

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER
Postgraduate Programme Specification – LLM programmes

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION 2022-2023

What are programme specifications?

Programme specifications focus on single programmes of study (or courses), and outline the intended knowledge, understanding, skills and attributes of a student completing that course. A programme specification also gives details of teaching and assessment methods as well as linking the course to the framework for HE qualifications and any subsequent professional qualification and career path. The University of Manchester has programme specifications for the programmes of study that it offers.

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Award	Programme Title	Duration	Mode of Study
LLM	Master of Laws	12 months	Full-Time
	<i>With streams also offered in</i>		
	International Business & Commercial Law		
	Intellectual Property Law		
	International Financial Law		
	Corporate Governance		
	International Economic Law		
	Public International Law		
	Transnational Dispute Resolution		
	Security and International Law		
LLM	Master of Laws	24 months	Part-Time
	<i>With streams also offered in</i>		
	Public International Law		
	Transnational Dispute Resolution		
	Security and International Law		
MA	Master of Arts Security and International Law	12 months	Full-time
MA	Master of Arts Security and International Law	24 months	Part-time

Faculty	School of Social Sciences, Department of Law
School	Faculty of Humanities
Awarding Institution	The University of Manchester
Programme Accreditation	none
Relevant QAA benchmark(s)	Law
Level of Programme with FHEQ	Masters Further information on the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications can be found at: https://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/quality-code/qualifications-frameworks.pdf
Degree Regulation	https://www.staffnet.manchester.ac.uk/tlso/policy-guidance/degree-regulations/regulation-documents/pgt-degree-regulations/

2. AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME

The LLM programme aims to:

01.	General Aims for all LLM streams and the LLM without specialisation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop forensic legal skills such as analysis, critical evaluation and argument; • Develop the capacity for individual research; • Develop skills and knowledge which can usefully be applied in further study, the legal profession, public service or industry.
02.	International Business & Commercial Law stream <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide students with knowledge and understanding of law in its international context; • Equip students with the skills needed to work with the laws governing international business; • Provide knowledge of and ability to work with international legal materials (Treaties, international contracts, etc.) and to grasp the legal implications of transactions involving international institutions and corporations; • Provide specialist knowledge and training in different legal spheres of international business and deal with activity in the global economy.
03.	Intellectual Property Law stream <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide students with knowledge and understanding of intellectual property law; • Equip students with the skills needed to work with the laws governing intellectual property, patent law and trade mark law.
04.	International Financial Law stream <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide students with the opportunity to study the regulatory and contractual aspects of international financial services law at Masters level; • Equip students with a grounding in international financial law, both as an important subject in itself and as part of international business and regulatory law more generally.
05.	Corporate Governance stream <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foster an understanding of the importance of good Corporate Governance for society as a whole; • Provide students with an understanding of the principal corporate governance issues in their legal and economic contexts; • Provide students with an opportunity to study UK company law and EU company law/corporate governance measures; • Encourage students to consider the impact that globalisation is likely to have on corporate governance systems.
06.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Economic Law stream • Enhance awareness of the background to international economic law, and of the transactional conditions conducive to its development and the problems which threaten the success and integrity of individual transactions; • Develop a capacity to develop legal solutions to problems arising in individual transactions.

