



Manchester
Metropolitan
University



LLB (Hons) in Legal Practice

4 years part-time, distance learning



Affordable
course fees
£2,420 per year
See inside for
further details

Key benefits

- Flexible four year distance learning degree
- Designed to improve your employability
- Qualifying law degree - gives access to the vocational stage of solicitor/barrister training
- Meets the academic requirements to become a legal executive lawyer
- Helps you avoid significant student debt - fees are competitive and you can earn and learn at the same time.

The LLB in Legal Practice is a law degree with a difference. It enables you to combine essential legal knowledge with practical legal skills while gaining a valuable law degree.

Developed jointly by MMU School of Law and ILEX Tutorial College (ITC), the degree is taught via supported distance learning, so you can study from anywhere in the UK.

The legal practice electives fulfil all the academic study required to become a legal executive lawyer, which is what makes this programme so distinctive.

In common with other law degrees, the LLB in Legal Practice will also prepare you for further training if you want to become a solicitor or barrister.

On graduating you will be able to apply legal theory to practical law with confidence, making you more employable than graduates who have studied a traditional law degree.

“This course will not only give you essential legal knowledge, but the skills and confidence to apply it in a real life situation.”

Sallie Spilsbury, Course Leader, LLB (Hons) in Legal Practice

What you will study

You will study all of the standard ‘foundations of legal knowledge’ which permit you to undertake further training as a solicitor or barrister.

As you progress through the course you can choose from a range of available electives. So, if you want a future role in law - or you are already working in a legal environment - you can build your qualification to match your career goals. Even if your aspirations are not in law, you will graduate with lots of valuable transferable skills.

See below for a summary of what you will study in each year:

How you will study

The course is taught via supported distance learning, over four years, giving you the flexibility to balance your current commitments with your study.

The course starts with a two-day induction session in Manchester on 9-10 September 2011, to equip you with the skills and knowledge to manage your study programme. You will be given your course timetable and printed materials, as well as being introduced to the online facilities and support.

After the induction session you will be set course work for each of the subjects for you to do at home in your own time, which are then sent for marking. There will be opportunities to submit ‘mock’ or ‘practice’ assessments before each formal assessment so that you can receive tutor feedback about how you can improve your performance.

Each module has timetabled submission dates for your study exercises so you have a structure to work to, which will help you to maintain the momentum throughout the year. Don’t worry if the idea of organising your study time is daunting: our experienced team will be available to give advice and encouragement by phone and email.

Before the examinations there is a revision weekend to help you to prepare. Expert tutors will guide you through the syllabus highlighting key topics and explaining points of special significance.

The induction, revision and exam sessions are all held in Manchester. Other than this there is no attendance requirement.

One of the great benefits of studying by distance learning is that you will have all the support you need without the requirement to attend classes, although there is enough face-to-face contact to ensure that you get to know us and your fellow students.

Year 1

Legal System and Society, Contract and Tort.

Year 2

Public Law; Criminal Law and one further law subject* selected from:

Family Law, Law of Wills and Succession, Employment Law or Company and Partnership Law

Year 3

Land Law; The Law of the European Union and one legal practice subject* selected from:

Civil Litigation
Company and Partnership Practice
Criminal Litigation
Employment Practice
Family Practice or
Probate Practice

Year 4

Equity and Trusts and one legal practice subject* selected from the Year 3 list.

You will also study Professional Skills in Practice (incorporating client care and legal research skills) in your final year to prepare you for practice.

Learning materials and study support

As a distance learning student it is important that all the course materials are easy to use and deliver knowledge in the most efficient way.

For each law and legal practice module the syllabus is delivered through specially written course materials including a course manual, webcasts and study exercises. The study exercises give you practice in applying the knowledge that you have gained, and feedback from lecturers helps to develop your understanding of the subject matter.

* It is not guaranteed that all the law or legal practice electives will be available in a given year.

“Although you may be physically at some distance from the University, I guarantee that you will not be on your own. The support that you get on this course is so extensive that it is a very attractive alternative to full-time study.”

Elizabeth Harding, Academic Manager, ITC

On-course support is available by phoning ITC's academic helpline or you can post a query on the online forum which is monitored by qualified academics. The forum is hosted on ITC's user-friendly Student Area.

The professional skills subjects are taught using online resources in a variety of media for you to work through at home, with accompanying notes and exercises. You can be sure that you will be supported throughout your course by a qualified and dedicated team.

As well as the extensive course resources on the ITC Student Area you will also have access to the MMU virtual learning environment, including its comprehensive electronic library facilities and careers support.

Affordable course fees

The annual fee of £2,420 is very competitive when compared with the prevailing fees for a full-time degree course. All course materials are included in the fees. A non-refundable deposit of £150 is payable when you accept an offer of a place on the course. The balance of £2,270 is payable by 26 August 2011.

You may opt to pay by instalments as follows. The instalment payments are in addition to the deposit referred to above, and also include a £50 instalment administration fee.

By 26 August 2011: £1120.00
By 1 December 2011: £600
By 1 February 2012: £600

If you live overseas you will also need to pay an additional £150 postage fee per year.

