

## PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

### Course record information

Name and level of final award:	<b>LLM in Corporate Finance Law</b> <b>LLM in Entertainment Law</b> <b>LLM in International and Commercial Dispute Resolution Law</b> <b>LLM in International Commercial Law</b> <b>LLM in International Law</b>
	The above awards are Bologna FQ-EHEA second cycle degree or diploma compatible.
Name and level of intermediate awards:	Postgraduate Diploma Postgraduate Certificate
Awarding body/institution:	University of Westminster
Teaching Institution:	University of Westminster
Status of awarding body/institution:	Recognised Body
Location of delivery:	Central London
Language of delivery and assessment:	English
Mode, length of study and normal starting month:	One year full time, two years part time day. September start and January start.
<a href="#">QAA subject benchmarking group(s)</a> :	
Professional statutory or regulatory body:	N/a
Date of course validation/review:	November 2016
Date of programme specification approval:	July 2018
Valid for cohorts:	2017/18
Programme Director:	Dr Simon Newman

[westminster.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate](https://westminster.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate)

### **LLM in Corporate Finance Law**

[westminster.ac.uk/corporate-finance-law-llm](https://westminster.ac.uk/corporate-finance-law-llm)

Westminster course code: PMLAW01F (FT) PMLAW01P (PT)

UK Pass code: 016612

JACS code: M200

### **LLM in Entertainment Law**

[westminster.ac.uk/entertainment-law-llm](https://westminster.ac.uk/entertainment-law-llm)

Westminster course code: PMLAW02F (FT) PMLAW02P (PT)

UK Pass code: 018098

JACS code: M200

### **LLM in International and Commercial Dispute Resolution Law UK**

[westminster.ac.uk/international-and-commercial-disputeresolution-law-llm](https://westminster.ac.uk/international-and-commercial-disputeresolution-law-llm)

Westminster course code: PMLAW05F (FT) PMLAW05P (PT)

UK Pass code: 029732

JACS code: M200

### **LLM in International Commercial Law**

[westminster.ac.uk/international-commercial-law-llm](https://westminster.ac.uk/international-commercial-law-llm)

Westminster course code: PMLAW03F (FT) PMLAW03P (PT)

UK Pass code: 015145

JACS code: M221

### **LLM in International Law**

[westminster.ac.uk/international-law-llm](https://westminster.ac.uk/international-law-llm)

Westminster course code: PMLAW04F (FT) PMLAW04P (PT)

UK Pass code: 015146

JACS code: M130

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## **Admissions requirements**

There are standard minimum [entry requirements](#) for all postgraduate courses. Students are advised to check the standard requirements for the most up-to-date information.

For most courses a decision will be made on the basis of your application form alone. However, for some courses the selection process may include an interview to demonstrate your strengths in addition to any formal entry requirements.

More information can be found here: [westminster.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate/how-to-apply](https://westminster.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate/how-to-apply)

## **POSTGRADUATE LAW PROGRAMME COURSE STRUCTURE**

To qualify for the award of LLM a student must have

1. Obtained a minimum of 180 credits at Level 7
2. Attempted modules worth no more than 240 credits.

All taught modules are worth 20 credits.

Dissertation is worth 60 credits.  
 Project Paper, if offered, is worth 40 credits.

To Pass a module a student must achieve a mark of at least 50% on that module.

The typical module sequence for a full-time course is as follows.

FULL-TIME	
Semester 1	Semester 2
Core module (20 credits)	Option (20 credits)
Core module or Option (20 credits)	Option (20 credits)
Option (20 credits)	Option (20 credits)
Dissertation (60 credits)	

The typical module sequence for a part-time course is as follows.

PART-TIME YEAR 1	
Semester 1	Semester 2
Core module (20 credits)	Option (20 credits)
Core module or Option (20 credits)	Option (20 credits)

PART-TIME YEAR 2	
Semester 1	Semester 2
Option (20 credits)	
Option (20 credits)	
Dissertation (60 credits)	

Full time students may take a maximum of one free choice option module from another course per semester of study.

Part time students may take a maximum of two free choice option modules from other courses during their studies.

## LLM Corporate Finance Law

### Aims of the course

The LLM Corporate Finance Law has been designed to provide successful students with a deep, systematic and structured knowledge of the operation of the corporate finance market in general and of the law as it affects both practitioners and transactions in this area in particular. Students will be introduced to a range of research methodologies, and be able to apply these appropriately to their specialist areas of study. The programme will promote awareness of the range of specialist resources available for the study and understanding of these specialist areas, and will promote the development of advanced research skills. The programme will also develop the analytical powers of students, and the ability to evaluate

problems in the specialist area, synthesise the appropriate issues and apply them in an apposite fashion.

### **Employment and further study opportunities**

Today's organisations need graduates with both good degrees and skills relevant to the workplace, i.e., employability skills. The University of Westminster is committed to developing employable graduates by ensuring that:

- career development skills are embedded in all courses
- opportunities for part-time work, placements and work-related learning activities are widely available to students
- staff continue to widen and strengthen the University's links with employers in all sectors, involving them in curriculum design and encouraging their participation in other aspects of the University's career education and guidance provision
- staff are provided with up-to-date data on labour market trends and employers' requirements, which will inform the service delivered to students.

The programme equips the student for the practice of law in a specialised area subject to any necessary professional requirements. Graduates are employed in specialist legal practice, the Bar, investment banking and finance, corporate finance, insurance, management, in-house legal work, insolvency practice, dispute resolution, consultancy, the public sector, legal and professional training, the diplomatic service, international organisations, national governmental organisations and institutions as well as in academia.

### **Learning outcomes**

Learning outcomes are statements on what successful students have achieved as the result of learning. These threshold statements of achievement and are linked to the knowledge, understanding and skills that a student will have gained on successfully completing a course.

