



PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

1. General information

Awarding body / institution	Leeds Trinity University
Teaching institution	Leeds Trinity University
'Parent' Faculty (ICE / BCDI/ SHS)	
School	Business and Law
Professional accreditation body (if applicable)	N/A
Final award (eg. BA Hons)	Master of Laws
Title of programme(s)	Master of Laws Master of Laws with Placement
Subsidiary award(s) (if any)	Postgraduate Certificate in Law; Postgraduate Diploma in Law; Postgraduate Diploma in Law with Placement; Master of Laws
Honours type (Single / Joint / Combined)	N/A
Duration and mode(s) of study	Master of Laws – Full-time (12 months) Master of Laws with Placement – Full-time (24 months)
Month/year of approval of programme	August 2022
Start date (this version) (month and year)	September 2026
Periodic review next due (academic year)	TBC
HECoS subject code(s)	100485
UCAS course code & route code (available from Admissions)	N/A
SITS codes (Course / Pathway / Route) (available from Student Administration)	Master of Laws: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course code – LMLTULAWSS • Route code – TBC Master of Laws with Placement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course code – LMLTUPLAWS • Route code – LAWSSPL
Delivery venue(s)	Leeds Trinity University

2. Aims of the programme

Rationale and general aims, including what is special about this programme (from the student's and a marketing perspective)

The programme is designed for non-law graduates to obtain a grounding and knowledge of foundation law subjects, which will provide a sound basis to continue further in a law career. It is not a preparatory programme for the SQE exams but designed to provide a basis for further legal study and/or training.

The programme has a considerable career/practitioner focus, built in with an eye on the existing and predicted future employment needs of the local economy (the Leeds city region continues to build its reputation as a legal powerhouse in England), as well as continued growth in the legal sector nationally.

The programme has two modes of student. The first mode of student is a 12 month programme with an intake in both January and September. The second mode of study is a 24 month programme with a September and January intake. Both modes of study provide a comprehensive understanding of legal principles with the second mode of study also offering practical, real-world experience.

The programme is aligned with aspects of the Solicitors Qualifying Examination (SQE) in order to provide students with a foundation in its various domains.

The aims of the programme are to:

- support the academic stage of training through study of foundation areas of law and Functioning Legal Knowledge and Practical Legal Skills and Knowledge domains aligned with aspects of the SQE and to develop students' approach to these studies at Masters level
- develop analytical, evaluative and research skills appropriate to law at Masters level
- provide the opportunity for research and in-depth study of a particular area of law through the research project/dissertation.

Specific focus will be placed on career paths leading to careers as solicitors, barristers, or other qualified lawyers. This is in addition to allied careers, for example, working in criminal justice or further academic study in law.

3. Student learning outcomes of the programme

Learning outcomes in terms of:

- knowledge and understanding (K)
- intellectual / cognitive / 'thinking' skills (I)
- practical skills specific to the subject (P)
- employability skills (E)

The 'K1', etc codes are used in section 7b) and module descriptors to refer to each of these learning outcomes.

On successful completion of the programme, students will have *demonstrated*

- K1 Systematic understanding of law and the legal system of England and Wales and a critical awareness of associated legal problems.
- K2 Ability to undertake complex analysis of legal scenarios and provide appropriate arguments with critical awareness in a manner which is informative and useful, making use of knowledge which is at the forefront of the discipline of law.
- K3 Originality in the application of legal knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how techniques of research and enquiry are used to interpret legal issues.
- I1 Conceptual understanding that enables critical evaluation of current legal research applicable to complex legal issues.

I2 Conceptual understanding of the law that enables critical evaluation and analysis of legal issues to arrive at independent conclusions whilst using self-direction and originality in problem-solving.

