



THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE

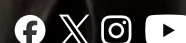
Welcome to the

LSE Law School

Postgraduate Handbook 2026/27



lse.ac.uk/law





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Important LLM dates

Autumn term

Monday 28 September 2026 (Week 1)	Teaching begins
By end of Week 2	Finalise your course options on LSE for You
During Week 2	Meet with your Academic Mentor
Approximately 18 December 2026	Exam timetable published

Winter term

Monday 11 January 2027	Teaching begins
During January	Exams dates
By end of Week 2	Finalise any changes to Winter term course options (LSE for You)
During Week 2	Meet with your Academic Mentor
By end of Week 6	Submit your dissertation title
Approximately Week 7	Exam timetable published
By end of Week 9	Dissertation Supervisors will be allocated
By end of Week 10	Deadline for specialism requests (optional)
By end of Week 11	Meet with your Dissertation Supervisor

Spring term

By end of Week 2	Meet with your Dissertation Supervisor
May/June 2027	Exams and Assessments period
August 2027	Dissertation submission



Section 1: Welcome to the LSE Law School





Welcome from the Dean of LSE Law School

Dear LLM Class of 2026/27

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the LSE Law School and to our internationally-renowned LLM programme. The LSE Law School has a proud tradition of academic excellence, critical thinking, and global engagement. As one of the world's leading centres for legal scholarship, we are deeply committed to exploring the role of law in shaping society—across borders, disciplines, and generations. You are now part of a dynamic and diverse intellectual community that brings together students and scholars from all over the world. The year ahead will be intellectually demanding, but also deeply rewarding. Our LLM programme is designed to give you both breadth and depth, encouraging rigorous inquiry while supporting your personal and professional aspirations. You will engage with complex legal issues—many of which are at the forefront of current global challenges—under the guidance of our world-renowned faculty.

This is an unrivalled opportunity to study law within the heart of Legal London, next to the Royal Courts of Justice and a short walk to the Houses of Parliament. The LSE's motto is "to understand the causes of things" and our LLM programme takes this motto seriously offering you an opportunity to study law within the social and economic context in which it is formed. Perhaps most importantly of all, I have no doubt that it will be a lot of fun, as you share this experience with new friends and colleagues who come to LSE from all over the world. I look forward very much to meeting you and to welcoming you to LSE. If you need any assistance from us do let us know. Our LLM professional services team, our academic staff, and the LLM Academic Mentors are ready to support you. Do always ask if anything isn't clear or you would like any assistance or advice. I wish you every success in your studies and an engaging, inspiring and thrilling LSE year.



Professor Andrew Murray
Dean of LSE Law School



Welcome from the LLM Programme Director

Dear LLM Class of 2026/27

On behalf of all the LLM team, a warm welcome to LSE Law School and many congratulations on joining this outstanding LLM programme. The London School of Economics and Political Science is one of the world's leading social science institutions. For over one hundred years, the study of law has been an integral part of LSE's mission to advance knowledge across the social science subjects. Today, the LSE Law School provides a unique learning environment, which is busy, intellectually stretching and also very welcoming. Our LLM programme is an exciting and challenging one, which promises to provide you with a firm intellectual foundation for your next steps, whether in research, academia, legal practice, government, NGOs, industry or beyond, and with a new network of contacts around the world.

As LSE LLM students, there are many exciting prospects and possibilities ahead of you. You will find that the sheer diversity of backgrounds, nationalities and traditions among your fellow students is one of the most exciting and inspiring aspects of graduate studies at LSE; your studies will open up new ways of thinking about law; LLM socials will enable you to get to know classmates from all round the world; and a full calendar of Law School events will enable you to engage with cutting-edge research outside your taught courses. On top of these opportunities within the Law School, you should look out for the world-famous LSE public events programme, the workshops at LSE Life and in the LSE library, and for the whole range of on- and off-campus opportunities that LSE offers. It is also important to leave time to explore the incredible city of London itself, of course: only a few steps from the Law School you will find Covent Garden, the British Museum, St Paul's Cathedral, the South Bank – and the Royal Courts of Justice.

One thing that's sure is that the academic year will feel like it is flying by once you get going with your first term's courses. So, my main message for now relates to work-life balance. Prepare to work hard and to engage deeply with your academic subjects from the outset, but also make sure that you leave time to meet your wonderful classmates and the rest of the LSE Law School community. I wish you every success in your studies here at LSE and trust that you will have a memorable, productive, and enjoyable year.

I look forward to meeting you at an LLM event very soon.



Professor Jacco Bomhoff
LLM Programme Director



Section 2: About LSE Law School





LSE Law School is one of the world's elite law schools with an internationally respected faculty. It offers a uniquely diverse international community which attracts leading academics and talented students from all over the world.

LSE Law School owes much of its distinctive character to its location within Europe's leading school of social sciences. It is well known both for its interdisciplinary approaches to legal scholarship and its contextual approach to legal study and teaching. Academics at LSE believe that to understand the law, its function and effects, it is essential to place it within the political, social and economic context within which it is formed and operates.

Amongst the many opportunities and activities on offer at LSE, the Law School organises a topical and broad-ranging series of public lectures in which students are encouraged to play an active part. In recent years, for example, LSE Law School and its academics have been involved in public events celebrating 100 years of votes for women, exploring the future of fintech and debating the implications of Brexit. Full details of all of the year's events can be found here: lse.ac.uk/law/events

The identity of LSE Law School is inextricably linked to its geographical location in the heart of UK legal life. Our campus is adjacent to the Royal Courts of Justice and the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn, one of the four Inns of Court of which all barristers must be members. The LSE campus is a short walk away from the Houses of Parliament, the offices of the largest global law firms, the Law Society and regulatory bodies such as the Takeover Panel and the Financial Reporting Council. To study law at LSE is therefore to study the discipline within walking distance of the most important institutions through which law and regulation is made, interpreted and applied.

This brings the study of law at LSE alive in a truly unique way.



LSE Law School Advice Centre

Our Legal Advice Centre launched in January 2025 under its Director Diana Kirsch. The Centre provides free, confidential legal advice to members of the public on matters including family, employment, personal injury, and environmental law. Students work under the supervision of qualified solicitors, gaining invaluable practical experience in client interviewing, case analysis, and legal research, all of which are designed to support future professional practice. Information about volunteering with LSE Legal Advice Centre can be found [here](#).

Law events

Enhance your commercial awareness, participate in current legal discussion, and get to know members of the law community beyond the formalities of your course through diverse events organised by the LSE Law School.

Convene @LSELaw is a programme of events created as a space for our staff and students to exchange ideas, interests and experiences. Attend vibrant and inspiring events with high-profile guest speakers as well as in-house scholars tailored to our law community, including masterclasses and showcases. Further information about Convene @LSELaw can be found online at lse.ac.uk/law/convene. Listings are updated on the website before the start of each term.

LSE Law School offers its students a variety of research events, namely, staff and PhD seminar, LLM specialist seminar; conferences; workshops and more. The Law School is also proud of its free public events programme. We bring together experts in academia and industry to examine contemporary issues from legal perspectives, sharing our world-leading research and ideas with wide audiences, including the general public, the media and legal professionals. All our public events are advertised on the LSE Law School's events webpage – lse.ac.uk/law/events – and social media accounts – X, Instagram, LinkedIn and Facebook. Podcast recordings of many of our public events and episodes from our Ratio podcast are available to stream and download for free from lse.ac.uk/law/events/podcast-archive

Law School common room

The Law School student common room is on the 5th floor of the Cheng Kin Ku (CKK) building. This is a multi-faceted space centered around study and promoting the wellbeing of the LSE Law students. You can meet your fellow classmates to go over materials or focus on your own study in the attached quiet study area. The kitchenette enables you to make your own tea and coffee to get you through those long days of reading. The common room also hosts different events such as drop-in sessions, career talks and movie nights.

The common room and quiet study room are for Law School students only and the rooms are accessed with your student ID card.



Section 3: The LLM programme





Degree requirement

In order to obtain the LLM degree, students must complete courses to the value of four full units, which will normally comprise eight half unit courses. One of these eight half units will be the compulsory half unit LL4F9 Legal Research and Writing Skills course, which will be assessed by a 10,000 word dissertation. This stand-alone dissertation will provide the element of extended writing for all LLM students.

Students can complete the LLM course requirements in either one full-year programme, or as a part-time student in two years, or by extended part-time study within a maximum of four years. Subject to availability, complementary course/s from other Master's courses at the School may be selected to replace LLM courses to the total equivalent of one full unit.

Part-time students must satisfy the same requirements as those applicable to full-time students. Part-time students must take courses to the value of two units in their first year and courses to the value of two units in their second year.

Extended part-time students must satisfy the same requirements as those applicable to full-time students. Students must take courses to the value of one unit in the first year and successfully complete this. Students who successfully complete four units within a period of four years will satisfy the requirements for the degree.





In order to obtain an LLM degree, full-time students are required to:

- Successfully complete courses to the value of seven half units, and
- Successfully complete the compulsory half unit LL4F9 Legal Research and Writing Skills course, which is assessed by dissertation.

Part-time students

Part-time students must meet the same requirements as full-time students, but have two years (or if extended, up to four years) in which to complete the programme requirements. Part-time students will take LL4F9 and submit their dissertation in their final year of the LLM.

LLM Programme – examples of options for completing the programme

4 units = 8 courses

1 unit = 2 courses

1/2 unit = 1 course

	Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4	
	AT	WT	AT	WT	AT	WT	AT	WT
Full-time	4	4						
Part-time	2	2	2	2				
Extended Part-time	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Ext PT in 3yr option	1	1	2	1	2	1		

AT= Autumn term, WT= Winter term



Section 4: Programme professional services staff and administrative information





Programme professional services staff



Karla Barca-Marrero

Programmes Events and Communications Officer

Email: law.llm@lse.ac.uk



Zoe English

Programmes Manager (LLM)

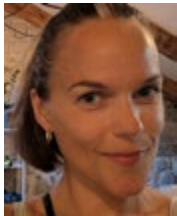
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LLM Deputy Programme Director	Dr Luke McDonagh	Email: L.T.Mcdonagh@lse.ac.uk
	Dr Richard Martin	Email: r.martin6@lse.ac.uk



Administrative information

Advice and feedback sessions

LSE Law School teaching staff hold weekly term-time advice and feedback sessions (i.e., office hours) in connection with each course they teach. These sessions can be used by students seeking additional guidance and support in respect of courses, as well as for queries about assessed coursework. Appointments can be booked via the [**Student Hub**](#).

