Executive LLM

Programme for working professionals
Executive LLM

I wanted to participate in something that was qualitative as well as interactive. Here at LSE I’ve found that it certainly more than exceeds my expectations.

Daphne Delaney
Executive LLM Graduate

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The programme offers modules in a broad range of fields including arbitration, human rights, international law, and corporate, commercial and financial law.

LSE is an exceptionally diverse, energetic and international academic institution. This makes studying here not only intellectually rewarding but also a lot of fun. Our teaching combines views and experiences from different disciplinary traditions as well as from different jurisdictions which ensures that what you learn at LSE is relevant to legal study and practice in any jurisdiction.

Many of your questions will be answered in the following sections of this brochure and the accompanying video. If you have any additional questions, the programme team will be more than happy to answer them.

The Executive LLM is one of the most innovative and intellectually exciting LLM programmes offered in Europe today. It makes available the highest quality postgraduate education, taught by many of the leading academics in the UK, to individuals in full-time employment who are not in a position to take a year-long break from work. Students on the programme will study for the LLM by taking a set of intensive modules over a period of three to four years. The programme is open to applicants who have had at least three years post-degree work experience in law.

The Law Department at the London School of Economics and Political Science is the UK’s number one legal research institution. It is also a market leader in the provision of postgraduate legal education through our well established LLM and MSc programmes.
Intensive Module Teaching

The modules will be taught in short intensive sessions. Each module will provide approximately 25 hours of contact teaching time. Students will be provided with online and hard copy materials for the module well in advance of the intensive teaching.

The teaching will take place in week-long sessions, which will typically be held in the first half of September, December and April. Modules will run from Monday until Friday.

Teaching Delivery

In our view high-quality intensive programmes can only be delivered through interactive seminar-based teaching. The intensive teaching sessions are a perfect environment for such interaction, allowing the teacher to get the best from the students and enabling the students to learn not only from the teacher but also from each other’s professional experience and knowledge.

Examination

Students will be examined through a combination of assessed essays (maximum of three out of eight) and take-home examinations. The take-home examinations will be uploaded and submitted electronically and will be set two months after the completion of the intensive teaching. Video revision / question and answer sessions will be offered to students between the end of the teaching session and the exam. The examination date will be provided at the time a student registers for the module.

Alternative Completion Options: Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates

Whilst we hope and expect that most of our Executive LLM students will complete the whole programme, we recognise that unexpected work commitments may sometimes make this unfeasible. With this in mind, the Executive LLM also offers alternative exit points for students who have completed several modules but do not think it will be possible to complete the whole degree. An LSE Diploma in Legal Studies is available on the completion of six modules and a Certificate of Legal Studies on the completion of four modules.

Enrolment

Enrolment on the degree can take place at any time during the course of the year. There is no requirement to wait until the beginning of the next academic year to start the programme as there is on a typical LLM degree programme.
Executive LLM modules

The modules that we will offer on the Executive LLM over the four year degree period are set out below. We will not offer all of these modules every year, although some of the more popular options may be offered in each year, or more than once each year. We aim to offer between 15 and 20 modules on a yearly basis when the programme is operating at full capacity.

Arbitration/Dispute Resolution
- Fundamentals of International Commercial Arbitration
- Advanced Issues of International Commercial Arbitration
- Dispute Resolution and Advanced Mediation

Art and Heritage Law
- Art and Antiquities Law
- Cultural Property and Heritage Law

Commercial/Corporate/Financial Law
- Banking and Finance Law: Regulating Retail, Consumer and SME Markets
- Commercial Remedies
- Comparative Corporate Governance
- Competition Law
- Corporate Bankruptcy
- Corporate Restructuring
- Employment Law
- European Capital Markets Law
- Innovation, Technology and Patent Law

International Commercial Contracts: General Principles
International Financial Law and Practice I and II
Law of Corporate Finance
Mergers, Acquisitions and Restructurings in Europe
Regulation: Strategies, Theories and Implementation
Private Equity Law
Regulation of Financial Markets I and II
State and Market in the EU
Takeover Regulation in the US and UK
Taxation of Wealth
Tax Avoidance
UK Corporate Law

Constitutional/Human Rights Law
- Comparative Constitutional Law
- Comparative Constitutional Rights
- Constitutional Law and Theory
- European and UK Human Rights Law
- Rethinking EU Law
- Terrorism and the Rule of Law
- Theory of Human Rights Law

International Law
- International Criminal Law
- International Economic Law I and II
- International Law and Climate Change
- International Law and Diplomacy
- International Law and the Use of Force
- International Law: Courts and Tribunals

IT, Media and Communications Law
- Cyberlaw
- Digital Rights, Privacy and Security
- Media Law: Regulating Publication
- Media Law: Regulating Newsgathering

Investment Treaty Law
Key Issues in Transnational Environmental Law
The Law of Armed Conflict

Please note that whilst it is our intention to offer all of these modules, our ability to do so will depend on the availability of the staff member in question.
The London School of Economics and Political Science was founded in 1895 by Beatrice and Sidney Webb, Graham Wallas and George Bernard Shaw. The aim of the School was the betterment of society. By studying the causes and effects of poverty and inequality, the founders sought to improve society in general. Sidney Webb in particular, noted Beatrice in her diaries, had a vision of “a centre not only of lectures on special subjects but an association of students who would be directed and supported in doing original work”.