Your career prospects

You will have access to MMU's dedicated Law Careers and Employability Adviser, who is contactable throughout the course, to provide help with CVs, job applications, career options, covering letters and more. You can expect support with your legal career whilst you study and for up to three years after you graduate.

As the course is a qualifying law degree, on graduation you will be eligible to undertake further training as a solicitor or barrister, or to qualify as a legal executive lawyer.

Solicitors, barristers and legal executives are all qualified lawyers. Depending on which branch of the profession you choose to pursue, your route to qualification will differ.

Legal executive lawyers are qualified to the same level as solicitors, but the legal practice element of their training is narrower, as they select the area of practice in which they wish to specialise. As a result, all the academic study necessary to qualify as a legal executive can be incorporated into your degree programme.

Qualifying as a legal executive lawyer

If your career goal is to become a partner in a law firm then that is something you can achieve by becoming a legal executive lawyer. As well as being a partner there are other opportunities for legal executives, such as becoming advocates or even, for suitably experienced candidates, judicial appointment.

Once you have graduated from the LLB in Legal Practice you will be eligible to become a Graduate Member of the Institute of Legal Executives (ILEX), subject to paying exemption fees to ILEX so that your LLB will be accepted in lieu of the usual ILEX exams.

To become a legal executive lawyer (a Fellow of ILEX) you must also acquire a five year period of qualifying employment, two years of which must take place after you have graduated.

Three of the five years can take place contemporaneously with your studies, so we recommend that you apply for work as a paralegal while studying for your degree if you want to become a legal executive lawyer. Please note, however, that ILEX is reviewing its requirements for qualifying employment, and these (and indeed the qualification itself) might change in the course of your period of study. More information on becoming a legal executive lawyer is available at www.ilex.org.uk.

Qualifying as a solicitor or barrister

To become a solicitor or barrister, you must study either the post-graduate LPC (Legal Practice Course) to become a solicitor, or the BPTC (Bar Professional Training Course) if you want to be a barrister.

After completing either the LPC or BPTC, both branches of the profession require you to undergo a further period of training with an employer. To fully qualify as a solicitor, you must complete a Training Contract (or Work Based Learning) with a law firm. For more information on the process, and qualifying as a lawyer, see the Solicitors' Regulation Authority website at www.sra.org.uk/students/students.page.

To qualify as a barrister you must complete pupillage with a barristers' chambers. For more information on the process and qualifying as a barrister, see the Bar Standards Board website at www.barstandardsboard.org.uk/Educationandtraining.



As the rules currently stand, law graduates who then become legal executive lawyers before subsequently completing the LPC are currently exempt from the solicitors' training contract.

The rules on training contract exemption are entirely a matter for the Solicitors Regulation Authority and may change without notice. The information in this section is in outline only, and you should ensure that you seek full details from the professional bodies about their respective routes to qualification.

MMU School of Law

MMU School of Law is one of the largest law schools in the UK with a long history of delivering top class legal education. We offer a full portfolio of full and part-time law courses, ranging from undergraduate degrees, through to professional training for solicitors and barristers.

With over 100 staff, many of whom are qualified lawyers, you can be assured you will be studying on a quality course delivered by experienced professionals. We have strong, lasting links to the local legal profession and are conveniently based at the heart of Manchester. The School of Law is also experienced in offering alternative study routes, having provided an open access part-time law

degree for a number of years. MMU staff have developed the syllabus of the LLB in Legal Practice programme which is delivered using ITC's tried and tested supported distance learning techniques.

ITC

MMU has linked up with ITC due to its unrivalled pedigree in delivering distance learning courses in law and legal practice. ITC was set up by the Institute of Legal Executives (ILEX) to deliver distance learning courses to legal executives, and has over 3,000 students of its own.

ITC provides a named contact during office hours to help and advise you on course related matters, as well as handling the administration of your study exercises. When you enrol on the course you will be given access to ITC's Student Area for your course-specific resources.

Entry requirements and application

You will be admitted to the programme either on the basis of recent academic achievement or through evidence of achievement in the sphere of paid or voluntary work. Full details of acceptable qualifications are given on the MMU and ITC websites.

Applications are to be submitted through ITC.

Please complete the attached application form and submit it to Dawn Gray, Professional Courses Administrator at the address below or complete the online application form available from the relevant course page on ITC's website at **www.ilex-tutorial.ac.uk**. If you have any queries about the course please call Dawn Gray on **01234 844366** or email **d.gray@ilex-tutorial.ac.uk**

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Manor Drive, Kempston, Bedford
MK42 7AB.

Telephone	01234 844366
Fax	01234 841373
Email	d.gray@ilex-tutorial.ac.uk
ITC website	www.ilex-tutorial.ac.uk
MMU website	www.mmu.ac.uk/law

Further information

If you have any queries about the course please call Dawn on 01234 844366 or email d.gray@ilex-tutorial.ac.uk

To find out more about other MMU programmes, contact Course Enquiries by calling 0161 247 6969 or visit www.mmu.ac.uk/course-enquiry

www.mmu.ac.uk/law