



LLM in International Finance & Banking Law

By the end of the programme, you will have an advanced understanding of the framework that governs international financial markets and transactions, and a keen awareness of current and likely future developments. Whether you are a practising lawyer or have broader responsibilities, this LLM will enable you to advance your career in both the legal profession and the financial services sector.

PROGRAMME OUTLINE

- Our LLM in International Finance & Banking Law is a specialist Master of Laws degree that will equip you with the skills and knowledge to manage the demands of the global financial industry within a legal context. It provides a firm foundation in commercial law and the opportunity to pursue your interest in specific areas of corporate and regulatory legislation.
- Our virtual classroom is the ideal environment for practising lawyers and finance professionals to learn together and from each other. Reflecting the cross-border and cross-discipline reality of global markets and organisations, it brings together students from around the world in a dynamic, collaborative forum. Together you will discover and debate the nature and development of the legal context that shapes the world financial industry. This online exchange of different legal and industry perspectives provides new opportunities for learning that a traditional classroom cannot match.
- Core modules cover legal methodology, conflict of laws in business and commerce, aspects of banking law, international finance law, international taxation law, law of the World Trade Organization and international law and foreign investment. You can then personalise your Masters with an elective module chosen from law of business organisations, law of the European Single Market, corporate governance and international money laundering regulation. You complete your degree with an original dissertation.
- You will graduate with specialist legal expertise that is vital to organisations operating in highly competitive international financial markets. Your familiarity with the language and operational

legal detail of international finance – securities, loans, bonds and derivatives – will complement your ability to think strategically and untangle highly complex legal requirements. Your advanced qualification will give you a secure platform on which to develop your career in a range of legal and commercial environments.

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

- The programme comprises two preparatory modules, six core modules and two electives, culminating in a dissertation.
- You will follow two non-credit bearing modules (Student Readiness Orientation and Foundations for Academic Success) that will prepare you for your online learning experience. For more information about these required preparatory modules refer to the [Centre for Student Success document](#).
- The first module will be nine weeks in length (two half weeks and seven full weeks). Each subsequent module lasts eight weeks. You take one module at a time in order to study a specific subject in-depth without distractions.

REQUIRED MODULES

Legal methodology

Aim: To provide a comprehensive grounding in the specialist skills and perspectives necessary for independent legal reading and presentation.

- The structured exercises that comprise this module will help you develop appropriate skills and introduce you to intellectual perspectives over a range of international, European and domestic legal subject areas. You will work on reading, writing and presentation techniques and receive specific counselling on legal writing skills.

Conflict of laws in business and commerce

Aim: To introduce the theoretical basis of conflict of laws and the purpose of rules in law.

- This module provides an introduction to conflict of laws, including its theoretical basis, the purpose of the rules and issues of particular relevance to business. You will study issues such as where to litigate, and the jurisdiction of the English courts under the common law rules, the Brussels Convention/Regulation and the Lugano Convention. You will cover the choice of law in contract, torts and in relation to movable and immovable property, including issues such as jurisdiction, renvoi and expropriation. You will develop a view on what system should govern e-commerce and examine the recognition and enforcement of foreign judgments.

Aspects of banking law

Aim: To analyse the role of the banking sector and issues relating to bank regulation.

- This module focuses particularly on the shortcomings of banking regulators. You will study the development of the banker/customer relationship with an emphasis on bank confidentiality and money laundering regimes. You will also look at mitigating factors in banking transactions, such as undue influence and duress, with special reference to the impact of third-party behaviour (O'Brien and the subsequent cases).

International Financial Services Law

Aim: To provide a basic overview of financial services law by identifying and developing issues regarding regulation of financial services in the 21st century.

- This module introduces the importance of the increasing internationalisation and globalisation of financial markets and services, and the need to see international financial services law as an important part of international business law. You will come to appreciate both the contractual aspects

of financial services law, as well as regulatory approaches that are increasingly international ones.

International Taxation Law

Aim: To introduce the fundamental legal principles of taxation of international income.

- This module examines issues such as taxation of the income from inbound and outbound investment, double taxation, fiscal incentives for investment and income tax treaties.

International law and foreign investment

Aim: To examine the problems concerning the legal regulation of foreign investment.

- This module examines responses to these problems at the national, bilateral and multilateral level. You will study legal frameworks as well as the law and policy issues involved. You will also examine the concerns of developed and developing countries. In addition, you will address the interrelationships between foreign investment regulation and environmental and social concerns, and consider the role of civil society in international law and policy-making.

ELECTIVE MODULES

Law of business organisations

Aim: To analyse the relationships arising out of different business organisations and in particular the legal effects of establishing limited liability companies.

- This module introduces different forms of business organisations, such as partnerships and LLPs. You will explore the relationships arising out of different business organisations, including those between partners; partners and third parties; contractual obligations; rules of agency law as applicable to partners, and dissolution of the partnership. You will then look at the limited liability partnership and the changes to general partnership it has

entailed. Finally, you will explore the different types of limited liability company, the legal effect of establishing such a company, and rules relating to management and contractual capacity.

Law of the European Single Market

Aim: To examine the core aspects of the European single market.

- This module focuses on a range of issues affecting trade in the single market, such as customs duties and discriminatory internal taxation; the free movement of goods and services; treaty derogations and mandatory requirements; private barriers to movement and relationship with fundamental rights; forms of harmonisation and their relationship to the primary Treaty provisions; market management by the Commission; and theories of regulatory competition and social dumping.

Corporate governance

Aim: To examine different systems of corporate governance.

- On completing this module, you will be able to describe, analyse and critique key matters of process and structure that constitute systems of corporate governance on an international scale.

International money laundering regulation

Aim: To provide a comparative study of UK and international responses to the problems of money laundering and economic crime.

- In this module you will undertake a comparative survey of major countries, including the history of financial crimes and their regulation, methods of money-laundering, the uses and abuses of off-shore financial centres, and international regulation of money movements. You will also learn about the increasing role that tax counsel plays in compliance and due diligence investigations.

Law of the World Trade Organization

Aim: To examine the role of traditional international law in economic relations.

- In this module you will examine the principal non-state actors, such as the World Bank Group, WTO, UNCTAD, OECD, and regional trading blocs such as the EU. You will also study basic GATT/WTO principles, WTO dispute settlement and the treatment of issues including dumping and subsidies, foreign investment, regulation of multinational corporations, protection of the environment and transfer of technology.

DISSERTATION

Aim: To undertake a piece of original research to demonstrate your mastery and integration of knowledge you have acquired during the programme.

- You will choose your dissertation topic in conjunction with your personal dissertation advisor, an academic supervisor, who will provide support throughout the study and writing process. Your dissertation will apply your new knowledge and work experience and must have merit beyond the narrower scope of your particular need.