### **Knowledge and Understanding (KU)**

On successful completion of the course, students should be able to demonstrate the following knowledge and understanding:

- (KU1) a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of the field of study and professional practice known as corporate finance law, including, the transformation of entrepreneurial ideas into practical fund raising processes in the capital markets, the routes to exit and monetisation using specialised and sophisticated financial instruments such as debt, equity and derivatives, the strategic business reasons and financial motivations for new companies based on scientific and technological innovations, and an in-depth comprehension of governance, compliance, as well as the ethical and philosophical dimensions of legal and financial decision making, all within a context of current regulations in the US, UK and Europe.
- (KU2) a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to their own research or advanced scholarship;
- (KU3) originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the discipline;
- (KU4) conceptual understanding that enables the student: to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline and to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses;

- (KU5) in-depth understanding of the legal issues concerning corporate financial transactions, including the interaction of corporate law and finance, the legal mechanisms for fund raising in the financial markets, with a special emphasis on the regulations, customary rules and practices of the venture capital market;
- (KU6) critically explain the details and implications international standards relating to financial crimes and to distinguish and elucidate legal theories associated with money laundering, terrorist financing, corporate fraud, corporate fraud, tax avoidance, tax evasion, market abuse, insider dealing, corruption and bribery;
- (KU7) critically explain the details and implications international standards and national securities legislation relating to corporate governance liabilities and to determine the challenges and risks of directors and officers of corporations performing corporate governance duties;
- (KU8) explore the ethical constraints and cultural values of the financial industry and to determine and evaluate the major aspects and trends in international project finance and project finance law, including securitization, financial innovation, corporate governance law and socially responsible investment; and
- (KU9) enable students to become familiar with, identify, analyse and mitigate the legal risks that inhere in financial markets transactions and to examine and critically assess financial products and techniques that constitute the building-blocks of modern structured finance.

### **Specific skills (SS)**

On successful completion of the course, students should be able to demonstrate the following specific skills:

- (SS1) deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate their conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences;
- (SS2) demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level;
- (SS3) continue to advance their knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level; and
- (SS4) be able to prepare appropriate legal documentation for fund raising in compliance to UK law.

### **Key transferable skills (KTS)**

On successful completion of the course, students should be able to demonstrate the following key transferrable skills:

- (KTS1) the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility;
- (KTS2) decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations;
- (KTS3) the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development;
- (KTS4) understand how to critically assess and construct a variety of legal instruments given government-client instructions, market requirements, market standards and market regulations; and
- (KTS5) appreciate and be able to critically evaluate and specify the role and appropriate use of key disciplines such as record keeping, document management, precedents, risk, quality assurance and billing.

### **Learning, teaching and assessment methods**

A range of appropriate teaching, learning and assessment methods are deployed throughout the LLM Corporate Finance Law. Each module proforma indicates clearly the teaching and assessment strategy to be adopted. The dominant form of teaching is by way of small group

seminar which encourages active participation and group discussion. Many sessions involve a range of team teaching activities. While each programme uses a variety of assessment methods, each programme is designed to ensure a satisfactory balance is achieved between written coursework, oral presentation and examination. All formal assessment is independently judged and approved by external examiners who are experts in the area of corporate finance law.

## Learning

The student has the opportunity to learn through in-class participation in discussions, role playing and debate. Students are encouraged to present proposals, contribute to new avenues of research and communicate by email to class instructors and colleagues. The spirit of the classes is collegiate so learning is focused on the production of course work in the best possible manner. Sharing ideas with colleagues who are international enhances the context of learning and support for the student's learning is found in the library services and access to the online learning management system, Blackboard.

## Teaching

The teaching methods used throughout the LLM include lectures, small seminar groups, tutorial, emails, text and social media. While the in-class teaching styles vary according to the teacher, students are always encouraged to discuss and debate issues in all the classes.

## Assessment

There are three types of assessment in the LLM Corporate Finance Law: (1) by examination; (2) by coursework and (3) by Dissertation or Project. One in-class test is required in the Module Legal Aspects of Corporate Finance, while in all the other taught modules with the exception of the Dissertation and Project, coursework is required in the form of a 5,000 word assignment. The Dissertation is a 15,000 word scholarly work and the Project is a 10,000 word report.

### Course structure

This section shows the core and option modules available as part of the course and their credit value. Full-time Postgraduate students study 180 credits per year.

Credit Level 7				
Module code	Module title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
7LLAW043W	Postgraduate Dissertation in Corporate Finance	Core	60	30
7LLAW003W	Project in Law	Core	40	20
7LLAW026W	Investment Banking Principles and Practice	Core	20	10
7LLAW031W	Legal Aspects of Corporate Finance	Core	20	10
7LLAW024W	International Project Finance Law	Option	20	10
7LLAW027W	Islamic Finance and Securitisation	Option	20	10
7LLAW035W	Money Laundering and Corporate Fraud	Option	20	10
7LLAW014W	International Banking Law and Regulation	Option	20	10

The suggested module sequence for the full-time course with the Dissertation is as follows:

<b>LLM CORPORATE FINANCE FULL-TIME</b>	
<b>Semester 1</b>	<b>Semester 2</b>
Legal Aspects of Corporate Finance (20 credits)	Option 2 (20 credits)
Investment Banking Principles and Practice (20 credits)	Option 3 (20 credits)
Option 1 (20 credits)	Option 4 (20 credits)
Dissertation (60 credits)	

The suggested module sequence for the full-time course with the Project Paper is as follows:

<b>LLM CORPORATE FINANCE FULL-TIME</b>	
<b>Semester 1</b>	<b>Semester 2</b>
Legal Aspects of Corporate Finance (20 credits)	Option 2 (20 credits)
Investment Banking Principles and Practice (20 credits)	Option 3 (20 credits)
Option 1 (20 credits)	Option 4 (20 credits)
	Option 5 (20 credits)
Project Paper (40 credits)	

The suggested module sequence for the part-time course with the Dissertation is as follows.

