

Law by distance learning / Combined Legal Studies by distance learning

This programme is not currently recruiting

This programme is only offered at: **Offered only in collaboration with ICS Ltd.**

Final award	LLB / BA (Honours)
Intermediate awards available	Cert HE, Dip HE, Ordinary degree, University Undergraduate (Associate) Certificate
UCAS code	
Details of professional body accreditation	Joint Academic Stage Board
Relevant QAA Benchmark statements	Law
Date specification last updated	November 2009

Profile

The summary - UCAS programme profile

BANNER BOX:

An excellent and innovative legal education validated by one of the largest Law Schools in London and delivered by ICS, pioneers in home learning.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the General Entrance Requirements of the University of East London, candidates for admission to the LLB (Honours) programme will require, as a minimum, qualifications which fall within Band C of the UCAS Tariff Score:

- 240 UCAS Tariff points
- 16-18 points at A/AS Level
- Distinction (A)GNVQ
- Merit (A)GNVQ + 1 A Level
- CCCC Scottish Highers
- 26 points (Pass) International Baccalaureate [1 Higher, Level 5
- 70% European Baccalaureate
- BTEC/SOCTEC Diploma/Certificate (with distinction)
- Relevant Access Programme
- School of Law, University of East London. Introduction to Law and Criminology (six week short course programme)
- Other qualifications individually assessed
- Mature applicants with relevant work experience (subject to interview)

Note: Within the UCAS Tariff Score it is expected that all applicants for the LLB (Honours) programme will have studied at least six A2 modules; and within 'A' Level scores it is expected that at least two 'A' Levels (or equivalent) will have been completed

Students may be admitted through Accreditation of Certificated Learning (ACL) process. Due to the requirements of the JASB, students are not permitted onto the programme through Accreditation of Experiential Learning (AEL).

In the case of applicants whose first language is not English, then IELTS 6.0 overall with 6.0 in Writing and Speaking and 5.5 Reading and Listening (or equivalent) is required. International qualifications will be checked for appropriate matriculation to UK Higher Education undergraduate programmes.

Students must have access to a Law Library with UK law in order to study the qualifying law degree.

Mature students, who do not have the required tariff points, may be permitted onto the first one or two modules, following an interview, with a view that if they are successful they can progress to the programme under the ACL process.

ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

What is LLB?

As law occupies such a fundamental position in the fabric of national and international society, reflecting and influencing many aspects of human behaviour, our LLB degree offers students a fascinating variety of studies and activities. We provide an education, through the study of law and legal systems, which explores the substance and processes of law, the relationship between law, culture, and society, and provides a detailed understanding of how law is made and administered.

LLB at UEL

The LLB programme not only provides students with a comprehensive and critical understanding of core legal principles and institutions but it also encourages students to analyse law within its broader social, economic, political, cultural, and international settings. Furthermore, whilst providing an excellent foundation for those who may wish to go on and train to become either a solicitor or barrister, the programme provides a structured approach to the development of key study and transferable skills (such as critical analysis, oral and written presentational skills, and the ability to work independently) which are central to many other types of employment.

The programme is flexible and law can be studied with a range of other subjects, including Criminology and Criminal Justice. Further, the programme can be studied by distance learning.

Programme structure

The distance learning LLB (Honours) degree can be completed in a minimum of four years. Levels one and two of the programme are compulsory, providing students with the core

foundational knowledge required to pursue more advanced legal studies. At the third level all six subjects are selected from a list of options.

Learning environment

This programme is offered on a distance-learning basis allowing you to select your learning environment – be it your home, office or a public library. Learning material is presented in the format of specially written Study Guides containing interactive activities; feedback is provided to enable students to monitor their own progress. Student/ student discussion and student/ tutor discussion opportunities are available via the Online Student Community Website. Additional learning resources include access to ATHENS and university Law libraries.

Assessment

All modules on the LLB are assessed and must be passed. However, assessment in the first year does not count towards the final award classification. As well as examinations and essays, assessment methods include oral presentations, the answering of hypothetical problem questions, and the production of a reflective module diary. There is an approximate 50/50 split between coursework and examinations across the programme.

There are formative assessments throughout the modules that must be passed in order to progress to the final assessments. Feedback on formatives will allow students to develop their skills and prepare them fully in time for their final assessments.

