

Programme Title: LLM in Legal Theory



Programme Specification (PG)

Awarding body / institution:	Queen Mary University of London
Teaching institution:	Queen Mary University of London
Name of final award and programme title:	LLM in Legal Theory
Name of interim award(s):	Postgraduate Diploma, Postgraduate Certificate
Duration of study / period of registration:	1 year full time, 2 years part time.
QMUL programme code(s):	
QAA Benchmark Group:	
FHEQ Level of Award:	Level 7
Programme accredited by:	
Date Programme Specification approved:	
Responsible School / Institute:	Department of Law

Schools / Institutes which will also be involved in teaching part of the programme:

Centre for Commercial Law Studies

Collaborative institution(s) / organisation(s) involved in delivering the programme:

Programme outline

The School of Law's cluster of LLM programmes offer students the ability to develop academic and professional expertise in specialised areas of law, including Legal Theory. The programme of study provides a flexible mix of classroom based teaching (assessed by formal examinations or coursework) for taught modules, followed by compulsory research component.

Aims of the programme

- To assist students to develop critical reflective skills and a theoretical insight into law•
- To assist students to develop a detailed, critical and advanced knowledge of key areas of law, not typically covered (or not adequately covered) by an undergraduate syllabus (with an emphasis upon legal theory).

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- To respond to the needs of students who wish to enter into practice in a specialist area – the courses will assist students to acquire essential theoretical and practical skills in their subjects; this relates to students who are located locally, regionally and internationally.
- To provide students with first-class and comprehensive teaching materials.
- To provide students with an in-depth understanding of key issues in advanced law subjects (including legal theory).
- To broaden and deepen students' understanding of their own systems of law by giving them the opportunity and the tools with which to explore the international, theoretical and comparative law context.
- To enhance the students' learning experience through regular interaction with course teachers, practitioners, visiting academics and fellow students.
- To ensure a balance of theoretical rigour and practical application and relevance in the examination of the law.

What will you be expected to achieve?

Students who successfully complete the programme will be able to:

- Identify, analyze and evaluate key theoretical problem about law.
- Understand the key legal principles, issues and debates arising out of the law and practice of chosen subjects.
- Recognise the standard of materials expected from a post-graduate law student and be capable of producing that standard.
- Be capable of analysing legal problems and drafting detailed responses addressing the key issues.
- Be capable of producing papers through self-study that examine particular legal issues with the intellectual rigour appropriate to post-graduate legal students.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the topic at an advanced level by successfully dealing with issues in both a practical and a scholarly manner.

Academic Content:

A 1	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of key theoretical issues, principles, and debates arising out of the law and practice of chosen area of specialization.
A 2	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the practical implications of the theoretical and legal issues arising within the specialist area.
A 3	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of comparative and international approaches to legal issues within the selected specialist area.

Disciplinary Skills - able to:

B 1	Be capable of analysing legal theoretical problems and drafting detailed responses to them
B 2	Be capable of producing papers through self-study that examine particular legal theoretical issues with the intellectual rigour appropriate to post graduate legal students
B 3	Proficiently use legal theoretical research resources to carry out appropriate analysis of a variety of problems

Attributes:

C1	Acquire and apply knowledge in a rigorous way; demonstrate self direction and independence in solving complex or unfamiliar problems; use clear language to effectively communicate ideas, both orally and in writing
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How will you learn?

Students will learn through direct interaction with lecturers using a variety of teaching, learning and assessment strategies, including traditional and interactive lectures, seminar sessions, tutorials and e-learning. Students will also be expected to invest a significant amount of time in independent learning, including reading materials in advance of lectures/seminars, preparing class presentations, completing assignments and preparing for examinations.

In addition, students will need to carry out extensive research to complete the dissertation. Students will be provided with a variety of legal resources and receive training on how to use them.

How will you be assessed?

Assessment is by examination, oral presentation, essays and/or coursework for taught modules and by dissertation.

How is the programme structured?

Please specify the structure of the programme diets for all variants of the programme (e.g. full-time, part-time - if applicable). The description should be sufficiently detailed to fully define the structure of the diet.

Master of Laws (LLM)

- Students on the LLM have to complete 180 credits including the compulsory Dissertation in Legal Theory SOLM920.
- Full-time students have to take between 60 and 90 credits of taught modules in each semester.
- Part-time students are normally expected to take 90 credits each year of their programme but this may be varied by special permission.
- Part-time students are normally expected to take 45 credits in each semester of their programme but this may be varied by special permission.

