

**UNIVERSITY OF YORK**

**POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION**

<b>This document applies to students who commence the programme(s) in:</b>		September 2017			
<b>Awarding institution</b>		<b>Teaching institution</b>			
University of York		University of York			
<b>Department(s)</b>					
York Law School					
<b>Award(s) and programme title(s)</b>			<b>Level of qualification</b>		
LLM International Corporate and Commercial Law			Level 7 (Masters)		
<b>Award(s) available <i>only</i> as interim awards</b>					
Postgraduate Certificate in International Corporate and Commercial Law					
Postgraduate Diploma in International Corporate and Commercial Law					
<b>Admissions criteria</b>					
<b>Length and status of the programme(s) and mode(s) of study</b>					
Programme	Length (years) and status (full-time/part-time)	Start dates/months (if applicable – for programmes that have multiple intakes or start dates that differ from the usual academic year)	Mode		
			Face-to-face, campus-based	Distance learning	Other
LLM	1 year FT	n/a	Yes	No	n/a
<b>Language of study</b>		English			
<b>Programme accreditation by Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Bodies</b> (if applicable)					
Not applicable					
<b>Educational aims of the programme(s)</b>					

For the Masters, Diploma and Certificate:

The aims of the programme are

1. to provide students with a high level of knowledge and understanding of English corporate and contract law in the context of the international law of business organisations and international commercial practice;
2. to apply this law to complex problems involving questions from all areas covered in the programme;
3. to equip students with the relevant academic techniques to work independently in these areas of the law;
4. to enhance students' skills in researching, articulating, and communicating original ideas to their teachers and to their fellow students.

In keeping with the educational philosophy of York LAW School, the programme makes extensive use of problem based learning (PBL) and students will learn "by doing"; rather than simply by reading or by being told.

**Intended learning outcomes for the programme – and how the programme enables students to achieve and demonstrate the intended learning outcomes**

*This programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding qualities, skills and other attributes in the following areas:*

*The following teaching, learning and assessment methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the programme learning outcomes:*

**A: Knowledge and understanding**

Knowledge and understanding of:  
*For the Masters, Diploma and Certificate:*

1. aspects of English corporate and commercial law as it applies in the context of international business and international legal practice.
2. Certain areas of English substantive law in depth while other jurisdictions (primarily European and North American) will be studied to the extent necessary to identify common themes or significant differences.
3. how law relates to commercial practice and economic considerations in a developed Western economy.
4. practical aspects of international trade and how certain other legal jurisdictions approach similar arrangements.
5. some of the alternative sources and perspectives of those that have undertaken academic research in this area.

Learning/teaching methods and strategies (relating to numbered outcomes):

- Problem-Based Learning (1-5)
- Seminars (1-5)

Types/methods of assessment (relating to numbered outcomes)

- Take home examinations (1-5)
- Coursework (1-5)
- PBL contributions to wiki / blog (1-5)
- Dissertation (1-5)

<b>B: (i) Skills – discipline related</b>	
<p>Able to: <i>For the Masters, Diploma and Certificate:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. provide effective and persuasive legal advice in (simulated) corporate and commercial situations.</li> <li>2. recognise other points of view and to be able to present arguments persuasively.</li> <li>3. demonstrate skills of analysis, reasoning and judgment and to apply these to answer topical questions with a corporate/commercial theme.</li> <li>4. undertake legal research (including finding and using cases/statutes/codes and journal articles from the University Library).</li> </ol>	<p>Learning/teaching methods and strategies (relating to numbered outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Problem-Based Learning (1-4)</li> <li>• Seminars (1-4)</li> </ul> <hr/> <p>Types/methods of assessment (relating to numbered outcomes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take home examinations (1-4)</li> <li>• Coursework (1-4)</li> <li>• PBL contributions to wiki / blog (1-4)</li> <li>• Dissertation (1-4)</li> </ul>
<b>B: (ii) Skills - transferable</b>	
<p>Able to: <i>For the Masters, Diploma and Certificate:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. provide effective and persuasive legal advice</li> <li>2. recognise other points of view and to be able to present arguments persuasively.</li> <li>3. demonstrate skills of analysis, reasoning and judgment and to apply these to answer topical questions</li> <li>4. undertake legal research (including finding and using cases/statutes/codes and journal articles from the University Library).</li> </ol>	<p>Learning/teaching methods and strategies (relating to numbered outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Problem-Based Learning (1-4)</li> <li>• Seminars (1-4)</li> </ul> <hr/> <p>Types/methods of assessment (relating to numbered outcomes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take home examinations (1-4)</li> <li>• Coursework (1-4)</li> <li>• PBL contributions to wiki / blog (1-4)</li> <li>• Dissertation (1-4)</li> </ul>

<b>C: Experience and other attributes</b>	
<p>Able to: <i>For the Masters, Diploma and Certificate:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Demonstrate the development of skills and techniques consistent with a solid foundation for the world of work.</li> <li>2. use their oral and written communication skills</li> <li>3. be involved in team-working.</li> <li>4. contribute to the learning of others and learn from other students, rather than just from the academic staff.</li> </ol>	<p>Learning/teaching methods and strategies (relating to numbered outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Problem-Based Learning (1-4)</li> <li>• Seminars (1-4)</li> </ul> <hr/> <p>Types/methods of assessment (relating to numbered outcomes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take home examinations (1-4)</li> <li>• Coursework (1-4)</li> <li>• PBL contributions to wiki / blog (1-4)</li> <li>• Dissertation (1-2, 4)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Relevant Quality Assurance Agency benchmark statement(s) and other relevant external reference points</b> (e.g. National Occupational Standards, or the requirements of Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Bodies)</p>	
<p>The programme will meet the QAA standards required of an M level course. There is currently no benchmark statement for masters programmes in law.</p>	
<p><b>University award regulations</b></p>	
<p>To be eligible for an award of the University of York a student must undertake an approved programme of study, obtain a specified number of credits (at a specified level(s)), and meet any other requirements of the award as specified in the award requirements and programme regulations, and other University regulations (e.g. payment of fees). Credit will be awarded upon passing a module's assessment(s) but some credit may be awarded where failure has been compensated by achievement in other modules. The University's award and assessment regulations specify the University's marking scheme, and rules governing progression (including rules for compensation), reassessment and award requirements. The award and assessment regulations apply to all programmes: any exceptions that relate to this programme are approved by University Teaching Committee and are recorded at the end of this document.</p>	
<p><b>Departmental policies on assessment and feedback</b></p>	
<p>Detailed information on assessment (including grade descriptors, marking procedures, word counts etc.) is available in the written statement of assessment which applies to this programme and the relevant module descriptions. These are available in the student handbook and on the Department's website:</p>	
<p>Information on formative and summative feedback to students on their work is available in the written statement on feedback to students which applies to this programmes and the relevant module descriptions. These are available in the student handbook and on the Department's website:</p>	

**Diagrammatic representation of the programme structure, showing the distribution and credit value of core and option modules**

**Masters**

Autumn term	Spring term	Summer term	Summer vacation
Introduction to studying comparative law (10) (Core)	Option (20)	Introduction to Research Skills and Methods (10) (Core)	
Law and Commercial Transactions (20) (Core)	Option (20)	Dissertation (60) (Core)	
International Corporate Governance and Company Law (20) (Core)	Option (20)		

**Postgraduate Diploma (if applicable)**

Autumn term	Spring term	Summer term
Introduction to studying comparative law (10) (Core)	Option (20)	Introduction to Research Skills and Methods (10) (Core)
Law and Commercial Transactions (20) (Core)	Option (20)	
International Corporate Governance and Company Law (20) (Core)	Option (20)	

**Postgraduate Certificate**

Autumn term	Spring term	Summer term
Introduction to studying comparative law (10) (Core)	20 credits from the Spring Term offering	
Law and Commercial Transactions (20) (Core)		
International Corporate Governance and Company Law (20) (Core)		

**Diagrammatic representation of the timing of module assessments and reassessments,**

**and the timing of departmental examination/progression boards**

Autumn term	Spring term	Summer term	Summer vacation	Date of final award board
Introduction to studying comparative law – week 5	Law and Commercial Transactions – week 1	Options – week 1	Dissertation – mid September	Late October
	International Corporate Governance and Company Law (20) (Core)			
	Reassessment – week 6			
		Introduction to Research Skills and Methods – week 5		
		Reassessment – week 6		
		Progression Board – week 7/8		

## Overview of modules

### Core module table

Module title	Module code	Credit level <sup>1</sup>	Credit value <sup>2</sup>	Prerequisites	Assessment rules <sup>3</sup>	Timing (term and week) and format of main assessment <sup>4</sup>	Independent Study Module? <sup>5</sup>
Introduction to studying comparative law	LAW00018M	7/M	10		n/a	Coursework essay – AuT, week 5	N
Law and Commercial Transactions	LAW00001M	7/M	20		n/a	Take home examination – SpT, week 1 (70%); PBL: contributions to wiki / blog (30%) – submit week 1 SpT	N
International Corporate Governance and Company Law (20) (Core)	LAW00002M	7/M	20		n/a	Take home examination – SuT, week 1 (70%); PBL: contributions to wiki / blog (30%) submit week 1 SuT	N
Introduction to Research Skills and Methods	LAW00021M	7/M	10		n/a	Coursework (research plan) – SuT	N
Dissertation	LAW00012M	7/M	60		NC	Mid-September	Y

<sup>1</sup> The **credit level** is an indication of the module's relative intellectual demand, complexity and depth of learning and of learner autonomy. Most modules in postgraduate programmes will be at Level 7/Masters. Some modules are permitted to be at Level 6/Honours but must be marked on a pass/fail basis. See University Teaching Committee guidance for the limits on Level 6/Honours credit.

<sup>2</sup> The **credit value** gives the notional workload for the module, where 1 credit corresponds to a notional workload of 10 hours (including contact hours, private study and assessment)

<sup>3</sup> **Special assessment rules** (requiring University Teaching Committee approval)

P/F – the module is marked on a pass/fail basis (NB pass/fail modules cannot be compensated)

NC – the module cannot be compensated

NR – there is no reassessment opportunity for this module. It must be passed at the first attempt

<sup>4</sup> AuT – Autumn Term, SpT – Spring Term, SuT – Summer Term, SuVac – Summer vacation

<sup>5</sup> **Independent Study Modules** (ISMs) are assessed by a dissertation or substantial project report. They cannot be compensated (NC) and are subject to reassessment rules which differ from 'taught modules'. Masters programmes should include an ISM(s) of between 60 and 100 credits. This is usually one module but may be more.

### Option modules

Module title	Module code	Credit level	Credit value	Prerequisites	Assessment rules	Timing and format of main assessment	Independent Study Module?
Corporate Responsibility & Law	LAW00029M	7/M	20		n/a		
European Competition Law	LAW00014M	7/M	20		n/a		
International Business Negotiation	LAW00040M	7/M	20		n/a	Participation (30%) and coursework (70%)	
Financial Crime	LAW00042M	7/M	20		n/a	tbc	
Intellectual Property	LAW00047M	7/M	20		n/a	Coursework (100%)	
<i>Foundational Issues in Legal Theory *</i>	<i>LAW00026M</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>n/a</i>		<i>Essay SpT week 1</i>	<i>no</i>
<i>Approaches to Political Theory *</i>	<i>POL00001M</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>n/a</i>		<i>Essay SpT week 1</i>	<i>no</i>
<i>Advanced Issues in Legal Theory *</i>	<i>tbc</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>FILT</i>		<i>Essay SuT week 1</i>	<i>no</i>
<i>International Human Rights Law &amp; Advocacy **</i>	<i>POL00030M</i>	<i>Level 7</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>AuT Weeks 1-10 Written assessments</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Applying International Human Rights Law **</i>	<i>LAW00007M</i>	<i>Level 7</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>AuT Weeks 1-10 3-hour Examination</i>	<i>No</i>

- Note that options marked with \* are core modules of the LLM Legal and Political Theory and with \*\* are core modules of the LLM in International Human Rights Law and Practice, and will only be available to individual students on the LLM in International Corporate and Commercial Law as option modules if they can be suitably accommodated in that student's timetable.



<b>Transfers out of or into the programme</b>	
Not applicable	
<b>Exceptions to University Award Regulations approved by University Teaching Committee</b>	
<b>Exception</b>	<b>Date approved</b>
<b>Quality and Standards</b>	
<p>The University has a framework in place to ensure that the standards of its programmes are maintained, and the quality of the learning experience is enhanced.</p> <p>Quality assurance and enhancement processes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The academic oversight of programmes within departments by a Board of Studies, which includes student representation</li> <li>• The oversight of programmes by external examiners, who ensure that standards at the University of York are comparable with those elsewhere in the sector</li> <li>• Annual monitoring and periodic review of programmes</li> <li>• The acquisition of feedback from students by departments.</li> </ul> <p>More information can be obtained from the Academic Support Office:  <a href="http://www.york.ac.uk/about/departments/support-and-admin/academic-support/">http://www.york.ac.uk/about/departments/support-and-admin/academic-support/</a></p>	
<b>Date on which this programme information was updated:</b>	25 October 2017
<b>Departmental web page:</b>	<a href="http://www.york.ac.uk/law">www.york.ac.uk/law</a>
<b>Please note</b>	
<p>The information above provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and learning outcomes that a typical students might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the leaning opportunities that are provided.</p> <p>Detailed information on learning outcomes, content, delivery and assessment of modules can be found in module descriptions.</p> <p>The University reserves the right to modify this overview in unforeseen circumstances, or where processes of academic development, based on feedback from staff, students, external examiners or professional bodies, requires a change to be made. Students will be notified of any substantive changes at the first available opportunity.</p>	