



UNIVERSITY OF  
LIVERPOOL

LLM

# International Intellectual Property Law

**Study mode**

Full-time

**Duration**

12 months

Apply by: **11 September 2026**

Starts on: **28 September 2026**

## About this course

Gain advanced insight into the legal frameworks shaping creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship on a global scale with this specialised LLM. You'll dive deep into intellectual property law (IP), looking at both theory and practice across different industries and jurisdictions.

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## Introduction

This intellectually rigorous programme takes a transdisciplinary approach, drawing on expertise from law, technology, business, music, and entrepreneurship. You will explore how IP law intersects with the modern challenges of digital transformation, sustainability and ethical innovation, equipping you to develop legal solutions that reflect wider social, technological and environmental concerns.

You will gain core knowledge through required modules on Global Intellectual Property Law; AI Creativity, Platform Regulation; and Contemporary Issues in Intellectual Property Law. You will benefit from flexible module choices, allowing you to tailor your pathway according to your academic interests and professional ambitions. The programme culminates in a research dissertation where you will complete an independent project of your choice. Whether you are focused on platform and AI regulation, copyright and creative industries, or innovation, you will graduate with a deep understanding of how IP functions in today's interconnected world.

All students are given our specialised Legal Research Training as preparation for writing their dissertation. The module covers advance legal research, legal writing, as well as theoretical perspectives and research methodologies.

Develop real-world skills through internships and extracurricular activities, including opportunities with the European Union Intellectual Property Office, the European Patent Office and in the MusicFutures IP Clinic (due to launch in 2026) offering IP advice to local creatives and start-ups.

Liverpool Law School is renowned for academic excellence and a vibrant, supportive learning environment. You will benefit from an international community of students and scholars, as well as regular events, guest lectures and networking opportunities. Studying this LLM will prepare you to thrive across a range of sectors, from law and policy to media, tech and creative enterprise.

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## Who is this course for?

This master's is suitable for graduates of Law or a relevant subject such as Music, Arts, Business, Political Science, Sociology, Philosophy, International Relations, Management Studies, Computer Science, the Humanities, Social Sciences or Economics, who are looking for a specialised programme of advanced legal study in Intellectual Property Law.

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## What you'll learn

- Advanced legal research skills that are necessary to enable you to reach a superior understanding of law
- How to analyse, evaluate and interpret primary and secondary legal sources
- How to understand and apply English, European and International legal terminology, both orally and in writing
- Critical, analytical and research skills
- Oral discussion skills by participating in debates and problem-solving exercises
- How to apply legal knowledge to practical situations.

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# Course content

Discover what you'll learn, what you'll study, and how you'll be taught and assessed.

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## Semester one

In your first semester, you'll take two core modules: Global Intellectual Property Law (20 credits) and AI, Creativity, Platform Regulation and Fundamental Rights (20 credits). You can then choose from our optional modules, up to 20 credits, depending on what interests you most.

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

## Modules

| Compulsory modules  | Credits |
|---|---------|
| <a href="#"><u>GLOBAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW (LAW552)</u></a>                          | 20      |
| <a href="#"><u>AI CREATIVITY, PLATFORM REGULATION AND FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS (LAW551)</u></a> | 20      |
| Optional modules  | Credits |
| <a href="#"><u>LAW, INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS, AND SOCIETY (LAW528)</u></a>                  | 20      |
| <a href="#"><u>DIGITAL JUSTICE AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES (LAW518)</u></a>                 | 20      |
| <a href="#"><u>COMPETITION LAW (LAW519)</u></a>   | 20      |
| <a href="#"><u>INTERNATIONAL DISPUTE SETTLEMENT (LAW521)</u></a>                          | 20      |
| <a href="#"><u>INTERNATIONAL TRADE LAW AND PUBLIC HEALTH (LAW546)</u></a>                 | 20      |

| Optional modules  | Credits |
|---|---------|
| <a href="#"><u>LAW OF THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION (LAW526)</u></a> | 20      |

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

## Semester two

In your second semester, you'll take one core module: Contemporary Issues in Intellectual Property Law (20 credits). You can then choose from our optional modules, up to 40 credits, depending on what interests you most.

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

## Modules

| Compulsory modules   | Credits |
|--|---------|
| <a href="#"><u>CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW (LAW529)</u></a> | 20      |

| Optional modules   | Credits |
|--|---------|
| <a href="#"><u>MUSIC COPYRIGHT AND CONTRACTS (MUSI518)</u></a>                             | 20      |
| <a href="#"><u>INTERNATIONAL INNOVATION PROTECTION AND COMMERCIALISATION (ULMS561)</u></a> | 20      |
| <a href="#"><u>INTERNATIONAL DISPUTE SETTLEMENT (LAW521)</u></a>                           | 20      |
| <a href="#"><u>INTERNATIONAL LAW AND FOREIGN INVESTMENT (LAW542)</u></a>                   | 20      |
| <a href="#"><u>INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CRIME (LAW585)</u></a>                              | 20      |
| <a href="#"><u>CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW (LAW529)</u></a>           | 20      |

| Optional modules   | Credits |
|--|---------|
| <a href="#"><u>ENTREPRENEURIAL THINKING AND INNOVATION (ULMS896)</u></a> | 20      |

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

## Final project

Your dissertation is researched and written during semester three. The process of preparing the dissertation is supported by legal research training in semester one, by a dissertation workshop and library training in semester two and by individual supervision during semester three.

