LLM in European Union Law and Citizenship
For students entering in 2012/3

Awarding Institution:	University of Reading
Teaching Institution:	University of Reading
Relevant QAA subject Benchmarking group(s):	
Faculty:	Arts, Humanities and Social Science Faculty
Programme length:	1 years
Date of specification:	20/Aug/2012
Programme Director:	Dr Alina Tryfonidou
Programme Advisor:	
Board of Studies:	Law (Postgraduate)
Accreditation:	

Summary of programme aims

The programme aims to equip students with the specialist knowledge and skills they require to succeed as professionals, scholars and leaders in the field of European Union law and policy, particularly as they affect the 'lsquo;citizenship' aspects of the EU: fundamental rights, constitutionalism, mobility, family rights and the role and place of the EU in the international legal order. This main aim is promoted by pursuing the following specific aims:

To provide a structured postgraduate law degree which examines EU law in its social and political context.
To provide a flexible programme through core modules in the field of EU law and European citizenship combined with a range of options currently on offer, and the independent study of a dissertation component.
To expose students to a multidisciplinary learning environment.
To help students develop an array of both analytical and critical skills, through independent study and working with others.

Transferable skills

Students are encouraged to act independently in planning tasks and use feedback to reflect on their performance and assess the appropriateness of current levels of knowledge and skill. Students are expected to acquire an ability to think analytically, to develop frameworks for considering and resolving complex problems, and to discriminate between good and bad arguments. In addition, a law graduate will be used to presenting arguments (both technical and general) orally and in writing and should be able to present such arguments clearly and concisely. Students will be able to research a variety of sources in libraries and on the internet, and, in particular, to research and assess academic literature. Particular elements of the programme expose students to the use of information technology and encourage the development of general professional capabilities including recognition of deadlines and time management.

Programme content

The LLM programme consists of 180 credits; a taught element (120 credits) and a dissertation (60 credits). The dissertation must be written on a topic that has a meaningful relationship to the field of EU law and European citizenship (fundamental rights, mobility, constitutionalism, family rights etc).
Within the taught element there is one compulsory module, LWMTRM Research Methods (30 credits). The remaining 90 credits of the taught element are comprised of optional modules. These must be taken from:
- Law School Level 7 modules listed for this programme, or
- modules offered by other Schools or Departments listed for this programme, or
- modules offered by any School or Department in the University which are not listed for this programme, with permission from the programme director. Permission to take unlisted modules will only be granted in exceptional circumstances; for example, where a student has work experience in a field then permission may be granted to take a module relevant to that field. Note that, as with all modules, any pre-requisites or co-requisites will also need to be satisfied.
This is subject to the requirement that at least 20 of the 90 optional credits must come from the listed Law School EU Law and European Citizenship core optional modules and other requirements about the maximum number of credits that may be taken from each of the optional module lists (see below). All module selections are subject to availability in any given year and timetabling requirements.
Of the 120 taught credits, students must normally be enrolled in a minimum of 40 credits in each of the Autumn and Spring terms. (For this purpose, when a module is taught across two terms, half of its credits will be allocated to the first term and half to the second.)
Compulsory modules - all modules from this group must be taken

| LWMTDI | Dissertation | 60 | 7 |
| LWMTRM | Research Methods | 30 | 7 |

EU Law and Citizenship Core Optional Modules (subject to availability in any given year) - at least 20 credits must be taken from this list

LWMTEU	European Human Rights	10	7
LWMTEF	European Legal Frameworks: Constitutionalism, Democracy and Citizenship	20	7
LWMTCN	EU Citizens, Third Country Nationals and Mobility in the EU	10	7

EU Law and Citizenship General Optional Modules (subject to availability in any given year) - up to 70 credits may be taken from this list

LWMTUW	The European Union in the World	10	7
LWMTEE	EU Environmental Law	10	7
LWMTEC	EU Competition Law	20	7
LWMTEI	The European Internal Market and Economic Governance	20	7
LWMTER	EU Energy Law and Regulation	10	7

Law School General Optional Modules (subject to availability in any given year) - up to 50 credits may be taken from this list

LWMTHR	International Human Rights Law	30	7
LWMTEH	European Human Rights: the ECHR	10	7
LWMTRT	The Theory and Practice of Rights	10	7
LWMTGS	Gender, Sexuality and Rights	20	7
LWMTCR	International Children's Rights	10	7
LWMTIC	Prosecuting International Crimes: Contemporary Issues	10	7
LWMTHL	International Humanitarian Law	10	7
LWMTLT	International Law and Terrorism	20	7
LWMTSS	Surveillance, Security and the State	10	7
LWMTUF	The Use of Military Force in International Law	10	7
LWMTCI	Contemporary Issues in International Law	10	7
LWMTDS	International Dispute Settlement	20	7
LWMTWO	World Order and Theories of International Law	10	7
LWMTPU	Public International Law	10	7
LWMTIN	Advanced Intellectual Property Law*	10	7
LWMTPE	Law, Politics and Economics as Social Systems	10	7
LWMTIF	Legal Aspects of International Finance	20	7
LWMRLK	Legal Knowledge and Legal Writing**	10	7
LWMTLE	International Economic Law	10	7
LWMTDL	International Development Law	10	7
LWMTIW	Legal Aspects of Trade and WTO	10	7

