Programme Specification: Post Graduate Taught

For Academic Year 2025/26

1. Course Summary

Names of programme and award title(s)	LLM in International Law LLM in International Law with Placement (see Annex for details)
Award type	Taught Masters
Mode of study	Full-time Modular Part-time
Framework of Higher Education Qualification (FHEQ) level of final award	Level 7
Normal length of the programme	Two or more years (up to five years) modular basis Full-time option: 12 months; 'with Placement' version: 18-24 months Part-time option: 24 months; 'with Placement' version: 30-36 months
Maximum period of registration	The normal length as specified above plus 3 years
Location of study	Keele Campus
Accreditation (if applicable)	n/a
Regulator	Office for Students (OfS)
Tuition Fees	**UK students:** Full-time fee for 2025/26 is £10,100 Part-time fee for 2025/26 is £5,600* **International students:** Full-time fee for 2025/26 is £17,700 The fee for the placement is calculated at 20% of the regulated Home undergraduate tuition fee for that year of study.

How this information might change: *Please read the important information at http://www.keele.ac.uk/student-agreement/. This explains how and why we may need to make changes to the information provided in this document and to help you understand how we will communicate with you if this happens.*

** We reserve the right to increase fees in subsequent years of study by an inflationary amount. Please refer to the accompanying Student Terms & Conditions for full details. Further information on fees can be found at http://www.keele.ac.uk/studentfunding/tuitionfees/*

2. Overview of the Programme

The aim of the LLM in International Law is to provide humanities and social science graduates from a diverse range of countries with the opportunity to study the fundamentals of International Law at an advanced level as well as to explore more specialised issues of contemporary significance in International Law fields. The programme adopts an interdisciplinary focus. You will be given the chance to choose from a wide range of

optional modules offered within the Law School as well as the School of Social Sciences and the Language Centre.

Why study international law?

There has never been a more exciting time to study international law. International law finds itself at the forefront of public debates more than ever before. The prosecution of war criminals, the fight against climate change, the management of pandemics, or the regulation of global trade and financial markets are all areas in which international law plays a major role. International law does not only affect the behaviour of states and intergovernmental institutions. Neither is it simply a discipline of diplomats, academics and philosophers. International law today dominates the activity of transnational corporations, NGOS and individuals, from footballers to victims of human rights violations. As a result, governments, international institutions, NGOS, businesses and law firms are increasingly looking for individuals capable of dealing with complex issues of transnational law.

Why study international law at Keele?

The Keele Law School has a long tradition of academic expertise in the field of international law. International law has been taught at Keele by world-renowned experts such as Michael Akehurst and Patrick Thornberry. Continuing this tradition, in recent years, the Keele Law School has invested heavily in the area of international law. You will be taught by dynamic academic staff with a wide range of expertise and research interests.

Keele's LLM in International Law embraces an interdisciplinary approach. You are given the chance to choose from a wide range of modules not only offered within the Law School, but also by the School of Social Sciences and the Language Centre - making this programme truly interdisciplinary. Language studies, particularly in the core UN languages, enable you to increase your range of transferable skills. You will also have the opportunity to deepen your understanding and knowledge of the field of international law in the context of the dissertation.

Career opportunities

The LLM in International Law will enable entry into a range of occupations where specialist expertise knowledge is needed. It provides an ideal basis for those seeking employment as international law practitioners in relevant national and international organisations (government agencies, UN bodies, NGOs), multinational corporations, or transnational law firms. Equally, the programme will equip students for further study in the form of a postgraduate research programme, such as a PhD, by providing appropriate research training and an introduction to key thinkers and scholarship.

3. Aims of the programme

The aims of the LLM in International Law are to:

- Provide students with a practical and theoretical understanding of the role, nature and functioning of international law.
- Encourage students to develop a critical awareness of the social, historical and political contexts in which international law operates.
- Develop students' research skills in the context of supervised research on an agreed topic in public international law and encourage the production of original and creative scholarship.
- Encourage students to develop critical, analytical and problem-solving skills which can be applied to a wide range of legal and non-legal contexts.
- Provide a strong educational foundation that enhances a student's prospects of professional, commercial or academic employment.

4. What you will learn

Intended Learning Outcomes

Students who complete the LLM in International Law will be able to:

- Demonstrate advance knowledge and understanding of international law concepts, rules and institutions within a policy context.
- Demonstrate critical awareness of current problems and new insights in the discipline of international law.
- Demonstrate awareness of the relevance of international law to current international affairs.
- Articulate a clear assessment of differing critical positions, demonstrating skills of judgment and reasoning.
- Use the specific techniques and methodologies of international legal scholarship.
- Identify and use primary and secondary materials in international law.
- Analyse problems arising in international law and formulate reasoned and justified legal arguments.
- Plan and successfully undertake a large piece of independent research.
- Evaluate and respond to criticism and alternative arguments.
- Think creatively and independently about international law issues.

Keele Graduate attributes

The Keele Graduate Attributes are the qualities (skills, values and mindsets) which you will have the opportunity to develop during your time at Keele through both the formal curriculum and also through co- and extra-curricular activities (e.g., work experience, and engagement with the wider University community such as acting as ambassadors, volunteering, peer mentoring, student representation, membership and leadership of clubs and societies). Our Graduate Attributes consist of four themes: **academic expertise, professional skills, personal effectiveness, and social and ethical responsibility.** You will have opportunities to engage actively with the range of attributes throughout your time at Keele: through your academic studies, through self-assessing your own strengths, weaknesses, and development needs, and by setting personal development goals. You will have opportunities to discuss your progress in developing graduate attributes with, for example, Academic Mentors, to prepare for your future career and lives beyond Keele.

5. How is the programme taught?

Learning and Teaching Methods:

The compulsory modules are weighted 30 credits (broadly equivalent to 300 hours work of which some 20 will be contact time). Optional modules will be either 15 credits or 30 credits (broadly equivalent to 150 or 300 hours work of which some 20 hours will be contact time), and all are semester-long. Before they begin the taught modules, students will be provided with an introduction to studying Law at Keele University via an information pack, pre-course reading list and induction sessions. During each taught module, students will take part in lectures, tutor-led seminars and discussions, small group exercises, and case studies. Each module is accompanied by extensive independent study and throughout the course students are encouraged and required to undertake independent reading to both supplement and consolidate the classes and to broaden individual knowledge and comprehension of the subject.

Enabling Learners to Achieve the Stated Learning Outcomes:

All students receive initial guidance on how to identify, locate and use materials available in libraries and elsewhere (including electronic sources). Guidelines are provided for the production of coursework assignments and dissertations and these are reinforced by seminars and individual supervision, which focus specifically on essay planning and writing, and research methodology. Detailed written and, if requested, oral feedback is provided on all course work. There is also time set aside during each module and outside of the modules, if preferred, for students to consult individually with teaching staff and receive guidance and feedback on assessment and module performance.

6. Teaching Staff

The programme is delivered by an international faculty, which has a diverse body of expertise and qualifications in both legal practice and research. Most members of the Law School teach on our postgraduate programmes, including the compulsory and optional modules for the programme. Individual staff biographies can be found at: http://www.keele.ac.uk/law/people/

The University will attempt to minimise changes to our core teaching teams, however, delivery of the programme depends on having a sufficient number of staff with the relevant expertise to ensure that the programme is taught to the appropriate academic standard.

Staff turnover, for example where key members of staff leave, fall ill or go on research leave, may result in changes to the programme's content. The University will endeavour to ensure that any impact on students is limited if such changes occur.

7. What is the structure of the programme?

The academic year runs from September to September and is divided into three semesters. The number of weeks of teaching will vary from course to course, but you can generally expect to attend scheduled teaching sessions between the end of September and mid-December, and from mid-January to the end of April. Our degree courses are organised into modules. Each module is usually a self- contained unit of study and each is usually assessed separately with the award of credits on the basis of 1 credit = 10 hours of student effort. An outline of the structure of the programme is provided in the tables below.

There are two types of module delivered as part of your programme. They are:

- Compulsory modules - a module that you are required to study on this course;
- Optional modules - these allow you some limited choice of what to study from a list of modules.

A summary of the credit requirements per year is as follows.

Module Lists

Level 7

Compulsory modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Principles of International Law	LAW-40106	30	Semester 1
Research Methods and Dissertation	LAW-40116	60	Semester 1-2

Optional modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Introduction to Human Rights Law and Theory	LAW-40108	30	Semester 1
Continuity and Change in World Politics	PIR-40172	30	Semester 1
International Environmental and Climate Law	LAW-40110	30	Semester 2
International Law, Security and Warfare	LAW-40112	30	Semester 2
International Economic and Commercial Law	LAW-40114	30	Semester 2
International Human Rights Law	LAW-40124	30	Semester 2

The programme is structured around one compulsory module, Principles of International Law (30 credits), and the Dissertation (60 credits). Principles of International Law sets the scene for the programme by providing an in-depth introduction to the core principles, structures and categories of public international law.

Students in the LLM in International Law will take an additional 90 credits of optional modules offered by the Law School, Social Sciences, and the Language Centre. In semester 1, students can select two 15-credit modules offered by the Language Centre and the School of Social Science. In semester 2, students can select two 30-credit modules offered by the Law School. Availability of these optional modules will depend on timetabling and other circumstances.

Students have the flexibility to choose whether to complete the entire programme in one year as a full-time student or to take one of our flexible part-time pathways. Credits cannot be awarded for the dissertation unless all taught modules are successfully completed. Through the flexible part-time pathways, students may choose from the options below. The compulsory module Principles of International Law must be taken in year one.

- Take all 120 credits from taught modules in year one and the dissertation in year two;
- Take 60 credits from taught modules per year for two years and the dissertation in year three;
- Take 30 credits from taught modules per year for four years and the dissertation in year five;
- Take another combination of modules over any period of time up to four years, followed by the dissertation.

Part-time structure (two year version)

Year 1		
Semester 1	Semester 2	Semester 3
Principles of International Law (LAW-40106)	Option from Semester 2 list	N/A
Year 2		
Option from Semester 1 list	Option from Semester 2 list	Dissertation (LAW-40116)

In order to achieve the LLM qualification, students must successfully complete 120 credits of taught modules before producing a dissertation of between 15,000 - 20,000 words. The dissertation module, which includes

research training, is worth 60 credits. To achieve an LLM, 180 credits are required. Students may begin preparatory work on the dissertation during the taught part of their programme but cannot be awarded credits for the dissertation until they have completed and passed all the taught modules.

If students do not wish to take the dissertation module, they may complete their studies after successfully completing 120 credits of taught modules [including the compulsory module] with a Postgraduate Diploma (PGDip), or after completing 60 credits [including the compulsory module] with a Postgraduate Certificate (PGCert). Students who wish to finish after completing only 30 credits may apply to have those credits applied to a different programme at a later date (depending on the programme).

Learning Outcomes

The table below sets out what students learn in the programme and the modules in which that learning takes place. Details of how learning outcomes are assessed through these modules can be found in module specifications.

Subject Knowledge and Understanding	
Learning Outcome	**Module in which this is delivered**
Knowledge and close understanding of international law rules, doctrines and institutions within a policy context	Research Methods and Dissertation - LAW-40116 Principles of International Law - LAW-40106
Awareness of current problems and new insights in the discipline of international law	International Environmental and Climate Law - LAW-40110 Principles of International Law - LAW-40106 International Economic and Commercial Law - LAW-40114 International Human Rights Law - LAW-40124 International Law, Security and Warfare - LAW-40112 Research Methods and Dissertation - LAW-40116
Awareness of the relevance of international law to current international affairs	All modules + dissertation

Subject Specific Skills	
Learning Outcome	**Module in which this is delivered**
Grasp of the specific techniques and methodologies of international legal scholarship	Research Methods and Dissertation - LAW-40116 Principles of International Law - LAW-40106
Assessment of differing critical positions, demonstrating skills of judgment and reasoning	All modules + dissertation
Confidence in identifying and using primary and secondary materials in international law	International Human Rights Law - LAW-40124 International Environmental and Climate Law - LAW-40110 International Law, Security and Warfare - LAW-40112 Principles of International Law - LAW-40106 International Economic and Commercial Law - LAW-40114 Research Methods and Dissertation - LAW-40116
Ability to analyse problems arising in international law and to formulate reasoned and justified legal arguments	All modules + dissertation
Ability to think creatively and independently about international law issues	All modules + dissertation

Key or Transferable Skills (graduate attributes)	
Learning Outcome	**Module in which this is delivered**
Ability to plan and successfully undertake a large piece of independent research	Dissertation
Ability to evaluate and respond to criticism and alternative arguments	All modules + dissertation

8. Final and intermediate awards

LLM in International Law	180 credits	120 credits from the taught modules at level 7 + 60 credits from the dissertation
Postgraduate Diploma	120 credits	120 credits awarded at level 7
Postgraduate Certificate	60 credits	60 credits awarded at level 7

Placement option: in addition to the above students must pass a non-credit bearing module covering the placement in order to graduate with a named award including the 'with Placement' wording.

9. How is the Programme Assessed?

The wide variety of assessment methods used on this programme at Keele reflects the broad range of knowledge and skills that are developed as you progress through the degree programme. Teaching staff pay particular attention to specifying clear assessment criteria and providing timely, regular and constructive feedback that helps to clarify things you did not understand and helps you to improve your performance. The programme is assessed principally, though not exclusively, through written work.

Written work may be in the form of research essays (2,000 to 5,000 words), final examinations, reports, blog discussions or reflective portfolios. Through the essays, students demonstrate their understanding of a particular area of international law (or one of the other taught subjects, i.e., human rights/environment/politics/commerce & business) as well as their ability for original thinking and high-level written communication skills. Other written assignments such as blogs and reflective portfolios allow students to demonstrate their understanding of the relevance of international law to current international affairs and their ability to respond to alternative arguments or to reflect on their own learning. The final form of assessment is the dissertation, which is an extended (15,000 - 20,000 words) and in depth piece of writing that brings together all of the skills that students have learned throughout the programme. Students are supported through formative (non-mark-bearing) assessments throughout the programme. These may take the form of feedback on participation in group discussions, submission of essay plans to tutors for feedback, short reports, group presentations, short online exercises, or mock examinations. Marks are awarded for summative assessments designed to assess your achievement of learning outcomes. You will also be assessed formatively to enable you to monitor your own progress and to assist staff in identifying and addressing any specific learning needs. Feedback, including guidance on how you can improve the quality of your work, is also provided on all summative assessments within three working weeks of submission, unless there are compelling circumstances that make this impossible, and more informally in the course of tutorial and seminar discussions.

10. Accreditation

This programme does not have accreditation from an external body.

11. University Regulations

The University Regulations form the framework for learning, teaching and assessment and other aspects of the student experience. Further information about the University Regulations can be found at: http://www.keele.ac.uk/student-agreement/

If this programme has any exemptions, variations or additions to the University Regulations these will be detailed in an Annex at the end of this document titled 'Programme-specific regulations'.

12. What are the typical admission requirements for the Programme?

See the relevant course page on the website for the admission requirements relevant to this programme: https://www.keele.ac.uk/study/

The International Law programme (LLM, PGDip, PGCert and individual modules) is open to graduates with a first or second class honours degree (or overseas equivalent) in Law or a related discipline (such as sociology, criminology or politics), or any other person with appropriate professional qualifications and/or experience. Applications are welcome from current legal practitioners.

Applicants for whom English is not a first language must provide evidence of a qualification in English language, unless they hold a previous degree that was taught and examined in English. The minimum score for entry to the MA is academic IELTS 6.5 (with no subtest below 5.5) or equivalent.

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is considered on a case-by-case basis and those interested should contact the Programme Director. The University's guidelines on this can be found here: https://www.keele.ac.uk/qa/programmesandmodules/recognitionofpriorlearning/

13. How are students supported on the programme?

Within the School, students are allocated an Academic Mentor, whose role is to assist students with personal or academic problems, advise on pastoral issues, and to provide individual supervision and feedback on written assignments. Once a dissertation supervisor has been allocated, this person will also become the Academic Mentor. Should any issues arise that the Academic Mentor cannot assist with, students will be referred to the relevant university service or the course director. The course director is also available to assist students should any issues arise with the Academic Mentor/dissertation supervisor. The postgraduate director for the Law School is also available should the course director be unable to assist. The course director will advise students in relation to choice of optional modules, if requested.

Students whose first language is not English are offered language classes, facilities and services by the University's Language Centre. Following diagnostic English language assessment, students may be required or recommended to take English language classes offered by the Language Centre. In addition to modules on English for academic study, students have access to one-to-one tutorials for individual help and advice, and to a wealth of resources for self-study and practice. Any student, international or otherwise, can request a 30 min 11 session if they need it. Students requiring English language support (on testing) will be allocated to one or two of the following modules:

- ENL-40001: Academic English for Postgraduate Students 1 - semester 1
- ENL-40004: Academic English for Postgraduate Students 1-B - semester 2
- ENL-40002: Academic English for Postgraduate Students 2 - semester 1 or 2

For students required to undertake these English Language modules, determination of progression to the dissertation module (as outlined above) will include an evaluation of the student's engagement and performance on the respective English Language modules.

University services available to all students including the counselling services, disability and dyslexia support, international student support and careers and employability can be contacted via the Student Services Centre at http://www.keele.ac.uk/studentservices/. More information about these services is available in the university prospectus and on the website.

14. Learning Resources

The programme is taught through a combination of contact time, independent study, and web-based learning resources. Self-study materials comprise both traditional text based resources and a range of electronic multimedia resources that will be accessed through the Keele Learning Environment (KLE). This latter resource is also used to enhance student support during the period of the course and provides a forum for the exchange of ideas and discussion. There are also regular research seminars presented by Keele or external staff that take place throughout the academic year and to which postgraduate students are invited. These provide a useful complement to the taught sessions and, for those students considering research degrees, provide an insight into academic research in practice.

Keele University Library:

The library has many resources available, both on campus and online. Further information about the library can be found at: http://www.keele.ac.uk/depts/li . Students can access the various materials available on-line using the recommended username and password. Details on these are available from the Library

website: http://www.keele.ac.uk/library/support/access.

Computer Facilities:

For information about IT Services please consult the IT Services website: http://www.keele.ac.uk/it/. IT Services is located in the library building and is responsible for the computing infrastructure in the university and for the support of all staff and students undertaking academic computing tasks. There are a large number of 'open access' PCs available for students. All student PCs use a standard platform, which includes software such as Microsoft Office, web browsers, and other standard applications students may need. Printing facilities are available in the library building. Students must ensure that they have read form CC.03, which is the Conditions of use of the Computer Facilities. Opening Hours: in order to check if the computer facilities and the Help Desk are open, students should telephone: 01782 733636 or 733838. Further information can be found at: http://www.keele.ac.uk/it/

The Keele Moot Court:

The Moot Court is a flexible high specification facility located at the heart of the Law School. The Moot Court is fully equipped with state-of-the art audio-visual equipment and is used for a variety of teaching and co-curricular activities.

15. Other Learning Opportunities

a. Exchange Opportunity

It is possible for students to register on a single module (modular programme of study) for Continuing Professional Development or other purposes. Students may choose to attend the module without completing the assessment but no credits would be awarded for this. Students should contact the postgraduate administrator (law.office@keele.ac.uk) for further information.

There is an active research community within the School of Law and postgraduate students are invited to participate in the wide range of seminars and other research activities, such as workshops and academic conferences held at Keele. A research seminar programme is organised each year, where members of staff present their latest work. There are also other lectures and research seminars organised in other Schools and Research Institutes within the University that may be of interest to students. Students will be informed of these via their Keele email address.

b. Continuing Professional Development

Legal practitioners who wish to complete a module for Continuing Professional Development purposes only and without completing the assessment are not required to complete the core modules and may exit with zero credits and a certificate of attendance after the module's teaching has been completed. *The Continuing Professional Development Certificate of Attendance* is recognised by the Law Society of England and Wales (for Continuing Professional Development purposes).

16. Additional Costs

As to be expected there will be additional costs for inter-library loans and potential overdue library fines, print and graduation. We do not anticipate any further costs for this programme.

17. Quality management and enhancement

The quality and standards of learning in this programme are subject to a continuous process of monitoring, review and enhancement.

- The School Education Committee is responsible for reviewing and monitoring quality management and enhancement procedures and activities across the School.
- Individual modules and the programme as a whole are reviewed and enhanced every year in the annual programme review which takes place at the end of the academic year.
- The programmes are run in accordance with the University's Quality Assurance procedures and are subject to periodic reviews under the Revalidation process.

Student evaluation of, and feedback on, the quality of learning on every module takes place every year using a variety of different methods:

- The results of student evaluations of all modules are reported to module leaders and reviewed by the Programme Committee as part of annual programme review.
- Findings related to the programme from the annual Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey (PTES), and from regular surveys of the student experience conducted by the University, are subjected to careful analysis and a planned response at programme and School level.
- Feedback received from representatives of students on the programme is considered and acted on at

regular meetings of the Student Staff Voice Committee.

The University appoints senior members of academic staff from other universities to act as external examiners on all programmes. They are responsible for:

- Approving examination questions
- Confirming all marks which contribute to a student's degree
- Reviewing and giving advice on the structure and content of the programme and assessment procedures

Information about current external examiner(s) can be found here:
http://www.keele.ac.uk/qa/externalexaminers/currentexternalexaminers/

18. The principles of programme design

The programme described in this document has been drawn up with reference to, and in accordance with the guidance set out in, the following documents:

a. UK Quality Code for Higher Education, Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education: http://www.qaa.ac.uk/quality-code
b. Keele University Regulations and Guidance for Students and Staff: http://www.keele.ac.uk/regulations

19. Annex - PGT Placement

LLM in International Law with Placement

PGT Placement Summary
Students can apply directly for the 'with Placement' degree programme, or transfer onto the 'with Placement' degree programme by the end of May or the end of October each academic year for students starting their studies in September or January, respectively. International students can apply directly for the 'with Placement' degree programme. However, if they wish to transfer onto this programme while studying, they should discuss this with Immigration Compliance and Advice (ICA) and their Programme Director. If the transfer request can be approved in line with UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) rules, students should be aware that a visa extension would be required. Students accepted onto the 'with Placement' programme will complete an extra 6 - 12 months of study (the placement), depending on the duration of their placement, with a relevant placement provider after they have completed the taught component of their programme. Admission to the Postgraduate Placement module is dependent on students i) achieving minimum academic standards and, ii) securing a placement via a competitive, employer-led selection process. The University does not guarantee placements for students who have registered for the 'with Placement' programme or for those who transfer on to the programme. All students will be provided with a detailed timeline, including deadlines, of the date by which their placement would need to be secured. Students who successfully pass 180 credits plus the non-credit bearing Postgraduate Placement module will be awarded the degree title of 'XXXX with Placement'. Students who are unable to secure a placement, fail to satisfactorily complete their placement, or who fail the non-credit bearing Postgraduate Placement module will revert to the standard degree title of the one-year master's programme. Failure of the placement will be recorded on the student's final transcript. Study at Level 7 will be as per the main body of this document. The additional detail contained in this annex will pertain solely to students registered for the 'with Placement' option.
Placement Programme Aims
In addition to the programme aims specified in the main body of this document, the with Placement programme aims to provide students with: 1. In-depth experience of a relevant workplace and the variety of ways in which their skills can be used in the world outside the university. 2. The opportunity to further develop their employability through skills development and reflection, enhanced organisational and sector knowledge, and networking and interpersonal communication.
Entry Requirements for the Postgraduate Placement Module

Admission to the Postgraduate Placement module is dependent on students i) achieving minimum academic standards and, ii) securing a placement via a competitive, employer-led selection process including successful application and interview. Therefore, the University cannot guarantee placements for students who have registered for the 'with placement' programme.

To be eligible to progress onto placement, students will need to have:

- Passed all of their first Semester modules (i.e., obtained an average mark of 50%). Where no Semester 1 marks have been awarded, performance on individual assessments in these modules will be considered.
- Completed an online Health and Safety training session prior to commencing their placement and will be required to satisfy the Health and Safety regulations of the company or organisation at which they are based.
- Secured a relevant placement via a competitive, employer-led selection process including successful application and interview.

Progression onto the Postgraduate Placement module is then conditional on passing all taught modules from the Spring and Autumn semesters, excluding the research project/dissertation.

Students with up to 30-credits of re-assessment awarded as first attempts owing to approved exceptional circumstances, and who otherwise meet the progression requirements, may progress onto the Postgraduate Placement module and retrieve their outstanding credits during their placement. All other students who have failed one or more modules will not be eligible to progress onto the Postgraduate Placement module. This applies even if they have assessment attempts remaining. These students will revert to the standard degree title of the one-year master's programme.

International students only:

- Students wishing to transfer onto this programme should discuss this with Immigration Compliance and Advice (ICA) and their Programme Director. If the transfer request can be approved in line with UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) rules, students should be aware that a visa extension would be required (this can be applied for withing the UK) once the placement opportunity is confirmed. The cost of this would be the student's own responsibility, but ICA will be able to provide advice and guidance on the process.
- International students who do not complete their placement or cannot secure a placement opportunity, but who do pass 180 credits of the taught element of the course, will be transferred to the non-placement version. This will be reported to UKVI as "early completion" and their Student Visa would be cancelled. UKVI would not issue any refund for overpaid Immigration Health surcharge in this instance.
- Provided students have passed 180 credits of the course and met all other eligibility criteria, they will still be eligible to apply for the Graduate Route.

Student Support

Students will be supported whilst on their placement via the following methods:

- Regular contact between the student and a named member of staff from the Placement and Project Managers (PPM) team who will be assigned to the student as their placement supervisor. The placement supervisor will be in regular contact with the student throughout the year and be on hand to provide advice (pastoral or academic). If the student has any academic queries whilst on placement they will be signposted to the relevant member of academic staff (i.e., Academic Mentor, Programme Director or module leader).
- Formal contact with the student during the placement. The placement supervisor will meet once with the student, and their line manager (physically / virtually) at the midway point of their placement. Additional meetings may be arranged if required.
- Placement providers will be issued with guidance on how to raise concerns about students as part of the placement approval process.

Learning Outcomes

In addition to the learning outcomes specified in the main text of the Programme Specification, students who complete the 'with Placement programme will be able to:

1. Understand and discuss the variety of ways in which skills developed during their study can be deployed in non-academic contexts.
2. Develop broader organisational/sector understanding and reflect upon their activities in this context.
3. Assess their own strengths and weaknesses in an employment context.
4. Articulate their placement skills and experiences effectively and through a variety of means (verbal and written).

These learning outcomes will be assessed through the non-credit bearing Postgraduate Placement module which provides a structure to ensure that students make the most of the placement as an integrated learning experience. Students will complete an initial skills audit and placement plan when they begin their placement and submit a final placement portfolio which includes a reflective diary completed during placement.

Regulations

Students registered for the 'with Placement' programme are subject to programme-specific regulations (if any) and the University regulations. In addition, during the placement, the following regulations will apply:

- Students undertaking the 'with Placement' programme must successfully complete the zero-credit rated module 'Postgraduate Placement'.
- In order to ensure a high-quality placement experience, each placement provider will sign a tripartite learning agreement (analogous to a service level agreement), and a health and safety checklist.
- Once a student has been accepted by a placement organisation, the student will submit a placement proposal and will be assigned a placement supervisor (from the PPM team). The placement supervisor will be responsible for ensuring that the placement experience meets the required criteria, the placement organisation meets all health and safety expectations, and a tripartite learning agreement is signed by all parties.
- The placement student will also sign up to an agreement outlining their responsibilities in relation to the requirements of each organisation.

Students will be expected to behave professionally in terms of:

(i) conforming to the work practices of the organisation; and

(ii) remembering that they are representatives of the University and their actions will reflect on the University and have an impact on that organisation's willingness (or otherwise) to remain engaged with the placement.

Additional costs for the Placement

Tuition fees for students on the 'with Placement' programme will be charged at 20% of the standard Undergraduate annual tuition fees for that year of study, as set out in Section 1.

Students will be responsible for meeting the costs of travelling to and from their placement provider, accommodation, food and personal costs. Depending on the placement provider additional costs may include parking permits, travel and transport, suitable clothing, DBS checks, and compulsory health checks.

A small stipend may be available to students from the placement provider during the placement, but this will need to be explored on a placement-by-placement basis as some organisations, such as charities, may not have any extra money available. Students should budget with the assumption that their placement will be unpaid.

Eligibility for student finance will depend on the type of placement and whether it is paid or not. Students are required to confirm eligibility with their student finance provider. As part of the placement approval process, all students will be referred to the Student Financial Support team for advice and guidance regarding scholarships, bursaries and access to additional funding.

International students who require a visa should check with the Immigration Compliance team prior to commencing any type of paid placement to ensure that they are not contravening their visa requirements.

Version History

This document

Date Approved: 17 June 2025

Previous documents

Version No	Year	Owner	Date Approved	Summary of and rationale for changes
1	2024/25	ANGELICA RUTHERFORD	30 August 2024	
1.1	2023/24	ANGELICA RUTHERFORD	30 October 2023	Changes to optional modules and semester of delivery: LAW-40037 moved from SEM2 to SEM1; LAW-40038 moved from SEM1 to SEM2; PIR-40078 moved to SEM2. Removal of ETH-40042, LAW-40047 and LAW-40058
1	2023/24	AWOL ALLO	18 April 2023	
1	2022/23	AWOL ALLO	08 August 2022	