

Course Information Sheet

LLB (Hons) Law with International Relations with Foundation Year

Mode and course length – Full-Time (4 years)

Location – ARU London Campus (East India Dock)

Awarding Body – Anglia Ruskin University. As a registered Higher Education provider Anglia Ruskin University is regulated by the Office for Students.



Overview

At ARU London, this course gives you a qualifying law degree and a genuine grounding in international relations, so you graduate ready for the next stage of legal training or for roles where reading global politics matters just as much as reading a statute.

As you go through your core modules, you'll build knowledge of the UK and EU legal systems alongside the theories and institutions that shape international relations, from state sovereignty and diplomacy to the UN, NATO, and the WTO. All this while engaging in critical analysis with peers, solving legal problems, and undertaking independent research that culminates in your own dissertation, sharpening your ability to construct complex legal and geopolitical arguments alike.

Course Delivery

Our courses are delivered through teaching and learning methods that provide students with the broadest possible exposure to a modern and innovative higher education experience.

These methods may vary and could include attendance at lectures and seminars, undertaking laboratory exercises or work-based activities, practical work, performances, presentations, field trips, other relevant visits, and e-learning through the VLE, our online learning management system.

Each course is divided into a number of 'modules', each focusing on specific areas and employing a distinct approach to its delivery. This information is made available to students for each module they undertake via the Module Definition Form (MDF) and the VLE.

Assessment

Knowledge and understanding are assessed through various methods, including presentations and a range of assignments. These assignments may take different forms, such as a written management report on responding to an organisational issue, a presentation, an essay, a briefing document, or an analysis of a company report. Most modules will include at least two assessments, offering the opportunity to evaluate both knowledge and understanding as well as a range of skills effectively.

Formative assessment will also be provided throughout the course. This feedback will help improve students' knowledge and development and allow for the evaluation of their academic needs.

Fees

Information about your course fee, including any annual fee increases or deposits (if required), can be found in your offer letter.

Additional Costs

During your course, you may be required to take extra or repeated modules to recover any modules you have failed. If you started your course on or after September 2019 and this extends your course end date beyond the original date stated in your offer letter, you will be charged an additional tuition fee to cover the costs of the extra or repeat modules. This additional fee will be based on the credits for the module(s) you repeat or take.

Modules

Core Modules

Foundation Year: MOD011684 Academic and Study Skills

This module equips students with the practical research and communication skills needed to succeed in higher education. Students will learn how to search for information using both physical resources and digital platforms, including online databases and the digital library, and how to evaluate sources for reliability and relevance. The module also covers academic integrity, referencing, and the role of artificial intelligence in academic research, while developing students' academic writing and oral communication skills so they can construct clear, well-supported arguments in both written and spoken form.

Foundation Year: MOD011687 Personal and Professional Development Skills for Law

This module builds the essential competencies needed for a career in law, including emotional intelligence, resilience, adaptability, and self-awareness, alongside effective communication and ethical judgement. Students will develop their ability to read and summarise complex documents efficiently, building the professional writing and oral advocacy skills required in legal practice. The module also introduces students to the range of career options available in law and related professions, exploring how ethical conduct and clear communication underpin professional practice and support long-term career planning.

Foundation Year: MOD011685 Data and Digital Skills

This module develops students' confidence in working with data and digital technologies, building the numerical and analytical skills needed across a range of academic and professional contexts. Students will learn to perform calculations relevant to their field of study, carry out basic data analysis using digital tools and artificial intelligence, and interpret charts, graphs, and statistics. The module also focuses on communicating data effectively, both in writing and through oral presentations, helping students understand how data is used and applied within their chosen subject area.

Foundation Year: MOD011686 Foundations of Law and International Relations

This module explores the language of the law, how legal problems are solved, and how international rules are written and enforced on the world stage. Students will be introduced to different types of law, courts, and judges, before exploring the history of international relations, from conquest and colonialism to the contemporary global order. The module covers the concepts of statehood, sovereignty, and international security, alongside pressing issues such as the environment and climate, bridging the basic structures of the legal world with the study of global politics.

Year 1: MOD009355 English Legal System and Method

Students will be introduced to the major concepts in English law and the structure and operation of the English Legal System. As such, this module will be the cornerstone of students' legal knowledge throughout their LLB studies. The central theme running throughout the module is that the English legal system, and therefore English law, is a dynamic body that is open to interpretation and development by the legislature, the executive and the judiciary.

Students will learn through topical discussions designed to aid their systematic understanding of broad areas of English law in order to engage them in discussion and debate. Key cases affecting the development of the law will be described and analysed as part of this process. The module covers areas including, but not limited to, statute law and statutory interpretation, case law and precedent, the civil and criminal legal systems, the role of lawyers, judges, magistrates and juries and the relationship between law, morals, and justice. In addition to developing an understanding of the legal system of England and Wales on this module, students will also gain transferable skills in oral and written communication and skills in group working.

Year 1: MOD011674 Theory and Practice of International Relations

This module is concerned with the central theories and concepts of international relations. It will engage students with concepts such as the state and sovereignty alongside the main theoretical approaches including realism, liberalism and constructivism among others. The module then moves on to central themes in International Relations, namely war, security, diplomacy and globalisation. It then turns to other key global challenges, such as migration, and touches on the importance of international organisations and the role of international law. The overview in theory and practice gained will allow students to appraise areas and events of current geopolitical importance.

Year 1: MOD011675 Public Law

This module is concerned with legal power: where it is located in the British constitution; and how, and by whom, its use is scrutinised and checked.

Public law is foundational for all law students because it provides a broad framework in which all other areas of substantive law operate. It is an interesting and varied subject area which has undergone significant change in recent decades.

The first part of the module focuses on the constitutional order of the United Kingdom. It aims to provide students with a solid foundation in the main structures, relationships, and themes in domestic constitutional law. Consideration will be given to questions such as: What are the key features of the constitution? Where is power located in the United Kingdom? What is parliamentary supremacy, and has it been impacted upon by the 'rule of law' or by devolution?

The module then moves on to administrative law and focuses on how executive decision-makers are held to account through judicial review. Students will then be introduced to the area of human rights and civil liberties, particularly the substance and impact of the Human Rights Act 1998, and the nature and extent of police powers.

Year 1: MOD009356 Contract Law

Students will gain a foundation in the basic principles relating to the formation of contracts, developing the idea of consensus and the rules and principles governing enforceability, performance and discharge of contracts. Students will be introduced to common law and equitable principles as well as relevant legislation. In addition to studying 'black letter' law, students are encouraged to critically assess the law. During informal group sessions students will develop their problem-solving, case location, communications and argumentation skills. This will all ultimately help the development of students' knowledge, understanding and confidence to prepare for their assessments

Year 2: MOD011676 Law of Torts

This module develops students' knowledge and understanding of the fundamental principles and major areas of tort law. It examines the doctrines governing civil liability for harm, including negligence, occupiers' liability, nuisance, product liability, defamation, and related defences and remedies. Through the study of leading cases, legislation, and academic commentary, students will explore the development and operation of tort law within the English legal system.

Students will learn to identify legal issues, apply relevant legal principles to factual scenarios, and construct reasoned legal arguments. Teaching provides a structured overview of key topics alongside engagement with selected cases and legal materials that students analyse and apply in seminar discussions and problem-solving exercises.

The module also develops core legal and transferable skills, including legal research, case analysis, critical thinking, problem-solving, independent learning, and effective written communication.

Year 2: MOD007961 Sustainability in Career Development

The 21st century continues to experience the most rapid development nations have ever known in terms of new technologies, global movement of people, information exchange and climate science developments. Professionals cannot consider themselves removed from international events and tomorrow's graduates will exist as global citizens. In an era of constant change, how does a student ensure that they have a skillset that will enable them to excel on their chosen career path regardless of what the future holds? Furthermore, in a rapidly changing and expanding world, a truly global citizen must consider how they will drive towards a sustainable future for themselves, and for the businesses that they hope to drive forward. These questions must be at the forefront of developing employability skills.

This module aims to give students an awareness of the need for professional dynamism, viewing professions as evolving rather than stationary. Students are encouraged to fully understand the value of a critical and evaluative approach to current global situations and to apply their understanding of changing workspaces in reflective practice as they develop their skillset.

Year 2: MOD011677 Law of The European Union

This module is concerned with the constitutional and legal order of the European Union: how power is structured within the EU, how it is exercised by its institutions, and how its use is scrutinised and enforced. EU law is a dynamic and influential area of study enabling students to understand the complex relationship between supranational and national legal systems.