Employability skills

E1 **Self-management** – the ability to plan and manage time; readiness to accept responsibility and improve their own performance based on feedback/reflective learning; the ability to take initiative and be proactive, flexible and resilient;

E2 **Teamworking** – the ability to co-operate with others on a shared task and to recognise and take on appropriate team roles; leading, contributing to discussions and negotiating; contributing to discussions; awareness of interdependence with others;

E3 **Business and sector awareness** – an understanding of the key drivers for business success, including the importance of customer/client satisfaction and innovation; understanding of the market/sector in which an organisation operates; the ability to recognise the external context and pressures on an organisation, including concepts such as value for money, profitability and sustainability;

E4 **Problem-solving** – a capacity for critical reasoning, analysis and synthesis; a capacity for applying knowledge in practice; an ability to retrieve, analyse and evaluate information from different sources;

E5 **Communication** – the ability to present information clearly and appropriately, both orally and in writing, and to tailor messages to specific audiences and purposes;

E6 **Application of numeracy** – a general awareness of mathematics and its application in practical contexts; the ability to carry out arithmetic operations and understand data, to read and interpret graphs and tables and to manage a budget;

E7 **Application of information technology** – the ability to identify the appropriate IT package for a given task; familiarity with word-processing, spreadsheets and file management; the ability to use the internet and email effectively.

E8 **Entrepreneurship/enterprise** – the ability to demonstrate an innovative approach and creativity, to generate ideas and to identify and take opportunities;

E9 **Social, cultural & civic awareness** – embracement of an ethos of community and civic responsibility; an appreciation of diversity and ethical issues; an understanding of cultures and customs in the wider community.

See also the learning outcomes for subsidiary awards set out in section 4 below.

3a External benchmarks

**Statement of congruence with the relevant published subject benchmark statements
(including appropriate references to any PSRB, employer or legislative requirements)**

All Leeds Trinity University programmes are congruent with the Frameworks for HE Qualifications (FHEQ) and, where appropriate, the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF) (formerly the National Qualifications Framework (NQF)).

The Master of Laws is congruent with aspects of the QAA Subject Benchmark Statement for Law (2019).

It does **not** meet the requirements for accreditation as a Qualifying Law Degree (as commencing in 2022), as set out in the SRA statement (the Academic Stage Handbook).

The SRA is still to issue full guidance for education providers as to the content of the SQE, although an outline of the accreditation specification is available on the SRA website.

The programme therefore speaks to the present specification and matches some fundamental principles embodied in the SQE. Further details will be available at the point at which the programme is commenced in September 2022.

4. Learning outcomes for subsidiary awards (fallback)

Guidance	
<p>The assessment strategy is designed so that each of these outcomes is addressed by more than one module at Level 7.</p>	<p>Learning outcomes for the award of Postgraduate Certificate in Law:</p> <p>On successful completion of 60 credits at Level 7, students will have demonstrated an ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">i) express in a confident and professional manner their understanding of law;ii) evidence independence of thought in a legal context;iii) demonstrate high level of academic writing relevant to the professional nature of the award. <p>They will have had specific opportunities to display transferable skills relevant to employment in law.</p> <p>Learning outcomes for the award of Postgraduate Diploma in Law:</p> <p>On successful completion of 120 credits at Level 7, students will have demonstrated, in addition to the outcomes for a Certificate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">i) critical understanding of law principles;ii) application of concepts outside their initial context;iii) significant, evidenced independence of thought;iv) proficient communication of the results of their work; <p>and will have had the opportunity to develop transferable skills relevant to employment in law.</p>
<p>The assessment strategy is designed so that each of these outcomes is addressed by more than one module at Level 7.</p>	

5. Content

Summary of content by theme
(providing a 'vertical' view through the programme)

The programme provides the essential foundation knowledge and understanding, skills and experience required for you to develop effectively and successfully in a legal environment. The core areas of the programme focus on foundation legal subjects and also on SQE elements to provide an overview of key legal areas.

The programme is aligned with aspects of the Solicitors Qualifying Examination (SQE) in order to provide you with a foundation in areas covered within both SQE 1 and SQE 2. The intention is for students to convert to law (from non-law backgrounds) and leave the programme with an excellent overview of the main areas of the SQE and a capacity to enter the workplace in a confident manner.

