Although the youngest of the six University of London Law Schools, Birkbeck’s School of Law houses a large and growing community of postgraduate and undergraduate students. We are entering an exciting period of expansion and by 2014 we plan to have the largest cohort of law undergraduate and postgraduate students within the University of London. To that end we are currently investing heavily in our portfolio of programmes. We aim to attract greater numbers of employer-sponsored students in addition to our customary cohort of students studying our range of full- and part-time courses during the evenings.

The School has a vibrant research culture, having twice hosted the Critical Legal Conference. We have a constant stream of visiting scholars and support an annual three-week ‘writers in residence’ programme, providing PhD students with the opportunity to attend masterclasses led by a distinguished scholar in the field of critical theory. Our PhD scholars, of whom there are currently 41, and 58 MPhil candidates, come from a wide range of jurisdictions enticed by the School’s foremost reputation in the field of critical legal theory and philosophy and socio-legal approaches to law.

Our postgraduate portfolio of degrees comprises nine programmes at Master’s level, including our flagship programmes in Human Rights and International Economic Law, Justice and Development. We are distinguished from other law schools also by our triple-track qualifying law degree, which enables students to study the academic stage of the legal profession over a period of two, three or four years.

The School is unique among law providers in offering a full-time law degree by evening study alone, with each programme attracting a growing number of international students. On the home front, the School’s Certificate of Higher Education programmes in Legal Studies, Legal Methods and Criminology provide exciting skills-based and specialist modules to a diverse range of students from a variety of educational and cultural backgrounds.

The School enjoys the stable and dedicated support of 26 full-time academic staff and an administrative team of 11, including an academic support officer who provides dedicated learning and pastoral support for Law students. Of our academic staff, 27 per cent are readers and professors in recognition of their standing as foremost researchers in their fields. The results of staff commitment to Birkbeck’s academic mission are apparent in the successes of our students. Each year our PhD candidates are appointed to full-time academic posts. In the last year, final year qualifying law degree students reached the semi-finals of the *Weekly Law Reports* mooting competition and the finals of the London Universities Mooting Shield competition.

For students wishing to immerse themselves in all that academic study has to offer, the School of Law at Birkbeck offers much. Students and postgraduate staff run a number of reading groups, there is an annual PhD conference, and regular work in progress seminars. Students on the qualifying law programme can take part in the School’s mock trial as well as internal and external mooting competitions. The School also plans to open a virtual learning centre, which will include a dedicated academic advice line and telephone line offering pro bono legal advice.
In 2012, the Birkbeck School of Law, located in the heart of London, celebrates its 20th anniversary. In 1992, its first year, some 800 people applied for 65 available places. Based on our commitment to ‘Birkbeck’s mission’, we accepted a mix of mature graduates and non-graduates and started interviewing. The applicants were amazing, a typical sample of what we came to know as the Birkbeck law student. They included a septuagenarian Irish aristocrat, a shop steward from Harrods, a libertarian bookseller, law clerks, PhD holders in physics and maths, a retired psychoanalyst, as well as a number of highly motivated unemployed Londoners. At the end of the first year, we had achieved our aims.

The external examiners congratulated us on our teaching methods and exam results and compared our students favourably with their own at the LSE and UCL, something that still applies. The Law Society and Bar Council gave us Qualifying Law Degree status. From that point onwards, we concentrated on growing the School and building its reputation in Britain and internationally. The London Legal Theory seminar we organised introduced world-renowned intellectuals’ including Habermas, Luhmann, Derrida, Legendre and Kennedy, to London academics. The government’s official Research Assessment Exercise in 1996 put us within the top five Law schools in Britain. Not bad for a law school that was just four years old! Soon a large number of doctoral students joined the School and started making their scholarly mark. Many are now teaching all over Britain and beyond. The Birkbeck School of Law is seen as a training ground for future legal academics.

These successes meant that the School’s growth was rapid: from the initial three academics, one administrator and a cohort of 65 students to in excess of 750 students today. The 2000s saw the launch of our first Masters degrees. Our pioneering Masters in Research (MRes) was one of the first MRes Law programme to gain ESRC recognition; our LLM Political Justice is co-organised with the University of Pretoria; while the LLM/MA in Human Rights attracts some of the most committed people in London, offering a contextual and critical approach to this all-important area. Our other LLM programmes also attract a variety of students from various backgrounds.
The School of Law is internationally recognised as a centre of excellence for research in critical legal, socio-legal and interdisciplinary legal research.

Patrick Hanafin
Assistant Dean, Research

See page 6 for further information about research and areas of expertise, as well as information about our staff.

The School helps students develop transferable skills that will make them attractive to employers, whether in the legal profession or otherwise.

Matthew Weait
Assistant Dean for Recruitment & Progression (Retention, Widening Participation & Employer Engagement)

Page 10 outlines the culture of the School and its vibrant community of students and staff.

Students receive a firm grounding in the methodologies and practice of law, and also learn about the latest issues and theories in each area of study.

Michelle Everson
Assistant Dean, Programme Development

For more information about our teaching and learning, turn to page 12.

Each year we welcome international postgraduate students who, together with their British colleagues, form a large and vibrant community.

Marinos Diamantides
Assistant Dean, International Links & Enterprise

Page 14 describes why Birkbeck’s School of Law is the ideal destination for international students.
Our research

The School of Law is internationally recognised as a centre of excellence for research in the areas of critical legal, socio-legal and interdisciplinary legal research. It promotes a thriving research environment which includes several initiatives.

The annual **Writers in Residence** programme: this is a three-week period of residence for a scholar who has achieved distinction in the field of critical theory to support the development of the whole or part of a major scholarly work. Through a series of reading groups, seminars, lectures and master classes, recipients of the fund with PhD students the theoretical, empirical and methodological questions that arise in the writing process. For more information, please visit our website at: [www.bbk.ac.uk/law/about-us/annualwritersinres](http://www.bbk.ac.uk/law/about-us/annualwritersinres)

Our **Online Working Paper Series** allows for an exchange of ideas between the academy and the wider public sphere including policy-makers, the legal profession, civil society, members of the public and students. The papers in the series will reflect the diversity of research concerns of both Law School Faculty and visitors to the School. For more information, please visit our website at: [www.bbk.ac.uk/law/our-research/working_papers](http://www.bbk.ac.uk/law/our-research/working_papers)

The new **Centre for Law and the Humanities** is housed by the School of Law. The Centre, through the holding of workshops, seminars and conferences, attracts leading scholars in law and the humanities to Birkbeck. The Centre builds on the School of Law’s international reputation as a centre of excellence for critical interdisciplinary research in law, culture and the humanities. For more information, please visit our website at: [www.bbk.ac.uk/law/our-research/centre-law-humanities](http://www.bbk.ac.uk/law/our-research/centre-law-humanities)

Research students in the School of Law at Birkbeck are an important part of its research culture. The School has succeeded in recruiting very high quality research students and the number of UK and overseas PhD students has increased fivefold since 2001. This reflects the School’s growing reputation as a training ground for early career academics working from critical and socio-legal perspectives.

**Staff research areas**

The following list is just an indication of the breadth and depth of research conducted at the School. We are proud of the achievements of our academic staff and the contributions of our distinguished visiting faculty.

- **Maria Aristodemou, LLB, LLM**
  Law and literature; feminist legal theory; international law.
- **Jose Bellido, LLB, LLM, PhD**
  Intellectual property law and legal history.
- **Professor Bill Bowring, BA, Barrister**
  Human rights; minority rights; international law; legal theory; public law; comparative law; Soviet and post-Soviet law.
- **Dr Marinos Diamantides, BA, LLM, PhD**
  Legal theory; ethics and law; constitutional law and comparative political theologies; history and politics of law in Muslim-majority countries.
- **Professor Costas Douzinas, LLB, LLM, PhD**
  Critical jurisprudence; human rights; radical political philosophy; aesthetics, psychoanalysis and law; critical social theory; political and legal theology; empire, cosmopolitanism and human rights.
- **Professor Michelle Everson, LLB, PhD**
  EU law; regulatory theory; insurance; administrative law.
I had always known that Birkbeck was evening-based study and that the academic standards were very high. Being at Birkbeck has given me the opportunity to work with a well-respected academic I wanted to study with.

Cathy Andrews
PhD Law

Professor Peter Fitzpatrick, LLB, LLM, Solicitor
Post-structural and postcolonial theory; international law and the new imperialism; sovereignty and indigenous rights; political philosophy.

Adam Gearey, BA, MA, PhD
Law and political philosophy; deconstruction; Marxism; syndicalism and anarchism; monstrous justice; redemption and revolution.

Oscar Guardiola-Rivera, LLB, LLM, PhD
Comparative constitutional law; human rights and cinema; international law; public law/politics in the Americas; political philosophy and legal theory; law and globalisation.

Piyel Haldar, LLB, PhD
Orientalism; legal aesthetics; semiotics and evidence; postcolonial theory; colonial history; legal theory.