The first part of the module focuses on the constitutional framework of the European Union. It examines the core constitutional principles developed by the Court of Justice, including the doctrines of primacy (supremacy), direct effect and state liability. Students will explore how these principles were established and justified, and how they have shaped the authority of EU law within domestic legal systems.

The second part, or substantive law component of the module, focuses on the internal market and its central objective of economic integration. Students will analyse the legal framework underpinning the four freedoms: free movement of goods, persons, services, and capital. This will involve consideration of key Treaty provisions, landmark case law, and the balance between market integration and legitimate national regulatory interests. Finally, the module will explore the impact of the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the European Union.

Through this contextual analysis, students will develop a critical understanding of the evolving nature of EU law and its continuing relevance in the post-Brexit legal landscape.

Year 2: MOD009362 Criminal Law

This is a core module that will introduce students to the general principles of criminal law and the essential elements of criminal liability in England & Wales. Students will learn how to work with criminal rules through the study of some key offence and defence definitions. They will also acquire the practical skills necessary to apply the criminal law and to evaluate its scope. The subject content is foundational and will provide students with an understanding of the inter-relationship of statute and case law in the development of English criminal law. The approach of the module will be to examine the state of current law, consider recent developments, assess any proposals for reform and identify some of the theoretical underpinnings of the current legal approach.

Year 2: MOD011678 Geopolitics, Global Economy and International Organisations

This module provides a contextualised view of globalisation, the inter-relationship between politics and economics at the regional and global level (international political economy) and the characteristics, status and role of international organisations across areas from security to health, to human rights, to climate change etc. It will also discuss the history, development and workings of major international organisations, looking chiefly at the UN, EU and NATO. It will also discuss the role of trade in global geopolitics, outlining the concept of political economy and covering the role of the WTO and IMF.

Year 3: MOD009368 Property Law and Practice

This module introduces students to the key principles of the law relating to real property. It introduces and builds up an understanding of the legal concepts regarding the ownership and co-ownership of land in England and Wales and the control of assets. Students taking this module will study the system of registered and unregistered land; the rules relating to the transfer of title; and the controls on land use. Leases, licences, mortgages, easements, restrictive freehold covenants, adverse possession, conveyancing, and torts relating to property will likewise be explained and analysed, as will the taxation of property transactions.

In terms of property practice, the module aims to develop several key transferable skills including independent research, critical analysis and academic writing in the context of land law, emphasising the use of primary and secondary sources. Also, in terms of practice, student employability will be enhanced by the development of these skills and the practise of oral communication skills in class and written communication skills in assessments.

Year 3: MOD011679 Equity, Trusts and Succession

This module introduces students to property and proprietary rights as recognised and protected in equity. It also examines the nature and function of trusts and explores the relationship between legal and equitable interests.

Students begin with a historical account of the development of equity, including the emergence of the Court of Chancery and the distinction between common law and equitable jurisdiction. The module then considers the structure and operation of trusts, including the legal framework governing charitable trusts and the requirements for charitable status will also be examined. Students will also examine the legal framework governing testamentary succession, including the validity and interpretation of wills, testamentary capacity, formal requirements, and the revocation and alteration of wills. The rules governing intestacy will also be studied, together with the administration of estates through probate.

The module highlights the importance of these areas of law in legal practice. Particular attention is given to the role of trusts and succession in property transactions, conveyancing, estate planning, and the management of fiduciary relationships.

Year 3: MOD011680 Use of Force and Armed Conflict

This module deals with two different, yet closely related, subjects. The first part of the module determines the narrow circumstances in which a state, or group of states, may legitimately use force against, or on the territory of, another state (the *jus ad bellum*). The second part of the module discusses the means and methods of warfare through international regulation of the conduct of armed hostilities between states, and also non-state groups (the *jus in bello*).

Year 3: MOD011681 Undergraduate Major Project (International Relations)

This module is designed to enable students to undertake an independent piece of sustained research on an area related to the field of International Relations.

The module aims to develop autonomy, critical analysis, methodological rigour, and advanced communication skills in both written and oral formats. Students will gain experience in formulating research questions, evaluating research methodologies, collecting, and evaluating relevant primary and secondary sources, designing and executing a research strategy that culminates in a maximum 8,000-word dissertation on an international relations related subject that demonstrates the level of scholarship required at L6.

Students will be supported in working on their dissertation by a member of academic staff whose interests and expertise in international relations relate to the student's agreed research topic.

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