

# Programme Specification 2018/19

## 7254 LL.B Accelerated

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided.

Awarding Institution	University of Southampton
Teaching Institution	University of Southampton
Mode of study	Full time
Duration in years	2 years following standard progression for an FT student
Accreditation details	Currently accredited by Bar Standards Board and Solicitors Regulation Authority
Final Award	LL.B (Hons) Bachelor of Laws
Name of award	Bachelor of Laws (Honours)
Interim Exit awards	Certificate of Higher Education in Legal Studies Diploma of Higher Education in Legal Studies
FHEQ level of final award	Level 6
UCAS code	M101 (LL.B Hons) Accelerated Programme
QAA Subject Benchmark or other external reference	QAA Benchmark Statement – Law (2015)
Programme Lead	Mr Mark Telford
Date specification was written	April 2016
Date Programme was validated	26 October 2016
Date Specification last updated	20 April 2018

## Programme Overview

### Brief outline of the programme

The LL.B. Honours (Bachelor of Laws) Accelerated Programme takes a rigorous approach to the study of law in which you will develop a detailed understanding of the content of law; skills of critical analysis and practical application of laws. The Programme enables you to explore the complexity of law as a practice by considering social, political and historical contexts of the law as well as the relationship between legal concepts and how the law applies to resolve practical legal problems. The Programme has been specifically designed to fulfil the needs of those going into the legal professions and who require a Qualifying Laws Degree (QLD) but the Programme also provides a firm foundation for careers in other areas.

Your contact hours will vary depending on your module/option choices. Full information about contact hours is provided in individual module profiles.

### Special Features of the programme

The Programme, throughout, is rigorous in its development of key skills, particularly those of research and writing, critical thinking and legal analysis. Embedded in Part 2 (1st Year) and secured and demonstrated by the end of Part 3 (2nd Year), these skills are essential not only for success in your studies, but are key graduate attributes, empowering you in your future career.

A supporting element of the Programme is the employability skills programme, which commences in Part 2 (1<sup>st</sup> Year). It provides excellent opportunities to network with leading figures in the legal and business communities and, among other activities and seminars, to participate in workshops relating to a range of transferable skills. Additionally, the Law School hosts an annual law fair for Part 2 and Part 3 students which provides the chance to meet prospective employers. It is regularly attended by over 50 firms and organisations including global and regional law firms, postgraduate training providers, the Government Legal Service, the Bar Council and Inns of Court. This is an important occasion to find out about careers, vacation placements and work experience.

The Law School has a growing number of law clinics which present you with the chance to engage in practical legal problems and the provision of legal advice. Additionally, you can participate in various extra-curricular activities such as mooting, Street Law and Pro Bono work which are run by the Law School or the student bodies within the Law School.

## Learning and teaching

The Core modules are delivered in lectures and tutorials. Lectures provide the opportunity for academic staff to present, explore, analyse and discuss key legal doctrines, principles, policies and ideas with the whole class. Tutorials are conducted in smaller groups in order to facilitate discussion and debate about specific topics led by a tutor. You may also be taught by seminar, particularly in optional modules. A seminar provides a structured opportunity to explore, in detail, texts and materials with a tutor and through class discussion.

## Assessment

Each module that you study is assessed to ensure you have met each of the learning outcomes; this is termed summative assessment. For Semester 1 modules, exam based assessment will take place in January and for Semester 2, and full year, modules in May/June. Normally by November of each year you will be informed of the summative assessment deadlines for each module. Each module will also provide you with one *formative* assessment before you complete your summative assessment. This is intended to provide you with an understanding about your progress in that module. Formative assessment does not count towards your final mark in the module. Your degree result will be calculated by reference to the modules that you study in Part 2 (1<sup>st</sup> Year) and Part 3 (2nd Year) of your study.