There are two compulsory workshops, one at Level 1 and one at Level 2. The Level one workshop includes an oral assessment.

Work experience/placement opportunities

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Project work

The programme includes the possibility to undertake a research project in the final year. The project occupies the equivalent of two optional modules. It requires students to undertake research into a legal topic of their own choice and produce a 10,000-word dissertation. Recent projects have included work on the International Criminal Court and another on Freedom of Expression.

Added value

The programme is designed to enhance students' general transferable skills; such skills being central to the successful completion of the degree and the future working lives of graduates. By successfully completing a distance learning degree course, students are not only display relevant knowledge, skills and understanding to an employer but also that you are able to manage your time effectively, that you are self-motivated and already have a good work ethic – all of which will give you the edge you need to find success in the real world.

Subject to certain regulatory requirements, students who successfully complete the LLB (Honours) degree will be exempted from the academic stage of legal training by both the Law Society and General Council of the Bar.

IS THIS THE PROGRAMME FOR ME?

If you are interested in...

- Understanding the relationship between law, individuals, and society;
- Gaining a comprehensive and critical understanding of key legal principles, issues, and institutions;
- Examining those principles, issues, and institutions within their social, economic, political, cultural, and international contexts;
- Analysing the policies, philosophies, and issues underpinning the development of substantive legal principles and the enforcement thereof;
- Developing transferable skills and a precision and clarity of thinking and presenting arguments that will serve you well in all walks of life; and
- Studying in a supportive, innovative, and challenging environment

If you enjoy...

- A demanding, yet highly rewarding, educational experience;
- Working independently and as part of a group when so required;
- Handling detailed and complex materials and presenting the facts, principles, and issues raised there from in a clear and precise manner;
- The idea of developing your oral and written presentational skills and gaining the confidence to present your ideas in a clear, concise, and cogent manner;
- Being part of an academic community in which staff will show you full respect and are accessible, approachable, and supportive

If you want...

- To undertake a degree programme that will be enjoyable, demanding, and enlightening;
- To pursue a programme which offers a firm grounding in core law subjects but also offers an unparalleled range of options; and
- To gain a qualification that will be genuinely beneficial to your future chances of attaining gainful employment.

Your future career

As well as students going on to become solicitors or barristers, the following list provides a flavour of the sort of things that our students do after graduating:

- Postgraduate studies, both in this country and abroad;
- Working for solicitors firms in a para-legal capacity;
- Working in Local Government (for example, in Housing, Legal, and Accounting Departments);
- Working for a range of private sector industries and companies in an administrative or managerial capacity; and

- Working for Charities or Non-Governmental Institutions

How we support you

On enrolment, you will be provided with an induction pack containing all the information you need to prepare you for your studies, including your student handbook and Programme Guide.

ICS has a team of dedicated mentors to help you with general needs and respond to your queries in respect of any administrative issues. You can contact your mentor via phone, e-mail, post and fax – and you are guaranteed a timely response. Your mentor will also contact you at regular intervals – initially to welcome you and agree a study plan, and then to talk to you about your progress and remind you of important deadlines.

In addition, you will be allocated a subject tutor for each module you study.

You can contact your subject tutor via your mentor, or directly via the ICS Online Student Community.

In addition, the ICS Online Student Community provides opportunities for you to contact other students.

Bonus factors

- No set term/enrolment times
- Study at your own pace
- Regular contact with tutors
- The support of experienced mentors to guide you through your studies.
- Flexible payment plan
- Contact with other students through the Online Student Community

Outcomes

Programme aims and learning outcomes

What is this programme designed to achieve?

Your LLB studies will stimulate an enquiring, analytical and creative intellectual approach, and encourage independent judgement and self-awareness. During your studies, you will develop a critical understanding of laws and legal processes in their political, economic, international, comparative and historical contexts; you will develop skills of legal analysis and reasoning in relation to cases, statutes and texts in both the UK and other jurisdictions and you will develop effective communication skills, both orally and in writing.

You will meet the requirements of the JASB in respect of the academic stage of training.

What will you learn?

All learning outcomes are covered in the programme's single honours route and where Maj, J and/or Min is shown against a learning outcome, this confirms that the learning outcome is covered in the Major, Joint and/or Minor routes offered.

