Programme Specification

for the LLM Programme

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1. Programme title** | LLM, PG Dip in Law, PG Cert in LawLLM Legal Research, PG Dip Legal Research, PG Cert Legal ResearchLLM Employment Law, PG Dip Employment Law, PG Cert Employment LawLLM Minorities, Rights and the Law, PG Dip Minorities, Rights and the Law, PG Cert Minorities, Rights and the LawLLM International Business Law, PG Dip International Business Law, PG Cert International Business Law |
| **2. Awarding institution**  | Middlesex University |
| **3. Teaching institution**  | Middlesex University |
| **4. Programme accredited by**  |  |
| **5. Final qualification**  | LLM, PG Dip in Law, PG Cert in LawLLM Legal Research, PG Dip Legal Research, PG Cert Legal ResearchLLM Employment Law, PG Dip Employment Law, PG Cert Employment LawLLM Minorities, Rights and the Law, PG Dip Minorities, Rights and the Law, PG Cert Minorities, Rights and the LawLLM International Business Law, PG Dip International Business Law, PG Cert International Business Law |
| **6. Academic year** | 2012-13 |
| **7. Language of study** | English |
| **8. Mode of study** | Full or part-time (except for PG Cert programmes which are always part-time) |

|  |
| --- |
| **9. Criteria for admission to the programme**Law degree at 2:2 or above or overseas equivalentGraduate Diploma in Law/CPEGraduates in related disciplines, with law minors or with relevant professional experience or qualifications may be admitted subject to the programme leader’s discretion.Students whose first language is not English may be required to acquire IELTS 6.5 or equivalent.Students who have not previously studied law may be required to take a short non-assessed course “Introduction to Law” during the induction period.Entry with advanced standing is not permitted. |

|  |
| --- |
| **10. Aims of the programme** |
| The programme aims to:* Provide for law graduates and practitioners who wish to develop their interests in specialised areas of law and to enhance their marketability with a high-quality specialist legal education;
* Provide those wishing to pursue doctoral studies in law, knowledge of and competence in the skills required for doctoral level research in law;
* Offer a flexible programme of studies leading to higher qualifications in law;
* Broaden student’s awareness and knowledge of significant areas of law and deepen their understanding of legal processes, methods and concepts, of the social and political context in which legal processes take place and of appropriate theoretical conceptions of law;
* Enable students to acquire:
* For the PG Cert in a named pathway, advanced knowledge of some areas of a specialist subject;
* For the PG Dip in a named pathway, advanced knowledge of a range of areas of a specialist subject;
* For the LLM in a named pathway, advanced knowledge of a range of areas in a specialist area and in-depth knowledge of an aspect of that specialist area;
* For the general awards, knowledge as above but not necessarily all within a single specialist area.
* Enable students to acquire:
* For the PG Cert, PG Dip and LLM students will acquire advanced legal skills across a varying breadth of material depending on the award.
 |

|  |
| --- |
| **11. Programme outcomes** |
| **A. Knowledge and understanding**On completion of this programme the successful student will, depending upon their award, possess degrees of knowledge and understanding of the following at postgraduate level: 1. Aspects of at least one legal field, including its institutions and features;
2. Values, principles and rules which underlie the legal field(s);
3. Aspects of the context in which these operate;
4. Knowledge of the research methods necessary for postgraduate study;
5. Detailed knowledge of a particular area of law within the field or fields studied and of the questions and problems associated with it.

1. For the PG Cert, students will have knowledge and understanding as follows:* 1. Some aspects of a legal field, including its institutions and features;
	2. Some of the values, principles and rules which underlie the legal field;
	3. Some aspects of the context in which these operate;
	4. Some knowledge of the research methods necessary for postgraduate study.

2. For the PG Dip, students will have knowledge and understanding as follows:* 1. The main aspects of a legal field, including its institutions and features or, for the PG Dip in Law, some aspects of more than one legal field or, for the PG Dip in Legal Research, some aspects of a legal field;
	2. The main values, principles and rules which underlie the legal field or, for the PG Dip in Law, some of the values, principles and rules which underlie the legal fields chosen or, for the PG Dip in Legal Research, some of the values, principles and rules in the field chosen;
	3. The main aspects of the context in which these operate or, for the PG Dip in Law, some aspects in each of the fields chosen or, for the PG Dip Legal Research, some aspects in the field chosen;
	4. Knowledge or, for the LLM Legal Research, good knowledge of the research methods necessary for postgraduate study.