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07.	<p>Public International Law</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In our increasingly global and interconnected world, there is a high demand for law professionals with expertise in public international law and international law and security. This programme will place you well for roles in international institutions, government departments (ministries of foreign affairs, defence, justice, home affairs, and development), non-governmental organisations and law firms. • Fundamentals of international law and international relations at an advanced level. • Enhance knowledge and understanding of the principles, rules, systems, techniques, practices, dynamics and discourses by virtue of which international law is created, thought and applied. • Enhance a comprehensive understanding of all the main areas of international law, including international human rights law, international humanitarian law, international criminal law, the law on the use of force, international investment law, refugee law, etc.
08.	<p>LLM in Transnational Dispute Resolution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Command of the techniques of argumentation before domestic, regional and international tribunals, • Advanced knowledge of the rules and procedures along which international, commercial and transnational disputes are settled, • Critical tools to understand, apprehend and analyse the politics and the dynamics of international, commercial and transnational disputes.
09.	<p>LLM/MA in Security and International Law</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced knowledge of the legal dimensions of contemporary problems pertaining to armed conflicts, cyber warfare, terrorism, security of international investments and transactions, and security of intellectual property. • Tools to understand, apprehend and analyse legal issues arising in connection with traditional as well as transnational armed conflicts, terrorism, modern warfare, security of international investments and transactions, and security of intellectual proper. • Advanced knowledge and critical tools to understand, apprehend and analyse transnational threats, and the role of international law and technology in a hyper-connected world. • Necessary knowledge and skills to work as security consultant or practitioner with governments, international organisations and NGOs.

3. INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES OF THE PROGRAMME

Students complete 180 credits for the programme – 120 credits comprised of taught course units (each of 15 or 30 credits value), and an independent research element of the programme worth 60 credits (dissertation worth 60 credits).

The MA programmes only, will complete two research papers – each worth 30 credits.

At the end of the programme, students will have:

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A. Knowledge & Understanding	
A1.	(All streams) demonstrated a comprehensive understanding of the limitations of those aspects of the law contained within their chosen subjects/specialisation
A2.	(All streams) demonstrated a critical awareness of the current academic debate concerning their chosen subjects/specialisation
A3.	(All streams) demonstrated a comprehensive knowledge of the key issues in understanding those aspects of the law contained within their chosen subject/specialisation
A4.	(All streams) demonstrated a comprehensive understanding of the theoretical perspectives and policy issues that help shape legal systems and frameworks within their chosen subjects/specialisation
A5.	(All streams) demonstrated a comprehensive understanding of the influence of the law within their chosen subjects/specialisation on the wider society
A6.	(IBCL) demonstrated a comprehensive understanding of the limitations of national laws in the regulation of international business.
A7.	(IBCL) demonstrated a critical awareness of the emergence of trans-national laws regulating international business organisations and their activities.
A8.	(IP) demonstrated a critical and comprehensive understanding of intellectual property law in the UK and international context
A9.	(IP) demonstrated a critical and comprehensive knowledge of the sources of Intellectual property law
A10.	(IFL) demonstrated a comprehensive understanding of the structure of the international financial services sector
A11.	(IFL) demonstrated a comprehensive understanding of the interrelation between different financial services
A12.	(CG) demonstrated a comprehensive and critical appreciation of corporate governance systems from around the world and the interaction between them
A13.	(CG) demonstrated a comprehensive understanding of the theoretical perspectives and policy issues that help shape corporate governance systems
A14.	(IEL) demonstrated a comprehensive and critical understanding of the forces that shape the development of international trade transactions
A15.	(IEL) demonstrated a comprehensive and critical understanding of the legal solutions to the problems encountered in international trade transactions
A16.	(PIL) demonstrated a comprehensive and critical understanding of the role of public international law in the development of international and inter-State relations
A17.	(PIL) demonstrated a comprehensive and critical understanding of the substantive provisions of public international law, drawing upon contemporary international affairs
A18.	(TNDR) demonstrated a critical and in-depth understanding of the different ways of resolving inter-state disputes
A19.	(TNDR) demonstrated a critical and in-depth knowledge of how and why disputes arise and the different international jurisdictions for resolving such disputes

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A20.	(SIL) demonstrated a critical and in-depth knowledge of international law and its evolution, and the different security concern in international law.
A21.	(SIL) demonstrated a critical and in-depth knowledge of counter-terrorism and how cyber war-fare is emerging as a new frontier of security concern

