

International Corporate Law and Governance with Solicitors Practice LLM: Master of Laws Programme

bradford.ac.uk/courses/pg/international-corporate-law-governance-solicitors-practice/

Academic Entry Year:	2025/26
Degree Awarding Body:	The University of Bradford
Main Location:	City Campus
Delivery Support Partners:	BARBRI Global Limited
Subject Benchmarks:	Law (QAA 2019)
Qualifications Framework:	Framework for HE Qualifications of UK Degree Awarding Bodies (FHEQ: 2014)
Target Degree Award:	Master of Laws (LLM) in International Corporate Law and Governance with Solicitors Practice [FHEQ Level 7]
Intermediate/exit awards:	Postgraduate Diploma (PGD), or Postgraduate Certificate (PGC) [FHEQ Level 7]
Programme Admissions:	UK and international students
Programme Start Date(s):	September
Programme Modes of Study:	2 years full-time

The LLM with Solicitors Practice is a postgraduate course intended for those who wish to practice as a solicitor in England and Wales and is designed to meet the [Solicitors Regulation Authority \(SRA\) requirements](#). Students will require Qualifying Work Experience of 1-2 years (QWE) and to pass Stages 1 and 2 of the Solicitors Qualifying Examination (SQE) in order to practice as a solicitor. Shorter [1-year LLM degree](#) programmes are also available without preparatory SQE support.

Please note: The University has a set of terms and conditions for all students accepting an offer to study on a course here at Bradford. This is called the Student Contract. This document sets out the Terms and Conditions which apply when you accept an offer of a place on a programme of study at the University of Bradford. [View our Student Contract for further details](#). Information about this programme and its modules has been published in advance of the academic year to which it applies. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information is accurate at the time of publication, but changes may occur given the interval between publishing and commencement of teaching. Any change which impacts the terms and conditions of an applicant's offer will be communicated to them.

Minor Modification Schedule

1. October 2025: Confirmed variance to academic regulations, reformatted document for improved accessibility.

Introduction

The LLM International Corporate Law and Governance with Solicitors Practice together with the other LLM programmes offered is part of the vibrant postgraduate community of the School of Law and Social Sciences. This LLM offers the unique opportunity to explore a specialist area of the law,

whilst also providing a clearly defined career pathway to qualification as a solicitor in England & Wales. It contributes towards enhancing the research-led teaching strategy of the School and the University, with a strong focus on internationalization, and is geared towards 'making knowledge work'. On graduation, students will typically have completed both mandatory Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) examinations, possess an in-depth knowledge of the law, and have gained practice experience via the Department's Law Clinic and the University's placement scheme.

SQE represents an entirely different way of testing students who wish to qualify as a solicitor in England and Wales, designed by the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) and currently implemented independently by the commercial provider Kaplan Assessments ¹. The University of Bradford LLM with Solicitors Practice programme addresses this shift and provides a distinctive route to prepare students for the SQE: a postgraduate degree programme that provides students with the necessary support and guidance to perform effectively in both SQE1 and SQE2.

The LLM International Corporate Law and Governance with Solicitors Practice's 2-year model enables students to study the SQE1 Legal Theory & Solicitors Practice module provided by the Department of Law's partner, BARBRI ² in Year 1 which will focus on preparing students for Stage 1 of the SRA's external Solicitors Qualification Examination (SQE1). In addition, students will work in the dynamic, multicultural environment of our student law clinic, advising clients from the local community on a wide range of legal matters. This work experience may count towards the two years Qualifying Work Experience (QWE ³) required by the SRA for a student to qualify as a solicitor in England & Wales. Students are also provided with the opportunity to choose from a range of options relating to their chosen area of specialism.

In Year 2 students will continue their studies by undertaking the SQE2 Legal Theory & Solicitors Practice module alongside a further opportunity to work in the Department's Law Clinic which may count towards a student's two years of QWE. In addition, students will undertake a Dissertation in their second year of study. Students may then choose from the Department's range of available Masters level modules relating to their area of specialism.