<b>LLM CORPORATE FINANCE PART-TIME YEAR 1</b>	
<b>Semester 1</b>	<b>Semester 2</b>
Legal Aspects of Corporate Finance (20 credits)	Option 1 (20 credits)
Investment Banking Principles and Practice (20 credits)	Option 2 (20 credits)

<b>LLM CORPORATE FINANCE PART-TIME YEAR 2</b>	
<b>Semester 1</b>	<b>Semester 2</b>
Option 3 (20 credits)	
Option 4 (20 credits)	
Dissertation (60 credits)	

The suggested module sequence of the taught modules for the part-time course with the Project Paper is as follows.

<b>LLM CORPORATE FINANCE PART-TIME YEAR 1</b>	
<b>Semester 1</b>	<b>Semester 2</b>
Legal Aspects of Corporate Finance (20 credits)	Option 1 (20 credits)
Investment Banking Principles and Practice (20 credits)	Option 2 (20 credits)

<b>LLM CORPORATE FINANCE PART-TIME YEAR 2</b>
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Semester 1	Semester 2
Option 3 (20 credits)	Option 5 (20 credits)
Option 4 (20 credits)	
Project Paper (40 credits)	

Full time students may take a maximum of one free choice option per semester of study. Part time students may take a maximum of two free choice options during their studies.

Please note: not all option modules will necessarily be offered in any one year.

### **Professional Body Accreditation or other external references**

N/A

## **LLM Entertainment Law**

### **Aims of the course**

The LLM Entertainment Law has been designed to provide successful students with a deep, systematic and structured knowledge of the general framework of the entertainment business and the impact of the law upon it and specific areas of entertainment law. Students will be introduced to a range of research methodologies, and be able to apply these appropriately to their specialist areas of study. The programme will promote awareness of the range of specialist resources available for the study and understanding of these specialist areas, and will promote the development of advanced research skills. The programme will also develop the analytical powers of students, and the specific skills that are applicable to the field of entertainment law as well as broader transferable skills.

With globalisation, entertainment law is becoming increasingly important and this course helps to prepare students for a future career in the entertainment area. The LLM in Entertainment Law at Westminster Law School attracts students from many countries and backgrounds. This creates a uniquely vibrant and stimulating learning environment in which to study this subject.

### **Employment and further study opportunities**

Today's organisations need graduates with both good degrees and skills relevant to the workplace, i.e. employability skills. The University of Westminster is committed to developing employable graduates by ensuring that:

- career development skills are embedded in all courses;
- opportunities for part-time work, placements and work-related learning activities are widely available to students;
- staff continue to widen and strengthen the University's links with employers in all sectors, involving them in curriculum design and encouraging their participation in other aspects of the University's career education and guidance provision;
- staff are provided with up-to-date data on labour market trends and employers' requirements, which will inform the service delivered to students.

LLM Entertainment Law graduates have worked for entertainment law firms in the UK and abroad, copyright collecting societies and organisations, in-house in music publishing, recording, media, film, sports and television companies, management, agencies and entertainment licensing companies, with entrepreneurs e.g. small film makers/music creators, public sector or government organisations and academia. After being awarded the



LLM, some graduates have undertaken further academic study by doing a research (PhD) degree.

### **Learning outcomes**

Learning outcomes are statements on what successful students have achieved as the result of learning. These threshold statements of achievement and are linked to the knowledge, understanding and skills that a student will have gained on successfully completing a course.

### **Knowledge and understanding (KU)**

By the end of the course, the successful student will have:

- (KU1) a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights in relation to the field of entertainment law;
- (KU2) a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to their own research or advanced scholarship;
- (KU3) originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in entertainment law;
- (KU4) conceptual understanding that enables the student to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in entertainment law and to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses.

### **Specific skills (SS)**

By the end of the course, the successful student will be able to demonstrate:

- (SS1) critical awareness and understanding of a range of research methodologies and the ability to apply appropriate research techniques in their own work;
- (SS2) an ability to deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements and communicate their conclusions clearly;
- (SS3) self-direction and originality in tackling and solving issues relevant to entertainment law;
- (SS4) act autonomously to a high level in planning and implementing tasks and independent research in the context of entertainment law;
- (SS5) how to continue to advance their knowledge and understanding and develop new skills to a high level related to entertainment law.

### **Key transferable skills (KTS)**

By the end of the course, the successful student will have the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring:

- (KTS1) the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility;
- (KTS2) decision-making in complex situations;
- (KTS3) the independent learning ability required for continuing and autonomous professional development;
- (KTS4) the ability to reflect on personal performance.

The programme subscribes to the University's and the SEEC's list of HE transferable/employability skills, namely:

- group working
- learning resources
- self-evaluation
- management of information
- autonomy

- communication
- problem solving

All modules, to some extent, teach or/and assess these skills. Additionally, most modules offer you an opportunity to practice these skills through role-play exercises, scenario questions, and presentations.

## Learning, teaching and assessment methods

### Learning

Within seminars, module leaders will develop modes of learning appropriate to the subject matter of their module which might, for example, include small group work, problem-based tutorials, review sessions, workshops, debates and student presentations.

Students should be clear that a postgraduate programme of study demands a much greater amount of individual work and of autonomy than they may have been used to at the undergraduate level. Thus, while a student may only be required to attend classes for 6-9 hours a week depending upon whether they are part-time or full-time and depending upon which modules they have chosen, they will nevertheless be expected to be studying independently for the remainder of the working week.

### Teaching

Formal 'lectures' where used are on a whole-class basis, not only to develop a framework of essential knowledge on a topic-by-topic basis, but also to provide a common foundation for learning within each module.

The dominant form of teaching is by way of small group seminar which encourages active participation and group discussion. Many sessions involve a range of teaching activities with a student-centred approach developed within smaller groups involving close, interactive group-work and presentations within structured tutorials.

### Assessment

The programme uses assessment methods designed to ensure relevant skills and attributes are achieved and determined by the learning outcomes of the modules. Guidance is given to students on examination techniques, research methodology etc.

