

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Name, title and level of final qualification(s)	LLM Law with Pathways <i>Direct entry admissions pathways:</i> - LLM Law - LLM Law with Human Rights - LLM Law with International Intellectual Property - LLM Law with Environmental Law, Governance and Policy - LLM Law with New Technologies (Level 7)
Name and title of interim exit qualification(s)	PG Dip Law PG Dip Law with Human Rights PG Dip Law with International Intellectual Property PG Dip Law with Environmental Law, Governance and Policy PG Dip Law with New Technologies PG Cert Law
Awarding Body	University of London
Teaching Institution(s)	Birkbeck, University of London
Home School/other teaching departments	Birkbeck Law School
Location of delivery	Central London
Language of delivery and assessment	English
Mode of study, length of study and normal start month	Full-time (1 year) Part-time (2 years) October/January* (*Note: January start is available for the LLM Law pathway only)
Professional, statutory or regulatory body	N/A
QAA subject benchmark group(s) Higher Education Credit Framework for England	N/A
Birkbeck Course Code	TMLPLWIP_C Law (on-campus, Oct start) TMLPLWMX_C Law (flexible, October start) TMLPLWON_C Law (online, October start) TMLLPATJ_C Law (January start) TMLLENLGP_C Law with Environmental Law, Governance and Policy (on-campus, October start) TMLLAWHR_C Law with Human Rights (on-campus, Oct start) TMLLWNTC_C Law with New Technologies (on-campus, Oct start) TMLLWIPR_C Law with International Intellectual Property (on-campus, Oct start)
HECoS Code	100485
Start date of programme	Autumn 2010
Date of programme approval	Summer 2010
Date of last programme amendment approval	March 2026
Valid for academic year and cohorts	2026-27
Date of last revision to document	08/04/26

Admissions requirements

- A second-class honours degree or above in law, the humanities or social sciences; other honours degrees will be considered.
- Degrees from overseas institutions must be equivalent to a UK second-class degree.
- Other relevant qualifications and appropriate professional training and experience are welcome and will be taken into account.
- Excellent English language skills are essential.

Course aims

The LLM Law with Pathways is a research-led programme providing students the opportunity to either specialise in a distinct pathway or to choose from the diverse range of modules according to their professional and academic interests. The shared compulsory module across the pathways (Critical Research Methods) provides a grounding in inter- and multi-disciplinary approaches to legal research, methods and skills, with the opportunity to combine this with an additional optional Research Project module for a focused and supervised final project.

The general pathway allows students to select any compulsory module or optional module from across the pathways (in addition to the shared compulsory module.) Specialist pathways will require further compulsory modules be taken specific to that pathway. The structure ensures a solid foundation in general (and inter- and multi-disciplinary) approaches to legal research, the opportunity for focused specialism, as well as flexibility and diversity in optional module choice.

Students on this programme are drawn from a range of backgrounds, including those with pre-existing knowledge or experience of law. It caters to those who would like to advance in their existing career, specialise, or to carve out a new career path.

Distinctive Features:

The structure of teaching is designed for students who need to balance study with paid work, family or other commitments but desire to study in an environment led by academic staff with extensive research expertise and publications in their field. Key features include:

- Classes are standardly taught between 6pm and 9pm, Monday –Thursday.
- The programme is designed so full-time students can arrange their timetable to study two/three evenings a week. Part-time students can arrange their timetable to study one/two evening(s) per week.
- Students can choose from a wide range of optional modules across various topics, led by staff teaching their research specialisms.
- Students can attend specialist research seminars and other academic events, featuring scholars speaking to current issues and path-breaking interdisciplinary research.
- You will be taught by staff who are part of a proud tradition of critical scholarship in law who address issues of law through power and inequality and are led by principles of social, economic, political, environmental and racial justice.
- You can look forward to a stimulating learning environment, learning alongside students with diverse backgrounds and professional experiences.

Course structure - LLM Law with Pathways:

1. LLM Law

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Comp Core/ Option	Likely teaching term(s)
Full-time – 1 year					
7	LALW065S7	Critical Research Masterclass	30	Comp	T3
7		Options (5 x 30 credits) see list below	150		T1, 2 or 3

