Queen Mary
University of London

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:	MRes Public International Law
Name of interim award(s):	
Duration of study / period of registration:	1 year full time
QMUL programme code(s):	
QAA Benchmark Group:	Law
FHEQ Level of Award:	Level 7
Programme accredited by:	
Date Programme Specification approved:	
Responsible School / Institute:	School of Law

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

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

None

Programme outline

The MRes in Public International 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 Public International 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, combined with specialist study of public international law for those wishing to proceed to a PhD. The programme provides: advanced knowledge in the field of public international law.

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advanced and critical understanding of the current public international law system.
advanced training to carry out research on public international 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 public international law on real-world situations
A2	Show a critical understanding of the legal framework relating to public international 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 public international law at an advanced level
A4	Apply legal knowledge on public international 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 public international 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 public international 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 public international law
B4	Synthesise information from primary and secondary sources to achieve detailed knowledge and understanding of the law, case law, and relevant literature on public international 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

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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
C5	Take ownership and responsibility for own performance, organising time in an efficient and productive way
C6	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
C7	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.

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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.

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

Academic Year of Study   FT - Year 1

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Transnational Law and Governance in Practice	SOLM027	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Transnational Law and Governance Applied	SOLM028	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Investment Treaty Arbitration: Foundations, Jurisdiction and Procedure	SOLM047	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Investment Treaty Arbitration: Agreements and Substantive Protection	SOLM048	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
International and Comparative Social Rights	SOLM065	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Social Rights	SOLM066	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
International Law on the Rights of the Child	SOLM067	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
International Rights of the Child	SOLM068	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
International Human Rights Law: History, Theory and Politics	SOLM069	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
International Human Rights Law: Law, Practice and Institutions	SOLM070	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2

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Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Terrorism & Human Rights: Constitutional Perspectives	SOLM071	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
International Law and Indigenous People	SOLM072	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Secession and Self-Determination in International Law	SOLM074	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Law of Geographical Indications	SOLM088	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Use of Force in International Law	SOLM112	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Conduct of Hostilities in International Law	SOLM113	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Principles of International Criminal Law	SOLM114	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Enforcement of International Criminal Law	SOLM115	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Fundamental Questions in the Law of Treaties	SOLM116	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Special Areas in the Law of Treaties	SOLM117	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
International Tax Law	SOLM119	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
International Tax Law in Practice	SOLM120	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
International Law of the Sea	SOLM131	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Concepts in Natural Resources Law: Climate, Energy and Water	SOLM132	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Concepts in Natural Resources Law: Biodiversity, Human Rights and Trade	SOLM133	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
International Environmental Law	SOLM134	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Climate Change Law	SOLM136	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Water Law	SOLM137	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2

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Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
International Regulation of Shipping	SOLM146	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Law of the Sea: Navigational Freedoms and Practice	SOLM149	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Public International & European Air Transport Law	SOLM151	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Private International & European Air Transport Law	SOLM152	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
International Energy Law and Ethics	SOLM157	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Exploitation of Energy Resources in Disputed Areas	SOLM159	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Energy Decommissioning and Waste Management in International Law	SOLM169	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
International Refugee Law	SOLM171	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
International Migration Law	SOLM172	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Terrorism, Migration and Human Rights	SOLM175	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
International Investment Law	SOLM189	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Foreign Investments and Public Policy	SOLM190	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Legal Aspects of Financing Development	SOLM191	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
WTO Law: Fundamental Principles	SOLM192	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
WTO Law Domestic Regulations and Trade Remedies	SOLM193	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
International Economic Law	SOLM194	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Trade, Climate Change and Energy: EU and International Perspectives	SOLM196	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Crimes of the Powerful: State Crime	SOLM198	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2

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Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Cybercrime: Substantive Offences	SOLM207	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Cybercrime: Forensic Investigations	SOLM208	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Cyberspace: Jurisdiction and Dispute Resolution	SOLM211	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Dissertation	SOLM925	30	7	Compulsory	1	Semesters 1-3
Introduction to Social Science 2: Quantitative Methods and Data	POLM083	30	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 1
Introduction to Social Science 1: Epistemology, Research Design, and Qualitative Methods	POLM082	30	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 2

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 will the quality of the programme be managed and enhanced? How do we listen to 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.

What academic support is available?

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

Programme-specific rules and facts

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 Public International 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 Public International Law Law graduate will:
have knowledge of public international 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

Queen Mary
University of London

Programme Title: MRes Public International Law

Person responsible for management of programme:

Merris Amos

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

Date Programme Specification approved by Taught Programmes Board:

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