All formal assessment is independently judged and approved by external examiners who are experts in the area of entertainment law. Support for developing assessed work is provided by formative opportunities for individual discussions about their assessment with course tutors and general assessment workshops provided by the course leader or tutors. The wide use of coursework as an assessment method, reflects the strong emphasis that the LLM in Entertainment Law puts on developing the legal research skills of the students.

Coursework is submitted online by Turnitin upload. Dissertations are also uploaded online through Turnitin, and two bound hard copies must be submitted to the Faculty Registry.

### Course structure

This section shows the core and option modules available as part of the course and their credit value. Full-time Postgraduate students study 180 credits per year.

Credit Level 7				
Module code	Module title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
7LLAW057W	The Regulation of Relationships in the Entertainment Business	Core	20	10

<b>7LLAW011W</b>	Intellectual Property in the Entertainment Business	Core	20	10
<b>7LLAW042W</b>	Postgraduate Dissertation in Entertainment Law	Core	60	30
<b>7LLAW055W</b>	Law of Digital Entertainment and Social Media	Option	20	10
<b>7LLAW056W</b>	Law & Media: Content and Control	Option	20	10
<b>7LLAW034W</b>	Merchandising in the Entertainment Business	Option	20	10
<b>7LLAW066W</b>	The Entertainment Business: Regulation, Licensing and Events	Option	20	10

The suggested module sequence for the full-time course is as follows.

<b>LLM ENTERTAINMENT LAW FULL-TIME</b>	
<b>Semester 1</b>	<b>Semester 2</b>
The Regulation of Relationships in the Entertainment Business (20 credits)	Option 2 (20 credits)
Intellectual Property in the Entertainment Business (20 credits)	Option 3 (20 credits)
Option 1 (20 credits)	Option 4 (20 credits)
Dissertation (60 credits)	

The suggested module sequence for the part-time course is as follows.

<b>LLM ENTERTAINMENT LAW PART-TIME YEAR 1</b>	
<b>Semester 1</b>	<b>Semester 2</b>
The Regulation of Relationships in the Entertainment Business (20 credits)	Option 1 (20 credits)
Intellectual Property in the Entertainment Business (20 credits)	Option 2 (20 credits)

<b>LLM ENTERTAINMENT LAW PART-TIME YEAR 2</b>	
<b>Semester 1</b>	<b>Semester 2</b>
Option 3 (20 credits)	
Option 4 (20 credits)	
Dissertation (60 credits)	

Full time students may take a maximum of one free choice option per semester of study. Part time students may take a maximum of two free choice options during their studies. 7LLAW032W Legal aspects of Electronic Commerce is an approved free choice option.

Please note: not all option modules will necessarily be offered in any one year.

### **Professional Body Accreditation or other external references**

N/A

### **LLM International and Commercial Dispute Resolution Law**

## **Aims of the course**

At the Westminster School of Law, the course teams within the postgraduate academic programme provide courses which are fundamentally academic, whilst also providing support for students to develop their knowledge and skills for the purposes of their chosen or potential careers. The LLM International and Commercial Dispute Resolution Law course and the course team provide this range of support for students.

The course has been designed to provide successful students with a deep, systematic and structured knowledge of the fields covered by the course. The field is international (including cross-border) and commercial (including company) dispute resolution law and some general and some special areas of the fields are covered.

Business persons (individuals and companies) around the globe usually attempt to prevent disputes arising, and they do so by taking steps to comply with the law applicable to the business projects which they are pursuing. Such precautions are usually sufficient to protect the business person from disputes arising. However, business persons do not always attempt to protect themselves from disputes; and, sometimes, protective steps are not successful. This is often because different laws apply or different interpretations are put on laws. The laws which are often in focus concern jurisdiction of judges and arbitrators; the identification of the appropriate applicable substantive law; and the availability of transferring judgments and arbitral Awards from one country to another. In addition, there are issues arising from the application of civil procedure rules, for matters such as the freezing of bank accounts and preventing parties commencing or continuing proceedings in foreign countries. Whilst the course is not intended to be a professional course, it provides the opportunity for the acquisition of essential knowledge, understanding, and skills in the field. Business persons and their lawyers around the world expend huge amounts of time (and client money) on the matters covered by the course. Students taking the course often return to, or commence employment in the field covered by the course.

## **Learning outcomes**

Learning outcomes are statements on what successful students have achieved as the result of learning. These threshold statements of achievement and are linked to the knowledge, understanding and skills that a student will have gained on successfully completing a course.

### **Knowledge and Understanding (KU)**

The course learning outcomes include these four knowledge and understanding outcomes:

- (KU1) a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights in relation to the field of international (including crossborder) and commercial dispute resolution;
- (KU2) a critical awareness of the theories of international (including cross-border) and commercial dispute resolution in a variety of domains;
- (KU3) originality in the application of information and knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret information and knowledge in the field of international (including cross-border) and commercial dispute resolution;
- (KU4) a conceptual understanding that enables the student to (a) evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in the field of international (including crossborder) and commercial dispute resolution; and (b) evaluate critically methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses in that field.

## **Specific skills (SS)**

The learning outcomes include these four course-related outcomes:

- (SS1) the ability to use research methodologies as relevant for research in the field of international (including cross-border) and commercial dispute resolution;
- (SS2) a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to their own research or advanced scholarship;
- (SS3) the capability to demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving academic and practical problems;
- (SS4) the capacity to continue to advance the depth and breadth of their academic and practical knowledge and understanding, and to continue to develop skills to an ever higher level.

## **Key transferable skills (KTS)**

The learning outcomes include these three more general transferable skills outcomes:

- (KTS1) the capacities of analysis and decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations;
- (KTS2) the abilities of analysis, research, writing and critical thinking;
- (KTS3) the faculty for dealing with complex academic and practical situations both systematically and creatively, making sound judgments in the absence of complete data, and communicating the conclusions clearly to audiences comprising other persons.

