

## PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

### KEY FACTS

Programme name	Graduate Entry LLB
Award	GELLB (Hons)
School	The City Law School, City University, London
Department or equivalent	Academic Programmes
UCAS Code	M110
Programme code	LALBLLB01 (Route code: GSLLBD)
Type of study	Full Time
Total UK credits	360
Total ECTS	180

### PROGRAMME SUMMARY

This programme is a two-year law degree for those students who already possess a university degree. The programme consists of two parts, each taken full time in successive academic years.

The first part consists of four of the core legal subjects and English Legal System and the second part consists of the remaining three core legal subjects together with six legal elective subjects of the student's choosing. In addition to a wide range of electives from which to choose, you can elect to write a dissertation of 10,000 words.

The programme is a fully recognised law degree by the legal professions of England and Wales.

The programme may be particularly attractive to international graduates since it provides a route to obtain an LLB in a shorter period than would normally be required by your home country.

As a student on the Graduate Entry LLB you are taught as a cohort separate from the LLB undergraduate students for all core subjects and in combination with third year LLB students for electives.

Upon successful completion of this two-year degree programme you will have achieved a total of 360 credits. This is made up of 135 level 5 credits in year one, followed by 165 level 6 credits in year two. In addition, students are exempted 60 credits, 15 of which are at Level 6, in respect of approved prior learning from their previous degree.

By the end of your first year, you should have developed knowledge of the concepts and principles associated with your area of study and will be able to demonstrate different approaches to problem-solving, as well as effective communication of information. You will also have an understanding of the limits of your knowledge.

By the end of this programme, you should have developed a systematic understanding of key aspects of your area of study, including how to acquire coherent

and detailed knowledge of your chosen subject. In addition, you will have developed the skills and analytical techniques to apply your knowledge to many types of employment as well as continue your own learning and development.

### Aims

The aims of the programme are:

- To provide you with the knowledge and understanding of the basic principles of English and European Union law in preparation for professional education and training and entry to the legal profession.
- To provide you with the opportunity to gain an awareness of other legal systems.
- To permit you to acquire an in-depth knowledge of certain specialised areas of law.
- To make you aware of the relevant social, political, economic or philosophical contexts within which the law operates.
- To equip you with the necessary legal analytical and presentational skills.
- To provide general intellectual foundation and to develop transferable skills to prepare you for legal or other graduate employment.
- To equip you with the necessary learning skills to progress to postgraduate level courses.

### **WHAT WILL I BE EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE?**

**On successful completion of this programme, you will be expected to be able to:**

#### Knowledge and understanding:

- Demonstrate knowledge of a substantial range of major concepts, values, principles and rules of the English legal system.
- Have studied in depth and in context the core and some elective areas of the legal system.
- Explain the main legal institutions, procedures and remedies of that system.

#### Skills:

- Independently use primary and secondary sources to identify the law on any given issue and in support of an analysis of what the law is or ought to be.
- Demonstrate enhanced planning and organisational skills.
- Synthesise information from a variety of sources.
- Possess effective oral and written communication skills.
- Analyse authorities, principles, policies and texts, including the ability to

recognize and rank items and issues in terms of relevance and importance.

- Undertake independent research, identifying accurately the issue(s) which require researching and retrieving up-to-date and relevant legal information, using paper and electronic sources.
- Compare and evaluate alternative doctrines and policy approaches and to present and make a reasoned choice between alternative solutions.
- Make effective use of information technology, including e-mail, the internet, information retrieval systems and word processing to enhance your practice. Work both independently and as a member of a team.
- Apply appropriate problem-solving skills.
- Apply knowledge to a situation of limited complexity in order to provide arguable conclusions for concrete problems (actual or hypothetical).

Values and attitudes:

- Demonstrate that you have begun to appreciate the ethical and social implications of acting as a practicing lawyer or other professional person and that you will be able to respect and conform to the professional codes of conduct.
- Receive and act upon constructive feedback in order to improve your skills and abilities.
- Demonstrate initiative and enthusiasm and ability to find solutions to identified issues.

