



Course Specification Part A

LLM in Law (FBLT096) LLM in Law (Professional Experience)* (FBLT098)

Faculty of Business and Law Law School Academic Year: 2021-2022

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the course and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided.

We regularly review our course content, to make it relevant and current for the benefit of our students. For these reasons, course modules may be updated.

More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content, and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in the Module Information Directory (MID), student module guide(s) and the course handbook.

The accuracy of the information contained in this document is reviewed by the University and may be verified by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.

*The course award title will be LLM in Law. The reference to Professional Experience is based on a two taught semesters, up to three semesters on placement, followed by one final taught semester.

Coventry University's accreditation with CMI is currently ongoing for the relevant modules and is regularly reviewed and monitored by the CMI through their quality systems. Whilst Coventry University anticipates that these reviews will continue to be successful, if they were to be unsuccessful, the relevant module in this course would no longer be accredited and we would notify applicants and students of this change as soon as possible.

PART A Course Specification (Published Document)

LLM LAW

1. Introduction

Every person lives within the context of a society governed by a complex legal framework, regulated not only by national law and systems but by an international legal order. Whilst the layperson may have a general appreciation of the rights that they have and the obligations that they must abide by, the study of Law provides individuals with an important opportunity to uncover the breadth and depth of the laws that govern us in their social, corporate and international context. Further, the study of law in its international and comparative context provides the student with an opportunity to appreciate how international institutions, sources and values inform the legal order and what challenges are faced in the enforcement of international law and its interrelationship with national law.

The LLM in Law provides an exciting opportunity for students to undertake postgraduate study in law, specifically in areas affected by international and comparative law and institutions. The course will introduce the student to the relevant rules, values and institutions of comparative and international law, which then inform the study of topics such as international relations, human rights, international commercial and corporate law and constitutional law. The course allows the student to acquire a substantive and practical knowledge of international and comparative law, which can then be employed in commercial and other practice. The course also provides an opportunity to undertake stimulating academic research of these areas, thus assisting the student in their further journey in academia. It also

This course builds on current relevant knowledge and expertise within the Law School and the Faculty of Business and Law and complements the existing range of Masters programmes in law: International Human Right Law and International Commercial Law. The programme allows students to study a number of law modules offered on the above programmes without committing to those particular routes. Specifically, students are given the opportunity to study modules in the areas of public international law, international human rights, commercial law, and corporate social responsibility in addition to a specific module in Comparative Constitutional Law.

The course provides a full range of legal areas affected by international regulation and offers a range of modules from a range of general and specialist areas, so as to allow the student to acquire both a general overview of international law and some specialist legal knowledge in particular areas. The course thus offers a flexible postgraduate programme for those who wish to study modules from diverse legal areas. This course will continue to enhance the Law School's objectives of increasing recruitment to LLM courses and to increase student numbers.

The programme aims to attract a wide variety of students within a broad market, but specifically law graduates, legal practitioners (solicitors and barristers) from the UK and other jurisdictions, and graduates from international studies, politics, history and business who have some knowledge of law. The flexibility offered by the range of modules, full and part time provision, makes this programme attractive to students wishing to have an international dimension to their legal studies. As part of this course students will undertake a professional development module which is currently accredited by the Chartered Management Institute (CMI): 7051CRB – Leading Strategic Change through Creativity and Innovation (10 credits). Upon successful completion of the module, students will gain the CMI Level 7 Certificate in Strategic Management and Leadership Practice at no additional cost.

Students are supported in their future employability prospects through engagement with the Law School's Employment Personal Tutor, Placements tutor and the wider Law Futures/Careers team at the University. Additionally, students will have the opportunity to engage with the wider legal community through guest speakers, networking events and research lectures/seminars which will immerse student at the forefront of cutting edge legal research.

The LLM Law course provides students with the opportunity for ownership of their own learning journey and self-realisation of their own capacity for intellectual independence. The Teaching, Learning and Assessment strategies employed on the course are informed by the University's Corporate Plan and Education Strategy (2015-2021) and seek to promote a transformative process of learning from the day a student enrolls on the course to the point at which they graduate and beyond. Students will be placed at the centre of their own learning as active participants both within the classroom and within their own legal community, preparing them to make significant contributions within society and/or their chosen professions in a competitive global market.