Further sources of advice about study skills and feedback are outlined later in this handbook. They include appointments with the Student Academic Advisers, with Academic Mentors and workshops, study skills sessions and one-on-one appointments at LSE LIFE, which is the LSE centre for academic, personal and professional development, located in the LSE Library: [**info.lse.ac.uk/current-students/lse-life**](https://info.lse.ac.uk/current-students/lse-life)

Language grants

LSE Law School will be offering a number of limited grants for Law students who wish to take a modern foreign language course at the LSE Centre for Language Studies. These grants are for the standard certificate courses listed on the Centre for Language Studies website. For details see [**lse.ac.uk/language-centre**](https://lse.ac.uk/language-centre)

Further information will be sent by administrative staff.

Academic Mentors

By the end of Welcome Week you will have been allocated an Academic Mentor. Your Academic Mentor is your link with the School and is able to advise you on course selection and other academic matters affecting your time at LSE. You are expected to meet with your Academic Mentor at least once a term – see the LSE Code of Practice for Taught Masters Students: [**info.lse.ac.uk/staff/divisions/academic-registrars-division/Teaching-Quality-Assurance-and-Review-Office/Assets/Documents/Calendar/CodeOfGoodPractice-UGDIPPG.pdf**](https://info.lse.ac.uk/staff/divisions/academic-registrars-division/Teaching-Quality-Assurance-and-Review-Office/Assets/Documents/Calendar/CodeOfGoodPractice-UGDIPPG.pdf)

It will also be your Academic Mentor who will normally provide references in the future and you should make sure you keep them informed about your progress and any problems you are experiencing. In particular, you should tell your Academic Mentor about any matters such as illness that may affect your work.

Further information about Academic Mentors can be found on the Academic Mentor Student Portal: [**info.lse.ac.uk/staff/divisions/Academic-Mentoring-Hub/Information-for-Mentees**](https://info.lse.ac.uk/staff/divisions/Academic-Mentoring-Hub/Information-for-Mentees)



Postgraduate Student Support and Advice Manager

Situated within the Law School, the Postgraduate Student Support and Advice Manager, is here to provide wellbeing and pastoral signposting and support to all LLM students. All LLM students can book and one to one appointment with the Postgraduate Student Support and Advice Manager via the [Student Hub](#) or by emailing law.llmsupport@lse.ac.uk. This is a chance for you to discuss how your year is going, and to ask for any non-academic related support.

LLM Student Representatives

Student Academic Representatives are elected by their peers. Their main role is to represent the postgraduate student body as a whole on a number of committees, including the Student Staff Liaison Committee (SSLC). Students who serve as SSLC Representatives invariably find it rewarding becoming part of the Committee, and we encourage all students to consider becoming part of it.

Even if you decide the role may not be for you, please remember to vote for your representatives as they will be representing you and the whole Postgraduate Law student body while you are here.

Please see [here](#) for further information about Student Staff Liaison Committee.





A Guide to digital platforms used by LSE Law School

LLM Programme Moodle Page

This page covers programme information specific to your cohort. Student Academic Representatives and Student Staff Liaison Committee dates. Any key information that has been sent to you by email will also be posted on this page.

LLM Offer Holder

LSE Law School Offer Holder webpages. Here you can find lots of general information including further information about the LLM programme, what you can do before you arrive, how to enrol and lots of helpful links.

Student Hub

Office hours with academics are booked via the Student Hub and your personal timetable can also be viewed through this platform.

LSE Law School Convene

Convene is designed to engage students with the LSE Law School academic community. This will include enhanced specialist seminars and events that will provide students with access to key academics and their areas of research.

Career Hub

This web page outlines the careers support provided to students within each department and includes information on tailored events, one-to-one appointments and alumni support.

LSE email account

All important programme information and updates, particularly around course selection and assessment, will be emailed to students so you need to regularly check your LSE email.

Newsletters

A weekly newsletter will be circulated by email during term time, providing you with regular news about the Law School and your programme.

Law School Instagram

Be sure to follow us on Instagram for regular updates on what's happening around the Law School!

LSE For You (LFY)

LSE's online portal for students, providing access to teaching timetables, course registrations and participation records. It is also used to update personal details, manage course selection, and access key information relating to studies at LSE.



Section 5: Courses





During the course selection period, you are entitled to attend classes for any course in order to find out more about the subject. Should you have questions about a particular course, then the most efficient strategy is to put them to the Course Convener. You can also seek the advice of your Academic Mentor.

Some courses will have a reading week and others will not. All reading weeks will be clearly stated in the respective course guide. Please check carefully before you make your course choices.

Choosing courses

Law options

Details of the content and format of all graduate courses offered at LSE are available online [here](#).

Law LLM courses are identified by the “**LL4**” code. Further detailed information regarding course choice can be found at: info.lse.ac.uk/current-students/services/course-choice

Auditing courses

Some LSE courses allow for students to “audit”. This is an informal arrangement where you join the lectures but do not go to classes or take the assessments, and for which you will not gain credit. These courses do not appear in your course selections or timetable and will not appear on your transcript. Some students choose to audit courses to expand their knowledge in other areas. If you do choose to audit a course you should first check that your timetable will allow you to join the lectures. If so, contact the relevant Course Convener and ask permission to audit their course.



The LLM writing requirement

Students are required to take the compulsory LL4F9 Legal Research and Writing Skills course which has a value of 0.5 units.

Non-law options

The LLM Regulations allow you to replace the equivalent of up to two half-unit Law courses with non-Law course(s) at Masters level. Please refer to the online course guide to check that the course you wish to take is available to outside students. It is vital that students make an informed decision when applying for a non-Law option. For a non-Law LSE course that you are interested in, research the content and the disciplinary approach. Are you happy that you know what to expect on both fronts? Would it be helpful to discuss with a member of the Law faculty how this non-Law course relates to courses offered by LSE Law School? Students are strongly advised to check the online course guides before applying for a non-Law LSE course, including for any pre-requisites to enrolment and for the modes of formative and summative assessment. The Law School can advise you on your balance of courses overall and discuss outside options in general. If you would like to discuss these points further with a member of LSE Law School, please contact law.llm@lse.ac.uk, your Academic Mentor or the Deputy Programme Director.

Please also note that non-Law options do not contribute to gaining an LLM specialism (see [here](#) for information on specialism degree certificates). Please visit lse.ac.uk/resources/calendar/programmeRegulations/taughtMasters/Default.htm to read the LLM programme regulations.

Balance of courses

We strongly advise that you take an equal balance of courses in both Autumn and Winter terms, i.e., four 0.5 units in each term. Please note that the compulsory LL4F9 course runs primarily in Winter term.



When to select your courses

Course selection will open for browsing at **10am on Monday 21 September** and will open for course selection on **Thursday 24 September at 10am**. Course selections need to be made by **Friday 9 October at 5pm**. You will be able to make changes to Winter term half unit courses early in Winter term.

How to select your courses

You will need to select your courses on [LSE for You](#) once the system opens. Guidance on how to do this can be found [here](#). Providing your selected courses are ready in Moodle, you should be automatically enrolled on their Moodle pages a few hours after selecting your courses on [LSE for You](#), however do be aware there can sometimes be delays in processing enrolments on Moodle pages.

To select your courses, begin by reviewing the programme regulations, which outline the available courses and indicate which specialism each course belongs to. From there, you can access the course guide for each option to find detailed information, including the term in which the course is offered. Once you've identified potential courses, check the timetable page to see the specific days and times they are scheduled, and to ensure there are no clashes. It's helpful to build a shortlist of courses and compare their timetables to find the best fit. Be sure to identify a few backup options in case your preferred choices are not available. Keep in mind that some departments have controlled access to certain courses, meaning places are limited and may fill up quickly.

You should ensure you attend any departmental course selection meetings and seek advice before finalising your courses. Should you have questions about a particular course the most efficient strategy is to put them to the Course Convener. If you have any queries about the programme itself or need advice on the course selection process you can contact the LLM Programme team on law.llm@lse.ac.uk

Getting help

For queries about the [LSE for You](#) system you can contact the Student Services Centre (SSC) via their [enquiry form](#).

If you have a question about Moodle, please contact eden.digital@lse.ac.uk

For advice around which courses to take and how your programme fits together please contact law.llm@lse.ac.uk



Course selection

Course selection within the Law School also involves the following steps:

1. Course capping: controlled access

The LLM is taught via small groups. All Law LLM courses (courses with an LL4 code) are subject to the “controlled access” procedure. This is designed to ensure that seminar groups allow for discussions between academics and students. In order to maximise your chances of being enrolled in the courses which you wish to follow, it is imperative that you make your course selections as early as possible.

The controlled access procedure requires that you request permission to enrol in the course through the Graduate Course Selection application on [LSE for You](#).

Postgraduate Law students have priority access to controlled access LLM courses. This means that they will be accepted on a “first- come, first-served” basis, from the opening of course selection until the end of the first week of the Graduate Course Selection period. Thereafter, access to controlled courses operates on a first-come, first-served basis to all students.

Please note the course allocation process may differ in other departments.

Once an offer has been made to you, you have 48 hours to accept it after which your offer will time out. Once you accept your offer you will automatically be assigned to the course Moodle page and the course will appear on your personal timetable.

Considerable efforts have been made to avoid overlap of courses but occasionally a clash may be unavoidable due to the complex and interdisciplinary nature of this programme. We regret that no changes to the LSE timetable are possible at this stage and it is each student’s responsibility to avoid any clashes. When making your course choices please keep an eye on the timetables for Winter term to ensure you do not have any clashes. Please refer to the Controlled Access Courses Guidance Notes on the following link: info.lse.ac.uk/current-students/services/course-choice/controlled-access-courses

2. Seminar sign up

Where a course is taught in more than one seminar group, or in larger lecture groups, students are also required to enrol for seminar groups within the course. This is done through the seminar sign up facility on LSE for You. More information on seminar sign up is available at: info.lse.ac.uk/current-students/services/course-choice



Note: the seminar sign up system operates in parallel with the Graduate Course Selection system. Where a course requires that you apply for entry through the Graduate Course Selection system and takes the form of weekly parallel seminars or lectures and follow-up seminars, you need to apply first for entrance to the course through the Graduate Course Selection system. If you are accepted on to the course, then the seminar sign up system will be open to you, and you can register for a particular parallel seminar or a follow-up seminar group, as appropriate.

Please note that we may reallocate you to a different seminar/follow-up seminar group for the term/year, where timetabling considerations make this necessary.

You need to attend the seminar group to which you are assigned. Our performance monitoring and attendance record systems are based on the group to which you are assigned. Failure to attend your group may therefore impact negatively on your performance record. It may also impact on the terms of your visa.

3. Registering Choice of Courses

Course choice will be approved by the end of week 2 of Autumn term. Should there be any reason why your course choices cannot be approved you will be contacted by email. Please check that your courses have been approved.

Once you have successfully registered for your courses and seminars in LSE for You, your personal timetable will be automatically updated for you.

Once course choices have been approved they cannot be changed online. If, in exceptional circumstances, you want to request late changes, you will need to request permission in writing to law.llm@lse.ac.uk. Changes will be processed directly by the Student Services Centre.

Winter term course selection re-opening

Course choice selection will reopen at the start of Winter term.

Students have the opportunity to change Winter term half unit courses during the first two weeks of Winter term provided the newly chosen half unit course is not oversubscribed. Please note that students cannot change a Autumn term course for a Winter term course during this course selection period.

Late course changes are not permitted in Winter term once course selection has closed.

We strongly advise that you do not change more than one half unit course during this period.



Specialist LLM degree certificates

Students can choose to have an approved subject specialism title recorded on their LLM degree certificates. Please note only Law courses beginning with LL4 will contribute towards gaining the LLM specialism.

The possible specialisms are:

- Competition and Innovation
- Corporate and Commercial Law
- Criminal Law and Justice
- Dispute Resolution
- Environment and Energy Law
- European, Comparative and Transnational Law
- Financial Law and Regulation
- Human Rights Law
- Intellectual Property Law
- International Business Law
- IT and Data Law
- Law, Politics and Social Change
- Public International Law
- Public Law
- Taxation Law

Students will be able to request a specialism in week 10 of Winter term. Students will be contacted in Winter term with instructions on how to do this.

To qualify for a specialism you will need to be registered for LLM courses to the value of at least 2 units (4 half unit courses) within the nominated specialism. The compulsory LL4F9 Legal Research and Writing Skills course and its dissertation can contribute to the specialism if the topic directly links to the specialism area. The LLM Law courses allocated to different subject specialist areas are listed on the LLM website at: lse.ac.uk/law/study/llm/programme-structure



Teaching information, seminars and lectures

The relevant Course Guide and the Timetabling pages for the course set out the teaching method employed. The Course Guides are available at: lse.ac.uk/resources/calendar/courseGuides/graduate.htm and the Timetabling page is available at info.lse.ac.uk/Current-Students/Timetables

Your attendance at classes is monitored through the LSE for You system by Course Conveners. A brief comment on your performance is recorded at the end of the Autumn and Winter terms. Academic Mentors also make a general comment on your performance at the end of these terms.

Getting the most from classes

We regard active student participation in classes as the central element of our LLM programme. Course Conveners will expect that you are prepared and ready to engage in discussions. The more you engage with this form of teaching, the more you will gain from the LLM experience.

Reading lists for individual courses, and in some cases course materials, will be provided either at the start of a course for the entire course, or periodically during the year. All LLM courses are also supported by [Moodle pages](#) on which Course Conveners place information and course materials.

Independent learning

Remember – attending lectures and seminars is only a small portion in terms of the work you are required to do as a graduate student. Most of your work will involve independent learning, individually or in informal groups, not formal teaching.

The teaching you receive provides useful guidance and stimulation for your own independent work, and opportunities for investigating and resolving difficult points. It is not a substitute for independent study. Moreover, seminars, lectures and classes will not necessarily cover the whole syllabus; you will be expected to manage this by extensive additional reading where appropriate

The Spring term

There is usually no formal teaching for graduate students during the Spring term with the exception of the LL4F9 Legal Research and Writing Skills course, however Course Conveners may hold revision classes over this period, which you are expected to attend.



Section 6: Regulations, assessment and marking





Formative assessment

All courses include a formative assessment component which does not count towards your final degree results but which is compulsory. Formative assessments are designed to help you with your studies and provide opportunities for individual feedback from your Course Convener in order to give you an idea of how you are progressing.

Guidance for submitting your formative assessment will be provided by the relevant Course Convener.

The Course Convener will provide you with feedback, usually in the form of written comments which will not count towards your final degree result

Summative assessment

Each course will also have a summative assessment which will count towards your final degree result. Please refer to the online course guides: lse.ac.uk/resources/calendar/courseGuides/graduate.htm or the course Moodle pages ([Moodle](#)) for specific information regarding each individual assessment. All courses (except LL4F9) will be assessed by a 2 hour 30 minute in-person exam.

Plagiarism

The work you submit for assessment must be your own. If you try to pass off the work of others as your own you will be committing plagiarism. Please refer to [this page](#) of this handbook for further information, including information on the regulations on assessment offences.

The Law School uses a text matching software called Turnitin. Turnitin is a service that matches text from student assignments against its extensive databases of previously submitted student coursework, websites and academic papers.

Exams

LLM exams are normally two and a half hours long. In general, students are typically required to answer two questions from a possible six. All LLM exams are e-enabled, meaning that candidates are able to take a laptop to the examination to type their answers. Further information about Digiexam can be found [here](#).

Non-attendance at an exam will result in a mark of zero. A zero is considered a bad fail and will result in a resit attempt being necessary. Please see lse.ac.uk/resources/calendar/bak/taughtMasters.htm for School and academic regulations.



Exam dates

Examinations for most Law courses take place during the Spring Term examination period (May/June). However, some Autumn Term courses are examined in January 2027, before the start of Winter Term. Students should check the course guides and examination timetable carefully and ensure they are available for all scheduled assessments.

Students should be aware that all LLM resit examinations take place during the January examination period in the following academic year, regardless of when the original examination was taken. Students who are required to undertake a resit must therefore ensure they are available to sit their examinations in January 2028.

Please note that once the exam dates are set by the School, no changes to the schedule can be made. The exams timetable is published on the LSE website, and you can access your personal exam timetable through LSE for You and the Student Hub. For detailed information on the exam and assessment process, see: info.lse.ac.uk/current-students/services/assessment-and-results

The LLM mark scheme

There is a set of standard assessment criteria which set out the characteristics expected of work marked at each level. This can be found on the [LLM Programme Moodle page](#).

Assessments for outside options

If you have taken a course outside of the LSE Law School, you should follow the guidelines provided by the relevant department.

Regulations

This section relates to the general regulations for MA and MSc Degrees and the Code of Practice for Taught Masters Programmes. The LLM programme regulations can be found at: lse.ac.uk/resources/calendar/programmeRegulations/taughtMasters/Default.htm. The Law School's position on the unauthorised and authorised use of generative AI (including but not limited to any version of ChatGPT) can be found here: [AI and ChatGPT](#).



Section 7: The LLM dissertation





The compulsory dissertation course – LL4F9: Legal Research and Writing Skills – is assessed via a 10,000 word dissertation. This specially designed half unit (0.5) course is taken by all LLM students. The taught component of this compulsory course will assist students in gaining a better understanding of:

- (a) The **nature of research** in general and the distinctive features of legal research; the range of research methodologies and approaches to be found within legal scholarship;
- (b) Doing **legal research**, including research design and question formulation; resource identification and searching for relevant materials; legal referencing and citation skills; and
- (c) **Writing skills**, relating to both the process of writing, as well as the end product and presenting findings to different audiences.

The course is designed to equip students with research and writing skills which will be transferable to domains including the legal profession, policy-making, government or academia. Students should be able to apply this learning to the process of writing a dissertation in an area of their choice. A central objective is therefore learning by doing.

The taught component of the course will be delivered in Winter Term, while the dissertation will be due for submission on **18 August 2027**. The course aims to introduce the student to legal research methods, approaches and techniques, and to foster legal research skills. Teaching in Winter term will be directed at preparing LLM students more specifically for the dissertation. Part-time LLM students will be expected to participate in LL4F9 and submit the dissertation in their second year. Extended part-time students will be expected to submit their dissertation in their final year.

Choice of dissertation topic

The compulsory dissertation by which LL4F9 is assessed needs to be your own, independent piece of sustained research and writing. This dissertation is an important opportunity for students to explore a topic in a scholarly way.

Students are urged to begin thinking about possible dissertation topics at the start of the academic year. Since the choice of dissertation topic is required by the end of week 6 of the Winter term, guidance on choosing a research topic will be addressed early on in the LL4F9 lectures but you are strongly advised to be thinking about your interests and topics for your dissertation as early as possible in the academic year.



Dissertation support

In the second half of Winter term one academic member of staff will then be allocated as Supervisor for each student's dissertation based on their relevant area of expertise. There will be two meetings between the student and this member of staff. One will take place in Winter term and the other in Spring term. The first supervision will typically involve matters including the choice and scope of the dissertation topic and the proposed work plan, while the second meeting will usually cover the progress of the research, the structure of the dissertation and the timetable for completion.

Note that the role of the Supervisor is to provide guidance. They are not permitted to give feedback on drafts of your work. These supervisions support the dissertation project in a way which complements LL4F9 and the other means of support outlined below.

Through LSE LIFE, the School offers many further support services relating to study skills, research and writing and relating to Masters level dissertations specifically. At the start of the year you should register with LSE LIFE to receive weekly emails setting out the workshops and drop-in sessions which they offer. In previous years, LSE LIFE has also offered one-on-one appointments for students which have been taken up by many LLM students. The LSE LIFE programme continues after the end of the Spring term and is therefore a useful resource to assist with dissertation work over the Spring period.

Overall, it is important to remember that there is no "ideal model" for a good dissertation. The best dissertations from each graduating year ought to be publishable in reputable law journals. This is the standard you should aim for. On Moodle you can review a wide range of sample LLM dissertations, which are designed to give you a sense of what is expected of you and to reinforce the point that there is no one model that is preferred by LLM examiners.

Please note that students are responsible for ensuring that there is no substantial overlap between the dissertation and other summative written work undertaken during the year.



Section 8: Assessment submission





Submission deadline

The deadline for submitting the LLM dissertation is **18 August 2027**.