Part-time – 2 years					
Year 1					
7	LALW065S7	Critical Research Masterclass	30	Comp	T3
7		Option (1 x 30 credits)	30	Option	T1, or 2
7		Option (1 x 30 credits)	30	Option	T1 or 2
Year 2					
7		Options (3 x 30 credits) see list below	90	Option	T1, 2 or 3
LLM Law Indicative Options					
7	LALA004S7	Law Masters Research Project	30	Option	T2-3
7	SC08008S7	Key Legal Concepts	30	Option	T1
7	SC08009S7	Law and the Humanities	30	Option	T1
7	LALW059S7	Algorithms and the law	30	Option	T1
7	LALW060S7	Regulating Technology	30	Option	T2
7	LALW061S7	Labour, Law and Technology	30	Option	T2
7	LALW102S7	Commercial law and market regulation	30	Option	T1
7	SC08017S7	Biodiversity, Society and the Law	30	Option	T2
7	LALW078S7	Environmental Problems and the Law	30	Option	T2
7	LALW081S7	Law, Nature and Planetary Justice	30	Option	T2
7	LALW104S7	International Intellectual Property	30	Option	T1
7	LALW106S7	Intellectual Property and Global Health	30	Option	T2
7	LALW109S7	Regulating the Creative Economy	30	Option	T2
7	LADD066S7	Introduction to the History, Theory and Politics of Constitutional Law	30	Option	T2
7	LADD028S7	Issues in International Law & Human Rights	30	Option	T1
7	LADD005S7	History and Philosophy of Human Rights	30	Option	T2
7	LADD029S7	Healthcare and Human Rights	30	Option	T3
7	LADD013S7	Taking a Case to the ECHR	30	Option	T3
7	LALW014S7	Negotiation, Interpretation and Explorations in Art & Human Rights	30	Option	T1
7	LADD058S7	Criminal Law, Theory and History	30	Option	T2
Indicative options available to LLM Law students from LLM/MA Criminal Law and Criminal Justice (Students can take up to 60 credits from this programme as options.)					
7	LADD027S7	Gender, Sexuality and Criminal Justice	30	Option	T3
7	LACN014S7	Race, Crime and Justice	30	Option	T1
7	LACN019S7	Regulating Sex and Sexuality	30	Option	T2
7	LACN026S7	Intersectionality and Criminal Justice	30	Option	T1

2 LLM Law with Human Rights

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Comp Core/ Option	Likely teaching term(s)
Full-time – 1 year					
7	LADD028S7	Issues in International Law and Human Rights	30	Comp	T1
7	LADD005S7	The History and Philosophy of Human Rights	30	Comp	T2
7	LALW065S7	Critical Research Masterclass	30	Comp	T3
7		Options (3 x 30 credits) see list below	90		T1, 2 or 3
Part-time – 2 years					
Year 1					
7	LADD028S7	Issues in International Law and Human Rights	30	Comp	T1
7	LADD005S7	The History and Philosophy of Human Rights	30	Comp	T2
7	LALW065S7	Critical Research Masterclass	30	Comp	T3

Year 2					
7		Option (3 x 30 credits)	90	Option	T1, 2 or 3
Recommended Optional Modules (indicative) (Note that all Law modules listed as optional under the General LLM are available)					
7	LADD029S7	Healthcare and Human Right	30	Option	T3
7	LALW014S7	Negotiation, Interpretation and Explorations in Law, Arts & Human Rights	30	Option	T1
7	LADD013S7	Taking a Case to the European Court of Human Rights	30	Option	T2
7	LALA004S7	Law Masters Research Project	30	Option	T2-3
7	SC08008S7	Key Legal Concepts	30	Option	T1

3. LLM Law with Environmental Law, Governance and Policy

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Comp Core/ Option	Likely teaching term(s)
Full-time – 1 year					
7	LALW078S7	Environmental Problems and the Law	30	Comp	T1
7	SC08017S7	Biodiversity, Society and the Law	30	Comp	T2
7	LALW065S7	Critical Research Masterclass	30	Comp	T3
7		Options (3 x 30 credits) see list below	90	Option	T1 or 3
Part-time – 2 years					
Year 1					
7	LALW078S7	Environmental Problems and the Law	30	Comp	T1
7	SC08017S7	Biodiversity, Society and the Law	30	Comp	T2
7	LALW065S7	Critical Research Masterclass	30	Comp	T3
Year 2					
7		Option (3 x 30 credits)	90	Option	T1 or 3
Recommended Optional Modules (indicative) (Note that all Law modules listed as optional under the General LLM are available)					
7	LALW060S7	Regulating Technology	30	Option	TBC
7	LALA004S7	Law Masters Research Project	30	Option	T2/3
7	SSGE126S7	Urban Sustainability	30	Option	T1
7	AREN292S7	Writing the Planet	30	Option	T2
7	LALW081S7	Law, Nature, and Planetary Justice	30	Option	T2
7	SC08008S7	Key Legal Concepts	30	Option	T1