We use a variety of different summative assessment methods; the precise approach depends on the individual module. For the core subjects most modules assess by examination, some by essay, or a combination. There is a degree of variation in the examination method adopted, with some using seen and open-book examinations instead of the traditional unseen examinations. Optional modules are also predominantly assessed by various forms of examination and essay, although a number employ different forms of assessment such as small group presentation, blog entry, portfolio, law reform project or oral presentation.

## Educational Aims of the Programme

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The aims of the programme are to:

- provide you with a well-rounded education in English Law including its relationship to European Union Law, the European Convention on Human Rights and International Law
- provide substantive and detailed knowledge of core legal subjects, including the skills and qualities required of lawyers whether academic or in practice
- encourage you to appreciate the social, national and global context within which law operates
- guide you to recognise and deal with legal ambiguity and to provide alternate solutions and critical approaches
- equip you with the ability to reflect upon your own progress and foster engagement with your own personal and professional development
- provide you with a thorough grounding in core legal subjects and research skills to satisfy the academic requirement.
- allow you to gain a qualifying law degree in two years.

## Programme learning outcomes

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### A. Knowledge and understanding

Having successfully completed this programme you will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:

- A1. the principles and values of law, questions of justice and of ethics
- A2. the sources, concepts, rules, structure and where relevant procedures of public and private law in social, national and global contexts
- A3. ambiguity and uncertainty in law
- A4. the interrelationship between different branches of legal study

### Teaching and Learning Methods

A range of teaching and learning methods are employed to develop knowledge and understanding, these include lectures, tutorials and seminars and guided independent study. More specialised knowledge is developed through research led extended essays or projects. You will also undertake a compulsory research dissertation in a chosen field.

## **Assessment methods**

Knowledge and understanding is assessed through a variety of assessment methods which include: examination, essay, research dissertation and alternatively include projects, written blogs and presentations.

## **B. Subject specific intellectual and research skills**

Having successfully completed this programme you will be able to:

- B1.** Ask and answer cogent questions about law and legal systems, identify gaps in legal knowledge and acquire new knowledge by engaging in critical analysis and reflection
- B2.** Study in depth, and in context, substantive areas of law
- B3.** Conduct self-directed research leading to an essay or dissertation.
- B4.** Work with a range of data including textual, numerical and statistical
- B5.** Synthesise relevant doctrinal and policy issues in order to present a reasoned choice between alternative solutions and assess the merits of particular legal arguments

## **Teaching and learning Methods**

Intellectual and research skills are developed through participation and engagement in lectures, tutorials and seminars alongside guided independent study. These skills are further developed through completion of extended essays and the research dissertation.

## **Assessment methods**

Intellectual and research skills are assessed through a variety of assessment methods which include: examination, essay, research dissertation and alternatively include projects, written blogs and presentations.

## **C. Transferable and generic skills**

Having successfully completed this programme you will be able to:

- C1.** Demonstrate skills of self-management: including an ability to reflect on your own work
- C2.** Evaluate concepts, principles and policies and make critical judgments/reasoned choice between alternative solutions and/or merits of particular arguments
- C3.** Apply knowledge and understanding and offer conclusions addressing complex or actual, or hypothetical problems
- C4.** Apply communication skills to solve and address legal problems
- C5.** Work effectively individually or collaboratively
- C6.** Engage with your own personal and professional development, and academic integrity

## **Teaching and learning Methods**

Transferable and generic skills are developed through participation and engagement in lectures, tutorials and seminars alongside guided independent study. These skills are further developed through completion of extended essays and the research dissertation.

## **Assessment methods**

Transferable and generic skills are assessed through a variety of assessment methods which include: examination, essay, research dissertation and alternatively include projects, written blogs and presentations.

# **Programme structure**

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## **Typical course content**

Upon successful completion of the Programme you will obtain a Qualifying Law Degree (QLD) accredited by the Law Society and Bar Council. As part of the QLD you must study seven foundational law subjects which are covered in Part 2 (1<sup>st</sup> Year) and Part 3 (2<sup>nd</sup> Year) of the Programme. Additionally, you must study Legal System and Reasoning in Semester 1 of Part 2 (1<sup>st</sup> Year) as a core module. This module is designed to give you an introduction to the features of the legal system and also how to read and interpret legal materials/sources. The connection between different subjects is emphasised throughout the programme.