For non-law courses, please check deadline submission dates with the relevant department.

Submitting assessments

Procedures

Your dissertation and/or the summative essay/s will be submitted electronically on A4 pages and should be double-spaced or 1.5-spaced, font style Arial or similar.

Deadline extensions

Extensions to the submission deadline are not the normal practice. However, in highly exceptional circumstances, it may be possible to obtain a short extension. Your Course Convener or Academic Mentor cannot grant extensions therefore all requests for Law courses must be made to the Law School Extensions Panel. You should complete an Extension Request Form which can be found via lse.ac.uk/law/study/extension-deferral and email this along with your supporting evidence to the Assessment and Regulations Officer using law.llmexams@lse.ac.uk

The decision to permit an extension will be made by the Law School Extensions Panel and written confirmation of permitted extensions will be sent to students. Applications for extensions will not be considered after the deadline for submission has passed, and unexcused late submissions will attract the normal School penalties.

Accompanying forms

A completed **cover sheet** should be the first page of your summative essay/dissertation. Cover sheets can be found on the [LLM Programme Moodle page](#). Please ensure that you do not write your name anywhere on the cover sheet or within the work and ensure only your candidate number is used. For more information on candidate numbers please see [here](#).

When you submit you will need to agree to the department's plagiarism statement before you can submit your work.



Submitting your assessments

All summative essays, including the dissertation, will be submitted to the relevant Moodle course page as a single file, and should:

- 1 Include the cover sheet;
- 2 Be in PDF or Word format.

The file name should state your candidate number followed by the course code (for example **12345-LL4F9**).

Do not include your name or other details in the file name.

Your assessment must be submitted before the deadline, so please ensure that you submit in good time. IT-related issues are not acceptable circumstances for late submission. Your submission will be automatically checked for plagiarism using plagiarism detection software.





Penalties

The rules on penalties are set out in the General Academic Regulations and will take precedence over the guidance below. info.lse.ac.uk/staff/divisions/academic-registrars-division/Teaching-Quality-Assurance-and-Review-Office/Assets/Documents/Calendar/CodeOfGoodPractice-UGDIPPG.pdf

Penalties for exceeding word limit

For summative essays and dissertations that exceed the word limit, a penalty of 1 mark will be deducted for every 1 per cent above the word limit. Please note, however, that the Law School allows a 1 per cent margin above the word limit. Please refer to the example below:

Example for dissertation

From 10,001 to 10,099 – No penalty will be incurred

From 10,100 to 10,199 – 1 penalty mark will be applied

From 10,200 to 10,299 – 2 penalty marks will be applied and so on to a maximum of 9 penalty marks

Please note that any dissertation which is 1,000 words or more over the limit will be failed automatically (in that event, you would have to resubmit a dissertation within the deadline for submission the following year as a resit attempt).

Penalties for late submission

The School imposes penalties for late submission of dissertations and assessed coursework. These penalties apply in addition to those which may be imposed for exceeding the word length. If a student fails to submit by the set deadline (or extended deadline as appropriate), the following penalty will apply:

Penalties for plagiarism

Please [refer here](#) for information on LSE's plagiarism regulations.

Section 9: Post-assessment and the end of the programme





Appeals against exam results

For information about how to make an appeal, please refer to the LSE Regulations for the Consideration of Appeals: info.lse.ac.uk/current-students/services/assessment-and-results/results/challenging-results-and-appeals

LLM prizes

A number of prizes are awarded each year to graduating LLM students. For example there are prizes for the best overall performance and best dissertation. Further information on prizes, including previous winners, can be found here: lse.ac.uk/law/study/llm/llm-prizes

Graduation

The LLM Graduation ceremony is usually held mid-December in the year that you complete the programme. For more information see: info.lse.ac.uk/current-students/graduating-from-lse





Careers Support for Postgraduate Law Students

While most LSE LLM students go on to practice law in one form or another somewhere around the world (and there are a lot of options to choose from!), others follow very different career paths. The Law School is here to support you in preparation for whichever career path you choose after LSE.

LSE Law School has a dedicated Careers consultant who works alongside you each step of the way, from discussing what might be right for you, to helping you to research different sectors and opportunities and then navigating the application and interview process. All Law School students also benefit from the support of the central LSE Careers team, which supports the wider university.

Here is some of what we offer at LSE Law School:

One to one career appointments throughout the year. These 20 minute sessions can cover a range of topics, including career options and decision making, CV, cover letter or application form reviews, advice on assessment and selection processes, or applying for a PhD

- Practice interviews for any job, whether you'd applying in the UK or overseas
- Dedicated tours and presentations from the Inns of Court for aspiring barristers
- A law programme for Brussels employers as part of the LSE's wider Careers in Brussels programme, usually in February
- Presentations from legal practitioners that aim to foster an understanding of all strands of legal work
- Careers skills workshops to develop and practice elements of your future job
- Legal career fairs and other employer networking events
- Bootcamps for preparation for UK legal assessment centres

We have strong connections with law firms and lawyers in the UK, China, India, Brussels and elsewhere, bolstered by our amazing alumni community, and we therefore have a good understanding of what law firms look for in each of these jurisdictions. This allows us to help all our students wherever they want to work after LSE.

If you would like to know a little more, then check out our LSE Law School Careers pages on our [website](#). and LSE's general [careers pages](#).



Careers Team



Our programme is overseen by Elizabeth Holden, who practiced M&A in the City for 20 years and still regularly interviews and mentors young lawyers outside the LSE. Elizabeth has also spent years reminding lawyers of the many career options they have outside of the profession. Discover more about what the Careers Team can offer.

Other Useful Information

- You will hear more about LSE Careers during your induction. Careers updates are also regularly posted on the [LLM Programme Moodle page](#).
- LSE Careers' website has lots of online resources covering career options, how to find work experience and internships, sector information, plus special subscription websites such as the international employment guides on "GoinGlobal" (lse.ac.uk/careers).
- Entrepreneurship skills and opportunities via Generate at LSE (lse.ac.uk/generate).
- Graduate Destinations website – browse this site to find out what LSE Law School Postgraduates have gone on to do (info.lse.ac.uk/current-students/careers/what-graduates-do).



Section 10: LSE beyond your department





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LSE beyond your department

Your department is at the heart of your LSE experience – your academic home. But it's only one part of a large, dynamic university full of opportunities to learn, connect, and grow. It can take time to explore what's available, and you're not expected to do everything. Your experience is yours to shape.

This section of your handbook introduces that wider offer and is structured around a set of themes covering different aspects of your LSE experience – from developing as a scholar and looking after your wellbeing to building connections, broadening your horizons, and shaping your future. You can explore each of these themes further with [LSE LIFE](#) – your one-stop shop for opportunities beyond your programme. There's no need to have it all figured out – just start where you are, follow your curiosity, and take opportunities that feel right for you.

You will also see mention of [LSE Students' Union](#) (LSESU) – the student-led organisation that represents all LSE students. It is independent to LSE, and organises student-run societies, activities, and campaigns.

LSE LIFE – your personal guide to LSE

So many opportunities, so many choices, so much to explore. Think of LSE LIFE as your personal guide to LSE – helping you find the skills, experiences, and opportunities that feel right for you during your time with us. LSE LIFE is here for you throughout the year – both online and on the Ground Floor of the Library:

- The **LSE LIFE events and opportunities listings** are regularly updated, central listings of all the extracurricular happenings across LSE. You can filter by provider and theme, or just browse and see what strikes your interest!
- **LIFE Conversations** are one-to-one appointments providing personalised guidance about student life, settling into London, or making the most of what's on offer. LSE LIFE advisers can help clarify your goals, make a plan for your next steps, and help you find the teams and programmes that best fit your interests.
- The **LSE LIFE space** is a bright, open space located right on the ground floor of the Library. Perfect to study by yourself or with friends, attend a workshop or event, or drop by at the reception with any questions you might have.



Own your learning

Shape your intellectual journey – whether for success in the classroom or world-changing research

Studying at LSE is probably unlike anything you've done before – and that's part of what makes it exciting. You'll encounter ideas that challenge your assumptions, arguments that demand a response, and questions that don't have easy answers. You'll be expected to read critically, write persuasively, question evidence, speak up in classes and seminars, and develop a point of view that is genuinely your own. It can feel like a shift from being told what to think to working out how to think: reading independently, testing ideas, and deciding how to use your time. Lectures and seminars matter, but much of your progress happens in the hours around them.

That's a lot to ask. It's also one of the most rewarding things you'll ever do. You're not expected to arrive knowing how to do all of this, and you won't get there simply by putting in more hours. A common misconception is to confuse effort with progress: reading endlessly or spending long days in the library can feel productive without making your thinking much clearer. Progress tends to come from smaller, more deliberate habits – reading selectively, turning notes into arguments, and testing your understanding in discussion with your peers.

Your department, teachers, and academic mentor are your first point of contact – but there's extensive support beyond that. Across LSE, specialist teams can help you at every stage of your academic journey.

- **Learning Lab** is there for you at every stage of your learning journey – from finding your footing to thinking more critically, writing more convincingly, and getting more from your reading. **Workshops** run throughout the year on a variety of topics such as academic writing, critical reading, research planning, exam preparation, dissertation writing, and using AI tools critically and effectively. You can also book **one-to-one sessions** with Learning Lab Study Advisers to discuss specific aspects of your work.
- **LSE Library** is a central part of your learning environment, providing access to course readings and extensive research collections, alongside a wide range of study spaces. From Winter Term, it's open 24 hours a day. You can also discover alternative study spaces across campus with the **Facilities Guide**. Each department also has a **dedicated librarian** who can help with any Library questions, such as finding, evaluating, and referencing resources.



- The **Centre for Language Studies** offers free **English for Academic Purposes (EAP)** courses in Autumn and Winter Terms. EAP focuses on the skills required to perform in an English-speaking academic environment across the core subject areas you will encounter during your time at LSE.
- The **Department of Methodology** runs research design and methods courses, required on some master's programmes and optional on others. It also offers **one-to-one support** and **short courses** to complement your learning and support you through your dissertation and other research projects.
- **Digital Skills Lab** can support you in developing key digital and data skills that underpin many courses and assessments.

Using these resources early can help you find your footing more quickly. It's also worth coming back to them at key points in the year – for example, before your first summative assessments or when you start working on longer pieces of research. Over time, you'll develop a sense of what works best for you – whether that's how you organise your study, approach your reading, or make use of different kinds of support.

