



LEEDS  
BECKETT  
UNIVERSITY

# Course Specification

LLM Legal  
Practice Course

Course Code: LLMLP

2021/22

## Award & Title

## LLM Legal Practice Course (LLMLP)

### Material Information Summary for 2021/22 Postgraduate Applicants

Confirmed at APR/2021

#### General Information

<b>Award</b>	Master of Laws Legal Practice
<b>Contained Awards</b>	Postgraduate Diploma Legal Practice
<b>Awarding Body</b>	Leeds Beckett University
<b>Level of Qualification &amp; Credits</b>	Level 7 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, with 180 credit points at Level 7 of the Higher Education Credit Framework for England
<b>Course Lengths &amp; Standard Timescales</b>	<p>Start dates will be notified to students via their offer letter. The length of the course is confirmed below and modes of delivery will be confirmed prior to the start date in line with Government guidance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1 year (full time)</li><li>• 2 year (full time)</li></ul>
<b>Part Time Study</b>	Both part time and full time delivery begin with the same four day Introductory Course. After that, part time delivery takes place over two evenings per week. Part time students will choose one elective module during their first year of study and the remaining two electives during their second year of study. Part time students commence it towards the end of their first year of study.
<b>Location(s) of Delivery</b>	City Campus, Leeds
<b>Entry Requirements</b>	<p>Admissions criteria are confirmed in your offer letter. Details of how the University recognises prior learning and supports credit transfer are located here:</p> <p><u><a href="http://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/studenthub/recognition-of-prior-learning">www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/studenthub/recognition-of-prior-learning</a></u>.</p>

Admissions enquiries may be directed to:  
[AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk).

Admission requirements for the course are that each applicant must:

- have completed the academic stage of training required by the Solicitors Regulation Authority; and
- satisfy the criteria for admission in accordance with the policies of the University and published admissions policy of the course.

Leeds Law School's criteria for selection to the LPC are:

- the applicant's academic record, for graduates, normally a minimum honours degree at 2:2 classification or above;
- the applicant's suitability for the course and commitment to the idea of qualifying as a solicitor.

Applications to the full time LPC are made through the agency of the Legal Practice Course Central Applications Board and in accordance with its procedures. Applications to the part time LPC are made directly to the University.

### **Course Fees**

Course fees and any additional course costs are confirmed in your offer letter. Fees enquiries may be directed to [Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk).

### **Timetable Information**

Timetables will be made available to students during induction week via:

- i) The Student Outlook Calendar
- ii) The Student Portal (MyBeckett)
- iii) The Leeds Beckett app

Any difficulties relating to timetabled sessions may be discussed with your Course Administrator.

Both part time and full time delivery begin with the same four day Introductory Course. After that, part time delivery takes place over two evenings per week. Part time students will choose one elective module during their first year of study and the remaining two electives during their second year of study. Full time delivery will generally take place over three days per week and full time students will choose three elective modules. Full time students commence the Independent Legal Research Project alongside their three elective modules whilst part time students commence it towards the end of their first year of study.

## **Policies, Standards and Regulations** ([www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/academicregulations](http://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/academicregulations))

There are non-standard regulations which relate to your course.

The assessment regulations for this course have been approved by the Solicitors Regulation Authority and those regulations derogate in some areas from the University's regulations. In the event of there being a conflict between the University's academic regulations and the requirements of the Solicitors Regulation Authority, the Solicitors Regulation Authority's regulations take precedence (currently in regards to the pass rate, the number of attempts at assessment, awards, mitigation procedures, academic offences). Full details of course regulations can be found in the LLM Legal Practice course handbook.

## **Key Contacts**

<b>Your Course Director</b>	Yvonne Marsh, <a href="mailto:y.marsh@leedsbeckett.ac.uk">y.marsh@leedsbeckett.ac.uk</a>
<b>Your Academic Advisor</b>	To be confirmed at induction
<b>Your Course Administrator</b>	LPC@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

## **Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course**

**Professional Body**                      Solicitors Regulation Authority

### **Accreditation/ Recognition Summary**

The Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) sets the standards for qualifying as a solicitor in England and Wales. The Legal Practice Course (the LPC) is part of the vocational stage of training for those who wish to qualify as solicitors in England and Wales and must be undertaken after the academic stage of training (a Qualifying Law Degree or Graduate Diploma in Law).

