Law postgraduate study
Welcome to the School of Law

The School of Law is consistently ranked among the top law schools in the world. Our staff are active scholars and teachers and many have international reputations in their respective fields.

Our postgraduate taught courses are rigorous and interesting, covering a diverse range of subjects. There is an exceptional choice of courses and modules. Those studying our Master of Laws will be able to specialise in one of our many subject-specific degrees or work towards a broad-based general LLM. We also offer opportunities to study with us anywhere in the world with distance learning courses.

We have always valued excellence in teaching, allied to a strong research base, and maintain and encourage a culture of interactive learning in our seminar groups. This enables our postgraduate students to have effective interaction with their teachers and to obtain direct assistance with their academic studies.

Our PhD programme hosts students undertaking doctoral study across the spectrum of legal subject matter. All students have two expert supervisors and are fully integrated into the broader research community of the school. If you choose to study with us, I am sure you will find your time here to be a valuable and rewarding educational and life experience.

Professor Dirk Van Zyl Smit
Head of the School of Law

Top 100 worldwide for law
QS World University Rankings by Subject 2019

Top 50 worldwide for law
Times Higher Education Rankings by Subject 2019

At the University of Nottingham, we deliver exceptional teaching, led by research that solves global challenges.

We are International and Sports University of the Year, according to The Times and The Sunday Times Good University Guide 2019, and consistently ranked among the world’s top 100 universities by QS.

Research at Nottingham generates discoveries, many of which have profound social, economic and cultural benefits. The latest Research Excellence Framework ranked us 6th in the UK for research power. Our cutting-edge facilities, leading academics and industry connections offer opportunities to develop your potential.

As a postgraduate student, you will be supported academically and personally. Our experienced staff can advise you on issues ranging from your course to finances, wellbeing and career planning.

Once you have completed your studies, you will become part of a global network of 280,000 alumni. You will be invited to exclusive events and will also benefit from lifetime access to our Careers and Employability Service.

nottingham.ac.uk/law
Find your future at Nottingham

Inspirational location
The School of Law is situated in the idyllic surroundings of the beautiful 300 acres University Park Campus – the hub of student life and the perfect location for studying and accessing first-class facilities. The school is one of the world’s leading centres for legal research. It boasts five research centres, including the internationally-renowned Public Procurement Research Group and Human Rights Law Centre.

Academic excellence
Our academic staff are at the forefront of their respective fields. Many are internationally renowned authorities who teach in their areas of expertise. They will support the development of your ideas in class and encourage you to think creatively about the law.

Student satisfaction
Excellent quality teaching and high student satisfaction are integral to our success. Student representatives have access to discuss their views at Learning Community Forum meetings and at formal school meetings. Students play an active role in shaping and influencing their experience with us.

First-class facilities
We have an excellent collection of online and hard copy materials available in the University library to support your studies. There is a specialist law library available to assist you. The school also has a computer suite solely dedicated for law students, offering you convenient access to high-quality IT resources.

Why study with us?

A support network built around you
Students are at the heart of everything we do and the school is committed to ensuring you are fully supported. Our dedicated legal skills team will help you develop the necessary competences for postgraduate study and aim to ensure that you feel comfortable and confident to succeed. They offer workshops and one-to-one sessions, advice on exam revision techniques and essay structure, and support international students adjusting to UK Higher Education.

The University of Nottingham provides a wide range of support services for postgraduate students. The Graduate School offers induction events, training opportunities, funding, career support and social and sporting events. Find out more at nottingham.ac.uk/graduateschool

Excellent employment prospects
Our graduates move into a wide range of careers. Many go into the legal profession or return to their previous legal careers with specialist knowledge and enhanced prospects. Others successfully seek employment with international organisations as well as national and local NGOs.

With an advanced law degree from the University of Nottingham, you will be well placed to pursue your career ambition and realise your goals. 96% of our postgraduates who were available for employment secured work or further study within six months of graduation. £19,800 was the average starting salary, with the highest being £42,000.*

Some graduates further their academic career by progressing onto our PhD programme. Those students often choose to play at the University of Nottingham beyond their doctorate, with a number of academics becoming members of staff after completing their LLM/MAsters and PhD with us.

