

## PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

### Course record information

Name and level of final award	<p>Integrated Master's in Applied Law and Professional Practice (M-Law)</p> <p>Integrated Master's in Applied Law and Professional Practice (M-Law) with International Experience</p> <p>The M-Law is an Integrated Master's degree that is Bologna FQ-EHEA first cycle degree or diploma compatible.</p>
Name and level of intermediate awards	<p>Postgraduate Certificate Solicitors Practice</p> <p>LLB Honours LLB Honours with International Experience</p> <p>BA Legal Studies (Hons) Qualifying BA Legal Studies (Hons) with International Experience Qualifying</p> <p>BA Legal Studies (Hons) BA Legal Studies (Hons) with International Experience</p> <p>BA Legal Studies (non-Hons) BA Legal Studies (non-Hons) with International Experience</p> <p>Diploma of HE in Law</p> <p>Certificate of HE in Law</p>
Awarding body/institution	University of Westminster
Teaching Institution	University of Westminster
Status of awarding body/institution	Recognised Body
Location of delivery	Westminster Law School (WLS)
Language of delivery and assessment	English
Mode, length of study and normal starting month	Four Years full time. September start.
<a href="#">QAA subject benchmarking group(s)</a>	LAW
Professional statutory or regulatory body	Joint Academic Stage Board (SRA/BSB)

Date of course validation/Revalidation	March 2020
Date of programme specification approval	
Valid for cohorts	2021/22 level 4, 5, 6 and 7
Course Leader	Jochim Dymott
UCAS code and URL	<a href="http://westminster.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate">westminster.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate</a>
Westminster course code	BILAW01F
HECoS code	100485 Law
UKPASS code (PG only)	

### Admissions requirements

There are standard minimum [entry requirements](#) for all undergraduate courses. Students are advised to check the standard requirements for the most up-to-date information.

For most courses a decision will be made on the basis of your application form alone. However, for some courses the selection process may include an interview to demonstrate your strengths in addition to any formal entry requirements.

More information can be found here: [westminster.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/how-to-apply](http://westminster.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/how-to-apply).

### Recognition of Prior Learning

Applicants with prior certificated or experiential learning at the same level of the qualification for which they wish to apply are advised to visit the following page for further information: [westminster.ac.uk/recognition-of-prior-certified-learning](http://westminster.ac.uk/recognition-of-prior-certified-learning).

### Aims of the course

#### Introduction

The Westminster Law School (WLS) is located within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences sited in Little Titchfield Street which is in the heart of the West End, 5 minutes' walk from Oxford Circus.

The M-Law course provides students with the seven foundation subjects which previously were required for a Qualifying Law Degree (QLD) and which continue to be core law degree subjects. It also provides students with the ability to choose from a wide range of law option modules, Polylang language modules and University wide modules. Students are also able to choose to go on an optional study abroad exchange year with one of the Law School's partner institutions. In addition, the course provides students with legal practice experience assessed as a part of the degree and prepares students to go on to undertake professional body entry requirements.

The legal profession requires graduates to possess both intellectual and practical skills, and the course also explicitly addresses these requirements with a rigorous academic approach

and structured programme of skills development. This enhances students' employability skills. It also helps students who wish to qualify as a solicitor to start to prepare for the professional body entry requirements.

### **M-Law Course Aims**

Law is an interesting and challenging discipline and law students need to be able to think about law in terms of its effect both on society generally and individuals within it. Increasingly the international dimension to legal study has become more important, across a wide range of legal areas, as the influence of the European Union (even post Brexit) and international organisations have become so significant.

Law impacts not just on our daily lives but the operation of Government at an international level with, for example, questions concerning the legality of war and the extradition of terrorist suspects. Undergraduate study of the subject provides an opportunity to develop both a strong theoretical understanding of law in addition to the development of important practical skills. Law has both an academic and vocational dimension.

Innovation and integration are key features of this exciting Integrated Master's in Applied Law and Professional Practice (M-Law). The aim of the course is to provide students with an effective integration of academic and professional legal education as a general foundation for practice. In fulfilling these aims, the course combines the academic and practical elements that they must successfully complete before they can begin their period of work based learning. The course therefore offers a coherent and more accessible route to qualification as a solicitor. During the four year Master's degree, students study the academic subjects required for a law degree alongside vocational subjects to prepare them for professional practice. This will benefit you educationally as you will receive a more rounded understanding of what it means to be a lawyer.

The very nature of the course means that there will be an emphasis on vocational and experiential learning. In particular, in years three and four there are clinical modules which allow all students to apply their knowledge and skills to real life situations. You will receive training and the opportunity to work with real clients and become involved in real cases under the supervision of experienced professionals. The course is therefore geared to professional practice, and enabling students to go on to undertake the central exams and work based learning which they need to successfully complete to qualify as solicitors.

The course also provides an opportunity to study a wide range of options covering wide and diverse areas of law that are closely linked to staff research interests. These options can be linked together to form a coherent stream; for example, in Commercial Law, Criminal Law and Justice, Entertainment Law, Human Rights, Law and Theory and Welfare Law.

