



LEEDS
BECKETT
UNIVERSITY

Course Specification

MLaw Law and Professional Legal Practice

Course Code: MLPPR

2026/27

leedsbeckett.ac.uk

MLaw Law and Professional Legal Practice (MLPPR)

Applicant Facing Course Specification for 2025/26 Entrants

Confirmed February 2026

General Information

Award	<p>Master of Law: Law and Professional Legal Practice</p> <p>If you opt to undertake a full year placement and this is completed successfully you will have the words 'with placement year' added to the award title including for any contained awards that you are eligible for.</p>
Contained awards	<p>Bachelor of Law (Honours) Law Bachelor of Law (Honours) with Criminology (internal transfer students only) Bachelor of Law (Level 6) Diploma of Higher Education Law (Level 5) Certificate of Higher Education Law (Level 4) Certificate in Law (Level 4)</p> <p>If you have opted to undertake a full year placement and complete this successfully you will achieve an additional 120 credit points at level 5. This will be included in your transcript.</p>
Awarding body	<p>Leeds Beckett University</p>
Level of qualification and credits	<p>Level 7 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, with 120 credit points at each of Levels 4, 5, 6 and 7 of the UK Credit Framework for Higher Education (480 credits in total).</p> <p>If you have opted to undertake a full year placement and complete this successfully you will achieve an additional 120 credit points at level 5. This will be included in your transcript.</p>
Course lengths and standard timescales	<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">• 4 years (full time, campus based)• 5 years (full time, campus based, with placement year – if applicable)
Location(s) of delivery	<p>The majority of teaching will be at City campus but on occasion may be at Headingley campus.</p>
Entry requirements	<p>Admissions criteria are confirmed in your offer letter. Admissions criteria are confirmed in your offer letter. In order to progress to</p>

Level 7, you must have attained the equivalent of at least an upper second class (2:1) LLB degree at Level 6.

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 are confirmed in your offer letter. A breakdown of any additional costs is included on the online prospectus entry for this course.

Fees enquiries may be directed to Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk.

Policies, Standards and Regulations

www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/our-university/public-information/academic-regulations

There are additional or non-standard regulations which relate to your course. An exemption from the standard university regulations on student progression from Level 4 and Level 6 are in place.

For Level 4 progression the exemptions are for students to achieve 40% or more in at least 90 credits at this level and they are not required to submit in every specified component of assessment, providing the remaining standard progression criteria is met.

For Level 6 progression the exemptions are for students to have the equivalent of a 2:1 upon completion of Level 6, alongside the remaining standard progression criteria.

Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course

Professional body

Not applicable.

Accreditation/recognition summary

Whilst this course is not accredited by the Bar Standards Board it is compliant with the academic component of Bar training: www.barstandardsboard.org.uk/training-qualification/becoming-a-barrister/academic-component.html.

Placement Information

Summary

The course contains a placement year and a modular placement.

Leeds Beckett is dedicated to improving the employability of our students and one of the ways in which we do this is to support our students to gain valuable work experience through work-based placements. Students can elect to undertake a work placement year between levels 5 and 6 (Year 2 and 3 full time). The

level 6 optional placement modules (day-release and summer) enable students to undertake a placement as part of their level 6 study.

Length

Placement (year-long): 40 week placement undertaken between levels 5 and 6.

Work-Based Learning (Placement): work-based learning/placement undertaken over the course of one semester (minimum 1 day per week) during level 6. This module allows students to develop and enhance their transferable employability skills through the medium of their part time paid or voluntary work.

Work-Based Learning (Summer Placement): work-based learning/placement undertaken over the summer holidays, in between levels 5 and 6. Minimum placement length of eighty hours.

Placement Delivery

For all placement options, students are responsible for identifying a suitable placement, with the support of the University placement team and placement module leader. Some brokered placements are available but the School does not guarantee a brokered placement for its students.

Location

Locations will vary. Students are responsible for identifying a suitable placement location, with the support of the University placement team and placement module leader.

Approval

Whilst students source their own placements, they will need to meet requirements which will be outlined before module enrolment.

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

David Norris: david.norris@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Your course administrator

Academic Services Team: Law@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Course Overview

Aims

This Integrated Masters engages students in pursuing and acquiring a comprehensive knowledge and dynamic understanding of the law. In the fourth and final year, the focus is on supporting students that are aspiring solicitors to prepare for working in legal practice and to undertake the externally set SQE1 (Solicitors Qualifying Examination), for which there is a separate fee payable to the SRA (Solicitors Regulation Authority). Those wishing to qualify as a solicitor in England and Wales must pass SQE1 and SQE2 and complete a period of qualifying work experience (QWE). The SRA regulates the qualification of solicitors and full details can be found on the [SRA website](#). For the avoidance of doubt, Leeds Beckett does

not award the SQE1 or 2 as part of this, or any other, programme – the SQE comprises externally set assessments overseen by the SRA.