Three ways to start

- Join a Getting Started with the Library session during Welcome to learn more about what it has to offer!
- Attend a **Learning Lab session** in your first fortnight.
- Find a study space that works for you – the Library, a café, or your hall's common room.

Discover more – **LSE LIFE: Own your learning**





Centre your self

Prioritise your wellbeing, adapt to change, and build strength from the inside out.

Looking after yourself isn't a distraction from your studies. It's the foundation on which you build everything else, and it means different things at different times. Sometimes it's about building habits that help you stay on track: managing your workload, knowing your limits, finding routines that work for you. Sometimes it means genuinely switching off – a yoga session, a workout, or a mindful break. Sometimes it means recognising that you need support and knowing how to find it.

Unwind and recharge: make time to relax and enjoy yourself

Whether you're deep in revision or simply spending time on campus between lectures and seminars, it's important to make space to relax, recharge, and enjoy yourself – even during the busiest periods of the academic year. From sports and wellbeing sessions to creative arts and crafts events: explore upcoming activities and events with the [Unwind and recharge](#)-filter on the [LSE LIFE events](#) listing.

You don't have to measure whether an issue is "serious enough" to raise with someone. A better question is whether it's making it harder for you to work, think clearly, or stay steady. If it is, that's enough reason to seek support – and early help usually gives you more options than late help. The following teams are here for you at every stage:

- The [Student Wellbeing Service](#) offers [wellbeing appointments](#), counselling, workshops, and guidance when you're struggling or simply unsure what kind of support would help. They can help you talk through stress, anxiety, low mood, loneliness, homesickness, or a situation you're finding hard to manage. For students with disabilities, long-term health or mental health conditions, or specific learning difficulties, there's also a dedicated [Disability and Mental Health Service](#).
- [Peer Supporters](#) are trained student volunteers who help by offering a non-judgemental, confidential listening space to any LSE student. They will listen, and if you wish, can help you explore options for how to move forward. Any student can speak to any peer supporter and reaching out is a chance to build connections and speak to students you might not otherwise meet.



- The [Faith Centre](#) offers spaces for worship, quiet reflection, chaplaincy, and interfaith activity for all students, whether faith is central to your life or not. For some it's a place of worship, and for others it's a calm, reflective space. They offer weekly [Ashtanga Yoga and Tai Chi sessions](#) throughout the year. The [Faith Centre Director and Chaplain to LSE](#), Revd Canon Prof James Walters, offers confidential support regardless of your background or beliefs. You can also directly contact our Muslim, Catholic, Jewish, and Orthodox [Associate Chaplains](#).
- The [Halls Wellbeing Team](#) can provide wellbeing support and guidance if you live in LSE halls of residence. Check the [Halls Life platform](#) for more halls wellbeing information and resources.
- [LSESU Sports](#) has plenty of options to get involved, from the gym and drop-in sessions to sports clubs, the inclusive sport programme, and departmental sport. Staying active is a great way to support your wellbeing, lift your mood, and ease your stress – whether you're trying something new or getting back into a routine.

Three ways to start

- Make time to attend one [Unwind and recharge](#)-event that strikes your interest.
- Pick up a wall calendar from the [LSE LIFE reception desk](#) to help you stay organised.
- Take a walk through Lincoln's Inn Fields between lectures or seminars.

Discover more – [LSE LIFE: Centre your self](#)



Build your community

Get involved, connect with others, and make the most of what LSE and London have to offer.

LSE is a genuinely global institution. Your peers come from every corner of the world, bringing with them different perspectives, experiences, and ways of understanding the challenges that define our time. You'll meet people whose beliefs, backgrounds, and ways of seeing the world differ profoundly from your own. That's one of the most valuable things LSE offers – and it asks something of you in return: the willingness to listen and to engage thoughtfully, even if that means experiencing the discomfort of genuine difference. An LSE education doesn't just consist of lectures and assignments: it's also built from conversations, collaborations, and debates that don't appear on any transcript. Sometimes those conversations will challenge you. Sometimes they'll change you. The relationships you build and the communities you find here are fundamental parts of your experience and your education.

Building that community takes a little intention – showing up, trying things, and being open to connections you didn't necessarily expect. Societies, student groups, volunteering, and School-wide events are often the easiest routes in, but different things work for different people. Find what feels right for you, and don't try to do everything at once: one society, one regular event, or one study group will do more for your sense of belonging than signing up to many things and struggling to commit to any of them.





Find your people at LSE

Whatever your background, interests, or experiences, you are at home in the LSE community.

One of the best ways to meet new people is to connect over something you already share. The [Find your people](#)-filter on the LSE LIFE [opportunities listings](#) is designed to help you do just that. It gathers activities built around a common background, identity, or interest – covering cultural and national societies, sports clubs, music groups, and faith communities. You'll also find peer mentoring for undergraduate and neurodivergent students, [Professionals at LSE](#) events for students with five or more years of work experience, alumni mentoring for ethnic minority students, tailored programmes for female, disabled, and LGBTQIA+ start-up founders, and an [LGBTQIA+ role models directory](#), among many other events and programmes. The School also hosts celebrations for Black History Month, LGBT+ History Month, and Women's History Month, amongst others. You will be able to find many of these online on the EDI calendar and on campus in the Hall-Carpenter Room – a dedicated space to cultivate an environment of inclusivity, available for student use.

Creating an inclusive experience for every student is a core priority for the School. The [Equity, Diversity and Inclusion \(EDI\)](#) team actively works with the community to deliver action plans that advance equity and inclusion for students with protected characteristics and those who are underrepresented at the School through targeted work and initiatives. There is also work to foster good relations and positive dialogue across our diverse School community which you can find out more about on the [Campus Relations webpages](#).

Last but not least, don't forget London itself is part of the offer, too! Our campus is located right in the centre of the city – moments from the River Thames, Covent Garden, the Royal Courts of Justice. Make time to explore! You can find detailed accessibility guides on [AccessAble](#), that cover all buildings on campus and include route maps.



- **LSESU Societies** are one of the main ways to meet fellow students through shared interests, identities, and activities. With over 200 individual societies covering academic interests, cultural identities, sports, politics, media, the arts, and more, they are great for getting together with others on a regular basis.
- The **Faith Centre** is home to the LSE's diverse religious activities, transformational interfaith **leadership programme**, and a quiet, reflective space for both students and staff.
- **LIFE in London** is a series of free events and trips designed to connect you to London, fellow students, as well as some of the great experiences the city has to offer. From concerts and workshops to heritage-themed trips, there is something for everyone.
- **Halls Life** is the platform for student life in LSE accommodation, offering events, student-written guides and experiences, and key information to help you make the most of your time in halls.

Three ways to start

- Check out the Discover LSE Fair and the LSESU Welcome Fair in Autumn Term, and the Welcome Back Fair in Winter Term – the offer is vast!
- Explore a London neighbourhood you've never been to.
- Talk to someone on your programme you haven't talked with before.

Discover more – **LSE LIFE: Build your community**





Broaden your horizons

Develop a global perspective and engage with ideas, cultures, and questions that challenge and inspire you.

LSE is a place where people come together to debate, question, and explore the major issues shaping the world. Your degree is part of that conversation, but the intellectual life of the School extends far beyond your programme. Public events, lectures, discussions, and research talks give you the chance to encounter ideas, arguments, and perspectives that sit alongside – or sometimes challenge – what you study in class.

You don't need to attend everything. In fact, it's usually more valuable to engage selectively and thoughtfully: follow a question that genuinely interests you, explore a topic just outside your subject, or listen to people whose views differ from your own. Sometimes a single event or conversation is enough to change how you think about an issue, or to introduce you to a field, debate, or perspective you want to pursue further.

- **LSE Events** hosts one of the most active public lecture programmes of any university in the world. From heads of state and Nobel laureates to leading researchers, journalists, and policymakers: this is your chance to hear from some of the most influential figures in the social sciences first-hand. You can join the debate by posing your questions to the panel and even possibly meet the speakers at a book signing or reception after the event.
- **LSE Research Showcase** is a series of regular coffee-break research talks on campus, with free hot drinks and pastries, showcasing some of the fascinating research from our academic community.
- **World Cafés** are your chance to discover and debate important questions and ideas alongside students, teachers, researchers, alumni, and others from the LSE community. Short presentations from leading LSE researchers are followed by informal round-table conversations with scholars and other students.

Discover more – [LSE LIFE: Explore the big questions](#)



Broadening your horizons also means more than studying global topics though: it means learning from the people around you and becoming more curious about lives and perspectives beyond your own. The opportunity is to leave LSE not only with expertise in your subject, but with a wider frame of reference: more aware of complexity, more comfortable with uncertainty, and more connected to the world beyond your own experience.

- **CIVICA** is the [European University Alliance of the Social Sciences](#), of which LSE is a member alongside nine other European universities. Through CIVICA, you can take part in a range of activities and programmes, including immersive learning experiences abroad and online collaborative courses.

The world at your doorstep

You don't need to travel to encounter different cultures and perspectives at LSE: you can also engage with our international community right here on campus! [The LSE Language Community](#) – run by the Centre for Language Studies – offers bitesize speaking sessions with native speakers, weekly conversation circles, and tandem learning partnerships. The LSESU's [national and cultural societies](#) host events, food and film nights, and celebrations throughout the year. The [Faith Centre](#) offers interfaith events and activities open to students of any background, where you can learn about and connect across different cultures and traditions. Their [Beecken Faith and Leadership programme](#) is designed to help you develop key skills in reasoning and leadership in the context of engaging with religious difference, covering diverse topics, including the climate crisis and geopolitical conflict.

Discover more – [LSE LIFE: Connect across cultures](#)

Three ways to start

- Attend a [public lecture](#) on a topic completely outside your degree and note one idea or name to follow up afterwards.
- Join a [LSE Language Community](#) session or find a tandem learning partner.
- Visit the [Faith Centre spaces](#) – if you have a moment, why not take a break in The Cave, their silent room for meditation, prayer, and reflection?

Discover more – [LSE LIFE: Broaden your horizons](#)



Make your impact

Discover what matters to you and contribute to creating change, big or small, at LSE and beyond.

LSE's approach to social sciences is understanding the causes of things *for the betterment of society*. After more than 130 years, that tradition still flourishes in the research produced here, in the public debates hosted here, and in the careers of the people who've studied here. It's also alive in what students do while they are here.