4. LLM Law with International Intellectual Property

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Comp Core/ Option	Likely teaching term(s)
Full-time – 1 year					
7	LALW104S7	International Intellectual Property	30	Comp	T1
7	LALW065S7	Critical Research Masterclass	30	Comp	T3
7	LALW106S7 Or LALW109S7	Intellectual Property and Global Health Or Regulating the Creative Economy	30	Comp	T2
7		Options (3 x 30 credits) see list below	90	Option	T1, 2 or 3

Part-time – 2 years					
Year 1					
7	LALW104S7	International Intellectual Property	30	Comp	T1
7	LALW106S7	Intellectual Property and Global Health	30	Comp	T2
	LALW109S7	Or Regulating the Creative Economy			
7	LALW065S7	Critical Research Masterclass	30	Comp	T3
Year 2					
7		Option (3 x 30 credits)	90	Option	T1, 2 or 3
Recommended Optional Modules (indicative)					
(Note that all Law modules listed as optional under the General LLM are available)					
7	LALW106S7	Intellectual Property and Global Health	30	Option	T2
7	LALW109S7	Regulating the Creative Economy	30	Option	T2
7	LALW059S7	Algorithms and the Law	30	Option	T1
7	MOMN038H7	Intellectual Property and Artificial Intelligence	15	Option	T1
7	MOMN043H7	Innovation Management	15	Option	T1
7	MOMN073H7	Entrepreneurship and Innovation	15	Option	T3
7	ARMC160S7	Inside Out of Culture: organisations, placements and practice	30	Option	T2
7	LALA004S7	Law Masters Research Project	30	Option	T2-3
7	SC08008S7	Key Legal Concepts	30	Option	T1

5. LLM Law with New Technologies

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Comp Core/ Option	Likely teaching term(s)
Full-time – 1 year					
7	LALW059S7	Algorithms and the Law	30	Comp	T1
	LALW060S7	Regulating Technology	30	Comp	T2
7	LALW065S7	Critical Research Masterclass	30	Comp	T3
7		Options (3 x 30 credits) see list below	90	Option	T1, 2 or 3
Part-time – 2 years					
Year 1					
7	LALW059S7	Algorithms and the Law	30	Comp	T1
7	LALW060S7	Regulating Technology	30	Comp	T2
7	LALW065S7	Critical Research Masterclass	30	Comp	T3
Year 2					
7		Option (3 x 30 credits)	90	Option	T1, 2 or 3
Recommended Optional Modules (indicative)					
(Note that all Law modules listed as optional under the General LLM are available)					
7	LALW061S7	Labour, Law and Technology	30	Option	T2
7	LALW081S7	Law, Nature, and Planetary Justice	30	Option	T2
7	LALA004S7	Law Masters Research Project	30	Option	T2-3
7	SC08008S7	Key Legal Concepts	30	Option	T1
7	LALW104S7	International Intellectual Property	30	Option	T1
7	MOMN038H7	Intellectual Property and Artificial Intelligence	15	Option	T1
7	SC03017S7	The Ethics of Technology and Artificial Intelligence	30	Option	T1
7	SC03018S7	The History and Foundations of AI	30	Option	T2

7	ARMC247S7	Managing Digital Media	30	Option	T1 or 2
7	BUMN154H7	Managing Emerging Digital Technologies	30	Option	T3
7	SC03020S7	Philosophy of Artificial Intelligence: Minds, Machines and Meaning	30	Option	T1
7	BUMN176H7	Introduction to Analytics and Business	15	Option	T1
7	BUCI081H7	Demystifying Computing with Python	15	Option	T1
7	SSGE117S7	GeoAI for Social and Urban Applications	30	Option	T1

Core: Module must be taken and passed by student

Compulsory: Module must be taken but can be considered for compensated credit (see CAS regulations paragraph 24)

Option: Student can choose to take this module

Where a student is enrolled on a pathway and they choose to take the Law Masters Research Project module as an option, their research project must be associated with their pathway subject.

Timetable (i.e. which term a module is offered) is indicative and may be subject to change.

All optional modules listed are 'indicative' which means there is the possibility for changes in their availability (such as when a convenor is on research leave, insufficient uptake, or other reasons for changes to the portfolio.)

In general, students can take up to 30 credits (lvl7) optional module(s) from any other programme within the College (pending approval.) However, where these are from a list of recommended options related to a pathway (found in programme structure above) or from the LLM/MA Criminal Law and Criminal Justice programme, students can take up to 60 (lvl7) credits without requiring approval.