* Screen destinations of full-time home postgraduates 2016/17. Salaries are calculated based on the median of those in full-time paid employment within the UK.

LLM programmes

Since its introduction in 1987, our LLM programme has continued to grow in popularity and prestige.

Offering a wide and diverse range of over 40 options, the programme now attracts around 150 candidates each year from more than 50 countries, confirming its status as one of the leading LLM programmes available.

Structure
LLM programmes require successful completion of 120 credits of taught modules as well as a 60-credit dissertation. You will be able to choose from a wide array of optional modules relevant to your chosen specialism.

The dissertation is an independent research project in a subject area of your choice that is aligned to your specialism. Guidance on choosing a dissertation topic and designing your project will be provided through bespoke workshops and one-to-one support.

Teaching
We teach in small-group seminars where possible, allowing for an integrated, interactive learning experience. You are encouraged and expected to prepare for, and participate in, seminars so that you get the maximum benefit from them.

Assessment
You will be assessed by examination or essay or a combination of both. All assessments take place at the end of the spring term. Practice assignments, guidance on exam techniques, time management workshops, and one-to-one legal skills advice sessions are offered throughout the academic year to prepare you for these assessments.

Why study with us?

LLM Criminal Justice

Offering a distinctively contextual approach to criminal justice, this course examines the theoretical, comparative and international aspects of criminal process and the penal system.

In keeping with the broad international focus of the LLM as a whole, it introduces you to a range of theoretical, comparative and international approaches to criminal justice.

The emphasis is on examining issues, institutions, processes and cultures of criminal justice and the penal system against the backdrop of ever-increasing globalisation of criminal justice, human rights, enforcement across national boundaries and international criminal justice.

You will be taught by academics with a high level of expertise in criminal justice who have made a significant impact in the area. We also have a long running criminal justice discussion group, which meets every semester and gives you the opportunity to attend talks by academics and practitioners on exciting and often controversial topics.

You will also have an opportunity to engage with members of the Criminal Justice Research Centre, which encourages collaborations between researchers and practitioners on the ground.

Course details
You will complete a minimum of 90 credits of specialist optional modules, plus a 60-credit dissertation. The remaining 30 credits can be chosen from the full selection of optional modules available on the LLM programme.

LLM Environmental Law

This course offers an insight into the international legal response to environmental challenges, from global warming, to the destruction of vital habitat sites.

You will cover a wide range of relevant contemporary issues, and will develop a solid grounding in international environmental law as applied in a particular context. Modern techniques of environmental regulation are also addressed, including funding mechanisms for international environmental treaties, such as the biodiversity and climate change conventions, and procedural requirements for environmental impact assessment of certain activities.

The School of Law has a high level of expertise in environmental law and related issues, and you will be taught by scholars actively researching in the field.

Course details
You will complete a minimum of 90 credits of specialist optional modules, plus a 60-credit dissertation. The remaining 30 credits can be chosen from the full selection of optional modules available on the LLM programme.
Offering a broad perspective on the governance of Europe, this course examines the role of its institutions in the global legal order.

You will develop specialist knowledge of the law of the supranational European Union as well as the intergovernmental Council of Europe.

You can choose modules in the aspects of European law that interest you, whether it is the EU Single Market, EU Trade Law, Council of Europe’s Regional European Convention on Human Rights, or EU intellectual property or competition law.

As the institutional home of several leading texts on EU law and the European Convention on Human Rights, the School of Law is a natural choice for pursuing your advanced studies in European law.

Academic staff have strong reputations in various areas of European law, including fundamental rights, public procurement, international relations and intellectual property.

**Course details**

You will complete a minimum of 90 credits of specialist optional modules, plus a 60-credit dissertation. The remaining 30 credits can be chosen from the full selection of optional modules available on the LLM programme.

---

With innovative module options, this course will expose you to the most exciting ideas and developments in international human rights law.