We invite you to ask yourself: what are the causes that matter to you? Meaningful action isn't necessarily about doing more. Often, it's about committing to something you care about deeply and staying with it long enough to understand it properly. The value of that kind of involvement lies not only in what you achieve, but in what it teaches you – about responsibility, about other people, and about your own limits.

- The **Volunteer Centre** is there to inspire and empower you to volunteer for causes that you are passionate about during your time at LSE. They provide a range of long term, short term, and one-off opportunities to suit your interests and schedule. You can also drop in to their space in Lincoln Chambers or book an appointment to talk through what might suit you.
- **Sustainable LSE** is the School's sustainability team, where you can learn about contributing to sustainability on campus and in residences while building new skills – whether you want to come to a one-off event or volunteer with the team more regularly. Their activities range from beekeeping and wildlife workshops to carbon literacy training and sustainability auditing.

Discover more – **[LSE LIFE: Change the wider world](#)**



Impact at LSE doesn't only happen outside the School. It can also come from helping to shape the institution itself, from contributing to discussions about how LSE operates to simply showing up for another student who needs support. Alongside sharing your feedback at [departmental level](#), you can also take part in a wide range of School-wide groups and programmes.

- [LSESU Student Voice](#) gives you countless opportunities to make yourself heard in what is one of the most politically active Students' Unions in the country – whether that's getting involved with ongoing [campaigns](#) or starting your own, submitting a [policy proposal](#), or standing in the [LSESU leadership elections](#).
- [Student Education Panels](#) are a chance to share your perspective and discuss your LSE experience with peers from diverse backgrounds, programmes, and levels of study, helping to inform processes and improvements across the School.

Discover more – [LSE LIFE: Shape your school](#)





Support your peers

Your greatest impact on other students' experience at LSE can sometimes take place on a personal level, through supporting fellow students and helping to build a strong, welcoming community. There are several formal programmes through which you can support your peers:

- The **Student Academic Mentoring Programme** is an undergraduate-only initiative that helps first years to settle into their department and meet other students by matching them with second- and third-year undergraduate mentors. Neurodivergent undergraduate and postgraduate students can also apply to the **Neurodivergent Student Academic Mentoring scheme** – you don't need a formal diagnosis to take part.
- **Peer Supporters** are trained student volunteers who offer a confidential, non-judgemental listening space to any LSE student. All students who have already been studying at LSE for at least a year can become a peer supporter, including continuing undergraduates and those in the second year of a two-year master's programme.
- **Widening Participation** offer a range of paid roles, including Student Ambassador, Tutor, and Mentor positions, enabling current LSE students to share their experiences of applying to and studying at LSE with prospective students and young people considering higher education.

Three ways to start

- Drop by the **Volunteer Centre** on campus to learn more about your options.
- Join a **Student Town Hall** to learn about and debate policies that shape the way the LSESU runs.
- Attend a Meet LSE leadership event to get to know leaders from across LSE in an informal setting – keep an eye out for upcoming events in Student News.

Discover more – **LSE LIFE: Make your impact**



Expand your skills

Unlock the talents, tools, and mindsets that set you apart.

You've arrived at LSE with a distinctive set of abilities, built on everything you accomplished, studied, and experienced before you got here. You'll apply, test, and extend those skills every day: speaking up in a seminar, shaping a group project, and adapting to new ways of thinking and working. Some strengths deepen in new contexts, and other gaps only become visible when you're stretched. Part of university is learning to recognise both, and to think about what else you want to be able to do.

It's natural to think about skills in terms of outcomes – what mark will this help me get, or how can I highlight this on my CV. Some skills are worth being deliberate about, and focusing on one practical skill with long-term value is often more effective than an ambitious self-improvement plan. If you want to study or work abroad, invest in the language skills that will get you there. If your dissertation or internship is likely to need technical skills, build them gradually before they become urgent.

- The **Digital Skills Lab** offers practical, face-to-face workshops, bootcamps, and self-paced resources covering data analysis and visualisation, coding, AI literacy, and assistive technology – including tools like Excel, Power BI, Python, R, Stata, SPSS, and generative AI (Claude and Copilot). It's open to all students and designed to be accessible whether you're a complete beginner or building on existing knowledge.
- The **Centre for Language Studies** runs non-degree language courses at all levels, from beginner to advanced, designed to fit around your programme commitments.
- **Student Media** is your chance to practise writing, editing, production, presenting, and media management with a genuine audience – across video, radio, *The Beaver* student newspaper, and the student-run journals within Houghton Street Press.



Some skills develop without you even thinking about it though – you pick them up just by being here, doing the work, and being around other people doing the same. In fact, you could pick any programme, event or initiative listed in this guide – whether it is related to making your impact, broadening your horizons, or building your community – and it would help you grow. Volunteering, leading an LSESU society, building a start-up, working on your academic skills, or pulling together a study group – each is a chance to get better at communicating clearly, leading and collaborating, or approaching problems creatively and critically.

Reflect on your skills

Reflecting on how you're developing is hard to do alone – it's easier to explore, understand, and articulate your experience with someone who can help you take a step back.

- **LSE Careers** offers [one-to-one appointments](#) with Careers Consultants to help you identify and assess the skills you're building, and think about how to develop and articulate them for the path you want to take.
- **LSE LIFE** offers [one-to-one conversations](#) to help you make sense of everything LSE offers beyond your academic programme, and figure out which opportunities might be right for you.

Three ways to start

- Identify one technical skill that you might need during or after your degree – when would be a good time to learn it?
- Try one thing outside your comfort zone – leading a meeting, presenting a new idea to your classmates, organising a group trip, or speaking first in a seminar.
- Use the [LSE Careers Skills Framework](#) to recognise your skills, reflect on your experiences, and identify areas for further development as you prepare to enter the world of work.

Discover more – [LSE LIFE: Expand your skills](#)



Shape your future

Prepare for life after LSE by exploring your options and following your ambitions.

Thinking about life after university is a fundamental part of being at university. The futures LSE graduates go on to build are as diverse as the people who study here – in every corner of the world and every kind of organisation, and across every sector. What they share is a capacity to explore carefully, act purposefully, think critically, and keep learning. Some students arrive at LSE with a clear sense of the path they want to pursue. Others discover it gradually, through conversations, experiences, and opportunities they couldn't have foreseen.

Ask an Alum

Many cohorts of LSE students have gone on to build and shape their own unique career paths before you – and there's a great deal you can learn from their experiences. During your time at LSE, and even after graduation, you can access our global network of more than 240,000 curious and accomplished minds through [Ask an Alum](#), our online platform that connects students and alumni for advice, support, and networking. Whether it's exploring different career options, developing your professional skills, or building your first business, just submit your questions and we'll connect you with someone who can help.





As you begin to think about your own future and explore the possibilities available to you, teams across LSE can help you navigate and pursue your options. Early conversations can be valuable for testing ideas, understanding different sectors, and learning what employers really mean when they describe particular roles. If you already have a specific career path in mind, it's equally important to understand the expectations and timelines associated with it, especially in fast-moving sectors, where work experience opportunities like short placements, vacation schemes, and internships often begin recruiting early.

The important thing to remember is that thoughtful and curious people rarely settle their futures once and for all. Instead, they keep shaping them. Explore what intrigues you, build familiarity with different kinds of work and sectors, and begin to understand how your interests and strengths might translate into possible next steps.

- **[LSE Careers](#)** can help you explore your career options, reflect and build upon your skills, and offer insight into the world of work. They offer appointments, varied events and workshops, application, interview and assessment centre support, sector insights, and access to opportunities and vacancies through [MyCareer](#).
- **[LSE Generate](#)**, our entrepreneurship hub, is here to help you innovate for the betterment of society. Drop by their co-working space on campus, or join their events, programmes, and mentoring schemes to develop entrepreneurial skills, test business ideas, and meet others interested in innovation.
- **[LSESU Careers Societies](#)** are run by students, for students. From finance and consulting to technology and the creative industries, they offer opportunities to explore different sectors through networking events, conferences, workshops, and talks.

Three ways to start

- Register with LSE Careers and browse [MyCareer](#).
- Attend one [Shape your future](#)-event in your first term – even just to see what's out there.
- Ask an alum or anyone working at LSE how they've shaped their professional path so far.

Discover more – [LSE LIFE: Shape your future](#)



Section 11: Navigate your LSE





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Navigate your LSE

Find the resources, guidance, and support you need to thrive throughout your time at LSE.

There are moments at university when you need further advice – about administrative and procedural matters related to your degree or more generally about navigating student life and London. Where you start often depends on the nature of your question.

Here are three key teams at LSE who can act as a good starting point for any general queries, even if you're not sure exactly what you're looking for. If they can't help you directly, they can connect you with someone who can.

- The **[Student Services Centre \(SSC\)](#)** is your first point of contact for advice on a wide range of administrative and programme-related enquiries including enrolment, visa advice and compliance, course selection, exams, and graduation. Contact them via their **[Live Chat](#)** or use the **[SSC enquiry form](#)**.
- **[LSE LIFE](#)** is your one-stop shop for extracurricular opportunities and support at LSE. Browse the **[LSE LIFE events and opportunities page](#)** and if you'd like some personalised guidance, **[book a one-to-one LIFE Conversation](#)** to talk through any aspect of your experience and find the programmes, events, and groups that are right for you.
- The **[LSESU Advice Service](#)** offers free, impartial advice on a wide range of issues – from academic matters and assessments to finances, funding, and housing. As part of the LSE Students' Union, they are independent from LSE, and thus free from a conflict of interest. To contact them, fill out the **[Advice Service Form](#)**.

This section covers some of the mechanics behind your programme and the wider School: how things work, who's responsible for what, and where to go when something needs sorting. You can use it as a reference throughout the year – when a term isn't clear, when you're not sure what your options are, or when you need more information on a procedure or regulation. Click through to the webpages linked for the most up-to-date information and don't hesitate to reach out to someone if you need further advice.



Specialist guidance and support

For those times when you do have a specific question or concern, you may want to seek specialist advice and support directly. Here are some of the teams you might turn to.

- **Fees, finances, and money matters**

[LSE Fees Office](#) manages queries relating to the payment of tuition fees, tuition fee refunds, sponsor invoicing, and US or Canadian student loans.

