

## Course Specification

| Course Summary Information |   |  |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| 1                          | <b>Course Title</b>   | LLM Professional Law   |
| 2                          | <b>BCU Course Code</b>  | PT1170   |
| 3                          | <b>Awarding Institution</b>   | Birmingham City University   |
| 4                          | <b>Teaching Institution(s)</b><br>(if different from point 3)                         |  |
| 5                          | <b>Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation</b> (if applicable) | Joint Academic Stage Board<br>Bar Standards Board of England and Wales |

| 6 | Course Description  |
|---|---|
|   | <p>Looking for a law conversion course in Birmingham? Our LLM Professional Law is open to graduates from all subjects.</p> <p>Our LLM Professional Law course, which incorporates the Postgraduate Diploma in Law (PGDL) / Common Professional Examination (CPE), will provide you with a Master's-level qualification. You don't need a Law degree to apply - the course is available to any student with a qualifying honours degree in any subject.</p> <p><b>What's covered in the course?</b></p> <p>While most providers deliver the course at graduate level as the Common Professional Examination / Postgraduate Diploma in Law (PGDL), we have designed this course so that successful completion provides both a qualification at Master's level and professional body accreditation.</p> <p>This course is accredited by the Joint Academic Stage Board, which represents the Solicitors Regulatory Authority and the Bar Standards Board of England and Wales, and upon completion you are eligible to undertake the next stage of legal training (the Legal Practice course if you want to become a solicitor or the Bar Professional Training course if you want to become a barrister).</p> |

| 7  | Course Awards                   |       |                 |
|----|---------------------------------|-------|-----------------|
| 7a | Name of Final Award             | Level | Credits Awarded |
|    | Master of Laws Professional Law | 7     | 180             |
| 7b | Exit Awards and Credits Awarded |       |                 |
|    | Postgraduate Certificate Law    | 7     | 60              |
|    | Postgraduate Diploma Law        | 7     | 120             |

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| <b>8</b> | <b>Derogation from the University Regulations</b>  |
|          | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. For 'Foundation' modules with more than one item of assessment, all items of assessment must be passed in order to pass the module.</li> <li>2. Compensation of marginal failure in up to 20 credits is permitted.</li> <li>3. Condonement of failed modules is not permitted.</li> <li>4. Pass mark for modules up to and including PG Dip level is 40%.</li> </ol> |

|          |                          |                             |                          |                |
|----------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| <b>9</b> | <b>Delivery Patterns</b> |                             |                          |                |
|          | <b>Mode(s) of Study</b>  | <b>Location(s) of Study</b> | <b>Duration of Study</b> | <b>Code(s)</b> |
|          | Full Time                | City Centre                 | 2 years                  | PT1170         |
|          | Part Time                | City Centre                 | 3 years                  | PT1171         |

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| <b>10</b> | <b>Entry Requirements</b>  |
|           | <p>The admission requirements for this course are stated on the course page of the BCU website at <a href="https://www.bcu.ac.uk/">https://www.bcu.ac.uk/</a>.</p> |

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| <b>11</b> | <b>Course Learning Outcomes</b>   |
| <b>1</b>  | Enable a non-law graduate to demonstrate thorough knowledge of the legal system in England and Wales, its relationship with European Union law and the fundamental areas of English law, including an appreciation of the political, historical, global, economic and ethical contexts in which the legal system and the substantive legal principles operate and how these substantive areas relate to each other. |
| <b>2</b>  | Critically analyse, evaluate and produce a synthesis of well-established and innovative legal rules, doctrine, policy, principles and concepts; to apply this to a diverse range of practical and theoretical issues and problems, within a practice-led learning environment.  |
| <b>3</b>  | Confidently apply acquired knowledge to complex legal situations in order to make sophisticated judgements based on reasoned-choice, and where there is ambiguity or uncertainty recognise potential alternative solutions supported with sound evidence to deliver rational arguments to justify conclusions.  |
| <b>4</b>  | Demonstrate the ability to learn autonomously and develop a rigorous approach to research that uses both primary and secondary sources to generate acquisition of comprehensive legal knowledge in regard to the theory and application of law in the fundamental areas of English law and an additional law option.  |
| <b>5</b>  | Assume responsibility for further enhancing skills necessary for professional practice and to refine current employability skills, to use the English language with precision, orally and in writing, in relation to legal issues, in order to make effective oral and written presentations which are coherent and comprehensible to others and meet expectations in the workplace; to develop                     |