During the course you will be given the opportunity to develop a wide range of skills and abilities and develop your intellectual ability through critical evaluation of legal materials. Students at Westminster work in partnership with their tutors to develop an inquisitive approach to study. Career development skills are explicitly recognised and promoted and the overall aim of the School is to promote a stimulating, enjoyable and supportive learning environment.

### **Key Highlights of This Course**

Develop your legal skills – You'll learn the legal skills of interviewing and advising, advocacy, practical legal research and negotiation in course-specific modules designed to prepare you for practice

Practise in a real-world environment – You'll gain hands-on experience in assessed modules in Years 3 and 4, advising real clients at the Westminster Law School Student Law Clinic

Prepare to qualify – As part of our course, you'll complete practice modules to enable you to take the central exams needed before commencing a training contract to become a solicitor

Expand your network – Introduce yourself to the legal profession by taking part in our Legal Skills Academy, attending employer-led workshops and visiting the London Law Fair

Specialise in your area of interest – Alongside our core professional modules, you can specialise in Entertainment/Media Law, Commercial Law, International Law, Theory and Human Rights, Criminal Law and Justice, or Welfare Law

Be inspired by our graduates – Many of our alumni are now student mentors and regular contributors to the Legal Skills Academy

## **M-Law Course Learning Outcomes**

Studying law at undergraduate and master's level involves the acquisition, analysis and application of both general and highly specialised knowledge from a wide range of sources. You will need to develop a complex set of skills and a key element is how the interrelationship between skills and knowledge changes as you progress through the three years of the course.

We have set out below what you will achieve on successful completion of the course.

### **What will you be expected to achieve?**

Learning outcomes are statements on what successful students have achieved as the result of learning. These are threshold statements of achievement the learning outcomes broadly fall into four categories:

The overall **knowledge and understanding** you will gain from your course (KU).

- **Graduate attributes** are characteristics that you will have developed during the duration of your course (GA).
- **Professional and personal practice learning outcomes** are specific skills that you will be expected to have gained on successful completion of the course (PPP)
- **Key transferable skills** that you will be expected to have gained on successful completion of the course. (KTS)

### **Level 4 Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of level 4 you will be able to demonstrate:**

L4.1 The ability to work under direction and take responsibility for their own work in an adaptable, and reflective manner; (GA)

L4.2 A broad understanding of the legal principles, institutions and on-going debates within the subjects covered at this level; (KU)

L4.3 The ability to apply the legal knowledge to solve legal problems; (KU)

L4.4 An initial understanding of ethical considerations and personal responsibility in the context of academic and professional codes of conduct; (PPP)

L4.5 A research strategy that encompasses the identification and selection of a range of authoritative and reliable materials; (KTS, PPP) and

L4.6 Effective interpersonal and communication skills in a variety of contexts. (KTS, GA)

L4.7 An initial understanding of the development of professional legal practice and the client care skills required for it (KU, PPP, KTS)

**Level 5 Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of level 5 you will be able to demonstrate:**

L5.1 The ability to work under limited supervision and direction, reflect on own capabilities, and take responsibility for their own work in a responsible and flexible manner; (GA)

L5.2 A detailed understanding of the legal principles and awareness of the established concepts, and competing ideas with the ability to apply that understanding to practical problems; (KU)

L5.3 A detailed understanding of the legal profession, relevant codes of conduct and employability skills;

L5.4 A research strategy that encompasses analysis of a range of authoritative and reliable materials; (KTS, PPP)

L5.5 The application of a range on interpersonal and communication skills, both individually and as a member of a team, in a range of situations with degrees of complexity. (KTS,GA)

L5.6 A detailed understanding of the set up of legal firms and the further development of professional practice skills (KU, PPP, KTS)

**Level 6 and overall course Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of level 6 you will be able to demonstrate:**

L6.1 The ability to work with minimal supervision or direction and take responsibility for their own learning and development in a responsible and flexible manner; (GA)

L6.2 A systematic and deep understanding of the specialist legal principles and concepts that arise; (KU)

L6.3 The ability to recognise legal problems and synthesise ideas and information to develop novel solutions; (GA)

L6.4 A developed research strategy that involves the evaluation and critical analysis of a range of authoritative, novel and reliable materials; (KTS,PPP)

L6.5 The proactive application of a range on interpersonal and communication skills in a range of situations with degrees of complexity. (KTS,GA)

L6.6 The ability under supervision to apply legal knowledge and professional skills in practice (PPP, KTS)

L6.7 The ability to conduct practical legal research effectively (PPP, KTS)

## Level 7 and overall course Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of level 7:

### Knowledge and Understanding

Ref	Students should be able to
KU1	identify relevant core legal principles or rules, whether derived from cases, statutes or regulatory sources, and apply them appropriately and effectively to client-based situations encountered in practice.
KU2	demonstrate a high level of knowledge in relevant areas of legal professional practice.
KU3	understand the key ethical requirements of the Regulatory Code, identify where these may impact and apply them in context.
KU4	demonstrate a critical awareness and understanding of a range of research methodologies and the ability to apply appropriate research techniques in their own work.

