

LEGAL PRACTICE COURSE

Programme-Specific Regulations

The current Academic Ordinances and Regulations of De Montfort University shall apply. If there is any conflict between the Academic Ordinances and Regulations and these regulations, these regulations shall prevail. If there is any conflict between the Academic Ordinances and Regulations and these regulations and the Solicitors Regulation Authority Legal Practice Course Assessment Requirements (“the Requirements”), the Requirements shall prevail.

Assessment Requirement

The Legal Practice Course is designed to lead to a University award of a Postgraduate Diploma in Legal Practice, consisting of 120 postgraduate credits.

The LLM Legal Practice Course is designed to lead to a University award of a Postgraduate LLM Legal Practice, consisting of 180 postgraduate credits.

Pass Requirement

The pass mark is 50% for all taught modules and the final project.

Students must take and pass all modules in Stage One and must take and pass three of the modules in Stage Two in order to obtain the award and to satisfy the SRA requirements. The overall average mark is calculated using the Stage One modules for Business Law, Litigation and Property Law and the three Stage Two electives. Each module is equally weighted.

The award of LLM will be achieved by candidates who have successfully passed all the assessed elements (taught modules and the 60 credit final project), accumulating 180 credits on the Programme.

Exemptions (Recognition of Prior Learning/RPL)

Bar Vocational Course (BVC) or a Bar Professional Training Course (BPTC)

Students who have successfully completed either a **Bar Vocational Course (BVC)** or a **Bar Professional Training Course (BPTC)** within 5 years of registering on the programme are eligible for the following exemptions:

- LGMP5023 Litigation
- LGMP5024a Advocacy and Drafting
- LGMP5024b Practical Legal Research (Previous BVC students only)
- And up to 2 Electives.

Graduate Member of CILEx

Students who have successfully become a **Graduate Member of CILEx** before registering on the programme are subject to the following possible exemptions for which recognised prior learning can be used (up to a maximum of 50% of the programme):

- LGMP5020 Wills and Administration of Estates*
*Students with an exemption will also be required to pass an exam in Tax.
- LGMP5021 Property Law and Practice
- LGMP5022 Business and Law Practice**
**Students with an exemption in LGMP5022 will also be required to pass an exam in both Business Accounts and Tax.
- LGMP5024b Practical Legal Research (Previous BVC students only)
- LGMP5024c Writing
- LGMP5026 Employment Law
- LGMP5029 Family Law

CILEx Graduate Fast-Track Diploma

Students who have successfully completed the **CILEx Graduate Fast-Track Diploma** as part of their academic training towards the overall Chartered Legal Executive qualification before registering on programme are subject to the following possible exemption:

- LGMP5021 Property Law and Practice

Final Dissertation (60 credit module)

To become eligible to submit a 10,000 word **Dissertation** a student is required to gain at least 60 credits from preceding modules.

It is imperative that the Faculty's 'Research Ethics' form is completed, submitted and signed off by the supervisor and the Dissertation Module Leader **prior** to the commencement of any research on a dissertation.

The first marker of the final project will normally be the candidate's academic supervisor. Internal moderation of final projects will be undertaken by internal markers appointed by the Programme Board. Thereafter a sample of dissertations will be made available to the External Examiners.

If a student passes all assessment units except the Dissertation, the Programme Board may, at its discretion, offer the candidate the possibility of re-presenting the Dissertation in a

revised form without detriment to the pass achieved in the taught programme, within a timescale set by the Board.

Reassessment

Students have a maximum of **three** attempts on the LPC modules and **two** attempts at PLAW5610 Research Methods and PLAW5612 Dissertation.

A student who is unsuccessful on the **third** attempt of any **Stage One** assessment fails Stage One overall. A student may re-register for Stage One of the course and **all** assessments must be retaken SUBJECT to the maximum registration period. A fee will be payable for re-taking Stage 1.

A student who is unsuccessful on the **third** attempt of a **Stage Two** assessment can either re-register for that particular elective module or start a fresh elective.

Reassessment is permitted in relation to fail marks only. Once a reassessment has been successfully completed students will receive full credits for the module but their grade will be capped at 50%.

If you have to retake outside your current Academic Year you will need to keep up to date with the law. It is your responsibility to do this and to check whether any new materials have been issued to students.