The [Financial Support Office](#) administers a range of bursaries, scholarships and studentships. Use the [Student Finance Hub](#) to check your fees, invoices, payments and instalment arrangements.

If you are facing unexpected financial difficulty during your programme, the LSE Financial Support Office or the independent LSESU Advice Service may be able to help you.

- **Wellbeing and counselling**

The [Student Wellbeing Service](#) offers confidential one-to-one wellbeing and counselling appointments, and workshops. If you need to speak to someone on the phone immediately or outside of working hours, you can call the 24/7 mental health support line provided by our partners [Spectrum.Life](#).

- **Disability and mental health**

LSE's [Disability and Mental Health Service \(DMHS\)](#) offers advice and support to all disabled students, including those with physical or sensory impairments, long-term health conditions, mental health conditions, neurodivergence, specific learning difficulties, and autistic spectrum conditions. DMHS will work closely with you to explore any academic adjustments ([My Adjustments](#)) that may be available and provide tailored support to help make your time at LSE as accessible and inclusive as possible. It is recommended that students contact DMHS before arriving at LSE, or as soon as possible afterwards, so they can collaborate with you to put in place appropriate support from the start of the academic year.

- **Discrimination, bullying, harassment, or sexual misconduct**

If you experience or witness discrimination, bullying, harassment, or sexual misconduct you can report it – anonymously or with your contact details – on [LSE's Report and Support](#) system. You do not have to navigate these situations alone; you can contact any of [LSE's Safe Contacts](#) for confidential guidance. The School also partners with [external specialists, Rape Crisis South London](#) and [SurvivorsUK](#) who offer an Independent Sexual Violence Adviser (ISVA) service.

In an emergency, call 999 for the emergency services (police, ambulance, or fire brigade). On campus, [LSE security](#) can also help; call them on 020 7955 6555.



Term dates and LSE closures

The academic year has its own rhythm – terms, breaks, reading weeks, exam periods. It's helpful to see the whole picture before you get into specific procedures and regulations. This table shows the key dates for 2026/27. The notes below give a sense of what you can expect from each period and ideas about ways to approach them. Always check the [Term Dates](#) page for the latest information.

Academic year 2026/27

Welcome week	Friday 18 September – Friday 25 September 2026
Autumn Term (AT)	Monday 28 September – Friday 11 December 2026
Reading week	Monday 2 November – Friday 6 November 2026
Winter break	Monday 14 December 2026 – Friday 8 January 2027 <i>School closure:</i> Wednesday 23 December 2026 – Friday 1 January 2027
January exam period	Monday 4 January – Sunday 10 January 2027
Winter Term (WT)	Monday 11 January – Thursday 25 March 2027
Reading week	Monday 15 February – Friday 19 February 2027
Spring break	Friday 26 March – Friday 23 April 2027 <i>School closure:</i> Friday 26 March – Thursday 1 April 2027
Spring Term (ST)	Monday 26 April – Friday 11 June 2027
Spring exam period	Tuesday 4 May – Friday 11 June 2027

Welcome week is the week before teaching begins. Systems come online, departments run their introductions, and the practical infrastructure of being an LSE student gets set up. It's also a chance to find your feet, meet people, and begin to feel at home. There will be other Welcome activities running before and after Welcome week, so you don't have to try and do everything in seven days!

Autumn Term is the first 11 weeks of teaching of the academic year. For many, it's a period of adjustment where you settle in and learn ways to manage independent study. You might see term weeks referred to as "AT4" or "AT week 4", for example – the fourth week of Autumn Term.



Reading weeks fall midway through Autumn and Winter Terms, though not every programme has them. It is not a holiday, but a pause to catch up and consolidate the work you've already done in the term so far.

The **January exam period** is the final week of the **Winter break**, bringing exams and coursework deadlines into sharp focus.

Welcome Back is a series of events and social gatherings at the beginning of Winter Term where you can make a new start, meet new people, and explore more of what LSE has to offer, once you've had one term to learn your way around. **Winter Term** is also 11 weeks. Longer projects, the start of dissertation work, and other deadlines tend to land here.

Spring break runs from late March to late April, with the School closed for a week around Easter. For most students with exams in May and June, this is when you'll do most of your revision. **Spring Term** is seven weeks long, and most of it is taken up by the **Spring exam period**. There is generally very little teaching: this is a term defined by assessment.

Outside term time, during closure periods and bank holidays, services and opening hours may change. During [School closure](#), most School services are not available, though some buildings, such as the Library, may still be open.





Systems and online resources

LSE uses a set of core digital systems, but they do different jobs. It can be helpful to get an overview of which platform is for which task.

System	What it does	Find out more
Claude for Education	Generative AI chat from Anthropic, free to all LSE students. Each course sets its own AI use policy on Moodle, so check what is permitted before using Claude in assessed work.	Claude for Education ; Academic integrity
Digiexam	The software platform used for e-Exams, in-person exams where you use a laptop computer. It locks down your personal laptop to create a secure exam environment. Not all courses use e-Exams – check your specific course regulations.	e-Exams ; Exams
eduroam	The Wi-Fi network available across LSE and at universities worldwide. Connect using your LSE email address and password.	eduroam at LSE
Library Search	The online catalogue for finding books, journal articles, and other materials held by the LSE Library.	Library Search ; Library
LSE Calendar	The official publication containing programme regulations, classification schemes, assessment offence regulations, appeals regulations, and codes of practice.	LSE Calendar
LSE for You	LSE's system for completing your course selection.	LSE for You
LSE LIFE events	Your starting point for browsing and booking onto events outside your department. Because teams promote events in various places, using different booking systems, this is the easiest way to find most opportunities in one place.	LSE LIFE events



System	What it does	Find out more
Moodle	LSE's virtual learning environment. Each course has its own Moodle page where you'll typically find lecture slides, recordings, reading lists, quizzes, discussion forums, and where you submit assignments and receive marks and feedback. Important: joining a Moodle page is not the same as enrolling on a course – course selection can only be done through LSE for You.	<u>Moodle</u>
MyCareer	LSE Careers' online portal. Use it to register for careers events, browse the jobs and internships board, book one-to-one appointments with Careers Consultants, and set preferences for sector-specific information.	<u>MyCareer</u> ; <u>LSE Careers</u>
Parchment	The electronic platform through which final transcripts are issued and can be shared with employers or other institutions.	<u>Accessing Parchment</u> ; <u>Transcripts</u>
Student Finance Hub	An online portal where you can review your tuition and accommodation fees, invoices, payments, and instalment arrangements once you're enrolled.	<u>Student Finance Hub</u> ; <u>Paying fees</u> ; <u>Tuition fees</u>
Student Hub	LSE's app (iOS, Android, and web) for everyday student life. Use it to view your timetable, check deadlines, browse the campus map, read about news and events, and book appointments with academic staff, LSE LIFE advisers, and departmental support teams.	<u>Student Hub</u> ; <u>About Student Hub</u>
Student LfY	LSE's main administrative system. You'll use it for updating your address, finding your candidate number, accessing your assessment results and booking appointments with some School services.	<u>Student LfY</u> ; <u>What's in LfY</u>



System	What it does	Find out more
Turnitin	LSE's text-matching software. It produces a similarity report that can be used to monitor for potential plagiarism. Some departments allow or require you to submit drafts through Turnitin before your final submission, so you can review the report and use it to improve your writing and referencing.	Academic misconduct guidance ; Moodle

If you run into IT issues, you can visit the [Data and Technology Services \(DTS\)](#) team at the [Tech Centre](#) on the first floor of the Library, or raise a request via the [DTS Service Portal](#). They offer a range of support services, including the [iRoam Laptop Loan Service](#), and guidance on [cyber security, assistive technology, educational discounts](#) on tech and software, and free software available to LSE students. This includes free access to [Microsoft Office 365](#), which provides essential tools like Word, Excel, and Outlook. Outlook is LSE's main email platform and primary method of communication, so it's important to check it regularly.

DTS also provides support for [printing on campus](#). There are lots of printers available across the LSE campus, which you can connect to and use both from LSE computers and your personal devices. If you need to get something printed professionally, there is also a dedicated [Reprographics](#) team on site. They can help with anything from printing posters and leaflets to dissertation binding.



Your programme and courses

Glossary

The language of course choice, units, and regulations can seem unfamiliar at first. The [LSE Calendar](#) is the School's official resource for programme regulations, course information, and other important details related to studying at LSE. This list is here to help you get your bearings. It's a friendly introduction to terms you'll hear mentioned often, but it's not a substitute for the Calendar or advice from your department. For the most comprehensive, up-to-date, and relevant information, always consult both the [Calendar](#) and your department's guidance.





Term	What it means	Where next
Programme	The full degree comprising of all units studied, for example a BSc or MSc.	LSE Calendar
Programme regulations	The formal rules governing your degree. They specify which core courses you must take, which optional courses are available to you, how many units you need, and any dissertation or project requirement. Published in the LSE Calendar.	LSE Calendar
Unit	The measure of a course size at LSE. A half-unit course is typically taught over one term; a full-unit course is typically taught over two terms. A master's degree usually requires four units; an undergraduate degree usually requires 12 units (usually four each year).	LSE Calendar ; Course selection
Core course	A compulsory course required by your Programme regulations.	LSE Calendar
Optional course	A non-compulsory course you choose alongside the core requirements, from a list in your Programme regulations (or, with approval, from elsewhere at LSE).	Course selection ; LSE Calendar
Auditing a course	An informal arrangement where you follow a course's lectures for interest, but do not attend classes/seminars or sit assessments, and the course does not appear on your transcript or timetable. You need the course convener's permission to audit their course.	Course selection ; your course guide
Controlled access/ capped course	A course where the number of places is limited. "Controlled access" courses require departmental approval (you may need to write a supporting statement). "Capped" courses fill on a first-come, first-served basis through LSE for You. Some courses are both.	Course selection
Course selection period	The main window in Autumn Term, when you formally choose your courses for the full year through LSE for You. A second, shorter window reopens in January for changes to Winter Term half-units only. Deadlines and processes vary by department.	Course selection



Term	What it means	Where next
Timetable clashes	When two of your courses are scheduled at the same time. LSE for You has a “Student Timetable Clashes” screen to help identify simple clashes. Complex clashes may require contacting your department or the Timetables Team.	Timetables
Course guide	The guide for an individual course, giving details such as the convener, syllabus, course content, modes of assessment, and indicative reading lists.	Course selection ; Moodle ; your department pages
Seminars/Classes	Small-group teaching sessions where you discuss readings or work through problems with a class teacher and peers. Attendance is compulsory and active participation is expected, so come prepared. Master’s programmes tend to call these seminars; undergraduate programmes tend to call them classes.	Moodle
Office hours	Regular weekly slots when academic staff are available for one-to-one conversations. You can speak to any teacher during their hours, even if you’re not on their course. Some are drop-in; others require booking via the Student Hub.	Student Hub ; Academic support





Making changes to your programme

If you would like to make changes to your programme or mode of study, you have options. An **interruption** is a year-long approved break in your studies, with a return the following academic year. **Withdrawal** is permanent. A **programme transfer** moves you to a different degree at the same level, with approval from both old and new departments. A **change of mode** switches you between full-time and part-time study, usually on postgraduate programmes. All of these should be discussed with your department and may have implications for your visa, fees, and funding.

