**LLM International Business Law**

**Faculty of Business, Law and Social Sciences**

**School of Law**

This document is presented in three sections:

## Section One

This section will provide students with key information on their learning experience and how it will be continuously enhanced this will include;

* Programme Philosophy and Aims
* Programme Learning, Teaching and Assessment strategy
* Statements of Intent for key learning experience themes

This section aims to address Quality Enhancement and Learning & Teaching excellence across the student learning experience.

## Section Two

This section addresses regulatory and quality assurance requirements for the purposes of programme validation and mapping of the student learning experience.

## Section Three

This section collates the Module Guides from across the programme.

## Section One

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| Programme Philosophy | |
| The LLM International Business Law provides you with a knowledge-led and practice-based curriculum in International Business Law delivered by a team of academics which includes internationally recognised researchers. It is designed for law graduates who wish to further their legal study or non-law graduates who are interested in studying a specialist area of law. The programme provides an in-depth critical examination of the fundamental aspects International Business Law and enables you to engage in research and critically evaluate international and transnational laws and systems of justice at a higher level.  In this current globalised world characterised by ever increasing trade and the free movement of goods, services and ideas, knowledge and understanding of legal aspects of international business and of the international and transnational legal and regulatory infrastructure is an important attribute that is highly regarded by prospective employers. It is very important to understand how the corporate and business world is shaped and governed by international law and how this facilitates cross-border trade and business relations. The LLM International Business Law examines this very important area of study with the underlying philosophy of providing a structured programme characterised by sound theory and practical application to produce students capable of engaging with international institutions through their understanding of business law at the international, transnational and comparative levels. The programme pays due attention to transferable and employability skills properly balanced with substantive knowledge in order to produce students able to apply specific knowledge of international business law in a global employment market.   * You will learn from a dedicated and passionate teaching team, who have track record of research in the field of International Business Law * You can study this programme without needing to have an undergraduate law degree. You will be given support through an Introduction to Law programme at the start of your studies. * The course has flexible delivery methods to suit your location and when you are able to study. You can enroll as either an on-campus student, flexible/blended learning student or as a distance learning student. * You can commence studies either in September or in January. * You can study as either a full-time or part-time student. * You will have an opportunity to enhance your employability skills by completing a placement * If you are a home student you may be able to benefit from the newly-introduced postgraduate loans.   The programme covers different areas of International Business Law, ranging from the laws governing the creation and internal governance of corporate actors, to the legal regulation of transnational commerce, competition law, intellectual property, and the different forms of dispute resolution. The programme also examines the legal regulation of business in important areas of stakeholder interest such as corporate criminality and tax evasion.  You will cover the following core modules:   * International Corporate Law * Transnational Commercial Law * Corporate Criminality and Tax Evasion * Advanced Legal Research Methods   and choose two optional modules from the following list:   * International Intellectual Property Law * Global Comparative Competition Law * Conflict Resolution in Business * Legal Aspects of International Business Relations   These modules will be split into two pairs. Students must choose one from each pair.  The number of optional modules available each year depend on both staff availability and student numbers. Optional modules with low student numbers will not run but you can still engage in research of that area of law on the Dissertation/Live Project/Placement module, and you will receive expert supervision.  As an alternative to the two optional modules, if you are an on-campus student you will also have the opportunity to complete a period of study abroad, for example to study under the Erasmus scheme (subject to availability).  In the final stage of study (LLM stage) you will complete a dissertation or project or a business law placement.  The programme is relevant whether you are aiming for a career in academia, in legal practice, in the private sector, in the business world, or in governmental, inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations. The programme is also useful if you are seeking to develop essential lifelong transferable skills, such as critical thinking, analysis, negotiation and advocacy. The LLM emphasises on developing your skills in legal research and writing, critical analysis and synthesis and it therefore also provides you with a strong basis for progression to doctoral studies. The Advanced Legal Research Methods module will provide you with grounding in legal research methods and techniques, and all modules will develop your critical analysis skills as well as communication skills and therefore equip you with lifelong transferable skills that will enhance your employability.  You will benefit from a staged and progressive learning structure that not only combines different learning and teaching strategies but also encourages and supports independent learning, critical analysis and advanced research. Whether you are an on-campus, flexible/blended learning student or a distance learning student, for each module you will be given various tasks to complete both prior to and after your teaching sessions. You will therefore develop key time management and organization skills. At all stages of your studies you will have the opportunity to actively participate in and take responsibility for your learning, engage with activities that will develop your academic and intellectual skills and develop independent and critical thinking. You will have the opportunity to discuss and formulate assessment topics with your tutors, participate in discussion and debates whether online or face-to-face, complete written assessments and deliver presentations. You will therefore develop key oral and written communications skills and the ability to work both independently and in a team.  You will learn in the environment of a School of Law whose core values are social justice, access to justice and corporate social and legal responsibility. We aim to enable you to develop a critical awareness of the role of law in influencing social change and individual and corporate behaviour.  In line with the ethos of the Law School, in the Corporate Criminality and Tax Evasion module you will study how corporate actions affect society.    The LLM International Business Law is relevant whether you are aiming for a career in academia, in legal practice, or in business organisations or governmental and inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations working in business. The programme is also useful if you are seeking to develop essential lifelong transferable skills, such as critical thinking, analysis, negotiation and advocacy. The LLM emphasises on developing your skills in legal research and writing, critical analysis and synthesis and it therefore also provides you with a strong basis for progression to doctoral studies. The Advanced Legal Research Methods module will provide you with grounding in legal research methods and techniques, and all modules will develop your critical analysis skills as well as communication skills and therefore equip you with lifelong transferable skills that will enhance your employability.  Throughout your studies will receive academic support from your module tutors and you will also benefit from support from your personal tutor. | |
| Programme Aims This section articulates the programme level learning outcomes framed by the five themes of the Academic Plan. | |
| 1. Pursuing Excellence | To provide you with the opportunity to study and critically evaluate a focused area of International Business law at masters level.  To develop your ability to undertake in-depth and extensive research and investigation, and to critical analyse laws and systems of justice at a higher level.  To do this within an institution that promotes excellence in scholarship and practice-led learning that is transferrable to careers in the legal sector, associated careers and non-legal careers. |
| 1. Practice-led, knowledge-applied | To develop your critical analysis skills to enable you to work in research and academic institutions, business organisations, as well as governmental and non-governmental organisations. In doing so the LLM aims:   * To provide you with the opportunity to actively participate in and take responsibility for your learning. * To develop your ability to critically evaluate information and construct coherent and rational argument and relate theory and practice in order to draw independent and balanced conclusions through the ability to plan strategically for your own learning methods and provide a structured response to meaningful feedback. * To develop your ability to analyse, critically evaluate and produce a synthesis of well-established and recent legal rules, doctrine, policies, principles and concepts; to apply these to a diverse range of practical and theoretical issues and problems, recognising and making evaluative judgements about the appropriateness of different methods of problem solving, in order to make a reasoned choice from relevant alternatives and to present this information in an appropriate format. |
| 1. Interdisciplinary | To provide you with a critical understanding of issues in the field of International Business Law within the context of contemporary issues in business and economic relations. |
| 1. Employability-driven | To enable you to enhance your employment opportunities in the legal profession, business and a range of other careers, including academic careers and progression to PhD, through the development of key transferrable lifelong learning skills.Employability and professional skills are embedded into the programme. Other skills developed will include a range of pervasive skills, such as: making relevant use of information derived from primary and secondary resources when constructing an argument, conducting research electronically and making appropriate use of the internet to locate relevant information and solve problems. You will produce work which is presented and formatted using standard software packages and have the opportunity to engage in placement and project opportunities with our expanding range of collaborative partners. You will work co-operatively with others and practice professionalism in every aspect of your programme. |
| 1. Internationalisation | To study law entirely in the international context, in a subject area dominated by bilateral and international agreements, and contextualise those rules in the context of contemporary social, cultural and economic factors.The opportunity to engage in overseas placement and international study abroad. |

