

## Programme Specification (UG)

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| Awarding body / institution:                | Queen Mary University of London   |
| Teaching institution:                       | Queen Mary University of London   |
| Name of final award and programme title:    | LLB English and European Law  |
| Name of interim award(s):                   | Certificate of Higher Education (Cert HE)<br>Diploma of Higher Education (Dip HE)   |
| Duration of study / period of registration: | 4 Years (48 Months)/ maximum registration period: 6 years   |
| QMUL programme code / UCAS code(s):         | M120  |
| QAA Benchmark Group:                        | Law   |
| FHEQ Level of Award :                       | Level 6   |
| Programme accredited by:                    | The LLB degree is a Qualifying Law Degree, accredited by the Solicitors Regulation Authority and the Bar Standards Board, enabling graduates to satisfy the academic stage of qualification as a solicitor or barrister in England and Wales. The validation process does not involve regular visits. |
| Date Programme Specification approved:      |   |
| Responsible School / Institute:             | Department of Law   |

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

Institution(s) other than QMUL that will provide some teaching for the programme:

### Programme outline

The LLB English and European is a four-year law degree programme: the first two are spent at Queen Mary; the third is spent at a European partner University. The core modules studied at Queen Mary satisfy professional requirements for the foundations of legal knowledge and skills in England and Wales. Second year students are encouraged to select an option module which has a strong comparative or international law element in order to develop an understanding of legal systems other than that of England and Wales.

The third year of the programme is spent as an exchange student at a European partner University where students follow a programme of legal study approved by the host university and the Head of the Department of Law at Queen Mary.

A notable feature of the Queen Mary law degree programmes is the wide range of options available, many of which are taught

by leading researchers in those subjects. In the final year there is an option to do supervised research in a topic of your choosing leading to a 15,000-word dissertation.

### **Aims of the programme**

The LLB English and European Law programme offers intellectually able students the opportunity to study law from a variety of perspectives in a supportive environment. Teaching is strongly underpinned by the Departments' research. The programme encourages students to explore legal rules, principles, reasoning and ideas in their comparative, social, political, economic, historical, philosophical, and practical contexts. The programme is recognised as satisfying the academic developmental year of qualification for the solicitors and barristers professions in England and Wales.

Second year students are expected to select at least one option module which has a strong comparative or international law element in order to develop an understanding of legal systems other than that of England and Wales. To prepare students intending to take a year abroad at a university where tuition is not in English, there is a requirement that classes in the relevant language are taken during the first and second year.

The third year of the programme is spent as an exchange student at a university in continental Europe, where students follow a programme of legal study approved by the host university and the Head of the Department of Law at Queen Mary. The tuition at universities in Belgium, Denmark and the Netherlands is in English. At others it is in French, German, Italian or Spanish; students choosing to study at these universities will strengthen their foreign language skills during the programme.

In the final year, students take a module in Jurisprudence and Legal Theory which examines aspects of the philosophy of law. Beyond this, the programme enables students to select modules covering a wide variety of subjects to reflect their interests and aspirations. There is an opportunity to research and write a dissertation in the final year.

As with other QMUL degree programmes, the LLB English and European Law embodies the QMUL model of education designed to allow students to develop the attributes specified in the 2010 QMUL's Statement of Graduate Attributes, notably through designated QMUL-Model compliant modules.

Outside the programme, students may choose to take part in the work of the Queen Mary Legal Advice Centre, in a student-led Pro-Bono legal advice scheme, and in mooting.

### **What will you be expected to achieve?**

Students who successfully complete the programme will demonstrate achievement in all the following areas:

## QMUL Model

The QMUL Model is an innovative teaching and learning initiative that will broaden opportunities for Queen Mary undergraduates within and beyond higher education, supporting them to plan and manage their ongoing professional development. The Model is firmly grounded in the core QMUL values of respect for, and engagement with, the local area and communities, with a distinctive focus on enabling students to make a positive societal impact through leadership in their chosen field. The Model is organised around the key themes of:

- networking
- multi- and inter-disciplinarity
- international perspectives
- enterprising perspectives.

Students are required to study QMUL Model modules to the value of at least 10 credits at each year of undergraduate study. Model modules may be 5, 10 or 15 credits. Model modules are indicated within this programme specification.

In your first year of study, the Model module will be core or compulsory and will be situated within your home School or Institute. In subsequent years, students will be strongly encouraged to study at least one Model module beyond their home discipline(s), which could, for example, be in another School / Institute or area of QMUL or undertaken as a module outside of QMUL.

If Model module information is not provided on this programme specification for all subsequent years of study, this will be identified as your studies continue.

Where a Model module elective can be selected from an approved group of Model modules, no guarantee can be provided that your first choice of Model module will be available.