The curriculum and structure of the course has been designed to develop academic, practical, digital and employability skills. Students will participate in a range of learning activities and authentic assessment tasks over the course of their studies and at each stage they will be supported to become independent learners in the discipline of law, and have the opportunity to develop the skills, knowledge and competencies required for ultimate qualification as a solicitor. In doing so, the MLaw prepares students for work-based learning, it allows them to understand and explore concepts of professionalism and the demands of professional practice. As a result, students who successfully complete the MLaw have a range of skills and attributes on graduation as a solid foundation upon which to build their legal career, or non-legal career should they choose not to progress to qualification.

The MLaw provides students with the opportunity to select a portfolio of modules that aligns with their career aspirations and interests as they grow and take shape.

During the first year of the Course students study the compulsory modules of Public Law, Contract Law, and Criminal Law, as well as English Legal System, and Legal and Employability Skills. Building on the core knowledge studied in the first year, during the second and third years of the Course students have a choice of elective modules including Property Law and Tort Law in the second year, and Equity and Trusts, and European Law in Context in the third year.

Those students enrolling on the MLaw programme will normally be aspiring solicitors. However, it is recognised that aspirations and circumstances change and so the MLaw gives students the flexibility to study the blend of modules that interests them and/or is more relevant for their graduate future. Students may choose to exit the four year course at the end of level 6 should they prefer to pursue a non-legal career (and so not wish to progress to SQE), or a career as a barristers (Bar Standards Board www.barstandardsboard.org.uk/training-qualification/becoming-a-barrister/vocational-component.html) or a legal executive (Chartered Institute of Legal Executives (CILEx) www.cilex.org.uk/cilex_lawyer/about_cpq/cpq_advanced).

The MLaw offers a range of practical, vocational electives, such as Client Care Skills in the second year, and the Law Clinic in the third year. Students can also undertake work-based learning /placement modules (over a year, a semester, or over the summer vacation), thus broadening their CVs and enhancing their prospects of securing graduate positions in the industry of their choice. The skills and experience learnt in these modules will support graduate careers in legal, and also non legal, environments.

Course learning outcomes

At 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 in planning and managing study and research tasks with limited guidance and with an ability to identify and utilise relevant resources effectively
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Teaching and Learning Activities

Summary

The student cohort for MLaw: Law and Professional Legal Practice will typically be diverse - students studying Law at Leeds Law School 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 LLB programmes may seek to transfer to this course part way through their studies.

The MLaw aims to create a flexible and stimulating learning environment. By being able to choose their palette of modules, students are able to tailor their degree to their career aspirations. This, with the culture of high expectation and confidence in our student cohorts, and the Law School's enrichment programme, gives students the opportunity to develop and work towards their academic and career goals.

At Level 4, the emphasis is upon transition and engagement, enabling all students to understand, and meet the challenges of learning within a University as self-directed learners and supporting their success at the next levels of their course. At Level 5, the focus is upon consolidation and deeper contextualisation. At this intermediate stage, students will become more immersed in their legal studies, and able to reflect critically both upon its nature and place within their future professional and/or academic lives. The emphasis at Level 6 is upon strengthening and developing independence and the further growth of students as critical thinkers, increasingly knowledgeable and reflective, both about their own academic development and about the research environment of their subject. Progressing to level 7, students are supported through a range of ways to transform into sophisticated, independent, critical thinkers, able to apply their knowledge with originality within advanced academic and professional contexts.

Learning and teaching activities include recorded material, lectures, and seminars. Learning tasks and assessments are authentic as they are heavily based around real life problem situations and require students to give legal advice. Module materials provide a framework for conceptual, theoretical and experiential learning. Seminar preparation and activities are designed to challenge students, requiring them to adapt to different situations, employ different skills and perform similar tasks to those they might be required to do in the workplace. Students are encouraged to reflect on tasks and be more mindful of what they are doing and why, and of how the skills they are learning might be used in different situations to practically apply knowledge and 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. 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.

Level 4

At Level 4, students study core modules. There are no optional modules. Three modules are worth 30 credits and are studied over semester 1 and semester 2. English Legal System and Legal and Employability Skills are worth 15 credits and are each studied over one semester each.

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Contract Law	30	Year-long
Criminal Law	30	Year-long
English Legal System	15	1
Legal and Employability Skills	15	2
Public Law	30	Year-long
Number of credits of compulsory modules	120	

Level 5

Option modules

At Level 5, all modules are optional. Students who wish to pursue a legal career will be guided towards the Recommended Electives of Property Law and Tort Law which are each worth 30 credits and are delivered over two semesters.