Alongside the rigorous academic and clinical training offered within the curriculum, students enjoy a rich variety of extra-curricular activities and opportunities. These include participation in mock trials and moots in our Lady Hale Court Room facility, opened by Baroness Hale of Richmond in January 2020. Students can also take advantage of volunteering opportunities with a variety of advice organisations and within the university, court visits, external speakers, and there is a wide range of social and law-related events organised by our thriving Student Law Society. Supported by our dedicated colleagues in the Careers Service, students will have the chance to obtain career

¹ Information taken from <https://sqe.sra.org.uk/>. Visit <https://sqe.sra.org.uk/about-sqe/what-is-the-sqe> to find out more about the Solicitors' Qualifying Examination (links accessed 15 September 2025).

² Information about BARBRI's services is available on their website, <https://www.barbri.com/sqe> - BARBRI's modules for SQE are covered by your University of Bradford MLaw tuition fee (link accessed 15 September 2025).

³ For more details about what can constitute Qualifying Work Experience, please visit: <https://www.sra.org.uk/become-solicitor/sqe/qualifying-work-experience-candidates/> (link accessed 15.9.25).

mentoring and work experience through our links to our local legal, business, and not-for-profit communities.

The LLM International Corporate Law and Governance with Solicitors Practice will equip graduates with knowledge of essential laws and regulations in their specialist area of the law. In many of these areas the legal responses are still emerging, and students will have the opportunity to engage with the current legal debates as well as the latest laws. The programme is taught by research active staff in the University Law Department who have interests and expertise in the issues the student will study, therefore ensuring they have access to cutting edge research and thinking. This cutting-edge knowledge, which is secured through regular programme content updates, will equip students with knowledge and skills which will greatly improve their employability.

The knowledge offered will start from the introduction of the students to the international legal standards in the subject areas, which will offer them the shared legal knowledge of the fundamentals of law in the areas of study. Students will then be able to compare and contrast legal frameworks and principles from jurisdictions of their choice through the adoption of a flexible approach to the study of the subjects. This type of study will offer students an appreciation of the links and connections between the various national and regional legal frameworks and equip them with tools which will enable them to navigate the complex national and international legal landscape.

This LLM programme engages with current global, regional, and national challenges, with a strong focus on developing deep knowledge of the subject matter and employability skills for qualification as a solicitor in England and Wales that graduates from the programme aspire to.

Programme Aims

The programme is intended to:

- A1. Deliver a clearly defined and supported career pathway to qualification as a solicitor in England & Wales.
- A2. Connect with the local and regional community through the provision of a range of student-led legal services.
- A3. Develop subject knowledge and understanding of legal frameworks in traditional legal practice and specialist areas such as corporate law, human rights, banking or environment and energy law.
- A4. Encourage participative, independent and reflective learning and the development of personal and professional skills including clinical legal practice.
- A5. Enable students to understand the complexities of an advanced level and in its ever-changing contexts.
- A6. Equip students to have mastery of the subject, conduct effective research and to critically analyse and assess the specific areas of study undertaken and apply this learning in the relevant practical context.

- A7. Ensure the accessibility of the programme to students from diverse backgrounds and various career trajectories.

Programme Learning Outcomes

To be eligible for the FHEQ Level 7 Certificate award, students will be able to:

1. Have a systematic and critical knowledge of the substantive concepts, values, principles and rules in traditional legal practice or specialist areas, and their theoretical and ethical underpinnings within the framework of the wider legal environment in its historical, socio-political and economic contexts, including the role of contemporary developments in shaping technology and sustainability principles and influencing the operation of modern corporations.
2. Demonstrate critical knowledge of the institutions and procedures operating at the international, regional and local levels in traditional legal practice or specialist areas, and their impact on the development of law and policy.
3. Conduct independent research which demonstrates the ability to evaluate approaches to legal research in this subject, develop appropriate research designs and techniques to investigate propositions/hypotheses.
4. Develop an advanced understanding of the role of law and its shortcomings and limitations as well as the interrelationship between law and other related legal disciplines.
5. Generate clear, concise and coherent communication orally and in writing in which style, scope and depth are appropriate to task, purpose and audience, whether working independently or as a group.