### Academic Content:

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| A 1 | Knowledge: Students should demonstrate a basic knowledge and understanding of the principal features of the legal system of England and Wales and that of the European Union; they should be able to:<br>(a) demonstrate knowledge of a substantial range of major concepts, values, principles and rules of those systems;<br>(b) explain the main legal institutions and procedures of those systems;<br>(c) demonstrate the study in depth and in context of some substantive areas of the legal systems. |
| A 2 | Application and problem-solving: Students should demonstrate a basic ability to apply knowledge to a situation of limited complexity in order to provide arguable conclusions for concrete problems (actual or hypothetical).  |
| A 3 | Sources and research: Students should demonstrate a basic ability to<br>(a) identify accurately the issue(s) which require researching;<br>(b) identify and retrieve up-to-date legal information, using paper and electronic sources;<br>(c) use primary and secondary legal sources relevant to the topic under study.   |
| A 4 | Students should demonstrate a basic ability to understand different approaches to law, drawing on their experiences of the subjects studied at another European university law school during their year abroad.  |

### Disciplinary Skills - able to:

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| B 1 | Analysis, synthesis, critical judgement and evaluation: Students should demonstrate a basic ability to:<br>(a) recognise and rank items and issues in terms of relevance and importance;<br>(b) bring together information and materials from a variety of different sources;<br>(c) produce a synthesis of relevant doctrinal and policy issues in relation to a topic;<br>(d) make a critical judgement of the merits of particular arguments;<br>(e) present and make a reasoned choice between alternative solutions. |
| B 2 | Autonomy and ability to learn: Students should demonstrate a basic ability, with limited guidance to:<br>(a) act independently in planning and undertaking tasks in areas of law which they have already studied;<br>(b) be able to undertake independent research in areas of law which they have not previously studied starting from standard legal information sources;<br>(c) reflect on their own learning and to seek and make use of feedback.  |

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| Attributes: |   |
| C 1         | Communication and Literacy: Both orally and in writing, students should demonstrate a basic ability:<br>(a) to understand and use the English language proficiently in relation to legal matters;<br>(b) where a student has studied at a European university law school at which the medium of study is a language other than English, to understand and use the relevant language proficiently in relation to legal matters;<br>(c) to present knowledge or an argument in a way which is comprehensible to others and which is directed at their concerns;<br>(d) to read and discuss legal materials which are written in technical and complex language. |
| C 2         | Other key skills: numeracy, information technology and teamwork: A student should demonstrate a basic ability:<br>(a) where relevant and as the basis for an argument, to use, present and evaluate information provided in numerical or statistical form;<br>(b) to produce a word-processed essay or other text and to present such work in an appropriate form;<br>(c) to use the internet and email;<br>(d) to use some electronic information retrieval systems.<br>(e) to work in groups as a participant who contributes effectively to the group's task.  |
| C 3         |   |

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| QMUL Model Learning Outcomes - Level 4: |   |
| D 1                                     | <b>(Networking) Identify and discuss their own career aspirations or relevant skills and knowledge and how they i</b> |
| D 2                                     |   |
| D 3                                     |   |

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| QMUL Model Learning Outcomes - Level 5: |  |
| E 1                                     | (International Perspectives) Analyse the impact of diverse cultural and global contexts upon aspects of their discipline |
| E 2                                     | (International Perspectives) Reflect on socio-cultural values and skills within diverse cultural and global contexts     |

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| E 3 |  |
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QMUL Model Learning Outcomes - Level 6:

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| E 1 | (Networking) Apply a critically reflective approach to how they have developed their subject, work-based and generic    |
| E 2 | (Networking) Apply a critically analytical approach to how they can help to shape and influence their future career and |
| E 3 | (Multi/Inter-Disciplinarity) Model a holistic approach to knowledge which draws on a range of appropriate disciplines   |

QMUL Model Learning Outcomes - Level 7:

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| G 1 |  |
| G 2 |  |
| G 3 |  |

**How will you learn?**

At Queen Mary, teaching for the core modules is typically through lectures (to the whole year group) and tutorials (groups of about 12 students). By attending lectures you hear from experts in a legal field who will also be setting and marking your examinations. Lectures may have several different goals: to provide an introduction to a particular topic; to cast light on the context of a module; to provide alternatives to orthodox approaches; to provide an overview of the topic; to explain particularly difficult aspects of a topic; to introduce comparative aspects of a topic; to cover reform proposals and recent reforms in the law which are not covered in the textbooks.

Elective modules make use of a variety of teaching methods. Small group work often include discussion structured around questions and readings distributed in advance. Talking about law fluently is a vital part of developing legal reasoning skills. By expressing ideas you are able to refine and reflect on them. Tutorials and seminars are supportive environments in which ideas can be exchanged and difficulties can be ironed out.

A considerable amount of independent study is expected throughout the programme. This involves reading cases, legislation and academic texts. Independent study may also involve working with other students in pairs or small groups: students are encouraged to set up informal study groups to help each other get to grips with topics before or after tutorials and seminars.

