

Master of Laws (LLMC) - LLM

This program is currently undergoing internal reaccreditation. This may result in changes to the program for 2022.

	Online
Start:	Semester 1 (February) Semester 2 (July)
Fees:	Domestic full fee paying place International full fee paying place
Standard duration:	1.5 years full-time, up to 6 years part-time

Contact us

Future Australian and New Zealand students	Future International students	Current students
Ask a question Freecall (within Australia): 1800 269 500 Phone (from outside Australia): +61 7 4631 5315 Email: study@usq.edu.au	Ask a question Phone: +61 7 4631 5543 Email: international@usq.edu.au	Ask a question Freecall (within Australia): 1800 007 252 Phone (from outside Australia): +61 7 4631 2285 Email: usq.support@usq.edu.au

Program aims

The Master of Laws (by coursework) is designed for Australian and overseas law graduates. Students will be able to both broaden and deepen their knowledge of the law and enhance their independent critical thinking and research skills. The program enables students to achieve a high standard of professional writing and research relevant to contemporary issues in law and practice. The program includes specialisations that allow for students to concentrate deeply on one or two fields of law, and develop expertise, knowledge and skills.

Program objectives

On successful completion of this program students will be able to:

- (1) evaluate developments in chosen areas of law, and critically examine the relationship between those developments and contemporary theory or practice
- (2) demonstrate advanced knowledge of the impact of globalisation or other legal systems on the substance, theory and practice of Australian law
- (3) undertake, interpret and evaluate legal research using advanced legal research methodologies and techniques
- (4) articulate advanced knowledge of law in written or oral presentations.

Australian Qualifications Framework

The Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) is a single national, comprehensive system of qualifications offered by higher education institutions (including universities), vocational education and training institutions and secondary schools. Each AQF qualification has a set of descriptors which define the type and complexity of knowledge, skills and application of knowledge and skills that a graduate who has been awarded that qualification has attained, and the typical volume of learning associated with that qualification type.

This program is at AQF Qualification Level 09. Graduates at this level will have specialised knowledge and skills for research, and/or professional practice and/or further learning.

The full set of levels criteria and qualification type descriptors can be found by visiting www.aqf.edu.au.

Admission requirements

To be eligible for admission, applicants must satisfy the following requirements:

- Completion of an Australian university Bachelor of Laws degree, Bachelor of Laws (Honours) degree, Juris Doctor degree, or equivalent.
- English Language Proficiency requirements for Category 3.

Applicants who do not hold a law degree but have an equivalent qualification approved by a legal profession admissions board are also eligible to apply for entry. Students with qualifications not designed and accredited to lead to legal practice are not eligible to apply. Advanced standing may be available to students with a four-year Bachelor of Laws degree, Bachelor of Laws (Honours) degree or a Juris Doctor degree.

All students are required to satisfy the applicable [English language requirements](#).

If students do not meet the English language requirements they may apply to study a University-approved [English language program](#). On successful completion of the English language program, students may be admitted to an award program.

Program fees

Domestic full fee paying place

Domestic full fee paying places are funded entirely through the full fees paid by the student. Full fees vary depending on the courses that are taken. Students are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the [Course Fee Schedule](#)

Domestic full fee paying students may be eligible to defer their fees through a Government loan called [FEE-HELP](#) provided they meet the residency and citizenship requirements.

Australian citizens, Permanent Humanitarian Visa holders, Permanent Resident visa holders and New Zealand citizens who will be resident outside Australia for the duration of their program pay full tuition fees and are not eligible for [FEE-Help](#).

International full fee paying place

International students pay full fees. Full fees vary depending on the courses that are taken and whether they are studied on-campus, via distance education/online. Students are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the [Course Fee Schedules](#).

Program structure

The Master of Laws consists of 12 courses, each of one unit, and has the following structure:

- core (4 units) – 1 foundation core course and three from a specified list
- 8 units (students must complete at least one 4-unit named specialisation and either a second named specialisation or any other four courses from the program).

Required time limits

Students have a maximum of 6 years to complete this program.

Core courses

Course	Semester of offer Online
Students must complete the compulsory foundation core course:	
LAW8001 Legal Research Methodology *	1, 2
Choose three courses from the following:	
LAW8118 International Business Law	1

LAW8705 Cross-border Litigation ^{##}	2
LAW8706 International Humanitarian Law	3
LAW8709 Comparative Native Title Law and Policy ^{##}	1
LAW8712 Comparative Constitutional Law ^{##}	
LAW8715 European Union Law ^{##}	1
LAW8717 International Environmental Law	2

Footnotes

* On-campus offers not available in 2022

Course unavailable in 2022.

Commercial Law

Course	Semester of offer Online
Choose four courses from the following:	
LAW8118 International Business Law	1
LAW8704 Corporate Governance Law ^{##}	
LAW8705 Cross-border Litigation ^{##}	2
LAW8711 Law of Capital Markets ^{##}	
LAW8715 European Union Law ^{##}	1
LAW8719 Accredited General Mediation	3
LAW8720 International and Comparative Copyright Law	2
LAW8721 Estate Planning	2
LAW8750 Master of Laws Commercial Law Project	1, 2, 3

Footnotes

Course unavailable in 2022.