Professor Patrick Hanafin, BA, PhD
Bioethics (particularly reproductive politics, genetics and end-of-life issues); law and political identity formation; law and literature; law and gender; comparative medical law (particularly Ireland and Italy).

Sarah Lamble, BA, MA
criminal justice and imprisonment; law, gender and sexuality; law and social movements; alternative epistemologies; feminist, queer and critical race theory

Elena Loizidou, BA, LLM, PhD
Legal theory; criminal law; gender, sexuality and law; citizenship.

Professor Fiona Macmillan, LLB, LLM
Intellectual property law; international economic law; political economy and law.

Professor Patrick McAuslan, BA, BCL
Law and development; land law and policy; local government law.

Daniel Monk, LLB, LLM, Solicitor
Children and the law; education law; family law; criminal law; gender and sexuality.

Nathan Moore, LLB, PhD
Governmentality; surveillance; anti-social behaviour; actor network theory; architectural history; film; Gilles Deleuze.
Professor Leslie Moran, LLB, MA, PhD, Solicitor  
Gender, sexuality and law; hate crime; theory-informed legal research; the judiciary; law of business organisations.

Stephen Parrott, BA  
Football culture and society; crime, criminal justice; law and order.

Anton Schutz, DEA, JD  
Jurisprudence; legal history; European legal systems; religion and law; autopoiesis and law; comparative legal perspectives in Europe.

Patricia Tuitt, BA, LLM, Barrister  
Refugee law; race and legal theory; critical legal practice.

Matthew Weait, BA, MPhil, DPhil  
HIV/AIDS and law; criminal law; public health and human rights.

Thanos Zartaloudis, LLB, PhD  
Immigration law; refugee studies and law; international environmental law; theories of property; emergency states and states of exception; jurisprudence, philosophy and law; social space and law; political theory and the history of the common law.

Come and discover for yourself a learning environment that is supportive and exciting. On a more personal level, you’ll find that our academics have a wealth of experience and expertise in supporting and encouraging students tackling the challenges of serious academic research. The combination of the highest-level academic expertise and friendly approach, results in a truly inspirational experience for our students.

Our academic staff also publish a large number of books, many of which are significant publications and critically acclaimed works in specialist areas. At our Law on Trial event each year, we also launch the books of our academic staff to welcome these publications onto the international stage. Recent examples of staff publications include:

- Oscar Guardiola-Rivera: What if Latin America Ruled the World? (Bloomsbury Publishing Ltd, June 2010)
- Thanos Zartaloudis, Giorgio Agamben: Power, Law and the Uses of Criticism (Routledge-Cavendish, 2010).

Plus a vast range of articles and chapters in edited collections. For more details, please visit our website: www.bbk.ac.uk/law/research/publications
10 reasons to study law at Birkbeck

Our evening study allows you to do more
All our courses, part-time and full-time, are taught in the evening.

Birkbeck is part of a unique institution, the University of London
We combine a high-quality research culture with courses specifically designed for students with diverse backgrounds, activities and interests, meaning you learn as much from each other as from our lecturers.

Our staff are experts in their fields
They approach law in an innovative way within a vibrant research culture, with theoretically informed and multidisciplinary approaches to the study of law, introducing the scholarly values and methods of the social sciences and humanities into the study of law.

We provide the support you need
In addition to lectures and seminars, your personal tutor can provide you with one-to-one advice throughout your degree. We also have an academic support officer to help students improve their study skills. Birkbeck also has a wide range of student support and services.

You have access to world-class libraries
We are located in Bloomsbury in the centre of London and surrounded by many other University of London colleges and libraries. Students have access to the College library and the University of London Library at Senate House, both of which are a short walk away. The British Library is also nearby.

High-quality, research-led teaching
We have a reputation as a centre of innovative scholarship, teaching and learning. Our general teaching strategy is to that staff teach to their research, ensuring that our students are introduced to cutting-edge debates about the subjects they study by teachers who are making a significant contribution to the field.

Our courses will help you in the future
We aim to provide an education in law that is critical, questioning and creative, producing graduates who not only have knowledge of the relevant skills, rules and principles of law but are equally aware of the social, political, economic, philosophical and ideological aspects of the legal art.

Career opportunities and progression
Whether Birkbeck graduates go on to practise law, research, teach, or enter into different areas of work, we believe the training they receive will enable them to make the most of their opportunities and achieve the results that they desire.

Our mooting team and events
Birkbeck has a large pool of enthusiastic mooters who entered and won seven competitions in 2008–2009. Mooting training is given by our graduates who are experienced barristers.

Our diverse student body
At the School of Law, we are proud of our student body. Our students come from a diverse range of educational, professional and cultural backgrounds which lends an exciting aspect to all classes, with all students being able to make a unique and valuable contribution to the learning experience.
Life in the School of Law

Our community
The diversity of the School’s student body is one of its distinguishing characteristics. Students vary in age from school leavers to those in their sixties and beyond. They come from a variety of educational backgrounds, some having left school with few or no qualifications while others have Masters’ degrees and doctorates. Some are studying law because they want to go on to practise as solicitors or barristers, and some are studying simply for the intellectual stimulation the subject offers.

Providing for the differing needs, interests and expectations of our students is a significant challenge that we take pride in addressing. In addition to our strong, research-led teaching by experienced academics, the School has a dedicated academic support officer whose role is to assist those who are returning to, or are facing difficulties with, study. All students have a dedicated personal tutor, and from 2010–2011 they will be able to take advantage of an alumni mentoring scheme. Students with disabilities or dyslexia are supported by the College Disability Office, and those with financial difficulties can get help from expert advisors.

The School of Law provides excellent facilities for learning and teaching, with classes and lectures benefiting from modern audio-visual technologies. The College library (which has extended opening hours to accommodate the particular needs of our student body) has a comprehensive collection of law texts and online legal databases. Most of our courses are supported by the (online) Bloomsbury Learning Environment, which allows off-site access to materials and direct communication with fellow students and tutors.

The School of Law is actively engaged in helping students develop the transferable skills that will make them attractive to employers, whether in the legal profession or otherwise. It supports a very successful mooting programme, and encourages students’ involvement in the annual residential weekend at Cumberland Lodge. Our established connections with chambers and law firms (including Hogan Lovells and Bindman & Co) are steadily increasing, and from 2010 the School is participating in the new High Court Judicial Assistant scheme.

A culture of reflection and social engagement
The School holds a number of annual events designed to engage students, the academic community, our stakeholders, and the public. Here is a flavour of activities from 2009–2010:

**Law on Trial** is an annual week of public lectures, workshops and art and film showings, which aim to bring together academics from the School of Law and the wider College community with lawyers, activists, NGO staff and members of the public. Its aim is to explore and interrogate questions concerning the operation of law in its widest context.

The aim of the inaugural event in June 2010 was to examine issues around law and social rights. Each day was devoted to one aspect of the law such as the rights of refugees, education, minorities and children’s rights, employment and labour rights, copyright, HIV and health rights. Timed to take place shortly after the general election the use and limits to rights as a political tool was also a key question.

**The Annual Law Lecture**, first held in November 2009, was delivered by Professor Guy Goodwin-Gill (MA, DPhil, Barrister) Faculty of Law, All Souls College, Oxford University. Professor Goodwin-Gill is an expert in international law, human rights and refugee studies. His talk was entitled “Refugees,
security and the Right to Protection”, and introduced the security related factors that affect and shape current international refugee laws; provided an overview of international law and human rights legislation with regard to refugee protection in the UK and internationally; and assessed the current challenges for practitioners and legal academics with regard to refugee protection nationally and internationally.

The talk was an immense success and attendees came from far and wide and included professionals from law firms and NGOs, as well as students past and present.

At the time of printing, we were planning for the 2010 lecture, the theme of which is Law and Humanities, which will be sponsored by the new Centre for Law and Humanities.

Our students are also heavily involved in a successful Mooting Programme. In mooting competitions students play the role of advocates and argue a fictitious case in a variety of possible settings: jury trial, civil dispute, Court of Appeal, Supreme Court, European Court of Human Rights. The role of the judge is played by a practising barrister, Queen’s Counsel or a real judge. The objective is not to win the case, but to put forward the most convincing arguments in the most professional manner. The winning team will be the team which makes the best presentation. Mooting enables students to develop skills in research, analysis, legal reasoning and public speaking.

Our 2009–2010 Birkbeck student mooters participated in a record number of external mooting competitions including The London University Mooting Shield (LUMS), The Weekly Law Reports (WLR) Annual Mooting Competition, The Oxford University Press and BPP Law School National Mooting Competition, The Inner Temple Varsity Moot and the ESU-Essex Chambers Moot. Our Director of Mooting at Birkbeck is Professor Bill Bowring, himself a barrister with many years of experience, now practising at the European Court of Human Rights, and training is given by former Birkbeck students who are now experienced barristers.
Our teaching

The School of Law is dedicated to developing and maintaining the highest standards in teaching and learning. In over 20 years of providing high quality teaching to part-time undergraduates and full and part-time postgraduates, we have learned to be flexible to meet the demands of working students in full-time education. We are now looking forward to the challenge of meeting the teaching and learning needs of undergraduate students in full-time education. We employ a wide range of teaching and assessment methods: from small scale seminar learning to project-based self-directed learning.

A defining feature of all of our teaching, however, is that it is informed by the research interests of our teaching staff. In this manner, students not only receive a firm grounding in the methodologies and practice of law; but also learn about the latest issues and theories.

Joe Curl
Joe teaches Equity and Trusts. Called to the Bar in 2007, he is a barrister at 9 Stone Buildings where he has an exclusively Chancery practice specialising in insolvency and trust litigation. Before he was a barrister, Joe was employed in the UK insolvency department of one of the world’s largest legal service providers, DLA Piper. Like many other Birkbeck students he completed his law degree and his previous degree in Politics, Philosophy and History while working full-time. Joe has published widely in the areas of insolvency and trusts and has appeared in a number of reported cases.

Zeina Ghandour
Zeina has a BA in Law and an LLM in Jewish and Islamic Law from Kent University. She was called to the English Bar in 1990 and completed her PhD at the London School of Economics in 2006. Zeina teaches Legal Methods on the CertHE, Law, Anthropology and Colonialism on the LLB, and she also teaches Property I at LSE. Her book based on her PhD research A Discourse on Domination in Mandate Palestine: Property, Imperialism and Insurgency was published by Routledge in June 2009. Zeina has worked...
in each area of study. Students are also encouraged to give their feedback on teaching and learning at the School and responses are built into our teaching strategies – we also never stop learning!

In addition to our permanent academic staff, we also have a dedicated and highly-qualified team of sessional staff at other Universities. Joe Curl and Zeina Ghandour are just two.

with international NGOs in Palestine and as an elections expert in different parts of the world. Her research interests are in law and anthropology, cultural property and postcolonial theory.

Please refer to our website for a full list of our sessional staff.

“

At Birkbeck, we aim to inspire critical and analytical approaches to the study of law, using historical, social and theoretical contexts, which make for very interesting discussions. And the variety of approaches offered by our academics and students is certain to challenge you.

Dr Piyel Haldar
Our internationally renowned scholars foster an intellectually challenging academic environment – making Birkbeck a natural destination for postgraduate and research students from around the world. The School hosts a number of high-profile and internationally renowned visiting professors including:

- Rosi Braidotti (Utrecht)
- Drucilla Cornell (Rutgers/Capetown)
- Guy Goodwin-Gill (Oxford)
- Christian Joerges (Bremen)
- Renata Salecl (Ljubljana)
- Boaventura de Sousa Santos (Coimbra)
- Justice Edwin Cameron (Supreme Court of Appeal of South Africa).

Students will discover a learning environment that is supportive, radical and exciting. And on a more personal level, our academics have a wealth of experience and expertise in supporting and encouraging students tackling the challenges of serious academic research. The combination of the highest-level academic expertise and friendly approach results in a truly inspirational experience for our students.

A great choice for international students

Our international students come to us from all over the world and enrich our diverse and vibrant academic community. Consequently, they are familiar with even more national legal systems in addition to international and EU law. All have an international reputation as excellent researchers in their fields based on their frequent publishing of acclaimed books, which are translated in several languages, as well as articles in the most prestigious international journals of law and legal theory; their very frequent participation/organization in key international conferences; their political/social activism in and beyond Britain; and their acting as consultants for governments and international organisations.
As our School is recognised as a global centre of excellence in interdisciplinary legal studies and critical legal theory, each year we welcome numerous international postgraduate students who, together with their British colleagues, form a large and vibrant intellectual community. Every year our graduates find academic jobs in the most prestigious law schools both in the UK and overseas. This is why we have more postgraduate students per faculty member than any other London School of Law.

In our undergraduate programs, too, we have a distinctively multicultural body of students and a growing number of international students wishing to obtain certificates, diplomas and professionally qualifying degrees in English common law part-time or full-time through evening study. This way they are free to use their daytime for private study or part-time work and, of course, to enjoy all that London has to offer. We are also the only University of London Law School that offers face-to-face support to students registered for the Diploma in Law of the University’s External Laws Programme, the best of whom are welcome to join us in the second year of our LLB.

Our School prizes international collaborations and has a developing programme of staff and student exchanges and jointly administered degrees with first-class law schools overseas. We are also happy to assist in the setting up of new law degree programmes in other countries in a consultative role upon request. Birkbeck welcomes applications from international students for its full-time LLB and postgraduate programmes. European Union (EU), European Economic Area (EEA) and Swiss nationals, and others with full permission to work in the UK or otherwise residing in the UK under special categories approved by the UK Government, may also apply for our part-time programmes.

There are currently nearly 4000 students pursuing postgraduate study at Birkbeck who represent well over 100 nationalities.

For information on how to apply for any of our courses, please visit our website at: www.bbk.ac.uk/law/prospective-students

“I was determined to get a degree when I came to the UK. Now I have my LLB, I am on the road to this dream. I couldn’t afford to give up work, so part-time study was my only choice. If Birkbeck did not exist, people like me would not be able to fulfil their dreams.”

Doris Akua Martin
LLB Law
A rich learning environment

Birkbeck offers a unique learning experience, as you’ll be studying alongside students who often have professional work experience in the subject being studied. Our students find that this enriches their learning experience, as they are able to hear about real-life experiences and apply this knowledge to their academic studies. Students come to us from all over the world and join a truly diverse community. The mix of backgrounds makes for dynamic discussions in class, widening of horizons and a cosmopolitan London experience.

Our courses are administered by a friendly and dedicated team of staff who provide timely advice and guidance for prospective students as well as supporting our current students.

Please check our website – www.bbk.ac.uk/prospective – for further details, including entry requirements, module descriptions and information on how to apply.

Our courses range from Certificates of Higher Education, Undergraduate programmes (LLB – both part-time and full-time), Master’s degrees (LLM, MA, MRes) and MPhil/PhD programmes.

Certificates of Higher Education

For those who are new to the study of law, we offer the following exciting non-degree courses. All of these courses are offered by part-time evening study, so students can combine the pursuit of law studies with daytime work or other commitments. These programmes do not require any formal academic prerequisites but we do ask that all students be able to read and write English to the appropriate level.

CertHE in Legal Methods (one year, part-time)
This programme provides an access route to the LLB both at Birkbeck and at other universities across the UK. There are no academic entry requirements for entry but we do require students to meet our English language requirements and successfully complete a written exercise to demonstrate that they have the capacity to complete this intensive programme.

CertHE in Legal Studies
(normally two years, part-time)
Taught part-time over two years, this Certificate of Higher education gives students a chance to study topics at first-year undergraduate degree level. It is ideal for those who wish to gain knowledge of law to use at work, for non-law postgraduates or for lawyers from other jurisdictions. Alternatively, for those who have a general interest in law but do not require a qualification, individual modules from the programme can be taken.

Cert HE in Criminology
(normally two years, part-time)
Our criminology courses, with their focus on the causes of crime and the response from the criminal justice system, attract students from a variety of backgrounds and age groups. Students include criminal justice practitioners, lawyers, police, probation officers, youth justice workers, social workers and people with a general interest in crime and criminology. Students do not need to have a previous academic qualification and may choose to undertake the entire award or undertake individual modules form the programme.

Diploma in Law (one year, part-time)*
This Diploma, which forms part of the University of London International Programme, is a one-year course. On successful completion, you can enter
Undergraduate degrees

Law (LLB part-time or full-time)
The LLB is a University of London law degree and is accredited as a qualifying law degree by the Solicitors Regulation Authority and the Bar Standards Board. Successful completion of the LLB qualifies students to go on to pursue vocational training (Legal Practice Course [LPC] /Bar Professional Training Course [BPTC]).

For students interested in law who wish to develop critical and analytical skills, our LLB might be just what is needed. All our teaching is in the evening, and students can study part-time over four years or full-time intensively over three years.

Postgraduate degrees

All our Master’s degrees can be studied full-time (one year) or part-time (two years). The taught elements of the programmes run from October to April, and those pursuing a dissertation submit this in the September at the end of their course.

*Constitutional Politics, Law and Theory (LLM part-time and full-time)
As the utopia of the end of history falters, the rhetoric of risk, crisis and unending war brings about a relentless desire for law and constitutional reform. These expectations may be at odds with the way contemporary social and political theories, and a growing number of constitutional law specialists, conceptualise the sphere of the political. The focus is on two related but distinct processes: the crisis of law and the shift towards exceptional modes.
of state power; and the demand that law mitigates manifold crises. Questions are raised about law as solution, about its role in the violent imposition of liberal social and market relations, and whether or not we may be able to imagine a different sort of crisis, a different relation between law and the future.