### Specific skills (SS)

Ref	Students should be able to
SS1	analyse a range of information and documentation and identify the overall nature of a transaction, then plan and apply relevant processes and procedures to progress the matter effectively
SS2	communicate clearly and effectively, orally and in writing, including using the most appropriate method and style of communication for the situation and the recipient(s).
SS3	assess a client's commercial and personal circumstances, their needs, objectives, priorities and constraints and ensure that advice is informed by appropriate legal and factual analysis and identifies the consequences of different options.
SS4	use research methodologies as relevant to the field of legal professional practice

### Key transferable skills (KTS)

Ref	Students should be able to
KTS1	study independently and reflect on their own learning and exercise self-direction for continued professional development
KTS2	communicate complex information in a wide range of formats and tailor the communication form and style to suit the purpose of the communication and needs of different recipients
KTS3	deploy originality and initiative in analysing, addressing and solving problems in a range of contexts
KTS4	initiate, plan, prioritise and manage work activities and projects to ensure that they are completed efficiently, on time and to an appropriate standard, both in relation to their own work and work that they lead or supervise

### How will you learn?

As outlined above, the Integrated Master's in Law offers the opportunity to combine study of both the academic and practical stages of training that you have to undergo before you can start work based learning. The M-Law combines the LLB law degree core modules with those of the Postgraduate Diploma Solicitors Practice. It also includes 2 core 40 credit year-long clinical practice modules at levels 6 and 7 and option modules at levels 4, 5, 6 and 7. In addition to the formal programme, academic staff also offer extra curricula activities that provide an important contribution to academic, employability and personal development.

As students, you will develop a breadth and depth of legal understanding and skills competence, as well as confidence in your abilities. We promote reflection on performance and development in particular, and provide specific assistance with this in all the core modules, especially at level 4. You will be allocated a Personal Academic Tutor, who will advise you and assist you at the beginning of your studies and will then continue to provide you with academic guidance throughout your study on the degree. Although the programme addresses similar skills in some modules, their substantive content addresses different areas of law. The programme has been clearly designed to ensure that modules at similar levels dovetail with respect to skills, development and modes of assessment. Each module will consider the substantive law, legal context, important theoretical perspectives and ethical issues relevant to that area. The core subjects delivered at level 4 and 5 are often seen as distinct areas of study. The programme however delivers these modules in a coherent way at each level and cross references the skills acquired in one subject to the learning in another.

The teaching team will provide a framework for understanding knowledge whilst requiring you to develop your research, critical evaluation and analysis skills. You are expected to find, analyse, interpret and apply law. Understanding law is far more than merely 'learning law'.

As can be seen from the course structure, in years 1 - 2 you will study 6 20 credit modules a year. Seven of the modules at levels 4 and 5 represent the foundations of legal knowledge set out in the JASB Statement. The last two compulsory modules at these levels examine legal systems, including the English legal system and explore issues relating to the development of the legal profession in the future. In addition, they develop key legal practice skills in preparation for the clinical legal practice modules in years 3 and 4. Legal and academic skills are also embedded in the teaching of all core modules. The remainder of the modules are option modules. These can be grouped in streams to provide pathways through the degree programme. In addition, academic staff offer extra curricula activities that provide an important contribution to academic, employability and personal development.

In year 3 you will take the first of the compulsory year-long 40 credit clinic modules, a core 20 credit professional and skills module which includes some practice skills and an 20 credit Elements of LLB Option module in the area of practice offered by the clinic that you want to gain practice experience of. In addition you will be able to choose from the wide variety of LLB 40 credit modules.

In year four you will take the second of the compulsory year-long 40 credit clinic modules. You will also undertake 3 compulsory practice-based areas, which are 20 credit modules and you will choose 1 practice based option modules from a range of available options.

The wide variety of LLB options and Postgraduate Diploma is Solicitors Practice option modules available offer you the opportunity to start planning your future career path in a flexible way as the options encompass all the main commercial and private client areas of practice.

As this is a course with a strong vocational edge there is a strong emphasis in on the study of the skills which are needed by legal professionals. These skills are easily transferred into other contexts and therefore are designed to give you a solid grounding in your future career whatever that might be.

We also encourage you to take a reflective approach to your performance and development which again should stand you in good stead in later life. You are introduced to this from the beginning of the course. This is built on later in the course particularly in the Clinical elements which integrate a reflective element into their assessment.

Alongside the more general skills that you will acquire you are also given a strong grounding in the framework that is specific to legal practice. In particular, there will be a strong focus on ethics and the rules of conduct that will govern your life as a solicitor. Indeed this element will be assessed throughout the life of the course. Whilst you will primarily be introduced to the requirements of practice in a structured sense through the curriculum you will also be able to take advantage of the extra curricula activities that take place within the school.

### **How will you learn?**

You will encounter a range of different teaching methods including lectures, seminars, tutorials and one to one sessions. Contact time is used in a variety of ways including formal lectures, seminar-based discussion, delivery of class presentations, invited guest speakers and practical group exercises.

At the beginning of the first year you are taught how to dissect essay and problem questions and how to undertake research to find relevant law, cases, academic opinion and other forms of authoritative evidence used to support arguments. You are shown how to cite and reference work correctly and how to develop your writing and other communication skills. You are also introduced to professional ethics and the skill of interviewing and advising in the practical context of a client/solicitor initial meeting. In the substantive law subjects you will be required to evaluate and analyse legal materials and apply them in a range of situations. Teaching staff initiate and support discussions and you are encouraged to take control over your learning.

