Aston University

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION 2013-14

Programme Title	**LAW WITH MANAGEMENT**
UCAS/JACS Code	MM1NF/M100
School/Subject Area	ASTON BUSINESS SCHOOL
Final Award	LLB (Hons) - accreditation by the JASB (Solicitors Regulation Authority and the Bar Standards Board).
Interim Award(s)	CERTIFICATE IN HE (YEAR 1 – 120 CREDITS) DIPLOMA IN HE (YEARS 1 & 2 – 240 CREDITS)
Mode(s) of Study	ON CAMPUS
Normal Length of Programme	THREE YEARS
Total Credits	360
Programme Accredited by	JASB (Solicitors Regulation Authority and the Bar Standards Board).
Dates Programme Specification Written and Revised	27 January 2010, 22 August 2010, 29 September 2010, 7 September 2011 August 2012, 10 November 2012, April 2013, 31st July 2013

Educational Aims of the Programme	The programme aims to inculcate a range of knowledge and equip students with the skills required for the understanding and application of law and legal knowledge in respect of the English legal system. In particular, the programme aims to: • Meet the statutory accreditation requirements for legal practice in England and Wales (the "Academic Stage") through providing a thorough introduction to the foundations of legal knowledge as prescribed by the professional bodies, as well as providing students with the opportunity to study further subjects within the field of commercial law broadly defined. • Develop students' awareness of the economic and business environment in which organisations operate, as well as their understanding of the manner in which economic activities are structured and measured. • Develop students' ability to work independently, critically and reflectively. • Provide students with key analytical and other academic but transferable skills for lifelong learning. • Ensure relevance by maintaining and enhancing relevant legal, professional and business links, including the development of students' knowledge of ethical principles and values. • Maintain and enhance the employability of graduates.

Relevant Subject Benchmark Statements and other External and Internal Strategies, Policies or Research used to inform programme outcomes.	• QAA Benchmark Standards for Law Degrees in England, Wales and Northern Ireland • UK Quality Code Part A.1 (2011) • Joint Academic Stage Handbook. • Joint Announcement of The Law Society and General Council of the Bar, 1999.

STAGE 1

Programme Structures and Requirements: Levels, Modules and Credits

Module Title	Credits	Level	Module Code	Core/Option	Condoneable Y/N	Pre-requisite(s) Y/N
Introduction to Organisational Behaviour	10	4	BH1107	CORE	N	N
Contract Law	25	4	BL1174	CORE	N	N
Criminal Law	25	4	BL1175	CORE	N	N
Constitutional and Administrative Law	25	4	BL1177	CORE	N	N
Accounting for Law	10	4	BL1179	CORE	N	N
Introduction to Legal Skills and System	15	4	BL1184	CORE	N	N
Economic Environment of Business	10	4	BS1102	CORE	N	N
TOTAL	120					

STAGE 2

Programme Structures and Requirements: Levels, Modules and Credits

Module Title	Credits	Level	Module Code	Core/Option	Condoneable Y/N	Pre-requisite(s) Y/N
Law of Torts	25	5	BL2601	CORE	N	N
Commercial Law	25	5	BL2602	CORE	N	N
Professional Skills and Ethics	25	5	BL2603	CORE	N	N
Land Law	25	5	BL2604	CORE	N	N
Business Policy	10	5	BS2232	CORE	N	N
Business Economics	10	5	BS2240	CORE	N	Y
TOTAL	120					

STAGE F

Programme Structures and Requirements: Levels, Modules and Credits

Module Title	Credits	Level	Module Code	Core/Option	Condoneable Y/N	Pre-requisite(s) Y/N
Equity and Trusts Law	25	6	BL3502	CORE	N	N
European Union Law	25	6	BL3503	CORE	N	N
Choose from one of the following options						
Dissertation	20	6	BL3501	OPTION	N	N
Strategic Management	20	6	BM3399	OPTION	N	Y
Taxation: Policy and Practice	20	6	BF3312	OPTION	N	Y
Choose two from the following options:						
Law of Restitution	25	6	BL3504	OPTION	N	N
Competition Law and Policy	25	6	BL3505	OPTION	N	N
Human Rights Law	25	6	BL3506	OPTION	N	N
Family Law	25	6	BL3507	OPTION	N	N
Law of Financial Regulation	25	6	BL3508	OPTION	N	Y
International Sales Law	25	6	BL3509	OPTION	N	Y
Company Law	25	6	BL3510	OPTION	N	Y
Employment Law	25	5	BL2606	OPTION	N	N
Medical Law and Ethics	25	5	BL2607	OPTION	N	N
Landlord and Tenant Law	25	5	BL2608	OPTION	N	N
Intellectual Property Law	25	5	BL2609	OPTION	N	N
Family Law	25	5	BL2610	OPTION	N	N
TOTAL	120					

