

**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 :	2016/17 Levels 4/5, 2017/18 Levels 4, 5 and 6
Course leader:	Julia Chryssostalis and Jochim Dymott
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. Students 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.

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

## **Introduction**

The Westminster Law School is located within the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities sited in a newly refurbished building 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 the student 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 LLB in European Legal Studies 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.

Students will gain a thorough knowledge and understanding of the fundamental doctrines and principles that underpin the English, other European legal systems and beyond and will further enhance their 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 students to add an international dimension to their 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 students will develop a wide range of skills and abilities and develop their intellectual ability through critical evaluation of legal materials. Students work in partnership with their 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. Students 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 compulsory 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 the vehicle to deliver the key skills described below in the course skills strategy. The last core 20 credit module provides a foundation in civil law systems in preparation for the year abroad and is specific to the European Legal Studies programme. The remainder of the 20 credit modules are language modules, ordinarily required 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.

Students will develop a breadth and depth of legal understanding and skills competence, as well as confidence in their abilities. We promote reflection on performance and development in particular and provide specific assistance with this in Legal Skills/English Legal System and Process and in the Legal Professions and Legal Services Modules. Recognising that you will need more assistance at the start of your studies the skills modules are delivered at the beginning of the year, and the substantive subject areas pick up those skills and develop them after the first few weeks. 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 with your first piece of written work on an individual basis in the early stages of the first year. This personal academic tutor 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 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. So for example your case reading skills and understanding of precedent are initially introduced in

the skills module at level 4, and then developed through the module of Tort Law building towards a reform based project.

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

## **Teaching**

Students 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.

In the first year Legal Skills and Process/English Legal System module students 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. They are shown how to cite and reference work correctly and how to develop their writing and other communication skills. In the substantive law subjects students will be required to evaluate and analyse legal materials and apply them in a range of situations. Teaching staff initiate and support discussions and students are encouraged to take control over their learning.

Legal Profession and Legal Services 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 into the workings of the legal profession and the synthesis between research and teaching is brought out in this module.

In addition, in the European Legal Studies programme, we support the development of students' 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 students for studying law during their Year Abroad in Europe, the Civil Law and Legal Systems module provides students with an understanding of codified systems of law in the civil/Roman law tradition and encourages students to focus on the jurisdiction of the European country in which they will subsequently spend the year abroad. Further, the Civil Law and Legal Systems module encourages students to engage in a comparative study of English and European jurisdictions. During the Year Abroad students go on to study a mixture of private law and public law topics in Italian, Spanish, French, German, and Swedish law, or European and International law, as well as law related topics, depending on the programme of study the host Law School offers. This enables students 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. Finally, the summation and application of the year abroad is achieved by the completion of the compulsory European Legal Studies Dissertation in Law in Year 4 at level 6, in which students have the opportunity to undertake supervised research study of a topic they became interested in during the Year Abroad.

As students progress further through the degree they 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.

Level 6 will provide students will the opportunity to study a fairly diverse set of options as per

their specific interests, or alternatively to take a set of options that have some relation, alongside their final year Dissertation. Students can opt for diversity rather than cohesion re subject matter. If they do opt for cohesion, they can choose modules that are 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.

On top of the various optional modules, the Law School want to offer students 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.

Law based modules obviously form the majority of the options available to students on the LLB. However the delivery of these modules will place emphasis on the social, political or cultural context as well as the law content. Students 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 students with the set of skills they need to succeed in whatever career they choose. Skills are developed incrementally with support to ensure that students have a strong foundation.

Each core module on the LLB will provide the student with the opportunity to develop specific skills. For example Criminal Law at level 4 whilst developing the students subject based learning, will specifically drill down regarding communication skills and be assessed by a presentation. Whilst all modules will have research skills built into their delivery, Tort Law also at level 4 will concentrate specifically on research skills by asking students to present a proposal for reform. In addition, the Civil Law and Legal Systems module provides students to learn the key elements of civil law legal systems and the basics of comparative legal method, whilst allowing them to research the jurisdiction they 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 a student to work with supervision, by the time they have progressed to level 6, the expectation will be that the student 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 QAA law benchmarking standards. **Note law benchmarks are currently under review.**

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 was 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 students are encouraged to sit down with their tutors and discuss each piece of work and what is needed to improve their performance. Assessing student work and offering feedback, support and encouragement is a key role for all the lecturers.

