

The University of Manchester  
PG Programme Specification – LLM/MA/PGDip/PG Cert in Healthcare Ethics and Law, distance  
learning  
**PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION**

### 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	LLM in Healthcare Ethics and Law By distance learning	24 months or 36 months	Distance learning (part-time)
MA	MA in Healthcare Ethics and Law By distance learning	24 months or 36 months	Distance learning (part-time)
PgDip	PGDip in Healthcare Ethics and Law By distance learning	24 months or 36 months	Distance learning (part-time)
PG Cert	Postgraduate PG Cert By distance learning	24 months 36 months	Full time Part time

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

## 2. AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME

The LLM, MA, MSc, PgDip and PG Cert programmes aim to:

01.	provide the highest quality of training in healthcare ethics and healthcare law with an interdisciplinary approach;
02.	provide an emphasis on the application of moral and legal theory to real-world scenarios, thus catering to the practical needs of healthcare and legal professionals;
03.	offer students the opportunity to gain a comprehensive knowledge and firm understanding of ethical and medico-legal theories;
04.	offer students the opportunity to gain the skills needed to apply theory to real-world scenarios in a diverse range of contexts;
05.	(For Masters' students only) develop ethical and medico-legal knowledge and research skills for the writing of a Masters-level dissertation.

## 3. INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES OF THE PROGRAMME

LLM, MA and MSc students complete 180 credits – 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 (in the form of one dissertation).

Postgraduate Diploma students complete 120 credits of taught course units, but forego the independent research element.

Postgraduate Certificate students are required to undertake 60 credits from within the taught element of the LLM/MA/MSc course.

### A. Knowledge & Understanding

At the end of the programme, students will have:	
A1.	demonstrated knowledge and understanding of the major theoretical approaches to healthcare ethics;
A2.	demonstrated an understanding of the basic principles of English healthcare law;
A3.	demonstrated specific knowledge concerning a range of commonly occurring ethical problems in healthcare;

A4.	demonstrated specific knowledge concerning a range of commonly-occurring legal problems in healthcare.
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Learning & Teaching Processes (to allow students to achieve intended learning outcomes)
The delivery of the course units is via interactive learning texts which guide students through the areas of study
Students are provided with comprehensive tutorial support from academic staff by e-mail/phone and/or zoom
Students are offered the opportunity to attend an annual study day on campus (covid-restrictions permitting)
(For Masters' students only) Individual supervision of a dissertation




Assessment (of intended learning outcomes)
Assessed coursework
(For Masters' students only) Dissertation

## B. Intellectual Skills


Students will be able to:	
B1.	analyse the real implications of moral and legal theories for both society and for individuals (both healthcare professionals and ordinary citizens);
B2.	formulate an argument in a clear, precise and impartial way;
B3.	develop the ability to sustain coherence between elements of extended arguments;
B4.	constructively criticise an argument and justify the criticisms;
B5.	reflect upon, analyse, and evaluate claims based in expert knowledge;
B6.	identify relevant ethical and medico-legal theory and appropriate frameworks and apply them to concrete problems.



<b>Learning &amp; Teaching Processes</b> (to allow students to achieve intended learning outcomes)		<b>Assessment</b> (of intended learning outcomes)
Interactive course unit materials		
Tutorial support		
Individual formative feedback		
Student participation in discussions on the programme online bulletin board and in online office hours		
Student participation in discussions at the optional annual study day		
(For Masters' students only) Individual supervision of dissertation		Essays
		(For Masters' students only) Dissertation

### C. Practical Skills

Students will be able to:	
C1.	produce pieces of individual written work, to agreed deadlines;
C2.	quote appropriately from extant texts and consistently apply one of the several recognised referencing systems in line with the demands of accepted good practice in academic and professional writing;
C3.	research legal and policy information from a number of paper and electronic sources;
C4.	develop arguments in a logically coherent manner.

<b>Learning &amp; Teaching Processes</b> (to allow students to achieve intended learning outcomes)		<b>Assessment</b> (of intended learning outcomes)
Instruction in use of retrieval of principal electronic databases in law		
Provision of assessed coursework guidelines		
Tutorial support and formative feedback on all assessed work after marking - extensive feedback is provided on summative coursework which is useful for the completion of further assessed work		Assessed coursework produced according to precise requirements and deadlines
(For Masters' students only) Individual supervision of dissertation		(For Masters' students only) Dissertation

#### D. Transferable Skills and Personal Qualities

Students will be able to:	
D1.	independently seek information via publications, databases; and the internet;
D2.	present an argument in an effective, stimulating and sophisticated way;
D3.	intervene effectively and usefully in discussions of ethical and medico-legal problems;
D4.	(For Masters' students only) complete an independent project of individual design within a set timescale.



