

LLM (General)



Birmingham Law School's General LLM gives you the opportunity to decide which areas of law have the most relevance to your future career and to choose modules that most interest you. This is the ideal programme if you wish to gain Masters-level knowledge and skills without restricting yourself to just one particular branch of law.

The programme provides one of the widest ranges of options in the UK with nearly 50 modules available, enabling you to create a unique degree tailored to your future career aspirations.

[Study here and find out why the University of Birmingham was awarded The Times and The Sunday Times University of the Year 2013-14](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/news/latest/2013/09/20-sep-Birmingham-announced-as-University-of-the-Year.aspx)
[\(<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/news/latest/2013/09/20-sep-Birmingham-announced-as-University-of-the-Year.aspx>\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/news/latest/2013/09/20-sep-Birmingham-announced-as-University-of-the-Year.aspx)

Course fact file

Type of Course: Taught

Study Options: Full time, part time

Duration: 1 year full-time; 2 years part-time

Start date: September

Contact

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[Birmingham Law School \(/schools/law/index.aspx\)](/schools/law/index.aspx)

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Details



The General LLM programme allows you to study modules across the full range of available subjects. This programme is particularly suitable to those seeking exposure to a range of legal disciplines, giving students expertise across the board and providing the skills and knowledge required for a successful legal career.

Why study this course

- **Research-led teaching** - Birmingham Law School are ranked 7th in the UK for world-leading and internationally excellent research

- **Module choice** - One of the widest ranges of LLM modules available in the UK

- **Employability** - Birmingham is one of the top universities in the UK for graduate employment
- **Professional links** - annual law fair, visits to and from leading firms
- **Dedicated facilities** - including the **[Harding Law Library \(/schools/law/life/index.aspx\)](/schools/law/life/index.aspx)** and Law common room
- **Student experience** - **[see what our students have to say \(/schools/law/courses/llm/llm-profiles.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/llm-profiles.aspx)** about our degrees

Modules

You follow a modular programme (180 credits in total), which comprises six taught modules (20 credits each) and a dissertation of 15,000 words (60 credits); the latter to be submitted at the end of the year of study.

Students on the general LLM programme choose six modules from the range available across all the LLM programmes and write a dissertation on a subject of their choice.

The modules available are:

- [Agency \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-law-of-agency.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-law-of-agency.aspx)
- [Banking Law \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-banking-law.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-banking-law.aspx)
- [British Legal Responses to Terrorism \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-british-legal-responses-to-terrorism.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-british-legal-responses-to-terrorism.aspx)
- [Commercial Conflict of Laws \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-commercial-conflict-of-laws.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-commercial-conflict-of-laws.aspx)
- [Company Law \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-company.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-company.aspx)
- [Comparative International Commercial Arbitration \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-comparative-international-commercial-arbitration.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-comparative-international-commercial-arbitration.aspx)
- [Criminal Justice: Law Enforcement \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-criminal-justice-law-enforcement.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-criminal-justice-law-enforcement.aspx)
- [Criminal Law and Medicine \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-criminal-law-and-medicine.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-criminal-law-and-medicine.aspx)
- [Cyberlaw \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-cyberlaw.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-cyberlaw.aspx)
- [The Death Penalty in Law and Practice \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-death-penalty-in-law-and-practice.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-death-penalty-in-law-and-practice.aspx)
- [Domestic Sale of Goods \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-law-of-domestic-sale-of-goods.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-law-of-domestic-sale-of-goods.aspx)
- [English Law of International Sale of Goods \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-english-law-of-international-sale-of-goods.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-english-law-of-international-sale-of-goods.aspx)
- [Environmental Energy Law \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-environmental-energy-law.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-environmental-energy-law.aspx)
- EU Competition Law
- [EU Constitutional Law \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-eu-constitutional-law.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-eu-constitutional-law.aspx)
- [EU State Aid Law and Policy \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-EU-state-aid-law-policy.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-EU-state-aid-law-policy.aspx)
- [European Criminal Law \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-european-criminal-law-and-justice.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-european-criminal-law-and-justice.aspx)
- [European Health Law \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-european-health-law.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-european-health-law.aspx)
- [European Human Rights Law \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-european-human-rights-law.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-european-human-rights-law.aspx)
- [Financing of International Trade \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-financing-of-international-trade.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-financing-of-international-trade.aspx)
- [Global Crime Problems \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-global-crime-problems.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-global-crime-problems.aspx)
- [Human Rights and Criminal Justice \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-human-rights-and-criminal-justice.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-human-rights-and-criminal-justice.aspx)
- [Human Rights and Health Care Law \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-human-rights-and-health-care-law.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-human-rights-and-health-care-law.aspx)
- [Intellectual Property Law \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-intellectual-property-law.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-intellectual-property-law.aspx)
- [International and Comparative Oil and Gas Law \(upstream\) \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-international-and-comparative-oil-and-gas-law-upstream.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-international-and-comparative-oil-and-gas-law-upstream.aspx)
- [International and European Legal Responses to Terrorism \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-international-and-european-legal-responses-to-terrorism.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-international-and-european-legal-responses-to-terrorism.aspx)
- [International Criminal Law \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-international-criminal-law.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-international-criminal-law.aspx)
- [International Humanitarian Law \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-international-humanitarian-law.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-international-humanitarian-law.aspx)
- [International Human Rights Law \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-international-human-rights-law.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-international-human-rights-law.aspx)
- [International Investment Law and Policy \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-international-investment-law.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-international-investment-law.aspx)
- [International Trade Law and Policy - Advanced Issues \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-international-trade-law-advanced-issues.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-international-trade-law-advanced-issues.aspx)
- [International Trade Law and Policy - Foundations \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-international-trade-law-foundations.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-international-trade-law-foundations.aspx)
- [Law and Reproduction \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-law-reproduction.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-law-reproduction.aspx)
- [Law of International Organisations \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-law-of-international-organisations.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-law-of-international-organisations.aspx)
- [Legal Aspects of Banking Regulation \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-legal-aspects-banking-regulation.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-legal-aspects-banking-regulation.aspx)
- [Marine Insurance \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-marine-insurance.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-marine-insurance.aspx)
- [Maritime Law \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-maritime-law.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-maritime-law.aspx)
- [Mentally Disordered Offenders \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-mentally-disordered-offenders.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-mentally-disordered-offenders.aspx)
- [Oil and Gas Law: Contracting, Decommissioning and Trade \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-oil-and-gas-law-contracting-decommissioning-and-trade.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-oil-and-gas-law-contracting-decommissioning-and-trade.aspx)
- [Partnership and LLP Law \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-partnership-and-llp-law.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-partnership-and-llp-law.aspx)
- [Public International Law \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-public-international-law.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-public-international-law.aspx)
- [Public Procurement Law \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-public-procurement-law.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-public-procurement-law.aspx)
- [Restorative Justice \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-restorative-justice.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-restorative-justice.aspx)
- [Sentencing: Prison Studies \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-sentencing-2-prison-studies.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-sentencing-2-prison-studies.aspx)
- [Socio-Legal Method \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-socio-legal-method.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-socio-legal-method.aspx)
- [Socio-Legal Theory \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-socio-legal-theory.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-socio-legal-theory.aspx)
- [Theory of Criminal Law \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-theory-of-criminal-law.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-theory-of-criminal-law.aspx)
- [Trading with the European Union \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-trading-with-the-european-union.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-trading-with-the-european-union.aspx)
- [Transnational Criminal Law \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-transnational-criminal-law.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-transnational-criminal-law.aspx)
- [Victimisation and Victim Policy \(/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-victimisation-and-victim-policy.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/modules/LLM-victimisation-and-victim-policy.aspx)

Students are also allowed to choose one of their six modules from those offered by the Political Science and International Studies department. Students may choose from the following list:

- [Civil War, Conflict and International Intervention \(/postgraduate/courses/taught/govsoc/modules/civil-war-conflict-international-intervention.aspx\)](#)
- [Democracy, Power and Citizenship \(/postgraduate/courses/taught/govsoc/modules/democracy-power-citizenship.aspx\)](#)
- [Ethical Dimensions of Terrorism, Political Violence and War \(/postgraduate/courses/taught/govsoc/modules/ethical-dimensions-terrorism-political-violence-war.aspx\)](#)
- [Gender and Global Governance \(/postgraduate/courses/taught/govsoc/modules/gender-global-governance.aspx\)](#)
- Global Ethics 1
- [Multiculturalism and Religious Conflict \(/postgraduate/courses/taught/govsoc/modules/multiculturalsim-religious-conflict.aspx\)](#)
- [Post-Conflict Peacebuilding and International Order \(/postgraduate/courses/taught/govsoc/modules/post-conflict-peacebuilding-international-order.aspx\)](#)
- [Sex, Death, Gender and \(In\) Security \(/postgraduate/courses/taught/govsoc/modules/sex-death-gender-security.aspx\)](#)
- [Terrorism and Contemporary Conflict \(/postgraduate/courses/taught/govsoc/modules/terrorism-contemporary-conflict.aspx\)](#)
- [Totalitarianism And The State \(/postgraduate/courses/taught/govsoc/modules/totalitarianism-state.aspx\)](#)

Fees and funding

Fees for 2015/16 are:

- Home/EU: £6,210 full-time; £3,105 part-time
- Overseas: £14,140 full-time

For part-time students, the above fee quoted is for year one only and tuition fees will also be payable in year two of your programme.

Tuition fees can either be paid in full or by instalments.

Eligibility for Home/EU or Overseas fees can be verified with Admissions. Learn more about [fees for international students \(/http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/International/students/finance/fees.aspx\)](#)

Learn more about [postgraduate tuition fees and funding \(/http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/postgraduate/pgt-fees/index.aspx\)](#).

LLM scholarships

For 2015 entry Birmingham Law School is offering a range of scholarships to applicants for the taught LLM programmes.

- up to £5,000 for international students (non-EU)
- up to £2,000 for UK/EU students

Applicants are required to send a letter of motivation to Law-LLM@bham.ac.uk (<mailto:Law-LLM@bham.ac.uk>) addressing the twin requirements of academic merit and financial need. You must include your University ID number in your letter of motivation. Please also attach an up to date transcript of your degree performance.

The closing date for the receipt of Scholarship applications is Friday, 19 June 2015.

Successful applicants will be notified in July 2015. Scholarships are not payable directly but are set off against the University fee invoice for 2015-2016 and will be transferred once successful applicants have paid the balance owed by them to the University.

University scholarships

Scholarships to cover fees and/or maintenance costs may be available. To discover whether you are eligible for any award across the University, and to start your funding application, please visit the University's [Postgraduate Funding Database \(/http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/fees/funding/FundingFilter.aspx\)](#).

International students can often gain funding through overseas research scholarships, Commonwealth scholarships or their home government.

Alumni Bursary

The University of Birmingham is offering awards of £2,000 to outstanding alumni wishing to undertake Masters study at the University during 2015. There are 50 awards available and applications for the bursary must be submitted by 17:00 on 31 March 2015. Full details and how to apply can be found on the [Distinguished Alumni Scholarship \(/http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/postgraduate/funding/Distinguished-Alumni-Scholarship-scheme.aspx\)](#) page.

Entry requirements

Applicants should have a good Honours degree in law, or a degree in another discipline augmented with a pass in the Common Professional Examination.

International students:

International qualifications which are equivalent to a UK honours degree in Law will be considered. Learn more about [international entry requirements \(/postgraduate/requirements-pgt/international/index.aspx\)](#)

If your first language is not English you must provide an English language qualification. Recognised qualifications include:

- IELTS: 7.0 with no less than 6.5 in any band

How to apply

Before you make your application

You may wish to [register your interest with us \(/https://bham.hobsons.co.uk/emtinterestpage.aspx?ip=postgraduate\)](https://bham.hobsons.co.uk/emtinterestpage.aspx?ip=postgraduate) to receive regular news and updates on postgraduate life within this Department and the wider University.

Making your application

Learn more about [applying \(/postgraduate/courses/apply-pg/index.aspx\)](#)

[Apply now \(https://pga.bham.ac.uk/lpages/CAL008.htm\)](https://pga.bham.ac.uk/lpages/CAL008.htm)

Related links

[The Birmingham LLM programmes \(/schools/law/courses/llm/index.aspx\)](/schools/law/courses/llm/index.aspx)

Learning and teaching



Birmingham's LLM programmes have been designed to allow in-depth analysis of important legal topics. Modules are all 20 credits in length, comprising 10 two-hour seminars, to enable students to develop significant expertise which will enhance their career prospects.

Birmingham is able to offer small-group teaching on the LLM and students following popular modules with large numbers of students will receive (where possible) additional teaching time. For these additional hours large classes will be split in to two separate seminar groups in order to provide an equal opportunity for class interaction compared to those in smaller groups.

The LLM programmes last 12 months, running from September to September. All LLM programmes follow the same basic structure.

- In part I of the programmes, you take six 20 credit modules: the range of choice depends on the programme you decide to follow. Assessment in those modules, by essay or formal examination, is in May and June.
- In part II of the programmes, you research and write a 15,000-word dissertation on a selected topic of law under the supervision of a member of staff.

The LLM programmes enable you to develop expertise in a range of subjects. You will acquire a systematic understanding of these along with a critical appreciation of the problems that arise these fields. You will be encouraged to demonstrate originality in the application of knowledge together with a practical understanding of how established research techniques are used to create and interpret knowledge.

Law School induction

At the start of the course there is a two-day induction designed to help you settle in and gain an understanding of the LLM programme.

Students do not register for modules before arrival as we feel it is important that you are able to make an informed choice. As part of the induction process module leaders will give a detailed description of what their subject entails and you will have the option to attend any areas which you are interested in for the first two weeks of the course before having to submit a final decision.

Studying part-time

All the LLM programmes may be taken part-time and completed over a period of two years. This mode of study is particularly suitable for barristers and solicitors who wish to combine professional practice with university-level study, gaining CPD points in the process.

Classes for part-time students on the LLM will be scheduled between 9am-6pm and students will typically have between 2-4 hours of teaching each week. Fees are the same as for full-time study but are split over two years.

International students

International students are invited to participate in an orientation course run by the university's International Office before the start of the academic session. For students from outside the UK, there are also lectures on the British constitution, sources of English law and the working methods of the common law system. The English for International Students Unit provides a range of support in reading and writing academic English.

Employability



The University of Birmingham has been ranked 8th in the UK and 60th in the world, for post-qualification employability in a global survey of universities commissioned by the International Herald Tribune. Historically, over 93% of our law students have been in employment or further study within six months of graduating, with many going on to obtain academic careers in the top law schools in the country.

Links to the Legal Profession

The Law School maintains strong links with the professional world, through our network of alumni and contacts in the barristers' and solicitors' professions. These links allow us to put on a series of law careers events throughout the academic year.

Each autumn, the University hosts the Law Fair, in which we welcome over 50 law firms, including some of the largest law firms in the world, to the

University's Great Hall. The attendees represent law firms of all sizes and most areas of practice.

The Law School also organises "Law in Practice" seminars, in which practitioners explain to students how the area of law relevant to a specific module works in practice. These are invaluable opportunities for students to enhance their studies, and enable them to improve their commercial awareness.

In June each year, the Law School hosts "Employability Fortnight", after the end of the examinations period in the summer term. The events which run in this fortnight

have included an Applications Process Panel Session, a Midlands Circuit Court Visit followed by an Inner Temple Drinks Reception in the evening, an Alternative Dispute Resolution Workshop by Herbert Smith, and dedicated Careers Advice Drop-in Sessions.

The Careers Network

The Careers Network (<https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/as/employability/careers/index.aspx>) organises regular events including presentations by top law firms and the annual Law Fair. It also runs workshops to help students prepare effective applications and to prepare for their next move. Its events on non-law careers, including journalism, marketing and working with charities, can be of interest to law students.

Mooting

The Law School organises a range of mooting opportunities and students have the opportunity to participate (a moot is a mock trial of a legal issue). The Moot Room was refurbished in 2011 and is now a state-of-the-art court room, complete with audio-visual equipment for recording moots. The Law School operates four mooting competitions, and students regularly represent the University at regional and national competitions, with notable success.

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