How you will learn

Your learning and teaching is organised to help you meet the learning outcomes (below) of the course. As a student, we expect you to be an active learner and to take responsibility for your learning, engaging with all of the material and sessions arranged for you.

Each course is divided into modules. You will find information on the virtual learning site (Moodle, see Academic Support below) about each of your modules, what to expect, the work you need to prepare, links to reading lists, information about how and when you will be assessed.

Your learning for this course will be organised around the activities outlined below.

Teaching on this course is a combination of lectures (pre-recorded) and seminars. Lectures are designed to provide you with an outline or overview of the topic, to engage you with the material and direct you to other resources. They are a springboard for your own learning. Seminars are group sessions where you will be asked to contribute to discussion or group work around the topic, with material set in advance for which you need to prepare.

How we will assess you

The course will use a variety of assessment methods. Assessment is used to enhance your learning rather than simply to test it. For most of the modules associated with this course, your assessment will be through the following types of assessment.

Short written exercises, essays which will develop in length and expected complexity as you progress through your studies, quizzes and multiple-choice questionnaires, practical assessments (of your work in a lab/studio), case studies, problems to solve.

Learning outcomes (what you can expect to achieve)

'Learning outcomes' indicate what you should be able to know or do at the end of your course. Providing them helps you to understand what your teachers will expect and also the learning requirements upon which you will be assessed.

At the end of this course, you should be able to:

- Understand and explain key legal mechanisms and frameworks for achieving justice;
- Understand the intersection between your pathway specific aims and other societal challenges, as well as the interaction between your pathway specific area and other areas of law;
- Transfer their understanding of complex problems and regulatory responses to different contexts;
- Critically evaluate legal, regulatory and policy proposals concerning your pathway specific challenges;
- Engage with contemporary legal and policy discussions regarding your pathway specific challenges;
- Draw on relevant literature and law to independently generate and communicate written or oral discussions on the themes of the programme.

Careers and further study

You will find Law graduates in the following kinds of roles:

Local government, NGOS, Government Policy Researchers, Law firms

Birkbeck's LLM with pathway graduates will complete with a set of valuable attributes, for example:

- The ability to work as part of a team
- High-level oral and written communication skills in English
- Research skills
- Skills in evaluating and assessing types of information
- The ability to present yourself and an argument

Birkbeck offers a range of careers support to its students. You can find out more on [the careers pages of our website](#).

Academic regulations and course management

Birkbeck's academic regulations are contained in its [Common Award Scheme Regulations](#) and Policies published by year of application on the Birkbeck website.

You will have access to a course handbook on Moodle and this will outline how your course is managed, including who to contact if you have any questions about your module or course.

Support for your study

Your learning at Birkbeck is supported by your teaching team and other resources and people in the College there to help you with your study. Birkbeck uses a virtual learning environment called Moodle and each course has a dedicated Moodle page and there are further Moodle sites for each of your modules. This will include your course handbook.

Birkbeck will introduce you to the Library and IT support, how to access materials online, including using Moodle, and provide you with an orientation which includes an online Moodle module to guide you through all of the support available. You will also be allocated a personal

tutor and provided with information about learning support offered within your School and by the College.

Please check our website for more information about student support services. This covers the whole of your time as a student with us including learning support and support for your wellbeing.

Quality and standards at Birkbeck

Birkbeck's courses are subject to our quality assurance procedures. This means that new courses must follow our design principles and meet the requirements of our academic regulations. Each new course or module is subject to a course approval process where the proposal is scrutinised by subject specialists, quality professionals and external representatives to ensure that it will offer an excellent student experience and meet the expectation of regulatory and other professional bodies.

You will be invited to participate in an online survey for each module you take. We take these surveys seriously and they are considered by the course team to develop both modules and the overall courses. Please take the time to complete any surveys you are sent as a student.

We conduct an annual process of reviewing our portfolio of courses which analyses student achievement, equality data and includes an action plan for each department to identify ongoing enhancements to our education, including changes made as a result of student feedback.

Our periodic review process is a regular check (usually every four years) on the courses by department with a specialist team including students.

Each course will have an external examiner associated with it who produces an annual report and any recommendations. Students can read the most recent external examiner reports on the course Moodle pages. Our courses are all subject to Birkbeck Baseline Standards for our Moodle module information. This supports the accessibility of our education including expectations of what information is provided online for students.

The information in this programme specification has been approved by the College's Academic Board and every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information it contains.

Programme specifications are reviewed periodically. If any changes are made to courses, including core and/or compulsory modules, the relevant department is required to provide a revised programme specification. Students will be notified of any changes via Moodle.

Further information about specifications and an archive of programme specifications for the College's courses is [available online](#).

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