To develop the skills to enable successful study throughout your degree programme, in Part 2 (1<sup>st</sup> Year) you will take the Compulsory module 'Legal Skills'. This module will enable you to develop your key research, legal analytical and writing skills which are essential for every module. To do so 'Legal Skills' will utilise and develop your ability in case analysis and statutory interpretation, using examples from a range of areas. Part 2 (1<sup>st</sup> Year) also offers you choice between two further optional modules, 'Historical Development of the Common Law' and 'Philosophical Perspectives on the Common Law'. These modules are designed to develop your critical analytical skills, your understanding of the contested nature of law and legal principle, and to broaden and deepen your capacity to construct and communicate persuasive argument.

In Part 3 (2<sup>nd</sup> Year) of the LL.B (Hons) Accelerated you will continue to study the Core foundational subjects alongside the dissertation module, Legal Research & Writing.

Information about pre and co-requisites is included in individual module profiles.

### **LL.B Accelerated Programme Details**

The programme is normally studied over two years, on a full-time basis. Your Degree will be classified on the basis of the modules studied in Part 2 (1<sup>st</sup> Year) and Part 3 (2<sup>nd</sup> Year) of the Programme. You will need to pass all the Core modules in order to progress. All modules which are designated as core must be passed in order for you to obtain a Qualifying Law Degree (QLD), which provides you with an exemption from the academic stage if you wish to qualify as a Barrister or Solicitor. These requirements are laid down in the joint announcement issued by the General Council of the Bar and Law Society.

### **Summary structure of the programme**

See Appendix 3

### **Assessment mapping**

See Appendix 2

### **Additional costs**

Some modules make use of set books that you are expected to buy. Check in the module profiles to see if this is the case for the modules you are studying. In some cases, a book may be used for more than one module. Note, books may be available cheaper in an e-book form and up-to-date printed copies may be already available second hand.

Students are responsible for meeting the cost of essential textbooks, and of producing such essays, assignments, and dissertations as are required to fulfil the academic requirements for each programme of study. Costs that students registered for this programme typically also have to pay for are included in Appendix 4.

### **Progression requirements**

The programme follows the University's regulations for [Progression, Determination and Classification of Results : Undergraduate and Integrated Masters Programmes](#) as set out in the University Calendar.

## Intermediate exit points

You will be eligible for an interim exit award if you complete part of the programme but not all of it, as follows:

Qualification	Minimum overall credit in ECTS/ CATS	Minimum ECTS/CATS required at level of award
Certificate of Higher Education in Legal Studies	at least 60/120	45/90
Bachelor's degrees [eg: BA (Hons), BSc (Hons), BEng (Hons)] ( <i>for integrated masters' programmes</i> )	at least 120/240	45/90

If you leave the programme with a Certificate of Higher Education in Legal Studies you will **not** have attained Programme Learning Outcome B3 - Conduct self-directed research leading to an essay or dissertation.

## Support for student learning

There are facilities and services to support your learning some of which are accessible to students across the University and some of which will be geared more particularly to students in your particular Faculty or discipline area.

The University provides:

- library resources, including e-books, on-line journals and databases, which are comprehensive and up-to-date; together with assistance from Library staff to enable you to make the best use of these resources
- high speed access to online electronic learning resources on the Internet from dedicated PC Workstations onsite and from your own devices; laptops, smartphones and tablet PCs via the Eduroam wireless network. There is a wide range of application software available from the Student Public Workstations.
- computer accounts which will connect you to a number of learning technologies for example, the Blackboard virtual learning environment (which facilitates online learning and access to specific learning resources)
- standard ICT tools such as Email, secure filestore and calendars.
- access to key information through the MySouthampton Student Mobile Portal which delivers timetables, Module information, Locations, Tutor details, Library account, bus timetables etc. while you are on the move.
- IT support through a comprehensive website, telephone and online ticketed support and a dedicated helpdesk in the Hartley Library.
- Enabling Services offering support services and resources via a triage model to access crisis management, mental health support and counselling.
- assessment and support (including specialist IT support) facilities if you have a disability, long term health problem or Specific Learning Difficulty (e.g. dyslexia)
- the Student Services Centre (SSC) to assist you with a range of general enquiries including financial matters, accommodation, exams, graduation, student visas, ID cards
- Careers and Employability services, advising on job search, applications, interviews, paid work, volunteering and internship opportunities and getting the most out of your extra-curricular activities alongside your degree programme when writing your CV
- Other support that includes health services (GPs), chaplaincy (for all faiths) and 'out of hours' support for students in Halls (18.00-08.00)
- a Centre for Language Study, providing assistance in the development of English language and study skills for non-native speakers.

SUSU provides

- an academic student representation system, consisting of Course Representatives, Academic Presidents, Faculty Officers and the Vice-President Education; SUSU provides training and support for all these representatives, whose role is to represent students' views to the University.
- opportunities for extracurricular activities and volunteering
- an Advice Centre offering free and confidential advice including support if you need to make an academic appeal
- Support for student peer-to-peer groups, such as Nightline.

Associated with your programme you will be able to access:

- A Personal Academic Tutor and a Senior Tutor to support you through your studies.
- Module support material (increasingly on-line).
- On-line communication between students and staff.
- Staff-student liaison committee

## Methods for evaluating the quality of teaching and learning

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You will have the opportunity to have your say on the quality of the programme in the following ways:

- Completing student evaluation surveys for each module of the programme
- Acting as a student representative on various committees, e.g. Staff: Student Liaison Committees, Faculty Programmes Committee OR providing comments to your student representative to feedback on your behalf.
- Serving as a student representative on Faculty Scrutiny Groups for programme validation
- Taking part in programme validation meetings by joining a panel of students to meet with the Faculty Scrutiny Group

The ways in which the quality of your programme is checked, both inside and outside the University, are:

- Regular module and programme reports which are monitored by the Faculty
- Programme validation, normally every five years.
- External examiners, who produce an annual report
- Professional body accreditation/inspection
- A national Research Excellence Framework (our research activity contributes directly to the quality of your learning experience)
- Higher Education Review by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education

## Career opportunities

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About half of our law graduates seek careers in the legal profession, as solicitors or barristers after further study and training. However, a law degree can open many doors outside of the legal profession. The other graduates enter careers in media, entertainment, politics, business, accountancy, banking, the civil service, police, probation and social services, national and international organisations.

Our LL.B programmes are formally accredited by the Law Society of England and Wales and the Bar Council as qualifying law degree (QLD) for students wishing to undertake further professional training to become solicitors and barristers. They are also accredited for practice in many other countries worldwide, including India, Australia, Canada and Malaysia.

## External Examiner(s) for the programme

<b>Name:</b> Ann Lyon	<b>Institution:</b> University of Plymouth
<b>Name:</b> Craig Reeves	<b>Institution:</b> Birkbeck College
<b>Name:</b> Thomas Appleby	<b>Institution:</b> University of West England
<b>Name:</b> Greta Bosch	<b>Institution:</b> University of Exeter
<b>Name:</b> Nicola Glover-Thomas	<b>Institution:</b> University of Manchester
<b>Name:</b> Theodora Nikaki	<b>Institution:</b> University of Swansea

Students must not contact External Examiner(s) directly, and external examiners have been advised to refer any such communications back to the University. Students should raise any general queries about the assessment and examination process for the programme with their Course Representative, for consideration through Staff: Student Liaison Committee in the first instance, and Student representatives on Staff: Student Liaison Committees will have the opportunity to consider external examiners' reports as part of the University's quality assurance process.

External examiners do not have a direct role in determining results for individual students, and students wishing to discuss their own performance in assessment should contact their personal tutor in the first instance.