* If students wish to take LWMTIN but have not had prior exposure to intellectual property law, it is recommended that they take Intellectual Property LW3IP' (20 credits) as an optional module in conjunction with LWMTIN. Students should discuss this with either the programme director or the Director of Taught PG Studies. If students take LW3IP, they won't be able to take any IWLP module, otherwise they won't meet the minimum number of level 7 credits required for a master's programme.
** with permission

GIPIS Optional Modules (subject to availability in any given year) - up to 30 credits may be taken from this list

| PIM15 | Political Integration in Europe | 30 | 7 |

IWLP Optional Modules (subject to availability in any given year) - up to 20 credits may be taken from this list

LA1PF1/2/3/4/5	French	20	4
LA1PG1/2/3/4/5	German	20	4
LA1PI1/2/3/4/5	Italian	20	4
LA1PS1/2/3/4/5	Spanish	20	4

Part-time or modular arrangements
The programme can be taken part-time over two years. In the first year of study, a student will normally be required to complete their chosen core optional modules (for at least 20 credits) and further optional modules totalling no less than 40 credits and no more than 70 credits. In the second year of study a student will normally be required to complete any remaining optional modules and the compulsory module LWMTRM Research Methods and the LWMTDI Dissertation module. The programme may not be completed over more than two years.

Progression requirements
Part-time Candidates
A part-time candidate may only proceed into his or her second year if he or she has achieved 2 marks of at least 50% in his or her first year. A part-time candidate who chooses not to proceed to his or her second year may be considered for the award of PG Certificate in European Union Law and Citizenship if he or she gains an average mark of 50 or more in modules worth 60 credits and has no mark below 40.

Summary of Teaching and Assessment
Teaching methods will vary from module to module but teaching will primarily be by means of seminars. Certain modules may be partially taught by means of lectures and tutorials. All modules, other than the Dissertation, will be assessed by one of or a combination of: a timed, unseen examination; a timed, seen examination; assessed written work; other forms of assessment (such as participation in class or an oral class presentation).

The University's taught postgraduate marks classification is as follows:

Mark Interpretation
70 - 100% Distinction
60 - 69% Merit
50 - 59% Good standard (Pass)

Failing categories
40 - 49% Work below threshold standard
0 - 39% Unsatisfactory Work

Further information on the classification conventions, including borderline criteria, are available at http://www.reading.ac.uk/web/FILES/exams/PGclassification-post-2008.pdf.
For Masters Degree
To qualify for Distinction, students must gain an overall average of 70 or more over 180 credits and a mark of 60 or more for the dissertation. In addition, the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits and students must not have any mark below 40.
To qualify for Merit, students must gain an overall average of 60 or more over 180 credits and a mark of 50 or more for the dissertation. In addition, the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits and students must not have any mark below 40.
To qualify for Passed, students must gain an overall average of 50 or more over 180 credits and a mark of 50 or more for the dissertation. In addition, the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits and students must not have any mark below 40.
For PG Diploma

To qualify for Distinction, students must gain an overall average of 70 or more over 120 credits. In addition, the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits and students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for Merit, students must gain an overall average of 60 or more over 120 credits. In addition, the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits and students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for Passed, students must gain an overall average of 50 or more over 120 credits. In addition, the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits and students must not have any mark below 40.

For PG Certificate

To qualify for a Postgraduate Certificate, students must gain an overall average of 50 or more over 60 credits and must not have any mark below 40.

Admission requirements

Entrants to this programme are normally required to have obtained a degree in law or a degree with a substantial legal component with a first or upper second class honours (or an equivalent classification if they graduated overseas). All applicants are considered on their individual merits and the School may vary these requirements if it sees fit.