The LLM Law with professional experience pathway is an extended full-time Masters with a substantive professional experience component. Students have the option of completing 1, 2 or 3 semesters on placement, enrolment

dates will reflect the semester length. Students who would like to undertake a professional experience will have to apply by the given deadline. Professional experience placements are subject to a competitive application and selection process and the host organisation may include the University or Students' Union. Placements may be paid or unpaid, and this will depend on what is being offered and agreed with the host organisation. Students will have to successfully complete a significant reflective piece supported by their placement to pass the Professional Experience module(s). Placements are subject to availability and a competitive selection process. Although the University will provide support and help source placement opportunities, it is ultimately the student's responsibility to secure a placement. Students who are not successful to find a placement by the university deadline will continue on the 12 month LLM Law.

2 Available Award(s) and Modes of Study

Title of Award	Mode of attendance	UCAS Code	FHEQ Level
LLM Law Fallback Awards Postgraduate Diploma in Law Postgraduate Certificate in Law	F/T 1 year (up to 2 years if undertaking Professional Experience) P/T 2 years		7
3 Awarding Institution/Body	Coventry University		
4 Collaboration	Not Applicable		
5 Teaching Institution and Location of delivery	FHEQ Level 7 Coventry University		
6 Internal Approval/Review Dates	Date of approval/latest review: 2019 Date for next review: Academic year 2027/2028		
7 Course Accredited by	Not Applicable		
8 Accreditation Date and Duration	Not Applicable		
9 QAA Subject Benchmark Statement(s) and/or other external factors	QAA Master's Degree Characteristics 2015		
10 Date of Course Specification	January 2020		
11 Course Director	Dr Monica Ingber		

12 Outline and Educational Aims of the Course

The LLM Law course provides a coherent course of study, developing both academic and transferrable study skills focusing on the following:

- The acquisition of knowledge and understanding of legal doctrines, concepts, principles, rules and values in constitutional law and a variety of international legal areas of law; together with an appreciation of the context in which law operates, and an understanding of the dynamic nature of international and comparative law;
- Further and enhanced development of the ability to apply legal knowledge and skills acquired to both the theory and practice of international and comparative law;
- The identification, retrieval, collation and prioritisation of up-to-date and in-depth legal information, using paper and electronic sources, primary and secondary legal sources and academic journals relevant to the specific area of international and comparative law;
- Development of enhanced postgraduate academic and employability skills in research, analysis, critical evaluation, problem solving, communication and reflection; thus enhancing both autonomous and collaborative learning for subsequent use in both legal and other professions and employment.

The course involves a range of modules focussing on both domestic and international law that are taught in an inter-culturally diverse environment. The LLM seeks to produce autonomous learners, able to work with self-direction and originality; with the ability to blend theory and practice in complex situations, and have an appreciation of how properly conducted research can enhance their practice.

The course aims to develop students' strategic thinking, effective communication and research skills, all directly relevant to employers and such skills are designed to be of great value when seeking future employment. The course incorporates a Chartered Management Institute (CMI) accredited module, 7051CRB 'Leading Strategic Change through Creativity and Innovation'. Students who successfully complete the module and meet the CMI learning outcomes will gain a Level 7 Certificate in Strategic Management and Leadership Practice based on the following CMI units: Developing Organisational Strategy (Unit 704); Leading Strategic Change (unit 705). Students who successfully complete this module will be awarded Foundation Chartered Manager status and be able to use the designation 'fCMgr' after their name.

The educational aims align with the QAA Master's Degree Characteristics (2015), whereby students are required to have a systematic understanding of knowledge and a critical awareness of contemporary problems. In addition, students will develop originality in the application of knowledge and develop conceptual understanding enabling them to critically evaluate current research, as well as develop a range of transferable skills necessary for employment.

13 Course Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of the course, a student will be able to:

1. Evidence a critical understanding of the theories, concepts, values, principles and rules of international law within an institutional, social and global context.
2. Critically understand the various theories, concepts, values and principles of constitutional law within comparative constitutions
3. Evidence an understanding of contemporary issues and developments within various areas of constitutional law, public international law and human rights, and commercial and corporate law
4. Identify, synthesise and critically analyse relevant and in-depth information from primary and secondary legal sources, using both digital and non-digital resources.
5. Draw reasoned and critical conclusions through the application of legal principles and knowledge to complex real-life and/or hypothetical legal, political and commercial problems.
6. Evidence enhanced intellectual independence including addressing and resolving legal and related questions, acquiring new knowledge, addressing and resolving ambiguity and engaging in critical analysis and evaluation.
7. Appreciate and demonstrate an awareness of social responsibility and ethical behaviour in an academic and vocational capacity.
8. Communicate effectively, by explaining and conveying information at various levels appropriate to the audience, and demonstrate self-management and an ability to work and research independently and collaboratively in order to enhance employability.
9. A student should be able to; critically evaluate the principles of developing and proposing strategy for leading strategic change.