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| Programme Learning Outcomes |
| **1.** To analyse and critically evaluate the principal features of International Business Law, including the major concepts, values, principles and rules, and the main institutions and procedures. |
| **2.** To critically analyse and synthesise complex legal issues, doctrines, legal rules, policies, arguments and discourses and apply theoretical knowledge to legal problems within a practice-led learning environment; recognising and making evaluative judgements about the appropriateness of different methods of problem solving, in order to make a reasoned choice from relevant alternatives. |
| **3.** To demonstrate a knowledge-applied approach, showing an ability to engage in in-depth research, evaluate sources of information and make proficient use of information and materials from a variety of relevant sources, including knowledge of the legal conventions relevant to International Business Law. |
| **4.** To communicate complex and abstract ideas in an articulate, confident and accurate manner in relation to legal issues, in order to make effective oral and written presentations which are coherent and comprehensible to others and meet expectations in the workplace. |
| **5.** To employ strategic transferable skills to underpin continuing professional development and practice and to develop a range of other pervasive skills, including: making relevant use of numerical and statistical information relevant to international business law that is derived from primary and secondary sources when constructing an argument, conducting electronic research and appropriate use of the internet to locate information relevant to international business law, producing work which is presented and formatted using standard software packages, working professionally, co-operatively with others as well as independently. |

