

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION – LL.M. in International Human Rights Law

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| 1 | Awarding Institution: | University of Exeter |
| 2 | School(s)/Teaching Institution: | School of Law, University of Exeter |
| 3 | Programme accredited/validated by: | |
| 4 | Final Award(s): | LLM |
| 5 | Programme Title: | LLM in International Human Rights Law |
| 6 | UCAS Code (if relevant): | N/A |
| 7 | FHEQ Level of Final Award(s): | M |
| 8 | QAA Subject Benchmarking Group: | N/A |
| 9 | Date of Production/Revision: | February 2008 |

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| 10 | Programme Structures and Requirements, Levels, Modules, Credits and Awards |
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The programme is studied over one year, in 3 x 10 week terms, and is University-based throughout that time; in addition to the 3 terms, students have a 4 month period in which to complete a dissertation. The programme is divided into units of study called modules. Modules have a credit rating of 15, 30 or 60 credits (15 for half-modules over 1 semester, 30 for full modules over 2 semesters, 60 for the final dissertation) and 180 credits are required for this programme. Part-time study over a longer period is possible by negotiation with the School.

| HE Level M | Module | credit value |
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Compulsory modules:

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| LAWM640 | Dissertation | 60 |
| LAWM671 | International Human Rights Law | 30 |

AND 30 credits from the following:

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| LAWM622 | International and European Refugee Law (LAWM635 + LAWM672) | 30 |
| LAWM631 | Human Rights and International Business Policy | 15 |
| LAWM635 | Immigrants and Refugees in the European Union <i>(cannot be taken in conjunction with LAWM622)</i> | 15 |
| LAWM642 | Transnational Crime (offered by Politics Dept) | 15 |
| LAWM660 | Comparative Access to Justice <i>Cannot be taken in conjunction with LAWM661 &/or LAWM662)</i> | 30 |
| LAWM661 | Comparative Civil Process | 15 |
| LAWM662 | Comparative Legal Profession | 15 |
| LAWM670 | European Convention on Human Rights | 30 |
| LAWM672 | International Refugee Law <i>(cannot be taken in conjunction with LAWM622)</i> | 15 |
| LAWM683 | International Criminal Law | 30 |
| LAWM684 | International Humanitarian Law | 15 |
| LAWM693 | Law and the Philosophy of Liberty <i>Cannot be taken in conjunction with LAWM694 &/or LAWM695)</i> | 30 |
| LAWM694 | Law and the Philosophy of Liberty (Part I) | 15 |
| LAWM695 | Law and the Philosophy of Liberty (Part II) | 15 |
| ARAM151 | Islamic Law and Society | 15 |

AND 60 credits from the above or following:

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| LAWM604 | EC Competition Law | 15 |
| LAWM605 | EC Agricultural Law | 15 |
| LAWM610 | Transnational Commercial Law | 30 |
| LAWM612A | Regulation of International Trade <i>Cannot be taken in conjunction with LAWM691 &/or LAWM692)</i> | 30 |
| LAWM614 | Carriage of Goods by Sea (semester 1) | 15 |
| LAWM616 | European Company Law | 30 |
| LAWM618 | Comparative Commercial Conflict of Laws | 30 |
| LAWM625 | European Integration (Historical and Economic Aspects) | 15 |
| LAWM626 | European Integration (Political and Legal Aspects) | 15 |
| LAWM627 | European Integration <i>Cannot be taken in conjunction with LAWM625 &/or LAWM626)</i> | 30 |
| LAWM632 | International Environmental Law | 15 |
| LAWM634 | Environmental Law <i>Cannot be taken in conjunction with LAWM632 &/or LAWM690)</i> | 30 |
| LAWM645 | EC Consumer Protection | 15 |
| LAWM646 | EC Consumer Protection and Advertising | 15 |
| LAWM647 | EC Consumer Law <i>Cannot be taken in conjunction with LAWM645 &/or LAWM646)</i> | 30 |
| LAWM665 | Modern European Commercial Legal History | 30 |
| LAWM666 | EC Internal Market Law | 30 |
| LAWM667 | Comparative Methodology | 15 |
| LAWM673 | Copyright Law and Policy | 15 |
| LAWM675 | Intellectual Property Law and Policy <i>Cannot be taken in conjunction with LAWM673 &/or LAWM696)</i> | 30 |
| LAWM677 | Aspects of European Private Law | 15 |
| LAWM682 | Monetary Movements | 15 |
| LAWM686 | Approaches to Research in Law | 15 |
| LAWM687 | Socio-Legal Research Skills | 15 |
| LAWM688 | Law and Social Theory | 15 |
| LAWM689 | The Family, Law and Social Change | 15 |
| LAWM690 | European Environmental Law and Regulation | 15 |
| LAWM691 | International Trade and Development | 15 |
| LAWM692 | Principles of International Trade | 15 |
| LAWM696 | Patent Law and Policy | 15 |
| LAWM697 | Globalization and Legal Theory | 15 |

Modules are not all available every year; options are offered each year at the discretion of the School

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| 11 | Educational Aims of the Programme |
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1. To provide students with the opportunity to address the problems and issues of human rights law at national, regional and international levels, taking account of substantive as well as institutional factors.
2. To afford students exposure to several systems of human rights law thereby enabling them to look at and criticise their own and other systems of human rights law from an informed perspective.
3. To enable students to identify, locate and critically appraise legal materials from more than one jurisdiction and also from international sources.
4. To enable students to assimilate extensive legal and non-legal sources; to extract from them the material points, and to make autonomous judgments as to their relevance.
5. To enable students to apply the principles of domestic and international law and legal rules to solve and analyse practical problems in an international context.
6. To encourage students reason logically, supporting the process with authority.
7. To provide students with the necessary intellectual and practical legal skills, such as analysis, problem-solving and legal reasoning, to enable them independently to achieve an understanding of any branch of international human rights law even if they had not previously studied it.
8. To provide students with the opportunity to enhance and develop their writing skills by completing a dissertation and their oral communication skills by presenting seminar papers.
9. To prepare students for employment in private practice, corporate or public employment relating to international public law generally and international human rights law more specifically by developing their transferable and problem-based learning skills.

On successfully completing the programme, a graduate should be able to demonstrate:

A

Subject knowledge and skills: ability to

1. demonstrate a thorough knowledge and a critical understanding of key elements of national, regional and international human rights law.
2. follow and understand current developments in national, regional and international human rights law.
3. apply the principles of law and legal rules to solve and analyse practical problems in an international human rights law context.
4. analyse, evaluate and interpret the principal source materials of national, regional and international law relevant to human rights law.
5. understand and explain the interaction between different subject areas in International Human Rights Law as well as the interaction between national, regional and international human rights law.
6. have an understanding of some of the relevant social, economic, political and cultural contexts within which international (including regional) and domestic Human Rights Law operates.

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

Seminars; library tuition; essays; dissertation.
Oral and written feedback.

Assessment

The programme uses a variety of forms and methods of assessment and feedback appropriate to its intended learning outcomes:

- Assessed essays, with written feedback.
- Dissertation, with written feedback.

B

Core academic skills: ability to

1. identify, locate and retrieve legal materials at both domestic and supra-national level in paper, electronic and on-line form.
2. apply national and supra-national legal knowledge to a practical situation of limited complexity and to draw reasoned and arguable conclusions from it, supported by legal authority and sound and logical argument.
3. know and practise the principles and techniques of advanced and autonomous research.
4. synthesise information from a number of primary and secondary legal and other sources; appreciate their relative value; and separate the relevant from the peripheral: understand the interaction between 2 or 3 levels of regulation.
5. make a critical judgement of the merits of particular arguments and make a reasoned choice between alternative solutions or arguments.
6. work independently in planning and undertaking assignments.
7. research the law independently.

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

- Seminar papers, with oral and/or written feedback.
- Presentations, with oral and/or written feedback.
- Essays; with written feedback.
- Word processing and other information technology.

Assessment

- Coursework (formative assessment); with oral and/or written feedback.
- Assessed essays; with written feedback.
- Dissertation providing evidence in writing of the student's skills, knowledge and capacity to critically evaluate as independent learner. Written feedback is given on the dissertation.

C

Personal and key skills: ability to

- manage time effectively and prioritise tasks by working to strict deadlines.
- take responsibility for one's own learning by planning and managing tasks with limited guidance; identifying their own resources and seeking and making use of feedback.
- perform assigned academic tasks and co-ordinate them with other students'.
- work effectively as part of a team in producing and presenting seminar papers.
- communicate effectively to others when participating in seminar discussions.
- evaluate and assess his or her own abilities performance and understanding, to reflect on his or her own learning and to seek advice and feedback.
- use some electronic information management tools, such as word processing, email, the internet and some other electronic retrieval systems.
- utilise problem-solving skills in theoretical or practical contexts.
- be aware of key career opportunities and the need for forward planning.

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

- Transferable skills permeate every activity within the programme content and assessment – essays, dissertation, presentations, word processing and other IT skills.
- A distinctive feature of the programme is its emphasis on research-based assessment methods (essays, dissertation) rather than formal written exams. The programme involves the students in both independent study and group work in the form of seminar discussions and presentations. As the students come from various jurisdictions, their learning takes place in a comparative perspective.

Assessment

See above.

D

The programme broadly conforms with the QAA Benchmark Statement for Law as applied in the context of a postgraduate degree.

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

Assessment

General:

The University Library maintains its principal collections in the main library buildings on the Streatham and St Luke's campuses, together with a large library at Camborne School of Mines and a number of specialist collections in certain Schools. The total Library collection comprises over a million volumes and 3000 current periodical subscriptions. The Lasok Law Library is in the Amory building and contains the specific Law collection.

Information Technology (IT) Services provide a wide range of services throughout the University including open access computer rooms, some of which are available 24 hours, 7 days a week. Additionally, the School has its own dedicated facilities. A Helpdesk is maintained on the Streatham campus, while most study bedrooms in halls and flats are linked to the University's campus network.

On the Cornwall campus, the Learning Resource Centre contains a library of 70,000 volumes and some specialist collections. IT Services provide a range of central services, including open and training clusters of PCs (available on a 24/7 basis) within the Centre.

Following University policy the School has in place a system of personal tutors for each student. A University-wide statement on such provision is included in the University's TQA Manual (see <http://www.ex.ac.uk/admin/academic/tls/tqa/>.)

The University provides a wide range of student support services including:

- Student Counselling Service
- Study Skills Service
- Student Advice Centre (Guild of Students)
- International Office
- International Student Exchange and Support Office
- Disability Resource Centre
- Student Health Centre
- Family Centre (Streatham campus)
- Chaplaincy
- Foreign Language Centres
- INTO

The Law School has a Careers Adviser. The University Careers Advisory Service also provides expert advice to all students to enable them to plan their futures, through guidance interviews, psychometric testing, employer presentations, skills events, practice job interviews and CV preparation. It also organises a Law Fair which is held at the beginning of each year and attracts many large London and regional law firms. For more information see: <http://www.exeter.ac.uk/employability/>.

On the Cornwall campus, student services are provided by the Combined Services for the University and for University College Falmouth (with which the University shares the campus).

The School, as required, has a Student/Staff Liaison Committee to allow its students to contribute directly to the enhancement of educational and other provision in Law.

Specific to the programme:

- Induction: Introduction to the various modules.
- Library induction.
- Introductory programme for international students.
- Student handbook (available at: http://www.law.ex.ac.uk/handbooks/documents/PGThandbook_121207.pdf); module guides; seminar handouts.
- Student guide to legal writing.
- Tour of European institutions in Brussels, Luxembourg and Strasbourg.
- Ready access to teaching staff at no or short notice (in contrast to many European universities).
- Dedicated Law Library which occupies two floors and houses 40,000 volumes and the University European Documentation Centre. In addition to comprehensive collections of UK statutes, SIs and law reports the Library holds all major series of international law reports and law journals. Students can also access most of this material online via databases including LexisNexis, Westlaw and HeinOnline, together with much material which is not available in print. The library also includes a large student study area. For more information, see <http://www.library.ex.ac.uk/law/>. Specific guides to legal research are provided by the Academic Support Consultant for Law at <http://www.library.ex.ac.uk/courses/law/>
- Student representation at meetings.

15 Admission Criteria

Candidates must satisfy the general admissions requirements of the university and of the School of Law for postgraduates. University entrance requirements for postgraduate degree programmes are found in the University of Exeter Graduate School Prospectus.

The entrance requirements for the LL.M. programmes normally comprise a reasonably good law degree (high 2.2 or equivalent). Applicants with other degrees or qualifications are considered if their previous education included a substantial legal element. In addition we have a special procedure for potential students who may be able to take advantage of our WP policy. Non-standard (e.g. mature) students may in addition be interviewed in order to assess their true suitability and capabilities.

Overseas students:

Overseas students must show proficiency in the English language and have an appropriate qualification (eg Certificate of Proficiency in English of the Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate, IELTS, TOEFL and other equivalent examinations). For more information, see <http://www.ex.ac.uk/postgraduate/admissions/english.shtml>

The School of Law actively promotes University policies with respect to equality of opportunity. Admissions information relating to disability can be found at <http://www.ex.ac.uk/disability/statement>.

16 Regulation of Assessment and Academic Standards

Assessment Rules and Honours classification:

- Minimum passmark for all modules is 50%.
- Overview of assessment details are found in the University Website (Postgraduate Taught Programmes Assessment Procedures) and in postgraduate student documentation. The Law School is subject to an agreed School assessment marking strategy, underpinned by institution-wide assessment procedures. The security of assessment and academic standards is further supported through the external examiners appointed for each programme. Their responsibilities are described in the University's code for external examiners and include access to draft papers, course work and examination scripts. Attendance at the Board of Examiners and the provision of an annual report are both required. Clear procedures are also in place for the monitoring of these annual reports at both School and University level.
- To qualify for a degree, students must complete all programme requirements and pass 4 modules (or their equivalent), i.e. 120 credits of taught modules plus 60 credits for the dissertation module, totaling 180 credits.
- All marks contribute to the final classification of the degree.
- Marks for a module in the 40%-49% range are, in clearly defined circumstances condoned for the purposes of awarding credit (For further information see the TQA manual (<http://www.admin.ex.ac.uk/academic/tls/tqa/pgcrit1.htm>))

Summary of marks and their interpretation for degree classification:

| Mark | Classification |
|-----------|--------------------|
| 70% + | Distinction |
| 60% - 69% | Merit |
| 50% - 59% | Pass |
| 40% - 49% | Compensatable fail |
| 39% - | Fail |

For the conventions applied, see the TQA manual (<http://www.ex.ac.uk/admin/academic/tls/tqa/>).

The University and its constituent Schools draw on a range of data in their regular review of the quality of provision. The annually produced Performance Indicator Dataset details admission, progression, completion and first career destination data, including comparisons over a five-year timespan. Progression statistics are included in routine internal monitoring and review processes (see 18 below).

This programme was subject to external review on its inception in 2008.

The School was subject to HEFCE Teaching Quality Assessment in 1994, when the provision was graded as satisfactory under the original HEFCE grading scheme.

Role of External Examiners

External examiners are selected by the School and appointed by the Faculty of Post-Graduate Studies. They are appointed from among distinguished academic lawyers with experience appropriate to a subject or a group of cognate subjects. Most external examiners are of professorial status. The role of the external examiner is:

- To approve examination and assessment questions.
- To see/review examination scripts, coursework and dissertations.
- To attend the meetings of the Boards of Examiners, to participate in decision making at those meetings and to advise the Board.
- To report to the Vice Chancellor at the end of each examination session.

The University has procedures in place for the regular review of its educational provision, including the annual review of both modules and programmes which draw on feedback from such sources as external examiners' reports, student evaluation, student achievement and progression data. In addition, subject areas are reviewed every three years through a subject and programme quality review scheme that includes external input. These procedures are recorded in codes of practice contained in the TQA Manual.

Certain programmes are also subject to review and/or accreditation by professional and statutory bodies, while nearly all subject areas are reviewed from time to time by the national Quality Assurance Agency for HE; see the QAA web site for review reports on subjects at Exeter.

- Module reviews
- Student questionnaires reviewed by the Postgraduate Committee.
- Annual Review by module co-ordinator
- Periodic subject review
- Annual Programme Monitoring
- Module/Programme Accreditation
- Probation for new staff
- SDU course for new staff
- Staff appraisal
- Peer teaching observation
- External examiners' reports (which go to the Vice Chancellor and also the Head of School)
- HEFCE Teaching Quality Assessment, now QAA Subject Review

Committees with responsibility for monitoring and evaluating quality and standards:

- School Learning and Teaching Development Committee, meets termly, reports to School Meeting
- Postgraduate Committee
- Faculty of Post-Graduate Studies
- Boards of Examiners
- SSLC

Mechanisms for gaining student feedback on quality of teaching and their learning experience:

- Personal tutoring
- Module questionnaire
- Postgraduate Committee
- Consultation times by lecturers
- SSLC
- Student representative at the School Committee and at the School Learning and Teaching Development Committee

Staff Development priorities:

- Keep up to date with current developments and academic research.
- New staff to obtain formal teaching qualifications.
- All staff to undertake research and publication to be RAE returnable at required standard and to enhance teaching.
- Regular attendance at School meetings and active participation by all in core teaching, and in administration.
- Encouraging staff to keep up to date with current teaching developments.