Comparative Law

Course	Semester of offer Online
Choose four courses from the following:	
LAW8705 Cross-border Litigation ^{##}	2
LAW8709 Comparative Native Title Law and Policy ^{##}	1
LAW8712 Comparative Constitutional Law ^{##}	
LAW8715 European Union Law ^{##}	1
LAW8720 International and Comparative Copyright Law	2
LAW8751 Master of Laws Comparative Law Project	1, 2, 3

Footnotes

Course unavailable in 2022.

International Law

Course	Semester of offer Online
Choose four courses from the following:	
LAW8118 International Business Law	1
LAW8705 Cross-border Litigation ^{##}	2
LAW8706 International Humanitarian Law	3
LAW8715 European Union Law ^{##}	1
LAW8717 International Environmental Law	2
LAW8718 International Family Law	3
LAW8753 Master of Laws International Law Project	1, 2, 3

Footnotes

^{##} Course unavailable in 2022.

Public Law

Course	Semester of offer Online
Choose four courses from the following:	
LAW8701 Constitutional Human Rights ^{##}	2
LAW8709 Comparative Native Title Law and Policy ^{##}	1
LAW8712 Comparative Constitutional Law ^{##}	
LAW8715 European Union Law ^{##}	1
LAW8716 Government Accountability^{##}	
LAW8754 Master of Laws Public Law Project	1, 2, 3

Footnotes

^{##} Course unavailable in 2022.

Sustainable Development Law

Course	Semester of offer Online
\Choose four courses from the following:	
LAW8709 Comparative Native Title Law and Policy ^{##}	1
LAW8713 Sustainable Environmental Governance	1
LAW8714 Water Resources Law ^{##}	1
LAW8716 Government Accountability^{##}	
LAW8717 International Environmental Law	2
LAW8752 Master of Laws Sustainable Development Law Project	1, 2, 3

Footnotes

^{##} Course unavailable in 2022.

IT requirements

For information technology requirements please refer to the [minimum computing standards](#).

Other program requirements

Students must maintain good standing in this program. [Please refer to the Student Academic Progress Procedure.](#)

Exit points

A student who chooses not to complete, or who does not maintain good standing in this program, will be permitted to exit with a lesser qualification as set out below, provided that they have met the requirements of that program:

- a student who successfully completes four units of the Master of Laws program, comprising [LAW8001 Legal Research Methodology](#) and three units from the core may, upon application, exit with a Graduate Certificate of Laws (GCLW)
- a student who successfully completes eight units of the Master of Laws program, comprising [LAW8001 Legal Research Methodology](#) and three units from the core, plus four units from one specialisation may, upon application, exit with a Graduate Diploma of Laws (GDLW).

Credit

Claims for credit for previous study should be submitted prior to or at the time of enrolment in a program. Each claim will be assessed on individual merit in line with USQ policy. Credit approved in this program will not automatically apply to other programs offered by USQ.

Credit may be granted on the basis of equivalent courses undertaken at postgraduate level. In order for credit to be granted, the claim must meet the following specific requirements:

- the course passed was taken at least at Masters or equivalent level
- the course was passed within 5 years prior to the application (courses up to 10 years old may be considered if evidence is provided that the applicant has been employed in that field)
- the course passed is equivalent in objectives, content and weightings to a course prescribed in the Master of Laws, or alternatively
- where the student has taken out an award from a recognised tertiary institution and is claiming credit on the basis of courses completed to meet the requirements of that program, the maximum credit on the basis of such courses shall be no greater than 6 courses for the Master of Laws
- credit approved in this program will not automatically apply to other programs offered by the University of Southern Queensland.

Note: Where credit is granted, maximum and minimum duration will be adjusted in the same proportion as the credit, for example, where the maximum of 50 per cent credit is granted, maximum and minimum duration will be reduced by one-half.

Recommended enrolment pattern

Students are able to enrol in any offered mode of a course (on-campus, external or online), regardless of the program mode of study they enrolled in.

Examples of recommended full-time and part-time enrolment patterns are set out in the table below. Students requiring assistance with their enrolment pattern should contact the Faculty of Business, Education, Law and Arts.

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)		
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	
LAW8001 Legal Research Methodology					1	1, 2	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following programs: DPHD, DJUR, LLBH, LLMR or LLMC
LAW8118 International Business Law					1,2	1	
LAW8701 Constitutional Human Rights					1, 2	2	

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)		
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	
LAW8704 Corporate Governance Law							
LAW8705 Cross-border Litigation					1, 2	2	
LAW8706 International Humanitarian Law							Pre-requisite: (LAW5111 and LAW5112) or Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: LLBH or LLMC
LAW8709 Comparative Native Title Law and Policy					1, 2	1	
LAW8711 Law of Capital Markets							
LAW8712 Comparative Constitutional Law ~							
LAW8713 Sustainable Environmental Governance							
LAW8714 Water Resources Law					1, 2	1	
LAW8715 European Union Law					1, 2	1	
LAW8716 Government Accountability							
LAW8717 International Environmental Law							
LAW8718 International Family Law							
LAW8750 Master of Laws Commercial Law Project					1, 2	1, 2, 3	
LAW8751 Master of Laws Comparative Law Project					1, 2	1, 2, 3	
LAW8752 Master of Laws Sustainable Development Law Project					1, 2	1, 2, 3	
LAW8753 Master of Laws International Law Project					1, 2	1, 2, 3	
LAW8754 Master of Laws Public Law Project					1, 2	1, 2, 3	

Footnotes

~ This course will be offered in odd-numbered years.