3. For the LLM, students will have the same knowledge and understanding as for the PG Dip award and, in addition:* 1. Detailed knowledge of a particular area of law within the field or fields studied and a sophisticated understanding of the questions and problems associated with it;
	2. A good knowledge, or for the LLM Legal Research, advanced knowledge of the research methods necessary for postgraduate study.
 | **Teaching/learning methods**Students gain knowledge and understanding through:* Lectures and interactive seminars will be used to communicate core information, to develop themes and ideas and to encourage students to participate actively in the lectures and seminars (1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3).
* Small group work will require students to engage in intensive programmes of structured reading and research and to present their findings both orally and in writing (1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4).
* Skills training will permit students to acquire the intellectual skills necessary for postgraduate work including identifying and locating appropriate materials, critical and analytical reading, writing skills and conventions. Students on the Legal Research pathway will gain a broader and deeper understanding of these issues by taking LEX4160 and two out of the following: STX4300, STX4700, HRM4710 (1.4, 2.4)
* LEX4165 will provide guidance on identifying a suitable research question, carrying out research, writing a literature review and planning and writing their dissertation (3.2)
* The teaching strategy will allow students to devise, research and execute sustained pieces of writing and research projects and to execute them under the supervision of a suitably qualified member of staff (1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3. 2.4, 3.1, 3.2).

**Assessment Method**Students’ knowledge and understanding is assessed by:* Assessed coursework (1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3. 2.4);
* Class participation (1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3. 2.4);
* Dissertation (3.1, 3.2)
 |
| **B. Cognitive (thinking) skills**On completion of this programme the successful student will demonstrate the ability, at postgraduate level, to: 1. Identify and analyse complex legal issues and problems;
2. Identify and evaluate some of the broader social, philosophical and policy contexts in which these issues and problems arise;
3. Critically examine the issues and problems identified;
4. Demonstrate a critical understanding of the appropriate legal values, principles and rules;
5. Understand the purposes of and apply academic conventions in research and writing;
6. Identify and implement suitable research methodologies.

Students taking the PG Cert, PG Dip and LLM will acquire advanced legal skills across a varying breadth of material, depending on the award.  | **Teaching/learning methods**Students learn cognitive skills through:* Lectures and interactive seminars (1, 2, 3, 4)
* Small group work (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6)
* Skills training (5, 6)
* Dissertation training (5, 6)
* Supervision (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6)

**Assessment Method**Students’ cognitive skills are assessed by:* Assessed coursework (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6)
* Class participation (1, 2, 3, 4)
* Dissertation (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6)
 |
| **C. Practical skills**On completion of the programme the successful student will demonstrate the ability, at postgraduate level, to: 1. Present complex legal arguments, using legal language accurately and effectively;
2. Summarise and synthesise complex legal material and arguments from reading;
3. Conduct legal research using a variety of sources;
4. Write coherently and analytically, observing appropriate academic conventions.

As law graduates, most students will already possess these skills at a basic level. For the PG Cert, students will improve these skills to a limited degree beyond basic. For the PG Dip, students will improve these skills to a good level although students taking the PG Dip Legal Research, will show more development of research skills and less development of the other skills than students taking the other pathways or the PG Dip Law.For the LLM, students will acquire these skills at an advanced level although students taking the LLM Legal Research may show less development of legal argument skills and more development of research skills than students taking the named pathways or the LLM in law. | **Teaching/learning methods**Students learn practical skills through:* Small group work (1, 2, 3)
* Skills training (3, 4)
* Dissertation training (3, 4)
* Supervision (1, 2, 3, 4)

**Assessment Method**Students’ practical skills are assessed by:* Assessed coursework (1, 2, 3, 4)
* Class participation (1, 2, 3)
* Dissertation (1, 2, 3, 4)
 |
| **D. Graduate Skills**Not applicable to postgraduate programmes. | **Teaching/learning methods**Not applicable to postgraduate programmes.**Assessment method**Not applicable to postgraduate programmes. |

|  |
| --- |
| **12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)** |
| **12. 1 Overall structure of the programme** |
| The primary aim of this programme is to provide for law graduates and practitioners who wish to develop their interests in a specialised area of law and enhance their marketability through a higher qualification in law. The aim is to offer a flexible postgraduate programme in the London area. The named pathways:* International Business Law
* Employment Law
* Minorities, Rights and the Law
* Legal Research