All modules at Queen Mary make use of an online learning environment.

The approach to teaching during the year abroad is determined by the host university.

**How will you be assessed?**

All modules (core and elective) are assessed in a variety of ways, including examinations, course work or dissertation.

During the year abroad, assessment will be according the methods of the host institution.

**How is the programme structured?**

Please specify the full time and part time programme diets (if applicable). Please also outline the QMUL Model arrangements for each year of study. The description should be sufficiently detailed to fully define the structure of the diet.

Students are required to take 120 credits each year at Queen Mary. Modules are either 30 credits or 15 credits.

In year one, there are three 30-credit core modules: Public Law; Elements of Contract Law; and Land Law and two 15 credit modules: Law in Context and European Union Law

In the second year there are three 30-credit core modules: Tort Law; Equity and Trusts, and Criminal Law. In addition, students select 30-credits of elective modules.

Students who intend to spend their year abroad at a university where the English language is not the medium of study must (unless formally exempted) take and satisfactorily complete an approved course of study in the relevant language during the the first two years at Queen Mary.

During the year abroad, the programme will be in accordance with the regulations of the host institution and approved by the Head of the Law Department at Queen Mary. Students may not take modules which correspond to or substantially overlap with modules previously studied at Queen Mary.

In the final year, there is one 30-credit core modules: Jurisprudence and Legal Theory, in addition students select 90-credits of elective modules. Students may not select an elective module which substantially overlaps with a module studied the host university in year 3.

Each year of study at Queen Mary must include at least 15 credit of designated QMUL-model compliant modules. In year 1, Law in Context is the QMUL-model compliant module. In year 2, Criminal Law is the designated QMUL-model compliant module.

Students are permitted to take any elective QMUL Model module outside of the Law school in their final year.

Academic Year of Study FT - Year 1

| Module Title             | Module Code | Credits | Level | Module Selection Status | Academic Year of Study | Semester        | QMUL Model                   |
|--------------------------|-------------|---------|-------|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| Public Law               | LAW4001     | 30      | 4     | Core                    | 1                      | Semesters 1 & 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> No  |
| Elements of Contract Law | LAW4005     | 30      | 4     | Core                    | 1                      | Semesters 1 & 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> No  |
| Land Law                 | LAW4006     | 30      | 4     | Core                    | 1                      | Semesters 1 & 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> No  |
| Law in Context           | LAW4008     | 15      | 4     | Core                    | 1                      | Semester 1      | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes |

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| Module Title              | Module Code | Credits | Level | Module Selection Status | Academic Year of Study | Semester   | QMUL Model                   |
|---------------------------|-------------|---------|-------|-------------------------|------------------------|------------|------------------------------|
| Law of the European Union | LAW4009     | 15      | 4     | Core                    | 1                      | Semester 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes |

Academic Year of Study

| Module Title                            | Module Code | Credits | Level | Module Selection Status | Academic Year of Study | Semester        | QMUL Model                   |
|---|-------------|---------|-------|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| Tort Law                                | LAW5001     | 30      | 5     | Core                    | 2                      | Semesters 1 & 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> No  |
| Equity and Trusts                       | LAW5003     | 30      | 5     | Core                    | 2                      | Semesters 1 & 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> No  |
| Criminal Law                            | LAW5005     | 30      | 5     | Core                    | 2                      | Semesters 1 & 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes |
| Elective Module(s) - from attached list |             | 30      | 5     | Elective                | 2                      | Semesters 1 & 2 | <input type="checkbox"/>     |

Academic Year of Study FT - Year 3

| Module Title                         | Module Code | Credits | Level | Module Selection Status | Academic Year of Study | Semester        | QMUL Model               |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|---------|-------|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Year Abroad English and European Law | LAW5107     | 120     | 5     | Compulsory              | 3                      | Semesters 1 & 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Academic Year of Study FT - Year 4

| Module Title                          | Module Code | Credits | Level | Module Selection Status | Academic Year of Study | Semester        | QMUL Model                   |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|---------|-------|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| Jurisprudence and Legal Theory        | LAW6021     | 30      | 6     | Core                    | 4                      | Semesters 1 & 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes |
| Elective modules - from attached list |             | 90      | 6     | Elective                | 4                      | Semesters 1 & 2 | <input type="checkbox"/>     |

**What are the entry requirements?**

The normal offer for admission to the LLB programme is AAA at A-level, although regard will also be paid to AS results. The following A-levels are not accepted: General Studies; Critical Thinking.

