



LLM

International Human Rights Law

Study mode

Full-time

Part-time

Duration

12 months

24 months

Apply by: **29 August 2025**

Starts on: **22 September 2025**

About this course

This programme will provide you with an in-depth knowledge and understanding of the far-reaching impact of international law on international relations, with a special emphasis on human rights issues and their relevance to domestic law.

Introduction

The Liverpool Law School is one of the oldest law departments in the UK and has a prestigious international reputation. We strive for social relevance and to influence public debate and policy at the local, national, European and international levels.

On your LLM you will be joining a cohort of diverse, international and ambitious students and taught by world-leading experts in international human rights law. Teaching is delivered in an interactive, participatory and inclusive way, with extensive support from small-group teaching and online learning platforms.

All students are given our specialised Legal Research Training which will develop your legal writing skills and enhance your research and presentation skills.

We offer an exciting range of extra-curricular and careers opportunities to produce well-rounded, employable graduates. This includes internships, pro bono projects, and talks and workshops from exciting speakers such as practising lawyers and judges who have played significant roles in uncovering miscarriages of justice or reforming the law.

Who is this course for?

This master's is suitable for graduates of Law or a relevant degree subject such as Political Science, Sociology, Philosophy, International Relations, Banking, Management Studies, Humanities, Social Sciences and Economics who have an interest and want to pursue a career in human rights in domestic, European and international law.

What you'll learn

- Advanced legal research skills that are necessary to enable you to reach a superior understanding of international human rights law
- How to analyse, evaluate and interpret primary and secondary legal sources
- How to understand and apply English, European and International legal terminology, both orally and in writing
- Critical, analytical and research skills
- Oral discussion skills by participating in debates and problem-solving exercises
- How to apply legal knowledge to practical situations

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Course content

Discover what you'll learn, what you'll study, and how you'll be taught and assessed.

Semester one

All students must take Legal Research Training and the Dissertation module (60 credits). You must select at least 3 taught specialist modules to the value of 60 credits from the list of module specialisms (see below). These required modules may vary slightly from year to year, and are chosen because of their particular contemporary relevance to the specialism of International Human Rights Law.

The remaining 60 credits may be taken from any master's programme offered by the school. This includes modules in Business and Commercial Law and Medicine and Healthcare Law. Optional modules are also available on methodology topics such as Socio-Legal Methods, Socio-Legal Theory, Quantitative Methods, Interviewing, Observation, and Focus Groups.

Your dissertation is researched and written during semester 3. The process of preparing the dissertation is supported by legal research training in semester 1, by a dissertation workshop and library training in semester 2, and by individual supervision during semester 3.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
<u>DISSERTATION (LAW540)</u>	60

Optional modules	Credits
<u>INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS (LAW511)</u>	20
<u>PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW (LAW563)</u>	20

Optional modules	Credits
<u>INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY (LAW564)</u>	20

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Semester two

All students must take Legal Research Training and the Dissertation module (60 credits). You must select at least 3 taught specialist modules to the value of 60 credits from the list of module specialisms (see below). These required modules may vary slightly from year to year, and are chosen because of their particular contemporary relevance to the specialism of International Human Rights Law.

The remaining 60 credits may be taken from any master's programme offered by the school. This includes modules in Business and Commercial Law and Medicine and Healthcare Law. Optional modules are also available on methodology topics such as Socio-Legal Methods, Socio-Legal Theory, Quantitative Methods, Interviewing, Observation, and Focus Groups.

Your dissertation is researched and written during semester 3. The process of preparing the dissertation is supported by legal research training in semester 1, by a dissertation workshop and library training in semester 2, and by individual supervision during semester 3.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
<u>DISSERTATION (LAW540)</u>	60

Optional modules	Credits
<u>HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLANNING (LAW506)</u>	20

Optional modules	Credits
<u>TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE (LAW508)</u>	20
<u>INTERNATIONAL DISPUTE SETTLEMENT (LAW521)</u>	20
<u>LAW AND GLOBAL HEALTH (LAW522)</u>	20
<u>CHILDREN'S RIGHTS AND THE LAW: THEORY AND PRACTICE (LAW562)</u>	20

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Final project

Your dissertation is researched and written during semester 3.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
<u>DISSERTATION (LAW540)</u>	60

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Teaching and assessment

How you'll learn

Teaching methods depend upon the module but most modules are taught via in-person seminars on campus. Each module will normally have a two-hour weekly seminar for a small group of students. You will have reading and other tasks to prepare for each seminar; independent study is an important part of your learning at this level. Online resources and exercises, group work and presentations all help to ensure that you develop a strong set of transferrable skills.

How you're assessed

You will usually study six modules, three modules in each of the first two terms. In the third term, over the Summer, you will complete a dissertation as the final part of your LLM studies.

The assessment of our LLM programme takes different formats according to the learning objectives of the module. Many LLM modules have two assessments: a smaller piece of work, such as a case commentary or plan mid-way through the module, followed by a more substantial essay at the end of the module. For semester one modules, the formal assessment period is January and for semester two modules the assessment period is in May-June.

Your 12,000-word dissertation will be completed during semester 3 (July to September); we provide legal research training and you will have an allocated expert supervisor so you are properly prepared and have support and guidance each step of the way.

Liverpool Hallmarks

We have a distinctive approach to education, the Liverpool Curriculum Framework, which focuses on research-connected teaching, active learning, and authentic assessment to ensure our students graduate as digitally fluent and confident global citizens.

The Liverpool Curriculum framework sets out our distinctive approach to education. Our teaching staff support our students to develop academic knowledge, skills, and understanding alongside our **graduate attributes**:

- Digital fluency
- Confidence
- Global citizenship

Our curriculum is characterised by the three **Liverpool Hallmarks**:

- Research-connected teaching
- Active learning
- Authentic assessment

All this is underpinned by our core value of **inclusivity** and commitment to providing a curriculum that is accessible to all students.

Careers and employability

Our LLM programme is designed to enhance your academic profile and to ensure that you leave us with highly marketable skills, whatever you decide that market to be.

We organise regular careers events and routinely play host to law firms and other organisations who wish to come and meet our students. There is an annual law fair, giving you the opportunity to meet future legal employers. Academic staff in the Law School and Careers and Employability also offer invaluable careers advice and support.

Every year, our LLM graduates become members of the Inns of Court, secure scholarships for vocational training, and obtain vacation placements, training contracts, and mini-pupillage opportunities from a range of providers. Many have successful careers as members of the legal profession in the UK and overseas including Judges of the Court of Appeal, the High Court and the County Courts.

Past LLM graduates have embarked on a wide variety of professions outside the law as well, in careers within:

- Politics
- Policy work
- Banking
- Charities and international non-governmental organisations
- Business management
- Accounting and finance
- NHS, police and emergency services

This LLM also provides you with an ideal opportunity to gain advanced specialist knowledge in preparation for further postgraduate research.

Career support from day one to graduation and beyond

Career planning

From education to employment

Networking events

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Fees and funding

Your tuition fees, funding your studies, and other costs to consider.

Tuition fees

UK fees (applies to Channel Islands, Isle of Man and Republic of Ireland)

Full-time place, per year - £11,700

Part-time place, per year - £5,850

International fees

Full-time place, per year - £24,100

Part-time place, per year - £12,050

Fees stated are for the 2025-26 academic year.

Tuition fees cover the cost of your teaching and assessment, operating facilities such as libraries, IT equipment, and access to academic and personal support.

- You can [pay your tuition fees in instalments](#).
- All or part of your tuition fees can be [funded by external sponsorship](#).
- International applicants who accept an offer of a place will need to [pay a tuition fee deposit](#).

If you're a UK national, or have settled status in the UK, you may be eligible to apply for a Postgraduate Loan worth up to £12,167 to help with course fees and living costs. [Learn more about paying for your studies](#).

Additional costs

We understand that budgeting for your time at university is important, and we want to make sure you understand any course-related costs that are not covered by your tuition fee. This could include buying a laptop, books, or stationery.

Find out more about the [additional study costs](#) that may apply to this course.

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Entry requirements

The qualifications and exam results you'll need to apply for this course.

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Postgraduate entry requirements

We accept a 2:2 honours degree from a UK university, or an equivalent academic qualification from a similar non-UK institution. This degree should be in Law (BA or LLB) or a closely related subject, including Political Science, Sociology, Philosophy, International Relations, Banking, Management Studies, Humanities, Social Sciences and Economics.

Applicants are considered on the basis of academic ability, potential and other relevant considerations are also taken into account. Applicants who have marginally missed the benchmark indicated above are considered on a discretionary basis.

International qualifications

Select your country or region to view specific entry requirements.

Many countries have a different education system to that of the UK, meaning your qualifications may not meet our entry requirements. Completing your Foundation Certificate, such as that offered by the University of Liverpool International College, means you're guaranteed a place on your chosen course.

English language requirements

You'll need to demonstrate competence in the use of English language, unless you're from a majority English speaking country.

We accept a variety of international language tests and country-specific qualifications.

International applicants who do not meet the minimum required standard of English language can complete one of our [Pre-Sessional English courses](#) to achieve the required level.

IELTS

6.5 overall, with no component below 6.0

TOEFL iBT

88 overall, with minimum scores of listening 19, writing 19, reading 19 and speaking 20. TOEFL Home Edition not accepted.

Duolingo English Test

125 overall, with writing not less than 125, speaking and reading not less than 115, and listening not below 110

Pearson PTE Academic

61 overall, with no component below 59

LanguageCert Academic

70 overall, with no skill below 65

PSI Skills for English

B2 Pass with Merit in all bands

INDIA Standard XII

National Curriculum (CBSE/ISC) - 75% and above in English. Accepted State Boards - 80% and above in English.

WAEC

C6 or above

Pre-sessional English

Do you need to complete a Pre-sessional English course to meet the English language requirements for this course?

The length of Pre-sessional English course you'll need to take depends on your current level of English language ability.

Pre-sessional English in detail

If you don't meet our English language requirements, we can use your most recent IELTS score, or [the equivalent score in selected other English language tests](#), to determine the length of Pre-sessional English course you require.

Use the table below to check the course length you're likely to require for your current English language ability and see whether the course is available on campus or online.

Your most recent IELTS score	Pre-sessional English course length	On campus or online
6.0 overall, with no component below 6.0	6 weeks	On campus
6.0 overall, with no component below 5.5	10 weeks	On campus and online options available
6.0 overall, with no more than one component below 5.5, and no component below 5.0	12 weeks	On campus and online options available
5.5 overall, with no more than one component below 5.5, and no component below 5.0	20 weeks	On campus
5.0 overall, with no more than one component below 5.0, and no component below 4.5	30 weeks	On campus

Your most recent IELTS score	Pre-sessional English course length	On campus or online
4.5 overall, with no more than one component below 4.5, and no component below 4.0	40 weeks	On campus

If you've completed an alternative English language test to IELTS, we may be able to use this to assess your English language ability and determine the Pre-sessional English course length you require.

Please see our guide to [Pre-sessional English entry requirements](#) for IELTS 6.5 overall, with no component below 6.0, for further details.

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