14 Course Structure and Requirements, Levels, Modules, Credits and Awards

The modules within the course, their status, credit value and pre/co-requisites are identified in the table below.

The programme has an embedded module, Professional Development, which has been developed with the Chartered Institute of Management (CMI). Students who successfully complete the module and meet the CMI learning outcomes will gain a Level 7 Certificate in Strategic Management and Leadership Practice based on the following CMI units: Developing Organisational Strategy (Unit 704); Leading Strategic Change (unit 705). Students who successfully complete this module will be awarded Foundation Chartered Manager status and be able to use the designation 'fCMgr' after their name.

In addition, students undertaking professional experience must also undertake a module for each semester they are on placement. These modules carry zero credit and based on a pass/fail assessment. The professional experience must be undertaken after 2 semesters of taught modules and before the final semester for the Project and CMI module.

14.1 LLM Law

Students on the above course will normally take 180 credits over a period of:

- One year full-time; or

- Two years of part-time study.

Students taking the extended Masters course will take 180 credits over a period of two years full-time.

Taught modules are worth 10, or 15 credits; the dissertation is 50 credits. All modules are taught within a semesterised system. Full-time students will take up to 60 credits worth of modules each semester; part-time students will normally take 30 credits each semester. All modules are classed as level 7. All modules are Mandatory.

Students have the opportunity to undertake a year-long extended Master's course in between their course of study. (These modules are non-credit bearing and do not contribute to a student's overall award or classification.)

14.2 Distinctive Features of the Course

Distinctive features of the course include the following:

- All students are given extensive tuition in research and writing skills via the research modules. Research Skills introduces students to the necessary enhanced writing and analytical skills necessary to tackle postgraduate assessments and to comply with the School's legal referencing requirement. Research Design introduces the students to various research methodologies, and prepares them for the challenges of researching and writing their projects
- Throughout the LLM Law course students will be encouraged to participate in the Coventry University Global Leaders Programme to enable students to compete successfully in a global graduate market and prepare for their chosen career paths or other positive career destination.
- In addition all students take the CMI module, introducing them to professional business skills and analysis and further augmenting their career prospects
- Formal classes provide an academic workshop environment in order to encourage individual and group class participation and critical thinking. This is strengthened by the opportunity for regular guest lecture slots, introducing the students to national and international experts from academia and practice.

14.3 Awards and Classification

14.4.1 LLM Law

An LLM Law will be awarded in accordance with the University's Regulations for the Course Based Postgraduate Curriculum Framework (Mode R).

14.4.2 Intermediate Awards

A student who does not wish or is unable to complete the LLM Law course may apply for an intermediate award. Available awards are a Postgraduate Diploma in Law or a Postgraduate Certificate in Law. These are awarded in accordance with the University's Regulations for the Course Based Postgraduate Curriculum Framework (Mode R).

To be awarded a Postgraduate Diploma in Law, a student must pass all 120 credits of CLS modules (not including 7040CLS Project or 7051CRB Leading Strategic Change through Creativity and Innovation). To be awarded the Postgraduate Certificate in Law, a student must take and pass 60 credits (not including 7040CLS Project).

Cascade of Awards:

Where a student does not meet the requirements of the award for which they are registered the following cascades will apply:

	LLM Law	
	Postgraduate Diploma in Law	
	Postgraduate Certificate in Law	

Module credit level	Module Code	Title	Learning Credit Value	Assessment Credit Value	Mandatory/ Optional	Course Learning Outcomes								
						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
LEVEL 7														
7	7055CLS	Research Skills	15	15	Mandatory			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
7	7057CLS	Research Design	15	15	Mandatory			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
7	7040CLS	Project*	50	50	Mandatory	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
7	7051CRB	Leading Strategic Change through Creativity and Innovation	10	10	Mandatory				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
7	7056CLS	Comparative Constitutional Law	15	15	Mandatory	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
7	7043CLS	Public International Law	15	15	Mandatory	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
7	7049CLS	Contemporary Issues in International Human Rights	15	15	Mandatory	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
7	7016CLS	Commercial Law in Action	15	15	Mandatory	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
7	7017CLS	International Sales	15	15	Mandatory	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
7	7034CLS	Corporate Social Responsibility	15	15	Mandatory		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
+														
Depending on the length of placement, students undertaking professional experience will study 1, 2 or 3 of the modules below. A student taking a one-semester placement will take 7023CLS. A student taking a two-semester placement will take 7023CLS and 7041CLS. A student taking a three-semester placement will take all three modules.														
7	7041CLS	Postgraduate Professional Experience 1**	0	0	Mandatory			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
7	7042CLS	Postgraduate Professional Experience 2**	0	0	Mandatory			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
7	7023CLS	Postgraduate Professional Experience 3**	0	0	Mandatory			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

* Internships as part of this module are subject to availability and a competitive application process

** Professional experience opportunities are subject to availability and competitive application process. They are not guaranteed by the University. Although the University will provide support and help source opportunities, it is ultimately the student's responsibility to secure a placement. Students who are not successful to find a placement by the university deadline will continue in the standard LLM Law. Please note that for Tier 4 students you will need to apply and secure a visa extension before you can go on placement and you must ensure that your placement dates comply with your Visa requirements.

15 Criteria for Admission and Selection Procedure

The programme is subject to the general University admission procedures and access policies. A student should normally possess either a single (or joint) honours degree in law or an honours degree where law has been studied to an appropriate level (e.g. meeting graduate level law exemption requirements for one of the professional accountancy bodies); but each application will be considered on its merits and in appropriate cases consideration will be given to other academic qualifications and relevant work experience. In particular, applicants with first and second degrees in history, politics. International relations and business will be considered for the course. Careful monitoring of applications takes place to ensure that applicants are suited to the programme. The School will normally require the applicant to possess at least a lower second class honours degree, but lesser award may be acceptable where the student displays equivalent skills via academic qualifications and work experience.

Successful applicants will be given preliminary reading to undertake before the start of the programme to familiarise themselves with the substantive law and its legal and business context, and in the case of those who do not possess a law background, to allow them to become familiar with legal materials and legal writing.

- Applications from those not possessing a first degree will also be considered after careful consideration of the applicant's educational and work history and their capacity to complete the programme.
- In the case of overseas applicants, an adequate proficiency in English must be demonstrated. This would normally be a minimum IELTS score of 6.5 or its equivalent.

Accreditation for prior learning (APL) is in accordance with University regulations.

16 Academic Regulations and Regulations of Assessment

This Course conforms to the standard Postgraduate [University Regulations](#)

17 Indicators of Quality Enhancement

- The course has been designed in accordance with the University's regulations pertaining to Postgraduate courses
- Coventry Law School has a strong portfolio of research, not only in terms of peer reviewed publications but also research for consultancy, knowledge exchange, externally funded projects and legal practice in order to provide engaging and cutting-edge legal education provision which is research led and/or informed. Many staff belong to formal research centres within the University. Research and research outputs from Coventry Law School staff inform the delivery, content and assessment of LLM Law modules. Coventry Law School publishes its own law journal (Coventry Law Journal) providing staff, students, alumni and visiting lecturers to contribute articles and recent legal developments. Postgraduate students are encouraged to submit their projects for publication in this and other journals and students are encouraged to participate in postgraduate conferences. A growing number of academic staff within Coventry Law School also conduct globally recognised research from within the University's numerous research centres.
- Guest lectures are regularly provided to the LLM students by both practitioners and legal experts, providing input in the delivery of modules and extra-curricular employability related events. Such lectures expose the students to both legal expertise and the challenges of legal practice and have been employed extensively in areas of human rights and humanitarian law and commercial, environmental and corporate law. The School has various visiting professors who provide guest lectures and articles for publication in the Coventry Law Journal.
- Students are encouraged to become members of the University's Global Leader's Programme and various conferences and field trips organised by the School and Faculty, thus augmenting their employability and networking skills
- The postgraduate students can take advantage of the Law school's links with local firms, practitioners and others in the legal profession. For example:
 - The Annual Lanchester Rose Mooting Competition is sponsored by 43 Temple Row Chambers, Birmingham
 - The Senate House 24 Hour Mooting Competition is sponsored by Senate House Chambers, Northampton and supported by the Warwickshire Law Society, Junior Lawyers Division
 - The Law Employment Clinic and Advocacy Clinic is run by Central England Law Centres and the Law Employment Clinic in particular is partnered with Allen Overy LLP
 - Placements and graduate opportunities have been offered at various organisations including the Citizen's Advice Bureau, Age UK, Coventry Refugee Migrant Centre, British Red Cross, Volvo, Rotherhams LLP, Wigley Group, Thomas Horton LLP and Shoosmiths LLP - places are not guaranteed and subject to competition.
- Destination of Leavers in Higher Education Survey 2017/2018 issued by HESA demonstrates that 88% of surveyed graduates are in positive graduate destinations.
- LLM Law achieved 92% overall satisfaction in the PTES National Student Survey 2019.
- The Guardian University Guide 2019 ranked the University 13th overall in the United Kingdom and has been ranked Top Modern University of the Year for 7 consecutive years since 2012.
- Coventry University has been awarded Gold in the Teaching Excellence Framework, June 2017
- The report of the QAA's Institutional Audit of Coventry University undertaken in February 2015 confirmed that:
 - The setting and maintenance of the academic standards of awards meet UK expectations.
 - The quality of student learning opportunities meets UK expectations.
 - The quality of the information about learning opportunities meets UK expectations.
 - The enhancement of student learning opportunities meets UK expectations.