Provide structured programmes of learning that enables students to acquire knowledge and skills in key areas of the pathway. The Legal Research pathway provides training for prospective PhD students. The general PG Cert/PG Dip/LLM enables students to acquire knowledge and skills in a range of areas of law according to availability and student preference. Providing named awards at postgraduate certificate and postgraduate diploma level as well as the LLM level permits students to commit themselves to more limited specialist programmes where these are most appropriate to their needs, for example, in terms of career progression. There is a strong research element incorporated into the programme. This is developed in the taught modules through structured reading, small group teaching and assessment and through a programme of academic skills training. This permits students to improve their research capabilities incrementally so that they are well-placed to undertake the dissertation module. The dissertation module will also contain a programme of skills training specific to the dissertation. Through the dissertation, students will gain an in-depth understanding of an element of their chosen pathway or, in the case of the general LLM, of any appropriate area, in all cases, subject to approval of the module leader and the availability of supervision.The programme is either one year full-time or two years part-time. The programme consists of: * For the PG Cert, two 30 credit modules;
* For the PG Dip, four 30 credit modules;
* For the LLM, four 30 credit modules and a 60 credit dissertation module.

Students who wish to follow named pathways must take the modules that are compulsory for their pathway and choose their remaining modules from an approved list. Students on the general pathways may choose any modules from the approved list.PG Cert students will almost always take the two compulsory modules for their pathway. In exceptional circumstances (for example, where a student has extensive prior knowledge), and with the approval of the programme leader, students may take another approved module or modules in place of the compulsory module(s).The following modules will be available: LEX4110 Issues in EU LawLEX4115 International Organisations and International Dispute ResolutionLEX4120 Globalisation and TradeLEX4130 Corporate Governance and Corporate ResponsibilityLEX4140 International Human RightsLEX4145 Minorities and Groups in Vulnerable PositionsLEX4151 International Migration and the LawLEX4155 Intellectual Property and Media LawLEX4160 Legal Research SkillsLEX4165 DissertationLEX4175 Discrimination and the Law LEX4045 Recruitment and Termination Law Students following named pathways will study these modules as follows:**International Business Law*** LEX4120 Globalisation and Trade (compulsory)
* LEX4115 International Organisations and International Dispute Resolution (compulsory)

PG Dip and LLM students will choose two from the following:* LEX4130 Corporate Governance and Corporate Responsibility
* LEX4151 International Migration and the Law
* LEX4110 Issues in EU law
* LEX4140 International Human Rights
* LEX4155 Intellectual Property and Media Law

 LLM students who have completed four taught modules as above will take: * LEX4165 Dissertation

**Employment Law** * LEX4045 Recruitment and Termination Law (compulsory)
* LEX4175 Discrimination and the Law (compulsory)
* PG Dip and LLM students will choose two from the following:
* LEX4130 Corporate Governance and Corporate Responsibility
* LEX4140 International Human Rights
* LEX4115 International Organisations and International Dispute Resolution
* LEX4110 Issues in EU law
* LEX4151 International Migration and the Law

LLM students who have completed four taught modules as above will take: * LEX4165 Dissertation

**Minorities, Rights and the Law** * LEX4151 International Migration and the Law (compulsory)
* LEX4145 Minorities and groups in Vulnerable Positions (compulsory)

PG Dip and LLM students will choose two from the following:* LEX4140 International Human Rights
* LEX4110 Issues in EU law
* LEX4115 International Organisations and International Dispute Resolution
* LEX4120 Globalisation and Trade
* LEX4175 Discrimination and the Law

LLM students who have completed four taught modules as above will take: * + LEX4165 Dissertation

**Legal Research**Students on the PG Cert will take:* LEX4160 Legal Research Skills (compulsory)

One of the following:* STX4300 Statistical Data Analysis
* STX4700 Methodology and Research Design
* HRM4710 Qualitative Research Methods

Students on the PG Dip and LLM will take:* LEX4160 Legal Research Skills (compulsory)

Two of the following:* + STX4300 Statistical Data Analysis
	+ STX4700 Methodology and Research Design
	+ HRM4710 Qualitative Research Methods

 One of the following:* + LEX4130 Corporate Governance and Corporate Responsibility
	+ LEX4175 Discrimination and the Law
	+ LEX4120 Globalisation and Trade
	+ LEX4155 Intellectual Property and Media Law
	+ LEX4140 International Human Rights
	+ LEX4115 International Organisations and International Dispute Resolution
	+ LEX4110 Issues in EU law
	+ LEX4151 International Migration and the Law
	+ LEX4045 Recruitment and Termination Law
	+ LEX4145 Minorities and Groups in Vulnerable Positions

LLM students who have completed four taught modules as above will take: * + LEX4165 Dissertation