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| Programme Learning, Teaching & Assessment Strategy |
| This section explains the learning and teaching approaches, activities and experiences that your programme will offer, the range of assessments and types of feedback and feedforward you will encounter, and explain how these will support your continuous learning throughout the programme, and explain the expectations we have of you in this learning partnership.  Learning and Teaching  The programme may be studied on-campus, or on a flexible/blended learning basis or by distance learning, allowing you to access it irrespective of your location. All three modes offer a coherent, staged and progressive learning structure in which you will benefit from teaching which is informed by the research expertise of our academic team. Our approach is experiential and practice-led and will give you opportunities to apply your learning and to develop skills to enhance your employability and career.  If you are a full time student, during the September and January terms you will study three 20-credit modules, thereafter you will study one 60-credit module: the LLM dissertation/placement/project module. The 20-credit Advanced Legal Research Methods module (studied in the January term) is delivered online via the Virtual Learning Environment, providing maximum flexibility.  If you are a part-time student you will study over three academic years and you will complete 60 credits in each academic year. In the first two years you will complete the taught modules and then undertake the dissertation/placement/project module in your final year of study.  For on-campus students (whether full time or part-time) the opportunity to study abroad offers a unique and exciting opportunity for you to experience the teaching environment from a different perspective, in another country, helping you to become a true globalized citizen. For all students further opportunities are also available to undertake a placement and obtain practical experience of how International Law operates.  **If you choose to study on-campus** in the September and January termsyou will benefit from a block of intensive face-to-face teaching near the start of each term, especially designed to get you off to a really strong start to each module. Throughout the two terms there will then be regular facilitated workshops which are interactive sessions designed to develop your knowledge, understanding and critical evaluation of directed pre-reading, with an emphasis on peer-led learning to develop your skills in legal analysis and evaluation. We expect you to attend all teaching sessions as well as to read and prepare before these sessions. Good preparation will enable you to get the most from your contact time and will help you become an autonomous learner. Advance preparation is also a critical skill which you must develop if you wish to succeed in business or professional practice. When you progress to the dissertation/placement/project there will be a shorter block of intensive face-to-face teaching near the start followed by regular one-to-one sessions with your supervisor.  I**f you choose to study as a flexible/blended learning student** you will attend sessions delivered in block of intensive face-to-face teaching near the start of each term, especially designed to get you off to a really strong start to each module. The intensive face-to-face sessions are delivered over one week in the September term and one week in the January term. Throughout the rest of the term you will be provided with learning materials and learn through online activities, including participating in online discussion forums, webinars, and contact with your tutors through the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE), Moodle. You will be expected to contribute to all online activities. This will include logging in and participating in webinars and discussion forums and completing other tasks assigned by your tutor.  For the LLM dissertation/placement/project there will be a shorter block of intensive face-to-face teaching near the start followed a one-to-one session with your supervisor. Subsequent supervisory sessions will be delivered using appropriate available means such as via telephone, the VLE or Skype.  **If you choose to study by distance learning** you will be able to benefit from the expertise of our academic team without being restricted by the need to attend on-campus. You will be provided with learning materials and learn through online activities, including participating in online discussion forums, webinars, and contact with your tutors through the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE), Moodle. You will be expected to contribute to all online activities. This will include logging in and participating in webinars and discussion forums and completing other tasks assigned by your tutor. In the LLM dissertation/placement/project module the supervisory sessions will be delivered using appropriate available means such as via telephone, the VLE or Skype.  The diagram below shows typical learning activities in the September and January terms. The Induction/Postgraduate Learner/Introduction to Law programme is completed once at the start of your first term of studies. For September entry students that first term will be in September and for January entry students the first term will be in January. Your second term of taught modules will commence with two week of directed pre-reading followed by the week of intensive delivery.   |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Week | Activity | | | |  | On campus students | Flexible/blended learning students | Distance Learning students | | 1 | Attend Induction activities on campus and complete the PG Learner/ Introduction to Law programme online (First term of study) | Complete Induction activities online and complete PG Learner/ Introduction to Law programme online. (First term of study) | | | 2 | | 3 | Attend one session to meet your tutor and complete directed pre-reading | Complete directed pre-reading and online activities. | | | 4 | | 5 | Attend intensive delivery sessions over 5 days. Each module will have 2 hours tutor-led face-to-face seminars each day for 5 days. | Attend intensive delivery sessions over 5 days. Each module will have 2 hours tutor-led face-to-face seminars each day for 5 days. | **Complete readings and online activities.** | | 6 | Attend weekly student-led/tutor-facilitated seminars.  Formative assessment to take place between weeks 8 and11 | Complete weekly online activities  Formative assessment to take place between weeks 8 and 11 | | | 7 | | 8 | | 9 | | 10 | | 11 | | 12 |   Employability  Employability is embedded throughout the programme to give you the opportunity to enhance different skills which are also transferrable across a variety careers and necessary to succeed in the modern workplace. Our curriculum incorporates practice-led learning and will develop your research, critical and analytical skills. You will complete a range of practice-led assessments that include case-study reports, business reports, and a simulated negotiated exercise. These assessment strategies replicate the tasks you would be expected to do in a workplace environment. The placement module will enable you to experience further learning within the workplace and will provide for you to be assessed on your performance within the placement environment.  Assessment strategy  The programme offers a diverse range of assessments, which are both practice-led and knowledge-applied and provide you with an opportunity to demonstrate your legal knowledge and employability skills within each module. There are no examinations on the programme but you will complete a range of practice-led assessments including research papers, case studies and business reports. It is important that you are aware that we regard assessment as part of your learning process and not purely as an opportunity to test you on what you know.  