

## Course Specification

Course Summary Information		
1	<b>Course Title</b>	LLM Conversion in Law
2	<b>Course Code</b>	PT1860
3	<b>Awarding Institution</b>	Birmingham City University
4	<b>Teaching Institution(s)</b> (if different from point 3)	
5	<b>Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation</b> (if applicable)	Since 2021 the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) no longer requires the completion of a qualifying law degree to qualify as a solicitor. The Bar Standards Board (BSB) still has this requirement as set out in the <a href="#">Bar Qualification Manual</a> (the 'Manual'). This course is compliant with the Manual covering all the required Foundations of Legal Knowledge and there are no exemptions required from the BCU Academic Regulations 2425. The position will be reviewed annually through the usual internal annual course monitoring and review processes.

6	Course Description
	<p>This course allows non-law graduates wanting to enter the legal profession the opportunity to gain a strong understanding of the foundational principles of the law in England and Wales and go onto further study to become a solicitor or barrister. To achieve this, the course has been designed to align with the subjects that you will need to study further to successfully undertake the Solicitors Qualification Examination (SQE), while also meeting the requirements of the Bar Standards Board in the Bar Qualification Manual for Conversion Courses. Studying at Birmingham City University (BCU) offers a diverse and practise-based learning opportunity for you to develop your legal education in a modern environment within an exciting city. While we are rooted in Birmingham, as a university we aim to be reaching far beyond.</p> <p>The Law is wide and varied, and our teaching reflects that. Therefore, when you study with us, you can develop your knowledge on a wide range of topics. Assessments are designed to be realistic and applicable to future careers, including a range of different assessment types to suit a range of preference of learning styles.</p> <p>Creating an excellent learning experience for you is our priority, both within our department and the wider University. As part of this, we concentrate on delivering outstanding teaching from staff who are either experienced in research or practice, so that you receive a 'hands on' approach to become confident, creative, resilient and responsible as you progress towards your preferred career.</p> <p>This is demonstrated throughout our commitment to clinical legal education, with our Law Clinic offering numerous volunteer opportunities. We are incredibly proud of our distinctive Law Clinic which offers you the ability to engage with real-world briefs and clients while you study in multiple areas of Law including Immigration Law and Welfare Clinics. Our close alliances with the Citizens Advice Bureau and Support Through Court means you have a wide range of choice to ensure that you are experiencing multiple different forms of Law and practise. The skills you gain within our Law Clinic allow you to practice your skills and techniques, before beginning to practice.</p>

	<p>We know that even from your first day, you'll be thinking about the next step after you graduate so employability has been embedded throughout the degree to support all career aspirations. You are also encouraged to engage in extra-curricular activities to support your learning, with student societies such as the highly successful Mooting &amp; Debating Society. Furthermore, you will have the ability to engage with the wider Birmingham legal community through our connections with the Birmingham Law Society, the largest regional law society in the UK and engage in the various networking events organised throughout your university experience.</p> <p>Upon completion of your Masters, you will be equipped with a degree that enables you to progress to the next level of legal training that has been customised to support the development of your personal employability.</p>
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<b>7 Course Awards</b>			
<b>7a</b>	<b>Name of Final Award</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Credits Awarded</b>
	Master of Laws Conversion in Law	7	180
<b>7b</b>	<b>Exit Awards and Credits Awarded</b>		
	Postgraduate Diploma Law	7	120
	Postgraduate Certificate Law	7	60

<b>8 Variation from the University Regulations</b>	
	Not applicable

<b>9 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	1 year	PT1860

<b>10 Entry Requirements</b>	
<b>Home:</b>	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> or may be found by searching for the course entry profile located on the UCAS website.
<b>EU:</b>	
<b>International:</b>	
<b>Access:</b>	

<b>11 Course Aims</b>	
	<p>To deliver an outstanding inclusive and contemporaneous educational experience, ensuring future success in the legal profession and beyond.</p> <p>To transform lives, through a fusion of teaching, research and real-world experiential learning.</p> <p>To inspire our students to flourish as independent and confident citizens, empowering them to succeed in their chosen career</p> <p>To enable non-law graduates to prepare for the next stage of training to become a solicitor or barrister</p>

<b>12 Course Learning Outcomes</b>	
<b>1</b>	Provide a systematic knowledge of the English Legal System, its institutions and processes for developing the law, and properly evidenced sources.
<b>2</b>	Provide systematic knowledge of the broader influences on the Law including political, economic and sustainable implications of the development of Law as well as recognition of the global nature of the subject.
<b>3</b>	Demonstrate originality in development of arguments, engaging in synthesis and critical thinking in relation to a range of research materials
<b>4</b>	Undertake informed decisions based on a range of data, in the application of law to factual scenarios, including the ability to come to reasonable conclusions based upon incomplete data.
<b>5</b>	Employ a critical awareness of intellectual and practical skills to research and analyse the law, and work with a range of data.
<b>6</b>	Assume responsibility for further enhancing skills necessary for professional practice and refine current employability skills, and to reflect on your own knowledge and competences to support further development and future planning.
<b>7</b>	Present knowledge and communicate confidently and with precision, both verbally and non-verbally.