Learning & Teaching Processes (to allow students to achieve intended learning outcomes)
Lectures
Seminars for small groups
Case studies and problem-based learning
Research papers and dissertation guidance, by way of weekly lectures

Assessment (of intended learning outcomes)
Unseen written examinations
Assessed coursework
Case study, problem and essay-based tasks
Research Paper and dissertation

B. Intellectual Skills

Students will be able to:	
B1.	Apply specialised knowledge in the law affecting specific fields relevant to the particular LLM stream;
B2.	Display the ability to discuss legal issues critically;
B3.	Draw upon the relevant literature for the analysis of the appropriate law;
B4.	Further their knowledge through independent reading and research;
B5.	Use analytical techniques to address specific legal problems.

Learning & Teaching Processes (to allow students to achieve intended learning outcomes)
Lecture/seminars in which policy and legal issues are introduced in a critical fashion
Student-led seminars and presentation of student papers
Formative feedback on coursework
Direct reading
Research papers and dissertation guidance, by way of weekly lectures

Assessment (of intended learning outcomes)
Written examinations (including essays which demand critical analysis)
Assessed coursework
Research Paper and dissertation


C. Practical Skills

Students will be able to:	
C1.	research legal and policy information from a number of paper and electronic sources;
C2.	develop arguments in a logical coherent manner.

Learning & Teaching Processes
Seminars
Formative feedback on coursework



Assessment
Examination essay
Coursework

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Instruction in use of retrieval of principal electronic databases in law		
Provision of assessed coursework guidelines		
Research guidance		Research Paper Dissertation

D. Transferable Skills and Personal Qualities

Students will be able to:	
D1.	present complex legal ideas in writing;
D2.	utilise information technology and word processing packages;
D3.	show improved ability to present arguments orally;
D4.	(For Masters' students only) complete independent projects of individual design within a set timescale

	Learning & Teaching Processes (to allow students to achieve intended learning outcomes)		Assessment (of intended learning outcomes)
	Seminars with student papers		Formative (non-assessed) coursework
	Formative feedback		Summative (assessed) coursework
	Guidance for research papers or dissertation		Research papers or dissertation

4. THE STRUCTURE OF THE PROGRAMME

Programme structure and credits	Credits
LLM without specialisation Course units can be selected from any that are available on the programme in the respective academic year.	120 credits
International Business & Commercial Law (IBCL): Designated course units to a minimum value of 60 credits, plus course units to the maximum value of a further 60 credits from the remaining LLM course units.	120 credits
Intellectual Property Law (IP) Three compulsory course units (worth 90 credits combined), plus course units to the value of a further 30 credits from IBCL- designated course units. <i>Compulsory course units: Trade Mark Law & Policy (LAWS70261); Patent Law & Policy (LAWS70271); Copyright Law & Policy (LAWS70292).</i>	120 credits
International Financial Law (IFL) Two compulsory course units to a minimum value of 60 credits, plus two optional course unit to a value of 60 units. <i>Compulsory course units: LAWS72021 International Law and Practice of Securities Markets; LAWS70352 The Regulation of International Finance</i>	120 credits