Second year delivery, builds on the first year skills, introducing more specific career development and a wider understanding of the profession. You learn about the set up of law firms and are introduced to the professional skills of practical legal research and advocacy. This is further developed in year 3 which includes the practice skills elements of practical legal research and professional conduct and regulation.

In the third and fourth years in the clinical modules, you will receive training and the opportunity to work with real clients and become involved in real cases under the supervision of experienced professionals. You will thereby gain valuable work experience and develop their professional practice skills.

At level 7 seven more students are encouraged to take command of their own learning. This will involve preparation for classroom contact with tutors by carrying out directed reading and, where needed, additional legal research. A key focus of the overall teaching & learning strategy is the simulation of actual legal practice within the tutorials with its emphasis on the 'professional nature of legal practice' and the solving of realistic legal problems. Student learning outside of the teaching environment (private study) is guided by means of detailed session plans which state the preparation that is expected in advance if the student is to participate effectively and the steps that must be taken by means of post-session consolidation. Where appropriate, students will work in small groups and report back on their completed task in class using various methods of presentation. Opportunity to develop

their skills in context will be given through simulations which involve advocacy and interviewing and advising. Further consolidation is provided through materials and exercises which enable blended learning.

Particular importance is given to the participation of the student in formative assessments which provide the opportunity for written or oral feedback and for the student to review their progress and required areas for improvement.

The key objective is to ensure that the teaching is relevant to legal practice and develops legal problem-solving skills and awareness of appropriate legal procedures. Lectures are either face-to-face (with recordings available subsequently) or delivered on-line. The main aims of the lectures is to provide an overview of a particular area and highlight particular subject matter or practical implications arising from the substantive law or procedure.

Tutorials will develop these areas by providing the students with opportunities to apply the knowledge they have acquired through pre-sessional study. Students will be expected to participate actively in class and to do so from a position of informed preparation. Further guidance and clarification will be given by the tutors in class who will support group work, question students as well and introducing the tasks and summarising the learning.

In addition to the various optional modules and practice electives, the Law School want to offer you a wide range of extra curricula activity, in the form of seminars, outside speakers, workshops, field trips etc. Many of these opportunities are not limited to the module in which they are delivered, or even to the level at which they are introduced. This increases cohesion and creates a distinctive Law School experience. By the end of the programme Law you will be equipped to take responsibility for your lifelong learning and future professional development.

Law based modules obviously form the majority of the options available to you on the M-Law however the delivery of these modules will place emphasis on the social, political or cultural context as well as the law content. You will also have the opportunity to study interdisciplinary modules that are delivered across the University (Westminster Distinctiveness modules), study a language, and there are opportunities to study abroad.

### **The Course Skills Strategy**

Highly skilled graduates have flexibility and autonomy and an ability to react to changing circumstances. Knowledge has to be obtained, validated, interpreted and applied. Being able to quickly differentiate the reliability and authenticity of material is essential in the contemporary world. The course is deigned to equip you with the set of skills you need to succeed in whatever career you choose. Skills are developed incrementally with support to ensure that you have a strong foundation.

The M-Law will provide you with the opportunity to develop skills by embedding them within each of the core modules. Whilst all modules will have skills built into their delivery, particular modules will concentrate on specific skills. For example the Legal Systems and Skills module at level 4 will concentrate specifically on professional interpersonal skills by requiring you to simulate a first interview with a client.

The awareness of the requirements of professional practice and the skills needed for it are developed progressively in years 1, 2 and 3. These skills are put into practice in the clinical modules in years 3 and 4 where you apply your knowledge and skills to real life situations. Practice skills are further developed in year 4 to prepare you for work-based learning.

The module learning outcomes progress at each level in terms of aim, so that whilst a course and therefore module outcome at level 4 expects you to work with supervision, by the time you have progressed to level 7, the expectation will be that you will be able to work more independently.

## **How will you be assessed?**

### **Assessment and Feedback**

There is a wide range of assessments on the M-Law programme, designed from traditional exam/coursework to more innovative forms of assessment utilising technology, for example online portfolios, blogs and wikis.

The programme has been structured, through the core modules, to apply a range of modes of assessment, ensuring the assessment of the range of required skills as well as knowledge. Consequently, there are required assessments of oral presentations, written coursework as well as formal examinations and synoptic assessments. We utilise both open and closed book exam formats and some modules operate in-class tests that provide quick feedback. The assessment strategy has been tailored to deliver the requirements of the national law benchmarking standards.

Each piece of module assessment is marked against a set of criteria that are set out in the module pro forma and the module handbook and the module Blackboard site. These explain what the assessment is designed to test and how. Criteria, which have been developed for each level, are used to determine the grade that you will receive for that piece of work.

All modules that include an element of coursework will provide detailed feedback and you are encouraged to sit down with your tutors and discuss each piece of work and what is needed to improve your performance. Assessing your work and offering feedback, support and encouragement is a key role for all of your lecturers.

The assessment strategy on the M-Law at Westminster is designed to promote a more coherent course structure. At level 4 and 5, you will be provided with a means to track your journey through formative to summative assessment and across the course, while at level 6 an assessment enables you to reflect upon, develop and express your graduate attributes at course level. This assessment may be based on experiences you have had as a result of some of the activities delivered within the modules, or the Law School more generally, and is forward-looking to your future career or direction beyond the degree.