## **Employment and further study opportunities**

Today's organisations need graduates with both good degrees and skills relevant to the workplace, i.e. employability skills. The University of Westminster is committed to developing employable graduates by ensuring that:

- career development skills are embedded in all courses;
- opportunities for part-time work, placements and work-related learning activities are widely available to students;
- staff continue to widen and strengthen the University's links with employers in all sectors, involving them in curriculum design and encouraging their participation in other aspects of the University's career education and guidance provision;
- staff are provided with up-to-date data on labour market trends and employers' requirements, which will inform the service delivered to students.

## **Learning, teaching and assessment methods**

### **Learning**

Students are encouraged to be self-motivated learners, and to take command of their own learning in the context of the course, and in the context of the core and chosen modules. This will take the form of preparing for classroom contacts with tutors by carrying out directed reading and tutorial and seminar tasks. It will also take the form of reading around the core and chosen subjects for the purposes of assessments, always keeping within the ambit of the modules.

Learning is also undertaken by students in the context of the Postgraduate Research and Dissertation module. This is a much broader context for learning than for the taught modules. Students are expected to undertake independent research which is expected to be at a complex and detailed level into a topic chosen by the student and approved as being suitable by the course leader or the dissertation module leader.

## Teaching

The dominant form of teaching is by way of class sessions, mainly combining some form of lecture with small group tutorial or seminar teaching.

At the start of each series of sessions for taught modules, students are given a Module Handbook which includes a learning and teaching outline, an outline of the module content, and details of essential and further reading. More detailed reading is provided for each week of the module.

Team teaching by tutors may be employed to make use of complementary staff skills, knowledge and research.

From time to time, subject experts may present guest lectures which provide a deeper, applied knowledge and understanding of specific subject areas within the range of the module.

## Assessment

Students are assessed by a variety of forms of assessment, including coursework essays, in-class tests, examinations, and performance events (such as presentations and practicals). Details are provided in the Module Handbooks. Many modules are assessed by a combination of assessments, such as coursework and examination, and coursework and presentation.

Where a module is assessed wholly or partly by coursework, written feedback will be available to students. Other forms of assessment carry the opportunity for oral feedback from the module leader.

All modules are accompanied by some form of pre-assessment input from the module tutor, including formative assessments in many of the modules.

Summative assessment instruments (for example, coursework and examination papers) are approved by external examiners (at other Universities) who are experts in the area, and the selected work of students is submitted to the same external examiners for moderation so as to ensure that the standards of setting and marking are maintained in accordance with standards at other United Kingdom Universities.

## Course structure

This section shows the core and option modules available as part of the course and their credit value. Full-time Postgraduate students study 180 credits per year.

Credit Level 7				
Module code	Module title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
7LLAW039W	Perspectives on Peace, Conflicts and Disputes	Core	20	10
7LLAW040W	Postgraduate Research and Dissertation	Core	60	30
7LLAW038W	Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes	Option	20	10
7LLAW037W	Negotiation: Theory, Contexts and Practice	Option	20	10
7LLAW002W	Comparative Commercial Arbitration: Law and Practice	Option	20	10
7LLAW008W	Foreign Direct Investment Arbitration	Option	20	10

<b>7LLAW015W</b>	International Commercial Arbitration	Option	20	10
<b>7LLAW036W</b>	Multinational Corporate Entities and Foreign Investment	Option	20	10
<b>7LLAW052W</b>	Restorative Justice: Cultures, Integration and Law	Option	20	10
<b>7LLAW067W</b>	International and Transnational Dispute Processes	Option	20	10
<b>7LLAW033W</b>	Mediation: Concepts, Evolution and Practice	Option	20	10
<b>7LLAW072W</b>	Peace Processes and Law	Option	20	10

The suggested module sequence for the full-time course is as follows.

<b>LLM International and Commercial Dispute Resolution Law full time</b>	
<b>Semester 1</b>	<b>Semester 2</b>
International and Commercial Dispute Resolution Processes (20 credits)	Option 3 (20 credits)
Option 1 (20 credits)	Option 4 (20 credits)
Option 2 (20 credits)	Option 5 (20 credits)
Dissertation (60 credits)	

The suggested module sequence for the part-time course is as follows.

<b>LLM International and Commercial Dispute Resolution Law PART-TIME YEAR 1</b>	
<b>Semester 1</b>	<b>Semester 2</b>
International and Commercial Dispute Resolution Processes (20 credits)	Option 2 (20 credits)
Option 1 (20 credits)	Option 3 (20 credits)

<b>LLM International and Commercial Dispute Resolution Law PART-TIME YEAR 2</b>	
<b>Semester 1</b>	<b>Semester 2</b>
Option 4 (20 credits)	
Option 5 (20 credits)	
Dissertation (60 credits)	

Full time students may take a maximum of one free choice option per semester of study. Part time students may take a maximum of two free choice options during their studies.

Please note: not all option modules will necessarily be offered in any one year.

### **Professional Body Accreditation or other external references**

N/A

### **LLM International Commercial Law**

## **Aims of the course**

In a world that is interconnected and relies on trade across borders for its development, it is important that students understand the complexities and intricacies of international commercial law. The programme aims at providing students with a deep, systematic and structured knowledge of the general framework within which international commercial law operates, and specialized areas of international commercial law. It will develop students' analytical skills and their ability to evaluate issues in the specialist areas. The programme will develop students' specific skills applicable to the field of international commercial law and give them transferable skills relevant to this subject area.

The LLM in International Commercial Law at Westminster Law School is notable for the diversity of students from every nationality and background, and the varied specialisms of its teaching staff (i.e. academics and practitioners). This creates a uniquely vibrant and stimulating learning environment in which to study International Commercial Law

## **Employment and further study opportunities**

Today's organisations need graduates with both good degrees and skills relevant to the workplace, i.e. employability skills. The University of Westminster is committed to developing employable graduates by ensuring that:

- career development skills are embedded in all courses;
- opportunities for part-time work, placements and work-related learning activities are widely available to students;
- staff continue to widen and strengthen the University's links with employers in all sectors, involving them in curriculum design and encouraging their participation in other aspects of the University's career education and guidance provision;
- staff are provided with up-to-date data on labour market trends and employers' requirements, which will inform the service delivered to students.