A new qualification route, the Solicitors Qualifying Examination (SQE) route, is to be introduced on 1 September 2021 however there will be a period of transition during which the current route to qualification, including the LPC, remains.

The LPC can be studied full time or part time with an authorised LPC provider. Leeds Beckett University is an authorised provider. The aim of the LPC is to prepare students for work-based learning and to provide a general foundation of practice. The LPC comprises two stages: Stage 1 comprises the core practice areas and skills; Stage 2 includes three vocational electives. The vocational stage of training also includes completion of a period of recognised training with an authorised training provider as well as completion of the Professionals Skills Course with an authorised education provider.

## **Course Overview**

### **Aims**

The aims of the programme are to:

- meet the Legal Practice Course Outcomes set by the Solicitors Regulation Authority;
- prepare students for work-based learning;
- provide a general foundation for practice in the solicitors profession;
- enable students to understand and explore concepts of professionalism and the demands of professional practice; and
- give students the opportunity to undertake a substantial piece of research.

On completion of the course, students should be able to commence or continue a period of work-based training with the necessary underpinning skills and knowledge which can then be enhanced and consolidated throughout the period of training and on into general practice.

Students successfully completing the LLM in Legal Practice will achieve an LLM award as well as the vocational qualification of the LPC.

### **Course Learning Outcomes**

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

- 1 Demonstrate and apply research skills appropriately in the context of complex law and legal practice
- 2 Critically analyse the client's needs and/or objectives, advise the client on the means of achieving those objectives and evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the choices available

- 3 Apply intellectual transferable legal skills as a means of achieving the client's objectives in a range of complex client transactions
- 4 Demonstrate a deep understanding of the rules of professional conduct with reference to their impact and the capability to apply them in the relevant context
- 5 Demonstrate critical knowledge and the ability to apply skills specified in the Solicitors Regulation Authority's Legal Practice Course Outcomes, including the ability to integrate and synthesise knowledge and skills in the relevant areas of practice
- 6 Demonstrate the qualities of the reflective practitioner through ongoing critical evaluation of their learning
- 7 Demonstrate a critical, ethical, and reflective approach to the responsibilities of a legal professional, and its relation to making complex professional judgements in practice
- 8 Demonstrate originality in the use of knowledge and the application of theory and techniques through the production of a significant piece of high-level independent scholarship addressing a question in the field of law

## **Teaching and Learning Activities**

### **Summary**

Teaching on the LLM Legal Practice is by way of workshops of three hours duration.

In each workshop students will be required to:

- develop their analytical skills;
- learn and develop practical skills; and
- understand the issues of professionalism that exist in relation to realistic client scenarios and simulated practice sessions.

Each workshop is supported by written course materials and online learning resources which can be accessed remotely via the University's virtual learning environment (MyBeckett).

No large group sessions will be delivered on the Legal Practice Course. Podcasts/narrated PowerPoints will be used to cover more complicated areas of law and issues.

The course (both full time and part time modes) will commence with a four day introductory period, which will enable students to study in some depth elements of the professional nature of the course and to appreciate how the course prepares them for work-based learning and for practice. In particular, students will consider the course skills.

Students will be provided with a course calendar and their timetable at the start of the course.

## **Your Modules**

This information is correct for students progressing through the programme within standard timescales. Students who are required to undertake repeat study may be taught alternate modules which meet the overall course learning outcomes. Details of module delivery will be provided in your timetable.

The LLM Legal Practice may be studied one year full time or over two years part time. The Solicitors Regulation Authority prescribes the content of the LPC component in two stages which may be delivered as a combined programme. The requirements for each stage are as follows:

### **STAGE 1**

Core practice areas:

- Business Law and Practice;
- Litigation (Civil and Criminal); and
- Property Law and Practice.

Course skills:

- Advocacy;
- Drafting;
- Interviewing and Advising;

- Practical Legal Research; and
- Writing.

Other core areas:

Professional Conduct and Regulation

Wills and Administration of Estates

Solicitors Accounts

Taxation

## STAGE 2

Students must choose and study three vocational electives.