The clinical modules at level 6 and 7 are assessed by way of a portfolio of work based learning which include a reflective assessment of the your learning and professional development. You also are given an opportunity to discuss you clinical experience in detail during a viva with the experienced legal professionals who supervise the clinic.

Throughout the degree the assessment strategy places a significant emphasis on formative assessment, allowing you opportunities to reflect on the development of your skills and feedback from tutors prior to the submission of summative assessments.

In year 4 at level 7 various forms of assessment will be used according to the particular module requirements. Given the requirements of the professional bodies, there will be reliance on examinations both closed and open book to ensure practice in these assessment methods. Examinations will be based on a realistic scenario that a trainee solicitor might face in the relevant 'seat' in practice and require the student to respond to problems a client would commonly encounter. Students will be required to demonstrate their comprehension of the relevant law, practice and procedure and to show their ability to marshal relevant facts

and apply the law accurately to a particular client's needs and provide accurate and practical advice. Professional Conduct and Regulation including Solicitors' Accounts may be incorporated in any assessment.

Other forms of assessment will be used in particular in appropriate modules the evaluation of professional practice skills. Students may be required to participate in a negotiation, draft documentation, plan and deliver advocacy or interview and advise clients building on the practice skills developed at levels 4, 5 and 6 of the course.

### **Employment and further study opportunities**

University of Westminster graduates will be able to demonstrate the following five Graduate Attributes:

- Critical and creative thinkers
- Literate and effective communicator
- Entrepreneurial
- Global in outlook and engaged in communities
- Social, ethically and environmentally aware

University of Westminster courses capitalise on the benefits that London as a global city and as a major creative, intellectual and technology hub has to offer for the learning environment and experience of our students.

Contemporary organisations need graduates with a good degree and relevant skills. The University of Westminster is committed to developing employable graduates by ensuring that:

- Career development skills are embedded in all courses;
- Opportunities for part-time work, placements and work-related learning activities are promoted to students;
- Staff continue to widen and strengthen the University's links with employers in all sectors, involving them in curriculum design and encouraging their participation in other aspects of the University's career education and guidance provision; and
- Staff are provided with up-to-date data on labour market trends and employers' requirements which will inform the service delivered to students

As is suggested in the section on the Aims of the course, employability is a central theme of the Integrated Master's in Applied Law and Professional Practice (M-Law). You will therefore acquire all the necessary skills to become a lawyer. Indeed, study of these is integral to the course.

Having acquired these skills you will be given plenty of opportunity to develop them in a practical context. Thus, in keeping with the central theme of employability, as mentioned above you will take part in work-related activities in years 3 and 4 (levels 6 and 7). You will be given training and support before and during these placements which will act as an ideal preparation for life as a lawyer. The modules within these placements occur have been developed in conjunction with relevant organisations, such as the Citizens Advice Bureau, and are reviewed each year to ensure that they meet the needs of those organisations.

Despite the emphasis on preparing you to become a solicitor, the course offers opportunities for you to take a variety of routes and you may decide to exit after year 3 with an LLB (Hons) Law Degree. You will be able to go on to work in a range of environments particularly given the wide range of transferable skills and work experience that you will acquire on the course.

The programme develops graduate attributes in a cohesive and coordinated way. In your final year they you expected to reflect on the graduate attributes you have acquired throughout the degree and identify areas for further development throughout that final year of study. Opportunities will be provided by the Law School to encourage this development, through the School's links with employers, alumni in various professions, the wider research community (eg through attending conferences) and opportunities for international engagement (for example with international organisations in London or travel abroad).

Staff continue to widen and strengthen the University's links with employers in all sectors, involving them in curriculum design and encouraging their participation in other aspects of the University's career education and guidance provision. Westminster Law School (WLS) has regular events with alumni, for example panel discussions with alumni in the judicial profession and Law employability events. It also hosts a Law Fair in collaboration with other London Universities at the Law Society, Chancery Lane. At the Law Fair students are introduced to a wide range of blue-chip employers, plus leaders in the legal profession through workshops and presentations, offered free careers advice in CV clinics and can network in the headquarters of one of the major branches of the legal profession.

The employment rate of law graduates from the University of Westminster has consistently been very high and Law has one of the highest employment rates in the University. In 2016/17, six months after graduation, 96% of graduates were either in study or in work. 40% of the graduating cohort entered further study and/or work whilst almost 28% progressed directly into work. Of those who entered employment, 76% of graduates secured graduate level employment in a variety of legal, paralegal and non-legal careers, including the financial services and public sectors. Students who progress to further study may proceed to postgraduate academic study e.g. an MA, LLM, MSc and increasingly an M.Phil/PhD. The school has numerous distinguished alumni within both branches of the legal profession.

### **Job roles**

The M-Law is seen as a valuable asset by a variety of employers, legal and non-legal. This course will prepare you for a range of legal careers including practice as a barrister or advocate, solicitor, clerk and officer of court or legal executive.

This course prepares students for roles including: Solicitor, Barrister, Paralegal, Advice worker, Civil service administrator, Compliance officer, Legal executive. Our graduates also pursue careers in accountancy, the Civil Service, education and local government.