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Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Human Rights of Women: Feminist Legal Theory	SOLM063	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Law's Relations: Autonomy, Consent and Confidentiality	SOLM103	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Cultural Diversity and Law	SOLM170	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
EU Migration Law	SOLM178	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Common Law Reasoning	SOLM179	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Visual Jurisprudence	SOLM180	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Critical Jurisprudence	SOLM181	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Law in Asia	SOLM182	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Historical Jurisprudence	SOLM183	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Sociological Jurisprudence	SOLM184	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Law and Religion	SOLM185	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Comparative Law Methodology	SOLM186	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Law and Authority in a Global Context	SOLM187	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Central Problems in Jurisprudence: Between Law and Normativity	SOLM188	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Punishment in England 1750-1950	SOLM201	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Dissertation in Legal Theory	SOLM920	60	7	Compulsory	1	Semesters 1-3

What are the entry requirements?

The usual qualification for entry to the LLM programme is a degree in law, or a degree with a substantial law content, of at least 2.1 honours (or equivalent). Law graduates with 2.2 honours who also have other legal qualifications and/or substantial professional legal experience may also qualify.

Non-law graduates with a minimum second class honours degree, that have also obtained a Merit (or 60 per cent) in the Common Professional Examination (CPE) or Graduate Diploma in Law (GDL) recognised by the UK professional bodies, may also

qualify. Non-law graduates may also be considered on the basis of exceptional professional experience (of at least five years) in a legal area or an area directly related to their programme of study.

Applicants whose first language is not English must provide evidence of your English language proficiency. The usual English Language Requirements for Postgraduate Law Taught Programmes will apply. These may be accessed at <http://www.law.qmul.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/english-language-requirements/index.html#Postgraduatelawtaughtprogrammes>

How will the quality of the programme be managed and enhanced? How do we listen to and act on your feedback?

The Staff-Student Liaison Committee provides a formal means of communication and discussion between schools/institutes and its students. The committee consists of student representatives from each year in the school/institute together with appropriate representation from staff within the school/institute. It is designed to respond to the needs of students, as well as act as a forum for discussing programme and module developments. Staff-Student Liaison Committees meet regularly throughout the year.

Each school/institute operates a Learning and Teaching Committee, or equivalent, which advises the School/Institute Director of Taught Programmes on all matters relating to the delivery of taught programmes at school level including monitoring the application of relevant QM policies and reviewing all proposals for module and programme approval and amendment before submission to Taught Programmes Board. Student views are incorporated in the committee's work in a number of ways, such as through student membership, or consideration of student surveys.

All schools/institutes operate an Annual Programme Review of their taught undergraduate and postgraduate provision. APR is a continuous process of reflection and action planning which is owned by those responsible for programme delivery; the main document of reference for this process is the Taught Programmes Action Plan (TPAP) which is the summary of the school/institute's work throughout the year to monitor academic standards and to improve the student experience. Students' views are considered in this process through analysis of the PTES and module evaluations.

What academic support is available?

Students will receive a comprehensive induction. Students will be assisted with the preliminary stages of selecting a research topic, drafting a research proposal, considering their methodology and developing the skills needed to identify and use relevant materials. Lecturers on taught modules shall be available to discuss any concerns students might have with regard to the particular module or its content.

Programme-specific rules and facts

Students can take up to 45 credits outside of their programme within the postgraduate programmes offered by the School of Law.
In order to specialise in Legal Theory, LLM students must take at least 135 credits, including their dissertation, in modules on the Legal Theory programme.

Specific support for disabled students

Queen Mary has a central Disability and Dyslexia Service (DDS) that offers support for all students with disabilities, specific learning difficulties and mental health issues. The DDS supports all Queen Mary students: full-time, part-time, undergraduate, postgraduate, UK and international at all campuses and all sites.

Students can access advice, guidance and support in the following areas:

- Finding out if you have a specific learning difficulty like dyslexia
- Applying for funding through the Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA)
- Arranging DSA assessments of need
- Special arrangements in examinations

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- Accessing loaned equipment (e.g. digital recorders)
- Specialist one-to-one "study skills" tuition
- Ensuring access to course materials in alternative formats (e.g. Braille)
- Providing educational support workers (e.g. note-takers, readers, library assistants)

Links with employers, placement opportunities and transferable skills

There is a mentoring programme that matches students with available mentors from the profession. An embedded Careers and professional development team provide guidance in identifying and obtaining relevant internships, valuable employment-related skills and other work-related opportunities. There is a programme of co-curricular activities designed to foster professional development and related skills.

Programme Specification Approval

Person completing Programme Specification:

Anne Flanagan

Person responsible for management of programme:

Anne Flanagan

Date Programme Specification produced / amended by School / Institute Learning and Teaching Committee:

Date Programme Specification approved by Taught Programmes Board: