

## Programme Specification

### LLB in Legal Studies

For students entering Part 1 in September 2021

UFLEGSTUDS

**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	3 years
Accreditation	None (please see below).

#### **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, and including theorising and critiquing legal concepts and the law itself.

The overarching educational aim of this course is to provide a programme of legal study which affords a conceptual framework for the study of law which will facilitate the recognition and appreciation by students of the overall mosaic of public and private law and permits detailed study of some aspects of law. The degree aims to provide coverage of the core areas of English law while also providing a range of options which allows students to bias their studies in particular directions.

Part 1:	In Part 1, you will begin with an introduction to the teaching methods and expectations applicable to higher legal education and start to develop the legal study skills you will need to study law as an academic discipline throughout your degree. You will study four key areas of English law: contract, tort, criminal and public law, and practise applying the law to fact patterns as well as developing your ability to analyse the law from a critical perspective.
Part 2:	In Part 2, you will study the remaining compulsory subjects in the qualifying law degree, and continue to develop your ability to work with primary legal resources, research the law and set out your conclusions.
Part 3:	The School offers a range of modules from which you can choose at Part 3. This choice affords you a greater opportunity to focus your study on the areas of the law that interest you most, although you must take one of the foundation modules from those offered. These may include a dissertation module, which would allow you to explore a topic in greater depth and to develop your research and writing skills more fully.

#### **Module information**

Each part comprises 120 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules as shown below. Compulsory modules are listed.

**Part 1 Modules:**

Module	Name	Credits	Level
LW1CON	Contract	20	4
LW1CRI	Criminal Law	20	4
LW1LS	Legal Skills	20	4
LW1PL1	Public Law 1	20	4
LW1TOR	Tort	20	4

Remaining credits will be made up of optional modules available in the School of Law or modules from elsewhere in the University.

**Part 2 Modules:**

Module	Name	Credits	Level
LW2ETR	Equity and Trusts	20	5
LW2EUL	EU Law	20	5
LW2LND	Land Law	20	5
LW2PL2	Public Law 2	20	5

The remaining 40 credits will be made up of modules on the list available from the School of Law or from modules available elsewhere in the University, subject to permission from the Programme Director.

If you take a year-long placement or study abroad, Part 3 as described below may be subject to variation.

**Part 3 Modules:**

Student must select one foundation module from the list available from the School of Law.

Remaining credits will be made up of optional modules available in the School of Law with up to 20 credits from optional modules available elsewhere in the University, subject to permission from the Programme Director.

**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 optional modules for each part, including any Additional Costs associated with the optional modules, will be made available to you prior to the beginning of the Part in which they are to be taken and you will be given an opportunity to express interest in the optional modules that you would like to take. Entry to optional modules will be at the discretion of the University and subject to availability and may be subject to pre-requisites, such as completion of another module. Although the University tries to ensure you are able to take the optional modules in which you have expressed interest this cannot be guaranteed.

**Additional costs of the programme**

During your programme of study you will incur some additional costs.

For textbooks and similar learning resources, we recommend that you budget between £150 to £200 a year. For example, in 2016/17, the bookshop on campus offered four core textbooks for Part 1, which most students normally purchase, for a combined price of £141 new. Students may take statute books into some module examinations, and in 2016/17 the bookshop on campus offered a package deal for some Part 2 and Part 3 modules of the recommended textbook and the statute book for approximately £50 per module. As statute books must be unmarked and unannotated for use in examinations, it is advisable (but not mandatory) to buy a new copy. However, some books may be available second-hand, which will reduce costs. A range of resources to support your curriculum, including textbooks and electronic resources, are available through the library. Reading lists are listed on the individual module descriptions.

Printing and photocopying facilities are available on campus at a cost per A4 page of £0.05 (black and white) and £0.30 (colour). Essential costs in this area will be low as most coursework will be submitted electronically.

Costs are indicative and may vary according to optional modules chosen and are subject to inflation and other price fluctuations.

The estimates were calculated in 2020.

### **Placement opportunities**

#### **Placements:**

You are encouraged to undertake placements in your vacations, which you would need to find and secure yourself with the support of the University.

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

You will be taught primarily through a mixture of lectures, tutorials and seminars, depending on the modules you choose. Some modules may include group work.

Total study hours for each Part of your programme will be 1200 hours. The contact hours for your programme will depend upon your module combination; an average for a typical set of modules on this programme is Part 1 - 240 hours, Part 2 - 156 hours, Part 3 - 156 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.

### **Accreditation details**

The LL.B in Legal Studies is not an accredited degree programme. Students have the option of transferring onto this programme after Part 1 or Part 2 of the LL.B Law or the LL.B Law with Legal Studies in Europe if they meet the University threshold requirements, but do not meet the progression requirements to progress to the next year of their original programme, because they have not obtained 40% in one or more of the compulsory

elements of the Qualifying Law Degree (QLD). A Qualifying Law Degree (QLD) is one which is accredited by the Solicitors Regulation Authority on behalf of itself and the Bar Standards Board (in accordance with the Joint Statement on the academic stage of training 1999 by The Law Society and the General Council of the Bar). However, students will continue to follow the same module diet at Part 2 and Part 3 as their original programme. In some circumstances – depending on professional regulations – should they succeed in passing the outstanding compulsory elements at a later date, or receive condonement of their failed module mark, this will mean that their degree can still be recognised as a QLD. The University is not obliged to allow candidates more than two attempts to pass a module.

The University will make any necessary changes to the degree programme to ensure it contains all the compulsory elements of the QLD or continues to comply with any modified professional requirements for the academic stage of training stipulated by the professional bodies. All other aspects of the degree programme may be subject to change where such change is educationally desirable or practically necessary.

Individual modules may be acceptable for accreditation by other professional bodies.

### **Assessment**

The programme will be assessed through a combination of written examinations, coursework and oral presentations depending on the modules taken in each year of study.

### **Progression**

#### *Part 1*

In order to proceed from Part 1 to Part 2 of the LLB (Legal Studies) degree a student must;

- (i) achieve an overall average of 40% across all credits for which a numerical mark is awarded; and
- (ii) achieve a mark of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to not less than 100 credits taken in Part 1.

The achievement of a threshold performance at Part 1 qualifies a student for a Certificate of Higher Education if they leave the University before completing the subsequent Part.

#### *Part 2*

To gain a threshold performance at Part 2, a student shall normally be required to:

- (i) obtain a weighted average of 40% over 120 credits taken at Part 2; and
- (ii) obtain marks of at least 40% in individual modules amounting to at least 80 credits; and
- (iii) obtain marks of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to at least 120 credits, except that a mark below 30% may be condoned in no more than 20 credits of modules owned by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.

In order to progress from Part 2 to Part 3 a student must achieve a threshold performance.

The achievement of a threshold performance at Part 2 qualifies a student for a Diploma of Higher Education if they leave the University before completing the subsequent Part.

### **Classification**

Bachelors' degrees

The University's honours classification scheme is based on the following:

Mark	Interpretation
70% - 100%	First class
60% - 69%	Upper Second class
50% - 59%	Lower Second class
40% - 49%	Third class
35% - 39%	Below Honours Standard
0% - 34%	Fail

The weighting of the Parts/Years in the calculation of the degree classification is:

*Three year programmes:*

Part 2: one-third

Part 3: two-thirds

**For further information about your Programme please refer to the Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions, which are available at <http://www.reading.ac.uk/module/>. The Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions do not form part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.**

LLB in Legal Studies for students entering Part 1 in session 2021/22

29 July 2020

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