|          |   |
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|          | other pervasive skills, including: making relevant use of numerical and statistical information derived from primary and secondary sources when constructing an argument, producing work which is presented and formatted using standard software packages, working co-operatively, ethically and professionally with others.   |
| <b>6</b> | To develop a comprehensive knowledge and critical understanding of established research theories in addition to the intellectual, practical skills and techniques applicable to conducting a significant piece of legal research or undertaking an extended project or placement that demonstrates advanced appreciation of a legal subject studied on the programme to Master's level. |

| <b>12</b>   | <b>Course Requirements</b>   |              |             |              |         |              |    |         |                    |    |         |                                       |    |         |              |    |         |                           |    |         |                              |    |         |              |   |         |                                 |    |         |                                     |    |
|-------------|--|--------------|-------------|--------------|---------|--------------|----|---------|--------------------|----|---------|---------------------------------------|----|---------|--------------|----|---------|---------------------------|----|---------|------------------------------|----|---------|--------------|---|---------|---------------------------------|----|---------|-------------------------------------|----|
| <b>12a</b>  | <p><b>Level 7:</b></p> <p><i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 180 credits):</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Module Code</th> <th>Module Name</th> <th>Credit Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>GDL7000</td> <td>Criminal Law</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GDL7001</td> <td>Law of Obligations</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GDL7002</td> <td>Constitutional and Administrative Law</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GDL7003</td> <td>Property Law</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GDL7004</td> <td>Law of the European Union</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GDL7005</td> <td>Independent Research Project</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GDL7006</td> <td>Legal Method</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LAW7130</td> <td>Advanced Legal Research Methods</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LAW7140</td> <td>Dissertation/Live Project/Placement</td> <td>40</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | Module Code  | Module Name | Credit Value | GDL7000 | Criminal Law | 20 | GDL7001 | Law of Obligations | 20 | GDL7002 | Constitutional and Administrative Law | 20 | GDL7003 | Property Law | 20 | GDL7004 | Law of the European Union | 20 | GDL7005 | Independent Research Project | 20 | GDL7006 | Legal Method | 0 | LAW7130 | Advanced Legal Research Methods | 20 | LAW7140 | Dissertation/Live Project/Placement | 40 |
| Module Code | Module Name  | Credit Value |             |              |         |              |    |         |                    |    |         |                                       |    |         |              |    |         |                           |    |         |                              |    |         |              |   |         |                                 |    |         |                                     |    |
| GDL7000     | Criminal Law   | 20           |             |              |         |              |    |         |                    |    |         |                                       |    |         |              |    |         |                           |    |         |                              |    |         |              |   |         |                                 |    |         |                                     |    |
| GDL7001     | Law of Obligations   | 20           |             |              |         |              |    |         |                    |    |         |                                       |    |         |              |    |         |                           |    |         |                              |    |         |              |   |         |                                 |    |         |                                     |    |
| GDL7002     | Constitutional and Administrative Law  | 20           |             |              |         |              |    |         |                    |    |         |                                       |    |         |              |    |         |                           |    |         |                              |    |         |              |   |         |                                 |    |         |                                     |    |
| GDL7003     | Property Law   | 20           |             |              |         |              |    |         |                    |    |         |                                       |    |         |              |    |         |                           |    |         |                              |    |         |              |   |         |                                 |    |         |                                     |    |
| GDL7004     | Law of the European Union  | 20           |             |              |         |              |    |         |                    |    |         |                                       |    |         |              |    |         |                           |    |         |                              |    |         |              |   |         |                                 |    |         |                                     |    |
| GDL7005     | Independent Research Project   | 20           |             |              |         |              |    |         |                    |    |         |                                       |    |         |              |    |         |                           |    |         |                              |    |         |              |   |         |                                 |    |         |                                     |    |
| GDL7006     | Legal Method   | 0            |             |              |         |              |    |         |                    |    |         |                                       |    |         |              |    |         |                           |    |         |                              |    |         |              |   |         |                                 |    |         |                                     |    |
| LAW7130     | Advanced Legal Research Methods  | 20           |             |              |         |              |    |         |                    |    |         |                                       |    |         |              |    |         |                           |    |         |                              |    |         |              |   |         |                                 |    |         |                                     |    |
| LAW7140     | Dissertation/Live Project/Placement  | 40           |             |              |         |              |    |         |                    |    |         |                                       |    |         |              |    |         |                           |    |         |                              |    |         |              |   |         |                                 |    |         |                                     |    |

