

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Name, title and level of final qualification(s)	Postgraduate Certificate Law (Level 7)
Name and title of any exit qualification(s)	N/A
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	Part-time (1 year) October
Professional, statutory or regulatory body	N/A
<u>QAA subject benchmark group(s)</u> <u>Higher Education Credit Framework for</u> <u>England</u>	N/A
Birkbeck Course Code	TPCLAWLW_C
HECoS Code	100485
Start date of programme	Autumn 2026
Date of programme approval	Autumn 2025
Date of last programme amendment approval	N/A
Valid for academic entry year	2026-27
Programme Director	Professor Patrick Hanafin
Date of last revision to document	5/11/2025

Admissions requirements

Normally, a second-class honours degree (2:2) or above.

We welcome applicants without traditional entry qualifications as we base decisions on our own assessment of qualifications, knowledge and previous work experience. We may waive formal entry requirements based on judgement of academic potential.

Course aims

- Provides access to advanced modules on specialist legal subjects;
- For those who want to develop their knowledge in specialist areas without committing to a full LLM. Whether it is for a new intellectual challenge or to enhance their careers or skill sets, the PgCert offers hyflex evening classes that work for working people.

The Postgraduate Certificate in Law allows students to take specialist law modules at a post graduate level without the commitment to a full LLM.

Excellent for those who wish to enhance their knowledge in areas relevant to their careers, develop new areas of expertise, or those who would simply like to learn more about the topics. Whether it is Environmental Policy, Human Rights, AI and the regulation of technology, Law and the Humanities, other specialist options, all our teaching is provided by those who are leading researchers or practitioners in their respective fields.

On the certificate students will also have the option of taking our 'Key Legal Concepts' module, which provides foundational legal knowledge for non-lawyers.

Course structure

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Comp Core/ Option	Likely teaching term(s)
Part-time- 1 year					
7		Choice of optional modules from the list below (2 x 30 credits)	60	Options	T1, 2 or 3
INDICATIVE LIST OF OPTIONAL MODULES					
7	SC08008S7	Key Concepts in Law	30	Optional	T1
7	SC08009S7	Law and Humanities	30	Optional	T1
7	LALW059S7	Algorithms and the Law	30	Optional	T1
7	LALW060S7	Regulating Technology	30	Optional	T2
7	LALW061S7	Labour, Law and Technology	3	Optional	T2
7	LALW063S7	Law of the Digital Economy	30	Optional	T1
7	LALW102S7	Commercial law and market regulation	30	Optional	T1
7	LALW103S7	Issues in Commercial Law	30	Optional	T2
7	LALW078S7	Environmental Problems and the Law	30	Optional	T2
7	LALW043S7	Environmental Law and Justice	30	Optional	T1
7	LALW081S7	Law, Nature and Planetary Justice	30	Optional	T2
7	LALW104S7	International Intellectual Property	30	Optional	T1
7	LALW106S7	Intellectual Property and Global Health	30	Optional	T2
7	LALW109S7	Regulating the Creative Economy	30	Optional	T3

7	LADD066S7	Introduction to the History, Theory and Politics of Constitutional Law	30	Optional	T1
7	LADD028S7	Issues in International Law & Human Rights	30	Optional	T1
7	LADD005S7	History and Philosophy of Human Rights	30	Optional	T2
7	LADD029S7	Healthcare and Human Rights	30	Optional	T3
7	LADD013S7	Taking a Case to the ECHR	30	Optional	T3
7	LALW014S7	Negotiation, Interpretation and Explorations in Art & Human Rights*	30	Optional	T1
7	LADD058S7	Criminal Law, Theory and History	30	Optional	T2

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

*Note that 'Negotiation, Interpretation and Explorations in Art & Human Rights' is currently not available as hyflex – all other modules on this programme are.

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

Oral and Written Exams; Essays; Presentations, etc. The specific assessment form will depend on the modules selected.

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 will have developed specialist knowledge in the subject areas of your studies; and have demonstrated key skills in research, analysis, developing arguments, and communicating your ideas in both written and verbal forms.

Careers and further study

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

- Policy Analyst
- Journalist
- Civil Servant
- Advocate

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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