

Programme Title: Postgraduate Diploma in International Dispute Resolution (Mediation)



Programme Specification

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| Awarding Body/Institution | Queen Mary, University of London |
| Teaching Institution | Centre for Commercial Law Studies |
| Name of Final Award and Programme Title | Postgraduate Diploma in International Dispute Resolution (Mediation) |
| Name of Interim Award(s) | |
| Duration of Study / Period of Registration | 1 year |
| QM Programme Code / UCAS Code(s) | PDPF-QMCCL52 / M2D4 |
| QAA Benchmark Group | |
| FHEQ Level of Award | Level 7 |
| Programme Accredited by | Chartered Institute of Arbitrators |
| Date Programme Specification Approved | |
| Responsible School / Institute | Centre for Commercial Law Studies |

Schools which will also be involved in teaching part of the programme

Centre for Commercial Law Studies

Institution(s) other than Queen Mary that will provide some teaching for the programme

N/A

Programme Outline

The PG Diploma in International Dispute Resolution provides an understanding of the theoretical, practical and ethical problems relating to international dispute resolution. It also provides a stepping stone for professionals becoming more involved in international alternative dispute resolution (ADR) processes. All taught modules are taught as part of the LLM degree. On this diploma there are core modules which you must take in order to qualify. There are two distinct diploma routes to choose from, Arbitration (PDPF-QMCCL52) or Mediation (PDPF-QMCCL52), each with their own specialised focus.

Aims of the Programme

Aims of the programme:

- To assist students to develop a detailed, critical and advanced knowledge of key areas of International Dispute Resolution practice & regulation, not typically covered (or not adequately covered) by an undergraduate syllabus.
- To respond to the needs of students who wish to enter into practice in this specialist area – the modules will assist students to acquire essential theoretical and practical skills in their subjects; this relates to students who are located locally, regionally and

internationally.

- To provide students with first-class and comprehensive teaching materials.
- To provide students with an in-depth understanding of key issues in these advanced law subjects.
- To broaden and deepen students' understanding of their own systems of law by giving them the opportunity and the tools with which to explore the international and comparative law context.
- To enhance the students' learning experience through regular interaction with module teachers, practitioners, visiting academics and fellow students.
- To ensure a balance of theoretical rigour and practical application and relevance in the examination of the law.

What Will You Be Expected to Achieve?

On completing the Postgraduate Diploma, a student should:

- Understand the key legal principles, issues and debates arising out of the law and practice of chosen subjects.
- Recognise the standard of materials expected from a post-graduate law student and be capable of producing that standard.
- Be capable of analysing legal problems and drafting detailed responses addressing the key issues.
- Be capable of producing papers through self-study that examine particular legal issues with the intellectual rigour appropriate to post-graduate legal students.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the topic at an advanced level by successfully dealing with issues in both a practical and a scholarly manner.
- Acquire practical and transferable skills, such as the capacity to make presentations and work in a team.

Academic Content:

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| A 1 | Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of key legal principles, issues and debates arising out of the law and practice of chosen subjects |
| A 2 | Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the practical implications of the legal issues arising within the specialist area |
| A 3 | Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of comparative and international approaches to legal issues within the selected specialist area |
| A 4 | Recognise the standard of materials expected from a post-graduate law student and be capable of producing that standard |

Disciplinary Skills - able to:

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| B 1 | Be capable of analysing legal problems and drafting detailed responses addressing the key issues |
| B 2 | Be capable of producing papers through self-study that examine particular legal issues with the intellectual rigour appropriate to post graduate legal students |
| B 3 | Proficiently use legal research resources to carry out appropriate legal analysis for a variety of problems |

Attributes:

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| C 1 | Acquire and apply knowledge in a rigorous way |
| C 2 | Demonstrate self direction and independence in solving complex or unfamiliar problems |

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| C3 | Use clear language to effectively communicate ideas, both orally and in writing |
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How Will You Learn?

Learning will be ensured using a selection of the following

- Production of teaching materials and reading lists
- Mock assignments with feedback during the year
- Class presentations
- Use of WebCT

Teaching will be delivered using a selection of the following

- Traditional lectures, interactive lectures, and lectures using Socratic method
- Seminar session
- Small group teaching
- Class workshops
- Residential weekend

How Will You Be Assessed?

Assessment strategies will include a selection (and occasionally a combination) of the following

- Unseen written examinations
- 10,000 word dissertations and/or written reports
- In class presentations, including moot courts and seminar presentations
- Take home assignments including essays

How is the Programme Structured?

A Postgraduate Diploma will be awarded to students who complete successfully modules to the value of 120 credits. All modules are at postgraduate level (level 7).