The assessment strategy on the LLB at Westminster is designed to promote a more coherent course structure. At each level the course team have designed an approach which culminates in a synoptic assessment which draws on more than one area of study at that level. For example the curriculum at levels 4 and 5 is designed loosely on the concept of a legal firm, with separate subject specialities that come together to resolve a combined problem.

An example of how this might work, is for Level 4 to have a theme. The students will be taught various skills in the first two weeks of Legal Skills and Process. Some of these skills will feed into their electronic personal development plan and their essay supervised by their personal academic advisor in the Legal Skills and Process module. Others will feed into the first synoptic assessment, where those skills will be aligned with each substantive core in a specific exercise. So for example in Tort the students will be expected to write a case note on an area of tort law, in Public law the students will be expected to do a short research exercise. These various exercises will form a portfolio. The feedback from this will feed forward into the individual core assessments which will have relevance to the original theme. The final assessment, an exam, will have the initial theme and will build on the knowledge base and feedback from the individual assessments.

A similar process will operate at level 5.

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

This approach has the benefit of creating cohesion across what could otherwise be a diverse set of options. It allows for course level learning outcomes and graduate attributes to be met without a core provision at level 6 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 at Westminster develops graduate attributes in a cohesive and coordinated way. In the students final year they are expected to reflect on the graduate attributes they 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 Law Schools links with employers, alumni in various professions, the wider research community (e.g. through attending conferences) and the School's partner institutions in Europe, which offer opportunities for international engagement through 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 2012-2013, six months after graduation, 85% of graduates were either in study or in work. Half of the graduating cohort entered further study and/or work whilst almost 40% progressed directly into work. Of those who entered employment, 47% 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, LL.M, 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 allows for a student to study a broad range of law options. Students will ordinarily study a European language as part of their 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 Full-time course structure**

#### **Level 4**

Students commence with a skills module that introduces them to both the English legal system and the skills needed for undergraduate study. This ensures that all students have the necessary skill set.

Students also study the four substantive subjects; Contract Law, Public Law, Tort Law and Criminal Law for the entire year. In addition, students are ordinarily required to study a European language module.

<b>Semester 1</b>		<b>Semester 2</b>
Legal Skills and Process	4LLAW001W	European language 1*
Contract	4LLAW002W	Contract ( <i>continued</i> )
Tort	4LLAW003W	Tort ( <i>continued</i> )
Public Law	4LLAW004W	Public Law ( <i>continued</i> )
Criminal Law	4LLAW005W	Criminal Law ( <i>continued</i> )

#### **All modules are 20 credits**

\* Polylang language modules run throughout the year.

### **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	Legal Skills and Process	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 commence with a skills module that provides an opportunity not only to reflect on their progress in Year 1 but also to start to think about careers and develop employability skills.

Students also study Land Law, EU Law and Equity and Trusts and Civil Law and Legal Systems. In addition, students are ordinarily required to study a European language module.

Semester 1		Semester 2
Legal Profession and Legal Services	5LGPR001W	European language 2*
Land Law	5LLAW001W	Land Law ( <i>continued</i> )
EU Law	5LLAW002W	EU Law ( <i>continued</i> )
Equity and Trusts	5LLAW003W	Equity and Trusts ( <i>continued</i> )
Civil Law and Legal Systems	5LLAW017W	Civil Law ( <i>continued</i> )

**All modules are 20 credits**

\* Polylang language modules run throughout the year.

## Core Modules

Credit Level 5				
Module code	Module title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
5LGPR001W	Legal Profession and Legal Services	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

Students enrolled on the LLB in European Legal Studies are required as part of their degree programmes to spend the whole of their third year studying law at one of our partner universities in Europe, and return to the University of Westminster for their fourth year.

Westminster 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, students must fulfil the academic requirements of the year abroad. These include spending the year abroad at a partner university in which they register and study an agreed diet of courses, completing the assessments, passing a certain number of credits, and obtaining a full transcript of the results attained. 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 a normal year's work for the host University's own students, and in any case it will not exceed a total of 60 ECTS credits. The marks and credits of the year abroad are not exchangeable with Westminster credits and do not count towards the final degree

classification.

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

Semester 1	Semester 2
Study Abroad Semester 1 5LLAW013W	Study Abroad Semester 2 5LLAW014W

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

There is one core module at Level 6; there are two option modules selected from a wide range.

Semester 1	Semester 2
Dissertation in European Legal Studies 6LLAW018W	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
6LLAW018W	Dissertation in European Legal Studies	Core	40	20

## 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	Option	40	20
6LLAW007W	Entertainment Law	Option	40	20
6LLAW010W	Environmental Law	Option	40	20
6LLAW001W	Family Law and Family Justice	Option	40	20
6LLAW013W	Human Rights in the UK	Option	40	20
6LLAW017W	The 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

## 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) The module pass mark is 40% for all modules (core and option) at credit levels 4, 5 and 6.
- ii) 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	Legal Skills and Process	5LLAW104W	Criminal Law
4LLAW002W	Contract Law	5LLAW001W	Land Law
4LLAW003W	Tort Law	5LLAW002W	EU Law
4LLAW004W	Public Law	5LLAW003W	Equity and Trusts
5LGPR001W	Legal Profession and Legal Services		

<b>Core modules – course specific</b>	
5LLAW017W	Civil Law and Legal Systems
6LLAW035W	European Legal Studies Dissertation in Law

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

### **European language requirement**

- iv) 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**

- v) 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**

- vi) 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).
- vii) 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.
- viii) 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**

- ix) In order to progress from level 4 to level 5, a full-time student must obtain a minimum of 80 credits at level 4.
- x) In order to progress from level 5 to level 6, a full-time student must obtain a minimum of 200 credits at level 4 or above, including a minimum of 80 credits at level 5 or above.

### **Year Abroad**

- xi) Students must complete a year of study abroad in one of the School's partner Universities in Europe in a satisfactory manner.
- xii) During the year of study abroad students are required to register for 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 of modules will be mapped out agreed and signed off by the student, the University of Westminster and the partner institution in a Learning Agreement.
- xiv) For students on a compulsory year abroad (LLB European Legal Studies, LLB Law with French Law), neither the credits nor the marks achieved on the year abroad will be exchangeable with University of Westminster credits or marks on their profiles on the Undergraduate degrees.

For students on an optional year abroad (LLB Law, BA Legal Studies), credits achieved

during the year abroad may be transferred on their Undergraduate degrees provided they are at the required level of study.

- xv) 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 at a partner institution, a student must pass a minimum of 50% across 60 ECTS (or module equivalent to a full time study abroad).
  - b. If studying in another language at a partner institution, a student must pass a minimum of 50% across 30 ECTS.
  
- xvi) In addition, students undertaking the Year of study abroad will be registered for and required to successfully pass the requirements of the modules detailed below:
  - a. 5LLAW013W Study Abroad Semester 1, 60 credits
  - b. 5LLAW014W Study Abroad Semester 2, 60 credits
  
- xvii) The credit awarded for the above modules will not contribute to the final degree classification.

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

- xviii) Where a student successfully meets the pass requirements as outlined above 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 of Westminster transcript the year of study abroad, noting the name of the host institution that the student attended;
  - b. By awarding the student who successfully passes the requirements of the two Semester Abroad modules 120 additional credits; or, in exceptional circumstances, 60 credits if the student has successfully completed only one semester abroad;
  - c. By awarding the student, who successfully completes the requirements of the Year Abroad and of the two Semester Abroad modules, a Certificate of Attendance for the Year Abroad. A separate transcript will state clearly the modules studied and the modules passed at the host institution, along with their ECTS weighting and the marks achieved.
  - d. Through the transcript of results as issued by the host institution that the student attended.

<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>

**Award/Degree Classification SEE AC**

## **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.

#### **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 2007
- 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:**

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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.