<b>13 Level Learning Outcomes</b>	
	Not applicable

<b>14 Course Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy</b>	
<b>a. Delivery of the Course: Learning and Teaching</b>	<p>The Learning and Teaching approach adopts an applied approach to delivery of knowledge and transferable skills and underpins the course structure, module content and assessment design. This approach therefore introduces, develops, and then consolidates knowledge, transferable skills, and personal employability as you progress through the course.</p> <p>The course structure will enhance your learning experience, providing you with a supportive, nurturing, and inclusive learning environment. The curriculum design strives to empower you to develop your self-confidence, self-esteem, and resilience. These are qualities which will enhance your long-term academic and professional success, and which are aligned with the University's Employability Framework and its 2030 strategy.</p> <p>The curriculum has been reviewed so that the University's Employability Framework is embedded within all modules of the degree. By emphasising the value of embedding employability pervasively within the design of the new curriculum, and by incorporating transferable skills within modules, you are encouraged to evaluate and articulate your personal employability, empowering you to demonstrate work-readiness as you seek graduate level employment.</p>
<b>b. Assessment</b>	<p>As set out above the LLM offers you a supportive, inclusive, learning environment. Our assessment strategy reflects this, by building up the complexity of academic and transferable skills that you develop on the course. For example, our generic marking criteria used across our coursework-based assessments are made up of structure organisation and communication of ideas, knowledge and understanding, application of critical thinking techniques, and</p>

referencing/citing sources to support work. Staff have recognised the need to balance the number of assessments to meet course learning outcomes with the need to ensure you are not overloaded.

To create a supportive and inclusive learning environment, our assessments are authentic, which means they are real-life, and therefore, support the development of your personal employability as they help to prepare you for the working world. For example, a mode of assessment that includes a 'coursework' is not just limited to an essay. It will include, drafting legal opinions, multiple-choice questionnaires (providing you with examination skills preparing you for the SQE), advocacy presentations, drafting legal advice emails to clients, reflective journals that reflect upon placement experiences. Having a range of assessment types within modules enables a more inclusive assessment strategy which will help you to flourish, ensuring that they reach your full academic potential, whilst also enhancing your progression and attainment and adding value by encouraging mastery of transferable skills. In this way, we encourage you to demonstrate your ability to put theory into practice, through exposure to a range of assessments which is directly transferable into the workplace.

To ensure that you are prepared for your summative assessments throughout and at the conclusion of your modules, formative assessments are utilised throughout every module to ensure you have a chance to receive feedback before the submission. Our approach provides regular opportunities for you to receive feedback to help you improve and succeed. The rationale for this is to support your learning and for you to understand your strengths and weaknesses regarding the content of the assessment. Equally, engagement with formative submissions permits you to reduce your assessment anxiety regarding the submission as well as inform changes to teaching to ensure your understanding. Finally, you receive feedback on formative submissions, introducing a 'feedback loop' between your formative and summative assessments to allow you to improve future grades.

<b>15</b>	<b>Course Requirements</b>	
<b>15a</b>	<b>Level 7:</b>	
	In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules and one of the two OPTIONAL modules (totalling 180 credits)	
	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Module Name</b>
	<b>Credit Value</b>	
	LAW7182	Legal Systems (S1)
	LAW7171	Advanced Skills (S1)
	LAW7183	Law of Obligations (Tort & Contract) (S1)
	LAW7184	Criminal Law (S1)
	LAW7185	Land Law (S2)
	LAW7186	Equity & Trusts (S2)
	LAW7187	Public & EU Law (S2)
	<b>AND ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:</b>	
	LAW7153	Dissertation (S3)
	LAW7154	Placement (S3)
		<b>Credit Value</b>
		0
		20
		20
		20
		20
		20
		20
		60
		60

**15b Structure Diagram**
**Level 7:**
**Semester 1:**

Code	Module	Core/Option	Credits
LAW7182	Legal Systems	Core	0
LAW7183	Law of Obligations	Core	20
LAW7171	Advanced Skills	Core	20
LAW7184	Criminal Law	Core	20

**Semester 2:**

Code	Module	Core/Option	Credits
LAW7185	Land Law	Core	20
LAW7187	Public & EU Law	Core	20
LAW7186	Equity & Trusts	Core	20

**Semester 3:**

Code	Module	Core/Option	Credits
LAW7153	Dissertation OR	Core	60
LAW7154	Placement	Core	60

<b>16</b>	<b>Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment</b>
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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

##### 12% 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	90.38%
Exam	7.69%
In-Person	1.92%