All other electives are worth 15 credits*. These 15 credit electives are each delivered over one semester.

* *Commercial Law is a 20 credit module which is core for another course. If students choose this module they would achieve 125 credits in level 5.*

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Recommend elective: Property Law	30	Year-long
Recommend elective: Tort Law	30	Year-long
Advocacy	15	Either semester 1 or semester 2 (but not both)
Child Law	15	Either semester 1 or semester 2 (but not both)
Client Care Skills	15	Either semester 1 or semester 2 (but not both)
Construction Law	15	Either semester 1 or semester 2 (but not both)
Family Law	15	Either semester 1 or semester 2 (but not both)
Legal Tech	15	Either semester 1 or semester 2 (but not both)
Perspectives on Law and Society	15	Either semester 1 or semester 2 (but not both)
International Trade Law	15	Either semester 1 or semester 2 (but not both)
Commercial Law	20	Either semester 1 or semester 2 (but not both)
Number of credits of option modules a student should choose	120	

Placement year

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Placement (Year-long)+	20	Year-long
Number of credits of compulsory modules	20	

+ Studied between level 5 and 6 year-long placement.

Level 6

Option modules

At Level 6, all modules are optional. Students who wish to pursue a legal career will be guided towards the two Recommended Electives of Equity and Trusts and European Law in Context.

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Recommended elective: Equity and Trusts	20	Either semester 1 or semester 2 (but not both)
Recommended elective: European Law in Context	20	Either semester 1 or semester 2 (but not both)
Alternative Dispute Resolution	20	Either semester 1 or semester 2 (but not both)
Animal Law	20	Either semester 1 or semester 2 (but not both)
Company Law	20	Either semester 1 or semester 2 (but not both)
Crime, Morality and Law	20	Either semester 1 or semester 2 (but not both)
The Law of Evidence	20	Either semester 1 or semester 2 (but not both)
Dissertation	40	Year long
Employment Law	20	Either semester 1 or semester 2 (but not both)
Intellectual Property Law	20	Either semester 1 or semester 2 (but not both)
International Human Rights Law	20	Either semester 1 or semester 2 (but not both)
Introduction to the SQE	20	Either semester 1 or semester 2 (but not both)
Law Clinic	20	1 or 2
Media and Entertainment Law	20	Either semester 1 or semester 2 (but not both)
Work-Based Learning (Placement)	20	1 or 2
Work-Based Learning (Summer Placement)	20	Studied during the summer between level 5 and level 6
Domestic Abuse and Criminal Justice	20	Either semester 1 or semester 2 (but not both)
Number of credits of option modules a student should choose	120	

Note regarding electives: the precise mix of elective modules offered at Level 5 and Level 6 varies year on year depending on factors such as staff availability and the number of students choosing a particular module.

Level 7

At Level 7, students will predominantly study core modules to support with their SQE1 assessment preparation, with some practice-based electives.

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Criminal Law and Practice	15	Semester 2
Dispute resolution	15	Semester 2
Business Law and Practice (inc taxation)	15	Semester 1
Introduction to SQE2	5	Semesters 1 & 2
Legal Services, Ethics and Professional Conduct	10	Semesters 1 & 2
Property Law Practice (inc taxation)	15	Semester 1
Solicitors Accounts	5	Semester 2
Wills and Administration of Estates (inc taxation)	10	Semester 1
Number of credits of compulsory modules	90	

Option modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Commercial Law and Practice	15	Semester 1
Employment Law and Practice	15	Semester 2
Family Law and Practice	15	Semester 1

Acquisitions	15	Semester 2
Number of credits of option modules a student should choose	30	

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 20-credit point 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

Level 4

Level 4 is assessed by a broadly even mix of written assignments (coursework) and MCQ (Multiple Choice Question) assessments. There may be elements of oral assessment.

Level 5

Level 5 is assessed by written assignments (coursework), oral assessment, MCQ assessments and timed assessments. As all modules at Level 6 are elective modules, the specific mix will depend on the module selected by a student.

If a full year placement is chosen:

The Level 5 placement is assessed by coursework and a practical assessment.

Level 6

Level 6 is assessed by written assignments (coursework), oral assessment, MCQ assessments and timed assessments. As all modules at Level 6 are elective modules, the specific mix will depend on the module selected by a student.

Level 7

Level 7 is assessed by a combination of written assignments (coursework) and examinations consisting of short answer questions and/or MCQs.

Workload

Overall Workload	Level 4	Level 5	Placement Year (if chosen)	Level 6	Level 7
Teaching, Learning and Assessment	288 hours	288 hours		218.5 hours	150.5 hours
Independent Study	912 hours	912 hours		981.5 hours	1049.5 hours
Placement	-	-	40 weeks at approximately 30-35 hours per week	Optional – minimum of 80 hours	