1. Subject-specific Abilities

1.1 Knowledge

Students will have a detailed knowledge and understanding of the principal features of the English Legal System. This will include:

- a detailed knowledge of the core concepts, values, principles, and rules which underpin the English Legal System; (Maj, Joint and Minor)
- the ability to explain the main legal institutions and procedures of the English Legal System; (Maj, Joint and Minor)
- a thorough understanding of the core substantive areas within this jurisdiction; (Maj)
- a detailed knowledge of certain substantive areas beyond the core, reflecting the options which a student has selected; (Maj, Joint and Minor)
- a mature understanding of the relationship between the legal order and broader societal constructs, such as culture, politics, and power; (Maj, Joint))and
- a comprehensive knowledge of the relationship between the English Legal System and various Supranational and International sources of law. (Maj, Joint)

1.2 Application and Problem-solving

Students will have the ability to apply the knowledge outlined in paragraph 1.1 above to hypothetical scenarios. (Maj, Joint and Minor)

1.3 Sources and Research

Students will be able to:

- accurately identify the issue(s) which require researching;
- identify and retrieve up-to-date legal information, using paper and electronic means;
- utilise primary and secondary legal resources relevant to the topic under study; and
- accurately and appropriately reference the sources which have been so utilised. (Maj, Joint and Minor)

2. General Transferable Intellectual Skills

2.1 Analysis, Synthesis, Critical Judgement, and Evaluation

Students will have the ability to:

- recognise and rank items and issues in terms of relevance and importance;
- bring together information and materials from a variety of sources; • produce a synthesis of relevant doctrinal and policy issues in relation to a topic;
- make critical judgement of the merits of particular arguments; and
- present and make a reasoned choice between alternative solutions. (Maj, Joint and Minor)

2.2 Autonomy and the Ability to Learn

Students will be able to:

- act independently in planning and undertaking tasks in areas of law which they have already studied;
- starting from standard legal information sources, undertake independent research in areas of law which they have not previously studied; and
- reflect upon their own learning, and to seek and make use of feedback. (Maj, Joint and Minor)

3. Key Skills

3.1 Communication and Literacy

Both orally and in writing, students will be able to:

- understand and use English language proficiently in relation to legal matters;
- present knowledge or an argument in a way which is comprehensible to others and which is directed to their concerns; and
- read and discuss legal materials which are written in a technical and complex language. (Maj, Joint and Minor)

3.1.1 Other Key Skills: Numeracy, Information Technology, and Teamwork

Students will be able to:

- where relevant and as the basis of an argument, use, present and evaluate information provided in numerical or statistical form;
- use the World-wide web and email;
- produce a high quality word-processed essay or other text and to present such work in an appropriate form;
- use electronic information retrieval systems; and • work in groups as a participant who contributes effectively to a group's tasks. (Maj, Joint and Minor)

Structure

The programme structure

Introduction

All ICS/ UEL programmes are credit-rated to help you to understand the amount and level of study that is needed.

One credit is equal to 10 hours of directed study time (this includes everything you do e.g. lecture, seminar and private study).

Credits are assigned to one of 5 levels:

- 0 - equivalent in standard to GCE 'A' level and is intended to prepare students for year one of an undergraduate degree programme
- 1 - equivalent in standard to the first year of a full-time undergraduate degree programme
- 2 - equivalent in standard to the second year of a full-time undergraduate degree programme
- 3 - equivalent in standard to the third year of a full-time undergraduate degree programme
- M - equivalent in standard to a Masters degree

Credit rating

The overall credit-rating of this programme is 360 credits.

Typical duration

To gain a qualifying Law degree, the programme must be completed within six years. ICS support, however, is available for eight. Study within this period is entirely flexible and should be determined and planned by you, with the support of your mentor.

How the teaching year is divided

You can commence your studies at any time – enrolment on this programme is not tied to the academic year. We will work with you to formulate a realistic study plan based on the time you have available for study, availability dates for exams and assessments and your preferred completion date.

What you will study when

This programme is part of a modular degree scheme. A typical full-time student will take six 20 credit modules per year, but distance learning students will choose to take less than this.