**12b Structure Diagram**
**Full Time**

|  |  |   |   |   |
|--|--|---|---|---|
| <b>PG Cert Stage</b><br>Semester 1                           | <b>*GDL7006<br/>Legal Method<br/>(Non-credit bearing)</b><br><br>1 hour Lecture<br>2 hour Workshop | <b>*GDL7001<br/>Law of Obligations<br/>(20 credits)</b><br><br>1 hour Lecture<br>2 hour Workshop        | <b>*GDL7000<br/>Criminal Law<br/>(20 credits)</b><br><br>1 hour Lecture<br>2 hour Workshop                | <b>*GDL7002<br/>Constitutional &amp; Administrative Law<br/>(20 credits)</b><br><br>1 hour Lecture<br>2 hour Workshop |
| <b>Learning Outcomes and assessment at Level 7 (PG Cert)</b> |  |   |   |   |
| <b>PG Dip Stage</b><br>Semester 2                            | <b>*GDL7003<br/>Property<br/>(20 credits)</b><br><br>1 hour Lecture<br>2 hour Workshop             | <b>*GDL7004<br/>Law of the European Union<br/>(20 credits)</b><br><br>1 hour Lecture<br>2 hour Workshop | <b>GDL7005<br/>Independent Research Project<br/>(20 credits)</b><br><br>1 hour Lecture<br>2 hour Workshop |   |
| <b>Learning Outcomes and assessment at Level 7 (PG Dip)</b>  |  |   |   |   |
| <b>LLM Stage</b><br>Semester 3                               | <b>LAW7130<br/>Advance Legal Research Methods<br/>(20 credits)</b>                                 | <b>LAW7140 Dissertation</b><br>(no teaching sessions but supervisor meetings)                           |   |   |
| <b>Learning Outcomes and assessment at Level 7 (LLM)</b>     |  |   |   |   |

\* Compulsory modules which demonstrate coverage of the PSRB's seven foundations of legal knowledge "plus one further area of legal study". Students who wish to complete the academic stage of training by undertaking the Common Professionals Examination are required to pass all of these modules.

### Part Time

|                      |  |  |
|----------------------|--|--|
| Year 1<br>Semester 1 | <b>*GDL7006<br/>Legal Method<br/>(Non-credit bearing)</b><br><br>1 hour Lecture<br>2 hour Workshop | <b>*GDL7001<br/>Law of Obligations<br/>(20 credits)</b><br><br>1 hour Lecture<br>2 hour Workshop |
| Year 1<br>Semester 2 | <b>*GDL7003<br/>Property<br/>(20 credits)</b><br><br>1 hour Lecture<br>2 hour Workshop             |  |

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| Year 2 Semester<br>1                                       | <b>*GDL7000<br/>Criminal Law<br/>(20 credits)</b><br><br>1 hour Lecture<br>2 hour Workshop              | <b>*GDL7002<br/>Constitutional &amp; Administrative<br/>Law<br/>(20 credits)</b><br><br>1 hour Lecture<br>2 hour Workshop |
| Year 2 Semester<br>2                                       | <b>*GDL7004<br/>Law of the European Union<br/>(20 credits)</b><br><br>1 hour Lecture<br>2 hour Workshop | <b>GDL7005<br/>Independent Research Project<br/>(20 credits)</b><br><br>1 hour Lecture<br>2 hour Workshop                 |
| <b>Learning Outcomes and assessment at Level 7 (PGDip)</b> |   |   |
| <b>LLM<br/>Stage<br/>Year 2<br/>Semester<br/>3</b>         | <b>LAW7130<br/>Advance Legal<br/>Research Methods<br/>(20 credits)</b>                                  | <b>LAW7140 Dissertation</b><br>(no teaching sessions but supervisor meetings)   |
| <b>Learning Outcomes and assessment at Level 7 (LLM)</b>   |   |   |

\* Compulsory modules which demonstrate coverage of the PSRB's seven foundations of legal knowledge "plus one further area of legal study". Students who wish to complete the academic stage of training by undertaking the Common Professionals Examination are required to pass all of these modules.

### 13 Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment

Overall student *workload* consists of class contact hours, independent learning and assessment activity, with each credit taken equating to a total study time of around 10 hours. While actual contact hours may depend on the optional modules selected, the following information gives an indication of how much time students will need to allocate to different activities at each level of the course.

- *Scheduled Learning* includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, contact time specified in timetable
- *Directed Learning* includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning
- *Private Study* includes preparation for exams

The *balance of assessment* by mode of assessment (e.g. coursework, exam and in-person) depends to some extent on the optional modules chosen by students. The approximate percentage of the course assessed by coursework, exam and in-person is shown below.

#### Level 7

#### Workload

##### % time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

| Activity           | Number of Hours |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Scheduled Learning | 208             |
| Directed Learning  | 259             |
| Private Study      | 1333            |
| <b>Total Hours</b> | <b>1800</b>     |

#### Balance of Assessment

| Assessment Mode | Percentage |
|-----------------|------------|
| Coursework      | 50%        |
| Exam            | 50%        |
| In-Person       | 0          |