UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL

LLM

Law (General)

Study mode	Duration	
Full-time	12 months	Apply by: **17 September 2027**
Part-time	24 months	Starts on: **27 September 2027**

About this course

Study in a Law School that's committed to exploring the relationship between law and social justice. Our Law (General) LLM lets you shape a programme of advanced legal study around your interests and career goals.

Introduction

Gain an in-depth understanding of law and social justice, focusing on fairness, equality and the promotion of rights for all. You will study research-informed modules led by leading experts, organised around four key themes: international business and commercial law, international human rights, medicine, healthcare and the law, and socio-legal methods.

The Liverpool Law School has a prestigious international reputation for teaching and research. All students take the specialised Legal Research Training module, where you'll build the skills, methods and ways of thinking used in international, European and domestic legal studies. The programme gives you hands-on training in legal analysis, critical thinking, independent research and project management, preparing you for a career in legal practice, government service, NGOs, international organisations or judicial roles.

Your experience extends beyond academic study. You will have access to our employability programme, career events, internships, pro bono projects, external mooting competitions and SLSJ Extra, a series of talks and workshops with leading speakers from across the legal profession. You will also be encouraged to participate in the activities of our research clusters and benefit from visits by professionals and researchers working at the forefront of law and social justice. Through our Pan-European Seal partnership, you will gain unique insights into the world's largest IP offices and the opportunity to apply for paid one-year internships.

Who is this course for?

This master's is suitable for graduates of Law or a relevant degree subject such as Political Science, Sociology, Philosophy, International Relations, Banking, Management Studies, Humanities, Social Sciences and Economics, who want a bespoke programme of advanced legal study.

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.

Semester one

All students must take the Legal Research Training and Dissertation modules. You are then free to choose any of the LLM modules that we offer, up to the value of 120 credits. This includes modules in the fields of Commercial Law; Competition Law; International Business and Trade Law; International Law; Medical Law and Human Rights Law.

Optional modules are also available on methodology topics such as Quantitative Methods, Interviewing, Observation and Focus Groups.

Your dissertation is researched and written during semester 3 (June to September). The process of preparing the dissertation is supported by the Legal Research Training module across semester 1 and 2, which includes dissertation workshops and library training. In semester 3, you will also have one-to-one supervision meetings with a specialist in your field.

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

Modules

Optional modules	Credits
HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLANNING (LAW506)	20
REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE (LAW507)	20
INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS (LAW511)	20
DIGITAL JUSTICE AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES (LAW518)	20
COMPETITION LAW (LAW519)	20

Optional modules	Credits
LAW, INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS, AND SOCIETY (LAW528)	20
ETHICS IN HEALTH CARE DECISION-MAKING (LAW536)	20
MEDICO-LEGAL PROBLEMS (LAW541)	20
GLOBAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW (LAW552)	20
LGBTQ+ RIGHTS (LAW555)	20
CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION (LAW557)	20
PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW (LAW563)	20
THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN EUROPE (LAW573)	20

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change. As part of our commitment to continuous improvement, we are currently reviewing all of our programmes. This may include refining study pathways, strengthening links with employers, integrating generative AI, developing students' research skills, and enhancing alignment with our research strengths. The course content currently shown on this page reflects the programme as it ran for students beginning in September 2026. This page will be updated for students beginning in September 2027 by Friday 30th April 2027 at the latest.

Semester two

All students must take the Legal Research Training and Dissertation modules. You are then free to choose any of the LLM modules that we offer, up to the value of 120 credits. This includes modules in the fields of Commercial Law; Competition Law; International Business and Trade Law; International Law; Medical Law and Human Rights Law.

Optional modules are also available on methodology topics such as Quantitative Methods, Interviewing, Observation and Focus Groups.

Your dissertation is researched and written during semester 3 (June to September). The process of preparing the dissertation is supported by the Legal Research Training module across semester 1 and 2, which includes dissertation workshops and library training. In semester 3, you will also have one-to-one supervision meetings with a specialist in your field.

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

Modules

Optional modules	Credits
TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE (LAW508)	20
INTERNATIONAL DISPUTE SETTLEMENT (LAW521)	20
LAW AND GLOBAL HEALTH (LAW522)	20
CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW (LAW529)	20
CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND DIRECTORS' DUTIES (LAW530)	20
INTERNATIONAL LAW AND FOREIGN INVESTMENT (LAW542)	20
CHILDREN, MEDICINE AND THE LAW (LAW543)	20
SOCIO-LEGAL THEORY (LAW550)	20
TRUST, CONFIDENCE AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION (LAW556)	20
CLIMATE JUSTICE (LAW558)	20
CHILDREN'S RIGHTS AND THE LAW: THEORY AND PRACTICE (LAW562)	20
INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY (LAW564)	20

Optional modules	Credits
INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CRIME (LAW585)	20
THE REGULATIONS OF MEDICINE, HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE (LAW597)	20

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Final project

Your course concludes with a 60-credit supervised research project (dissertation) undertaken following completion of the taught modules.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
DISSERTATION (LAW540)	60

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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 transferrable skills.

