



POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Programme Title:	Law Masters Award
Awarding Body:	Staffordshire University
Teaching Institution:	Staffordshire University
Final Awards:	LLM (International Sports Law)
Intermediate Awards:	Postgraduate Diploma (International Sports Law) Postgraduate Certificate (International Sports Law)
Mode of Study	Distance Learning (Full Time & Part Time)
UCAS Codes:	N/a
QAA Subject Benchmarks:	N/a
Professional/Statutory Body:	N/a
Date of Production:	June 2010
Date of Revision:	

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contact us.**

EDUCATIONAL AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME

All awards within the Law Masters programme share the following aims:

- to introduce the student to the 'leading edge' of the subject of each module studied;
- to enhance students research skills;
- to develop rigour in student identification of problems and related issues;
- to enable students to enhance reflective analytical and critical skills;
- to encourage innovative approaches to problems and issues;
- to ensure that students adopt, and effectively use, the appropriate methodology for dealing with particular issues;
- to develop reflective skills both within and across modules;
- to enhance students communication skills;
- to enhance the employability of graduates;
- to develop skills in independent learning.

In addition to the foregoing general aims, the International Sports Law award has the following additional specific aims:

- to understand how sport and the law interact across multiple jurisdictions
- to apply theoretical legal concepts to practical sporting contexts
- to allow the students the opportunity to engage with topical, authentic sporting issues and cutting-edge research
- to widen experience and use of online technology and discussion forums.

What is distinctive about this programme?

The distinctive element of this award is the fact that it has been industry evaluated before launch, rather than being an award which we hope will meet the needs of prospective employers and the legal profession, we can boldly state that we know that to be the case. The LLM in International Sports Law was conceived with the co-operation of Hammonds Solicitors, a multinational law firm which specialises within this niche area. As the award was developed, by our in house expert in the field of sports law, we worked closely with Hammonds on the content and mode of delivery taking on board their suggestions and recommendations. This collaboration with Hammonds allowed us to have a major player within the profession assist us in the tailoring of a truly unique award within the sector, an award which we know employers want and that you will enjoy studying. So as to maximise the potential of this award it will be made available via Distance Learning, therefore offering you a flexible and practical way to undertake your studies, by undertaking on-line teaching sessions we aim to foster within a cohort a real community of learners, irrespective of where you study. So as to enhance further the flexibility of delivery, the award will be offered to all students to study either on a full-time or part-time basis.

PROGRAMME OUTCOMES

(See the document: Preferred Approach to Expressing Postgraduate Learning Outcomes)

What will this programme teach me to do? At the end of your studies you should be able to:

Postgraduate Certificate

Identification and justification of a sound theoretical framework adopted for your proposed research, (Knowledge & Understanding, Learning & Problem Solving.)
Use written communication at an advanced level to find information and to explain, debate, and present highly complex arguments, proposals, and ideas while adapting to different audiences and circumstances. (Communication)
Demonstrate a critical understanding of the ethical concerns around conducting and making use of research (Application)
Demonstrate initiative and personal responsibility in identifying and integrating relevant professional literature to enhance and support advanced level study (Analysis)

Postgraduate Diploma

Demonstrate a systematic understanding of knowledge and a critical awareness of current legal problems in other sporting jurisdictions (Knowledge & Understanding)
Recognise and evaluate the potential difficulties and opportunities that are involved in implementing sports law in international environments, within the constraints of national cultures. (Analysis & Reflection)
Conceive and develop global and international strategies to reconcile sports law across multiple countries, communicating any conclusions clearly and succinctly (Communication)
Critically engage in seminar debates, on-line discussion forums and focus group sessions to challenge how sport is regulated internationally (Communication, Enquiry)
Demonstrate initiative and personal responsibility in identifying and integrating relevant professional literature to enhance your reconciliation of National, International and Global sports law. (Application, Learning)