Today LSE is a world-leading university which focuses on the study of social sciences including law, politics, economics, sociology and finance. The School is a world centre for advanced research. In the 2014 UK Research Assessment Exercise carried out jointly by the four funding councils for higher education in the UK, LSE had the highest percentage of world leading research of any UK university, leading or coming close to the top of a number of rankings of research excellence.
Studying at LSE is not only about taking modules and studying for exams. It is about experiencing the astonishingly vibrant intellectual life of our campus. As befitting the objectives of LSE’s founders as well as its location, the LSE Law Department is a focal point for the engagement of academic work with the real business and political worlds on our doorstep. The range of events and intellectual activity taking place in the Department is quite exceptional, with regular talks and seminars involving leading politicians, regulators, practitioners and academics. Many of these are available only to LSE students. Although Executive LLM students will not be present on campus during the whole year to attend all these events, we will ensure that you will have access to these events remotely.

LSE is uniquely geographically placed in the heart of UK legal life. Our campus is adjacent to the Royal Courts of Justice and Lincoln’s Inn, one of the four Inns of Court of which all barristers must be members. It is a short walk away from the Houses of Parliament, the offices of the largest global law firms, and regulatory bodies such as the Takeover Panel and the Financial Reporting Council. This proximity provides a unique and unrivalled context in which to study law. The fact that cases, statutes and regulations are produced, and deals brokered and structured, in the vicinity of our campus brings the study of law to life. This proximity is also a key component of LSE’s intellectual life and energy which draws on the views and experiences of judges, practitioners and regulators for conferences, lectures and seminars.

“The structure of the Executive LLM affords an opportunity for participants to balance their respective work and academic lives, while still managing to have a family/social life.”

John Ludden
Executive LLM Graduate
Studying in LSE’s Law Department allows students to be taught by the leading scholars in the field. To be taught by the people who write the books. Every seven years UK University research is subject to a national research quality assessment exercise. In the last census period to December 2014, LSE was ranked the number one research institution in the country both in relation to the quality of its research outputs, and the quality of its intellectual environment.

Although research is a central part of life at LSE, we take teaching just as seriously. This means that we have reduced postgraduate module sizes to a maximum of 30 students in each class to enable interactive seminar style teaching. In our view, this is the best and the most enjoyable way to learn.

“Studying in and enjoying London

I think it’s a very well structured programme that works for somebody like myself who is a very busy professional.”

Mike Donnelly
Executive LLM Graduate

London is one of the world’s most exciting cities. From the theatre to the opera, from bars to restaurants, from classical to any type of contemporary music, London really does have it all. When staying in London for your intensive week you will be situated in the heart of cultural London – in the middle of the West End, a five minute walk to Covent Garden, a ten minute walk to the Royal Festival Hall.
LSE is truly a multinational institution with countries from many parts of Europe and the rest of the world represented in both the student body and our faculty. LSE Alumni really do span the globe. By taking the Executive LLM you will become part of the Alumni Network, and will have a wonderful opportunity to meet and to learn from your peers about both the practice of law and life in multiple jurisdictions — both in the classroom and over a drink at one of the Executive LLM social events.

The Executive LLM has three pre-requisites for admission:

- You must have obtained very good grades in your law studies. The grades required for admission will be tailored to the system of legal education in the countries from which applicants have obtained, or will obtain, their qualifications. Places will normally only be offered to applicants with the equivalent of a high 2:1 in a UK Bachelor of Laws Degree.
- You must have had at least three years post-degree experience in legal practice. This could, for example, be in a law firm, government, a company, a non-governmental organisation or international organisation.
- If you are not a native English speaker, you may need to provide a language test. You should include your test scores, if available, in the relevant section of the application form. If you receive an offer of admission, it will be subject to proof of your score.

English tests must be less than two years old at the time of registration on the programme. If you have not yet taken the test, your application can be considered in its absence, but any offer will be conditional on your achieving the required score.

Acceptable scores are:

- TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) with a minimum overall score of 109 in the Internet based test (with a minimum of 24 in listening, 27 in writing, 23 in reading and 22 in speaking).
- IELTS (International English Language Testing System) with a minimum overall score of 7.5 (with a minimum of 7.0 in both the listening and writing elements, 6.5 in reading and 6.5 in speaking).

When can I apply and when can I start?
The Executive LLM programme is open for admissions on a rolling basis throughout the year. Once admitted, students may start the programme immediately by taking the next available modules after admission. Applicants are encouraged to apply at least six months before their proposed start date. Complete applications must be received a minimum of two months in advance of the start of the module teaching.

How do I apply?
The application form is available on the Graduate Admissions website. As part of your application you will need to provide a personal statement explaining why you wish to take the module, your curriculum vitae, and two references (one academic reference and one reference from your most recent legal employer).

Programme Fees:

- Upon admission to the programme a registration fee of £600.
- £3,500 per module, payable in advance of the module date
The Directorate of the Executive LLM programme consists of a Director and an Assistant Director. The Directorate is supported by a Programme Manager and a Programme Administrator. Should you have any questions please feel free to contact a member of the team.

**Director: Professor David Kershaw**
Professor Kershaw joined LSE in 2006. He is admitted to the New York Bar and is a qualified UK solicitor. Prior to his academic career, he qualified as a solicitor at Herbert Smith, London and practised corporate law in the Mergers and Acquisitions Group of Shearman & Sterling in New York and London. He holds a LLM and a doctorate from the Harvard Law School, and a LLB from the University of Warwick. He has published widely in the areas of corporate law, takeover regulation and accounting regulation. His most recent book is *Company Law in Context* (Oxford University Press, 2009). On the Executive LLM he will teach Takeover Regulation in the UK and the US.

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**Assistant Director: Professor Charlie Webb**
Charlie Webb has been a lecturer in the law department since 2006. He previously taught at University College, Oxford, and studied at Oxford and UCL before coming to the LSE for his PhD. His research is in private law theory, principally in the areas of contract, trusts and restitution.

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**Programme Manager: Lucy Wright**
Lucy Wright joined the Law Department as a senior administrator in 2003. She took up the job as Programme Manager of the Executive LLM in 2011.

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