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

## Modules

| Compulsory modules                           | Credits |
|--|---------|
| <a href="#"><u>DISSERTATION (LAW540)</u></a> | 60      |

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

## Teaching and assessment

### How you'll learn

Teaching methods depend upon the module, but most modules are taught via in-person seminars on campus. Each module will normally have a two-hour weekly seminar for a small group of students. You will have reading and other tasks to prepare for each seminar; independent study is an important part of your learning at this level. Online resources and exercises, group work and presentations all help to ensure that you develop a strong set of transferable skills.

The International Intellectual Property Law LLM at Liverpool offers a dynamic and inclusive learning experience grounded in research-connected teaching, active

learning and authentic assessment. You'll engage with cutting-edge legal issues through enquiry-led modules taught by leading experts, with topics ranging from global IP law to emerging technologies like AI and quantum computing. Learning is highly interactive, with discussion-based seminars encouraging collaboration, critical thinking and global perspectives. Independent study is supported through guided reading and digital platforms, fostering digital fluency and self-reliance. You will build practical research skills throughout the programme, culminating in a dissertation that positions you as an active contributor to legal scholarship. This approach equips you with the confidence, adaptability and international outlook needed for success in specialised legal careers.

## **How you're assessed**

The assessment of our LLM programme takes different formats according to the learning objectives of each module. Many modules have two assessments: a smaller piece of work, such as a case commentary or plan mid-way through the module, followed by a more substantial essay at the end. For semester one modules, the formal assessment period is in January, and for semester two modules it is in May–June.

Assessment on the International Intellectual Property Law LLM is designed to be authentic, inclusive and reflective of real-world legal practice, enabling you to demonstrate and develop advanced research, analytical and communication skills. You will be assessed through a variety of methods including in-depth research papers, case commentaries, infographics, video presentations, group work and seen examinations. These tasks allow you to explore complex legal issues, present arguments to diverse audiences and refine your skills in a range of formats, from formal legal writing to stakeholder-focused briefings. The emphasis on longer research papers supports the development of critical thinking and academic writing ahead of your final dissertation, while varied assessment formats promote digital fluency, global awareness and learner confidence.

Your 12,000-word dissertation will be completed during semester three (July to September); we provide legal research training and you will have an allocated expert supervisor so you are properly prepared and supported each step of the way.

## **Liverpool Hallmarks**

We have a distinctive approach to education, the Liverpool Curriculum Framework, which focuses on research-connected teaching, active learning, and authentic assessment to ensure our students graduate as digitally fluent and confident global citizens.

The Liverpool Curriculum framework sets out our distinctive approach to education. Our teaching staff support our students to develop academic knowledge, skills, and understanding alongside our **graduate attributes**:

- Digital fluency
- Confidence
- Global citizenship

Our curriculum is characterised by the three **Liverpool Hallmarks**:

- Research-connected teaching
- Active learning
- Authentic assessment

All this is underpinned by our core value of **inclusivity** and commitment to providing a curriculum that is accessible to all students.

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# Careers and employability

This LLM is designed to enhance your academic profile and ensure that you leave us with highly marketable skills, whatever you decide that market to be.

You'll benefit from regular career events and opportunities to meet law firms and other organisations. Our annual law fair connects you directly with potential employers. Throughout your studies, both the Law School and the Careers and Employability team will offer tailored advice and support to help you shape your career path.

Launching in 2026, the MusicFutures Law Clinic will provide a practical and supportive environment where you can apply your legal knowledge and research skills to real client cases under the supervision of qualified legal professionals. Taking part will deepen your understanding of the social and ethical dimensions of legal practice, develop key professional skills such as client communication, legal drafting and problem-solving, and build your confidence and employability. It also reflects our commitment to active learning and authentic assessment, giving you the chance to experience the role of law in action and contribute to the wider community in a meaningful way.

The University of Liverpool is a Pan-European Seal member, partnering with the [European Union Intellectual Property Office](#) and the [European Patent Office](#). As a graduate, you'll have access to exclusive traineeships abroad, giving you the chance to work for 12 months with some of the world's leading Intellectual Property offices. You'll also have access to a broad range of learning resources through the Intellectual Property learning portal.

The Pan-European Seal (PES) Professional Traineeship Programme connects academic learning with the professional world across fields such as IP, law, finance, business and engineering. It's designed to support your development and promote and disseminate intellectual property within the academic community.

Every year, our LLM graduates become members of the Inns of Court, secure scholarships for vocational training, and obtain vacation placements, training contracts, and mini-pupillage opportunities from a range of providers. Many have successful careers as members of the legal profession in the UK and overseas, including Judges of the Court of Appeal, the High Court and the County Courts.