In line with the University Regulations you will be permitted three attempts at assessments. After your first sit, if you are unsuccessful in any of your assessments, there will be a first and final resit opportunity for which your mark, (provided that you pass the assessment) will be capped at 50%.  All modules on the programme for each session will be supported by learning activities which will help increase your confidence and make it clear what we expect from you in the final assessments. Before attempting any assessment you will have the opportunity to complete and receive feedback on a formative task. This feedback is designed to help you improve your work and to support your continuous learning and development throughout your time with us. You will also receive detailed feedback on any assessment you complete and this will include advice on how you can apply that feedback to later assessments that you need to complete.  All sessions on the programme have objectives which are supplemented by learning activities which support the module’s learning outcomes and assessments. This is made transparent in the module guide handbook which identifies the various learning activities.  There will be one point of final assessment for 20 credit modules and a maximum of two points of final assessment for 60 credit modules unless stated otherwise.  Each of the final assessments on this programme are aligned to the module learning outcomes. The structure of topic areas is broken down in each session and an explicit reference will be made to how each session or learning activity contributes to each final assessment point on the programme. Whether as an on-campus student, flexible/blended learning student or a distance-learning student, throughout each module, you will have the opportunity to receive feedback from your tutor and your fellow students which will help you to prepare for assessments with confidence. |
| The Whole Experience We recognise that there are key aspects to every programme (critical learning themes) that need to be addressed to ensure we are inclusive, holistic and open about how your programme fits into your wider university experience and your ambitions for the future. Below are Statements of Intent to explain how you will experience these critical learning themes. Each section offers a brief explanation of the theme, why it is important, and how your programme addresses these. Widening Participation Higher education has a vital role to play in improving social mobility. The University’s Strategic Plan highlights our responsibility in supporting economic, social and cultural improvement in the city region. We are committed to providing access, retention and progression for students from disadvantaged backgrounds and underrepresented groups. In the Faculty, our open days encourage applicants from all backgrounds to access the University. Many of our postgraduate students are classified as mature and we try to deliver our programme flexibly to help students with families, work and other commitments. If you are an on-campus student, whether full-time or part-time, you will be required to attend a week of intensive delivery at the start of each of two terms that cover the taught modules. From there onwards your attendance will be limited to one day a week. This enables you to complete your studies alongside any other commitments. If you are a flexible/blended learning student, whether full-time or part-time, you will attend one block study period in each term and thereafter complete the course by engaging with VLE activities. If you are a distance learning student, whether full-time or part-time, you can complete the entire programme through engaging with our VLE. This enables you to complete your studies without having to make a major alteration to your pre-existing commitments. You will have the option to attend the one week intensive delivery sessions or you can complete these via the VLE. You will receive tutor support and will have the opportunity to interact with both your tutors and your fellow students using the VLE. Each student is allocated a personal tutor and in addition if you are a flexible/blended learning student or distance-learning student you will have a single point of contact to assist you in how to remotely access the different support services that the University offers. All students can access a range of additional support through ASK, the University's integrated and confidential student enquiry service. Essentially, ASK is a one-stop-shop for student queries, linking students with advice on health and wellbeing, careers, finance, visas, and student records.  You do not need to be law graduate in order to apply for the LLM International Business Law programme. You will have the opportunity to develop critical and specialist knowledge in international business law despite not having studied a law degree or undertaken significant legal study previously. If you are coming from a legal background your undergraduate studies are likely to have focused on domestic law and therefore you may be new to the study of international law. In order to facilitate your transition you will be required to complete an Introduction to Law training as part of your induction. This training will be completed online and will be available to all students. The training will equip you with knowledge and skills on how to study law.  Recruitment  To be admitted on the LLM programme you need a good honours degree (minimum 2:2). All applicants will have to complete introductory law training as well as engage with the necessary pre reading at the start of the programme.  International applicants must have the equivalent of UK honours degree (minimum 2:2) and you must also demonstrate English language proficiency of IELTS 6.5 (with a minimum of 6.0 in each category) or equivalent.  If you are home student you may be eligible to apply for a Postgraduate Loan of up to £10,000. Repayment of the loan is your responsibility.  Student Support – Progression and Retention  Every student on the programme is allocated a personal tutor and we ensure that our students are invited to individual meetings throughout the year, in addition to operating an ‘open door’ policy and providing set times (known as office hours) during the week where we can see students without appointment if you require additional help or support. For flexible/blended learning students and distance learning students our staff will have online office hours where they can be contactable via the VLE. In addition there will be named flexible/blended learning and distance learning tutor who you can contact for assistance in accessing the various university services. You will also benefit from a dedicated VLE site where you can connect with other flexible/blended learning and distance learning students from the other LLM pathways.  We also invite all students to discuss and go through your assessment feedback with the marking tutor to ensure that you have understood and can use the comments provided to enhance your future submissions. We collaborate closely with the Centre for Academic Success which offers workshops, individual advice sessions and small group tutorials to all University students on a variety of subjects including use of English, study skills, maths.  As part of the 60-credit project module at the Masters stage of study you will be allocated an academic supervisor should you choose to study a dissertation or live project, alternatively you will be assigned a coordinator should you opt to complete a placement. You will have a series of meetings with your assigned supervisor/coordinator before, throughout and after your project. This individual is there to work collaboratively with you and within reason to support you, however you are required to show autonomy and take responsibility for your learning and progress in the module. For flexible/blended learning students the first meeting will be face-to-face and subsequent meeting will take place via the VLE. For distance learning students all meetings will take place via the VLE.  