Programme Outcomes, Learning and Teaching and Assessment Strategies			
A. Knowledge and Understanding			
	On successful completion of their programme, students are expected to have knowledge and understanding of:	Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated	
		Learning and Teaching Methods	**Assessment Methods**
A1	The principal features of the English Legal System, its institutions and procedures together with the law within the modules indicated above.	The majority of students' time is spent in independent study, supporting by lectures and seminars. Independent study will include directed reading and the preparation of formative and summative assessments. Some modules require group working. Lectures (delivered in person or pre-recorded) are the primary medium used to introduce key concepts, rules, principles and theories. Their purpose is to provide an overview of the subjects and stimulate enthusiasm and desire for further enquiry. Tutorials will support and develop the lecture/ seminar programme and aid individual and group learning. They will be used: • to clarify, consolidate and extend students' knowledge and understanding • to assist students in developing problem-solving and analytical skills • to develop group working skills • to develop students ability and confidence in delivering oral presentations	Formative and summative assessment occurs across all modules. Summative Assessment methods include examinations, coursework, portfolio presentation, class tests and oral presentations. Examinations will test the students' knowledge, analytical skills and understanding. Coursework and continuous assessment (formative and summative) will assess the students' abilities in research, analysis and exposition.
A2	An in depth knowledge of the principal rules and principles studied within the modules and a critical understanding of their operation.		
A3	The significance of European Union membership for law and policy making in the United Kingdom.		
A4	Legal research and analysis of primary and secondary material relating to the studied modules.		
A5	The economic and business environment in which commercial organisations operate and the manner in which business activity is represented through accounting statements.		
A6	The fundamental ideas, frameworks and models in the field of organizational behaviour.		

A7	An understanding of core accounting concepts and principles and their relevance for business and the professions.		

B. Intellectual Skills			
	On successful completion of their programme, students are expected to be able to:	Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated	
		Learning and Teaching Methods	**Assessment Methods**
B1	Research, analyse and apply legal principles and rules with regard to realistic factual matrixes in order to provide advice and solutions.	The majority of students' time is spent in independent study, supported by lectures and seminars. Independent study will include directed reading and the preparation of formative and summative assessments. Lectures, seminars and tutorials together with law specific exercises in legal research and mooting. These are supported by directed learning and in class group activities. Lectures (delivered in person or pre-recorded) are the primary medium to indicate the key concepts and theories. Their purpose is to provide an overview of the subjects and stimulate enthusiasm and desire for further enquiry. Tutorials will support and develop the lecture/ seminar programme and aid individual and group learning. They will be used to: • clarify, consolidate and extend students' knowledge and understanding, in particular with regard to directed reading and students' independent studies	Formative and summative assessment occurs across all modules. Summative assessment methods include examinations, coursework, portfolio preparation, class tests and oral presentations. Examinations will test the students' knowledge, analytical skills and understanding. Coursework and continuous assessment (formative and summative) will assess the students' abilities in research, analysis and exposition.
B2	Identify relevant issues with regard to legal doctrine and, where taught, policy arguments.		
B3	Critically reflect on legal solutions and the merits of arguments, making reasoned conclusions in areas of doctrinal uncertainty.		
B4	Convey legal knowledge and analysis in a manner appropriate for the intended audience, demonstrating the ability to synthesise relevant issues and principles.		
B5	Identify relevant primary and secondary legal sources, online and paper based, recognising their relative authority and importance.		
B6	Apply core accounting concepts and principles.		

B7	Apply and analyse economics principles and models in order to understand and evaluate the workings of the United Kingdom economy.	• assist students in developing problem-solving and analytical skills • develop group working skills • develop students' ability and confidence in delivering oral presentations	

C. Professional Skills			
	On successful completion of their programme, students are expected to be able to:	Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated	
		Learning and Teaching Methods	**Assessment Methods**
C1	Apply key rules and principles to enable accurate assessment of legal issues and the solution of problems, assessing the relative strengths and weaknesses of the legal and non-legal arguments.	The preparation of work for tutorials, and the activities in tutorials, provide the principle means by which students develop skills of issue identification, fact discrimination and rule application. Problem solving skills are inculcated through tutorial exercises.	Assessed by the methods adverted to in B above Subject specific skills are assessed via coursework and examination. The ability to appreciate the practical relevance of the knowledge and the theories inculcated in the modules and to apply them is tested in the placement and assessed through the placement essay.
C2	To reflect critically on the role of the lawyer and to be aware of relevant ethical frameworks and principles.	The core *Professional Skills and Ethics* module, taught in the second year, provides the principal means through which students reflect on the role of the lawyer and the significance of professional values and ethics.	Assessed through the *Professional Skills and Ethics* module.
C3	Allocate their time effectively, prioritising activities.	These skills are developed throughout the programme, as students are required to allocate their time according to the demands of tutorial preparation and assessments.	
C4	Prepare financial and other accounting statements relevant for law.	Developed in the *Accounting for Law* module.	Assessed in the *Accounting for Law* module.
C5	To reflect critically on the development of economic policy and the application of economic models.	Developed in the *Economic Environment of Business* and *Business Economics* modules.	Assessed in *Economic Environment of Business* and *Business Economics* modules.