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<p>Corporate Governance (CG) Two compulsory course units (worth 60 credits combined), plus IBCL-designated course units to a minimum value of 60 credits.</p> <p><i>Compulsory course units: Transnational Corporate & Capital Markets Law (LAW 70081); The Principles & Practice of Corporate Governance (LAWS70362).</i></p>	120 credits
<p>International Economic Law (IEL) Two compulsory course units (worth 60 credits combined), plus optional course units to a minimum value of 60 credits.</p> <p><i>Compulsory course units: Global Economic and World Trade Law (LAWS 67031) and International Investment Law (LAWS 72042)</i></p>	120 credits
<p>Public International Law (PIL) Four compulsory units to a minimum value of 60 credits, plus course units to the value of a maximum of a further 60 credits from the remaining LLM course units.</p> <p><i>Compulsory course units: Law and Global Subjects and Actors (LAWS70021); Global Law-Making (LAWS70431); International Liability Mechanisms (LAWS70441); International Institutions and Global Security Architectures (LAWS70451)</i></p>	120 credits
<p>LLM in Transnational Dispute Resolution (TDR) Two compulsory course units (worth 60 credits combined), plus TDR-designated course units to a minimum value of 60 credits.</p> <p><i>Compulsory course units: International Commercial Arbitration and Mediation Law (LAWS 65082) and International Investment Law (LAWS 72042)</i></p>	120 credits
<p>LLM/MA in Security and International Law (SIL) Four compulsory course units (worth 60 credits) plus SIL-designated course units to a minimum value of 60 credits. Compulsory course units:</p> <p><i>Compulsory course units: Law and Global Subjects and Actors (LAWS70021); Global Law-Making (LAWS70431); International Liability Mechanisms (LAWS70441); International Institutions and Global Security Architectures (LAWS70451)</i></p>	120 credits
<p>All LLM streams: As a restructure of the research component of the LLM, students complete 15,000 word dissertation.</p>	60 credits
<p>MA students Would need to do either TWO research papers (7,500 words for each)</p>	60 credits
<p>Exit awards: <i>Students who fail to fulfil the requirements to pass the 180 credits necessary to attain the final degree of LLM can leave the programme with the award of Postgraduate Diploma by passing 120 credits at the pass mark of 40%, or can qualify for the Postgraduate Certificate by passing 60 credits at the pass mark of 40%.</i></p>	

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<p><i>The full Department of Law course unit database can be accessed at:</i> http://www.manchester.ac.uk/study/masters/courses/list/08446/llm-law/course-details/#course-profile</p>	
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5. STUDENT INDUCTION, SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT
(In order to deliver the intended learning outcomes)

A. Student Induction

Information regarding induction activities and registration processes is available to prospective students electronically (via a “registration webpage”) around eight weeks before the start of the first semester. The information can also be sent to students by post as a “pre-registration pack”. Before the delivery of the programme’s taught course units commences, students undergo a one-week period of **induction**. In the first week of induction, students attend an orientation lecture by those responsible for the delivery of the programme in which the expectations and aims of the programme are explained. Also, in this first week, students attend introductory sessions to the University’s **library** and **computer** facilities.

Students receive a copy of the **programme handbook**, in which all aspects of the programme are comprehensively outlined, in this first week. In the orientation lecture, the importance of the programme handbook (as a point of reference throughout their time on the programme) is underlined to students. The programme handbook is also made available electronically on Blackboard.

Students will take a series of **foundation lectures** (each of 2 hours duration), to introduce the fundamental aspects of English legal systems during Welcome/Induction week.

B. Student Support

Each student is assigned an academic adviser within the first few weeks of semester one. **Academic advisers** are expected to deal with pastoral matters, and are key to the School’s student support structure, with students able to develop a Personal Development Plan with their adviser. All members of School academic staff publish and display their weekly “office hours”, during which times students are able to see their academic adviser without an appointment. Students are required to see academic advisers at certain intervals, and times are arranged for this purpose. Meetings between academic advisers and students can take place outside of the adviser’s office hours, but in such instances, the student would need to have arranged this with the academic adviser beforehand. Additionally, an adviser would endeavour to arrange a meeting with his/her advisee if the advisee’s work and attendance gave cause for concern.

Course unit directors and/or the programme director would be expected to try to resolve the specifically-academic issues of a student on the programme whilst a semester’s teaching is ongoing. Feedback on assessed coursework (including a provisional mark) can be collected by students from their academic advisers a week or two prior to the official publication of provisional results, with any issues that arise to be discussed between the student and academic adviser.

Appointments can also be made with academic staff by students who are not the academic advisees of the member of staff in question to discuss academic, rather than pastoral, matters (for instance, if a student has a question relating to course unit teaching or material).

