



# LLM International Business and Commercial Law

## **How the new Learning Framework will affect this programme of study**

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Faculty of Business and Law

## **Introduction**

Middlesex University takes student feedback very seriously. We're recognised as one of the **top 5 universities in the country** for responding to student feedback.

Over the last few years, we've been working in partnership with our Students' Union (MDXSU) to gather your feedback about the structure of programmes and teaching across Middlesex. We've been asking for students' views through surveys, collecting feedback shared with student representatives (Student Voice Leaders), running pop-up stalls on campus and organising focus groups.

We're using this feedback to make changes to our Learning Framework – our structure for how our modules, programmes and academic year are designed to best support student learning and success.

This document summarises all the changes to the structure and delivery of LLM International Business and Commercial Law. These changes will take place from the start of the 2025/26 academic year. Page 3 of this document summarises the new structure of your programme and how this compared to your current (old) structure. Page summarises changes to the delivery of your programme.

If you're expecting to Graduate this summer, you will not be affected by these changes.

## **Where to go if you have questions or concerns**

For applicants, please direct any questions about changes to your programme to the Applicant Engagement Team. Please email [postgraduate@mdx.ac.uk](mailto:postgraduate@mdx.ac.uk) | phone: 0208 411 5555 or use our live chat function on the University website ([www.mdx.ac.uk](http://www.mdx.ac.uk))

For current students, please check out our [frequently asked questions](#). These will hopefully cover any questions or perceived issues that you may have. If you do not find an answer to your question, please get in touch with [UniHelp](#). Our UniHelp staff will either be able to resolve your query directly or will liaise with your Programme Leader to gather more details.

## **Changes to the structure of your programme**

This section provides a visual summary of how LLM International Business and Commercial Law is currently structured and how it will be structured from 2025/26 in the new academic year. Within the new programme structure, you can see all the modules taught across your programme and an indication of likely optional modules. Please note not all optional modules may be available every year as they are subject to receiving sufficient interest from students.

## New programme structure

Programme structure for full-time students. All modules named within programme diagrams are mandatory, with slots for potential optional modules also included. The number of credits for each module are given within brackets.

For students that do not study full time e.g. part time students, please contact your Programme Leader for how this change will affect your study.

### Full-time LLM in International Business and Commercial Law structure- September start students

Semester 1	Semester 2	Semester 3
LEX4801 Legal Research Skills (30 credits) (core) LEX4802 Law of the International Sale of Goods (15 credits) (core) One option module (15 credits): LEX4803 English Commercial Law OR LEX4804 Technology and the Law OR LEX4805 Principles of International Law [Dubai and Mauritius only] OR LEX4807 Mergers and Acquisitions [Dubai and Mauritius only]  LEX4800 Postgraduate Legal Work Experience (non-credit bearing)	LEX4809 International Commercial Litigation and Arbitration (30 credits) (core) LEX4810 Comparative Corporate Governance (15 credits) (core) One option module (15 credits): LEX4811 Law and Policy of the World Trade Organization OR LEX4812 Business and Human Rights OR LEX4818 UAE and DIFC Employment Law [Dubai only] OR LEX4817 Technology in Legal Practice and Dispute Resolution [Dubai only] OR LEX4819 International Maritime Law [Dubai and Mauritius only] LEX4800 Postgraduate Legal Work Experience (non-credit bearing)	LEX4165 Dissertation (60 credits) Or LEX4770 Work Integrated Learning (eligible students only) (60 credits) LEX4800 Postgraduate Legal Work Experience (non-credit bearing)

### Full-time LLM in International Business and Commercial Law structure- January start students

Semester 2	Semester 3	Semester 1
LEX4821 Legal Research and Writing Skills (15 credits core)	LEX4165 Dissertation (60 credits) Or	LEX4802 Law of the International Sale of Goods (15 credits) (core)

LEX4809 International Commercial Litigation and Arbitration (30 credits) (core) LEX4810 Comparative Corporate Governance (15 credits) (core) LEX4800 Postgraduate Legal Work Experience (non-credit bearing)	LEX4770 Work Integrated Learning (eligible students only) (60 credits)  LEX4800 Postgraduate Legal Work Experience (non-credit bearing)	Three modules (15 credits- core for Hendon students only): LEX4803 English Commercial Law LEX4804 Technology and the Law LEX4805 Principles of International Law OR LEX4807 Mergers and Acquisitions [Dubai and Mauritius only] LEX4800 Postgraduate Legal Work Experience (non-credit bearing)
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Please note that optional modules are dependent on there being enough students interested in each academic year for them to run. If an optional module does not run, we will advise you after the module selection period when numbers are confirmed, or at the earliest time that the Programme Team make the decision not to run the module, and help you choose an alternative module.

### Current (old) programme structure

**Please note that this is the current programme structure – this will not continue into the 2025/26 academic year**

<b>Term 1</b> (20 credits modules)
Legal Research Skills (compulsory) Individual Employment Law (Not running in 2023/24) UK and European Anti-Discrimination Law (Not running in 2023/24) Foundations and Principles of International Law Minority Rights and Indigenous Peoples in International Law (Not running 2023/24) English Commercial Law (compulsory) Law of the International Sale of Goods (compulsory for LLM and PG Dip students) European Human Rights Law and Practice International Migration and the Law (not running in 2022/2023)  One of the following non-LEX modules (only one non-LEX module can be taken either in term 1 or 2): Sustainable Development and Human Rights Environmental Law and Governance Migration Theories and Approaches  N.B. Postgraduate Legal Work Experience is a non-credit bearing option module taken in addition to other modules.

<b>Term 2</b> (20 credits modules)
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<p>Dismissal Law (Not running in 2023/24) International Whistleblowing Law and Practice (Not running in 2023/24) International Organisations and International Dispute Resolution International Human Rights Law International Humanitarian Law (Not running in 2023/24) International Criminal Law (Not running in 2023/24) International Commercial Litigation and Arbitration (compulsory) International Maritime Law (Not running in 2023/24) Comparative Corporate Governance (Not running in 2023/24) Business and Human Rights Intellectual Property Law International Competition Law (Not running in 2023/24)</p>
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One of the following non-LEX modules (only one non-LEX module can be taken either in term 1 or 2):

Politics of Globalisation  
Integrated Work and Learning (barred combination with SSC4060 Work Integrated Learning).  
Migration Politics and Policies

N.B. LAW4500 Postgraduate Legal Work Experience is a non-credit bearing option module taken in addition to other modules.

<b>Term 3</b> (60 credit modules)***
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<p>Dissertation Work Integrated Learning (eligible students only)</p>
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N.B. LAW4500 Postgraduate Legal Work Experience is a non-credit bearing option module taken in addition to other modules.

### **Changes to the delivery of your programme**

Utilising all the feedback from students, we have made some changes to the way that all programmes at Middlesex will be delivered, ensuring that we are best able to support your learning and success.

#### **A more consistent structure to our academic year**

We will adjust the structure of our academic year into three 12-week semesters. Full time students will usually study modules in the first two semesters, with a third semester to provide more flexibility for students who need to re-sit assessments or catch up in other ways.

This new structure also sets us up for the future, by making it easier to provide opportunities for students to join Middlesex at different points in the year.

Your programme will consist of 15, 30 or 60 credit modules each semester for full-time postgraduate students.

### **Integrated curriculum design**

We receive a lot of positive feedback from students on programmes that were **practical and clearly embedding competencies needed by employers**. Our framework will ensure that all programmes reflect this Middlesex approach and allow you to **better differentiate yourself in the graduate marketplace**. A set of graduate competencies will be embedded into the content on your programme, to ensure that you can gain these skills as part of your studies. We also expect programmes to include embedded approaches to developing key IT skills for your subject area.

### **Assessment**

We have received so much helpful feedback from students on what helps them to submit their best work in assessments and what makes it more challenging. We expect that the new structure of programmes will mean that students have fewer assessments throughout the year, which allows students to focus better on each assessment point.

Re-takes and re-submission of assessments can be extra challenging if it takes place long after a module has happened. Where possible, we will introduce a new approach where these re-assessments take place before the end of the relevant module.

We also will be phasing out our current 20-point scale for assessment results, to be replaced with a much more intuitive percentage scale.