For students who wish to spend the year abroad at a host university where the language of study is not English, one of the A-levels, or equivalent qualification, must be in the relevant language. Applicants offering other qualifications will, if successful, receive offers at an equivalent level (e.g. the International Baccalaureate Diploma with 36 points overall and at least 6, 6, 6 at higher level). Applications are welcomed from suitably qualified and motivated mature applicants (those over 21 years old). In addition to academic profile, the Department will consider skills and qualifications acquired since mature candidates were last in full-time education as well as evidence of a commitment to study law at degree level. In terms of access and foundation students, all UCAS applications will be held until January before a shortlist is drawn upon based upon information in the UCAS form about the pre-Access/Foundation experience e.g. academic record, personal statement and academic reference. In late January/February up to thirty candidates will be shortlisted and an updated academic reference may be sought. The Access to HE entry requirements is 54 credits at level 3.

### **How will the quality of the programme be managed and enhanced?**

The Programme Convenor is responsible for the academic content and quality of the programme and any changes to the curriculum, in addition to ensuring the maintenance of a consistent quality of teaching across the programme.

The Law undergraduate office is responsible for the overall administrative delivery of the programme, including any issues relating to registration, complaints, pastoral care, appeals, and award for the programme.

The overall management and enhancement of the programme lies with the Department of Law's undergraduate Teaching and Learning Committee chaired by the Director of Taught Programmes.

### **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 NSS and module evaluations.

### **What academic support is available?**

Feedback on progress in each module is provided throughout the year in various ways (for example, comments on written assignments, and guidance given in lectures and tutorials). In addition, every student has a designated academic adviser, who is a member of academic staff responsible for having an overview of progress and helping with any problems that impact on academic progress. Academic advisers and module tutors have 'office hours' during which students can consult them. In addition, Graduate Student Advisers (GSAs) are experienced and friendly postgraduate law students who are available to offer confidential one-to-one guidance and support to undergraduates in the Department as well as workshops on study skills.



## Programme-specific rules and facts

In order to progress to the next year of study, you must pass all your examinations. This applies even when you are absent due to events outside your control: under no circumstances can a student be allowed to progress to the next stage of the degree unless all examinations have been passed.

You are normally expected to pass all your examinations in a year in one sitting. This means that, when you fail some examinations (or you are unable to attend them for any reason), you must normally sit all of them again, including those that you already passed. There are some limited exceptions to this rule. Unlike most other programmes at Queen Mary, resit marks on undergraduate law programmes are not capped. There is a maximum of three attempts at the examinations: one sit and two resits.

Students must take and pass the prescribed assessments at the host university in year 3. The assessments are a requirement for progression and do not normally contribute to the classification of the award at the end of year 4. Students who fail to take and pass the prescribed assessments must transfer to the final year of the M100 LLB degree 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
- 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)
- Access to specialist mentoring support for students with mental health issues and Autistic Spectrum Disorders.

## Links with employers, placement opportunities and transferable skills

When you arrive, you will meet the School of Law's dedicated Careers Adviser, part of the Queen Mary Careers Team, who is regularly available in the department for one-to-one support. The Law Adviser also manages Careers Brief, the School's careers website, and arranges employer workshops in areas such as commercial awareness, applications, interview skills and choosing the right LPC and BPTC provider.

The Legal Advice Centre provides undergraduate law students with the opportunity to place law into a practical legal context under the supervision of volunteer lawyers. Lawyers from Allen & Overy, Field Fisher Waterhouse Mishcon de Reya, Nabas Legal and Reed Smith work closely with students, providing guidance and supervision, as well as training and careers advice.

The Queen Mary Student Pro Bono Group (QMSPBG) is a student group created by students for students. More than 250 students are involved in the QMSPBG from their first year through to their final year at Queen Mary. As students develop their skills and legal knowledge, they are able to become involved in increasingly challenging and hands-on projects. The Queen Mary Student Pro Bono Group has well-developed links with the London legal community. Students have the opportunity to volunteer at organisations that provide pro bono legal advice and to 'shadow' solicitors. Placement programmes operate through partnerships with leading law firms such as Berwin Leighton Paisner LLP, SNR Denton, Clifford Chance and Reed Smith LLP. Queen Mary runs a Streetlaw Programme, which is based on a US model to provide an outreach volunteer programme to local schools and communities. Students visit primary and secondary schools to teach pupils relevant parts of the law. The Group also offers exciting opportunities in international law, in the past students have worked with organisations such as A4ID and Lawyers Without Borders.

The Pro Bono Group publishes a monthly student newspaper called 'The Advocate', which includes articles from Queen Mary

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academics and students as well as external lawyers.

The Queen Mary Mooting Society plays an active part of undergraduate life at Queen Mary. Under the auspices of the Student Moot Master and Student Mooting Committee, students have the opportunity to become involved in both internal and external mooting competitions.

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## Programme Specification Approval

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**Person completing Programme Specification:**

Rod Edmunds

**Person responsible for management of programme:**

Davor Jancic

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

31 Jan 2018

**Date Programme Specification approved by Taught Programmes Board:**