**General pathway (PG Cert in Law / PG Dip in Law / LLM )**Students studying for the PG Cert may choose any 2 and students studying for the PG Dip and LLM may choose any 4 modules from:  * LEX4130 Corporate Governance and Corporate Responsibility
* LEX4175 Discrimination and the Law
* LEX4120 Globalisation and Trade
* LEX4155 Intellectual Property and Media Law
* LEX4140 International Human Rights
* LEX4115 International Organisations and International Dispute Resolution
* LEX4110 Issues in EU law
* LEX4151 International Migration and the Law
* LEX4045 Recruitment and Termination Law
* LEX4145 Minorities and Groups in Vulnerable Positions

LLM students who have completed four taught modules as above will take: * + LEX4165 Dissertation

The teaching strategy is innovative and is designed to be adaptable according to student need and demand. Each 30-credit module (apart from LEX4045 and LEX4165) consists of 15 hours whole class teaching which will provide the basic framework of the subject area. Students will then be taught in small groups during which they will be able to follow an aspect of the module that is appropriate to their pathway. They will follow a course of structured reading and tasks, meeting on a regular basis with a supervising tutor. The precise duration and frequency of these meetings will depend upon the number of students and the nature of the tasks they have been set. However, it is anticipated that there will not be fewer than five such meetings of 1.5 hours each. In addition, students will be expected to undertake between 270 and 280 hours of additional personal study for each module. In addition to the taught modules, all students (except those taking the Legal Research pathway) will be expected to attend skills training sessions in LEX4161. These sessions will offer explanation and practical training in postgraduate academic skills (academic reading, writing, research (electronic and paper), referencing, citation and avoiding plagiarism and academic dishonesty). This is prior to and in addition to the more advanced training that students will receive on the dissertation module.The approach to teaching and learning on this programme reflects the flexible nature of the programme and its component modules. It will encourage the development of autonomous and reflective learning and the conscious acquisition of new skills and knowledge. The forms of assessment adopted will provide opportunities for students to demonstrate their acquisition of these new competencies. The dissertation gives students the opportunity to demonstrate that they have explored the boundaries of their subjects of study and have acquired high-level academic skills.The full-time LLM and PG Dip programmes are designed to be completed during one calendar year comprising two taught semesters and, where applicable, one dissertation period. Attendance may be required during the day and/or evening, depending on students’ choice of modules. The part-time programme is designed to be completed over four taught semesters for the LLM and PG Dip programmes plus a dissertation period, where applicable or two semesters for the PG Cert programme. All students must obtain 180 credit points to qualify for the degree of LLM. Students on the PG Dip programme must obtain 120 credit points and students on the PG Cert programme must obtain 60 points.  |

|  |
| --- |
| **12.2 Levels and modules** **Starting in academic year 2010/11 the University is changing the way it references modules to state the level of study in which these are delivered. This is to comply with the national Framework for Higher Education Qualifications. This implementation will be a gradual process whilst records are updated. Therefore the old coding is bracketed below.** |
| All modules are at Level 7 (4) |
| **PG Cert/PG Dip/LLM International Business Law** |
| COMPULSORY | OPTIONAL  | PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS |
| Subject to the limited exception noted above for PG Cert students, all students must take the following:* LEX4120 Globalisation and Trade
* LEX4115 International Organisations and International Dispute Resolution

LLM students also take:* LEX 4165 Dissertation Module
 | PG Dip and LLM students must also choose at least two from the following:* LEX4130 Corporate Governance and Corporate Responsibility
* LEX 4151 International Migration and the Law
* LEX4110 Issues in EU Law
* LEX4140 International Human Rights
* LEX4155 Intellectual Property and Media Law
 | LLM students must pass four taught modules before taking the Dissertation Module |
| **PG Cert/PG Dip/LLM Employment Law** |
| COMPULSORY | OPTIONAL  | PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS |
| Subject to the limited exception noted above for PG Cert students, all students must take the following:* LEX4045 Recruitment and Employment Law
* LEX4175 Discrimination and the Law

LLM students must also take:* LEX 4165 Dissertation Module
 | PG Dip and LLM students must also choose at least two from the following:* LEX4110 Issues in EU Law
* LEX4115 International Organisations and International Dispute Resolution
* LEX4130 Corporate Governance and Corporate Responsibility
* LEX4140 International Human Rights
* LEX4151 International Migration and the Law
 | LLM students must pass four taught modules before taking the Dissertation Module |
| **G Cert/PG Dip/LLM Minorities, Rights and the Law** |
| COMPULSORY | OPTIONAL  | PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS |
| Subject to the limited exception noted above for PG Cert students, all students must take the following:* LEX4151 International Migration and the Law
* LEX4145 Minorities and Groups in Vulnerable Positions

