



**LEEDS
BECKETT
UNIVERSITY**

Course information for applicants

This information applies to the course as it will be delivered to students starting the course in 2027/28. Information provided here was confirmed on 25/09/2026

General information

Programme code

LIHRL

Target award

If you complete this course successfully you will be eligible for the award of:
LLM International Human Rights Law

Delivery mode

- ☒ On campus
☐ Distance learning

Where you will study

The majority of teaching will be at City campus but on occasion may be at Headingley campus.

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:

- 12 months full-time
24 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 LLM International Human Rights Law aims to expose students to current issues in the topical areas of international human rights, both in terms of the legal principles and their practical application by considering the nature and structure of international human rights in the wider contexts of civilian protection, war crimes, rule of law, security and global policy making.

The course helps students to gain a critical understanding of key areas of international human rights relating to the role and function of the United Nations and the relevant instruments and treaties, protection of civilians from violence on a local, national and international level, human rights protection within a global policymaking framework as well as the theorisation of human rights within international relations debates.

Through critical evaluation of global, regional and national human rights laws and protection students will learn how law, in the form of legal theory and legal practice, is shaped by and in turn shapes our ethical, social, and political environment. Students are encouraged to engage actively in wider reading and make both guided and independent links between their studies and world affairs, evaluating the social, economic and political success, or otherwise of international human rights.

The core International Human Rights Law module allows students to critically explore international human rights law and evaluate its purpose and application. The module introduces students to the law as embodied by the United Nations' international human rights instruments and treaties, and to the international human rights legal principles as developed through multilateral international and regional

treaties and customary international law. Students will evaluate the international institutions whose function it is to monitor and report upon State compliance with human rights obligations and explore relevant types of rights: civil, political, economic, social and cultural as well as the rights of specific groups such as women, and refugees and migrants.

As part of the course, students can choose and study various elective modules from both, Law and School of Humanities and Social Sciences covering a wide range of topical issues, such as democracy and the rule of law, war, peace and conflict, global crime and risk, global economic security, and theoretical approaches to human rights, amongst others.

The course provides students with a critical understanding of the careful balance that is required in international law between human rights protection and guaranteeing the freedoms of a democratic society. This enables students to acquire knowledge of the features and principles of different jurisdictions and legal systems and be able to compare them.

Teaching and learning activities

This course is offered on campus. The design and delivery of this course and its substantive content means that student cohorts will typically be diverse, coming from a range of social, cultural, academic and professional backgrounds and countries.

The course shares modules with other level 7 Academic LLM and MA programmes, in particular cores for relevant Legal Research Methods, Dissertation, and electives. There are two core 'subject' modules for this programme (International Human Rights Law and Legal Research Methods), and the rest are various LLM and MA electives.

Students will be supported by in-person seminars and are encouraged to get involved with the broader School and Leeds Beckett community. Module delivery will be supplemented with the wider reading and related activities, which will form the foundation of the seminars.

Teaching activities will emphasise student-led evaluation and critique of issues, and students will respond to tutor-prepared materials, tasks, problems and questions. Module units' materials will provide a framework which will steer students to both the knowledge and critical components of the programme. Students will be given the opportunity to relate the material covered to current issues of International Human Rights Law and related areas. The variety of student body and ability for LLM and MA students to cross-choose electives provide an important opportunity for students to learn by sharing their and their peers' experience. Indicative content and approaches for each module is articulated in the respective module specification. For each module there are arrangements for feedback on student activities.

The Legal Research Methods module will provide students with founding knowledge about various research methods and how to use these in the LLM research. The dissertation, which is to be done in the area and on the topic relevant to International Human Rights Law, is an exercise in independent student learning, involving sustained research and a substantial piece of writing which is supported by both the dissertation Module Leader and an individual dissertation supervisor. The supervisor will guide the student

on the planning and execution of the dissertation, the development of ideas, organisation and structure of the work. The preparation of the dissertation will require students to become involved with issues at the forefront of the disciplines concerned with this programme.

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.

The option modules listed may vary. Those listed here are likely to be offered in a typical year.

Level 7

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
International Human Rights Law	30	1
Legal Research Methods	30	1
Dissertation	60	Summer
Number of credits of compulsory modules	120	

Option modules

Choice of 2x 30 credit LLM modules or 3x 20 credits MA electives

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
International Business, Competition Law and the Digital Economy	30	2
International Trade Law	30	2
International Criminal Law	30	2
Laws of Armed Conflict and use of Force	30	2
International Commercial Law	30	2
Disability in International Human Rights Law	30	2
Out of Control: Global Crime, Risk and Insecurity	20	2
War, Crime and Violence	20	2
Developing and Managing Projects	20	2
Global Policymaking: Environment & Human Rights	20	2
Cultures of Confinement, the United States since 1800 Theorising Human Rights	20	2
Theorising Peace and Conflict	20	2
Number of credits of option modules a student should choose	60	

Assessment and feedback

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

Level 7

On this course modules may have various forms of assessment, including coursework and examination. There is a major independent study module (Dissertation) which will require the production of a dissertation of 15,000 words

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	198 hours
Independent study	1602 hours
Total	1800 hours