Additionally, to be eligible for the FHEQ Level 7 Diploma award, students will be able to:

6. Employ relevant competencies and strategies to engage constructively with in traditional legal practice or specialist areas in various roles.
7. Identify and apply critical learning gained to current developments, disputes and debates in traditional legal practice or specialist areas.
8. Demonstrate initiative and independence in systematic academic inquiry, using relevant techniques to gather, evaluate and manage evidence, data and information from appropriate sources.
9. Reflect critically on professional and career development needs and to take action to maintain the knowledge and skills required of a practitioner in traditional legal practice or specialist areas.
10. Plan and execute a range of assignments, including essays and presentations in which style and, scope and depth are appropriate to the task.

Additionally, to be eligible for the FHEQ Level 7 Master's Degree, students will be able to:

- 11.** Design and carry out, with appropriate ethical approval, an original and self-directed capstone research project which draws upon a comprehensive and critical review of relevant literature.
- 12.** Exercise initiative and personal responsibility in completion of an advanced, original and self-directed capstone project using critical reflective communication to deepen understanding of the learning process, with appropriate documentation.
- 13.** Recognise and be able to critically reflect on own values, experiences and orientation in ones' own academic work.

Learning and Teaching Strategy

This LLM programme aims to integrate applied and theoretical knowledge with assessment processes that test knowledge, application and analysis of the subject. To this end, the learning, teaching and assessment strategy for this programme has been developed to help the student build their knowledge incrementally over the two years of study and to develop their research, critical thinking and writing skills. The overriding objective of the programme is to offer a clearly defined and supported career pathway to qualification as a solicitor in England & Wales whilst also developing a specialism in law. On graduation students will have completed both mandatory Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) examinations, possess an in-depth knowledge of the law, and gained practice experience via the Department's Law Clinic and the University's placement scheme.

Students will also work in the Department's law clinic, advising clients from the local community on a wide range of legal matters. This provides students with the opportunity to undertake work in a clinical environment which will contribute to the two-years of Qualifying Work Experience (QWE) required by the SRA for a student to qualify as a solicitor in England & Wales. Students are provided with the opportunity to choose from a range of options relating to their chosen area of specialism such as corporate law, human rights, banking or environment and energy law. This is the same in the second year: students will continue to work in the Department's law clinic and also undertake the core Dissertation module along with choosing from a range of options relating to their chosen area of specialism.

Teaching on the subject specialist modules will typically involve a combination of formal workshop styled seminars, group discussions, directed reading and personal research. Each 20 credits module represents approximately 200 hours of study time broken down into formal tutor led contact hours in class as well as engagement via the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) and independent study. Case study analysis and discussion is used to contextualise learning and the application of techniques. Students also work in small groups which encourage participative learning and help develop organisational skills.

All taught modules have a two-hour teaching slot every week throughout the Semester in which they are taught, and we expect students to attend all scheduled classes. In the early part of the programme, most of these slots will be used as class time with lecturer input, individual and group work activities. A module manual is provided with each module to provide clear instructions,

guidance and details of the preparatory work required. The programme team also uses the VLE, in order to make additional material available to the student (e.g. session handouts, power point slides, sample questions, model answers), host discussions and provide programme related information and links. Students will be set research and writing tasks, be expected to contribute to discussions online, engage with other activities supported through the VLE or meet with their tutors to discuss a particular task or their progress generally.

Students are expected to take responsibility for their own learning and engage with the materials and ideas provided. Students must therefore prepare for all teaching sessions and take all opportunities offered to develop their skills and knowledge.

Assessment Strategy

To effectively assess whether a student has achieved a module's learning outcomes, a combination of assessment approaches is typically applied. The assessment strategy on this programme is robust, adopting a range of assessment methods, thereby aiming to be inclusive, and giving students the opportunity to play to their strengths while also developing areas of weakness.

Assessment is based on the skills and knowledge developed throughout the programme and the LLM with Solicitors Practice employs a variety of assessment methods - both formative and summative. The assessments are structured in such a way as to help students demonstrate that they meet the learning outcomes of each module and the programme overall. The only timed, closed book examinations for this programme are on the SQE modules. Instead, we use a variety of programme work assignments to develop and test their research, critical thinking, problem solving and writing skills. The student might therefore be asked to write a traditional academic essay, to create a portfolio of activities, to write a book review or develop a research plan. The type of assessment for each module will be specified in the module descriptor with more detail being available in the module handbook.