This programme has been developed in accordance with the QAA Subject Benchmark for Law. The knowledge and skills obtained during the course will give you a solid foundation to pursue your career in law or in any other professional environment.

**HOW WILL I LEARN?**

You will have two hours per week of lectures and one tutorial per fortnight in each of the core subjects which continue throughout Year 1. In addition, there are English Legal System workshops in the first term. You will therefore have on average 10 contact hours per week in the first year.

Lectures are attended by all students and are designed to introduce and give an overview of the subject, highlighting problem areas, proposals for reform and current issues. Tutorials are smaller groups where you will explore the subject material in greater depth and gain practice in answering problem-type questions. Course materials and problem sheets are issued to you in advance for preparation.

In the second year you will continue to have two hours per week of lectures and one tutorial per fortnight in each of the core subjects have at least four hours a week for each of the remaining three core subjects, two of which are taught in Term 1 and the

other one in Term 2. Equity & Trusts and Land Law are full year modules, whilst EU Law is a one term module (Term 1).

In addition, you will take six elective subjects of 15 credits (one term). The electives are normally taught by two hours per week of lectures and one tutorial per fortnight. Therefore you will have approximately 13 hours of contact hours in Year 2.

In addition to the contact hours, you will be expected to engage in eight hours a week of private study for each module are taking.

This programme contact hours may be delivered using a number of different approaches.. Please see individual Module Specifications, Moodle pages and/or programme/module handbooks for further information.

For those subjects where there is no summative coursework there will be formative coursework normally consisting of a written essay. This is directed towards giving you feedback and assisting in preparation for the summative assessments.

## **WHAT TYPES OF ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK CAN I EXPECT?**

### Assessment and Assessment Criteria

Formative assessments do not contribute to your overall module mark but are designed to improve your learning, by identifying areas of strength and weakness. Formative assessments are optional and may be in the form of class tests or short pieces of written work (typically 1500 words).

Summative assessments evaluate your learning at the end of your assessment by comparing it against a standard benchmark known as assessment criteria.

All core modules assessed online at the end of the academic year, except for EU Law (GE LLB 2) assessed during the January exam period. Elective modules are assessed in January or May, depending on the period they run in. Core and elective modules may be assessed by unseen exam, take-home exam, MCQ or coursework, please refer to module specifications for the relevant academic year for full details of how the module is assessed.

**GE LLB1 (30 credits):** Unseen timed exam, 3000 words take home exam or coursework answering 2 questions (1500 words per answer) out of any number chosen by module leader.

**GE LLB1 (15 credits English Legal System):** The test is composed of multiple choice questions (MCQs). It is unseen and is ninety minutes in length. The test will be an online Moodle examination

**GE LLB2 (30 credits; Equity & Trusts and Land Law):** Unseen timed exam, 3000 words take home exam or coursework answering 2 questions (1500 words per answer) out of any number chosen by module leader.

**GE LLB2 (15 credits; EU Law) :** Unseen timed exam, coursework or 2000 word take home assessment answering 1 or 2 questions out of any number of chosen by module leader.

**GE LLB2 (15 credit elective modules):** Unseen timed exam, 2000 word coursework or 2000 word take home assessment answering 1 or 2 questions out of any number of chosen by module leader. Elective modules can also employ other assessment methods, such as presentation and reflective journals. Students should refer to the please refer to module specifications for the relevant academic year for full details of how the elective module is assessed.

**Dissertation (30 credit GELLB2):** You will be assessed by a research project of up to 10,000 words.

All assessments may occur as stand-alone assessments or in weighted combinations. For more information about assessments relating to specific modules you are advised to refer to the individual module specification.

Assessment Criteria are descriptions, based on the intended learning outcomes, of the skills, knowledge or attitudes that you need to demonstrate in order to complete an assessment successfully for each given module, providing a mechanism by which the quality of an assessment can be measured. The RACER criteria are used on the GELLB Law programme to assess your progress and performance. RACER stands for: Relevant legal knowledge; Analysis; Communication; Evaluation; and Research and ethics.

Grade-Related Criteria are descriptions of the level of skills, knowledge and/or attributes that you need to demonstrate in order achieve a certain grade or mark in an assessment, providing a mechanism by which the quality of an assessment can be measured and placed within the overall set of marks. Demonstrating overall satisfaction of the RACER criteria to an “outstanding” or “excellent” degree is necessary for First-Class grades (70-100), a “good” extent for Upper Second-Class marks (60-69), a “satisfactory” demonstration for Lower Second Class marks (50-59), and a “passable” degree for Third-Class marks (40-49).

More information about Assessment Criteria and Grade-Related Criteria will be made available to you to support you in completing assessments. They will be provided where appropriate in the programme handbook, module specifications and on the virtual learning environment.

#### Feedback on Assessment

Feedback will be provided in line with our Assessment and Feedback Policy. In particular you will normally be provided with feedback within three weeks of the submission deadline or assessment date. This would normally include a provisional grade or mark. For end of module examinations or an equivalent significant task (e.g.

an end of module project), feedback will normally be provided within four weeks. The timescale for feedback on final year projects or dissertations may be longer. Any additional feedback, beyond Formative and Summative Assessments, is provided completely at the discretion of individual Academics. The full policy can be found at [https://studenthub.city.ac.uk/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0009/574371/Assessment-and-Feedback-Policy..pdf](https://studenthub.city.ac.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0009/574371/Assessment-and-Feedback-Policy..pdf)

You will receive coursework feedback by way of individual comments on your written work together with indicative grade on our Virtual Learning Environment – Moodle. The analysis will enable you to see what you have done well, but will also highlight areas in need of improvement. It will also give you an indication as to what needs to be done in order to achieve a better grade, if applicable. After the examination results are released, you will be able to discuss your exam script with the module tutor to identify the areas you have addressed well and to constructively highlight areas for improvement.

### Assessment Regulations

In order to pass your Programme, you should complete successfully all modules and assessments and will therefore acquire the required number of credits. You also need to pass Programme Stage 1 of your Programme in order to progress to Programme Stage 2.

### **Requirements to pass the Graduate Entry LLB**

#### **Programme Stage 1**

To progress to Programme Stage 2, students must normally obtain 135 credits by achieving at least the module pass mark of 40% in each of the core modules and at least 50% in the English Legal System module. A Programme Stage 1 aggregate is calculated as the average module mark for each of the four core modules for the purpose of final degree classification. The English Legal System module is excluded from the Programme Stage 1 aggregate. **There is no compensation across modules.**

#### **Programme Stage 2**

In order to satisfy the requirements of Programme Stage 2 and to be eligible for the award of a degree, candidates must obtain 165 credits by achieving at least the module pass mark of 40% in each of the three core modules and the six elective modules.

A Programme Stage 2 aggregate is arrived at by aggregating the module mark for each of the nine modules taken with each given a weighting towards the aggregate in accordance with the credit attached to the module.

#### **Degree Classification**

The classification for your degree will be made using one of the two alternative methods below, whichever produces the higher class.

Firstly, your final weighted mean average mark will be calculated by combining the Programme Stage 1 average with the Programme Stage 2 average, weighted 40%

and 60% respectively. This mark will be compared with the class table below and you will be awarded the class into which your mark falls.

Secondly and alternatively, if you achieve at least 135 credits (excluding English Legal System) in a classification higher than the banding into which your overall weighted mean average mark falls, you can be awarded the higher classification, provided your overall degree mark is not more than 5% below that classification minimum. For example, a student who has an overall weighted mean average mark of 57%, but who has achieved marks above or equal to 60% in modules totalling 135 credits would be awarded a 2.1 classification.

