Queen Mary
University of London

Programme Specification

Awarding Body/Institution	Queen Mary University of London
Teaching Institution	Queen Mary University of London
Name of Final Award and Programme Title	MRes Human Rights Law
Name of Interim Award(s)	
Duration of Study / Period of Registration	12 months full time
QM Programme Code / UCAS Code(s)	MR12
QAA Benchmark Group	Law
FHEQ Level of Award	Level 7
Programme Accredited by	
Date Programme Specification Approved	
Responsible School / Institute	School of Law

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

School of Law

School of Politics and International Relations

Institution(s) other than Queen Mary that will provide some teaching for the programme

Programme Outline

The proposed MRes in Human Rights Law will provide a research pathway for those wishing to pursue a PhD after their masters degree or as part of their ESRC-recognised 1+3 research training for their PhD in Law. The MRes will combine advanced training in wider social science research approaches and methodologies, with specialist study of human rights law for those wishing to pursue a PhD. The programme satisfies the research training requirements of the ESRC 1+ element of the 1+3 components. The programme enables the School to continue to attract high quality students eligible for ESRC funding. It provides core training for those students seeking to pursue postgraduate study and ultimately an academic career in the social sciences.

The MRes will provide a subject-oriented taught postgraduate level programme with the required amounts of social science research methods (as determined by the ESRC). Relative to students undertaking the MA Law by Research, MRes Human Rights Law students will take additional, more generic social science research training (provided by the DTP).

Aims of the Programme

The aim of the programme is to provide advanced training in wider social science research approaches and methodologies,

Queen Mary
University of London

combined with specialist study of human rights law for those wishing to proceed to a PhD. The programme provides:
advanced knowledge in the field of human rights law.
advanced and critical understanding of the current systems for the legal protection of human rights.
advanced training to carry out research on human rights law through the provision of core research training in social science epistemologies, research design and qualitative methods, and quantitative methods and data

What Will You Be Expected to Achieve?

The programme provides opportunities for students to achieve and demonstrate the following learning outcomes.

Academic Content:

A1	Appreciate the impact of human rights law on real-world situations
A2	Show a critical understanding of the legal framework relating to human rights law in the national, regional and global context
A3	Effective employment of legal terminology, both orally and in writing, to convey technical legal information on the application of human rights law at an advanced level
A4	Apply legal knowledge on human rights law to a practical situation and draw reasoned conclusions supported by legal argumentation and authority

Disciplinary Skills - able to:

B1	Identify, locate and retrieve relevant legal and non-legal source materials on human rights law through different means and in different formats
B2	Demonstrate advanced legal skills, including critical analysis and awareness of relevant policy and doctrinal debates around human rights law at national, regional and global levels.
B3	Analyse, evaluate and interpret source material, including national laws, regional and international law reports, treaties, and case law on human rights
B4	Synthesise information from primary and secondary sources to achieve detailed knowledge and understanding of the law, case law, and relevant literature on human rights law

Attributes:

C1	Develop critical reasoning skills and analytical capabilities to deal with complex sets of source material
C2	Utilise problem solving skills in complex theoretical and practical contexts
C3	Develop time management and prioritisation skills by working to deadlines
C4	Develop individual and group communication skills through seminar presentations and problem-solving team work exercises

Queen Mary
University of London

C 5	Take ownership and responsibility for own performance, organising time in an efficient and productive way
C 6	Develop reading and legal reasoning skills, analysing and synthesising different viewpoints and presenting their findings and conclusions in a clear, comprehensive and structured format, either orally or in writing
C 7	Work independently and in groups to explore issues, seek solutions for problems, and reach common objectives

How Will You Learn?

This programme is taught by members of academic staff in the School of Law and the School of Politics and International Relations. The School of Law is committed to developing, maintaining and supporting excellence in teaching practice and fostering independent learning and critical thinking in our students, whilst providing appropriate levels of support to students in their learning.

The majority of teaching and learning takes place through:
• small group, participatory seminars with a member of academic staff who has research expertise in the programme's subject area. Sessions will normally be based around the discussion of pre-circulated readings, where students will have the opportunity to shape the direction and content of debate. Seminars are designed to offer students an open, democratic, flexible and supportive learning environment. There is also a substantial component of private study and reading.

Learning will be supported by:
• coherently designed and effectively delivered modules
• detailed module handbooks, providing learning outcomes and guided reading for each module, identifying the structure and pathway of each module.
• the provision of key materials in libraries or through electronic resources
• individual feedback on written work
• appropriate assessment exercises within each module
• use of electronic teaching materials including Powerpoint, QMPlus and online reading lists
• encouraging active participation by students in small group discussions
• research methods training
• appropriate use of AV teaching technologies

Students have access to a wide range of learning resources within the College. These include: the College Library, the University of London Library at Senate House and the first rate resources of other libraries with London collections (e.g. the British Library); a range of IT resources including networked PCs (with full internet and email privileges), and electronic learning resources (e.g. electronic academic journals).

How Will You Be Assessed?

The compulsory module Introduction to Social Science 1 POLM082 is assessed via coursework comprising a 5,000 word research proposal.
The compulsory module Introduction to Social Science 2 POLM083 is assessed via coursework comprising research project 1 (2,000 words) weighted at 40 percent and research project 2 (3,000 words) weighted at 60 percent.