Failing to attend a reassessment will be deemed as a failure of that attempt. Submission of work after deadline dates will normally be deemed a fail in the respective assessment unit, unless the student has been granted a deferral (see section 10).

Candidates will only be allowed to commence reassessed work after the Programme Assessment Board has met to formally ratify the decision. All candidates with reassessments will receive an email after each Programme Assessment Board meeting confirming the exact details of the reassessment. You are also strongly advised to contact the Module Leader for additional support.

Pass with Distinction

Legal Practice

For a Postgraduate Diploma in Legal Practice degree, a **distinction** may be awarded if:

- Student passes all the Core Practice and Elective modules on the first attempt **and**
- The overall average mark is at distinction level (70% or above) **and**
- Four or more of the marks are at Distinction level from the following modules:

LGMP5021 Property Law & Practice

LGMP5022 Business Law & Practice

LGMP5023 Litigation

LGMP5026 Employment Law
LGMP5027 Personal Injury
LGMP5028 Child Law
LGMP5029 Family Law
LGMP5030 Commercial Law
LGMP5031 Commercial Property
LGMP5032 Commercial Litigation
LGMP5033 Sport and Media
LGMP5034 Private Client

- Is graded as competent (pass) in all assessments in LGMP5024 on the first attempt

Students with **exemptions** will be awarded a **distinction** if:

- The overall average mark exceeds 70% **and**
- Three or more final marks are above 70% from the following modules:

LGMP5021 Property Law & Practice
LGMP5022 Business Law & Practice
LGMP5023 Litigation
LGMP5026 Employment Law
LGMP5027 Personal Injury
LGMP5028 Child Law
LGMP5029 Family Law
LGMP5030 Commercial Law
LGMP5031 Commercial Property
LGMP5032 Commercial Litigation
LGMP5033 Sport and Media
LGMP5034 Private Client

- All assessments are passed at the first attempt.

LLM

For a LLM Legal Practice degree, a **distinction** may be awarded if:

- The criteria for the Legal Practice with distinction is met **and**
- The dissertation is at distinction level (70% or above)

Pass with Merit

For a Postgraduate Diploma in Legal Practice degree, a **merit** may be awarded if:

- Student passes all the Core Practice and Elective modules on the first attempt **and**
- The overall average mark is at merit level (60% or above) **and**
- Four or more of the marks are at merit level from the following modules:

LGMP5021 Property Law & Practice

LGMP5022 Business Law & Practice
LGMP5023 Litigation
LGMP5026 Employment Law
LGMP5027 Personal Injury
LGMP5028 Child Law
LGMP5029 Family Law
LGMP5030 Commercial Law
LGMP5031 Commercial Property
LGMP5032 Commercial Litigation
LGMP5033 Sport and Media
LGMP5034 Private Client

- Is graded as competent (pass) in all assessments in LGMP5024 **or** has been graded a competent in **one** assessment in LGMP5024 following a second attempt **or** has successfully completed **one** exam on the second attempt in LGMP5020 or LGMP5005

Students with **exemptions** will be awarded a **merit** if:

- The overall average mark exceeds 60% **and**
- Three or more final marks are above 60% from the following modules:

LGMP5021 Property Law & Practice
LGMP5022 Business Law & Practice
LGMP5023 Litigation
LGMP5026 Employment Law
LGMP5027 Personal Injury
LGMP5028 Child Law
LGMP5029 Family Law
LGMP5030 Commercial Law
LGMP5031 Commercial Property
LGMP5032 Commercial Litigation
LGMP5033 Sport and Media
LGMP5034 Private Client

A student may be awarded a merit provided only one of the following applies: the student has passed one assessment in the Course Skills following a second attempt OR the student has passed one of the Module Assessments in Solicitors Accounts, PCR or Wills and Administration of Estates following a second attempt.

LLM

For a LLM Legal Practice degree, a **merit** may be awarded if:

- The criteria for the Legal Practice with merit is met **and**
- The dissertation is at merit level (60% or above)

Failure to Achieve the Requirements for the PG Diploma in Legal Practice

The Programme Assessment Board will fail candidates where they have no further reassessment opportunities available. Candidates are advised to speak to the Course Director for advice about this.