Masters

Justify and integrate the appropriate research paradigms, methods and processes within the context of a small scale sports law research study. (Knowledge & Understanding, Enquiry)
Develop, implement and manage an independent programme of extended sports law research, evidencing an in-depth understanding of ethical concerns and advanced scholarship (Reflection, Learning)
Critically analyse and synthesise material from many sources (academic and practical) to assist your work and to clarify the sports law problem(s) under investigation (Analysis, Application)
Demonstrate originality in the application of knowledge and understanding to new or existing complex sports law problems (Problem Solving, Application)
Communicate in a structured written format appropriate to the presentation of a Masters Dissertation. (Communication, Reflection, Learning)

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE, MODULES AND CREDITS

Programme Title – LLM in International Sports Law

Certificate Level	Teaching Block 1 <i>(First Year of study for Part Time Students)</i>	Legal Research Methodology 15 Credits	The Legal Regulation of Sport 15 Credits	Sport, The Individual and the Law 15 Credits	The Regulation of Doping in Sport 15 Credits
Diploma Level	Teaching Block 2 <i>(Second Year of study for Part Time Students)</i>	International Sports Law 15 Credits	The Commercial Regulation of Sport 15 Credits	Event Management 15 Credits	Enforcing Anti-Doping Provisions in Sport 15 Credits
Masters Level	Final Dissertation – 60 Credits				

HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT AND ASSESSED?

Teaching and Learning

The main teaching mechanism is a series of on-line seminars/webinars (5 in the case of 15 credit modules) spread over the full length of the module and covering the key elements of the syllabus. Seminars/webinars will be conducted via a live 'webinar' delivered virtually through webcam technology. At this 'Webinar', distance learning students will have the opportunity to ask questions, to present their answers to particular topics and to lead the group in presentations based on their own research. Seminars/webinars may be student led, based on student presentations, or take the form of a discussion, but at all times the emphasis is on student participation - they are never lecture based. Students will receive podcasts and reading material in advance of the seminars/webinars and will be expected to prepare answers to a number of specific questions, these answers will then be posted to a discussion forum or wiki in order to allow the group to comment, reflect and expand upon the topic, part of this online discussion will be assessed and will count towards the final mark.

Participation at these seminars/webinars is expected, to ensure satisfactory completion of any module, and non-participation is considered as non-attendance and is therefore subject to the general University regulations.

Assessment

The standard form of assessment is by way of both a 3,000 word assignment per 15-credit module comprising 75% of the total marks AND assessed contributions to an online discussion forum comprising the other 25% of the total marks.

Other forms of formative or summative assessment may be utilised including bibliographies, literature reviews, article/book reviews, presentations and moots. Once again the emphasis is on diversity and the appropriateness of the assessment for the subject under investigation.

Feedback is provided to students on their work and they are encouraged to raise any matters of doubt with their subject tutors.

All postgraduate work is subject to second marking and review by the external examiner. A sample of assessments is sent to the subject external examiner in line with the general policy of the Law School.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Entry Requirements (including IELTS score)

What qualifications would I need to join this programme?

The minimum entry requirements for the award are normally:

- (i) a lower second class honours degree in law, or a relevant discipline*, of a UK university; or
- (ii) a lower second class honours degree of a non-UK university in which law formed a substantial part or any other qualification deemed to be equivalent to such a UK lower second honours degree; or
- (iii) a Graduate Diploma in Law (CPE), which equates to a lower second class honours degree; or
- (iv) a relevant professional qualification; or
- (v) ILEX fellowship

A minimum IELTS Score of 7

Disability Statement

Staffordshire University operates a policy of inclusive teaching and learning to ensure that all students have an equal opportunity to fulfil their educational potential. Details about how to apply to have your needs assessed can be found at: http://www.staffs.ac.uk/study_here/disabled_students/index.jsp

AWARD SPECIFIC INFORMATION

Students may choose to study this award on either a full time or part time basis. An Award Specific Regulation states that the minimum period of registration for the masters will be 12 months and the maximum 36 months. Otherwise the award is regulated by the University Postgraduate Modular Framework Regulations for further information:
http://www.staffs.ac.uk/images/postgrad_regs_tcm68-12690.pdf

Normally the dissertation will only be undertaken on completion of the diploma level study.

* This may include, but is not limited to, Sports Management, Sports Agency, Accountancy & Finance and/or an MBA.

Further information about the award can be found in the relevant Student Handbook and on the University Website. This includes information about optional modules, student support, and academic regulations.