The LLM in International Commercial Law equips students for the practice of law in a specialised area subject to any necessary professional requirements. Graduates are employed in specialist legal practice, the Bar, banking and finance, insurance, transport, shipping, management, in-house legal work, import and export, insolvency practice, dispute resolution, consultancy, the public sector, legal and professional training, the diplomatic service, international organisations, national governmental organisations, and EU institutions (e.g. European Central Bank). Some graduates have also undertaken further academic study by doing a research (PhD) degree.

## **Learning outcomes**

Learning outcomes are statements on what successful students have achieved as the result of learning. These threshold statements of achievement are linked to the knowledge, understanding and skills that a student will have gained on successfully completing a course.

### **Knowledge and understanding (KU)**

By the end of the course, the successful student will have:

- (KU1) a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights in relation to international commercial law;
- (KU2) a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to their own research or advanced scholarship;
- (KU3) originality and self-direction in the application of knowledge and in tackling and solving problems, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in international commercial law;



(KU4) conceptual understanding that enables the student to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in international commercial law; and to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses.

### **Specific Skills (SS)**

- (SS1) a critical awareness of the general framework of globalization and the legal responses which shape international commercial law,
- (SS2) a clear understanding of specialized areas within international commercial law;
- (SS3) the ability to use research methodologies and techniques as relevant for research in international commercial law.

### **Key transferable skills (KTS)**

By the end of the course, the successful student will have the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring:

- (KTS1) Decision-making in complex situations;
- (KTS2) The independent learning ability required for continuing professional development;
- (KTS3) The ability to deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgments in the absence of complete data, and communicate their conclusions clearly;
- (KTS4) The exercise of initiative and personal responsibility;
- (KTS5) Ability to advance their knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level.

The programme subscribes to the University's and the SEEC's list of HE transferable/employability skills, namely:

- group working
- learning resources
- self-evaluation
- management of information
- autonomy
- communication
- problem solving

All modules, to some extent, teach or/and assess these skills. Additionally, most modules offer you an opportunity to practise these skills through role-play exercises, scenario questions, and presentations.

## **Learning, teaching and assessment methods**

### **Learning**

Within seminars, module leaders will develop modes of learning appropriate to the subject matter of their module which might, for example, include small group work, problem-based tutorials, review sessions, workshops, debates, as well as the more conventional student presentations.

Students should be clear that a postgraduate programme of study demands a much greater amount of individual work and of autonomy than they may have been used to at the undergraduate level. Thus, while a student may only be required to attend classes for 6-9 hours a week depending upon whether they are part-time or full-time and depending upon which modules they have chosen, they will nevertheless be expected to be studying independently for the remainder of the working week.

## Teaching

Formal 'lectures' will be used on a whole-class basis, not only to develop a framework of essential knowledge on a topic-by-topic basis, but also to provide a common foundation for learning within each module.

The teaching and learning strategy will emphasise a student-centred approach developed within smaller groups involving close, interactive group-work focusing on a range of student (and occasionally staff) presentations within structured tutorials.

## Assessment

There are various forms of assessment according to the module requirements, including coursework, in-class tests, and presentations. The specific forms of assessment within each module have been determined solely by the learning outcomes of that module. The wide use of coursework as an assessment method, alone or in conjunction with presentations/in-class tests, reflects the strong emphasis that the LL.M International Commercial Law puts on developing the legal research skills of the students.

On a number of modules, formative work is given out during the semester and evaluative feedback provided to students. In addition, module leaders hold revision sessions to guide the students on examination techniques, research methods, etc.

In all modules, written feedback is provided to the students, with verbal feedback also available.

All formal assessment is independently judged and approved by external examiners who are experts in the area of international commercial law.

## Course structure

This section shows the core and option modules available as part of the course and their credit value. Full-time Postgraduate students study 180 credits per year.

Credit Level 7				
Module code	Module title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
7LLAW009W	Foundations in International Commercial Law	Core	20	10
7LLAW006W	Dissertation	Core	60	30
7LLAW001W	Carriage of Goods	Option	20	10
7LLAW004W	Corporate Social Responsibility Issues in Business and Law	Option	20	10
7LLAW014W	International Banking Law and Regulation	Option	20	10
7LLAW018W	International Economic Law	Option	20	10
7LLAW025W	International Taxation Law	Option	20	10
7LLAW028W	Law of International Sales	Option	20	10
7LLAW032W	Legal aspects of Electronic Commerce	Option	20	10
7LLAW036W	Multinational Corporate Entities and Foreign Investment	Option	20	10

<b>7LLAW059W</b>	Intellectual Property	Option	20	10
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The suggested module sequence for the full-time course is as follows.

<b>LLM INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL LAW FULL-TIME</b>	
<b>Semester 1</b>	<b>Semester 2</b>
Foundations in International Commercial Law (20 credits)	Option 3 (20 credits)
Option 1 (20 credits)	Option 4 (20 credits)
Option 2 (20 credits)	Option 5 (20 credits)
Dissertation (60 credits)	

The suggested module sequence for the part-time course is as follows.

<b>LLM INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL LAW PART-TIME YEAR 1</b>	
<b>Semester 1</b>	<b>Semester 2</b>
Foundations in International Commercial Law (20 credits)	Option 2 (20 credits)
Option 1 (20 credits)	Option 3 (20 credits)

<b>LLM INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL LAW PART-TIME YEAR 2</b>	
<b>Semester 1</b>	<b>Semester 2</b>
Option 4 (20 credits)	
Option 5 (20 credits)	
Dissertation (60 credits)	

Full time students may take a maximum of one free choice option per semester of study. Part time students may take a maximum of two free choice options during their studies.

Please note: not all option modules will necessarily be offered in any one year.