Past LLM graduates have embarked on a wide variety of professions outside the law as well, in careers within:

- Politics



- Policy work
- Banking
- Charities and international non-governmental organisations
- Business management
- Accounting and finance
- NHS, police and emergency services.

This LLM also provides you with an ideal opportunity to gain advanced specialist knowledge in preparation for further postgraduate research.

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## **Career support from day one to graduation and beyond**

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### **Career planning**

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### **From education to employment**

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### **Networking events**

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# Fees and funding

Your tuition fees, funding your studies, and other costs to consider.

## Tuition fees

### UK fees (applies to Channel Islands, Isle of Man and Republic of Ireland)

Full-time place, per year – £12,500

### International fees

Full-time place, per year – £28,000

Tuition fees are for the academic year 2026/27.

Tuition fees cover the cost of your teaching and assessment, operating facilities such as libraries, IT equipment, and access to academic and personal support.

- You can pay your tuition fees in instalments.
- All or part of your tuition fees can be funded by external sponsorship.
- International applicants who accept an offer of a place will need to pay a tuition fee deposit.

If you're a UK national, or have settled status in the UK, you may be eligible to apply for a Postgraduate Loan worth up to £12,167 to help with course fees and living costs. **Learn more about paying for your studies.**

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## Additional costs

We understand that budgeting for your time at university is important, and we want to make sure you understand any course-related costs that are not covered by your tuition fee. This could include buying a laptop, books, or stationery.

Find out more about the additional study costs that may apply to this course.

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# Entry requirements

The qualifications and exam results you'll need to apply for this course.

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## Postgraduate entry requirements

We accept a 2:2 honours degree from a UK university, or an equivalent academic qualification from a similar non-UK institution. This degree should be in Law or in a relevant discipline such as business, economics, political science, history, criminology, sociology or international relations.

Candidates whose first degree is in a discipline other than those listed above may be admitted at the discretion of the Programme Director.

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## International qualifications

[Select your country or region to view specific entry requirements.](#)

Many countries have a different education system to that of the UK, meaning your qualifications may not meet our entry requirements. Completing your Foundation Certificate, such as that offered by the [University of Liverpool International College](#), means you're guaranteed a place on your chosen course.

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## English language requirements

You'll need to demonstrate competence in the use of English language, unless you're from a [majority English speaking country](#).

We accept a variety of [international language tests](#) and [country-specific qualifications](#).

International applicants who do not meet the minimum required standard of English language can complete one of our [Pre-Sessional English courses](#) to achieve the required level.

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## **IELTS**

6.5 overall, with no component below 6.0

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## **TOEFL iBT**

88 overall, with minimum scores of listening 19, writing 19, reading 19 and speaking 20. TOEFL Home Edition not accepted.

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## **Duolingo English Test**

125 overall, with writing not less than 125, speaking and reading not less than 115, and listening not below 110. For academic year 2025/26 only, we will also accept the production, literacy, comprehension and conversation score set: 120 overall, with no component below 105.

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## **Pearson PTE Academic**

61 overall, with no component below 59

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## **LanguageCert Academic**

70 overall, with no skill below 65

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## **PSI Skills for English**

B2 Pass with Merit in all bands

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## **INDIA Standard XII**

National Curriculum (CBSE/ISC) – 75% and above in English. Accepted State Boards – 80% and above in English.

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## **WAEC**

C6 or above

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## **Pre-sessional English**

Do you need to complete a Pre-sessional English course to meet the English language requirements for this course?

The length of Pre-sessional English course you'll need to take depends on your current level of English language ability.

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## Pre-sessional English in detail

If you don't meet our English language requirements, we can use your most recent IELTS score, or [the equivalent score in selected other English language tests](#), to determine the length of Pre-sessional English course you require.

Use the table below to check the course length you're likely to require for your current English language ability and see whether the course is available on campus or online.

| Your most recent IELTS score   | Pre-sessional English course length | On campus or online                    |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|
| 6.0 overall, with no component below 6.0   | 6 weeks                             | On campus                              |
| 6.0 overall, with no component below 5.5   | 10 weeks                            | On campus and online options available |
| 6.0 overall, with no more than one component below 5.5, and no component below 5.0 | 12 weeks                            | On campus and online options available |
| 5.5 overall, with no more than one component below 5.5, and no component below 5.0 | 20 weeks                            | On campus                              |
| 5.0 overall, with no more than one component below 5.0, and no component below 4.5 | 30 weeks                            | On campus                              |
| 4.5 overall, with no more than one component below 4.5, and no                     | 40 weeks                            | On campus                              |

| Your most recent IELTS score | Pre-sessional English course length | On campus or online |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|

component below 4.0

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If you've completed an alternative English language test to IELTS, we may be able to use this to assess your English language ability and determine the Pre-sessional English course length you require.

Please see our guide to [Pre-sessional English entry requirements](#) for IELTS 6.5 overall, with no component below 6.0, for further details.

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