

Programme Specification

1	Awarding body	University of London				
2	Teaching Institution	Birkbeck College				
3	Programme Title(s)	LLM International Intellectual Property Law				
4	Programme Code(s)	TMLINIPR_C				
5	UCAS code (if applicable)	N/A				
6	Home Department	Law				
7	Exit Award(s)	PG Certificate/PG Diploma				
8	Duration of Study (number of years)	1 year FT/2 years PT				
9	Mode of Study	FT	X	PT	X	DL
10	Level of Award (FHEQ)	7				
11	Other teaching depts or institution	N/A				
12	Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details	N/A				
13	<u>QAA Benchmark Statement</u>	N/A				

14	Programme Rationale & Aims					
	<p>RATIONALE:</p> <p>Birkbeck's LLM degree in International Intellectual Property is an innovative research-led programme aimed at law and non-law, international and national, graduates, including those already in employment as legal practitioners or otherwise. It critically addresses the continually escalating role of intellectual property protection in a wide range of markets for goods and services. This LLM offers postgraduate students a solid and nuanced grounding in the theoretical and practical knowledge crucial for a critical understanding of the role of intellectual property protection in the creation and operation of markets, and its consequent political, social and cultural impact.</p> <p>Birkbeck's unique offering and various elements of the proposed programme supports Birkbeck's ability to open new perspectives in the field. The programme is taught in a blended and flexible learning model, including evening and intensive teaching, to students and practitioners, particularly those keen to engage with critical approaches to the subject, characteristic of Birkbeck. The programme covers the core elements of an intellectual property law curriculum, while introducing innovative, new modules that address contemporary debates in intellectual property law and policy with attention to the history, theory and political economy of intellectual property law. The programme offers important crossovers with other PGT programmes in the School of Law, including in particular the LLM in International Economic Law, Justice and Development, the LLM in Law and New Technologies, and the LLM in Environmental Law, Policy and Governance.</p>					

	<p>The programme draws on the expertise of new, junior as well as more senior, academic staff, providing opportunities to develop their research and teaching portfolios in the creation of modules which both align with the intellectual property law specialism while appealing more broadly across programmes. In addition, the programme contributes to the School of Law’s strategic objective to rebalance UGT and PGT provision in the Law Department, as well as offering an additional pathway to PGR recruitment. Finally, the addition of a new programme on intellectual property law creates an opportunity to enhance and consolidate Birkbeck’s research and teaching profile in a new area, offering scope for collaboration with other departments, for example Film, Media and Cultural Studies; Computer Science and Information Systems; Biological Sciences; Economics, Mathematics and Statistics; and Management.</p> <p>AIMS: The aims of the programme are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce students to core themes, principles and theory underpinning intellectual property law; • Facilitate students to develop a nuanced understanding of the impact of intellectual property rights politically, economically, culturally and socially at the national and global levels; • Expose students to a range of ideas and scholarship relating to intellectual property protection across disciplines; • Develop students’ ability to understand and critically analyse a range of literature, policy and legal instruments at an advanced level; • Equip students for a career in practice, policy work or research at an advanced and marketable level; • Deliver flexible, blended learning through a variety of online and VLE-mediated tools and, if possible, in person sessions.
15	Entry Criteria
	Second class undergraduate degree in Law or another relevant discipline.
16	Learning Outcomes
	<p>Students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand and explain key legal mechanisms and frameworks for protecting intellectual property at the international level; • Understand the intersection between intellectual property and other societal challenges, as well as the interaction between intellectual property law and other areas of law; • Transfer their understanding of complex problems and regulatory responses to different contexts; • Critically evaluate legal, regulatory and policy proposals concerning intellectual property; • Engage with contemporary legal and policy discussions regarding the protection and impact of intellectual property; • Draw on relevant literature and law to independently generate and communicate written or oral discussions on the themes of the programme.

