

**Part one: Programme Specification**

**Course record information**

Name and level of final award:	LLB (Honours) European Legal Studies The <i>LLB Honours European Legal Studies Degree</i> is Bologna FQ-EHEA first cycle degree or diploma compatible
Name and level of intermediate awards:	Diploma of HE Certificate of HE BA Legal Studies (Hons) BA Legal Studies (Hons) Qualifying BA Legal Studies (non Hons)
Awarding body/institution:	University of Westminster
Teaching Institution:	University of Westminster
Status of awarding body/institution:	Recognised Body
Location of delivery:	Westminster Law School
Language of delivery and assessment:	English
Mode, length of study and normal starting month:	Four years full-time, September start
QAA subject benchmarking group:	LAW
Professional statutory or regulatory body:	Joint Academic Stage Board (SRA/BSB)
Date of course validation/review:	March-April 2015
Date of programme specification approval:	March-April 2015
Valid for cohorts:	2017/18 Levels 4/5, 2018/19 Levels 4, 5 and 6
Course leader:	Julia Chrissyostalis
UCAS code and URL:	M125 <a href="http://westminster.ac.uk/about-us/schools/law">westminster.ac.uk/about-us/schools/law</a>

## What are the minimum entry requirements for the course?

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

[westminster.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/how-to-apply](http://westminster.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/how-to-apply)

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.

Applicants are considered for direct entry to level 5 and 6. In such cases an individual programme of study may apply

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

## Introduction

Westminster Law School is located within the College of Liberal Arts and Humanities sited in Little Titchfield Street, which is in the heart of the West End, 5 minutes' walk from Oxford Circus. The LLB in European Legal Studies course is a four-year course that combines the study of English Law with that of other European laws, and of law in its broader European context, including a year spent studying at one of our partner law schools in Europe. It provides you with the seven foundation subjects required by the professional bodies so that students can, on successful completion of their LLB, proceed onto the Legal Practice Course or Bar Professional Training Course. The legal professions require graduates to possess both intellectual and practical skills, and the course explicitly addresses these requirements with a rigorous academic approach and structured programme of skills development. In addition, the course provides the student with the opportunity to enhance and perfect their language skills in another European language during Years 1 and 2 and to gain knowledge of civil law and European codified legal systems through a specialist module in Year 2 and through a year of study spent studying law in one of our partner institutions in Europe. Study abroad is undertaken under the Erasmus+ scheme set up by the European Commission.

## LLB (Hons) European Legal Studies 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 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.

The LLB (Hons) European Legal Studies course offers a specialised programme of study allowing students to obtain a Qualifying Law Degree as well as an exciting and dynamic educational experience, which includes a year of studying law in Europe in one of the School's partner institutions under the Erasmus+ scheme set up by the European Commission.

You will gain a thorough knowledge and understanding of the fundamental doctrines and principles that underpin the English, other European legal systems and beyond and you will further enhance your European language skills whilst acquiring a better understanding of the contexts in which law operates in England and other European jurisdictions. The course also provides an opportunity to study a limited selection of options covering wide and diverse areas of law that are closely linked to staff research interests. In addition, the course enables you to add an international dimension to your studies through a further year of law study abroad in one of the School's partner institutions in Europe under the Erasmus+ scheme.

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. At Westminster, you work in partnership with your tutors to develop an inquisitive approach to study. In addition, studying abroad enables students to develop a broad range of transferable skills and communicate fluently with lawyers from civil law traditions. 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.

