Programme Specification (Postgraduate)

FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2026/27

Date created: 21/04/2021 **Last amended:** 08/07/2026 **Version no.** 2

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

Master of Laws (LLM)

PG Diploma*/PG Certificate in Law*

LLM/PG Diploma*/PG Certificate* with specialisation in specific fields

LLM (International Commercial Law)

LLM (International Human Rights Law)

LLM (Public International Law)

LLM (International Law)

LLM (International Business and Corporate 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%

Awarding body or institution

University of Leicester

a) Mode of study

Full-time

b) Type of study

Campus-based

Registration periods

The normal period of registration for the LLM is one year full time.

The maximum period of registration for the LLM is two years full time.

Typical entry requirements

Candidates should have a first class or good second class degree in law or an equivalent degree, where law is a substantial element, or an equivalent degree in an appropriate discipline. English language requirement when applicable is IELTS 6.5

Accreditation of Prior Learning

N/A

Programme aims

The programme aims to:

- Develop and refine expertise in law.
- Acquire a critical understanding of the relevant legal principles, the policy considerations that underpin them and, as appropriate, their social-legal, international, comparative and interdisciplinary contexts.
- Develop the ability to analyse, interpret and apply a wide range of legal, socio-legal and contextual materials in the solution of complex legal problems.
- Stimulate the capacity for independent legal and interdisciplinary research.
- Enable class members to have an adequate opportunity to demonstrate progression in both subject knowledge and a wide range of skills, including oral and written expression.

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 [log in required]
- University of Leicester Periodic Developmental Review Report
- External Examiners' reports (annual)
- United Nations Education for Sustainable Development Goals
- Student Destinations Data

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?
The development and refinement of expertise in law.	Seminars and lectures. Independent study and research.	Essays, oral presentations, group discussion, exams and dissertation.

ii) Concepts

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
The ability to analyse, interpret and apply legal, socio-legal and contextual materials in the solution of complex legal problems.	Seminars and lectures. Independent reading and research. Dissertation supervision.	Essays, oral presentations, group discussion, exams and dissertation.

iii) Techniques

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
The capacity for independent legal and interdisciplinary research. Command of bibliography, research methods, writing and critical skills	Seminars and lectures. Independent reading and research. Group work and dissertation supervision.	Essays, oral presentations, group discussion, exams and dissertation.

iv) Critical analysis

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
The development of the ability to analyse, interpret and apply a wide range of legal, socio-legal and contextual materials in the solution of complex legal problems.	Seminars and lectures. Independent reading and research. Dissertation supervision.	Essays, oral presentations, group discussion, exams and dissertation.

v) Presentation

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to present material to a high standard in a variety of formats (written, oral etc).	Seminars and lectures. Independent reading and research. Group work and dissertation supervision. Provision of writing guide.	Essays, oral presentations, exams and dissertation.

vi) Appraisal of evidence

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
The ability to analyse, interpret and apply a wide range of legal, socio-legal and contextual materials in the solution of complex legal problems.	Seminars and lectures. Independent reading and research. Group work and dissertation supervision.	Essays, oral presentations, exams and dissertation.

b) Transferable skills

i) Research skills

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
The ability to analyse, interpret and apply a wide range of legal, socio-legal and contextual materials in the solution of complex legal problems.	Seminars and lectures. Independent reading and research. Group work and dissertation supervision.	Essays, oral presentations, exams and dissertation.

ii) Communication skills

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to write clearly and concisely in a style appropriate to the context (e.g. report, academic essay). Ability to develop ideas and arguments effectively in speaking and writing. Command of scholarly protocols e.g. referencing	Seminars and lectures. Independent reading and research. Group work and dissertation supervision. Feedback on coursework	Essays, oral presentations, group discussion, exams and dissertation.

iii) Data presentation

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to select, organise and analyse information.	Seminars and lectures. Independent reading and research. Group work and dissertation supervision. Writing guide. Feedback on coursework	Essays, oral presentations, and dissertation.

iv) Information technology

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
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	Lectures, guides, problem solving classes, computer practical classes, resource-based learning, independent research. Use of internet for research, use of IT to present material and to communicate with the School.	Word-processed assessed essays and dissertation. Online submission of essays. Successful use of Blackboard, internet resources and email.

v) Problem solving

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to solve problems in relevant legal areas	Seminars and presentations	Assessed essays and dissertation

vi) Working relationships

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Knowing how and when to draw on the knowledge and expertise of others; ability to contribute and comment clearly and concisely on ideas; develop effective group work skills	Group presentations, autonomous learning groups.	Group presentations, group discussions and assessed essays.

vii) Managing learning

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to work independently and manage own learning. Meeting deadlines, taking initiatives, planning ahead. Identifying a credible research project and completing it to an agreed timeframe.	Workshops, seminars, study skills, student support service.	Submission of essays and dissertation on time and to a good standard.

viii) Career management

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to plan for the next stage of career, including developing links with potential employers, supervisors etc.	Engagement with careers service, tutors and professional practitioners. Personal tutor meetings	Discussions with personal tutor. Support of the Career Development Service.

