

## Programme Specification

1	<b>Awarding body</b>	University of London				
2	<b>Teaching Institution</b>	<b>Birkbeck College</b>				
3	<b>Programme Title(s)</b>	<b>LLM Commercial Law</b>				
4	<b>Programme Code(s)</b>	TMLCOMLW_C				
5	<b>UCAS code</b>	N/A				
6	<b>Home Department</b>	Law				
7	<b>Exit Award(s)</b>	PG Cert, PG Dip				
8	<b>Duration of Study (number of years)</b>	1 year FT, 2 years PT				
9	<b>Mode of Study</b>	FT	x	PT	x	DL
10	<b>Level of Award (FHEQ)</b>	N/A				
11	<b>Other teaching depts or institution</b>	N/A				
12	<b>Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details</b>	N/A				
13	<a href="#"><u>QAA Benchmark Statement</u></a>	N/A				

14	<b>Programme Rationale &amp; Aims</b>
	<p>The LLM Commercial Law at Birkbeck focuses on the law and policy of private economic relations and businesses, giving students a thorough knowledge of different aspects of modern commercial law as well as a theoretical understanding of its socio-economic significance.</p> <p>The programme is expands the offering of Birkbeck postgraduate courses, giving Birkbeck students the possibility of studying new subjects which might meet their interest. As suggested by the large number of students who regularly decide to choose optional modules with a private/commercial law focus at the undergraduate level, it appears that commercial law is an area where a considerable interest appears to exist among Birkbeck students - an interest which is currently not sufficiently met at the postgraduate level. Commercial law covers a plurality of aspects which are relevant for private economic relations, notably including issues of commercial contracts, dispute resolution, corporate finance and insolvency, international trade, intellectual property law. It is traditionally regarded as a practice-oriented area, whose study largely serves those who intend to pursue a legal career in the corporate sector. Yet, exactly because of that economic function, commercial law has a critical societal importance, which makes it a relevant, yet often underrated area for critical academic inquiry.</p> <p>Building upon its long tradition in critical legal studies, Birkbeck can offer a programme that combines an analysis of practically relevant aspects of commercial law with a theoretically-informed analysis of its rules and principles. By doing so, the programme in commercial law would meet a possible student demand in highly relevant topics, while remaining loyal to Birkbeck's mission and critical inspiration. This characteristic, at the same time, makes the programme different from comparable offerings at other UK institutions with a longer and more established tradition in commercial topics. The programme will therefore form critical</p>

	commercial lawyers, who are willing to operate in the economy being aware of the social relevance of their activity.
15	<b>Entry Criteria</b>
	A 2 <sup>nd</sup> class degree in law or in any degree programme related to the aims and content of the programme. Relevant work experience will be considered.
16	<b>Learning Outcomes</b>
	<p>Upon completion of the programme, students will be expected to be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand and assess the key principles of commercial law and market regulation;</li> <li>• Understand and evaluate the socio-economic dimensions, both national and international, of commercial law;</li> <li>• Critically appraise the different approaches to the regulation of businesses and market relations;</li> <li>• Engage with emergent legal and policy discussions regarding market regulation in a critical and innovative way.</li> </ul>
17	<b>Learning, teaching and assessment methods</b>
	The programme is delivered via two terms of compulsory seminar teaching, with options taken across 2-3 terms. Introductory lectures and relevant study materials will be uploaded on our online learning platforms, and face-to-face sessions will be employed for discussion and debate. Students are requested to prepare in advance to each session and to actively participate in the classroom. Students will take two compulsory modules and will then choose four options modules. Assessments methods vary depending on the particular module chosen, but will in most cases consist in essays and coursework. As an optional module, students may also choose to write an independent research project under the supervision of an academic.
18	<b>Programme Description</b>
	<p>Birkbeck's innovative LLM in Commercial Law is a research-led programme which focuses on the law governing private economic relations and businesses. Commercial law is a highly relevant area of legal practice, the knowledge of which will prove useful in your career in law or in the corporate sector, but is also and more fundamentally an area which raises a series of fundamental questions about our economy. The programme aims at introducing students to a series of relevant aspects of modern commercial law, at the same time giving students the tools for understanding critically the social relevance of the law of market relations. The programme incorporates elements of the common law as well as of international law, and is therefore suitable for both UK and international students.</p> <p>The programme is centred around small seminars in which students will be introduced to several aspects of commercial law and will further discuss those topics with fellow students and lecturers, being encouraged to think in a critical and innovative way about the law.</p> <p>The programme is aimed at both law and non-law graduates. This is a Non-QLD programme, so students wishing to obtain a Qualifying Law Degree are advised to take the LLM-QLD programme instead.</p>

Year of entry: 2022/23

	Students take two 30-credit compulsory modules: Commercial Law and Market Regulation, and Issues in Commercial Law, and then a further four 30-credit option modules to obtain the 180 credits for award of the LLM.
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19	<b>Programme Structure</b>			
<b>Full Time programme – 1 year</b>				
<b>Year 1</b>				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	LALW102S7	Commercial Law and Market Regulation	30	Compulsory
7	LALW103S7	Issues in Commercial Law	30	Compulsory
7		Option	30	Optional
7		Option	30	Optional
7		Option	30	Optional
7		Option	30	Optional
<b>Part-Time programme –2 years</b>				
<b>Year 1</b>				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	LALW102S7	Commercial Law and Market Regulation	30	Compulsory
7	LALW103S7	Issues in Commercial Law	30	Compulsory
7		Option	30	Optional
<b>Year 2</b>				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7		Option	30	Optional
7		Option	30	Optional
7		Option	30	Optional
<b>Indicative options list:</b>				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	LALW017S7	International Trade Law	30	Option
7	LALW063S7	Law of the Digital Economy	30	Option
7	LALW062S7	Property and Technology	30	Option
7	LALW080S7	International Business and the Environment	30	Option
7	LADD016S7	Advanced Intellectual Property Law	30	Option
7	LADD040S7	Economic Approach to Law	30	Option
7	LADD019S7	The World Trade Organization and the Environment	30	Option
7	LALA004S7	Law Masters Research Project	30	Option

**Status\***

CORE – Module must be taken and passed by student

COMPULSORY – Module must be taken, mark can be reviewed at sub-exam board

OPTIONAL – Student can choose to take this module

Year of entry: 2022/23



<sup>20</sup>	<b>Programme Director</b>	Guido Comparato
<sup>21</sup>	<b>Start Date</b> ( <i>term/year</i> )	October 2022
<sup>22</sup>	<b>Date approved by Education Committee</b>	Autumn 2021
<sup>23</sup>	<b>Date approved by Academic Board</b>	Autumn 2021
<sup>24</sup>	<b>Date(s) updated/amended</b>	4 November 2021