### **LLB (Honours) European Legal Studies Course Learning Outcomes**

Studying law at undergraduate 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 students' progress through the four 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 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;

- L4.4 An initial understanding of ethical considerations and personal responsibility in the context of academic 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)
- L4.6 Effective interpersonal and communication skills in a variety of contexts. (KTS, GA) and
- L4.7 Development, or enhancement, of knowledge of another European language. (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 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 of 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 The ability to compare and explain differences and similarities between a codified legal system and a common law system, and engage in the comparative study of English and European jurisdictions. (KU)
- L5.7 An enhanced knowledge of another European language and familiarity with the legal language of civil law systems. (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 A developed research strategy that involves the evaluation and critical analysis of a range of authoritative, novel and reliable materials. (KTS, PPP)

- L6.4 The proactive application of a range on interpersonal and communication skills in a range of situations with degrees of complexity. (KTS, GA)
- L6.5 An understanding of the implications of studying and practising law in a European/ transnational context. (PPP) and
- L6.6 The ability to transfer information across legal languages, engage in the study of law in a European context, and explain differences and similarities between a codified legal system and a common law system. (KU, KTS)

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

#### **Learning**

The LLB European Legal Studies programme is made up of a compulsory core of ten 20 credit modules and one 40 credit module, plus two 40 credit option modules, two 20 credit European language modules, and a year of studying law in Europe.

Seven of the ten 20 credit modules represent the Foundations of Legal Knowledge set out in the JASB Statement. Two 20 credit core modules provide knowledge and understanding of different legal systems, including of course the English legal system, and allow for the discussion of issues around the legal profession and the future of law in the UK. Legal and academic skills are embedded in the teaching of all core modules. The last core 20 credit module provides a foundation in civil law systems in view of the year abroad and is specific to the European Legal Studies programme. The remainder of the 20 credit modules are language modules, ordinarily required also in view of the year abroad. The compulsory 40 credit module is a final year dissertation connected to the Year Abroad. The 2 remaining 40 credit modules are option modules, allowing students to choose from a range of specialist areas that tie in with their own interests. In addition, students must complete the Year Abroad studying law in Europe in a satisfactory way. Students may be able to study through the medium of English in a certain number of partner institutions.

Further to this, academic staff offer extra-curricular activities that provide an important contribution to academic, employability and personal development. Visiting academics from our partner institutions in Europe frequently visit the School and give lectures in their areas of expertise. Students are also encouraged to develop extracurricular activities both within and outside the Law School and to engage with specialist professional networks, such as the Franco- British Association of Lawyers, with which the School maintains links.

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 core modules, especially at Level 4. In addition, the language modules you will study during the first two years of your degree programme are meant to enhance your European language skills and along with the Civil Law and Legal Systems module provide you with preparation for the Year Abroad. Which language you study will depend on which language/s you already know and further support and advice on choosing a language will be provided during the Orientation Week. You will also be allocated a personal academic tutor, who will advise 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 LLB European Legal Studies programme addresses similar skills in some modules, the substantive content of these modules 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 LLB at Westminster Law School moreover delivers these modules in a coherent way at each level and cross-references the skills acquired in one subject to the learning in another. So, for example your case-reading skills and understanding of precedent are taught at the beginning of Level 4, and then developed in all core modules.

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

### **Teaching**

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, how to undertake research to find relevant law, cases, academic opinion and other forms of authoritative evidence used to support arguments. In the first few weeks of the course you will be shown how to cite and reference work correctly and how to develop their writing and other communication skills. 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.

As you progress further through the degree, you will be increasingly expected to act as an independent learner – someone who is able to identify their own points of strength and weakness and take the appropriate action to improve their performance. Staff are used to provide support and help at every step along the way whether in formal classes or as a Personal Academic Tutor.

Second year study builds on the first-year skills, introducing more specific career development and a wider understanding of the profession. The school has a high level of research activity in relation to the workings of the legal profession. The synthesis between research and teaching in this area is emphasised in the core 21<sup>st</sup> Century Law module. In addition, in the LLB European Legal Studies programme, we support the development of your language skills (particularly in view of the Year Abroad) with European language modules (French, Spanish, Italian, and German) in Years 1 and 2. Moreover, in order to prepare you for studying law during the Year Abroad in Europe, the Civil Law and Legal Systems module provides you with an understanding of codified systems of law in the civil/Roman law tradition and encourages you to focus on the jurisdiction of the European country in which you will subsequently spend the year abroad. Further, the Civil Law and Legal Systems module encourages you to engage in a comparative study of English and European jurisdictions.

