and learning materials. These events include a legal education research cluster, a 'teaching club' where staff discuss and share best pedagogical practices and recent developments, and talks from external educational leaders.

11. Indicators of programme quality

- Annual External examiners' reports
- Degree results
- Annual and Periodic Development Review reports
- Periodic Development Review reports
- Peer review of teaching and peer review of marking exercises
- Student Feedback

12. Criteria for award and classification

This programme follows the standard scheme of taught postgraduate award and classification set out in [Senate Regulations](#) – see the version of *Senate Regulation 6 governing taught postgraduate programmes of study* relevant to year of entry.

13. Progression points

As defined in [Senate Regulations](#) - refer to the version of *Senate Regulation 6 governing taught postgraduate programmes of study* relevant to year of entry.

In cases where a student has failed to meet a requirement to progress he or she will be required to withdraw from the course and a recommendation will be made to the Board of Examiners for an intermediate/exit award where appropriate.

14. Rules relating to re-sits or re-submissions

As defined in [Senate Regulations](#) - refer to the version of *Senate Regulation 6 governing taught postgraduate programmes of study* relevant to year of entry.

15. External Examiners reports

The details of the External Examiner(s) for this programme and the most recent External Examiners' reports for this programme can be found at exampapers@Leicester [log-in required]

16. Additional features (e.g. timetable for admissions)

The course recruits to both the Master's and the Postgraduate Diploma in Employment Law.

- (i) Candidates who accumulate 60 credits from an approved list of the taught modules (that is excluding the dissertation) and satisfactorily complete the assessment requirements for those taught modules will be awarded a Postgraduate Certificate.
- (ii) Candidates who accumulate 90 credits from the taught modules (that is, excluding the dissertation) and satisfactorily complete the assessment requirements for each of the taught modules will be awarded a Postgraduate Diploma.
- (iii) Candidates who accumulate 180 credits and satisfactorily complete the assessment requirements for each of the taught modules and submit a satisfactory dissertation will be awarded the degree of Master of Laws.

The programme begins in October of each year. Admissions for that year are closed on 31 August prior to the September start date.

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Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

The University regularly reviews its programmes and modules to ensure that they reflect the current status of the discipline and offer the best learning experience to students. On occasion, it may be necessary to alter particular aspects of a course or module.

LLM in Employment Law/PG Diploma in Employment Law

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2	Other delivery period
Core taught	n/a	n/a	n/a	120 credits
Optional	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Dissertation/project	n/a	n/a	n/a	60 credits

180 credits in total

Level 7/Year 1 2025/26

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Module Sequence	Title	Credits
October-March	LW7513	Module 1	Individual Employment Relations	30 credits
March-July	LW7548	Module 2	Equality at Work	30 credits
July-November	LW7732	Module 3	Termination of Employment and Individual Dispute Resolution	30 credits

Level 7/Year 2 2026/27

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Module Sequence	Title	Credits
November-April	LW7522	Module 4	International Labour Law, Human Rights and Trade Union Law	30 credits
April-October	LW7803	Diss	Dissertation*	60 credits

** Compulsory only for candidates for the degree of LLM*

Appendix 2: Module specifications

See taught postgraduate [module specification database](#) [Login required] (Note - modules are organized by year of delivery).