



LEEDS
BECKETT
UNIVERSITY

Course Specification

MSc Construction Law & Dispute Resolution

Course Code: CLAWD

2024/25

MSc Construction Law & Dispute Resolution (CLAWD)

Applicant Facing Course Specification for 2024/25 Postgraduate Entrants

Confirmed at 11/2023

General Information

Award	Master of Science Construction Law & Dispute Resolution
Contained Awards	Postgraduate Diploma Construction Law & Dispute Resolution Postgraduate Certificate Construction Law & Dispute Resolution
Awarding Body	Leeds Beckett University
Level of Qualification and Credits	Level 7 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, with 180 credit points at Level 7 of the Higher Education Credit Framework for England.
Course Lengths and 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">• 2 years (part time, distance learning)• 4 years (part time, distance learning)
Part Time Study	PT delivery is usually at half the intensity of the FT equivalent course, although there may be flexibility to increase your pace of study to shorten the overall course duration. Some modules may be delivered in a different sequence from that defined within this information set.
Location(s) of Delivery	Distance Learning
Entry Requirements	Admissions criteria are confirmed in your offer letter. Details of how the University recognises prior learning and supports credit transfer are located here: https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/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 for Semester 1 will be made available to students during induction week via:

- i) The Student Portal (MyBeckett)
- ii) 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/academicregulations)

There are no additional or non-standard regulations which relate to your course.

Key Contacts

Your Course Director

Katherine Dunn

Your Academic Advisor

Each student will be allocated an Academic Advisor once they commence their studies at the University.

Your Course Administrator

Sarah Thomson (sarah.thomson@leedsbeckett.ac.uk)

Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course

Professional Body

Chartered Institute of Arbitrators

Accreditation/ Recognition Summary

Recognition from the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators has been granted for the MSc course on their Arbitration, International Arbitration and Adjudication pathways to exempt a student from the examination requirements for Membership.

Course Overview

Aims

The aims of the programme are to:

- To provide an effective, coherent and intellectually challenging postgraduate education in construction law and dispute resolution;

- To enhance students' abilities in the identification and evaluation of appropriate decision making strategies;
- To develop research capability and cognitive skills which enable students to analyse problems in their professional context.

Course Learning Outcomes

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

1	Critically evaluate construction contract doctrines and drafting.
2	Exhibit innovative practice and sound professional knowledge, skill and values in the arena of conflict management and dispute resolution.
3	Professionally engage in effective means for the avoidance and resolution of construction disputes.
4	Exercise a high level of skill and competence in the fields of an expert witness, construction lawyer, adjudicator, arbitrator and mediator providing professional judgement in areas of construction law, and the practice and procedure of dispute resolution relevant to the student's professional environment.
5	Exercise sound professional judgement, critically evaluating the perspectives of other professionals and making a positive, informed contribution to matters outside their areas of expertise in the context of construction law and dispute resolution issues.

Teaching and Learning Activities

Summary

The course is offered on a distance learning basis only. Lectures are pre-recorded, with supporting live tutorials delivered online via Microsoft Teams (which are recorded and made available to all students). This facility allows regular contact with teaching staff.

The course employs a Learning and Teaching Strategy which seeks to bring together knowledge, skills and understanding. These will enable students to become effective and critically aware in the identification and evaluation of appropriate decision-making strategies, and to develop research capability and cognitive skills necessary to analyse and resolve problems in their professional context. The acquisition of knowledge and skills is seen as progressive and cumulative as students gain capability and move towards greater independence.

The professional research module is managed through the usual online classes and then by assigning students to individual tutors to supervise the development of the research paper. The supervisor will undertake further individual tutorials and/or online meetings with the student.

Students are expected to undertake background reading each week, both to enhance knowledge and critical awareness and to inform class discussions during the online workshop sessions. The move to increasing levels of student independence is progressive through the course with students expected to demonstrate a substantial degree of initiative and self-reliance in the Professional Research module.

There are multiple opportunities for students to consider research papers across the entire programme. The online library contains numerous excellent databases including Lawtel, Westlaw and Lexis which give access to a number of high level research papers in this sphere of study. Students are also directed to the repositories of a number of learned societies including the Society of Construction Law, The Adjudication Society, and the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. Finally the Course Director maintains her own repository of all past dissertations and research papers which have been submitted on this course since 1996 and are made available to students via the relevant VLEs.

The Professional Research module requires students to develop their own publishable research paper and part of the formative assessment on that module is to evaluate and critique previously published material in order to develop an appreciation of the standards required of their own material.

Your Modules

This information is correct for students progressing through the programme within standard timescales. Option modules listed are indicative of a typical year. There may be some variance in the availability of option modules. 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.

2 Year Route

Level 7 (Year 1)			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Law of Obligations (20 credits)	Y	Construction Law Principles (20 credits)	Y
Adjudication: Law & Practice (20 credits)	Y	Arbitration: Law & Practice (20 credits) Or International Arbitration: Law & Practice (20 credits)	Y

Level 7 (Year 2)			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Commercial Mediation (20 credits)	Y	Law & Practice of Claims (20 credits)	Y
Adjudication Decision Writing (10 credits)	Y	Arbitration Award Writing (10 credits) Or	Y

Level 7 (Year 2)			
		International Arbitration Award Writing (10 credits)	
Professional Research (40 credit module spans both semesters)	Y	Professional Research (40 credits module spans both semesters)	Y

4 Year Route

Level 7 (Year 1)			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Law of Obligations (20 credits)	Y	Construction Law Principles (20 credits)	Y

Level 7 (Year 2)			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Adjudication: Law & Practice (20 credits)	Y	Arbitration: Law & Practice (20 credits) Or International Arbitration: Law & Practice (20 credits)	Y

Level 7 (Year 3)			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Commercial Mediation (20 credits)	Y	Law & Practice of Claims (20 credits)	Y
Adjudication Decision Writing (10 credits)	Y	Arbitration Award Writing (10 credits) Or International Arbitration Award Writing (10 credits)	Y

Level 7 (Year 4)			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)

Level 7 (Year 4)			
Professional Research (40 credit module spans both semesters)	Y	Professional Research (40 credit module spans both semesters)	Y

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

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.

A standard module equates to 200 notional learning hours, which may be comprised of teaching, learning and assessment, any embedded placement activities and independent study. Modules may have more than one component of assessment.

Assessment

On this course students will be assessed by a range of methods, including examinations, assignments, simulated professional practice, presentations and a dissertation.

Workload

Overall Workload	
Teaching, Learning and Assessment	450 hours
Independent Study	1350 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.

Student Services

If you have any questions about life at University, call into our Student Services Centre at either campus or contact Student Advice directly. This team, consisting of trained officers and advisers 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. They also work on a wide range of projects throughout the year all designed to enhance your student experience and ensure you make the most of your

time with us. Student Advice are located in the Student Services Centre in the Leslie Silver Building at City Campus and on the ground floor of the Priestley Building at Headingley Campus. The team can also be contacted via email at studentadvice@leedsbeckett.ac.uk, telephone on 0113 812 3000, or by accessing our online chat link, available on the student homepage.

Support and opportunities

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, 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, apply for a voluntary role, take part in an international project, or join societies closer to home.