During the Year Abroad, depending on the jurisdiction and the partner institution, you will have the opportunity to study different law subjects in Italian, Spanish, French, or German

private law and public law as well as European and International law, and law related subjects, depending on the programme of study the host Law School offers. This will enable you to study together with students of other European legal backgrounds, acquire a broader and deeper understanding of a codified legal system, and experience studying law in a transnational / European context. Where possible, we also encourage and support students in order to find short work placements in law firms while abroad.

Level 6 will provide you with the opportunity to study a fairly diverse set of options as per your specific interests, or alternatively to take a set of options that have some relation, alongside your final year Dissertation. Modules that are related are often part of 'a stream'. Streams are influenced and led by research strengths in the Law School. This is an opportunity that makes this Law degree distinctive from its competitors, who often market a diverse range of options but with no cohesion. Finally, the European Legal Studies Dissertation constitutes the summation and application of the year abroad. In it, students have the opportunity to undertake supervised research study of a topic that they became interested in during the Year Abroad.

On top of various optional modules, Westminster Law School offers the students a wide range of extra-curricular 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.

Law-based modules obviously form the majority of the options available to you on the LLB. However, the delivery of these modules will place emphasis on both the law content and the social, political or cultural context of the law. You will also have the opportunity to study interdisciplinary modules that are delivered across the University (Westminster Distinctiveness modules).

### **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 designed to equip you with the set of skills they need to succeed in whatever career you choose. Skills are developed incrementally with support to ensure that students have a strong foundation.

Each core module on the programme will provide you with the opportunity to develop specific skills. For example, Contract Law at level 4, whilst developing your knowledge of contract law, will specifically drill down regarding problem-solving skills and will be assessed by a time-released problem-based exam. Whilst all modules will have research skills built into their delivery, Law: Policy and Practice also at level 4 will concentrate specifically on research skills by asking you to present a research plan and submit an essay. In addition, the Civil Law and Legal Systems module provides you with the key elements of civil law legal systems and the basics of comparative legal research skills, whilst allowing you to research and explore the jurisdiction you will be studying in during the Year Abroad.

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 6, the expectation will be that you will be able to work with limited supervision.

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

### **Assessment and Feedback**

Assessment is characteristically undertaken through examination and/or coursework. However, certain modules are assessed exclusively by coursework where the nature of the subject requires in-depth critical reflection rather than problem solving under pressure.

The LLB European Legal Studies 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/or 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 the student 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 your lecturers.

The assessment strategy on the LLB European Legal Studies at Westminster is designed to promote a more coherent course structure. At each level, the course team have designed an approach, which incorporates a synoptic assessment which draws on more than one area of study at that level.

A good example of this is at level 4. You will be taught various skills at the start of your course. We teach the skills synoptically across the year and each skill will be aligned with a specific exercise in each core. The feedback you acquire from these exercises will feed forward to the individual core assessments you will take at the end of the year. So for example you will be introduced to legal research, case reading and statutory interpretations skills at the start of the course, these skills will then be signposted in exercises in tutorials in each module. At the end of the semester your assessment in Law: Policy and Practice will emphasise that cross module learning by concentrating on your legal research skills. Criminal law in semester two may look specifically at your case and statutory interpretation skills.

A similar process will operate at level 5.

The course requires at level 6 an assessment that enables you to reflect upon, develop and express their graduate attributes at course level. This assessment may be based on experiences you have as a result of some of the activities delivered within the modules, or the Law School more generally (for example the Year Abroad, external visits, or student Law Societies) and will look forward to your future career or direction beyond the degree.

This approach has the benefit of creating cohesion across what could otherwise be a diverse set of options. It means we can help you achieve the course level learning outcomes and graduate attributes without restricting your choice of options in your final year and so it also



retains the flexibility within the modules, and learning and assessment approaches that reflect the specific subject areas.

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

### **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
- staff are provided with up-to-date data on labour market trends and employers' requirements which will inform the service delivered to students.

A Law degree, particularly one with an international dimension, is viewed as a valuable asset by a large group of employers across a broad range of sectors both legal and non-legal. This course will prepare students for a variety of legal careers including practice as a barrister, solicitor, legal clerk, paralegal or legal executive. Our graduates also pursue careers in business, accountancy, the Civil Service, education and local government, amongst others.

The LLB European Legal Studies at Westminster develops graduate attributes in a cohesive and coordinated way. In your final year, you are 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 (e.g. through attending conferences) specialist professional associations (e.g. the Franco-British Association of Lawyers) and the School's partner institutions in Europe, which offer further opportunities for international engagement during the year of study 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. The School has regular events with alumni, for example panel discussions with alumni in the judicial profession and Law employability events.

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 2015/16, six months after graduation, 89% of graduates were either in study or in work. For the M-Law the figure was 100%. Just over a third of the graduating cohort entered further study, whilst almost 38% progressed directly into work. Of those who entered employment, 63% 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 enrol on to both the Legal Practice Course and the Bar Professional Training Course whilst others 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.

### **Course structure**

This section shows the core and option modules available as part of the course and their credit value.

The structure of the degree requires you to spend a year of study abroad and study a range of law options at Level 6. In addition, you will ordinarily study a European language as part of your studies and receive credit for this. The details about language options are available in the general University information on the intranet. Further information is provided during Orientation week.

Full-time Undergraduate students study 120 credits per year.

### **LLB European Legal Studies Full-time course structure**

#### **Level 4**

Students commence their studies with three core subjects: Law: Policy and Practice, Contract Law, and Tort Law in the first semester. In the second semester, students continue their studies with two core, Public Law and Criminal Law. In addition, students are ordinarily required to study a European language module.

<b>Semester 1</b>	<b>Semester 2</b>
Law: Policy and Practice	Public Law
Contract	Criminal Law
Tort	
European language 1*	European language 1* (continued if Polylang)

*\* Polylang language modules run throughout the year.*

**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>
4LLAW001W	Law: Policy and Practice	Core	20	10
4LLAW002W	Contract Law	Core	20	10
4LLAW003W	Tort Law	Core	20	10

4LLAW004W	Public Law	Core	20	10
4LLAW005W	Criminal Law	Core	20	10

### Award of Certificate of Higher Education available

#### Level 5

Students study 21<sup>st</sup> Century Law, Land Law and Equity and Trusts in the first semester, and EU Law in the second semester. In addition, students study Civil Law and Legal Systems, which runs throughout the year, and are also ordinarily required to study a European language module.

Semester 1	Semester 2
21 <sup>st</sup> Century Law	* EU Law
Land Law	
Equity and Trusts	
Civil Law and Legal Systems	Civil Law and Legal Language ( <i>continued</i> )
European language 2*	European language 2* (continued if Polylang)

\* Polylang language modules run throughout the year.

**All modules are 20 credits**

#### Core Modules

Credit Level 5				
Module code	Module title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
5LGPR001W	21 <sup>st</sup> Century Law	Core	20	10
5LLAW001W	Land Law	Core	20	10
5LLAW002W	EU Law	Core	20	10
5LLAW003W	Equity and Trusts	Core	20	10
5LLAW017W	Civil Law and Legal Systems	Core	20	10

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

#### Year Abroad

As a student enrolled on the LLB in European Legal Studies, you are required as part of your degree programme to spend the whole of your third year studying law at one of our partner universities in Europe, and return to the University of Westminster for your fourth year.

The Law School has student exchange arrangements under the Erasmus+ scheme. You can see a current list with our partners in Europe at

<http://www.westminster.ac.uk/international/international-partnerships/international-partnerships-for-institutions/our-international-partners/exchange-partners>.

These arrangements are subject to change. Some partner institutions offer opportunities of study in English. Further details regarding these institutions will be provided during the Year Abroad meetings in Year 2. Administration and financing of the scheme is such that students must go to a university where the Law School has an agreed link in Law.

To complete the year abroad in a satisfactory way, you must fulfil the academic requirements of the year abroad. These include spending the year abroad at a partner university in which you study an agreed diet of courses, complete all assessments, and pass a certain number of credits. At the end of the year abroad, you will obtain a full transcript of the results attained at the host institution. Further details of the academic requirements for the satisfactory completion of the year abroad can be found in Appendix 3. A 'full diet of courses' will be what is considered as a normal full-time workload for the host University's own students, and in any case it will not exceed a total of 60 ECTS.

Academic recognition for the Year Abroad is provided in the student transcript by noting the partner institution that you attended while abroad and through two modules, each worth 60 credits (30 ECTS), corresponding to semesters 1 and 2 respectively of your Year Abroad. Both modules are assessed on a Pass/Fail basis. These modules appear on your LLB European legal Studies course transcript.

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

Semester 1	Semester 2
Study Abroad Semester 1	Study Abroad Semester 2

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

### Level 6

At level 6, there is one core module, the Dissertation in European Legal Studies, and two option modules selected from a wide range.

Semester 1	Semester 2
Dissertation in European Legal Studies	Dissertation in ELS ( <i>continued</i> )
Option	Option ( <i>continued</i> )
Option	Option ( <i>continued</i> )

**All level 6 modules are 40 credits**

### Core Module

Credit Level 6				
Module code	Module title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
6LLAW035W	Dissertation in European Legal Studies	Core	40	20

**All level 6 options are 40 credits**

### Level 6 Option Modules

Credit Level 6				
Module code	Module title	Status	UK credit	ECTS

6LGPR001W	Clinical Legal Practice	Option	40	20
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

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

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

#### **Programme Planning**

The ability to speak a number of languages, and even better the ability to speak a number of different legal languages, is a significant advantage both in an increasingly interconnected world and in the transnational legal settings which today's lawyers increasingly inhabit. The European Legal Studies programme recognises this. If you are therefore already fluent in another European language, you have the option of studying an additional language throughout your studies. Alternatively, you can further enhance your language skills by continuing studying the language of your choice in your final year, when you return from the year abroad.

Alternatively, if you are already fluent in another language and the Course Leader has agreed to waive the language requirement, you can study a law option. In this case, you can combine options to form a coherent stream through the degree or mix and match as you wish. Some students prefer to concentrate within one broad area whilst others select across areas. For example, you might choose all the options related to Criminal Law and Justice or pick one of these and study another from Commercial Law and one from the Entertainment Law stream. It is a matter of personal choice and you are encouraged to discuss your choices with your personal tutor.

Streams are based around research and teaching interests and new modules will be offered as staff develop new ideas or new members of staff arrive. You are encouraged to follow subjects that interest you rather than subjects you think you 'should do'. In our

experience students perform much better in those subjects that they want to explore and engage with.

We offer the following streams or pathways through the degree, though it should be noted that options will be offered subject to staff time and student demand.

**(i) Commercial law**

There is a range of options that have as their focus commercial activities and the regulation, whether by law or otherwise, of those activities. The banking crisis has demonstrated the importance of commercial regulation whether at domestic or European level. Similarly issues around taxation and revenue policies have arisen as disclosures have emerged around some large companies setting up their financial affairs to pay little tax. It is important for law students in this area to understand the organisation, liability and responsibility of corporate entities as well as the more specialised concept of Competition Law. An introductory module at level 4 leads to highly focussed in-depth modules at Level 6.

**(ii) Criminal Law and Justice**

Exploring the criminal justice system and criminal law offers students the chance to understand not just what the Criminal Law is but how it is applied and whether the practice equates to the theory of how the law should work. The criminal justice system encompasses a wide range of organisations from the police through the court system to prison and beyond. Increasingly there are private companies involved with law enforcement, imprisonment and rehabilitation. All students will study Criminal Law but there are specialist option modules such as Criminal Procedure and Evidence as well as the various Criminal Justice modules.

**(iii) Entertainment Law**

The school has a long and distinguished history of expertise in this area and offers an LLM in Entertainment Law. There is strong group of researchers and an active Research Centre. London is one of the world centres of the entertainment industry and law plays an important role in both the internal relationships (for example contracts between record companies and bands) and the external relationships (for example music downloading). Contract Law and Intellectual Property are fundamental aspects but there are other niche areas such as Media Law and Social Media Law.

**(iv) Human Rights**

Human Rights Law is both a domestic and international legal area. It involves international obligations and treaties but crucially the application of these at a domestic level. Human Rights ideas have become an increasingly important part of many parts of national law. The School offers a number of specialised Human Rights modules at both undergraduate and postgraduate level reflecting a wide range of staff expertise. All students will encounter the application of human rights in core subjects but specific detailed modules are available across the course.

**(v) Law and Theory**

There is one specific area of legal theory entitled jurisprudence, however here we take a far broader view of the relationship between law and theory. Even though law, as a subject area, has a vocational and practical dimension it is still important to understand why law is what it is and whether or not it works and if so why? Ideas about law can be studied in isolation or related to specific areas of law. All students will experience some aspects of legal theory within the core subjects but those students who wish to gain a deeper understanding of the meaning of law will enjoy the different theory modules we offer.

## Academic regulations

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

## Course Specific Regulations

The Course Handbook has full details of these course specific regulations.

- i) Each element of assessment within the core modules has a qualifying mark of 35%. Students must therefore attempt all elements of assessment.

Core modules (Foundations of Legal Study)			
4LLAW001W	Law: Policy and Practice	5LGPR01W	21 <sup>st</sup> Century Law
4LLAW002W	Contract Law	5LLAW001W	Land Law
4LLAW003W	Tort Law	5LLAW002W	EU Law
4LLAW004W	Public Law	5LLAW003W	Equity and Trusts
4LLAW005W	Criminal Law		

Core modules – course specific	
5LLAW017W	Civil Law and Legal Systems
6LIAW035W	Dissertation in European Legal Studies

Each final element of assessment within the option modules has a qualifying mark of at least 30%.

## European language requirement

- ii) Students are required to pass two European language modules. At the discretion of the Course Leader, which will be exercised in exceptional circumstances with evidence of prior study or experience, the language requirement may be waived.

## Condoned credit and compensation

- iii) Condoned credit and compensation **are not available** to students on the LLB. Students are required to pass all modules in order to be eligible for the LLB award.

## Module attempts

- iv) Students are entitled to a maximum of three attempts to pass a core module. This includes a first attempt, a refer attempt and one further attempt under a new registration of the module (re-take).
- v) A student who, following three attempts, has not successfully passed a core module(s) will no longer be eligible for the award of LLB and excluded from the course.
- vi) Option modules are subject to the University's regulations, which may, at the discretion of the relevant assessment board, permit a student a maximum of four assessment opportunities i.e. two attempts (studying with attendance) per module and two re-assessments in all or part of the module.

## Progression

University rules apply here. Please refer to essential Westminster.

<b>Time limits</b>	<b>Full-time Study</b>	<b>Part-time Study</b>
<b>Cert HE</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Dip HE</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>LLB Degree</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>BA Legal Studies (Hons)</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Degree/Honours degree including placement/ year abroad</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>

## Periods of Study Abroad

- vii) Students on the LLB (Hns) European Legal Studies programme must complete a year of study abroad in one of the School's partner universities in Europe in a satisfactory manner.
- viii) During the year of study abroad, students are required to register both at Westminster and at the host university. At the host university, students are required to study and attempt modules equivalent to a full-time study load. This will normally equate to 60 ECTS at the host institution. A student's diet while abroad will be agreed by the student, the University of Westminster and the partner institution in a Learning Agreement prior to the commencement of studies at the host institution.
- ix) In order to be deemed by the University of Westminster to have passed the year of study abroad, a student must meet the following requirements:
  - a. If studying in English, a student must pass a minimum of 50% across the total number of credits that they registered for at the partner institution
  - b. If studying in a language other than English, a student must pass a minimum of 25% across the total number of credits that they registered for at the partner institution.
  - c. If studying in both English and a language other than English, a student must pass a minimum of 50% across the total number of credits that they studied in English and 25% across the total number of credits that they studied in another language
- x) In addition, students undertaking the year of study abroad will be registered for and required to complete successfully the requirements of the modules detailed below:
  - a. LLAWS01 Study Abroad Semester 1, 60 credits
  - b. LLAWS02 Study Abroad Semester 2, 60 credits
- xi) The credits awarded for the above modules will not contribute to the final degree classification.
- xii) Neither the credits nor the marks achieved during a year of study abroad will be exchangeable with University of Westminster credits or marks.
- xiii) Credits awarded for a year-long period of study abroad are additional to Westminster



credits.

### **Recognition of the Year Abroad**

xviii) Where a student successfully meets the pass requirements as outlined above in ix and x, and progresses to level 6 of their intended award, recognition of the year of study abroad will take place:

- a. By detailing on the student's final University transcript the year of study abroad, noting the name of the host institution that the student attended;
- b. By awarding 120 additional credits on the student's University transcript.

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

### **Course Management**

#### **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 Faculty Registry Office. 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.

#### **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.

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 at their Faculty. Students can also securely connect their own laptops and mobile devices to the University wireless network.

#### **Support Services**

The University of Westminster Student Affairs 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. The University of Westminster Students' Union also provides a range of facilities to support students during their time at the University.

---

<sup>1</sup> Students enrolled at Collaborative partners may have differing access due to licence agreements.

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

The course was initially approved by a University Validation Panel. 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 Faculty 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 outcomes from Course Committees, evidence of student progression and achievement and the reports from external examiners, to evaluate the effectiveness of the course. Each Faculty puts in to place an action plan. This may for example include making changes on the way the module is taught, assessed or even how the course is structured in order to improve the course, in such cases an approval process is in place.

A Course review 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 review panels to provide feedback on their experiences. Student feedback from previous years e.g. from Course Committees 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 Course Committees students have the opportunity to express their voice in the running of their course. Student representatives are elected to Committee to expressly represent the views of their peer. The University and the Students' Union work together to provide a full induction to the role of the student representatives.
- Each Faculty also has its own Faculty Student Forum with student representatives; this enables wider discussions across the Faculty. Student representatives are also represented on key Faculty 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.
- The University also has an annual Student Experience Survey which seeks the opinions of students about their course and University experience. Final year Undergraduate students will be asked to complete the National Student Survey, which helps to inform the national university league tables.

## **Reference points for the course**

### **Internally**

This course has been designed to match the University's mission to provide education for professional life and meet the University's policies on learning and teaching and employability. The Course Structure follows the requirements of the modular framework and the academic regulations of the University.

- University of Westminster Law School Plan 2014
- University of Westminster Learning and Teaching Strategy
- Faculty of Social Science and Humanities Learning and Teaching Strategy

## Externally

The learning outcomes of the course, as detailed earlier, have been formulated in accordance with the specific QAA subject benchmarks for Law [www.qaa.ac.uk](http://www.qaa.ac.uk)

## Professional Body accreditation

- QAA Law Benchmarks Statements 2015
- Joint Academic Studies Board Statement (Law Society and the General Council of the Bar)
- SEEC

## Quality management and enhancement

All module leaders reflect annually on the effectiveness of the teaching and assessment strategy and propose changes to the Course Leader. Enhancements are developed at both module and Course level and recorded through the Annual Monitoring Process. The School runs various activities to identify and address ways of improving the design and delivery of its courses.

Annual Monitoring enables a reflective and proactive process of course development. All staff carry out annual appraisals and peer observation, and undertake staff development through course attendance and research activity. Events organised by the School Learning and Teaching Committee are attended in order to address current teaching, learning and assessment issues.

## For more information about this course:

Course Leader: Julia Chryssostalis [J.Chryssostalis@Wesminster.ac.uk](mailto:J.Chryssostalis@Wesminster.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)

**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.

Copyright of University of Westminster 2018 ©