Course Choice  We are committed to ensuring that you are supported in making the right choice of subjects for your individual needs. The programme is designed to allow you to select two optional modules or to spend time studying abroad. At the Master’s stage you will also make a choice whether to complete a dissertation, project or placement, the maximum available time to make selections for your options. You will receive advice from both your programme director, your personal tutor, as well as the individual module leaders. Your personal tutor is a key feature of your University studies and is on hand to provide advice whenever it is needed.  You will have the option to transfer onto the LLM International Law programme. Transferring onto the LLM International Law necessitates that you study Public International Law. If at the point of transfer the module has already been delivered you will have the opportunity to complete the module online. Your programme director and your personal tutor will be able to give you guidance and advice on this. Should you transfer onto the LLM International Law programme you are still required to complete the Advanced Legal Research Methods module.   Inclusivity We make every effort to ensure that we provide an inclusive environment, where explicit consideration is given to the full diversity of our students. We provide an environment which complies with the requirements of the Equality Act (2010). Our curriculum is designed to ensure that all students succeed to their potential, regardless of any protected characteristics (disability, sexuality, religion, gender and/or other socio-cultural identities). Most importantly, we recognise that diversity leads to a richer learning experience for all.  If you declare a disability, Student Services will consider ways in which we may offer you further support with your studies. They may feel it is appropriate for you to have a Support Statement. If so, once this has been agreed, your requirements will be carefully managed by your personal tutor who will meet with you to discuss how the support identified will be put into place. You can then expect your adjustments and requirements to be incorporated by the tutors who teach or support you on the programme. For example, we can provide learning materials in large print and produce transcripts where audio recordings are used. Staff will ensure that your requirements are complied with, retaining confidentiality in the process. Information & Digital Literacy As a student, you are expected to have high levels of digital and information literacy both at University and outside. JISC (the Joint Information Systems Committee), an organisation which encourages the use of digital technologies in UK Higher Education, defines digital literacies as 'those capabilities which fit an individual for living, learning and working in a digital society'. This goes beyond the ability simply to use technology effectively: it is an essential ‘life skill’ to be able to access, process and assimilate information in the broadest sense. The ability to articulate that information and to construct new understanding is also critical to graduate success, whether you have been exposed to using technology from an early age and are a 'digital native', or have not yet acquired these skills. Throughout your programme, therefore, you will be encouraged to recognise different types of information and resources, to develop your ability to question the validity of that information or resource, and to recognise the importance of both print and online resources to facilitate development of your own knowledge.  Many of your assessments on this programme are required to be submitted on-line, this may involve a variety of platforms; the most extensively used on this programme is the VLE, Moodle. You will be encouraged to appreciate the importance of following instructions carefully as our e-submission protocols contain a number of important rules and requirements that must be adhered to in relation to hand-ins. Many of your learning activities are also provided on Moodle. Sustainability & Global Citizenship This University is committed to integrating sustainability into the curriculum. The notion that we should all seek to find ways to support reduced waste, increased recycling, and lower levels of environmental impact will be familiar, but this is a narrow view of sustainability. Our curriculum also considers sustainability in terms of its connection with Global Citizenship.  The United Nations defines Global Citizenship in education as:  'enabling students to develop the attributes, behaviours and skills needed to work and live in a way that safeguards ecological, social and economic wellbeing, both in the present and for future generations’.  We encourage you to live and work more sustainably whilst recognising the impact that your decisions, and actions, have on the local, national and global communities to which you belong. We have made a commitment as an institution to create graduates with a global outlook (Graduate Attributes) and each of our programmes will now include an internationalised programme aim - the inclusion of sustainability within that is a logical connection. The Faculty and Programme demonstrates internationalisation by:   * Using cultural and international experiences or knowledge as a learning resource, for example, our programme is also offered in Singapore * Encouraging intercultural experiences, partnerships and collaborations * Contributing to international scholarly activity and knowledge exchange * Facilitating on going intercultural and international dialogue and partnerships * Proactively developing inclusive learning outcomes, practices, skills, and/or attitudes appropriate for diverse societies, culture and individuals * Adapting the content, language, pace and modes of delivery and assessment to the learning context and the diversity of learners * Viewing and utilising the diversity of the academic community (whether differences in cultural and educational backgrounds, country of origin or languages spoken) as a key learning resource * Using flexible and inclusive approaches that appreciate and respect individual differences in knowledge, education and culture.   Allowing you to go abroad, e.g. through the Erasmus programme.   * Allowing you to complete a placement.  Student Engagement This University is renowned across the sector for its commitment to Student Engagement, which aligns with Aim 5 of the University’s Strategic Plan: ‘we will become recognised as the sector leader for student engagement’. We are committed to the notion that where students participate fully in all aspects of University life this creates a coherent, active and vibrant learning community. This, in turn, increases students’ sense of ownership of their learning experience (both at programme and institutional level) which leads to greater levels of student satisfaction. The University’s [Student Engagement Policy](https://icity.bcu.ac.uk/Notice/Student-Engagement-Policy) sets out the University's expectation of what engagement should look and feel like for students at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels.  The School of Law has its own societies that are open for all students to join. The Student Legal Society organises many academic initiatives and events to enhance your learning opportunities.  As a postgraduate student you will be encouraged to participate in the Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey (PTES) where you can provide valuable feedback to us on your experience as a postgraduate student studying on the LLM International Business Law. Results from the study feed directly into the annual monitoring of the programme and any subsequent improvement we make to it.  