Assessment on other modules takes a variety of forms including:

dissertation of 10,000 words.
essays and exams

How is the Programme Structured?
Please specify the full time and part time programme diets (if appropriate).

Students enrolling on this programme will take three compulsory modules (Dissertation, 30 credits, Social Science 1, 30 credits

Programme Title: MRes Human Rights Law

and Social Science 2, 30 credits) and will be able to choose up to 90 credits of taught modules from the following existing modules already offered on the LLM Human Rights Law.

Academic Year of Study

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Introduction to Social Science 1: Epistemology, Research Design, and Qualitative Methods	POLM082	30	7	Compulsory		Semester 1
Introduction to Social Science 2: Quantitative Methods and Data	POLM083	30	7	Compulsory		Semester 2
Dissertation	SOLM925	30	7	Compulsory		Semesters 1 & 2
European Convention on Human Rights Law	SOLM061	15	7	Elective		Semester 1
EU Human Rights Law	SOLM062	15	7	Elective		Semester 2
Human Rights of Women: Feminist Legal Theory	SOLM063	30	7	Elective		Semester 1
Human Rights of Women: Legal Framework and Issues	SOLM064	30	7	Elective		Semester 2
International and Comparative Social Rights	SOLM065	30	7	Elective		Semester 1
Social Rights	SOLM066	15	7	Elective		Semester 2
International Law on the Rights of the Child	SOLM067	30	7	Elective		Semester 1
International Rights of the Child	SOLM068	30	7	Elective		Semester 2
International Human Rights Law: History, Theory and Politics	SOLM069	15	7	Elective		Semester 1

Programme Title: MRes Human Rights Law

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
International Human Rights Law: Law, Practice and Institutions	SOLM070	30	7	Elective		Semester 2
Terrorism & Human Rights: Constitutional Perspectives	SOLM071	15	7	Elective		Semester 1
International Law and Indigenous People	SOLM072	30	7	Elective		Semester 1
UK Human Rights Law	SOLM073	15	7	Elective		Semester 2
Secession and Self-Determination in International Law	SOLM074	15	7	Elective		Semester 1
Mental Health Law: Capacity to Consent and Best Interests	SOLM104	30	7	Elective		Semester 1
Mental Health Law: Compulsory Detention and Treatment	SOLM110	15	7	Elective		Semester 2
Use of Force in International Law	SOLM112	30	7	Elective		Semester 1
Conduct of Hostilities in International Law	SOLM113	15	7	Elective		Semester 2
Principles of International Criminal Law	SOLM114	15	7	Elective		Semester 1
Enforcement of International Criminal Law	SOLM115	30	7	Elective		Semester 2
Cultural Diversity and Law	SOLM170	15	7	Elective		Semester 1
International Refugee Law	SOLM171	30	7	Elective		Semester 1
International Migration Law	SOLM172	15	7	Elective		Semester 1
Comparative Immigration Law	SOLM174	15	7	Elective		Semester 2
Terrorism, Migration and Human Rights	SOLM175	30	7	Elective		Semester 2
EU Migration Law	SOLM178	30	7	Elective		Semester 1
Crimes of the Powerful: Corporate Crime	SOLM197	15	7	Elective		Semester 1

Programme Title: MRes Human Rights Law

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Crimes of the Powerful: State Crime	SOLM198	15	7	Elective		Semester 2
EU Criminal Law	SOLM205	30	7	Elective		Semester 2
Illegal Speech, Censorship and Digital Rights: Social Media vs "Old" Media	SOLM212	30	7	Elective		Semester 1

What Are the Entry Requirements?

As they appear in the Handbook/College prospectus. Normally at least an upper second class undergraduate degree or equivalent experience. IELTS 7.0 is required for non-native speakers of English.

How Do We Listen and Act on Your Feedback?

Student feedback is sourced through module evaluations and on a day to day basis through direct communication with module leaders and the MRes Director or via student representatives. Office hours and discussion concerning formative assessment exercises are also channels of communication and exchange on possible issues and new ideas that may improve programme and module delivery as well as student experience as a whole.

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.

Academic Support

Students receive academic support via the programme director, module conveners, and attendance at research related events in both Schools.

Programme-specific Rules and Facts

N/A

Queen Mary
University of London

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

The programme provides a deep understanding of human rights law as well as developing a range of advanced analytical and research skills. The knowledge and experience will have transferable value in the labour market. Furthermore, the MRes in Human Rights Law provides a research pathway for those wishing to pursue a PhD or as part of their ESRC recognised 1+3 research training for their PhD in law and is therefore a stepping stone to an academic career in law.

In terms of transferable knowledge and skills, an MRes Human Rights Law graduate will:
have knowledge of human rights law and how it applies in real-world situations
have a range of advanced level research skills
be a confident oral and written academic communicator
be a confident independent learner, thinker and worker
be able to work in a group situation, showing empathy and sensitivity for the views of others, but with the ability to interact confidently and persuasively

Programme Specification Approval

Person completing Programme Specification	Merris Amos
Person responsible for management of programme	Merris Amos
Date Programme Specification produced/amended by School Learning and Teaching Committee	
Date Programme Specification approved by Taught Programmes Board	

Queen Mary
University of London

Programme Title: MRes Human Rights Law