You will be provided with a thorough grounding in human rights law, as well as the opportunity to pursue more specialist interests such as business and human rights or imprisonment and human rights.

Many of our academic staff are internationally recognised for their research in human rights law. They have advised governments, collaborated with various international organisations including the United Nations and the Council of Europe, and joined forces with NGOs in their human rights advocacy work. This blend of academic expertise and practical experience can bring you closer to the classroom, so you can see how human rights law can have an impact on the ground.

The school is also home to the Human Rights Law Centre, one of the world’s most respected academic human rights institutions. It carries out its work through research, training, publications and capacity building, collaborating with governments, intergovernmental organisations, academics, students and civil society, alongside implementing programmes in Europe, Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

The centre is a focal point for student activity in human rights. It hosts an annual international student conference and human rights film series, as well as having internship bursaries and research assistance opportunities.

**Course details**

You will complete a minimum of 90 credits of specialist optional modules, plus a 60-credit dissertation. The remaining 30 credits can be chosen from the full selection of optional modules available on the LLM programme.

---

This course examines how an increasingly globalised economy requires commercial law to meet a variety of challenges. Reflecting international business in its diversity, innovation and contemporary relevance, this course explores transactional, regulatory and dispute resolution issues, as well as finance and access to credit of EU law.

You can study topics that interest you, such as international trade, private international law, intellectual property, public procurement, banking and finance, as well as those regimes created by the EU and the World Trade Organization.

We have an internationally renowned team of commercial lawyers, combining established expertise with exciting early-career scholars. Published scholarship is extensive, with every member of the academic staff engaged in high-quality research. The school is also home to the University of Nottingham’s new Commercial Law Centre which hosts a series of seminars and other activities. LLM students are integrated in the activities of the centre.

**Course details**

You will complete a minimum of 90 credits of specialist optional modules, plus a 60-credit dissertation. The remaining 30 credits can be chosen from the full selection of optional modules available on the LLM programme.

---

This course helps develop an in-depth knowledge of the issues faced by developing states in the international order.

Economic growth, implementation of human rights, fighting poverty levels, and improving health or education standards, have become central concerns at the international level and for policymakers within developing states. The impact of legal standards and international rules in assisting developing states achieve their developmental aims has generated increasing interest from legal scholars and practitioners alike. This area has been given new impetus by the launch of the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals.

With a wide variety of modules, including the specialist module, Law, Development and the International Community, this course enables you to engage with the key questions and debates arising from development activity.

**Course details**

You will complete a minimum of 90 credits of specialist optional modules, plus a 60-credit dissertation. The remaining 30 credits can be chosen from the full selection of optional modules available on the LLM programme.

---

Providing you with a general public international law qualification, this course can be tailored towards a particular specialist interest such as environmental protection, international trade or human rights.

You will develop a solid grounding in the techniques of arguing and interpreting international law, and expertise in how these elements are put to the test in very different contexts, from protecting the environment, to regulating world trade and humanitarian protection. With over 25 qualifying options, you can choose to specialise in various areas of public international law.

The school hosts a number of international law experts, many of whom have published prize-winning works. You will be taught by academics who have experience of national policymaking and have participated in the development of international law norms.

We host a regular series of seminars through the International Law Association, which are delivered by distinguished visitors from across the world. Recent seminars have covered developments in refugee law, international environmental law and counter-terrorism.

**Course details**

You will complete a minimum of 90 credits of specialist optional modules, plus a 60-credit dissertation. The remaining 30 credits can be chosen from the full selection of optional modules available on the LLM programme.
To meet the need for in-depth training in this area, this unique, part-time executive programme provides a ‘gold standard’ for education in this field.

Developments over the last two decades have made public procurement law one of the most exciting and rapidly evolving areas of law. Given the extent to which legal rules now govern the day-to-day conduct of most procurement activity, knowledge of procurement law has become vital for anyone working in public sector procurement.