An honours degree student will complete six modules at level one, six at level 2 and six at level 3. It is possible to bring together modules from one subject with modules from another to produce a combined programme. Subjects are offered in a variety of combinations:

- Single - 120 credits at levels one, two and three
- Major - 80 credits at levels one, two and three
- Joint - 60 credits at levels one, two and three
- Minor - 40 credits at levels one, two and three

Modules are defined as:

- Core - Must be taken
- Option - Select from a range of identified modules within the field
- University wide option - Select from a wide range of modules across the University

The following are the core and optional requirements for the single and major pathways for this programme

LEVEL	UEL Module Code	TITLE	SKILLS MODULES (Insert Y where appropriate)	CREDITS	STATUS SINGLE MAJOR	STATUS JOINT	STATUS MINOR
1	LA1050	Constitutional & Administrative Law		20	Core	Core	n/a
1	LA1350	Tort		20	Core	n/a	n/a
1	LA1400	Contract Law		20	Core	n/a	n/a
1	LA1650	Skills for Academic Learning in Law	Y	20	Core	Core	Core
1	LA1750	The English Legal System		20	Core	Core	Core
1	LA1850	Comparative Legal Systems		20	Core	Core	Core
2	LA2220	Law & Society	Y	20	Core	Core	Core
2	LA2240	Equity & Trusts		20	Core	n/a	Option
2	LA2280	European Union Law		20	Core	n/a	Option
2	LA2300	Criminal Law		20	Core	n/a	Option
2	LA2470	Human Rights		20	Core	Core	Option
2	LA2500	Land Law		20	Core	n/a	Option
2	LA2050	Constitutional & Administrative Law		20	n/a	n/a	Core
2	LA2350	Tort		20	n/a	Core	Option
2	LA2400	Contract Law		20	n/a	Core	Option
3	LA3240	Equity & Trusts		20	n/a	Core	Option
3	LA3250	Land Law		20	n/a	Core	Option
3	LA3280	European Union Law		20	n/a	Core	Option
3	LA3330	Criminal Law		20	n/a	Core	Option
3	LA3030	Company Law		20	Option	Option	Option
3	LA3080	Consumer Law		20	Option	Option	Option
3	LA3020	Employment Law		20	Option	Option	Option
3	LA3310	Evidence		20	Option	Option	Option

3	LA3340	Family Law	20	Option	Option	Option	Option
3	LA3410	Intellectual Property	20	Option	Option	Option	Option
3	LA3470	International Human Rights	20	Option	Option	Option	Option
3	LA3590	Medicine & The Law	20	Option	Option	Option	Option
3	LA3640	International Law	20	Option	Option	Option	Option
3	LA3900	Project	40	Option	n/a	n/a	n/a

Requirements for gaining an award

In order to gain an honours degree you will need to obtain 360 credits including:

- A minimum of 120 credits at level one or higher
- A minimum of 120 credits at level two or higher
- A minimum of 120 credits at level three or higher

In order to gain an ordinary degree you will need to obtain a minimum of 300 credits including:

- A minimum of 120 credits at level one or higher
- A minimum of 120 credits at level two or higher
- A minimum of 60 credits at level three or higher

In order to gain a **Diploma of Higher Education** you will need to obtain at least 240 credits including a minimum of 120 credits at level one or higher and 120 credits at level two or higher

In order to gain a **Certificate of Higher Education** you will need to obtain 120 credits at level one or higher

In order to gain an **University Undergraduate Certificate** you will need to obtain a minimum of 20 credits at level one or higher

In order to gain a **University Undergraduate Associate Certificate** you will need to obtain a minimum of 20 credits at level one or higher

Only one final award may be obtained.

NB: Qualifying Law Degree status is only granted for the Honours degree.

