



LEEDS
BECKETT
UNIVERSITY

Course Specification

LLM in Legal Practice

Section 1: On Campus

Section 2: Distance Learning

Course Code: LLMLP

2024/25

Section 1: On Campus

Award and Title LLM Legal Practice (LLMLP)

Applicant Facing Course Specification for 2024/25 Postgraduate Entrants

Confirmed at Dec/2023

General Information

| | |
|---|--|
| Award | Master of Laws Legal Practice |
| Contained Awards | Postgraduate Diploma Legal Practice |
| 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 | <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">• 1 year (full time)• 2 year (part time) |
| Part Time Study | PT 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. |
| Location of Delivery | Most of the teaching will be at City campus but on occasion may be at Headingley campus. |
| Entry Requirements | <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>https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning/</p> |

Admissions enquiries may be directed to:
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 LLM Legal Practice 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 LLM Legal Practice are made through the agency of the Law Central Applications Board (Law CABs) 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.

Timetable Information

Timetables for Semester 1 will be made available to students at the welcome / induction 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)

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). The course

has a regulatory exemption in relation to the credit required for a Postgraduate Diploma. Full details of course regulations can be found in the LLM Legal Practice course handbook.

Key Contacts

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Your Course Director | Yvonne Flynn |
| Your Academic Advisor | To be confirmed at welcome / induction |
| Your Course Administrator | 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. This LLM Legal Practice comprises the Legal Practice Course (the LPC) (140 credits) and a dissertation element (40 credits). 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, was introduced on 1 September 2021. There is a period of transition during which the current route to qualification, including the LPC, remains. Student eligibility to follow the LPC route is subject to the provisions of the SRA, and all applicants are responsible for ensuring they satisfy the SRA requirements for study and qualification via the LPC route - <https://www.sra.org.uk/become-solicitor/legal-practice-course-route/transitional-arrangements/>.

The LPC can be studied full time or part time with an authorised LPC provider. Leeds Beckett University is an authorised provider, and this LLM Legal Practice is recognised by the SRA. 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. Students progress through Stages 1 and 2 and receive legal research teaching and supervision in support of their final independent legal research project (dissertation).

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 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 Legal Practice will achieve a 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 this distance learning LLM Legal Practice is by way of workshops of three hours duration,.

Prior to and during workshops, and in reflecting upon and consolidating their learning, 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 will be used to cover more complicated areas of law and issues.

The course (both full time and part time modes) will commence with an induction session, which will emphasise to the students the professional nature of the course and how the course prepares them for work-based learning and for practice.

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

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:

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) (including core practice areas – CPAs) | Core (Y/N) |
|---|------------|
| Business Law and Practice (BLP) (15 credits) (CPA) | Y |
| Litigation – Civil and Criminal (30 credits) (CPA) | Y |

| Stage 1 (110 credits) (including core practice areas – CPAs) | Core (Y/N) |
|--|-------------------|
| Property Law and Practice (PLP) (15 credits) (CPA) | 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 elective module is worth 10 credits) | N |
| 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 | |

| Independent Legal Research Project (40 credits) | Core (Y/N) |
|--|-------------------|
| Research project of 12,000 words | Y |

The 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.

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 15 credit module equates to 150 notional learning hours, 10 credits to 100 notional learning hours, and so on, 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 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 **open book examinations**, practical skills assessments, multiple choice testing and written assignments.

Workload

The number of hours of workload generally corresponds to the national standard of 10 notional hours of learning for each UK HE credit point.

| Overall Workload | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| Teaching, Learning and Assessment | 264 hours |
| Independent Study | 1,536 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, 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.

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| Commercial Leases | |
| Commercial Dispute Resolution | |
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The number of hours of workload generally corresponds to the national standard of 10 notional hours of learning for each UK HE credit point.

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| Teaching, Learning and Assessment | 264 hours |
| Independent Study | 1,536 hours |

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Support and opportunities

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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.