The quality of the course is evaluated through a variety of different means, which includes but is not limited to:

- The course is managed by the Law Board of Study of the Faculty of Business and Law. The assurance and quality of the course, modules and their assessment is the responsibility of the Board of Study.
- The Course team carry out ongoing review of course performance as part of the Postgraduate Course Quality and Enhancement Monitoring (CQEM) process.
- The Faculty Programme Assessment Board is responsible for considering the progress of all students and making awards in accordance with both the University and course-specific regulations.
- External Examiners report annually on the programme including modular level teaching provision and assessment. These are then considered in the CQEM report.
- Students are represented within Student Forums (now Student Voice), as part of the CQEM reporting process, at the Board of Study and at Faculty Board. Forums are often held during a formal class to allow all students to participate in the process.
- Student views are also sought through module and course evaluation questionnaires in addition to the PTES .
- Staff teaching may be observed by the Head of School, Deputy Head of School and/or Associate Heads of School in accordance with the University's teaching observation policy.
- All courses are subject to continuing and periodic review.

18 Additional Information

Enrolled students have access to additional key sources of information about the course and student support other than those provided centrally by the University. These include,

- Academic Course Director(s) are responsible for particular activities across the course and are able to provide advice and support to students in course-related matters; and to direct students to relevant support within the School and university
- Students will be provided with a student handbook detailing the structure of the programme and the relevant regulations and additional information can be found on Moodle through the CourseWeb.
- Further guidance is provided by the Faculty Registry course support team, located on the ground floor of the George Eliot Building, where a postgraduate team complements the work of the Course Team by providing advice concerning course related matters.
- Students will have access to a student advice Chatbot which provides answers to general queries and signposts students to various support provisions throughout the Faculty and wider University.
- Students are supported by Academic Progress Coaches throughout the duration of their postgraduate studies. Each progress coach receives formal training and will provide both pastoral and academic support to students in order to enhance student performance.
- In addition to the Progress Coach system, module leaders and dissertation supervisors operate a system of 'surgery hours'. Students who wish to discuss a matter with a member of staff may do so during the advertised surgery hours or make an alternative appointment time.
- Support for academic writing and good academic practice is provided by members of the school and through an online LibGuide dedicated to OSCOLA referencing. In-depth tuition on writing and referencing skills is provided by the Research Skills and Design modules, and students are encouraged to seek to have their work published in the Coventry Law Journal and other publications
- Students will receive individual written feedback, generic feedback via the module web page/ in teaching sessions on their work and may also make an appointment to see the relevant lecturer regarding any work submitted.
- The law librarian holds appointments to advise students on matters relating to the library and postgraduate legal research.
- A Postgraduate Employment Personal Tutor (EPT) is available for individual consultation by appointment and through surgery hours on matters relating to careers and CVs.
- Law Futures provides support for those students seeking placements/employment through career events/ individual support and group sessions.
- The Law School has a dedicated moot room, with audio and visual recording equipment.
- Reasonable adjustments can be made to the learning, teaching, assessment and support of the course to maximise accessibility to students with disabilities. For example individual examination arrangements, enlarged print hand-outs and the University Welfare Office can arrange scribes, note-takers where appropriate.