



LEEDS  
BECKETT  
UNIVERSITY

# Course Specification

## LLM Digital Dispute Resolution

Course Code: LDIDR

2026/27

# LLM Digital Dispute Resolution (LDIDR)

## Applicant Facing Course Specification for 2026/27 Entrants

Confirmed at 10/2025

### General Information

<b>Award</b>	LLM Digital Dispute Resolution
<b>Contained awards</b>	None
<b>Awarding body</b>	Leeds Beckett University
<b>Level of qualification and credits</b>	Level 7 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, with <b>60 credit points</b> at Level 7 of the Higher Education Credit Framework for England.
<b>Course lengths and standard timescales</b>	<p>Start dates will be notified to students via their offer letter. The length and mode of delivery of the course is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 6 months (full time)</li><li>• 18 months (part time)</li></ul>
<b>Part time study</b>	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.
<b>Location(s) of delivery</b>	This is a distance learning course.
<b>Entry requirements</b>	<p>Applicants must possess a recognised dispute resolution qualification, such as a mediation certificate, and have been working/have recent experience in the field of dispute resolution.</p> <p>This award enables students to top-up their existing qualifications to a Masters degree through undertaking a dissertation or portfolio based on their dispute resolution practice and experience.</p> <p>Admissions criteria are confirmed in your offer letter. Details of how the University recognises prior learning and supports credit transfer are located here: <a href="http://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning">www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning</a></p> <p>Admissions enquiries may be directed to: <a href="mailto:AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk">AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk</a>.</p>
<b>Course fees</b>	<p>Course fees are confirmed in your offer letter. A breakdown of any additional costs is included on the online prospectus entry for this course.</p> <p>Fees enquiries may be directed to <a href="mailto:Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk">Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk</a>.</p>

## Policies, Standards and Regulations

[www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/our-university/public-information/academic-regulations](http://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/our-university/public-information/academic-regulations)

Standard regulations apply to this course.

## Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course

### Professional body

Not applicable.

### Accreditation/recognition summary

None.

## Timetable

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.

## Key Contacts

### Your course director

Dr. Pavel Repyeuski [P.Repyeuski@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:P.Repyeuski@leedsbeckett.ac.uk)

### Your course administrator

Academic Services Team: [pgdl@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:pgdl@leedsbeckett.ac.uk)

## Course Overview

### Aims

Graduates of this course will have completed a period of independent study supported by research methods training and subject specific supervision. To enter this course, applicants will normally be a legal professional (solicitor or barrister) and possess a recognised dispute resolution qualification, such as a mediation certificate, and have been working/have recent experience in the field of dispute resolution.

The course will typically foster the following attributes:

- An in-depth knowledge and understanding of their subject, informed by current practice, scholarship and research, including a critical awareness of current issues and developments in digital dispute resolution and the profession;
- A range of generic abilities and skills that include the ability to use initiative and take responsibility; solve problems in creative and innovative ways; and continue to learn independently and to develop professionally.

The course, therefore, aims:

- To allow students to draw upon their professional digital dispute resolution experience to undertake a piece of legal research and academic writing, under the guidance of a supervisor
- To critically examine the impact of digitalisation on legal and dispute resolution practice and demonstrate knowledge of digital tools used in mediation, arbitration, or online courts

- To enable students to produce this work by developing their critical awareness and by applying appropriate scholarly and/or practice-based methodologies to their investigations of digital dispute resolution.

### Course learning outcomes

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

1	Formulate and execute a plan for practice based legal research in an independently identified topic in the field of digital dispute resolution and investigate a question capable of sustaining a substantial piece of academic writing
2	Demonstrate a systematic understanding of the knowledge and important arguments at the forefront of digital dispute resolution practice and/or scholarship and digital tools used in mediation, arbitration, or online courts, by identifying, evaluating and synthesising primary and secondary research material relevant to a chosen area of enquiry
3	Show originality and critical insight in the use of knowledge and the application of theory to produce a work of independent scholarship by critically examining the impact of digitalisation on legal and dispute resolution practices
4	Evaluate various research methodologies and adopt, with justification, a methodological approach appropriate to the question being investigated
5	Develop an ethical approach to the application of legal principles in their field of enquiry

### Teaching and Learning Activities

#### Your modules

The award commences with an introduction to dissertation study and work on advanced legal research skills. The research methods training includes sessions on:

- What is (legal) research?
- Advanced Legal Research Methods
- Other relevant research methodologies and methods
- Academic skills such as Literature Reviewing, Academic Writing and Developing Arguments

At the end of this first phase students will submit a research design for review and then work with their supervisors to produce their final dissertation.

The relationship between supervisors and students will concentrate on developing and supporting students' autonomy as practice-based researchers. To encourage autonomy, students will be offered appropriate guidance by their supervisors in their chosen fields as follows:

- Current practice-based and/or academic critical debates and problematic areas;
- Methodologies appropriate to the inquiry;
- Formulating a research question and strategy;
- Originality of insights and self-expression;
- Locating and developing sources; and
- Structuring and presenting information and ideas appropriate to a Master's dissertation.

The dissertation is an exercise in autonomous student learning involving sustained research and a substantial piece of writing under the guidance of the dissertation supervisor. The dissertation topic must

relate to digital dispute resolution. The supervisor will guide a student on the planning and execution of the dissertation, the development of ideas and the organisation and structure of the work.

The dissertation can either be a traditional research dissertation or a reflective portfolio or work done in practice. The reflective portfolio will incorporate confidential case studies from practice, and utilise a reflective theory and other relevant scholarship to reflect on the work conducted. Information regarding the two possible dissertation choices will be provided during the start of the course, and students will be further guided by their supervisor. The preparation of the dissertation will engage students with knowledge at the forefront of the disciplines concerned.

### Level 7

Students will complete a core 60 credit dissertation module.

#### **Compulsory modules**

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Dissertation	60	Year-long
Number of credits of compulsory modules	60	

### **Assessment 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 60-credit point module equates to 600 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**

##### **Level 7**

There is a major independent study module which is assessed by a 15,000 words dissertation.

#### **Workload**

Overall Workload	Level 7
Teaching, learning and assessment	30 hours
Independent study	570 hours
Overall	600 hours