There is a balance of formative and summative assessments, including feedback during individual and group tasks to ensure that students are supported effectively in their learning and are able to produce their best work for the summative assessment.

We therefore cater for a variety of learning styles and preferences and aim to create an inclusive and inspiring learning environment where the student can engage with the material studied in the ways most suitable to them. However, we also want students to push themselves out of their comfort zone, learn new things and develop intellectually and personally and we therefore hope they will engage in as many of the activities as possible to give the best possible chance of achieving the learning outcomes and demonstrating this through various assessments.

SQE is comprised of mixed subject questions (e.g. contract with civil litigation) in multiple-choice formats. The LLM's SQE1 and SQE2 preparation course modules are designed to provide students with sufficient test preparation to sit the SRA's centralised examinations. Students will receive continuous feedback throughout Terms 1 and 2 before sitting a final summative assessment.

SQE is a difficult examination. In year 1 students will undertake the SQE1 Legal Theory & Solicitors Practice module which is delivered in partnership with BARBRI which is the sector's leading

provider of legal examination preparation for the SRA's Stage 1 examination at the end of year 1. Students will access module materials throughout Terms 1 and 2 online and will be guided by a Personal Study Plan (PSP) which guides every assignment and activity during their SQE1 Legal Theory & Solicitors Practice module. Pre-recorded video lectures, soft and hard copy workbooks and thousands of practice questions will build knowledge over time and deliver the right combination of substance and skills on a flexible schedule. At the end of year 1 students will sit Stage 1 of the SRA's centralized examination.

Students are reminded that cost of the SQE1 and SQE2 (SRA External Exams) are not covered in the course tuition fee. Additional Information relating to the additional fees can be found at:

<https://sqa.sra.org.uk/about-sqa/costs-and-fees>.

On completion of year 1, and on attempting Stage 1 of the SQE, students will progress in to year 2 and undertake the SQE2 Legal Theory & Solicitors Practice module. This module will focus on development on the practical skills required by the SRA including advocacy, interviewing, legal research and drafting. At the end of year 2, students will sit the Stage 2 of the SQE.

Curriculum

The 2-year LLM programme consists of 280 credits, made up of core modules and optional modules. Students take 120 credits in Stage 1 and 160 credits in Stage 2. Each 'Stage' or taught 'academic year' of the 2-year Masters programme consists of two semesters.

Students may choose from a variety of law modules that correspond to their chosen specialism, or they may choose a general route. To sustain the thread of clinical and professional education that runs through the two SQE Legal Theory & Solicitors Practice modules, all our academic law options consider how the law operates in a practical 'real-world' context, besides the more purely academic and theoretical aspects.

Stage 1

Students select **2 options** from the list below for 40 credits - **One option from Semester 1** and **one option from Semester 2**:

Table 1: LLM International Corporate Law and Governance with Solicitors Practice - Options

Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Level	Period	Selection
LAW7082-B	International Company & Corporate Governance Law	20	FHEQ 7	Semester 1	Option
LAW7007-B	International Competition Law	20	FHEQ 7	Semester 1	Option
LAW7031-B	International commercial contracts and e-commerce	20	FHEQ 7	Semester 1	Option
LAW7047-B	International Commercial Dispute Resolution	20	FHEQ 7	Semester 2	Option
LAW7073-B	International Law of Taxation	20	FHEQ 7	Semester 2	Option
LAW7083-B	International Insolvency Law	20	FHEQ 7	Semester 2	Option

Students also enrol on the BARBRI SQE1 Legal Theory & Solicitors Practice module and the Law Clinic 1 module (for 80 credits and 120 in total):

Table 2: LLM International Corporate Law and Governance with Solicitors Practice - Year 1 Core

Code	Module Title	Credit	Level	Study Period	Selection
LAW7099-D	SQE1 Legal Theory & Solicitors Practice	40	FHEQ 7	Academic Year	Core
LAW7097-D	Law Clinic 1	40	FHEQ 7	Academic Year	Core

At the end of Stage 1, students will be eligible to exit with the FHEQ Level 7 award of **Postgraduate Certificate in International Corporate Law and Governance** if they have successfully completed 60 credits and achieved the award learning outcomes.