*Commencing in October 2011*

**Criminal Law and Criminal Justice (LLM/MA part-time and full-time)**
The central focus of this programme is the interface between criminal law and criminal justice. The programme offers a theoretically informed and multidisciplinary course of study. In addition to studying the now established critical and theoretical perspectives relevant to criminal law and criminal justice, it also has a humanities focus which offers an opportunity to explore and engage with new cutting edge scholarship in criminal law and criminal justice studies.

**Critical Legal Practice (LLM part-time and full-time)**
This unique course is designed for students who wish to develop or refine practical lawyers’ skills. Through an explanation of theoretically oriented legal scholarship, the programme examines how individuals or groups that present the most challenging of legal problems come to occupy positions at the margins of a social and political community.

**Human Rights (LLM/MA part-time and full-time)**
This exciting programme focuses on theoretically informed and multidisciplinary approaches to human rights and aims to expose students to a contextual engagement with the subject. To this end, you will study human rights in its political, legal, sociological, anthropological and philosophical contexts. Because of the ability to study flexibly in the evening, the programme will be particularly attractive to legal professionals and others who work for human rights organisations, allowing them to reflect critically on their roles as human rights practitioners. You will be introduced
to approaches to research across a range of disciplines and to the theoretical frameworks for advanced legal scholarship. You will also take specialist modules on a range of subjects in the area of human rights.

**International Economic Law, Justice and Development (LLM part-time and full-time)**
In this unique programme, students are trained in the critical examination of the law, institutions and practice which constitute global and local economies. Students are introduced to a broad geographical and institutional spectrum from Latin America to Africa, from the European Union to the World Bank, and onwards to the World Social Forum. This the only postgraduate programme in the UK to address the law, institutions and practice which constitute global and local economies from an avowedly critical perspective, part-time and full-time, in face-to-face evening sessions. It is particularly well suited to (current and aspiring) lawyers and non-lawyers within non-governmental organisations, government departments, and in-house corporate social responsibility departments, who wish to critically reflect on their roles as practitioners.

**Law and Political Justice (LLM part-time and full-time)**
This programme is a collaboration between Birkbeck and the University of Pretoria and offers a unique opportunity philosophy of justice. Informed by continental and critical traditions in social and political thought, this course engages with a complex of concerns: human rights, imperialism and post-colonialism, the law of development and the racial ordering of capitalism.

**Law (MRes/Postgraduate Diploma in Research part-time and full-time)**
The MRes in Law is an innovative and ESRC recognised programme for students seeking to further their academic studies alongside developing professional research skills. The equivalent of an MPhil, it provides an excellent taught foundation for future doctoral research and it will be of interest to anyone who wishes to develop academic research skills, work as a researcher or commission research.

**Qualifying Law Degree (LLM part-time and full-time)**
This LLM degree enables those students who already have a degree in another subject to complete the academic stage of training to become a solicitor or barrister. It will also be of interest to graduates who have an interest in the law and wish to pursue careers such as a legal publisher or researcher. Graduates of this course will be able to progress directly to the Legal Practice Course or Bar Vocational Course.

**LLM Law (General) (part-time and full-time)**
If you are interested in taking modules from across our portfolio of LLM programmes, but do not wish to focus on a particular subject area, you may be interested in our General LLM programme which is designed to give students maximum flexibility.

**PhD/MPhil research degrees**
Every year, we are joined by a large and vibrant community of high-quality research students studying towards a University of London MPhil or PhD in Law. The programme can be undertaken part-time (over a minimum of three years), or over a minimum of two years full-time.

**Law (PhD/MPhil part-time and full-time)**
See ‘Internationally renowned academics’, page 6 for details of staff research areas.
About Birkbeck

Founded in 1823, Birkbeck is a world-class research and teaching institution, a vibrant centre of academic excellence and London’s only specialist provider of evening higher education. Over 90 per cent of Birkbeck academics are research-active and many are renowned experts in their fields. Our academic reputation attracts many full-time postgraduate and research students.

Over 19,000 students study with us every year. They join a community that is as diverse and cosmopolitan as London’s population.

World-class research reputation

In the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise, Birkbeck ranked in the top 25 per cent of UK multi-faculty institutions for the overall quality of research. Research in 11 subject areas was rated as ‘internationally excellent’ and ‘world leading’. This research directly informs curriculum development and teaching. In 2006, Birkbeck was awarded a prestigious Queen’s Anniversary Prize for excellence in higher education research.