We very much value the contribution and input of our students to the design, delivery and management of the programme. There are elected student representatives on the School Academic Board and there are regular highly influential Student Forum meetings. We are keen to receive and respond promptly to feedback and information obtained from these events. The content and design of your programme benefitted substantially from the feedback of students who were studying on the existing programme through an away day and focus groups. Flexible/blended learning students and distance learning students will be able to provide feedback to the named distance learning tutor via the dedicated VLE site.  Our students also help with the School’s research. Students are given the opportunity to apply for the position of student editorial assistant. If successful, training is offered on the editing process and students then work in teams on a paper, supervised by academic staff. You will have this opportunity whether you are an on-campus, flexible/blended learning student or distance learning student. If engaged on a research project, or as an editorial assistant, you will be required to demonstrate the ability to work independently, to work to deadlines, to be self-motivated and to develop great attention to detail in matters of scholarship, all skills that will be very valuable in the workplace. It is great to see students who have assisted in research projects return to us for PhD study. Partnership Engagement Engagement with partners is a key BCU priority which features strongly in the University’s 2020 Strategic Plan. Our partners include students, the wider educational community and external stakeholders. We see our students as partners in their learning and we try to involve you in every level of decision making within the University. Employers are particularly valued partners, advising us on our curriculum developments, providing placement and work experience opportunities for you and contributing to your learning and teaching activities.  The Law School has an Advisory Board made up of employers and alumni. The Advisory Board has fed directly into the structure and design of your programme and continues to provide an extremely valuable guide in helping us to ensure that our programmes align with the needs of employers in the legal professions and in the wider business sector. We also employ visiting lecturers who also practice within the legal sector and in many cases contribute to our placement provision. Induction & Transition Returning to University can be both exciting and daunting at the same time. We know how important it is for you to adjust smoothly and successfully and our induction support helps you to re-adapt back to University life. If you are an on-campus student you will be invited to attend an LLM induction session and to meet your course tutors. At this session you will also be introduced to your personal tutor. In addition there will be a wide range of University induction events. If you are a flexible/blended learning student or distance learning student you will have your induction via the VLE and you will be able to contact your course tutors during their online hours. You will be introduced to a named flexible/blended learning and distance learning tutor and you will also be informed of how to make contact with your personal tutor.  During the first two weeks of your studies, the programme provides a mandatory two week postgraduate online Introduction to Law programme. Whether you are an on-campus, flexible/blended learning student or distance learning student and whether you are coming from a legal or non-legal background it is important that you complete this programme in order to prepare yourself for the study of law at the international and comparative levels. We will send you some pre-reading material before you join us and may ask for more information from you to ensure that we provide you with the best possible experience when you arrive. Our induction also introduces you to the wider University and the support, help and provision that is available from all areas of the institution. Your experience and success We want you to get the most out of your time with us and to be successful so that you stay with us and progress through the different stages of your programme. We aim to provide you with a great learning and assessment experience to help you achieve this. Your education is a partnership. We can provide you with learning materials, guidance and stimuli, but you will need to engage with the University and take full advantage of everything it has to offer in order to be successful in your studies. As a minimum you need to attend the seminars we provide for you and participate in all VLE activities. We monitor your attendance and participation and will contact you to offer support and advice if your level of attendance and participation is a cause for concern.  If at any point during your time with us you are struggling with any aspect of your course, your personal tutor is available to discuss all matters with you and can act as a gateway to a great number of support mechanisms to get you back on track. Remember to keep in touch with us at all times. The feedback we give you is an excellent way for you to ensure that you are meeting the level that you have set for yourself at any particular time in the programme.  If you wish to stay with us when you have completed the programme, we offer further postgraduate opportunities including PhDs in Law  If you have commitments outside of University that may impact upon the times that you can come into the University to study, discuss the situation with your personal tutor who may be able to propose some flexibility within the programme in certain areas. Support and Personal TutoringYour Personal Tutor is there to advise you on your academic progress and can also direct you to additional help, if you need it. The University also offers the Centre for Academic Success, the Careers Service, Child Care facilities, Finance/Money Matters advice, Health and Wellbeing advice, Visas and Immigration advice, and Student Mentoring. All of these services can be accessed direct or via our ‘one stop shop’, ASK.Personal Development Planning You will receive detailed guidance on how to make the best of your own guided independent study. As mentioned above, we offer you the opportunity to study abroad and to complete a placement at the LLM stage of your studies. Employability (including Birmingham City University Graduate Attributes)   Our programmes aim to provide our graduates with a set of skills and attributes which prepare them for their future careers.  The BCU Graduate:   * is professional and work ready * is a creative problem solver * is enterprising * has a global outlook   The Faculty of Business, Law and Social Sciences is committed to practice-led learning and teaching that will give you experiences of the world of work through a range of activities which could include work placements, voluntary work, live projects, problem-solving, case studies, visits to businesses and social enterprises. Our international opportunities will contribute towards enhancing your employability to prepare you for post-graduate level employment.  Our dedicated careers service offers a wide range of online and face-to face services to help you develop your employability skills, plan your career and access the latest job opportunities. You can make an individual appointment with a careers advisor and the team of employment advisors supports graduates in securing employment, by offering support with job searching, tailoring CVs and applications and help with interview techniques. |