Special features

This Programme is designed to give students a specialised knowledge of law, with options to choose one of five specialist streams from **International Commercial Law, International Human Rights Law, Public International Law, International Business & Corporate Law** and **International Law**. The Programme allows students the freedom and the flexibility to create their own programme choosing from a wide range of modules available.

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	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: • 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 content and process. **Research-apprenticed** Experiencing the research process and methods; building new knowledge.	• 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. • 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.

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 expose 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.

Indicators of programme quality

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

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.

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.

Full time students are required to successfully complete 120 credits of taught modules divided equally over two semesters, in order to progress to the Dissertation stage.

To qualify for an LLM the students then have to complete a 60 credit dissertation over the summer vacation period.

In order to meet the requirements of the LLM students must undertake a dissertation.

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

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.

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]

Additional features (e.g. timetable for admissions)

- The Programme begins in either September or October of each year. Students registered on the Programme will be required to attend an induction week at the beginning of term.

(i) Candidates, who accumulate 60 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 Certificate.

(ii) Candidates, who accumulate 120 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.

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER

Programme Specification (Postgraduate) FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2026/27

Date created: 21/04/2021 **Last amended:** 28/11/2025 **Version no.** 1

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.

Updates to the programme

Academic year	Module	Change
2026/27	LW7085 Human Rights and Human Wrongs: Core Principles	Was Semester 1, now Semester 2
2026/27	LW7087 Justice and the Future	Was Semester 1, now Semester 2
2026/27	LW7265 The Law of International Protection: Asylum seekers and Refugees	Was Semester 1, now Semester 2
2026/27	LW7267 Practice of International Commercial Arbitration	Option module not offered

Master of Laws

Credit breakdown: Full Time

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

180 credits in total

Students must take 120 credits in total comprised of a combination of core (if applicable) and optional modules. Credits must total 60 in each semester (excluding compulsory Dissertation).

LLM (International Commercial Law)

Credit breakdown: Full Time

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

180 credits in total

Students must take 120 credits in total comprised of a combination of core (if applicable) and optional modules. Credits must total 60 in each semester (excluding compulsory Dissertation).

LLM (International Business and Corporate Law)

Credit breakdown: Full Time

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2	Other delivery period
Core taught	n/a	15 credits	15 credits	n/a
Optional	n/a	45 credits	45 credits	n/a
Dissertation/project	n/a	n/a	n/a	60 credits

180 credits in total

Students must take 120 credits in total comprised of a combination of core (if applicable) and optional modules. Credits must total 60 in each semester (excluding compulsory Dissertation).

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Year long	LW7300	Dissertation Campus†	60 credits
Semester 1	LW7259	Corporate Governance	15 credits
Semester 2	LW7145	Company Law	15 credits

† Dissertation is compulsory only for Master of Laws degree

LLM (International Human Rights Law)

Credit breakdown: Full Time

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

180 credits in total

Students must take 120 credits in total comprised of a combination of core (if applicable) and optional modules. Credits must total 60 in each semester (excluding compulsory Dissertation).

LLM (Public International Law)

Credit breakdown: Full Time

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

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

180 credits in total

Students must take 120 credits in total comprised of a combination of core (if applicable) and optional modules. Credits must total 60 in each semester (excluding compulsory Dissertation).

LLM (International Law)

Credit breakdown: Full Time

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

180 credits in total

Students must take 120 credits in total comprised of a combination of core (if applicable) and optional modules. Credits must total 60 in each semester (excluding compulsory Dissertation).

Modules

Level 7/Year 1 2026/27

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Year long	LW7300	Dissertation Campus†	60 credits

†*Dissertation is compulsory only for Master of Laws degree*

Option Modules

All Programmes

^ Candidates who wish to study modules in Health Law can choose up to a maximum 30 credits from the list of Health Law modules marked with a ^ over the course of the academic year (either 30 credits in Semester 1 or 30 credits in Semester 2 or 15 credits in one or both semesters).
○ Students must take LW7292 Health Law I as a prerequisite to LW7294 Health Law II or LW7295 Advanced Medical Negligence.