Our international research profile benefits our students both in terms of the teaching they receive and the guidance they get as research students – both of which are of the highest quality.

Recognised as number one for teaching

Birkbeck is recognised for providing the highest quality teaching that is informed by our outstanding research excellence. This has been proven by our number one position in the UK National Student Surveys. In 2005 we were voted number one nationally for quality of teaching, and every year since then, Birkbeck has ranked number one in London for student satisfaction.

University of London – a mark of quality

As a college of the University of London, Birkbeck awards internationally respected University of London qualifications. In its most recent institutional audit, the College received the highest recommendation of broad confidence in its academic standards from the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA). The QAA is an independent body responsible for auditing UK higher education institutions to ensure that they are maintaining sound academic standards.

By studying with us, you can be confident that you are studying at a prestigious university and getting the highest quality higher education experience.

Excellent library resources and student support services

In addition to Birkbeck’s own Library, you’ll find that we are surrounded by other colleges of the University of London that provide a vast range of research resources and specialist library collections. And within easy walking distance, there are world-class resources such as the British Museum and British Library – one of the world’s most important research resources with a collection of over 150 million items. Immediately next door to Birkbeck is Senate House Library. One of the UK’s major academic resources, Senate House Library has a collection of nearly two million items.

And our My Birkbeck student support services will support you in every aspect of studying with us. The My Birkbeck website (www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck) provides all the information you need at your fingertips. A friendly helpdesk team are also at hand, and can put you in touch with specialist advisers for more
in-depth professional support, e.g. the international students’ office.

A central London location, with excellent transport links

Birkbeck’s main campus is located at the heart of the University of London’s central London campus in Bloomsbury (WC1). We are five minutes from the British Museum and the British Library is a 10-minute walk away. The campus has excellent transport links, including Tube, rail and bus services. So, wherever you live or work in London, you’ll find it easy to get to us.

An evening model with distinct advantages and affordability

One of the many advantages of studying at Birkbeck is that as most teaching takes place in the evening, this frees you up during the day. You may choose to use this time for private study, or you may wish to work up to 20 hours per week in a part-time job. This will not only help you in terms of managing your finances, but also means that you can explore more professional job or internship opportunities that may help build your CV and future career.

A diverse, supportive and intellectually stimulating peer group

Our students come to us from all over the world and represent over 100 countries, including: Brazil, Canada, Chile, Mexico and USA; Czech Republic, France, Germany, Greece, Poland, Russia, Sweden and Turkey; Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria and South Africa; China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Taiwan and Thailand; Australia and New Zealand.

Student life at the heart of the University of London

Birkbeck is situated at the heart of the University
of London’s central London campus – we are surrounded by other colleges such as University College London (UCL), the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), and the School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. In addition, the University of London Union (ULU) is right next door and you can access all of ULU’s amazing sports and social facilities. All this makes for a lively student atmosphere on a city-centre university campus.

Find our more at our Open Evenings

Our Open Evenings are the perfect opportunity to:
- meet staff from the School of Law and find out more about our courses
- meet former students to discuss what it’s like to study at Birkbeck
- find out about the study and learning support facilities available
- meet student support staff to find out about the application process.

Open Evenings are normally held between 4pm and 7.30pm and take place in central London at the Royal National Hotel (Bedford Way, London WC1H 0DG). We also hold Open Evenings in east London at Stratford Old Town Hall (29 Broadway, Stratford E15 4BQ).

To book your place at Open Evening, visit www.bbk.ac.uk/openeve or call 0845 601 0174.
By tube

Central Line
Tottenham Court Road

Circle Line
Euston Square

Metropolitan Line
Euston Square

Northern Line
Euston
Goodge Street
Tottenham Court Road
Warren Street

Hammersmith & City
Euston Square

Piccadilly Line
Russell Square

Victoria Line
Euston
Warren Street

By bus

10, 14, 24, 29, 73, 134
and 390 run South along
Gower Street and North
along Tottenham Court Rd

7, 59, 68, X68, 91,
168, 188
run to Russell Square
Contact us

Visit www.bbk.ac.uk/study for up-to-date information about our courses, including:

- entry requirements
- application and enrolment procedures
- fees and financial support.

For general advice and information about studying at Birkbeck, please contact the My Birkbeck helpdesk team:
Email: info@bbk.ac.uk
Call: 0845 601 0174
Call: +44 (0)20 7631 6692/6435/6601

The School of Law

For advice about courses that the School has to offer:
Email: law@bbk.ac.uk
Call: +44 (0)20 7631 6504/6508/6511