LLM students must also take* LEX4165 Dissertation Module
 | PG Dip and LLM students must also choose at least two from the following:* LEX4140 International Human Rights
* LEX4110 Issues in EU law
* LEX4115 International Organisations and International Dispute Resolution
* LEX4120 Globalisation and Trade
* LEX4175 Discrimination and the Law
 | LLM students must pass the four taught modules before taking the Dissertation Module |
| **PG Cert/ PG Dip/LLM Legal Research** |
| COMPULSORY | OPTIONAL  | PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS |
| PG Cert/ PG Dip/LLM students must take the following: * LEX4160 Legal Research Skills

LLM students must also take:* LEX4165 Dissertation Module
 | PG Cert must chose one and PG Dip/LLM students must also choose at least two from the following:* STX 4300 Statistical data Analysis
* STX 4700 Methodology and Research Design
* HRM 4710 Qualitative Research Methods

PG Dip/LLM students may also choose one of the following:* LEX4130 Corporate Governance and Corporate Responsibility
* LEX4175 Discrimination and the Law
* LEX4120 Globalisation and Trade
* LEX4155 Intellectual Property and Media Law
* LEX4140 International Human Rights
* LEX4115 International Organisations and International Dispute Resolution
* LEX4110 Issues in EU law
* LEX4151 International Migration and the Law
* LEX4045 Recruitment and Termination Law
* LEX4145 Minorities and Groups in Vulnerable Positions
 | LLM students must pass four taught modules before taking the Dissertation Module |
| **LLM** |
| COMPULSORY | OPTIONAL | PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS |
| LLM students must take* LEX4165 Dissertation Module
 | PG Cert students must take two and PG Dip/LLM students must take four of the following:* LEX4130 Corporate Governance and Corporate Responsibility
* LEX4175 Discrimination and the Law
* LEX4120 Globalisation and Trade
* LEX4155 Intellectual Property and Media Law
* LEX4140 International Human Rights
* LEX4115 International Organisations and International Dispute Resolution
* LEX4110 Issues in EU law
* LEX4151 International Migration and the Law
* LEX4045 Recruitment and Termination Law
* LEX4145 Minorities and Groups in Vulnerable Positions
 | LLM students must pass four taught modules before taking the Dissertation Module |

|  |
| --- |
| **12.3 Non-compensatable modules (note statement in 12.2 regarding FHEQ levels)** |
| **Module level** | **Module code** |
| Level 4 | LEX4165 Dissertation Module |

|  |
| --- |
| **13. A curriculum map relating learning outcomes to modules** |
| **See Curriculum Map attached** |

|  |
| --- |
| **14. Information about assessment regulations** |
| This programme conforms to the regulations of Middlesex University and its Business School concerning postgraduate studies. |

|  |
| --- |
| **15. Placement opportunities, requirements and support (if applicable)** |
| There is no provision at the moment for placement opportunities. Part-time students working in a legal environment may take LEX4170 and will be offered the necessary support within the module.  |

|  |
| --- |
| **16. Future careers (if applicable)** |
| Students have access to the University careers service and are offered informal advice by the Programme Leader and other contributors to the programme.The LLM is a marketable qualification and previous graduates of the programmes have gone on to work for legal departments of public and private sector organisations, multinational companies, international organisations, and government departments. Some have continued their higher studies via a Ph.D.  |

|  |
| --- |
| **17. Particular support for learning (if applicable)** |
| Students joining the programmes are:* Offered a tailor-made induction programme
* Offered a programme of specialist skills training and advised about opportunities for generic language and skills training
* Provided with close personal supervision throughout the course via their module tutors and/or the programme leader
* Allocated an appropriate dissertation supervisor when they reach the dissertation stage
* Supplied with a comprehensive programme handbook and separate module handbooks for all modules including a detailed dissertation handbook
* Provided with access to all learning resources on UniHub
* Able to access all MU learning resources
* Able to access libraries other than Middlesex University.
 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **18. JACS code (or other relevant coding system)** | **M200** |
| **19. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s)** | **N/A** |

|  |
| --- |
| **20. Reference points*** QAA Qualifications Framework
* University Regulations
* University Learning and Teaching Strategy
 |

|  |
| --- |
| **21. Other information** |
| None  |

Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the student programme handbook and the University Regulations.