- QLLM385 Alternative Dispute Resolution: Theory and Context (22.5 credits – compulsory module)
- QLLM386 Alternative Dispute Resolution: Selected Issues (22.5 credits – compulsory module)
- QLLM500 Dissertation in Law (30 credits compulsory)
- o 45 credits elective module(s) from the following:
- QLLM391 International Construction Contracts and Dispute Resolution
- QLLM397 Investment Treaty Arbitration
- QLLM398 Investment Arbitration: Substantive Protection
- QLLM150 Strategic Decision Making for Lawyers
- QLLM151 Negotiation Theory and Practice

Academic Year of Study

| Module Title | Module Code | Credits | Level | Module Selection Status | Academic Year of Study | Semester |
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| Module Title | Module Code | Credits | Level | Module Selection Status | Academic Year of Study | Semester |
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| Alternative Dispute Resolution: Theory and Context | QLLM385 | 22.5 | 7 | Compulsory | 1 | Semesters 1 |
| Alternative Dispute Resolution: Selected Issues | QLLM386 | 22.5 | 7 | Compulsory | 1 | Semesters 2 |
| International Construction Contracts and Dispute Resolution | QLLM391 | 22.5 | 7 | Elective | 1 | Semesters 1 |
| Strategic Decision Making for Lawyers | QLLM150 | 22.5 | 7 | Elective | 1 | Semester 1 |
| Negotiation Theory and Practice | QLLM151 | 22.5 | 7 | Elective | 1 | Semester 2 |
| Investment Treaty Arbitration | QLLM397 | 22.5 | 7 | Elective | 1 | Semester 1 |
| Investment Arbitration: Substantive Protection | QLLM398 | 22.5 | 7 | Elective | 1 | Semester 2 |
| Dissertation in Law | QLLM500 | 30 | 7 | Compulsory | 1 | Semesters 1 & 2 |

What Are the Entry Requirements?

An upper second class (2.1) honours degree in law (or with law as a major element) at a British University. Equivalent professional qualifications and experience will also be considered, e.g. degree with substantial law content, normally of at least Upper Second Class Honours (or equivalent). The following also qualify for entry to the Postgraduate Diploma: a non-law graduate with good Honours who has obtained the equivalent of First Class or Second Class Honours in CPE and Bar Finals/Legal Practice examinations, or passed the solicitors' qualifying examination. In exceptional cases persons not meeting the normal entry requirement may be considered if they have sufficient relevant experience. Evidence of English language proficiency will also be required. In order to judge the ability of applicants, emphasis is placed on references. Applicants are also required to provide a transcript of their marks from their former college or university.

How Do We Listen and Act on Your Feedback?

Throughout the programme, students will have the opportunity to raise academic concerns with the relevant module leaders and lecturers. All academic staff have office hours during which students may visit, or otherwise an appointment may be arranged. Emphasis will also be placed upon the use of email and QMPlus as communication platforms. Further, Postgraduate Diploma students are to be assigned a personal tutor from within the School of Law (CCLS) academic staff as a first port of call in the event of any problem which may impinge upon their academic career at QMUL.

The views of students on the programme, including both content and delivery, will be sought at regular intervals, and the responses used in order to evaluate the Postgraduate Diploma with a view to year on year improvement in order to better meet the needs of our student clientele.

As Postgraduate Diploma students will follow common classes with those taking the LLM, these processes will be carried out as part of a common QA strategy with the LLM.

Academic Support

You will have access to the following academic support mechanisms:

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- All academic staff have office hours during which students may visit, or otherwise an appointment may be arranged.
- An individual dissertation supervisor

Further, Postgraduate Diploma students are to be assigned a personal tutor from within the School of Law (CCLS) academic staff as a first port of call in the event of any problem which may impinge upon their academic career at QMUL.

Programme-specific Rules and Facts

The Programme will be governed by QM general academic regulations. Special regulations will be requested where necessary.

Specific Support for Disabled Students

Queen Mary has a central Disability and Dyslexia Service (DDS) that offers support for all students with disabilities, specific learning difficulties and mental health issues. The DDS supports all Queen Mary students: full-time, part-time, undergraduate, postgraduate, UK and international at all campuses and all sites.

Students can access advice, guidance and support in the following areas:

- Finding out if you have a specific learning difficulty like dyslexia
- Applying for funding through the Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA)
- Arranging DSA assessments of need
- Special arrangements in examinations
- Accessing loaned equipment (e.g. digital recorders)
- Specialist one-to-one "study skills" tuition
- Ensuring access to course materials in alternative formats (e.g. Braille)
- Providing educational support workers (e.g. note-takers, readers, library assistants)
- Mentoring support for students with mental health issues and conditions on the autistic spectrum.

Links With Employers, Placement Opportunities and Transferable Skills

LLM modules (which are taken by PG Diploma students) offered on the PG Diploma in International Dispute Resolution are accredited by the Solicitors Regulation Authority and Bar Standards Board and confer CPD points.

The courses organised by the School of International Arbitration include guest lectures by practitioners as well occasional visits to law firms and interaction with leading international practitioners. Such events include an annual symposium with the International Chamber of Commerce, an annual public lecture hosted by Freshfields and other occasional seminars.

Programme Specification Approval

Person completing Programme Specification

Dr. D. De Girolamo CCLS

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Person responsible for management of programme

Dr Debbie De Girolamo CCLS

**Date Programme Specification produced/amended
by School Learning and Teaching Committee**

June 2016

**Date Programme Specification approved by
Taught Programmes Board**