The following elective modules are indicative of a typical year. There may be some variance in the availability of elective modules.

- Commercial Law and Practice
- Commercial Leases
- Commercial Dispute Resolution
- Employment Law and Practice
- Family Law and Practice
- Mental Health Law
- Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence
- Private Acquisitions

This range of vocational electives provides students with a choice of contentious and non-contentious practice areas which all complement and build on the concepts studied in the core practice areas.

In relation to the part time LPC, stages 1 and 2 are combined so that at the conclusion of the two-year period of study students will have demonstrated the learning outcomes for both stages.

## INDEPENDENT STUDY

- Independent Legal Research Project

## Level 7

At Level 7 students study a number of core modules that address Stage 1 and three optional modules that comprise Stage 2 of the LPC.

<b>Stage 1 (110 credits)</b>	<b>Core (Y/N)</b>
Business Law and Practice (BLP) (15 credits)	Y
Litigation – Civil and Criminal (30 credits)	Y
Property Law and Practice (PLP) (15 credits)	Y
Professional Conduct and Regulation (5 credits)	Y
Solicitors Accounts (5 credits)	Y
Wills and Administration of Estates (10 credits)	Y
Taxation (5 credits)	Y
Skills (each worth 5 credits) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Advocacy</li><li>• Drafting</li><li>• Interviewing and Advising</li><li>• Practical Legal Research</li><li>• Writing</li></ul>	Y

<b>Stage 2 (30 credits)</b>	<b>Core (Y/N)</b>
(each optional module is worth 10 credits) Commercial Law and Practice Commercial Leases Commercial Dispute Resolution Employment Law and Practice Family Law and Practice Mental Health Law Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence N Private Acquisitions	
Independent Legal Research Project (40 credits) CORE	Y

## Assessment Balance and Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities

The assessment balance and overall workload associated with this course are calculated from core modules and typical option module choices undertaken by students on the course. They have been reviewed and confirmed as representative by the Course Director but applicants should note that the specific option choices students make may influence both assessment and workload balance.

### Assessment

On this course students will be assessed by a varied diet of assessments which are matched to the learning outcomes and are primarily transactional in nature. Those deployed are designed to be rigorous, realistic and test the ability to analyse and apply knowledge. They include examinations, practical skills assessments,

multiple choice testing and written assignments. The Independent Legal Research Project is an independent study module, which will require the production of a research project of 12,000.

### Overall Workload for the Course

The number of hours of workload generally equates to 1800 for Masters programmes, corresponding to the national standard of 10 notional hours of learning for each UK HE credit point.

Teaching, Learning and Assessment	312 hours
Independent Study	1488 hours
Placement	1800 hours

### Learning Support

If you have a question or a problem relating to your course, your Course Administrator is there to help you. Course Administrators work closely with academic staff and can make referrals to teaching staff or to specialist professional services as appropriate. They can give you a confirmation of attendance letter, and a transcript. You may also like to contact your Course Rep or the Students' Union Advice team for additional support with course-related questions.

If you have any questions about life at our University in general, call into or contact the Student Advice Hub on either campus. This team, consisting of recent graduates and permanent staff, are available to support you throughout your time here. They will make sure you have access to and are aware of the support, specialist services, and opportunities our University provides. There is a Student Advice Hub on the ground floor of the Rose Bowl at City Campus and one in Campus Central at Headingley. You can also find the team in the Gateway in the Leslie Silver Building at City Campus. Email enquiries may be directed to [studentadvicehub@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:studentadvicehub@leedsbeckett.ac.uk).

Within MyBeckett you will see two tabs (Support and Opportunities) where you can find online information and resources for yourselves. The Support tab gives you access to details of services available to give you academic and personal support. These include Library Services, the Students' Union, Money advice, Disability advice and support, Wellbeing, International Student Services and Accommodation. There is also an A-Z of Support Services, and access to online appointments/registration.

The Opportunities tab is the place to explore the options you have for jobs, work placements, volunteering, and a wide range of other opportunities. For example, you can find out here how to get help with your CV, prepare for an interview, get a part-time job or voluntary role, take part in an international project, or join societies closer to home.

