



LEEDS
BECKETT
UNIVERSITY

Course Specification

MLaw: Law and Legal Practice

Course Code: MLWLP

2021/22

Award & Title MLaw: Law and Legal Practice (MLWLP)

Material Information Summary for 2021/22 Undergraduate Entrants

Confirmed at MAR/2021

General Information

Award	Master of Law: Law and Legal Practice
Contained Awards	Bachelor of Law (Honours) Bachelor of Law Bachelor of Law (Honours) Legal Studies Bachelor of Law Legal Studies Bachelor of Law (Honours) with Criminology (internal transfer students only) Bachelor of Law (Honours) with Finance (internal transfer students only) Bachelor of Law (Honours) with International Business and Management (internal transfer students only) Diploma of Higher Education in Law Certificate of Higher Education in Law
Awarding Body	Leeds Beckett University
Level of Qualification & Credits	Level 7 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, with 120 credit points at each of Levels 4, 5, 6 and 140 credit points at Level 7 of the UK Credit Framework for Higher Education (500 credits in total).
Course Lengths & Standard	
Timescales	Start dates will be notified to students via their offer letter. The length and mode of delivery of the course is confirmed below: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 4 years (full time, campus based)

- 5 years (including placement year or study abroad, campus based)

Location(s) of Delivery

City Campus, Leeds

Entry Requirements

Admissions criteria are confirmed in your offer letter. In order to progress to Level 7 you must have passed all the core modules at Levels 4 and 5 that relate to the legal foundations of knowledge and have attained the equivalent of at least a lower second class degree at Level 6.

Details of how the University recognises prior learning and supports credit transfer are located here: www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/studenthub/recognition-of-prior-learning.

Admissions enquiries may be directed to: AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk.

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.

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.

Policies, Standards and Regulations (www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/public-information)

There are additional and non-standard regulations which relate to your course and regulatory exemptions which apply. Full details of the regulatory exemptions can be found in the MLaw Law and Legal Practice course handbook.

Key Contacts

Your Course Directors	David Norris and Yvonne Marsh
Your Academic Advisor	Your Academic Advisor, drawn from the course team, will be assigned to you in induction week
Your Course Administrator	Can be contacted at law@leedsbeckett.ac.uk and on 0113 8129026

Sandwich or Other ‘In Year’ Work Placement Information

Summary

Students can elect to undertake a year-long work placement. The placement is undertaken between year 2 and year 3 (Level 5 and Level 6). The optional Level 6 Placement module (day-release) allows students to develop and enhance their transferable employability skills through the medium of their part time paid or voluntary work.

Location

Students are responsible for obtaining their own year-long placement, with assistance from the University. Students are also responsible for securing their day-release placements and these must be confirmed before the start of the relevant semester. The locations will vary, depending on the opportunity.

Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course

Professional Body

Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA)

Bar Standards Board (BSB)

Chartered Institute of Legal Executives (CILEx)

Accreditation/ Recognition Summary

At the time of validation of this programme, the professional, statutory and regulatory bodies (PSRBs), require the study of the legal foundations of knowledge as defined by the bodies as part of the academic stage of training. The SRA’s requirement in this respect continues to

apply to those students that started their legal studies prior to 31 August 2021, but not beyond that save for in certain limited circumstances.¹

Bar Standards Board

This course is compliant with the Bar Standard Boards for the completion of the academic stage of legal training.

<https://www.barstandardsboard.org.uk/training-qualification/bar-qualification-manual-new.html>

CILEx

Successful completion of a specified 60 credits at Level 6 (Client Care Skills, Civil Litigation and Conveyancing) and a qualifying law degree entitles the student to apply for graduate membership of the Chartered Institute of Legal Executives (CILEx). The student will be granted an exemption from the academic requirements for Graduate Membership.