## **Professional Body Accreditation or other external references N/A**

### **LLM International Law**

#### **Aims of the course**

With globalisation, international law is becoming increasingly important and this course prepares students for a future career in the international arena. The LLM International Law aims to develop students' knowledge and understanding of International Law. In particular, it aims to develop a systematic and comprehensive understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights in relation to international law, as well as the ability to use research methodologies and techniques as relevant for research in international law. It also aims to develop students' specific intellectual skills applicable to the field of International Law and broader transferable practical skills relevant to this subject area. The numerous and diverse optional modules we offer in this course reflect the most topical problems faced by the international community today.

The LLM International Law at Westminster Law School is taught in our central London campus, just a short distance from most major British institutions and international organisations. The course attracts students from every nationality and background (ie not only law, but also political science, international relations, economics, journalism or other relevant discipline). Our teaching team is composed of internationally renowned researchers that are leading the way in their respective subjects, including - but not limited to - international human rights law, the law of armed conflict, development law, energy and climate change law, international cyber security law, refugee law, the law of the sea. This creates a uniquely vibrant and stimulating learning environment in which to study International Law. The course can be taken full-time or part-time, and we have both a September and a January start each year.

We also have a Research Group, [International Law at Westminster](#), which conducts important research projects on topical international law issues. These projects have received external funding because of their importance and their potential impact. The group also regularly organises events in which students are invited to participate and play a role.

### **Employment and further study opportunities**

Today's organisations need graduates with both good degrees and skills relevant to the workplace, i.e. employability skills. The University of Westminster is committed to developing employable graduates by ensuring that:

- career development skills are embedded in all courses;
- opportunities for part-time work, placements and work-related learning activities are widely available to students;
- staff continue to widen and strengthen the University's links with employers in all sectors, involving them in curriculum design and encouraging their participation in other aspects of the University's career education and guidance provision;
- staff are provided with up-to-date data on labour market trends and employers' requirements, which will inform the service delivered to students.

LLM International Law graduates have worked for organisations such as Amnesty International, the United Nations, EU organisations, law and consultancy firms such as Deloitte, professional associations like the European Banking Federation, or in legal departments within international organisations and governments. After being awarded the LLM, some graduates have undertaken further academic study by doing a research (PhD) degree.

### **Learning outcomes**

Learning outcomes are statements on what successful students have achieved as the result of learning. These threshold statements of achievement are linked to the knowledge, understanding and skills that a student will have gained on successfully completing a course.

### **Knowledge and understanding (KU)**

By the end of the course, the successful student will have:

- (KU1) a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights in relation to international law;
- (KU2) a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to their own research or advanced scholarship;

- (KU3) originality and self-direction in the application of knowledge and in tackling and solving problems, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in international law;
- (KU4) conceptual understanding that enables the student to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in international law; and to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses.

### **Specific Skills (SS)**

By the end of the course, the successful student will be able to demonstrate:

- (SS1) a critical awareness of the doctrinal and evidentiary aspects of general customary law and treaty law, and the place of judicial and arbitral decisions in the system of international law;
- (SS2) a clear understanding of at least five specialized areas within international law;
- (SS3) the ability to use research methodologies and techniques as relevant for research in international law.

### **Key transferable skills (KTS)**

By the end of the course, the successful student will have the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring:

- (KTS1) Decision-making in complex situations;
- (KTS2) The independent learning ability required for continuing professional development;
- (KTS3) The ability to deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgments in the absence of complete data, and communicate their conclusions clearly;
- (KTS4) The exercise of initiative and personal responsibility;
- (KTS5) Ability to advance their knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level.

All modules teach or/and assess these skills. Additionally, most modules offer you an opportunity to practise these skills through role-play exercises, scenario questions, and presentations.

### **Learning, teaching and assessment methods**

#### **Learning**

Within seminars, module leaders will develop modes of learning appropriate to the subject matter of their module which might, for example, include small group work, problem-based tutorials, review sessions, workshops, debates, as well as the more conventional student presentations.

The core module, Public International Law, is designed to give students an in-depth introduction to the fundamental principles, notions and sources of international law. This is particularly important for students who do not have an international law (or law) background. This core module enables students to explore five specialized areas of international law in the optional modules. The other core module, the Postgraduate Dissertation in International Law, is a piece of independent research under the supervision of an academic member of staff where students apply the research skills acquired through Public International Law and the five optional modules.

Students should be clear that a postgraduate programme of study demands a much greater amount of individual work and of autonomy than they may have been used to at the undergraduate level. Thus, while a student may only be required to attend classes for 6-9 hours a week depending upon whether they are part-time or full-time and depending upon which modules they have chosen, they will nevertheless be expected to be studying independently for the remainder of the working week.

## Teaching

Teaching takes place through weekly, three-hour interactive seminars, for which students will have prepared in advance and will be ready to discuss the relevant issues. Students will be expected to participate actively in class, having done extensive reading and preparation, for which suitable direction and guidance will be given. Seminars will be used on a wholeclass basis, not only to develop a framework of essential knowledge on a topic-by-topic basis, but also to provide a common foundation for learning within each module.

Certain modules make use of films and documentaries in support of teaching, while others include external visits to relevant institutions, including international courts and tribunals. Several modules also include presentations by external guest speakers from the academic and professional worlds.

## Assessment

There are various forms of assessment according to the module requirements, including coursework, in-class tests, and presentations. The specific forms of assessment within each module have been determined solely by the learning outcomes of that module. The wide use of coursework as an assessment method, alone or in conjunction with presentations/in-class tests, reflects the strong emphasis that the LLM International Law puts on developing the legal research skills of the students.

In all modules, problem-solving and theory-based formative work is given out during the semester with evaluative verbal and/or oral feedback provided to students. Formative coursework comes in a number of different formats, e.g. mock in-class tests, essay plans, presentations, or group discussions. Module leaders also normally hold revision sessions to guide the students on examination techniques, research methods, etc.