Admissions Tutor: Dr Alina Tryfonidou, a.tryfonidou@reading.ac.uk

Support for students and their learning

University support for students and their learning falls into two categories. Learning support is provided by a wide array of services across the University, including: the University Library, the Student Employment, Experience and Careers Centre (SEECC), In-sessional English Support Programme, the Study Advice and Mathematics Support Centre teams, IT Services and the Student Access to Independent Learning (S@il) computer-based teaching and learning facilities. There are language laboratory facilities both for those students studying on a language degree and for those taking modules offered by the Institution-wide Language Programme. Student guidance and welfare support is provided by Personal Tutors, School Senior Tutors, the Students' Union, the Medical Practice and advisers in the Student Services Centre. The Student Services Centre is housed in the Carrington Building and offers advice on accommodation, careers, disability, finance, and wellbeing. Students can get key information and guidance from the team of Helpdesk Advisers, or make an appointment with a specialist adviser; Student Services also offer drop-in sessions and runs workshops and seminars on a range of topics. For more information see www.reading.ac.uk/student

Within the School of Law, personal and academic tutors will provide help and guidance on academic, and where appropriate, other matters. A member of the academic staff of the School acts as Careers Advisor and the School has a Director of Taught Postgraduate Studies, individual programme directors for each taught postgraduate programme, a Senior Tutor for students on taught postgraduate programmes, a student support officer and a postgraduate administrative officer to provide support and advice to postgraduate students. In addition, all students receive a detailed Handbook to help them study law successfully.

Career prospects

While very many law graduates take professional exams in law and go on to practise law either in the UK or abroad, many others pursue alternative careers. This is particularly the case with those who have chosen to pursue a postgraduate qualification in law, as the skills gained by undertaking a postgraduate law degree are in great demand from both legal and non-legal employers. While not disqualifying students from any career open to non-specialist graduates, a postgraduate law degree will open many doors in more specialised areas of employment such as legal practice in the area of EU law, EU policy-making, European and international governmental and non-governmental organisations, academia (with further postgraduate study), the media (journalism and broadcasting), the civil service and other branches of public service.

Opportunities for study abroad or for placements

The programme does not involve study abroad.

Programme Outcomes

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, skills, qualities and other attributes in the following areas:

Knowledge and Understanding

A. Knowledge and understanding of:

1. Key issues in EU law and European citizenship and how they interrelate;
2. A range of research methodologies sufficient to formulate appropriate and relevant research questions and conduct independent research in law;
3. A select range of options to broaden understanding of the operation of law at an advanced level;
4. Appropriate contextual background to understand the substantive law.

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

The basic knowledge in all modules is provided by seminars, although some modules may include lectures. All seminars allow a student to gauge his/her progress in that module and will require significant student input into the acquisition and dissemination of knowledge. The critical input into learning is provided by a student's own reading and preparation for group discussions.

Assessment
Modules adopt a variety of assessment methods. All modules include either or both of summative assessed work and an unseen, timed exam.

Skills and other attributes

B. Intellectual skills - *able to:*

1. Think logically;
2. Analyse and identify problems and issues;
3. Discriminate between relevant and irrelevant material;
4. Understand technical material;
5. Apply relevant knowledge effectively;
6. Construct defensible arguments and exercise critical judgment.

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

Logic, analytical and critical skills and the ability to apply relevant knowledge are inherent in the study of law and these skills are encouraged and developed in seminars.

Assessment
Both formal examinations and summative assessed work assess all these skills either directly or indirectly.

C. Practical skills - *able to:*

1. Discover and use legal and/or political and contextual materials from a variety of sources; and
2. Evaluate legal and/or political and contextual material both individually and as part of a team;
3. Construct and present (orally and in writing) defensible arguments and critical judgment.

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

All the practical skills are present in each module and are developed through seminars. The essence of legal study is to provide an answer to a practical legal problem having identified the legal issues, selected relevant facts and used appropriate law to provide a solution. The encouragement of these faculties is inherent in all parts of the degree. All modules seek to develop powers of critical analysis and judgment.

Assessment
The written element of 3 is directly assessed through summative assessed work and/or formal examinations. Examinations indirectly assess 1 and 2, while summative assessed work does so directly. The dissertation requires elements of 1, 2 and 3. Some modules assess oral communication (formatively or summatively).

D. Transferable skills - *able to:*

1. Work independently and hard;
2. Use different types of information sources;
3. Communicate technical material effectively both orally and in writing;
4. Construct defensible arguments and exercise

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

Law is a subject of considerable complexity; some material is difficult and not all of it is of overpowering interest - a student must work hard to engage with such material. A student will be required regularly to participate in class discussions

critical judgement;
5. Reflect critically on one's own learning;
6. Consider career development.

and make presentations. He or she will be required to engage with a considerable amount of academic and other literature and to assess and evaluate such literature critically and in the context of presenting advanced arguments both orally and in writing.

Assessment
Both formal examinations and summative assessed work assess all these skills other than 5 and 6. Seminars encourage a student to reflect on his or her own learning. Guidance is given throughout the degree programme on career development.

Please note - This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in the module description and in the programme handbook. The University reserves the right to modify this specification in unforeseen circumstances, or where the process of academic development and feedback from students, quality assurance process or external sources, such as professional bodies, requires a change to be made. In such circumstances, a revised specification will be issued.