A membership fee is applicable

https://www.cilex.org.uk/study/lawyer_qualifications/graduate_fasttrack_diploma

Course Overview

Aims

This Integrated Masters allows students to study the seven foundations of legal knowledge common to qualifying law degrees and as stipulated by the PSRBs, to have a broad third year comprised of optional modules and then to specialise in the fourth year of their study with a focus on legal practice that incorporates the SRA's requirements for the Legal Practice Course (LPC). The LPC is part of the vocational stage of training for those who wish to qualify as solicitors in England and Wales. The course must be undertaken after the

¹ For the SRA's position see, <https://www.sra.org.uk/sra/news/sqe-update/>

academic stage of training (a Qualifying Law Degree or Graduate Diploma in Law). Students will only be able to progress to their fourth year of study if they have passed all core modules at Levels 4 and 5 that relate to the legal foundations of knowledge and have attained at Level 6 the equivalent of at least a lower second class degree.

The LPC route to qualification is to be superseded by the Solicitors Qualifying Examination (SQE) route, however there is a transitional period during which the LPC remains. At the time of validation, the Integrated Masters, Master of Law: Law and Legal Practice offers students the opportunity to develop the skills, knowledge and competencies required for ultimate qualification as a solicitor. In doing so, it prepares students for work-based learning, it allows them to understand and explore concepts of professionalism and the demands of professional practice.

The course is therefore designed to provide students with a breadth and depth of legal knowledge that goes beyond the three-year LLB programme. During their first three years of study, students undertake the LLB programme currently delivered by the Law School. Levels 4 and 5 include the seven legal foundations of knowledge. Modules focus primarily upon domestic law, with some study of the impact of regional EU law and human rights law on domestic legislation and legal development, with the option to choose two optional modules in level 5 (see list below). A broad choice of optional modules is offered in Level 6, providing the opportunity for students to focus on more specialised aspects of national law in particular. Students have the option to undertake certain legal practice based modules, including a Law Clinic module, a Placement module and those that form part of the CILEx Pathway (see below). The fourth year, Level 7, builds on the legal knowledge that students acquire during their first three years of study. It provides a solid grounding in the vocational aspects of law and legal practice by integrating the Legal Practice Course, a course that is accredited by the SRA. This includes the study of core practice areas: Business Law and Practice, Civil and Criminal Litigation, Property Law and Practice; the study of core subjects: Professional Conduct and Regulation, Wills and Administration of Estates, Solicitors Accounts, Taxation; the study and practice of legal skills: Advocacy, Drafting, Interviewing and Advising, Practical Legal Research, Writing; and the study of three optional modules with a specific focus on a specialised practice area.

This course develops students beyond the confines of the Law School's LLB programmes by providing a practical and experiential learning space in which to develop fundamental knowledge, skills and competencies specific to legal practice. Students will study the full suite of modules that form part of the Legal Practice Course in a way that directly builds upon their foundational learning from the first three years of the course, preparing them to enter the world of legal practice.

Course Learning Outcomes

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

1. analyse and synthesise concepts in order to devise realistic and coherent strategic solutions to legal problems, conflicts and tensions in law;
2. evaluate how the rule of law applies within legal, social, economic, commercial, political, historical, ethical and/or cultural contexts;
3. combine, integrate and synthesise knowledge and skills in areas of legal practice, and have a deep understanding of the rules of professional conduct;
4. demonstrate a critical, ethical, and reflective approach to the responsibilities of a legal professional, and its relation to making complex professional judgements in practice;
5. synthesise knowledge, skills and attributes in the context of employability and/or study including communication skills and the effective use of legal terminology;
6. demonstrate self-direction and autonomy through the production of a piece of independent research.

Teaching and Learning Activities

Summary

The student cohort for MLaw: Law and Legal Practice will typically be diverse - students studying the Law School's LLB programme come from a range of backgrounds. Whilst this course will be open to applicants via UCAS it is also envisaged that students on the Law School's other LLB programmes may seek to transfer to this course part way through their studies.

The learning and teaching strategy for the course is compliant with the University's Education Strategy 2016-21. The Course Team is committed to the values articulated in the Strategy (transforming students into sophisticated, independent critical thinkers, able to apply their knowledge with originality within advanced academic and professional contexts). Students are at the centre of the Law School's activities by providing a flexible and relevant curriculum with excellent teaching and learning. Team members are committed to the development of their own areas of professional practice and specialisms and this contributes hugely to the quality of learning and teaching experienced by students.