D. Transferable Skills			
	On successful completion of their programme, students are expected to show:	Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated	
		Learning and Teaching Methods	**Assessment Methods**
D1	The ability to identify relevant legal issues and facts when analysing problems	Lectures, seminars, tutorials provide the framework in which core skills are developed. These are consolidated and developed through directed reading and other activities including: the identification of a chosen topic for the placement essay and dissertation; the presentation of oral argument through mooting; the planning and presentation of tutorial exercises.	Examinations, coursework, continuous assessment, presentations and class tests. Formative and summative assessment occurs across all modules. Summative assessment plays an important part in developing students' ability to become autonomous and reflective in their learning. The dissertation is an important vehicle through which students develop as independent learners, through the selection of a topic, the planning of their research and the identification of relevant materials and sources. Oral presentations are included on some modules, in particular the *Professional Skills and Ethics* module.
D2	The ability to identify relevant rules and principles and to apply those rules and principles accurately		
D3	The ability to present information and analysis accurately in a range of formats appropriate to the audience, including oral presentations.		
D5	The ability to work independently, identify relevant sources, set priorities and reflect on feedback and progress.		
D6	The ability to work collaboratively with others from different professional and cultural backgrounds.	Group activities are included on some modules and cross-disciplinary working is an important part of the *Intellectual Property Law* module where students are required to work with an engineering student to provide relevant legal advice.	An assessed advice letter, based on collaboration with an engineering student is required for the *Intellectual Property Law* module.

Entry Requirements	• Candidates must meet the general University entry qualifications as set out in the General Regulations for Undergraduate Programmes. • Candidates must satisfy the specific entry requirements for each programme as approved by the School Learning and Teaching Committee.

Programme Regulations	
1. Specific Assessment Requirements for Modules (If any, e.g. Modules which may not be condoned)	The following modules on the LLB Law with Management constitute the Foundations of Legal Knowledge: Contract Law, Constitutional Law, Criminal Law, Law of Torts, EU Law, Equity and Trusts, Land Law. *Pass mark* The BSB and SRA require that **all modules constituting the Foundations of Legal Knowledge are passed with a mark of at least 40%**. This is an *overall* pass mark: where a module constituting the Foundations of Legal Knowledge contains more than one assessment, it is the *overall* mark which must be at least 40%. *Marginal failure* Where a student has marginally failed one (and only one) of the Foundations of Legal Knowledge modules, the student's performance in that module may be condoned. This is not the University's discretion and can only be done with permission from the JASB. A student is regarded as having marginally failed a module where their mark is within 5% of the QLD pass mark, i.e., 35% or above. Modules are unlikely to be condoned where the student has been condoned in <u>any</u> other modules on the LLB Law with Management.
2. Assessment	There is no Ordinary Degree available for students on this programme.
3. Attendance	Attendance at all teaching sessions (including lectures, tutorials and workshops) is compulsory. The failure to attend teaching sessions without good reason may result in a student's withdrawal from the programme. Students should inform their Academic Tutor, or the LLB Course Director, of any circumstances affecting their ability to attend teaching sessions.

4. Professional Body Requirements	**4.1 Qualifying law degree (QLD) status: minimum degree requirements for entry to the legal profession** The LLB Law with Management is a qualifying law degree (QLD). It therefore satisfies the Academic Stage of training for those wishing to become a solicitor or barrister in England and Wales. On completion of the LLB Law with Management students can, subject to certain conditions set down by the SRA and BSB, proceed to the Vocational Stage of training. If a student fails to comply with the JASB requirements they will not graduate with a degree that will be recognised as enabling them to proceed to the Vocational Stage of training. The SRA sets no minimum degree classification requirement for students wishing to become solicitors. <u>However</u>, students wishing to become barristers must obtain at least a lower second class honours degree (a 2.2). The Director of the BSB has the discretion to permit a student to proceed to the Vocational Stage of training for the Bar where a 2.2 degree has not been awarded. This will, however, be exercised "rarely and where there are exceptional circumstances" (*Academic Stage Book*, para. 2.5). **4.2 Time limits for completing the LLB Law with Management** In order for the LLB Law with Management to be regarded as a QLD, it must be completed in no more than six years.
5. Prizes	5.1 The award of available Prizes is at the discretion of the Examination Board. 5.2 The Board of Examiners will not award a prize to any student who has failed the module in question or who is unsuccessful in progressing to the next stage of the degree.
General Regulations (http://www1.aston.ac.uk/registry/for-staff/regsandpolicies/general-regulations/) and the Regulations for the programme (above) take precedence over other information sources such as student handbooks if there is a conflict. If there is a conflict between General Regulations and Programme Regulations then General Regulations take precedence unless an exemption has been approved.	

Further Information	

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the threshold learning outcomes that a student might normally be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. **The individual modules included in the programme may differ from those included in this programme specification as our programmes are subject to continuous review.** Information on admissions requirements and career opportunities is available in the relevant prospectus. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in the appropriate module guides and programme handbook(s) which are available to students on enrolment.