<b>Learning &amp; Teaching Processes</b> (to allow students to achieve intended learning outcomes)
Students are expected to research issues independently throughout the programme, using publications, databases, and the internet
The course unit materials provide regular opportunities to develop and present arguments throughout. Students are also encouraged to participate in discussions on the online bulletin board, during online office hours, and during the annual study day on campus.
Tutorial support and formative feedback on all assessed work after marking - extensive feedback is provided on summative coursework which is useful for the completion of further assessed work
(For Masters' students) Dissertation supervision



<b>Assessment</b> (of intended learning outcomes)
Summative coursework
(For Masters' students) Dissertation

#### 4. THE STRUCTURE OF THE PROGRAMME

##### LLM HEALTHCARE ETHICS AND LAW PART-TIME

Students on the part time LLM Healthcare Ethics & Law programme must take taught course units to a total value of 120 credits.

**IMPORTANT:** Students who initially register on the MA but wish to request a programme change to the LLM must do so before submission of the dissertation. Students must have taken the relevant course units and must be completing a predominately 'law-based' dissertation in order to change to the LLM programme. Students should request a programme change by contacting their programme administrator.

Students registered on the LLM must complete a predominately law-based dissertation.

##### LLM HEALTHCARE ETHIC AND LAW YEAR ONE

CORE COURSE UNITS Automatic enrolment onto the Core Course Units	
SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
30 Credits Course Units <b>CSEP60103</b> Philosophical Bioethics	30 Credits Course Units <b>CSEP60113</b> Medico-Legal Problems

##### LLM HEALTHCARE ETHIC AND LAW YEAR TWO

CORE COURSE UNITS Automatic enrolment onto the Core Course Units	
SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
15 credits course units <b>CSEP60253</b> Medicine Law and Society	15 credits course units <b>CSEP60243</b> Mental Health Law and Policy
30 credits course units <b>CSEP60293</b> International Issues in Healthcare Ethics and Law	60 credits course units <b>CSEP60083</b> Dissertation by Independent research

## MA HEALTHCARE ETHICS AND LAW PART-TIME

Students on the part time MA Healthcare Ethics & Law programme must take taught course units to a total value of 120 credits.

**IMPORTANT:** Students who initially register on the MA but wish to request a programme change to the LLM must do so before submission of the dissertation. Students must have taken the relevant course units and must be completing a predominately 'law-based' dissertation in order to change to the LLM programme. Students should request a programme change by contacting their programme administrator.

Students registered on the MA Healthcare Ethics & Law may select any two of the available optional course units and may choose to complete a predominately 'law-based' or 'ethics-based' dissertation

### MA HEALTHCARE ETHIC AND LAW YEAR ONE

CORE COURSE UNITS Automatic enrolment onto the Core Course Units	
SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
<u>30 Credits Course Units</u> <b>CSEP60103</b> Philosophical Bioethics	<u>30 Credits Course Units</u> <b>CSEP60113</b> Medico-Legal Problems

### MA HEALTHCARE ETHIC AND LAW YEAR TWO

CORE COURSE UNITS Automatic enrolment onto the Core Course Unit	
SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
<u>30 credits course units</u> <b>CSEP60293</b> International Issues in Healthcare Ethics and Law	<u>60 credits course units</u> <b>CSEP60083</b> Dissertation by Independent research
OPTIONAL COURSE UNITS Students must select <b>one</b> 15 credit optional unit in semester one, and <b>one</b> 15 credit optional unit in semester two.	
SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
<u>15 credits course units</u> <b>CSEP60253</b> Medicine Law and Society <b>CSEP60033</b> Research Ethics	<u>15 credits course units</u> <b>CSEP60243</b> Mental Health Law and Policy <b>CSEP60043</b> Ethics, Genetics and Genomics

## POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA HEALTHCARE ETHICS AND LAW PART-TIME

Students on the part time Postgraduate Diploma Healthcare Ethics & Law programme must take taught course units to a total value of 120 credits.

### POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA HEALTHCARE ETHICS AND LAW PART-TIME YEAR ONE

CORE COURSE UNITS Automatic enrolment onto the Core Course Units	
Semester One	Semester Two
<u>30 Credits Course Units</u> <b>CSEP60103</b> Philosophical Bioethics	<u>30 Credits Course Units</u> <b>CSEP60113</b> Medico-Legal Problems

### POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA HEALTHCARE ETHICS AND LAW PART-TIME YEAR TWO

CORE COURSE UNITS Automatic enrolment onto the Core Course Unit	
SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
<u>30 credits course units</u> <b>CSEP60293</b> International Issues in Healthcare Ethics and Law	There are no core semester two course units.
OPTIONAL COURSE UNITS Students must select 15 credits from the semester one optional course unit list and Select 15 credits from the semester two from optional course unit list	
SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
<u>15 credits course units</u> <b>CSEP60253</b> Medicine Law and Society <b>CSEP60033</b> Research Ethics	<u>15 credits course units</u> <b>CSEP60243</b> Mental Health Law and Policy <b>CSEP60043</b> Ethics, Genetics and Genomics



**POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE HEALTHCARE ETHICS PART-TIME**

Students on the part time Postgraduate Certificate Healthcare Ethics programme must take the following modules over 18 months

- **CSEP60103** Philosophical Bioethics (30 credits);
- **CSEP60033** Research Ethics (15 credits); and
- **CSEP60043** Ethics, Genetics and Genomics (15 credits)

**POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE HEALTHCARE LAW PART-TIME**

Students on the part time Postgraduate Certificate Healthcare Law programme must take the following modules over 18 months

- **CSEP60113** Medico-Legal Problems (30 credits);
- **CSEP60253** Medicine, Law & Society (15 credits);
- **CSEP60243** Mental Health Law and Policy (15 credits).

**5. STUDENT INDUCTION, SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT**  
(in order to deliver the intended learning outcomes)

**A. Student Induction**

Distance learning (DL) students are offered a great deal of individual support. At the beginning of the programme, they receive materials by post, including induction materials. They quickly establish e-mail contact with academic advisers and course unit tutors, who provide support on an individual basis.

**Programme Handbooks** are given to all new students upon their registration, with comprehensive information about all aspects of their degree programme. The programme handbook is also made available electronically on the School's student intranet throughout the year.

**B. Student Support**

**Academic advisers** are the key to the Law Department's student support structure, and this applies equally in the distance learning programme. Students are required to contact academic advisers at certain intervals. In addition, academic adviser and advisee will meet at the request of the advisee, or if the advisee's work and attendance gives cause for concern.

**The Discussion Boards** for DL students on the website provides an opportunity for student interaction and discussion about all aspects of the DL programme. In this way, students gain a sense of scholarly community, despite face-to-face contact being limited.

**Office hours:** course tutors offer weekly office hours on zoom/collaborate to allow students to raise any questions they may have about the course unit they are studying. The format of these office hours vary. Some tutors use this for one-to-one drop-ins, whereas others use it as an unstructured session where students can come and ask questions/discuss issues with each other and the tutor. Whichever approach is adopted, these sessions provide students with support as they progress through the course materials.

**The annual study day** (covid restrictions permitting) for DL students and their advisers/tutors provides an excellent opportunity to network informally and for peer support and academic support to be reinforced.

Staff responsible for the delivery of teaching within a course unit (principally course unit directors) are able to provide learning materials electronically via the University's online Blackboard programme.

**I.T. support** is provided by Manchester Computing, with various on-line tutorials and personal help provided. Students are required to put their skills into practice eg in word-processing coursework essays; researching topics using web sources. Students also receive an induction to Blackboard provided by UMW.

**DL Student Representatives serve on the staff-student liaison committee and are encouraged to seek feedback from their fellow students and present this at the committee meetings.**

### C. Student Development

The 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.

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 School of Social Sciences, programmes are annually monitored through the Teaching and Learning Committee with the annual review of programmes being a regular agenda item.

In addition, student questionnaires are reviewed by the Director of Teaching and Learning.

There are regular Staff Student Committees which feeds back to the Teaching and Learning Committee and the Strategic Management Team.

## 7. CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION

For admission onto the MA/LLM programme, candidates must be able to satisfy the general admissions criteria of the University and of the School in the following way:

MA/LLM applicants must hold a minimum Upper Second Class honours degree, or the overseas equivalent, in a relevant subject (e.g. medicine, law, philosophy, nursing, religious studies).

PG Dip candidates must hold a minimum Lower Second (2.2) class honours degree, or the overseas equivalent in a relevant subject (eg medicine, law, philosophy, nursing, religious studies).

In exceptional circumstances, candidates who do not have a first degree, but can demonstrate professional competence, may be admitted on the Postgraduate Diploma (PGDip) course.

Postgraduate Certificate (PGCert) applicants must hold a minimum of a Lower Second (2.2) class honours degree. In exceptional circumstances candidates who do not have first degree, but who can demonstrate professional competence, may be admitted.

The English language requirements are as follows:

- IELTS - overall score of 7, including 7 in writing with no further component score below 6.5
- TOEFL IBT 103 with 28 in writing and no further score below 25 in each section. TOEFL code for Manchester is 0757

- Pearson - overall 73 with 73 in writing and no further score below 66

Scores are valid for 2 years.

## 8. PROGRESSION AND ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS

Minimum pass mark for each course unit is 50% (for Masters' students).

Minimum pass mark for Postgraduate Diploma students and Postgraduate Certificate 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/degreeregulations/>

### **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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