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For current overseas students, the School – in co-operation with staff from the University's Language Centre – runs sessions throughout the academic year, specifically designed to improve student's **English language skills** and particularly within the field of law. All overseas students are able to attend these classes. Any students whose performance in the foundation examination (referred to in section 5A, above) indicates that they would benefit from attending such classes are actively encouraged to attend these classes by their academic adviser.

Small group teaching in seminars and tutorials means that students are supported in their academic work in an individual and personalised way. Students are expected and encouraged to participate in various group activities designed to enhance the learning process. Learning and teaching through seminars provide an opportunity for students to acquire a variety of oral and written communication skills. The seminar taker will set a non-assessed essay and invite students to submit essays, in an effort to provide detailed and constructive formative feedback to students. Seminars also provide an environment in which members of staff can identify students who have academic problems. In such cases, the student concerned would be referred to his/her academic adviser and/or the programme director, as appropriate.

I.T. support is available on the I.T. Services website. The training materials cover many of the popular IT applications used at the University.

Staff responsible for the delivery of teaching within a course unit (principally course unit directors) are able to provide handouts and supplements to their sessions electronically via the University's online **Blackboard** programme.

Examinations, dissertations and Research Papers advice sessions are provided for LLM students throughout the programme. These sessions (weekly lectures given by LLM teaching staff during semesters one and two) include positive advice on research, writing and the use of sources, and also advice on the rules about plagiarism – among other aspects conducive to producing written work of a high standard. Plagiarism (whether intentional or unintentional) is a particularly important aspect to ensure that students are aware of, as all written work is subjected to the plagiarism detection software Turnitin in an effort by the School to rigorously ensure that academic standards are maintained.

As part of the research element students will be supervised:

- Dissertation will provide up to four hours of supervision.
- Each research papers will provided up to two hours of supervision.

Research Skills: Specialised support is offered in The School of Social Sciences for use of online research tools, e.g. the LEXIS/NEXIS databases.

Student representatives are chosen at the beginning of the academic year. The representatives are invited to all relevant School Committee and Board meetings (for unreserved business), and so aid in the decision-making processes which affect the student experience generally.

C. Student Development

The Law School operates a Personal Academic Development (PADP) Scheme, and all students are invited to complete a PADP form twice a year. Meetings with the individual student's Academic Adviser are arranged, at which the completed form can be discussed.

The Law School's intranet provides further relevant information relating to student induction, support and development.

Further information on the University Central Support Services can be found at:
[Student Support | The University of Manchester](#)

6. MECHANISMS FOR PROGRAMME REVISION

Within the Department of Law, programmes are annually monitored through the Teaching and Learning Committee. The annual review of programmes is a regular agenda item.

In addition, students complete course unit questionnaires (a detailed evaluation form for each of the course units delivered). The results of these questionnaires are reviewed by the Departmental Director of Teaching and Learning and, when required, action is taken based on the evaluation results.

7. CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION

Candidates must be able to satisfy the general admissions criteria of the University and of the School in at least in of the following ways:

English language proficiency of IELTS 7 or TOEFL 625; AND

For the LLM programme: A degree equivalent to a UK 2(i) in law (or a degree with significant legal content), or relevant professional experience.

8. PROGRESSION AND ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS

The minimum pass mark for each course unit is 50% (for Masters' students).
The minimum pass mark for Postgraduate Diploma students for each course unit is 40%.

Full details of assessment and compensation arrangements are outlined in detail in the programme handbook. The School operates standard University degree regulations for the awards of Master, Postgraduate Diploma and Postgraduate Certificate. The University's degree regulations can be found online at:

<http://www.campus.manchester.ac.uk/tlao/map/teachinglearningassessment/teaching/degree regulations/>

Classification Criteria

(as per programme handbook)

70-100%	Distinction
60 - 69%	Merit
50 - 59%	Pass (Masters' level)
40 - 49%	Pass (Diploma level)
0 - 39%	Fail

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