This is not an SQE preparation course. The programme aims to provide an overview of all the subject areas covered in the SQE and integrated within the study of the subject material of core modules will be the development of related intellectual legal employability skills including effective communication, legal research and team-working.

September intake students will study in Term 1 key modules, including Legal Foundations (focusing on: matter analysis; legal research; legal writing; legal drafting; and the Legal System of England and Wales). Other subject specific cornerstones of the English legal system will be covered within modules on Contracts and Disputes; Public Law and Law of the European Union (to include a focus on Constitutional and Administrative Law; EU Law and the European Convention on Human Rights); Company Law and Practice (including a focus on business organisation rules and procedures). January intake student will study these modules in the following September.

January intake students will first study modules on foundation areas of law relating to Tort law; Equity and Trusts (to include a focus on trusts; Wills and Administration of Estates; and Probate); Land Law and Property; Criminal Law (to include criminal law and practice and litigation). This will be the September intake student's second term.

You can explore in greater depth an area of legal interest through the Dissertation module and gain work experience and employability skills through the Placement Year module.

The programme structure and subjects are aligned with the SQE 1 and 2 curriculum. What this means is that the programme modules have regard to the functioning legal knowledge assessed as part of the SQE 1 and the assessment topics for the SQE2. Adopting the Masters level academic strategy will allow scope for flexibility in delivery to draw and expand upon research and knowledge exchange, and professional experience and skills of staff to enrich the programme without potentially limiting it to aspects of the SQE 1 and 2.

Further, whilst regard is had to SQE 1 & 2, the programme content is not specifically framed, purposed, or contextualised so as to prepare students for the SQE 1 and 2 assessments.

6. Structure

Master of Laws (LLM)
Master of Laws (LLM) with Placement

Duration: 12 months full-time (Master of Laws)
24 months full-time (Master of Laws with Placement)

Total credit rating: 180 (90 ECTS) (Master of Laws)
300(150 ECTS) (Master of Laws with Placement)

September intake:

Year 1 (Master of Laws and Master of Laws with Placement)

Core: Students are required to take:

Code	Title	Term	Credits
LAW7075	Legal Foundations	1	15
LAW7095	Contract Law and Disputes	1	15
LAW7105	Public Law and Law of the European Union	1	15
LAW7135	Criminal Law and Practice	1	15
LAW7115	Torts	2	15
LAW7125	Land Law and Property	2	15
LAW7145	Equity and Trusts	2	15
LAW7085	Company Law and Practice	2	15
LAW7016	Dissertation	3	60

Year 2 (Master of Laws with Placement only)

Core: Students are required to take:

Code	Title	Term	Credits
LAW7120	Professional Placement in Law	1, 2 & 3	120

January intake:

Year 1 (Master of Laws and Master of Laws with Placement)

Core: Students are required to take:

Code	Title	Term	Credits
LAW7115	Torts	1	15
LAW7125	Land Law and Property	1	15
LAW7085	Company Law and Practice	3	15
LAW7145	Equity and Trusts	1	15
LAW7016	Dissertation	2	60
LAW7075	Legal Foundations	3	15
LAW7095	Contract Law and Disputes	3	15
LAW7105	Public Law and Law of the European Union	3	15
LAW7135	Criminal Law and Practice	2	15

Year 2 (Master of Laws with Placement only)

Core: Students are required to take:

Code	Title	Term	Credits
LAW7120	Professional Placement in Law	1, 2 & 3	120

7. Learning, teaching and assessment

7a) Statement of the strategy for learning, teaching and assessment for the programme

The principles of the University's Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy are reflected within this programme.

The overall approach to teaching and learning will rely on a blended use of traditional methods of classroom lecture and seminar interactions, supplemented with technology-enhanced learning and embedded professionalism.

For traditional classroom based activities you will be directed towards self-learning opportunities and expected to read and research supplementary material in preparation for interactions with peers and academic staff.