Students will be eligible to exit with the award of **Postgraduate Diploma in International Corporate Law and Governance with Solicitors Practice** if they have successfully completed at least 120 credits (without dissertation) and achieved the award learning outcomes.

Students schedule their SQE1 exam at the conclusion of the SQE1 module. Students are reminded that cost of SQE1 (SRA External Exam) is not covered in the course tuition fee. Additional Information relating to the additional fees can be found at: <https://sqa.sra.org.uk/about-sqa/costs-and-fees>.

Stage 2

At Stage 2, students will undertake the BARBRI Legal Theory & Solicitors Practice for Stage 2 of the Solicitors Qualifying Examination (SQE2). This is also a core module together with the Law Clinic 2 module which, again, will count towards the students Qualifying Work Experience (QWE). In addition, students must study the Dissertation module which is a core module.

Table 3: LLM International Corporate Law and Governance with Solicitors Practice - Year 2 Core

Code	Module Title	Credit	Level	Study Period	Selection
LAW7100-D	SQE2 Legal Theory & Solicitors Practice	40	FHEQ 7	Academic Year	Core
LAW7098-D	Law Clinic 2	40	FHEQ 7	Academic Year	Core
LAW7101-D	Dissertation	40	FHEQ 7	Academic Year	Core

Students may select a **further 2 options** from Table 1, not previously studied, that correspond to their chosen specialism. **One option from Semester 1** and **one option from Semester 2**.

At the end of Stage 2, students will be eligible for the award of **Degree of Master of Laws in International Corporate Law and Governance with Solicitors Practice** if they have successfully completed at least 280 credits (including the dissertation) and achieved the award learning outcomes.

The LLM award recognises readiness to take Stage 2 of the Solicitors Qualification Exam (SQE2), assuming that SQE1 has been passed.

At the end of Stage 2, students will be eligible for the award of **Degree of Master of Laws in International Corporate Law and Governance** if they have successfully completed at least 180 credits (including the dissertation and excluding SQE1 and SQE2 Modules) and achieved the award learning outcomes.

Students are reminded that cost of SQE2 (SRA External Exam) is not covered in the course tuition fee. Additional Information relating to the additional fees can be found at:

<https://sqa.sra.org.uk/about-sqa/costs-and-fees>.

Assessment, Continuation and Award Regulations

This programme follows the Assessment, Continuation and Award regulations published on the University's website (<https://www.bradford.ac.uk/about/legal-and-governance/governance/regulations/>) for postgraduate taught courses (Regulation 9).

For the external SQE examinations, Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) assessment regulations apply. These regulations are available via the following link: <https://rb.gy/5wg5zp>

Admission Requirements

The University welcomes applications from all potential students and most important in the decision to offer a place is our assessment of a candidate's potential to benefit from their studies and of their ability to succeed on this particular programme. Consideration of applications will be based on a combination of formal academic qualifications and other relevant experience.

Information in this document is for the contemporary recruitment cycle and was accurate at time of publication. The current tariff and accepted qualifications for entry onto the programme is published at the online course page: <https://www.bradford.ac.uk/courses/pg/international-corporate-law-governance-solicitors-practice/>

The standard entry requirements for the programme are as follows: an Honours Degree classified 2:2 or above in any subject, or relevant work experience at graduate level.

English language requirements: IELTS at 6.5 or equivalent with a minimum of 5.5 in each sub-test.

Alternatively, students may take a University of Bradford pre-session English course.

Recognition of Prior Learning

Applications are welcome from students with non-standard qualifications or mature students (those over 21 years of age on entry) with significant relevant experience.

If applicants have prior certificated learning or professional experience which may be equivalent to parts of this programme, the University has procedures to evaluate and recognise this learning in order to provide applicants with exemptions from specified modules or parts of the programme.