LEEDS BECKETT UNIVERSITY

Course information for applicants

This information applies to the course as it will be delivered to students starting the course in Choose an item..
Information provided here was confirmed on 20/05/2026

General information

Programme code
CLAWD

Target award
If you complete this course successfully you will be eligible for the award of:
MSc Construction Law & Dispute Resolution

Delivery mode
☐ On campus
✓ Distance learning

Where you will study
This is a distance learning course.

Professional accreditation or recognition

Professional body
Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb)

Summary of the accreditation or recognition
This course is accredited by the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb) as part of its Recognised Course Provider scheme. Upon successful completion of specified modules, students are eligible to apply for CIArb membership at Member grade (which is the highest grade available under the revised Recognised Course Provider scheme).

The specified modules include Adjudication Law & Practice and Adjudication Decision Writing.

The application process including payment of any fees or expenses is the entire responsibility of the student, and all applications must be made within two years of completion of the specified modules.

Awarding body
Leeds Beckett University

Regulator
Office for Students

Level of qualification
Level 7 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications

Course duration
If you are made an offer of a place on the course, your offer letter will include the start date.

This course can be studied:
24 months part-time
48 months part-time

Entry requirements
Admissions criteria are available on the online prospectus entry for this course.

If you have previous relevant qualifications or experience, you could be exempt from certain parts of your course. Recognition of prior learning (RPL) allows you to start your course at a point appropriate to the learning and skills that you may have developed in a professional, vocational or community setting.

Find out more here: https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning
If you have questions about entry requirements and admissions, contact AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Course fees
Course fees and a breakdown of any additional costs is included on the online prospectus entry for this course.

If you have questions about fees for this course, contact Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Timetable
You will receive your full timetable for the year during induction week.

What you will study

Course aims
The course intends to develop and provide the following learning aims:

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.

Teaching and learning activities

The Construction Law and Dispute Resolution programme is delivered entirely through web-based distance learning, designed to meet the needs of busy professionals working across the construction, engineering, and legal sectors. Teaching and learning take place in a virtual learning environment that provides pre-recorded lectures, reading materials, and reflective self-assessment exercises. Each module is also supported by live online tutorials to facilitate interaction and discussion. Typically, there are six online tutorials for each 20-credit module and four for each 10-credit module, scheduled between 17:00 and 19:00 (UK time) and recorded to maximise accessibility for students unable to attend live sessions.

In this course, students explore the complex legal and contractual environment of the construction industry and gain the knowledge and practical expertise to confidently avoid, manage, present, resolve, and determine disputes, providing a strong platform for career advancement and professional success.

The Law of Obligations and Construction Law Principles modules develop students' understanding of tortious and contractual rights, duties, and liabilities relevant to the industry - providing an essential foundation for the rest of the course. While these modules are taught primarily from an English law perspective, the analytical and reasoning skills acquired are transferable across jurisdictions.

With regards to dispute resolution methods, students study the legal and procedural frameworks that govern the adjudication and arbitration processes, including the key legislation and institutional rules that shape their operation. Building on this foundation, the Adjudication Decision Writing and Arbitration Award Writing modules equip students with the skills to assess party submissions and draft enforceable decisions. Furthermore, the Commercial Mediation and Negotiation module explores the procedures and skills required to mediate disputes effectively, both as a party representative and as a mediator, with a focus on practical negotiation strategies and techniques.

Throughout the course, students develop the ability to analyse evidence, think critically, and present well-reasoned legal arguments. These skills are consolidated in the Law and Practice of Claims module, where students produce a detailed claim document in response to a simulated dispute scenario.
Finally, the Professional Research module allows students to apply their learning to a relevant topic of professional interest by completing an independent research project guided by an academic supervisor. Whether analysing a current legal development, evaluating a practical dispute management challenge, or investigating an emerging area of industry practice, this module enables students to showcase their expertise, critical thinking, and professional insight - building skills that will set them apart in their careers.

Course structure

This information is correct for students progressing through the course within standard timescales. If you have to repeat study or take time out during your course, you may be taught alternative modules which meet the overall course learning outcomes.

Level 7

2 Year Route

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Law of Obligations	20	S1 / Year 1
Adjudication: Law and Practice	20	S1 / Year 1
Construction Law Principles	20	S2 / Year 1
Construction Arbitration Law and Practice	20	S2 / Year 1
Commercial Mediation and Negotiation	20	S1 / Year 2
Adjudication Decision Writing	10	S1 / Year 2
Law and Practice of Claims	20	S2 / Year 2
Arbitration Award Writing	10	S2 / Year 2
Professional Research	40	S1 & S2 / Year 2
Number of credits of compulsory modules	180	

4 Year Route

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Law of Obligations	20	S1 / Year 1
Construction Law Principles	20	S2 / Year 1
Adjudication: Law and Practice	20	S1 / Year 2
Construction Arbitration Law and Practice	20	S2 / Year 2
Commercial Mediation and Negotiation	20	S1 / Year 3
Adjudication Decision Writing	10	S1 / Year 3
Law and Practice of Claims	20	S2 / Year 3
Arbitration Award Writing	10	S2 / Year 3
Professional Research	40	S1 & S2 / Year 4
Number of credits of compulsory modules	180	

Assessment and feedback

The balance of assessment may change depending on which option modules you choose.

Level 7

A range of assessment methods will be used. These include written examinations, multi-choice examinations, assignments, presentations, decision and award writing, and a research paper.

Workload

You can expect to spend a total of 100 hours learning per 10 credits.

Typically, a student on this course can expect to divide their time like this:

Overall workload	Level 7
Teaching, learning and assessment	450 hours
Independent study	1350 hours