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**Please note:** This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information can be found in the programme handbook (or other appropriate guide) or online at <http://www.southampton.ac.uk/law/index.page>.

**Please note:** As a research-led University, we undertake a continuous review of our programmes to ensure quality enhancement and to manage our resources. As a result, this programme may be revised during a student's period of registration; however, any revision will be balanced against the requirement that the student should receive the educational service expected. Please read our [Disclaimer](#) to see why, when and how changes may be made to a student's programme.

Programmes and major changes to programmes are approved through the University's programme [validation process](#) which is described in the University's Quality handbook.

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## Appendix 1:

### 7254 LL.B Accelerated learning outcomes mapping document template

This table indicates which of the Core and Compulsory modules deliver the various Programme Learning Outcomes identified above. Other modules will also deliver different sets of these Learning Outcomes, but the exact pattern will depend on which Option modules you select, so will vary from student to student.

Core = Cr, Compulsory = Cm, Optional = Opt

Module Code	Module Title		A. Knowledge and Understanding				B. Subject Specific Intellectual Skills					C. Transferable/Key Skills					
			A1	A2	A3	A4	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6
LAWS2036	Legal System & Reasoning (AJ)	Cr		X		X	X				X	X	X	X	X	X	X
LAWS2037	Legal Skills (AJ)	Cm	X	X		X	X			X	X		X	X	X	X	
LAWS2025	Criminal Law (AJP)	Cr	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	
LAWS2031	Foundations of Contract Law (AJ)	Cr	X		X		X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	
LAWS2042	Public Law 1: Foundations (AJ)	Cr	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
LAWS2033 OR	Historical Development of the Common Law	Opt	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
LAWS2038	Philosophical Perspectives on the Common Law (AJ)	Opt	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
LAWS3151	The Law of Tort (AJP)	Cr	X	X	X	X		X			X	X		X	X	X	
LAWS3152	Land Law (AJ)	Cr	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
LAWS3155	Remedies in Contract and Torts (AJP)	Cr	X		X		X	X			X		X	X	X	X	
LAWS3153	: Equity and Trust (AJP)	Cr		X				X		X	X			X	X	X	
LAWS3154	Public Law 2: Administrative Justice (AJP)	Cr	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X
LAWS3052	Legal Research & Writing	Cm		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X



## Appendix 2:

### 7254 LL.B Accelerated assessment mapping document template core and compulsory modules

Assessment for all 7.5 ECTS, 15 CATS modules complies with the LL.B Assessment Guidelines approved by the Law School in 2015.

Core = Cr, Compulsory = Cm, Optional = Opt

Module Code	Module Title		Coursework 1	Examination
LAWS2025	Criminal Law (AJP)	Cr		3-hour Part Seen, Closed Book Examination 100%
LAWS2042	Public Law 1: Foundations (AJ)	Cr	2500-word Essay 25%	2.5 hour Part seen, Closed Book Examination 75%
LAWS2031	Foundations of Contract Law (AJ)	Cr		2 hour 15 minutes, Seen, Closed Book Examination 100%
LAWS2036	Legal System & Reasoning (AJ)	Cr		2 hour closed book examination 100%
LAWS2037	Legal Skills (AJ)	Cm	3500 word Essay 100%	
LAWS2033 OR	Historical Development of the Common Law (AJ)	Opt	3500-word Essay 100%	
LAWS2038	Philosophical Perspectives on the Common Law (AJ)	Opt	3500-word Essay 100%	
LAWS3152	Land Law (AJ)	Cr	2500- word Essay 25%	Unseen Closed Book Examination (3 hours plus 30 minutes reading time) 75%
LAWS3151	The Law of Torts (AJP)	Cr		2.5 hour Unseen, Closed Book Examination 100%
LAWS3153	Equity and Trusts (AJ)	Cr		2.5 hour Unseen, Closed Book Examination 100%
LAWS3154	Public Law 2: Administrative Justice (AJP)	Cr		2.5 hour Unseen, Closed Book Examination 100%
LAWS3155	Remedies in Contract and Torts (AJP)	Cr		2.5-hour <u>Seen</u> , Closed Book Examination 100%
LAWS3052	Legal Research & Writing	Cm	10,000-word Dissertation 100%	

### Appendix 3:

#### 7254 LL.B Accelerated programme structure

If you already hold an honours degree from a recognised University, you may wish to study for the LL.B (Honours) Accelerated Degree over two years (full time).