This unique, part-time programme is designed in particular for:
- procurement officers whose role demands an understanding of the legal rules
- policymakers responsible for designing and implementing legal rules on procurement
- lawyers advising on public procurement
- those seeking to undertake research or teaching in public procurement

Course details
Taught by leading academics from the school’s world-renowned Public Procurement Research Group, this programme includes an extensive range of course materials, comprising bespoke mini-textbooks supplemented with additional readings and self-test questions and answers.

Knowledge of the international human rights system has become an essential requirement for those working to improve the situation of persons around the world.

This distance learning programme has been designed to allow you to study this area part-time to fit around your commitments. You will be provided with a thorough grounding in human rights law and systems, as well as the opportunity to pursue more specialist interests such as the rights of the child and international criminal justice.

This course is designed to ensure that you obtain a sound theoretical understanding of human rights law and up to date knowledge of how international human rights standards and systems operate in practice.
The course is supported by the world-leading Human Rights Law Centre, which is led by Professor David Harris and Professor Dominic McGoldrick.

Course details
You will complete 30 credits of core modules and a further 30 credits from a choice of optional modules.

Providing broad-based training in social science research, this course will equip you with the skills to manage a successful research career and contribute to society in a number of ways.
You will develop a wide range of skills and the ability to apply them to practical research contexts.

Primarily aimed at students following an ESRC-funded pathway onto a PhD, this course may also be suitable if you are intending to apply for +3 ESRC funding (to cover a PhD) or are interested in developing a variety of social science research skills.

Course details
You will complete 95 credits of core research methods modules, plus 25 credits of advanced research methods or law-specific training, and a 60-credit dissertation.

Each module (except Legal Research Methods) includes a two-day residential teaching session at the University of Nottingham. Students are strongly encouraged to attend; however, this is not compulsory.
This course provides a thorough understanding of the:
- nature of law and legal process
- principles and rules of public procurement law
- application of these rules in key national and international systems/models, including UNCITRAL, WTO, World Bank, EU and UK
- best practice in the context of a legal framework and how to implement it

All versions of the programme are offered on a part-time basis, and are predominantly delivered by distance learning so you can fit your studies around your commitments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Version</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LLM</td>
<td>24 months</td>
<td>Eight modules plus dissertation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PGDip</td>
<td>21 months</td>
<td>Eight modules (no dissertation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PGCert</td>
<td>10-24 months</td>
<td>Four modules (no dissertation)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nottingham.ac.uk/pgstudy
Leading research

High-quality legal research takes many different forms and a wide variety of legal research methods are employed in the numerous ongoing research projects within the school.

In the latest Research Excellence Framework, our research was rated internationally significant, and we were ranked 6th in the UK in terms of research power, intensity and market share.

**Commercial Law Centre**

nottingham.ac.uk/clc

Promotes research excellence in the field of commercial law and to the impact of research on commercial law reform and development, nationally and internationally.

**Criminal Justice Research Centre**

nottingham.ac.uk/cjc

Brings together research-active scholars and stakeholders in areas such as criminal law, criminal process, criminal evidence, sentencing, and international criminal law, reflecting a range of theoretical and methodological approaches.

**Human Rights Law Centre**

nottingham.ac.uk/hrlc

Committed to the promotion and protection of human rights and the establishment and strengthening of the rule of law worldwide; working with students, professionals, governments, civil society, and international organisations, having implemented programmes in Europe, Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

**Public Procurement Research Group**

nottingham.ac.uk/pprg

A global leader in research and teaching on public procurement regulation, working closely with national governments and international organisations on projects spanning areas as diverse as EU and WTO public procurement law, tied aid procurement, defence procurement, and developing country procurement reforms.

**Nottingham International Law and Security Centre**

nottingham.ac.uk/nilsc

Focuses on human security and state security, encompassing issues of human, political, military, socio-economic, resources and energy security.

**The Treaty Centre**

nottingham.ac.uk/treaty-centre

Conducts research into the law of treaties and the practice of treaty-making, also undertaking consultancy and practical work concerning the drafting, adoption, interpretation and implementation of treaties in various fields.

---

**PhD Law**

With well-established research centres and links to leading institutions around the world, the School of Law is a dynamic centre for PhD study.