### **Mentoring**

Westminster Law School students can currently apply for a place on one of the following: Career development mentoring scheme – this enables students to be mentored by solicitors and barristers.

Undergraduate ethnic minority scheme – for students from a Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic background. This scheme is part of the National Mentoring Consortium and aims to promote equality and diversity in graduate recruitment.

Employers participating in the scheme who have mentored Law students in recent years include the BBC, Kennedys Law and the Crown Prosecution Service.

### **Inclusivity**

Westminster Law School is committed to supporting diversity and equal opportunities in our dealings with job applicants, students, staff and the public. On the M-Law course we are fully committed to creating a stimulating and supportive learning and working environment based on mutual respect and trust. This will allow staff and students to reach their full potential, regardless of their age, disability, gender, gender identity, marital/civil partnership status, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, ethnic or national origins, family circumstances, nationality, political beliefs and affiliations, socio-economic background, or other irrelevant distinction.

We will continue to respect and value diversity within our communities of staff and students, to promote equality of opportunity, and to challenge and strive to eliminate unlawful discrimination.

The inclusive curriculum of the M-Law is designed to avoid all unnecessary barriers to your success as a student. The programme has a range of teaching methods to accommodate diverse backgrounds and learning preferences. The teaching materials available on the Blackboard Ultra VLE are designed to be accessible in a variety of formats again to best support diverse learning preferences. In addition, as detailed in the assessment section above, there are also a variety of assessment methods used. This will enable you to demonstrate a variety of skills and knowledge and achieve your full potential.

### **Further Study Opportunities**

Students have an opportunity to undertake short-term periods of study abroad to attend summer schools, volunteer, take up placements, or participate in field trips organised by students, Law School staff or the University.

### **The Year Abroad and the M-Law with International Experience**

Globalisation and the internationalisation of law at different levels mean that graduates with international experiences and an understanding of law beyond its national boundaries are particularly valued by employers. Students on the M-Law can spend an additional year of study abroad in one of our partner institutions around the world after their second year and return to Westminster for their fourth year. You can see a current list of our partners at <http://www.westminster.ac.uk/international/international-partnerships/international-partnerships-for-institutions/our-international-partners/exchangepartners>. These arrangements are subject to change

During the year abroad, you will enrol both at the partner institution and at Westminster. At Westminster, you will register for the two Law Study Abroad modules, one in Semester 1 and one in Semester 2, and, upon successful completion of these modules, you will be awarded 120 additional credits and qualify for the Integrated Master's in Applied Law and Professional Practice (M-Law) (Hons) with International Experience. At the host institution, you can study in English or in the language of the host institution if you have the relevant linguistic competence.

The marks and credits of the year abroad are not exchangeable with Westminster credits and do not count towards the final degree classification

### **Course structure**

This section shows the core and option modules available as part of the course and their credit value. Full-time Undergraduate students study 120 credits per year. Course structures can be subject to change each academic year following feedback from a variety of sources.

## **M-Law course structure**

### **Level 4**

You commence your studies with five core subjects; Legal Systems and Skills, Contract Law, Public Law, Tort Law and Criminal Law and an option module you choose from a range of subjects in the second semester.

<b>Semester 1</b>	<b>Semester 2</b>
Legal Systems and Skills	Option Module/Elective
Contracts: Law and Practice	Public
Tort Law in Context	Criminal

**All modules are 20 credits**

### **Core Modules**

<b>Credit Level 4</b>				
<b>Module code</b>	<b>Module title</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>UK credit</b>	<b>ECTS</b>
4LLAW013W	Legal Systems and Skills	Core	20	10
4LLAW002W	Contracts: Law and Practice	Core	20	10
4LLAW003W	Tort Law in Context	Core	20	10
4LLAW004W	Public Law	Core	20	10
4LLAW005W	Criminal Law	Core	20	10

### **Option Modules**

The Law School offers the modules listed below though availability depends on demand and staff time.

<b>Credit Level 4</b>				
<b>Module code</b>	<b>Module title</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>UK credit</b>	<b>ECTS</b>
4LLAW007W	Criminal Justice: Crime and Punishment	Option	20	10
4LLAW008W	Introduction to Business Law	Option	20	10
4LGPR001W	Introduction to Legal Practice	Option	20	10
4LLAW009W	Introduction to Rights and the Law	Option	20	10
4LLAW011W	Cinematic Justice	Option	20	10
4LLAW010W	Mooting and Advocacy	Option	20	10
4LLAW006W	People Culture & Property	Option	20	10
4LLAW012W	Law and Social Media	Option	20	10
4LLAW015W	Islamic Law In Context	Option	20	10

**Award of Certificate of Higher Education available**

### **Level 5**

You study 21<sup>st</sup> Century Law and Skills, Land Law, EU Law and Equity and Trusts and have an option module in both Semester 1 and Semester 2.