The use of synchronous and asynchronous technology will permit virtual interactions for all students and a parity of learning experience between on campus and students learning through virtual mediums. External guests can also join these sessions, ensuring input from additional academic or professional experts, broadening the learning horizon of the students.

Professional communication skills (written and verbal) will be developed and enhanced through the assessment strategy which will present you with real world scenarios requiring appropriate evidence based responses.

Research forms an integral part of the award and will be embedded throughout each module and culminate in the final dissertation. This will provide you with an opportunity to focus on a key area of your own choice, explore the subject in depth and develop your personal research skills and specialist knowledge.

You will also need to demonstrate detailed ethics and governance principles during the undertaking of your programme of studies and will be supported in your development around this area with the dissertation module.

The assessment strategy across the programme will focus on developing a number of key academic and intellectual skills. Problem based learning will be used to develop professional skills and the adaptation of evidence based approaches to particular problems. Assessments will also reflect the need to integrate scholarly and/or professional research into all written work produced, thus developing scholarly skills across the range of assessments used.

The learning and teaching methods entail the development of employability skills which are embedded within the programme. For example, problem-based scenarios used in summative assessments include multi-issue real world scenarios that require you to undertake independent research, to apply your findings to the given scenario and to provide a fictional client with both appropriate legal advice and commercially relevant guidance. Further, there is development of digital skills through assessments. For example, the Legal Foundations module requires you to submit a recorded presentation.

Further, you will be given the opportunity to engage with scenarios and workshop-based tasks on a regular basis as part of the Workshops, including presentations developing key employability skills in communication and teamwork. This will include module content and delivery across the module framework to incorporate negotiation and interviewing in addition to the other skills mentioned.

You will also be requested to take part in the additional activities which the Law School runs, which may include the mootng competition and guest talks from the graduate recruitment team as well as external lawyers.

7b) Programme learning outcomes covered

Adjust LO codes as necessary. ↓														
	K1	K2		K3	I1	I2	E1	E2	E3	E4	E5	E6	E7	E8
Lighter or hatched shading indicates modules that are not core, ie. not all students on this programme will undertake these.	Systematic understanding of law.	Complex analysis of legal scenarios.	Originality in the application of legal knowledge	Critical evaluation of current legal research.	Critical evaluation and analysis of legal issues.	Self-management	Teamworking	Business & sector awareness	Problem-solving	Communication	Application of numeracy	Application of IT	Entrepreneurship / enterprise	Social, cultural & civic awareness
LAW7075 Legal Foundations	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
LAW7085 Company Law and Practice	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
LAW7095 Contract Law and Disputes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
LAW7105 Public Law and Law of the EU	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X			X
LAW7115 Torts	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
LAW7125 Land Law and Property	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X

LAW7135 Criminal Law and Practice	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
LAW7145 Equity and Trusts	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
LAW7016 Dissertation	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
LAW7120 Professional Placement	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

8. Entry requirements

Do the University's standard entry requirements apply (as outlined within the University's Admissions Policy)?	Yes
Detail of any deviation from and/or addition to the University's standard entry requirements (if applicable)	N/A

9. Progression, classification and award requirements

Details of requirements for student progression between levels and receipt of the award(s) (A certain level of attainment which <u>must</u> be achieved in a specific module; any modules exempted from condonement, any deviation from the standard institutional stipulations for award classification, e.g. exclusion of Level 4 module marks from Foundation Degree classification)
The following regulations apply, together with the General Academic Regulations: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Postgraduate Taught Academic RegulationsAdditional Regulations for Master's 'with Placement' Degrees

10. Prerequisites

Details of modules students <u>must</u> study and achieve credit for before enrolling on a module at a higher level, or attaining their final programme award
N/A.

11. Additional support needs

Arrangements made to accommodate students with additional support needs and any unavoidable restrictions on their participation in the programme/scheme
Students with disabilities or other support needs are welcome and are expected to be able to participate fully in this programme. Arrangements will be made, via the normal University support systems, to accommodate students with additional support needs wherever possible, with reasonable adjustments made to accommodate individual needs.