## Section Two

This section addresses the key regulatory and quality assurance requirements for validation. The programme learning map tracks the programme level learning outcomes, credit structure and (where appropriate) KIS data, assessment and feedback scope and forms, module delivery mode and module learning outcomes, and any exit awards that are possible from the programme.

The programme structure is detailed in Table 1 below:

Table 1: Programme Structure

Full-time students

September intake full time:

If you are a September intake student studying on a full-time basis you will complete the programme in 12 months.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Postgraduate Learner Programme/Introduction to Law programme (2 weeks) | | | |
| September Term | International Corporate Law (core)  (20 credits) | Transnational Commercial Law (core)  (20 credits) | Corporate Criminality and Tax Evasion (core)  (20 credits) |
| January Term | Advanced Legal Research Methods (core)  (20 credits) | Option A (20 credits) | Option B (20 credits) |
| or study abroad  (20 credits) | or study abroad  (20 credits) |
| LLM (Masters) Stage | Dissertation/Live Project/Placement (60 credits) | | |

The study abroad module is only available to on-campus students.

Options

* International Intellectual Property Law
* Conflict Resolution in Business
* Global Comparative Competition Law
* Legal Aspects of International Business Relations

These modules will be split into two pairs. Students must choose one from each pair.

January intake full-time:

If you are a January intake student studying on a full-time basis you will have up to 15 months to complete the programme. This will give you the option to complete all taught modules before attempting the Dissertation/Live Project/Placement module.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Postgraduate Learner Programme/Introduction to Law programme (2 weeks) | | | |
| January Term | Advanced Legal Research Methods (core)  (20 credits) | Option A (20 credits) | Option B (20 credits) |
| or study abroad  (20 credits) | or study abroad  (20 credits) |
| September Term | International Corporate Law (core)  (20 credits) | Transnational Commercial Law (core)  (20 credits) | Corporate Criminality and Tax Evasion (core)  (20 credits) |
| LLM (Masters) Stage | Dissertation/Live Project/Placement (60 credits) | | |

The study abroad module is only available for on-campus students.

Options

* International Intellectual Property Law
* Conflict Resolution in Business
* Global Comparative Competition Law
* Legal Aspects of International Business Relations

These modules will be split into two pairs. Students must choose one from each pair.

The number of optional modules available each year depends on both staff availability and student numbers. Optional modules with low student numbers will not run but you can still engage in research of that area of law on the Dissertation/Live Project/Placement module, and will you will receive expert supervision.

As an alternative to the two optional modules you will also have the opportunity to complete a period of study abroad, for example to study under the Erasmus scheme (subject to availability).

**Part-time students**

If you are a student studying on a part-time basis, whether September or January intake, you will have up to 36 months to complete the programme.

**Year one**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Postgraduate Learner Programme/Introduction to Law programme (2 weeks) | |
| September Term and January Term | Complete 3 taught modules    (total 60 credits) |

**Year Two**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| September Term and January Term | Complete 2 taught modules  (total 40 credits) |
| June Term | Advanced Legal Research Methods (20 credits) |

**Year three**

|  |
| --- |
| Dissertation/Placement/Project (60 credits) |

You will complete the following core taught modules:

* International Corporate Law
* Transnational Commercial Law
* Corporate Criminality and Tax Evasion
* Advanced Legal Research Methods

You will also complete two optional modules from the list below

Options

* International Intellectual Property Law
* Conflict Resolution in Business
* Global Comparative Competition Law
* Legal Aspects of International Business Relations

These modules will be split into two pairs. Students must choose one from each pair.

In your final year you will complete the Dissertation/Project/Placement module

The number of optional modules available each year depends on both staff availability and student numbers. Optional modules with low student numbers will not run but you can still engage in research of that area of law on the Dissertation/Live Project/Placement module, and will you will receive expert supervision.

As an alternative to the two optional modules you will also have the opportunity to complete a period of study abroad, for example to study under the Erasmus scheme (subject to availability).