Masters of Law: Students on this stream are required to choose from the table below 60 credits from each semester (subject to availability and timetabling).
International Commercial Law (ICL): Students on this stream are required to choose from the table below a minimum of 90 credits from the modules marked* and up to 30 credits from the rest of the listed modules (subject to availability and timetabling).
International Business and Corporate Law (IBCL): Students choose from the table below a minimum of 60 credits from the modules marked* and up to 30 credits from the rest of the listed modules (subject to availability and timetabling).
International Human Rights Law (IHRL): Students on this stream are required to choose from the table below a minimum of 90 credits from the modules marked* and 30 credits from the rest of the listed modules (subject to availability and timetabling). The requisite 30 credits could be satisfied by selecting **one only** of the modules marked#
Public International Law (PL): Students on this stream are required to choose from the table below a minimum of 90 credits from the modules marked* and 30 credits from the rest of the listed modules (subject to availability and timetabling).
International Law (IL): Students on this stream are required to choose from the table below a minimum of 90 credits from the modules marked* and 30 credits from the rest of the listed modules (subject to availability and timetabling).

Delivery period	Code	Master	ICL	IBCL	IHRL	PIL	IL	Title	Credits
Semester 1	LW7006		*	*			*	Civil Dispute Resolution Methods	15 credits
Semester 1	LW7025					*	*	Introduction to International Space Law	15 credits
Semester 1	LW7081					*	*	General Principles of International Law	15 credits
Semester 1	LW7083		*	*			*	Intellectual Property Law for International Business	15 credits
Semester 1	LW7090				*	*	*	Legal Responses to Global Injustice	15 credits
Semester 1	LW7092		*	*		*	*	International Competition Law	15 credits
Semester 1	LW7096	^	^	^	*	^	^	Human Rights and Health Care Law	15 credits

Delivery period	Code	Master	ICL	IBCL	IHRL	PIL	IL	Title	Credits
Semester 1	LW7147				*	*	*	International Migration Law	15 credits
Semester 1	LW7150		*	*			*	International Sales Law	15 credits
Semester 1	LW7153		*	*			*	International Commercial Arbitration	15 credits
Semester 1	LW7168				*	*	*	Law of United Nations	15 credits
Semester 1	LW7250				*			State Law and Religious Freedom	15 credits
Semester 1	LW7259		*	**Core**			*	Corporate Governance	15 credits
Semester 1	LW7292	^	^	^	^	^	^	Health Law I	15 credits
Semester 1	LW7293	^	^	^	^	^	^	Mental Health Law	15 credits
Semester 1	LW7298	^	^	^	^	^	^	Inequalities and Health	15 credits
Semester 1	LW7299	^	^	^	^	^	^	Bioethics	15 credits
Semester 2	LW7067				*	*	*	Feminist Perspectives in Law	15 credits
Semester 2	LW7078				*	*	*	Freedom of Expression	15 credits
Semester 2	LW7084		*	*	*		*	Contemporary Challenges for Intellectual Property Law	15 credits
Semester 2	LW7085				*	*	*	Human Rights and Human Wrongs: Core Principles	15 credits
Semester 2	LW7086		*	*		*	*	Commercialising Space	15 credits
Semester 2	LW7087				*	*	*	Justice and the Future	15 credits
Semester 2	LW7116		*	*			*	International Banking Law	15 credits
Semester 2	LW7143						*	International Environmental and Climate Change Law	15 credits
Semester 2	LW7145		*	**Core**			*	Company Law	15 credits
Semester 2	LW7146		*	*		*	*	International Investment Law	15 credits

Delivery period	Code	Master	ICL	IBCL	IHRL	PIL	IL	Title	Credits
Semester 2	LW7240				*	*	*	The European Convention on Human Rights	15 credits
Semester 2	LW7261				*	*	*	International Law and the Use of Force	15 credits
Semester 2	LW7265		*	*	*	*	*	The Law of International Protection: Asylum seekers and Refugees	15 credits
Semester 2	LW7291	^	^	^	^	^	^	Autonomy, Capacity and Consent	15 credits
Semester 2	LW7294	^o	^o	^o	^o	^o	^o	Health Law II	15 credits
Semester 2	LW7295	^o	^o	^o	^o	^o	^o	Advanced Medical Negligence	15 credits
Semester 2	LW7297	^	^	^	^	^	^	Health in the Workplace	15 credits
Semester 1	PL7089	n/a	n/a	n/a	*#	n/a	n/a	The Politics of Human Rights	30 credits
Semester 2	PL7095	n/a	n/a	n/a	*#	n/a	n/a	Global Ethics in Practice	30 credits

Notes
This is an indicative list of option modules and not definitive of what will be available. Option module choice is also subject to availability, timetabling, student number restrictions and, where appropriate, students having taken appropriate pre-requisite modules.

Appendix 2: Module specifications

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