Semester 1	Semester 2
21 <sup>st</sup> Century Law and Skills	EU Law
Land Law	Option Module/Elective
Equity and Trusts	Option Module/elective

**All modules are 20 credits**

### Core Modules

Credit Level 5				
Module code	Module title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
5LLAW018W	21 <sup>st</sup> Century Law and Skills	Core	20	10
5LLAW001W	Land Law	Core	20	10
5LLAW002W	EU Law	Core	20	10
5LLAW003W	Equity and Trusts	Core	20	10

### Option Modules

Credit Level 5				
Module code	Module title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
5LLAW004W	Adjudication and Alternative Dispute Resolution	Option	20	10
5LLAW008W	Rethinking Criminal Justice	Option	20	10
5LLAW009W	Housing Law	Option	20	10
5LLAW006W	Law and Culture	Option	20	10
5LLAW007W	Medical Law and Ethics	Option	20	10
5LLAW005W	Introduction to Human Rights Law	Option	20	10
5LGPR002W	Work Experience in a Legal Setting	Option	20	10
5LLAW010W	Child Protection Law and Policy	Option	20	10
5LLAW011W	Law and Social Justice	Option	20	10
5LLAW012W	Law and Sport in Contemporary Society	Option	20	10
5LLAW022W	Criminology and the Law	Option	20	10
5LLAW024W	Law and Mental Health	Option	20	10
5LLAW025W	Consumer Law	Option	20	10
5LLAW026W	Legal Psychology	Option	20	10
5LLAW030W	Race, Gender, Sexuality and the Law	Option	20	10

**Award of Diploma of Higher Education or Foundation Degree available**

### **M-Law with International Experience**

Students can choose to spend an additional year of study abroad at partner institutions around the world. They study for 120 additional credits through the two Law Study Abroad modules.

## Core modules

Study Abroad				
Module code	Module title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
5LLAW013	Law Study Abroad Semester 1	Core	60	30
5LLAW014	Law Study Abroad Semester 2	Core	60	30

## Level 6

There are 2 core modules at level 6 and one option. The modules include a cross-course reflective element. All level 6 options modules are 40 credits.

Semester 1	Semester 2
Elements of Module (Semester 1 20 credit version of LLB options) chosen from a range of choices eg Employment, Family, Housing, Commercial, Company, Gender Sexuality and Critical Legal Perspectives  NB - In the compulsory clinical legal practice module (below) students will gain practice experience in the elements of area of law chosen	Legal Practice Skills
Clinical Legal Practice (1)	Clinical Legal Practice (1) (continued)
Option	Option (continued)

## Core Modules

Credit Level 6				
Module code	Module title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
6LLAW036W	Legal Practice Skills	Core	20	10
6LGPR004W	Clinical Legal Practice 1	Core	40	20

Elements of modules are 20 credit versions of the LLB option modules below. In addition to the core modules listed above M-Law students must choose one semester 1 elements of module in one of these areas of law offered by the legal Advice Clinic. These areas are subject to change.

## Option Modules

Credit Level 6				
Module code	Module title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
6LLAW004W	Company Law	Option	40	20
6LLAW002W	Commercial Law	Option	40	20
6LLAW016W	Competition Law	Option	40	20
6LLAW019W	Criminal Procedure and Evidence	Option	40	20

6LLAW003W	Disability Law	Option	40	20
6LLAW018W	Dissertation in Law	Option	40	20
6LLAW007W	Entertainment Law	Option	40	20
6LLAW010W	Environmental Law			
6LLAW001W	Family Law and Family Justice	Option	40	20
6LLAW031W	Human Rights: Idea, Law and Practice	Option	40	20
6LLAW008W	Law of Intellectual Property	Option	40	20
6LLAW005W	Employment Law	Option	40	20
6LLAW008W	Law of International Trade	Option	40	20
6LLAW009W	Media Law	Option	40	20
6LLAW011W	New Legal Thinking, Theory, Philosophy and Justice	Option	40	20
6LLAW006W	International Law and Global Justice)	Option	40	20
6LLAW015W	Religion, Law and Society	Option	40	20
6LLAW014W	Advanced Criminal Law	Option	40	20
6LLAW068W	Gender, Sexuality and Critical Legal Perspectives	Option	40	20
6LLAW069W	Sustainability Law and Policy	Option	40	20

#### **Award LLB/BA Legal Studies available**

If you wish to study a language or elective from elsewhere in the University you will be able to do this alongside a 20 credit module reflecting one of the above subject areas.

#### **Level 7**

In year 4 you must take the year-long Clinical Practice 2 module together with all of the LLM Solicitors Practice core modules. You can choose 1 practice elective/option module.

#### **Core Modules**

<b>Credit Level 7</b>				
<b>Module code</b>	<b>Module title</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>UK credit</b>	<b>ECTS</b>
7LGPR002W	Clinical Legal Practice (2)	Core	40	20
7LLAW077W	Civil and Criminal Practice	Core	20	10
7LLAW076W	Business Practice and Accounts	Core	20	10
7LLAW090W	Property Law and Probate	Core	20	10

#### **Option Modules**

<b>Stage 2</b>				
<b>Module code</b>	<b>Module title</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>UK credit</b>	<b>ECTS</b>
7LLAW081W	Contextual Law	Option	20	10
7LLAW084W	Family Law and Practice	Option	20	10

7LLAW089W	Private Acquisitions	Option	20	10
7LLAW079W	Commercial Law and Practice	Option	20	10
7LLAW083W	Entertainment and Media Law and Practice	Option	20	10
7LLAW080W	Commercial Litigation and Dispute Resolution	Option	20	10
7LLAW082W	Employment Law and Practice	Option	20	10
7LLAW085W	Housing Law and Practice	Option	20	10
7LLAW088W	Personal Injury & Clinical Negligence Litigation	Option	20	10
7LLAW086W	Immigration and Asylum Law and Practice	Option	20	10

Please note: Not all option modules will necessarily be offered in any one year. In addition, timetabling and limited spaces may mean you cannot do your first choice of module.

### **Professional Body Accreditation or other external references**

Although the course aims to prepare the student for the SQE, the SRA does not provide any recognition for completion of preparatory courses.

### **Academic regulations**

The current Handbook of Academic Regulations is available at [westminster.ac.uk/academic-regulations](http://westminster.ac.uk/academic-regulations).

### **Course has course specific regulations.**

Course specific regulations apply to this course. These are set out in full in the course handbook issued to students. Further information can be provided by the course leader upon request.

### **How will you be supported in your studies?**

#### **Course Management**

Course Leader: Jochim Dymott, [dymottj@westminster.ac.uk](mailto:dymottj@westminster.ac.uk)

Admissions Tutor: Jeanette Nicholas, [J.Nicholas02@westminster.ac.uk](mailto:J.Nicholas02@westminster.ac.uk)

Law School webpage: [westminster.ac.uk/about-us/schools/law](http://westminster.ac.uk/about-us/schools/law)

#### **Academic Support**

Upon arrival, an induction programme will introduce you to the staff responsible for the course, the campus on which you will be studying, the Library and IT facilities, additional support available and to your Campus Registry. You will be provided with the Course Handbook, which provides detailed information about the course. Each course has a course leader or Director of Studies. All students enrolled on a full-time course and part time students registered for more than 60 credits a year have a personal tutor, who provides advice and guidance on academic matters. The University uses a Virtual Learning Environment called Blackboard where students access their course materials, and can communicate and collaborate with staff and other students. Further information on Blackboard can be found at [westminster.ac.uk/blackboard](http://westminster.ac.uk/blackboard).

#### **Learning Support**

The Academic Learning Development Centre supports students in developing the skills required for higher education. As well as online resources in Blackboard, students have the opportunity to attend Study Skills workshops and one to one appointments. Further information on the Academic Learning Development Centre can be found at [westminster.ac.uk/academic-learning-development](http://westminster.ac.uk/academic-learning-development).

Learning support includes four libraries, each holding a collection of resources related to the subjects taught at that site. Students<sup>1</sup> can search the entire library collection online through the Library Search service to find and reserve printed books, and access electronic resources (databases, e-journals, e-books). Students can choose to study in the libraries, which have areas for silent and group study, desktop computers, laptops for loan, photocopying and printing services. They can also choose from several computer rooms at each campus where desktop computers are available with the general and specialist software that supports the courses taught in their College. Students can also securely connect their own laptops and mobile devices to the University wireless network.

### **Support Services**

The University of Westminster Student and Academic Services department provide advice and guidance on accommodation, financial and legal matters, personal counselling, health and disability issues, careers, specialist advice for international students and the chaplaincy providing multi-faith guidance. Further information on the advice available to students can be found at [westminster.ac.uk/student-advice](http://westminster.ac.uk/student-advice). The University of Westminster Students' Union also provides a range of facilities to support students during their time at the University. Further information on UWSU can be found at [westminster.ac.uk/students-union](http://westminster.ac.uk/students-union).

### **How do we ensure the quality of our courses and continuous improvement?**

The course was initially approved by a University Validation Panel in 2020. The panel included internal peers from the University, academic(s) from another university and a representative from industry. This helps to ensure the comparability of the course to those offered in other universities and the relevance to employers.

The course is also monitored each year by the College to ensure it is running effectively and that issues which might affect the student experience have been appropriately addressed. Staff will consider evidence about the course, including the evidence of student surveys, student progression and achievement and reports from external examiners, in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the course.

A Course revalidation takes place periodically to ensure that the curriculum is up-to-date and that the skills gained on the course continue to be relevant to employers. Students meet with revalidation panels to provide feedback on their experiences. Student feedback from previous years is also part of the evidence used to assess how the course has been running.

### **How do we act on student feedback?**

Student feedback is important to the University and student views are taken seriously. Student feedback is gathered in a variety of ways.

- Through student engagement activities at Course/Module level, students have the opportunity to express their voice in the running of their course. Course representatives are elected to expressly represent the views of their peers. The University and the Students' Union work together to provide a full induction to the role of the course representatives.

- There are also School Representatives appointed jointly by the University and the Students' Union who meet with senior School staff to discuss wider issues affecting student experience across the School. Student representatives are also represented on key College and University committees.
- All students are invited to complete a questionnaire before the end of each module. The feedback from this will inform the module leader on the effectiveness of the module and highlight areas that could be enhanced.
- Final year Undergraduate students will be asked to complete the National Student Survey which helps to inform the national university league tables.

**Please note:** This programme specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the course and the learning outcomes that a student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. This specification should be read in conjunction with the Course Handbook provided to students and Module Handbooks, which provide more detailed information on the specific learning outcomes, content, teaching, learning and assessment methods for each module.

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