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
LLMIL

Target award
If you complete this course successfully you will be eligible for the award of:
LLM International Business 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

Work placement
This course includes an optional placement module(s).

On campus students may elect to undertake an optional Professional Practice Placement module. The placement would commence at the start of semester 2 and needs to be completed by the end of August. The University will support a student in securing their placement, but cannot guarantee that a suitable placement will be obtained. The option to undertake the placement is limited to five students per year.

Placement Delivery

Students are expected to source their own placement, and for this to be approved by the Law School prior to the start of the Professional Practice Placement module. Standard placements will be from the start of Semester 2 to the end of August, subject to any specific requirements of an individual employer.

Location

Students may secure a placement in the Leeds region, or elsewhere in the UK by prior agreement with the Course Director and/or Professional Practice Placement Module Leader. Further information on the placement process is provided by the Course Director and/or Module Leader prior to option choices being made.

Approval

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

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

LLM International Business Law aims to provide students with a critical understanding of international law regulating commercial activities in a global economy by looking at topical areas such as international law,

international business law, competition law and digital economy. The course focuses on law as it applies to aspects of business, commerce and trade regionally and globally.

The course helps students to gain a critical understanding of key rules regulating international business activities of state and non-state actors in theory and practice. This includes exploring and assessing the essence and the nature of key transnational legal rules on how countries trade in a globalised world, legal substantive elements of competition law and anti-competitive conduct of undertakings including matters relating to digital economy.

The core International Law module gives students a grounding understanding of the nature, history and sources of international law focusing on the law of Treaties and International Organisations. The module considers various subjects linked to international law, such as the law of jurisdictions, responsibility and immunities and introduces aspects of international economic and humanitarian law.

The core International Business, Competition Law and the Digital Economy module focuses on the regulation of anti-competitive conduct of undertakings in globalised and digital trade. The module considers the operation of international business rules and legal principles applicable to anti-competitive agreements and abuse of dominance in the UK, the European Union and, to a smaller extent, the USA, with special focus on major enterprises such as Google and Microsoft, which have recently been subject to antitrust investigations and sanctions. The module provides a critical understanding of the role of transnational competition policy and rules in promoting competitive, efficient markets and consumer welfare by exploring the issues of enforcement practice arising from the transnational and international functioning of various jurisdictions.

Students are also able to study an elective module from other International Law LLMs (either an international commercial, human rights or criminal law module) to widen their understanding, knowledge and expertise in a particular area of interest.

This programme's curriculum will further refine students' knowledge of contemporary international business law and foster critical evaluation of the future direction and the dynamics of international commerce. The LLM Dissertation in international business law will give students the opportunity to pursue critical, independent research helping students to specialise in ways specific to their chosen careers and/or field of academic interest relevant to the chosen study course.

The enhanced commercial awareness allied to specialist legal expertise and skills offers graduates a distinct advantage in a competitive global business environment. The course will not only be attractive to lawyers wishing to enhance their legal knowledge but to other business and financial professionals who are working in environments where a deeper knowledge of international business law would be advantageous.

Teaching and learning activities

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 programmes, in particular cores for International Law, Legal Research Methods, Dissertation, and electives. There are three core 'subject' modules for this programme and the fourth is an elective students chose from the range of modules running on other LLMs.

Students will be supported by in-person on-campus seminars and are encouraged to get involved with the broader Law School and Leeds Beckett community. Module delivery will be supplemented with the online recorded lectures/content, whilst reading and related activities will form the foundation of the seminars.

For teaching activities, which will emphasise student-led evaluation and critique of issues, students will respond to tutor-prepared materials, tasks, problems and questions. Module materials will provide a framework which will steer students to both the knowledge and critical components of the programme. Students will be given an opportunity to relate the studied material to current issues of modern international business law. The variety of student body provides 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 individual and group feedback on student activities.

The Legal Research Methods module will provide students with founding knowledge about various legal research methods and how to use these in the Master's level research. The dissertation 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 Law	30	1
Legal Research Methods	30	1
International Business, Competition Law and the Digital Economy	30	2
Dissertation	60	Year-long
Number of credits of compulsory modules	150	

Option modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
International Trade Law	30	2
International Commercial Law	30	2
International Criminal Law	30	2
Laws of Armed Conflict and Use of Force	30	2

Disability in International Human Rights Law	30	2
Professional Practice Placement	30	2
Number of credits of option modules a student should choose	30	

Assessment and feedback

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

Level 7

On this course students will be assessed primarily through coursework. 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	1,602 hours
Placement	1,800 hours