If you fail an assessment component or a module, the following will apply:

1. Compensation: where you have one marginal examination fail of a 15 credit module of a Programme Stage at first or resit attempt, you may be allowed compensation if:
  - Compensation is permitted for the module involved (see the What will I Study section of the programme specification), and
  - it can be demonstrated that you have satisfied all the Learning Outcomes of the modules in the Programme Stage, and
  - the mark actually attained in the subject to be compensated is not less than 35%, and
  - an aggregate mark of 40% has been achieved for the Programme Stage.

Where you are eligible for compensation at the first attempt, this will be applied in the first instance rather than offering a resit opportunity.

If you receive a compensated pass in a module you will be awarded the credit for that module. The original component marks will be retained in the record of marks and your original module mark will be used for the purpose of your Award calculation.

2. Resit: where you are not eligible for compensation at the first attempt, you will be offered one resit attempt.

If you are successful in the resit, you will be awarded the credit for that module. The mark for each assessment component that is subject to a resit will be capped at the pass mark for the module. This capped mark will be used in the calculation of the final module mark together with the original marks for the components that you passed at first attempt.

If you do not meet the pass requirements for a module and do not complete your resit by the date specified you will not progress to the next Programme Stage and the Assessment Board will require you to be withdrawn from the Programme.

If you fail to meet the requirements for a particular Programme Stage or the Programme, the Assessment Board will consider whether you are eligible for an Exit Award as per the table below.

The time limit for completing the full-time time programme is 4 years, exceptions can be made, but are subject to the outcome of an extenuating circumstances claim and or

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by agreement of the Assessment Board. If you take longer than 6 years to complete your studies, your final award may not be recognised as a qualifying degree by the Bar Standards Board (BSB) or the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA).

If you would like to know more about the way in which assessment works at City, please see the full version of the Assessment Regulations at:

[https://www.city.ac.uk/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0007/453652/s19.pdf](https://www.city.ac.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/453652/s19.pdf)

### WHAT AWARD CAN I GET?

#### Bachelor's Degree with Honours:

Programme Stage	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)	Class	% required
1	5	135	40	I	70
2	6	165	60	II upper division	60
				II lower division	50
				III	40

#### Ordinary Degree:

Programme Stage	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)	Class	% required
1	5	135	50	With Distinction	70
2	6	120	50	With Merit	60
				With Pass	40

#### Diploma of Higher Education:

Programme Stage	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)	Class	% required
1	5	135	100	With Distinction	70
				With Pass	40

### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

#### Programme Stage 1

Module Title	SITS Code	Module Credits	Core/ Elective	Compensation Yes/No	Level
English Legal System	LG2001	15	Core	No	5
Constitutional and Administrative law	LG2002	30	Core	No	5
Contract Law	LG2003	30	Core	No	5
Criminal Law	LG2004	30	Core	No	5

LALBLLB01 - GELLB Programme Specification - (Route Code GSLLBD)

Tort Law	LG2008	30	Core	No	5
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There are no prerequisites for any Programme Stage 1 Modules. All Programme Stage 1 modules are compulsory and there are no optional Modules in Year 1.

Programme Stage 2

Module Title	SITS Code	Module Credits	Core/ Elective	Compensation Yes/No	Level
Equity and Trusts	LG3200	30	Core	No	6
European Union Law	LG3201	15	Core	No	6
Land Law	LG3202	30	Core	No	6

In addition, students are required to take 90 credits worth of Level 6 electives from the table below. This can be accomplished by taking six 15 credit (one term) electives.

We will seek to make a full range of combinations available to all students, but some combinations may not be available due for example to timetabling constraints.