Degree Classification

Where a student is eligible for an Honours degree, and has gained a minimum of 240 UEL credits at level 2 or level 3 on the programme, including a minimum of 120 UEL credits at level 3, the award classification is determined by calculating:

The arithmetic mean of the best 100 credits at level 3 $\times 2/3$ + The arithmetic mean of the next best 100 credits at levels 2 and/or 3 $\times 1/3$

and applying the mark obtained as a percentage, with all decimal points rounded up to the nearest whole number, to the following classification

70% - 100% First Class Honours
60% - 69% Second Class Honours, First Division
50% - 59% Second Class Honours, Second Division
40% - 49% Third Class Honours
0% - 39% Not passed

Assessment

Teaching, learning and assessment

Teaching and learning

Knowledge is developed through

- Guided reading
- Knowledge-based activities with feedback

Thinking skills are developed through

- Hypothetical problem solving
- Practical exercises including writing a legal judgement and simulated court argument
- Essay writing
- Reading legal texts

Practical skills are developed through

- Exercises in electronic and paper searches
- Exercises designed to develop research strategies
- Training in on-line resources
- Structured reflection on the skills developed or acquired

Skills for life and work (general skills) are developed through

- Guided workshops on skills for legal writing and reading
- Oral presentations in face to face workshops

Assessment

Knowledge is assessed by

- Unseen and seen examinations
- Essays

- Hypothetical problem solving
- Oral presentations

Thinking skills are assessed by

- Research based coursework
- Reflective diaries
- Book reviews

Practical skills are assessed by

- Portfolio compilation
- Practice-based exercises
- Observation reports

Skills for life and work (general skills) are assessed by As stated under 'knowledge is assessed by'

Quality

How we assure the quality of this programme

Before this programme started

Before this programme started, the following was checked:

- there would be enough qualified staff to teach the programme;
- adequate resources would be in place;
- the overall aims and objectives were appropriate;
- the content of the programme met national benchmark requirements;
- the programme met any professional/statutory body requirements;
- the proposal met other internal quality criteria covering a range of issues such as admissions policy, teaching, learning and assessment strategy and student support mechanisms.

This is done through a process of programme approval which involves consulting academic experts including some subject specialists from other institutions. .

How we monitor the quality of this programme

The quality of this programme is monitored each year through evaluating:

- external examiner reports (considering quality and standards);
- statistical information (considering issues such as the pass rate);
- student feedback.

Drawing on this and other information, programme teams undertake the annual Review and Enhancement Process which is co-ordinated at School level and includes student participation.

The process is monitored by the Quality and Standards Committee.

Once every six years an in-depth review of the whole field is undertaken by a panel that includes at least two external subject specialists. The panel considers documents, looks at student work, speaks to current and former students and speaks to staff before drawing its conclusions. The result is a report highlighting good practice and identifying areas where action is needed.

The role of the programme committee

ICS has a Programme Study Board comprising all relevant teaching staff and others who make a contribution towards the effective operation of the programme. The team is responsible for the quality of the programme. The team reviews collected student feedback and uses this as a basis for continuous improvement. It reviews the Review and Enhancement Action Plan and proposes changes to improve quality.

The role of external examiners

The standard of this programme is monitored by at least one external examiner. External examiners have two primary responsibilities:

- To ensure the standard of the programme;
- To ensure that justice is done to individual students.

External examiners fulfil these responsibilities in a variety of ways including:

- Approving exam papers/assignments;
- Attending assessment boards;
- Reviewing samples of student work and moderating marks;
- Ensuring that regulations are followed;
- Providing feedback through an annual report that enables us to make improvements for the future.

Listening to the views of students

The following methods for gaining student feedback are used on this programme:

- Module evaluations
- Programme evaluations
- Polls via our website
- Student representation at ICS Programmes Study Board Meetings held twice yearly.

Students are notified of the action taken through:

- Individual mailing letters as required
- Student Representatives
- Postings on the ICS Student Community

Listening to the views of others

The following methods are used for gaining the views of other interested parties:

- Discussions with former students
- External Representation on the Academic Advisory Board

Further Information

Alternative locations for studying this programme

Location	Which elements?	Taught by UEL staff	Taught by local staff	Method of Delivery
-	-	-	-	-

Where you can find further information

Further information about this programme is available from:

- The ICS website (www.icslearn.co.uk)
- The UEL web site (<http://www.uel.ac.uk>)
- The Student Handbook
- The programme handbook
- Module study guides
- UEL Manual of General Regulations <http://www.uel.ac.uk/qa/>
- UEL Quality Manual <http://www.uel.ac.uk/qa/>
- Regulations for the Academic Framework <http://www.uel.ac.uk/academicframework/>
- UEL Guide to Undergraduate Programmes
- School web pages (<http://www.uel.ac.uk/law/>)