The course is delivered by a combination of large and small group sessions. In small group sessions tutor involvement is aimed at increasing students' critical engagement with the

subject material and may include planning activities for students using PowerPoint, presentations, and Q&A sessions. The learning and teaching strategy to be used by each module is articulated in the respective Module Specification, but for every module there are arrangements for both individual and group tutor feedback on student activities.

In teaching activities, students will respond to the tutor-prepared materials, tasks, problems and questions, with a focus upon student-led evaluation and critique of issues. Module materials provide a framework for conceptual, theoretical and experiential learning. Small group sessions provide an important opportunity for students to learn by interacting with their tutors and peers and sharing their experiences and perspectives. Students will be given the opportunity to relate material covered to current themes of the course namely, the seven legal foundations of knowledge, their Level 6 optional modules and, in their fourth year, the practical application of theory to a legal working environment and the conduct of realistic practice-based transactions.

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.

Level 4: Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
English Legal System, Methods and Skills (20 credits)	Y	Criminal Law (20 credits)	Y
Public Law (20 credits)	Y	Tort Law (20 credits)	Y
The Law of Contract (20 credits)	Y	Career Development (20 credits)	Y

Option modules as listed are indicative of a typical year. There may be some variance in the availability of option modules and the semester they are delivered in.

Level 5: Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Applied Criminal Law (20 credits)	Y	Equity and Trusts (20 credits)	Y
Property Law (20 credits)	Y	The Law of the European Union (20 credits)	Y

Optional module (20 credits): Commercial Law or Medical law or Perspectives on Law & Society	N	Optional module (20 credits): Advocacy or International Trade Law or Family law	N
--	---	--	---

At Level 6 there are no core modules. Students choose their modules equating to 120 credits. This will be 6 x 20 credit modules, or students can choose to undertake a 40 credit dissertation or extended study module alongside 4 x 20 credit modules.

Option modules as listed are indicative of a typical year. There may be some variance in the availability of option modules and the semester they are delivered in.

Level 6: Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Indicative optional modules (20 credits) Child Law Client Care Skills Conveyancing Company Law Competition Law Criminal Evidence Employment Law Intellectual Property Law Law Clinic Placement (day release)	N	Indicative optional modules (20 credits) Civil Litigation International Human Rights Law Law Clinic Law in Literature and the Arts Media and Entertainment Law UK Anti-Terrorism Law & Policy	N
		Two semester optional modules: Dissertation (40 credits) Company Law extended study (40 credits) Employment Law extended study (40 credits)	

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.

Stage 1 (110 credits)	Core (Y/N)
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">• Advocacy• Drafting• Interviewing and Advising• Practical Legal Research• Writing	Y

Stage 2 (30 credits)	Core (Y/N)
(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 Private Acquisitions	N

Assessment Balance and Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities by Level

The assessment balance and overall workload associated with this course are calculated from core modules and optional module choices undertaken by students on the course. They have been reviewed and confirmed as representative by the Course Director.

A 20 credit module (standard in Levels 4, 5 and 6) equates to 200 notional learning hours, which may be comprised of teaching, learning and assessment, any embedded placement activities and independent study. At Level 7, the credit value of modules ranges from 5 credits, equating to 50 notional learning hours to 30 credits, equating to 300 notional learning hours. Modules may have more than one component of assessment.

Assessment

Level 4 is assessed predominantly by coursework, with some examinations and practical assessments.

Level 5 is assessed by coursework, examination and with some practical assessments.

Level 6 comprises 100% optional modules, therefore the assessment balance will depend on the optional modules chosen by students.

Level 7 comprises core and optional modules that are assessed primarily through written examination, although some modules are assessed by coursework and others by oral assessment.

Workload

The number of hours of workload generally equates to 1200 hours per level for levels 4, 5, and 6, and 1400 hours for level 7, corresponding to the national standard of 10 notional hours of learning for each UK HE credit point.

Overall Workload	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6	Level 7
Teaching, Learning and Assessment	297 hours	297 hours	226 hours	300 hours
Independent Study	903 hours	903 hours	974 hours	1100 hours
Placement	-	-	75 hours (optional)	-

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 Representative 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.

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.