

**Programme Specification**  
**LLM Advanced Legal Studies**  
**For students entering in 2018**

LLM Advanced Legal Studies (full time)  
 LLM Advanced Legal Studies (part time)

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**This document sets out key information about your Programme and forms part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.**

Awarding Institution	University of Reading
Teaching Institution	University of Reading
Length of Programme	Full Time 12 months, Part Time 24 months

**Programme information and content**

In addition to the imparting of legal knowledge, this degree programme encourages the ability to delineate and evaluate issues, select relevant materials and produce arguments encompassing policy, existing practice and knowledge at an advanced level. It seeks also to develop practical, generic and personal transferable skills necessary to conduct independent research.

**Module information**

The programme comprises of 180 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules. Compulsory modules are listed.

**Compulsory Modules:**

Module	Name	Credits	Level
LWMTDI	Dissertation	60	7
Students must select one of the following modules			
LWMTLM	Research Methods for LLM Students	10	7
Or			
LWMTRM	Research Methods	30	7

The remaining credits will be taken from the list of optional modules from the School of Law or from an approved list of modules from across the University.

**Full-time January entrants**

Please note that the Dissertation submission date falls in early September, whereas you will study some of your taught modules in the (subsequent) Autumn term. You may wish to bear that in mind when choosing a Dissertation topic.

### **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 optional modules totalling no less than 60 credits and no more than 90 credits. In the second year of study, a student will normally be required to complete the core module LWMTLM Research Methods for LLM Students or LWMTRM Research Methods, and any remaining optional modules, and the LWMTDI Dissertation module.

### **Additional costs of the programme**

The readings required for each module will be made available in electronic form and/or in hard copy in the library. Students who wish to purchase their own copies of relevant books and materials must do so at their own expense.

### **Optional modules:**

The optional modules available can vary from year to year. An indicative list of the range of optional modules for your Programme is set out in the Further Programme Information. Details of any additional costs associated with the optional modules, will be made available to you prior to the beginning of the programme. Entry to optional modules will be at the discretion of the University and subject to availability. Although the University tries to ensure you are able to take the optional modules in which you have expressed interest this cannot be guaranteed.

### **Placement opportunities**

From time to time opportunities for internship and similar placements may arise and the School facilitates a number of such opportunities.

### **Teaching and learning delivery:**

*The programme consists of a combination of 20 and 10 credit modules, taught in small group seminars, and a compulsory supervised dissertation.*

Total study hours for your programme will be 1800 hours. The contact hours for your programme will depend upon your module combination; an average for a typical 20 credit module on this programme is 20 hours. In addition to your scheduled contact hours, you will be expected to undertake guided independent study. Information about module contact hours and the amount of independent study which a student is normally expected to undertake for a module is indicated in the relevant module description.

### **Assessment**

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). Details of the methods of assessment in individual modules are given in the Module Description Forms.

## **Progression**

### **Part-time and modular progression requirements**

#### **Part-time Candidates**

A part-time candidate may only proceed into their second year if they have achieved 2 marks of at least 50% in their first year. A part-time candidate who chooses not to proceed into the second year may be considered for the award of a Postgraduate Certificate.

## **Classification**

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

#### *For Masters Degree*

To qualify for **Distinction**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 70 or more over 180 credits; and
- (ii) a mark of 60 or more for the dissertation; and
- (iii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- (iv) students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Merit**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 60 or more over 180 credits; and
- (ii) a mark of 50 or more for the dissertation; and
- (iii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- (iv) students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Passed**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 50 or more over 180 credits; and
- (ii) a mark of 50 or more for the dissertation; and
- (iii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- (iv) students must not have any mark below 40.

#### *For PG Diploma*

To qualify for **Distinction**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 70 or more over 120 credits; and
- (ii) In addition, the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- (iii) students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Merit**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 60 or more over 120 credits; and
- (ii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- (iii) students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Passed**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 50 or more over 120 credits; and
- (ii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- (iii) students must not have any mark below 40.

*For PG Certificate*

To qualify for a **Postgraduate Certificate**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 50 or more over 60 credits; and
- (ii) must not have any mark below 40.