In all modules, written feedback is provided to the students on their assessment, with verbal feedback also available. Students are also expected to discuss feedback with their personal tutors during the meetings they have with them in each term.

## Course structure

This section shows the core and option modules available as part of the course and their credit value. Full-time Postgraduate students study 180 credits per year.

Credit Level 7				
Module code	Module title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
7LLAW046W	Public International Law	Core	20	10
7LLAW041W	Postgraduate Dissertation in International Law	Core	60	30
7LLAW021W	International Humanitarian Law	Option	20	10
7LLAW058W	United Nations Law	Option	20	10
7LLAW020W	International Human Rights Law	Option	20	10
7LLAW013W	International and European Refugee Law	Option	20	10

<b>7LLAW038W</b>	Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes	Option	20	10
<b>7LLAW022W</b>	International Law and Development	Option	20	10
<b>7LLAW019W</b>	International Energy and Climate Change Law	Option	20	10
<b>7LLAW023W</b>	International Law of the Sea	Option	20	10
<b>7LLAW074W</b>	International Criminal Law	Option	20	10

The suggested module sequence for the full-time course is as follows.

<b>LLM INTERNATIONAL LAW FULL-TIME</b>	
<b>Semester 1</b>	<b>Semester 2</b>
Public International Law (20 credits)	Option 3 (20 credits)
Option 1 (20 credits)	Option 4 (20 credits)
Option 2 (20 credits)	Option 5 (20 credits)
Dissertation (60 credits)	

The suggested module sequence for the part-time course is as follows.

<b>LLM INTERNATIONAL LAW PART-TIME YEAR 1</b>	
<b>Semester 1</b>	<b>Semester 2</b>
Public International Law (20 credits)	Option 2 (20 credits)
Option 1 (20 credits)	Option 3 (20 credits)

<b>LLM INTERNATIONAL LAW PART-TIME YEAR 2</b>	
<b>Semester 1</b>	<b>Semester 2</b>
Option 4 (20 credits)	
Option 5 (20 credits)	
Dissertation (60 credits)	

Full time students may take a maximum of one free choice option per semester of study. Part time students may take a maximum of two free choice options during their studies.

Please note: not all option modules will necessarily be offered in any one year.

**Professional Body Accreditation or other external references N/A**

### Academic Regulations

The current Handbook of Academic Regulations is available at [westminster.ac.uk/academicregulations](http://westminster.ac.uk/academicregulations)

## How will you be supported in your studies?

### Academic Support

Upon arrival, an induction programme will introduce you to the staff responsible for the course, the campus on which you will be studying, the Library and IT facilities, additional support available and to your Faculty Registry Office. You will be provided with the Course Handbook, which provides detailed information about the course. Each course has a course leader or Director of Studies. All students enrolled on a full-time course and part time students registered for more than 60 credits a year have a personal tutor, who provides advice and guidance on academic matters. The University uses a Virtual Learning Environment called Blackboard where students access their course materials, and can communicate and collaborate with staff and other students

### Learning Support

The Academic Learning Development Centre supports students in developing the skills required for higher education. As well as online resources in Blackboard, students have the opportunity to attend Study Skills workshops and one to one appointments.

Learning support includes four libraries, each holding a collection of resources related to the subjects taught at that site. Students<sup>1</sup> can search the entire library collection online through the Library Search service to find and reserve printed books, and access electronic resources (databases, e-journals, e-books). Students can choose to study in the libraries, which have areas for silent and group study, desktop computers, laptops for loan, photocopying and printing services. They can also choose from several computer rooms at each campus where desktop computers are available with the general and specialist software that supports the courses taught at their Faculty. Students can also securely connect their own laptops and mobile devices to the University wireless network.

### Support Services

The University of Westminster Student Affairs department provide advice and guidance on accommodation, financial and legal matters, personal counselling, health and disability issues, careers, specialist advice for international students and the chaplaincy providing multi-faith guidance. The University of Westminster Students' Union also provides a range of facilities to support students during their time at the University.

**How do we ensure the quality of our courses and continuous improvement?** The courses are regularly approved by a University Validation Panel. The panel includes internal peers from the University, academic(s) from another university and a representative from industry. This helps to ensure the comparability of the course to those offered in other universities and the relevance to employers.

The course is also monitored each year by the Faculty to ensure it is running effectively and that issues which might affect the student experience have been appropriately addressed. Staff will consider evidence about the course, including the outcomes from Course Committees, evidence of student progression and achievement and the reports from external examiners, to evaluate the effectiveness of the course. Each Faculty puts in to place an action plan. This may for example include making changes on the way the module

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<sup>1</sup> Students enrolled at Collaborative partners may have differing access due to licence agreements.



is taught, assessed or even how the course is structured in order to improve the course, in such cases an approval process is in place.

A Course review takes place periodically to ensure that the curriculum is up-to-date and that the skills gained on the course continue to be relevant to employers. Students meet with review panels to provide feedback on their experiences. Student feedback from previous years e.g. from Course Committees is also part of the evidence used to assess how the course has been running.

### **How do we act on student feedback?**

Student feedback is important to the University and student views are taken seriously. Student feedback is gathered in a variety of ways.

- Through Course Committees students have the opportunity to express their voice in the running of their course. Student representatives are elected to Committee to expressly represent the views of their peer. The University and the Students' Union work together to provide a full induction to the role of the student representatives.
- Each Faculty also has its own Faculty Student Forum with student representatives; this enables wider discussions across the Faculty. Student representatives are also represented on key Faculty and university committees.
- All students are invited to complete a questionnaire before the end of each module. The feedback from this will inform the module leader on the effectiveness of the module and highlight areas that could be enhanced.
- The University also has an annual Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey or PTES which helps us compare how we are doing with other institutions, to make changes that will improve what we do in future and to keep doing the things that you value.

**Please note:** This programme specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the course and the learning outcomes that a student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. This specification should be read in conjunction with the Course Handbook provided to students and Module Handbooks, which provide more detailed information on the specific learning outcomes, content, teaching, learning and assessment methods for each module.

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