How you're assessed

In semesters one and two, you will take modules totalling 120 credits. Your dissertation, completed over the summer, is worth 60 credits. You are required to complete 180 credits to achieve a full LLM.

Assessment takes different formats depending on each module's learning objectives. 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. Semester one modules are formally assessed in January, while semester two assessments usually take place in June.

Your 12,000-word dissertation is completed during the summer period (June to September). You will receive legal research training and be assigned an expert supervisor, ensuring you are fully prepared and supported throughout the process.

Liverpool Learning Framework

At Liverpool, we take a distinctive approach to education through the Liverpool Learning Framework. This means teaching that is engaging, inclusive and designed to help you succeed during your studies and beyond.

You'll develop specialist subject knowledge alongside the skills employers value most, including:

- Digital fluency
- Confidence
- Global citizenship

Our curriculum is characterised by the three Liverpool Hallmarks:

- Research-connected teaching - learning informed by the latest ideas and discoveries

- Active learning - taking part, applying knowledge and learning by doing
- Authentic assessment - assessments designed around real-world tasks and challenges

We also embed key priorities across our curriculum, including AI literacy, employability, and sustainability, helping you prepare for the future and make a positive impact in the world.

We're committed to creating a supportive and inclusive learning environment where every student can thrive.

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Careers and employability

Our LLM opens doors to a wide range of careers in law and beyond. The programme helps you build a strong academic profile and develop skills that employers value, including legal analysis, research, critical thinking and project management.

You will benefit from careers guidance, networking events, skills workshops and extra-curricular activities such as mooting competitions, internships, pro bono projects and visits from leading professionals. These experiences help you apply your learning in real-world settings and progress in your chosen career.

Graduates often go on to careers within the legal profession, including:

- Legal practice in the UK and internationally
- Training contracts, mini-pupillages and membership of the Inns of Court
- Judicial roles in the Court of Appeal, High Court and County Courts
- Positions in international courts and tribunals, including the European Court of Human Rights
- Academic and doctoral research careers

Many also pursue careers outside law, such as:

- Education
- Civil service and government
- Politics and policy work
- Charities and international non-governmental organisations (NGOs)
- International organisations including the United Nations
- Banking, business management, accounting and finance
- Healthcare, including NHS roles, police and emergency services

As a member of the Pan-European Seal programme, the University of Liverpool partners with the European Union Intellectual Property Office and the European Patent Office. You can gain insights into the world's largest IP offices, attend networking events, access extra learning opportunities and apply for paid one-year internships.

The School of Law and Social Justice also has a traineeship agreement with the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR). LLM students can compete for an internship in Strasbourg, gaining valuable international experience and insight into human rights law in practice.

This LLM gives you the knowledge, skills and confidence to pursue a fulfilling career in law, social justice or any professional field. It also provides an ideal opportunity to gain advanced specialist knowledge in preparation for further postgraduate research.

Career support from day one to graduation and beyond

Career planning

From education to employment

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
Part-time place, per year - £6,250

International fees

Full-time place, per year - £28,000
Part-time place, per year - £14,000

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 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 £13,206 to help with course fees and living costs. **Learn more about paying for your studies**.

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. You can find information on the general and subject-specific costs you could expect to incur on our study costs webpage.

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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 (BA or LLB) or a closely related subject, including Political Science, Sociology, Philosophy, International Relations, Banking, Management Studies, Humanities, Social Sciences and Economics.

Applicants are considered on the basis of academic ability and potential and other relevant considerations are also taken into account. Applicants who have marginally missed the benchmark indicated above will be considered on a discretionary basis.

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.

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.

IELTS

6.5 overall, with no component below 6.0

TOEFL iBT

If you took a TOEFL test on or before 20 January 2026, you'll need 88 overall, with minimum scores of listening 19, writing 19, reading 19 and speaking 20. If you took a TOEFL test from 21 January 2026 onwards, when a new scoring system was introduced, you'll need 4.5 overall, with 4 or above in all components. TOEFL Home Edition not accepted.

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.

Pearson PTE Academic

61 overall, with no component below 59

LanguageCert Academic

70 overall, with no skill below 65

PSI Skills for English

B2 Pass with Merit in all bands

INDIA Standard XII

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

WAEC

C6 or above

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.

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 writing at 6.0 and no component below 5.5	6 weeks	On campus or online
5.5 overall, with writing at 5.5 and no component below 5.0	10 weeks	On campus or online
5.5 overall, with no more than one component at 5.0	12 weeks	Online
5.5 overall, with no component below 5.0	20 weeks	On campus

Your most recent IELTS score	Pre-sessional English course length	On campus or online
5.0 overall, with no more than one component at 4.5	30 weeks	On campus
4.5 overall, with no more than one component at 4.0	40 weeks	On campus

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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