In the accelerated programme, the degree is classified on the basis of all the modules studied in both Parts of the Programme.

#### Part 2 (1<sup>st</sup> Year)

In addition to the core modules students must choose 7.5 ECTS/15 CATS of option modules in Semester 2

Semester 1					Semester 2				
Module Code	Name	Core/Option/Comp	ECTS	CATS	Module Code	Name	Core/Option/Comp	ECTS	CATS
LAWS2025	Criminal Law (AJP)						Core	15	30
LAWS2042	Public Law 1: Foundations (AJ)						Core	15	30
LAWS2031	Foundations of Contract Law (AJ)	Core	7.5	15	LAWS2037	Legal Skills (AJ)	Comp	7.5	15
LAWS2036	Legal System and Reasoning (AJ)	Core	7.5	15	LAWS2033	Historical Development of the Common Law (AJ)	Option	7.5	15
					or				
					LAWS2038	Philosophical Perspectives on the Common Law (AJ)	Option	7.5	15

#### Part 3 (2<sup>nd</sup> Year)

Semester 1					Semester 2				
Module Code	Name	Core/Option/Comp	ECTS	CATS	Module Code	Name	Core/Option/Comp	ECTS	CATS
LAWS3052	Legal Research and Writing						Comp	15	30
LAWS3152	Land Law (AJ)						Core	15	30
LAWS3151	The Law of Torts (AJP)	Core	7.5	15	LAWS3153	Equity & Trusts (AJP)	Core	7.5	15
LAWS3155	Remedies in Contract & Torts (AJP)	Core	7.5	15	LAWS3154	Public Law 2: Administrative Justice (AJP)	Core	7.5	15

## Appendix 4:

### 7254 LLB Accelerated additional costs

You are responsible for meeting the cost of essential textbooks, and of producing such essays, assignments, and dissertations as are required to fulfil the academic requirements for each programme of study. In addition to this, if registered for this programme typically you will also have to pay for the items listed in the table below

In some cases you will be able to choose modules (which may have different costs associated with that module) which will change the overall cost of a programme to you. Details of such costs will be listed in the Module Profile. Please also ensure you read the section on additional costs in the University's Fees, Charges and Expenses Regulations in the University Calendar available at [www.calendar.soton.ac.uk](http://www.calendar.soton.ac.uk).

Main Item	Sub-section	PROGRAMME SPECIFIC COSTS
<b>Stationery</b>		You will be expected to provide your own day-to-day stationery items, e.g. pens, pencils, notebooks, etc). Any specialist stationery items will be specified under the Additional Costs tab of the relevant module profile, for example the requirement to have your dissertation soft bound.
<b>Textbooks</b>		Some modules make use of set books that you are expected to buy. Check in the module profiles to see if this is the case for the modules you are studying. In some cases, a book may be used for more than one module. Note, books may be available cheaper in an e-book form and up-to-date printed copies may be already available second hand.
<b>Recording Equipment</b>		Check module profiles to see if a module requires you to produce audio or audio-video material as part of the assessment. There will be guidance on the methods accepted. If you lack the appropriate equipment the School of Law will arrange for you to access University equipment. If you have learning differences that may mean such course work is a challenge you are advised to seek assistance from Enabling Services.
<b>Printing and Photocopying Costs</b>		In the majority of cases for submission of assessed work to the School of Law, coursework such as essays; projects; dissertations are likely to need to be submitted both in printed form and online. A list of the University printing costs can be found here: <a href="http://www.southampton.ac.uk/isolutions/students/printing">http://www.southampton.ac.uk/isolutions/students/printing</a>