Module Title	SITS Code	Module Credits	Core/ Elective	Compensation Yes/ No	Level
Advanced Issues in International Law	LU3121	15	Elective	Yes	6
Canadian Constitutional Law – Foundational Principles	LU3126	15	Elective	Yes	6
Canadian Law of Business Organisations	LU3102	15	Elective	Yes	6
Child Law	LU3122	15	Elective	Yes	6
Media Law	LU3103	15	Elective	Yes	6
Competition Law	LU3070	15	Elective	Yes	6
International Economic Law	LU3098	15	Elective	Yes	6
Law of Domestic Sales	LU3146	15	Elective	Yes	6
Movement of Products and People into and within the EU	LU3147	15	Elective	Yes	6
Cross Border Commercial Law	LU3145	15	Elective	Yes	6
Human Rights Law in the UK	LU3132	15	Elective	Yes	6
International Banking Law	LU3136	15	Elective	Yes	6
International Commercial Arbitration	LU3074	15	Elective	Yes	6

LALBLLB01 - GELLB Programme Specification - (Route Code GSLLBD)

International Criminal Law	LU3077	15	Elective	Yes	6
International Human Rights Law	LU3115	15	Elective	Yes	6
Medical Law & Bioethics	LU3119	15	Elective	Yes	6
Introduction to the Solicitor's Professional Qualification	LU3137	15	Elective	Yes	6
Justice, Law and History	LU3125	15	Elective	Yes	6
Law of Evidence - The Evidential Implications of Criminal Investigation	LU3133	15	Elective	Yes	6
Law of Evidence: Safeguarding Reliability and Protecting Witnesses	LU3134	15	Elective	Yes	6
Global Issues in Corporate Law	LU3152	15	Elective	Yes	6
Maritime Law	LU3080	15	Elective	Yes	6
The Canadian Charter of Rights and Fundamental Freedoms	LU3127	15	Elective	Yes	6
International and Comparative Intellectual Property	LU3148	15	Elective	Yes	6
Labour Law	LU3149	15	Elective	Yes	6
Law, Race and Colonialism	LU3150	15	Elective	Yes	6

Not all Level 6 Elective modules will run every year, and Elective modules will be clustered. Students will be asked to choose from available modules within a pre-determined cluster

The dissertation module requires a minimum average of 60% or above from your core modules. If you have not attained this minimum, you will not be eligible to choose this module as an option. Please refer to the module specification for more information about the Dissertation module.

Dissertation	LU3096	30	Elective	No	6
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Programme Stage 1 must be passed before Programme Stage 2 may be attempted. Modules are not co-related.

**TO WHAT KIND OF CAREER MIGHT I GO ON?**

Many graduates from the programme go on to take either the Legal Practice Course (LPC) or the Solicitor's Qualifying Examination (SQE) in order to practise as solicitors. Fewer take the Bar Vocational Studies (BVS) route to qualify as barristers. A significant number of graduates go on to study for a higher degree in law.

The programme gives you the ability to pursue any other career which would be open to law graduates. In the past graduates have gone into accountancy, banking, the Civil Service and have sought employment in a range of NGOs.

If you would like more information on the Careers support available at City, please go to: <http://www.city.ac.uk/careers/for-students-and-recent-graduates>.

### **WILL I GET ANY PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION?**

The programme is a Qualifying Law Degree validated by the Joint Academic Stage Board (JASB). This means that graduates from the programme can proceed directly to take either the Legal Practice Course for entry into the solicitors' profession or the Bar Vocational Studies for entry into the Bar. The GELLB will also ensure that candidates meet the degree or equivalent qualification requirement of the Solicitor's Qualifying Examination (SQE) route to qualification. For further information go to [www.barstandardsboard.org.uk](http://www.barstandardsboard.org.uk) or [www.sra.org.uk](http://www.sra.org.uk)

### **HOW DO I ENTER THE PROGRAMME?**

Applications to the programme are made through UCAS <http://www.ucas.ac.uk/>

Up-to-date entry requirements can be viewed here:

<https://www.city.ac.uk/prospective-students/courses/postgraduate/law-ge-llb>

Version: 5.1

Version date: 11/04/2022

For use from: 2022/23