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Level 7** | **International Corporate Law** | **Transnational Commercial Law** | **Corporate Criminality and Tax Evasion** |
| Credit level (ECTS value) | 20 (10) | 20 (10) | 20 (10) |
| Study Time (%) S/GI/PL | 30/70/00 | 30/70/00 | 30/70/00 |
| Assessment method | Case-study report | Essay – problem solving | Essay |
| Assessment scope | 3,000 words | 3,000 word essay | 3,000 essay |
| Assessment week | Term 1, week 13 | Term 1, week 14 | Term 1, week 14 |
| Feedback scope | Written feedback in 20 working days | Written feedback in 20 working days | Written feedback in 20 working days |
| Delivery mode | On campus/blended/distance | On campus/blended/distance | On campus/blended/distance |
| Learning Outcomes | 1. To compare and critically evaluate principal features of corporate legal systems in common law and civil law jurisdictions. | 1.To critically appraise the strengths and limitations of different legal approaches facilitating cross border trade | 1. To critically evaluate the nature of corporate global operations and how these may lead to corporate criminality; and the role of intermediaries, tax havens, and tax evasion methods which may facilitate corporate criminality. |
| 2. To critically analyse the policy justifications and practical outcomes of the law and theoretical, economic, political and ethical concepts and principles. | 2. To critically analyse the legal problems presented by cross border commercial transactions | 2. To conduct high quality independent legal research using primary and secondary sources |
| 3. To conduct independent research into comparative international corporate law and governance and present findings in an articulate and critical fashion. | 3. To apply knowledge of relevant international instruments in problem solving. | 3. To critically evaluate conflicting sources of information |
| 4. To apply critical legal knowledge acquired or developed in an international context and employ strategic transferable skills to demonstrate continuing professional development and practice. | 4. To engage critically with relevant legal sources and present argument in an accurate and appropriate manner | 4. To deliver a high quality piece of written work showing critical understanding and knowledge of the field. |
| Programme Aim Links | 1  2  3  4  5 | 1  2  3  4  5 | 1  2  3  4  5 |
| Linked PSRB (if appropriate) | N/A | N/A | N/A |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Level 7** | **Advanced Legal Research Methods** | **International Intellectual Property Law** | **Conflict Resolution in Business** |
| Credit level (ECTS value) | 20 (10) | 20 (10) | 20 (10) |
| Study Time (%) S/GI/PL | 30/70/00 | 30/70/00 | 30/70/00 |
| Assessment method | Research proposal | 3,000 word patchwork exercise | Simulated international arbitration exercise |
| Assessment scope | 3,000 words | 3,000 patchwork exercise | 20 minute arbitration exercise |
| Assessment week | Term 2, week 14 | Term 2, week 13 | Term 2, week 14 |
| Feedback scope | Written feedback in 20 working days | Written feedback in 20 working days | Written feedback in 20 working days |
| Delivery mode | On campus/blended/distance | On campus/blended/distance | On campus/blended/distance |
| Learning Outcomes | 1.To critically review the extent and nature of existing legal research on a chosen topic within the scope of the postgraduate programmes in law | 1. To critically appraise current intellectual property laws, including an appreciation of the way intellectual property is dealt with at an international level | 1. To critically analyse the common issues in business and how the main types of ADR are useful to their operation; |
| 2. To apply knowledge of advanced legal research methods to formulate a proposal for meaningful legal research on a chosen topic within the scope of the postgraduate programmes in law | 2. To critically evaluate key themes in the way intellectual property law is administered on an international basis | 2. To critically evaluate the essential issues to be considered when drafting an arbitration clause for an international commercial contract, e.g. (but not exclusively) seat, governing law, applicable law and arbitral institution |
| 3. To present a structured detailed design for the conduct of meaningful research on a chosen topic within the scope of the postgraduate programmes in law | 3. To reflect upon the relationship between different challenges in the area of international intellectual property law | 3. To conduct a simulated international arbitration (based on a realistic case study) to a professional standard; |
| 4. To present a scholarly plan of research in a format compliant with OSCOLA | 4. To compare the current legal order with alternative proposals for dealing with the issues raised by intellectual property | 4. Throughout that arbitration, to exercise practical commercial judgment to the process of reaching an appropriate agreement. |
| Programme Aim Links | 1  2  3  4  5 | 1  2  3  4  5 | 1  2  3  4  5 |
| Linked PSRB (if appropriate) | N/A | N/A | N/A |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Level 7** | **Global Comparative Competition Law** | **Legal Aspects of International Business Relations** |
| Credit level (ECTS value) | 20 (10) | 20 (10) |
| Study Time (%) S/GI/PL | 30/70/00 | 30/70/00 |
| Assessment method | Case study | Business report |
| Assessment scope | 3,000 words | 3,000 words |
| Assessment week | Term 2, week 13 | Term 2, week 14 |
| Feedback scope | Written feedback in 20 working days | Written feedback in 20 working days |
| Delivery mode | On campus/blended/distance | On campus/blended/distance |
| Learning Outcomes | 1.To critically appraise the inter-relationship between competition law and the wider global environment | 1. To critically evaluate the relationship between different legal aspects in  international business relations. |
|  | 2. To critically evaluate the legal regulation of anti-competitive activity in the context of international commercial practice | 2. To critically analyse key issues in business practice using interdisciplinary methods. |
|  | 3. To critically analyse procedures and jurisdictional rules for the enforcement of competition policy | 3. To elucidate the potential and limitations of ethics in the area of international business. |
|  | 4. To engage critically with relevant legal sources and present argument in an accurate and appropriate manner | 4. To critically evaluate the intercultural nature of international business relations. |
| Programme Aim Links | 1  2  3  4  5 | 1  2  3  4  5 |
| Linked PSRB (if appropriate) | N/A | N/A |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Level 7**  **LLM stage** | **Dissertation/Live Project/Placement** |
| Credit level (ECTS value) | 60 (30) |
| Study Time (%) S/GI/PL | 5/95/00 |
| Assessment method | Dissertation/report/reflective journal and essay |
| Assessment scope | Dissertation 100%  9,000 words single piece of academic writing underpinned by research  Live Project 100%  9,000 words Report to include a specific reflection section  Placement  9,000 words (50% reflective journal, 50% essay) |
| Assessment week | Term 3, Week 14 |
| Feedback scope | Written feedback within 20 working days |
| Delivery mode | On campus/blended/distance |
| Learning Outcomes | 1. To design and construct a disciplinary-relevant study that shows deep critical engagement. |
| 1. To undertake autonomous research and/or work experience making use of specialist literature/resources and systematically interpret relevant data and information. |
| 1. To interpret systematic and sophisticated knowledge specific to the chosen study and critically reflect on the work undertaken, and present findings in an authoritative manner using appropriate referencing. |
| 1. To synthesise and critically evaluate complex legal rules, the effectiveness of institutions and procedures relevant to the chosen study. |
| Programme Aim Links | 1  2  3  4  5 |
| Linked PSRB (if appropriate) | N/A |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Level 7 Programme** | | | | | |
| Entry Requirements and pre-requisites, co-requisites & exclusions | Accreditation of Prior Experience or Learning (APEL) | Study Time Breakdown | | | Exit award(s) |
| A good honours degree (minimum 2:2) in any discipline  International applicants have the equivalent of UK honours degree (minimum 2:2) and must also demonstrate English language proficiency of IELTS 6.5 (with a minimum of 6.0 in each category) or equivalent. | In line with university, faculty and programme guidelines | **Scheduled** learning and teaching activities  (including time constrained blended or directed tasks, pre-sessional and post-sessional tasks) | | 30% | Postgraduate Certificate in International Business Law (60 credits)  Postgraduate Diploma in International Business (120 credits) |
| **Guided Independent** learning (including non-time constrained blended tasks & reading and assessment preparation) | | 70% |
| **Note:**  **Where a student chooses to undertake the Placement** (60 credits)  The breakdown will be:  Placement (including external activity and study abroad) if chosen\*  Scheduled learning and teaching  Guided independent learning | | 33%\*  20%  47% |
| **Impact of options** (indicate if/how optional choices will have a significant impact) | Option choices will impact on professional exemptions available. | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |