

Programme Title: LLM in International Shipping Law



Programme Specification

Awarding Body/Institution	QMUL
Teaching Institution	Centre for Commercial Law Studies, QMUL
Name of Final Award and Programme Title	LLM in International Shipping Law
Name of Interim Award(s)	
Duration of Study / Period of Registration	one year full-time or two years part-time
QM Programme Code / UCAS Code(s)	
QAA Benchmark Group	
FHEQ Level of Award	Level 7
Programme Accredited by	
Date Programme Specification Approved	
Responsible School / Institute	Centre for Commercial Law Studies

Schools which will also be involved in teaching part of the programme

School of Law

Institution(s) other than Queen Mary that will provide some teaching for the programme

Programme Outline

The programme gives students the opportunity to gain insight into the legal underpinnings of the global shipping business. The programme consists of a taught element (135 credits - six elective one-semester modules) as well as a research element (45 credits - 15,000-word dissertation). It also features extracurricular activities including networking events, career events and social events.

Aims of the Programme

The programme is designed to give students the opportunity to acquire a breadth and depth of knowledge and understanding of the shipping law field. It also aims to give students the opportunity to experience the British model of postgraduate education which places a major emphasis on independent study and development of critical analysis skills and research skills (in particular by writing a long dissertation).

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What Will You Be Expected to Achieve?

Students who successfully complete the programme will have gained an expert and in-depth understanding of the workings of the law underlying almost all areas of the international shipping industry, the application of the law to everyday practice and the ability to critically assess and comment upon the current state of the law from an international perspective. Students will have also gained the ability to conduct a substantial and focussed research project in this legal area.

Academic Content:	
A 1	Students will acquire a thorough understanding of key aspects of the shipping and marine insurance industries from an international perspective and the importance of legal principles, rules and laws underlying the day-to-day running, management and insurance of vessels, goods and commodities.
A 2	Students will acquire an understanding of the peculiar and often, sui-generis, realities underlying the world of shipping and how these realities have affected and continue to affect legal development in this area.
A 3	Students will acquire expert knowledge and an in-depth understanding of the nature and purpose of shipping law and the ways in which the law achieves (or fails to achieve) its purpose.

Disciplinary Skills - able to:	
B 1	By the end of the programme, students will have developed the ability to manage, analyse and evaluate various legal sources and material relating to shipping law, including legislation, case law, contractual documents and industry-developed terms and conditions, and academic commentary. In this regard, students will not only be able to critically assess the importance of the various different legal concepts that derive from such sources, but also to formulate legal arguments and proposals vis-a-vis various complex topics that will be examined.
B 2	Students will further develop their ability to understand and review a wide range of legal material and apply that knowledge to practical legal problems. This will involve them being able to identify complex legal principles and rules and apply them to various circumstances that frequently arise, or can arise in the future, in various areas of the maritime world. By the end of the programme, students will also have developed the ability to appraise the general state of the law and formulate legally sound commentary on potential future directions or solutions to current areas of uncertainty.
B 3	By the end of this programme, students will have acquired the knowledge and capacity to plan and implement research projects within the area of international shipping law.

Attributes:	
C 1	Students will develop the ability to exercise personal responsibility and initiative to manage a plethora of legal material and their learning.

C2	Students will acquire an in-depth understanding of all significant areas and legal aspects of international shipping law through the variety of material they will be referred to but also to critically challenge such material through discussion. Students will be able to identify complex legal concepts and apply them in such ways as to resolve actual scenarios.
C3	Students will develop expertise in a globally significant area of law through engagement with the materials which the programme comprises of and discussion which challenges them to question these materials.

How Will You Learn?

Students will attend structured lectures and seminars, where participation on their part will be encouraged. Students will have to prepare for both lectures and seminars on the basis of reading lists and materials that will be provided to them in advance.

More specifically, for each of the six 22.5-credit modules, students will undertake the following:

- 22 hours of lectures/seminars
- 110 hours of preparation for lectures/seminars (approximately 10 hours per lecture/seminar)
- 93 hours of exam preparation/essay writing

Thus, a total of 225 notional study hours

Students will also engage in independent research (under our supervision and guidance) preparing and writing up their dissertation.

How Will You Be Assessed?

Students will be assessed by means of essays or exams, as indicated under each module description. Most of the modules will be assessed through a two and a half hour exam. Exams can be either closed book, permitted materials or open book exams. Exceptionally, a module may be assessed through the submission of a 7,500 word essay.

How is the Programme Structured?

Please specify the full time and part time programme diets (if appropriate).

Students will be invited to choose 6 modules of 22.5 credits, at least four of which must be specialist shipping law modules. Students are advised to select three taught modules in semester 1 and three in semester 2 to balance their workload appropriately. Exams will take place in May. Students will select the topic of their dissertation in November/December and will have three supervisory meetings with the dissertation supervisor allocated to them, two of which will take place in semester 2 and the third in early summer.

Academic Year of Study

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Legal Aspects of Paperless Trade	QLLM181	22.5	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Charterparties: Law and Practice	QLLM182	22.5	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Marine Insurance Law	QLLM300	22.5	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Maritime Arbitration	QLLM301	22.5	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Carriage of Goods	QLLM302	22.5	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Wet Shipping Law: Incidents and Collisions at Sea	QLLM303	22.5	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Admiralty Law	QLLM322	22.5	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Protection and Indemnity Clubs	QLLM183	22.5	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
International Commercial Law	QLLM050	45	7	Elective	1	Semesters 1 & 2
International Law of the Sea	QLLM058	45	7	Elective	1	Semesters 1 & 2
International Regulation of Shipping	QLLM383	22.5	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Law of the Sea, Navigational Freedoms and Practice	QLLM384	22.5	7	Elective	1	Semester 2

What Are the Entry Requirements?

The usual qualification for entry to the LLM programme is a degree in law, or a degree with a substantial law content, of at least 2.1 honours (or equivalent). Law graduates with 2.2 honours who also have other legal qualifications and/or substantial professional legal experience may also qualify.

Non-law graduates with a minimum second class honours degree, that have also obtained a Merit (or 60 per cent) in the Common Professional Examination (CPE) or Graduate Diploma in Law (GDL) recognised by the UK professional bodies, may also qualify. Non-law graduates may also be considered on the basis of exceptional professional experience (of at least five years) in a legal area or an area directly related to their programme of study.

Applicants whose first language is not English must provide evidence of your English language proficiency. The usual English Language Requirements for Postgraduate Law Taught Programmes will apply. These may be accessed at <http://www.law.qmul.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/english-language-requirements/index.html#Postgraduatelawtaughtprogrammes>

How Do We Listen and Act on Your Feedback?

The Staff-Student Liaison Committee provides a formal means of communication and discussion between schools/institutes and its students. The committee consists of student representatives from each year in the school/institute together with appropriate representation from staff within the school/institute. It is designed to respond to the needs of students, as well as act as a forum for discussing programme and module developments. Staff-Student Liaison Committees meet regularly throughout the year.

Each school/institute operates a Learning and Teaching Committee, or equivalent, which advises the School/Institute Director of Taught Programmes on all matters relating to the delivery of taught programmes at school level including monitoring the application of relevant QM policies and reviewing all proposals for module and programme approval and amendment before submission to Taught Programmes Board. Student views are incorporated in the committee's work in a number of ways, such as through student membership, or consideration of student surveys.

All schools/institutes operate an Annual Programme Review of their taught undergraduate and postgraduate provision. APR is a continuous process of reflection and action planning which is owned by those responsible for programme delivery; the main document of reference for this process is the Taught Programmes Action Plan (TPAP) which is the summary of the school/institute's work throughout the year to monitor academic standards and to improve the student experience. Students' views are considered in this process through analysis of the NSS and module evaluations.

Academic Support

Students will receive a comprehensive induction. Students will be assisted with the preliminary stages of selecting a research topic, drafting a research proposal, considering their methodology and developing the skills needed to identify and use relevant materials. Lecturers on taught modules shall be available to discuss any concerns students might have with regard to the particular module or its content.

Programme-specific Rules and Facts

N/A

Specific Support for Disabled Students

Queen Mary has a central Disability and Dyslexia Service (DDS) that offers support for all students with disabilities, specific learning difficulties and mental health issues. The DDS supports all Queen Mary students: full-time, part-time, undergraduate, postgraduate, UK and international at all campuses and all sites.

Students can access advice, guidance and support in the following areas:

- Finding out if you have a specific learning difficulty like dyslexia
- Applying for funding through the Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA)
- Arranging DSA assessments of need
- Special arrangements in examinations
- Accessing loaned equipment (e.g. digital recorders)
- Specialist one-to-one "study skills" tuition
- Ensuring access to course materials in alternative formats (e.g. Braille)
- Providing educational support workers (e.g. note-takers, readers, library assistants)

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• Mentoring support for students with mental health issues and conditions on the autistic spectrum.

Links With Employers, Placement Opportunities and Transferable Skills

CCLS has been proud to be able to provide internship opportunities, workshops and extra-curricular activities for the students registered on the International Shipping Law programme. Details of opportunities available in any particular academic year and published as they come up.

Programme Specification Approval

Person completing Programme Specification

Miriam Goldby

Person responsible for management of programme

Miriam Goldby

Date Programme Specification produced/amended
by School Learning and Teaching Committee

Date Programme Specification approved by
Taught Programmes Board