17	Learning, teaching and assessment methods
	<p>The programme is taught in a mixture of intensive and conventional formats of two to three term teaching with 10 seminars per module. Students are required to complete at least 120 credits from the list of specialist modules for this programme. The remaining 60 credits may be obtained by completing specialist modules for this programme, other PGT modules offered in the School of Law, and (with the approval of the Programme Director) other PGT modules offered in the College.</p> <p>Modules in the programme are designed on the basis of a flipped classroom approach to teaching and learning so that, in between live or in-person seminars, students will be expected to prepare for the next seminar. Much of the preparation is reading academic or policy texts, legislation and case law, supported by guidance questions. However, blended learning techniques are employed to support and structure students' time in order to maintain engagement and ensure students are able to participate in live/in-person seminars. Modules incorporate a variety of online materials and tools, such as podcasts, videos, pre-recorded mini-lectures, online discussion forums and collaborative activities to cater to students' diverse learning styles.</p> <p>Assessments take place by research essays that allow students to respond to particular questions in each module. Some modules include additional formative and summative assessments that will help students develop complementary academic skills.</p>
18	Programme Description
	<p>Birkbeck's LLM degree in International Intellectual Property is an innovative research-led programme aimed at law and non-law, international and national, graduates, including those already in employment as legal practitioners or otherwise. It critically addresses the continually escalating role of intellectual property protection in a wide range of markets for goods and services. This LLM offers postgraduate students a solid and nuanced grounding in the theoretical and practical knowledge crucial for a critical understanding of the role of intellectual property protection in the creation and operation of markets, and its consequent political, social and cultural impact.</p> <p>This LLM contributes to Birkbeck's mission to provide flexible and part-time courses to a diverse cohort of students, promoting access to research-led teaching and learning for those traditionally excluded from full-time postgraduate education. The LLM also furthers the School of Law's strategic objectives to enhance and grow PGT provision in order to attract new students and ensure long-term and sustainable growth in student numbers and diversification of student profiles.</p> <p>The compulsory module for this degree is <i>International Intellectual Property</i>. Students are required to complete 120 out of the 180 required credits from the following 9 x 30 credit modules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>International Intellectual Property</i> [compulsory]

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Copyright, Privacy and Publicity;</i> • <i>Patents and Trade Marks;</i> • <i>Advanced Intellectual Property;</i> • <i>Regulating the Creative Economy;</i> • <i>Intellectual Property and Global Health;</i> • <i>Trade Marks and Digital Markets;</i> • <i>International Masterclass in Intellectual Property;</i> • <i>Research Project (on a topic in intellectual property).</i> <p>For their remaining 60 credits, students may complete any option offered by the School of Law at level 7 (including other options offered for this degree and listed above), or options from other departments as approved by the Programme Director.</p>
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19	Programme Structure			
Full Time programme – 1 year				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	LALW104S7	International Intellectual Property	30	Compulsory
7		Options totalling 150 credits: 3 options (90 credits) must be selected from the programme-specific list below, with a further 60 credits from any level 7 option from the School of Law including the modules below.	150	Options
Part Time programme – 2 years				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	LALW104S7	International Intellectual Property	30	Compulsory
7		Options (60 credits)	60	Options
Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7		Options (90 Credits)	90	Options
Programme Indicative Options list:				
7	LALW105S7	Copyright, Privacy and Publicity	30	Optional
7	LALW108S7	Patents and Trade Marks	30	Optional
7	LADD016S7	Advanced Intellectual Property	30	Optional
7	LALW109S7	Regulating the Creative Economy	30	Optional
7	LALW106S7	Intellectual Property and Global Health	30	Optional
7	LALW110S7	Trade Marks and Digital Markets	30	Optional
7	LALW107S7	International Masterclass in Intellectual Property	30	Optional
7	LALA004S7	Research Project (on an Intellectual Property topic)	30	Optional

Status*

CORE – Module must be taken and passed by student; COMPULSORY – Module must be taken, mark can be reviewed at sub-exam board; OPTIONAL – Student can choose to take this module

Year of entry: 2022/23



20	Programme Director	Professor Fiona Macmillan
21	Start Date (<i>term/year</i>)	October 2022
22	Date approved by Education Committee	Autumn 2021
23	Date approved by Academic Board	Autumn 2021
24	Date(s) updated/amended	November 2021