A PhD is the most advanced form of postgraduate study. It is awarded on the successful completion of supervised research, verbal examination and final thesis. You will be assigned two supervisors who will have the appropriate expertise to support your research project. The school offers supervision in most subject areas, and for interdisciplinary projects which have a legal aspect to them.

We promote a vibrant and diverse academic and social community, currently joined by around 65 research students from all over the world.

Research students and academics are all engaged in the same endeavours and can learn a great deal from each other. We actively encourage our doctoral students to engage in the wider community of the school and play a full role in its research activities.

While legal research is often an individual activity, many collaborative research activities take place, including co-authorship of publications, seminar series, and reading and discussion groups. In addition, our research students organise their own seminar series, which helps them practice and develop their presentation skills.

For details of how to apply for a postgraduate research degree, please visit nottingham.ac.uk/law/pg-research.

**Support**

The School of Law has a dedicated office for PhD students. You will have 24-hour access to a private study space, with your own computer, lockable desk space and unlimited free printing.

We also have a generous fund to assist postgraduate students with research-related expenses, such as attendance at conferences and workshops, field trips for data collection or to access specific resources. You will have an allocated fund to support you for the duration of your studies.

---

**Tuition fees**

Tuition fees are listed on our online course pages and at nottingham.ac.uk/fees.

**Entry requirements**

**Taught courses**

2:1 (or international equivalent) in law, humanities or social sciences.

**Distance learning**

PGCert International Human Rights Law requires 2:1 (or international equivalent) in law, humanities or social sciences. Applicants with other relevant qualifications or experience will also be considered.

**Executive programme**

LLM/PGDip/PGCert Public Procurement Law and Policy applicants should have a 2:1 or high 2:2 (or international equivalent). Applicants with alternative academic backgrounds will also be considered where they have relevant work experience and/or professional qualifications such as a MCIPS.

**Research opportunities**

Applicants typically require a LLM or masters degree in a relevant discipline, with a taught and dissertation average of 65% or above; plus a 2:1 (or international equivalent).

For full entrance requirements, please see individual course listings at nottingham.ac.uk/pgstudy.

---

**EU and international applicants**

At Nottingham, our global community is made up of staff and students from more than 150 countries. Staff regularly travel to meet prospective students, hosting events in China, Ghana, India, Malaysia and more. Find out more at nottingham.ac.uk/pgstudy/apply.

**If you need a visa to study, the University can provide all the information and advice you need. Find out more at nottingham.ac.uk/pgstudy/apply/visas.**

For course-specific information including entry requirements, contact details and representatives, see nottingham.ac.uk/pgstudy/apply.

---

**English language requirements**

For applicants for the LLM programmes whose first language is not English, we require IELTS 7.0 (no less than 6.5 in writing and reading, and 6.0 in speaking and listening). For applicants for the MA Social Science Research (Socio-Legal Studies) we require IELTS 7.0 (no less than 6.0 in any element).

For more information and a list of the alternative English language requirements we accept, see nottingham.ac.uk/pgstudy/apply.

---

**Academic English preparation and support**

Accredited by the British Council for the teaching of English in the UK, the University’s Centre for English Language Education provides high-quality preparation and support.

Our preessional courses take your English language and academic skills to the level you need to progress to postgraduate study without retaking IELTS or equivalent. A specialist 10-week law course is also available. Find out more at nottingham.ac.uk/centre.

---

**Funding your studies**

Most doctoral candidates who are accepted to the programme receive a substantial amount of funding to support their studies.

Find out more at nottingham.ac.uk/pgstudy/pgfunding.

---

**Nottingham**

nottingham.ac.uk/pgstudy/how-to-apply

nottingham.ac.uk/fees

---

**From home**

We guarantee all new postgraduate students University-arranged, single-occupancy accommodation for one year to help make your move to Nottingham as simple and stress-free as possible. To qualify for the guarantee, you must accept a place on one of our postgraduate courses and apply for accommodation by the date specified on our website. Find out more about our accommodation, including details of our guarantee at nottingham.ac.uk/pgstudy/accommodation.