Who's who – the people behind your degree

There are plenty of people within your department who can support you, and knowing who handles what will get you to the right answer faster. The entries below indicate typical roles and job titles of people in your department.

Role	Who they are
Academic Mentor (AM)	A member of staff in your department assigned to you personally. They are there to support your progress – both in your studies and more broadly – and are an excellent point of contact whenever you have a question or concern. Your AM may also provide references for employment. On some taught Master's programmes, your AM may also be your Dissertation Supervisor, but check your department's arrangements.
Class Teacher	The person who leads your weekly class or seminar group. They may be a member of academic staff or a Graduate Teaching Assistant (GTA; possibly a PhD candidate). They mark work, give feedback, and hold office hours, where you can discuss topics from class further.
Course Convener	The academic responsible for running a particular course – setting its content, syllabus, assessments, and policies.
Departmental Senior Student Adviser (DSSA)	A confidential point of contact when something non-academic is affecting your studies. DSSAs can help you think through options around extensions, deferrals, changes to your studies (interruption, transfer, withdrawal), and how to access wellbeing and support services. Not all departments have DSSAs; some provide this support through other roles.



Role	Who they are
Programme Director	The academic responsible for the overall delivery and development of your degree programme. They handle programme-level issues and can approve requests to take courses outside your Programme Regulations.
Programmes Support Team/ Professional Services Team	The administrative team in your department and a valuable source of knowledge when you have practical queries about course selection, timetabling, Moodle, assessment processes, and student representation. They are led by the Department Manager.
Student Academic Representative	A student selected to represent the views of their peers at departmental committees such as the Student-Staff Liaison Committee. Selection takes place shortly after the start date of your programme, mostly from the first week of Autumn Term onwards.

One-to-one appointments with academic staff can usually be booked via [Student Hub](#). If you need to get in touch about anything via email, you can find contact details for your programme director, course conveners, and teachers on [Moodle](#). For any other contacts, check out your department's People page.

Student Voice: feedback on your programme

Your feedback is extremely important. There are several ways you can use your voice and shape the teaching and learning on your courses and programme.

Within your department, [Student Academic Representatives](#) (or programme reps) are students recruited to represent the views of their peers. They sit on [Student-Staff Liaison Committees \(SSLCs\)](#) (or Programme Forums), the main forum where elected reps discuss your feedback on your teaching and learning experiences with departmental staff on a termly basis.



There are also broader [Undergraduate/Postgraduate Taught Consultative Fora](#), made up of SSLC reps from across the School, as well as the LSESU Education Officer and Pro-Vice Chancellor for Education, allowing for School-wide feedback. Some of your reps will also attend your [Departmental Teaching Committee](#) each term, which oversee teaching and learning within departments, and help ensure effective student participation in educational decision-making.

You will have a chance to give feedback through [regular surveys](#) at both course and programme level, alongside broader surveys of the whole student experience including the [National Student Survey](#) for final-year undergraduates. These are generally coordinated by the [Teaching Quality Assurance and Review Office \(TQARO\)](#).

Beyond your department, you can shape LSE at a School-wide level, for example, through [LSESU Student Voice](#), [Student Education Panels](#), and [LSESU leadership elections](#). See [Make your impact](#) earlier in this handbook for more opportunities.





Exams and assessments

Assessment at LSE comes in two forms. **Formative assessment** is practice – essays, problem sets, presentations, or mock exams that don't count towards your final grade. Formative assessments are where you can test ideas, experiment, and get helpful feedback. **Summative assessment** does count towards your final mark for a course, and might take the form of exams, coursework essays, group projects, presentations, or a dissertation.

Each department publishes **marking criteria** describing what markers are looking for – typically covering knowledge and understanding, use of literature, argument and analysis, and clarity of expression. Most written work also has a **word limit**, with rules on what exactly counts towards it and penalties for exceeding it set at department level.

If your programme includes exams, they'll usually take place in either the January or Spring exam period. Before you take any exam, read the School's official [Exam Procedures for Candidates](#) for full details of all exam regulations including personal items you're allowed to take into the exam room, writing in exam booklets or using computers for e-exams, and your **candidate number** – a unique five-digit number that ensures anonymous marking.

Another important element of exams that you'll find explained fully in the exam procedures is the School's [Fit to Sit](#) policy. This means that by entering an exam room or submitting an assessment, you declare yourself well enough to do so. If you are unwell or affected by serious circumstances, request an extension or deferral *before* the assessment – your [options](#) are much more limited afterwards.

Re-taking an exam or re-attempting an assessment is called a **resit**. Resits are normally held in one of two formal periods: the **In-Year Resit and Deferred Assessment Period (IRDAP)**, which typically runs in late August, or the **Resit and Deferred Assessment Periods (RDAP)**, which take place during the main Winter and Spring assessment periods the following year. Full details of taking resits and deferred assessments can be found on the [School's Re-entry pages](#). Eligibility, timing and rules vary by programme, so check the [Calendar](#) and your department's guidance.

If you think a result or decision needs to be challenged, there is a formal appeals process. Full details about the appeals process can be found [here](#).



Who can I talk to?

You can talk with your academic mentor, course convenor, or class teacher about feedback you receive.

You can talk with a [Learning Lab Study Adviser](#) about interpreting the marking criteria for an assignment or ways to use feedback to make progress.

For questions about the exam procedures, resits, or other administrative matters around exams and assessments, contact the [SSC Student Advice and Engagement Team](#).

The [SSC Student Regulations Team](#) handles appeals, allegations of misconduct and plagiarism, and complaints about academic matters. They also administer the process around exceptional circumstances and deferrals.

Academic integrity

Academic integrity is the principle that the work you submit is your own and that you've taken responsibility for referencing others accurately and following your department's guidelines on working with other people and with AI tools. Here are some specific terms you should understand.

Plagiarism is presenting other people's words or ideas as your own, whether deliberately or accidentally, including failing to reference sources properly.

Collusion is collaborating with others on individually assessed work beyond what is permitted. **Contract cheating** is having someone complete an assessment on your behalf, and can also include the unauthorised use of GenAI tools. **Self-plagiarism** is reusing material from your own previously submitted work without proper attribution. More information about academic misconduct is in the [Regulations on Assessment Offences](#).

LSE provides all students with access to [Anthropic Claude for Education](#) and [Microsoft Copilot](#), however each course has its own **AI use policy**, set out on the course's Moodle page. Some courses permit some forms of AI use; others prohibit them entirely. **Turnitin** scans submissions for matches against other sources. Some departments let you submit drafts to Turnitin first to check your referencing. The **Turnitin similarity report** shows what percentage of your submission matches other sources. There is no safe maximum score: a low percentage can still be investigated and a high one does not automatically indicate misconduct.

When you submit summative work, you confirm an [academic integrity statement](#) affirming that the work is your own, that you have not colluded, and that you have followed AI and referencing rules. Suspected cases of misconduct are considered by an **Assessment Misconduct Panel**, and penalties can be severe.



Who can I talk to?

If you have questions about Turnitin, referencing, paraphrasing, using generative AI tools, or any other aspect of academic integrity, you can book an [Academic integrity one-to-one appointment](#). Sessions take place online and everyone will be seen individually in order to provide personalised advice – no question is too silly! The [Learning Lab](#) and [Library](#) also provide general guidance on academic integrity, referencing, and paraphrasing, through workshops, one-to-one appointments, and online resources.

Do note that some rules and regulations may vary from department to department, so it is worth checking your course guides and speaking to your teachers or academic mentor when in doubt, too.

The [SSC Student Regulations Team](#) handles allegations of misconduct and plagiarism, and complaints about academic matters.

When something affects your work

LSE has formal routes for situations where circumstances affect your assessed work. Ideally, these circumstances should be addressed before the work is due or attempted.

An **extension** is extra time on a coursework deadline, requested in advance and normally accompanied by supporting evidence. It is the most common route for short-term issues with submitted work. Full details can be found in the [Student Guidance on Extension Requests](#) document.

A **deferral** postpones an assessment to a later sitting, usually the next exam period. It is used when an extension is not enough or when the assessment has a fixed date, such as an exam. Like an extension, it is requested in advance, normally at least 24 hours before the deadline or exam start.

LSE publishes guidance on [religious observance and assessments](#) for students whose faith commitments may affect assessment participation.

[My Adjustments](#) refers to personalised plans of reasonable adjustments to adapt teaching, learning, and assessments to the needs of students with sensory or physical impairments, mental health conditions, or specific learning difficulties. They include **Teaching and Learning Adjustments** (TLAs) and [Central Exam Adjustments](#) (CEAs) and might feature extra time in exams, assistive technology, or changes to your study environment.



There is also a procedure to follow where circumstances cannot be addressed in advance. Submitting **Exceptional Circumstances (ECs)** is the only way to inform examiners about circumstances beyond your control that affected an assessment you have already attempted or were absent for. Find out more on the [Student Services Centre pages about ECs](#).

Who can I talk to?

The [Disability and Mental Health Service \(DMHS\)](#) is the service who puts My Adjustments in place, including Central Exam Adjustments. There is no requirement to tell the School about a disability. However, letting the DMHS team know about any long-term condition that has a substantial impact on your studies or your day-to-day life enables them to arrange adjustments and support.

The [SSC Student Advice and Engagement Team](#) answers questions and provides advice about academic matters including ECs, progression, deferral, interruption, withdrawal, and the School Regulations and Codes of Practice more generally.





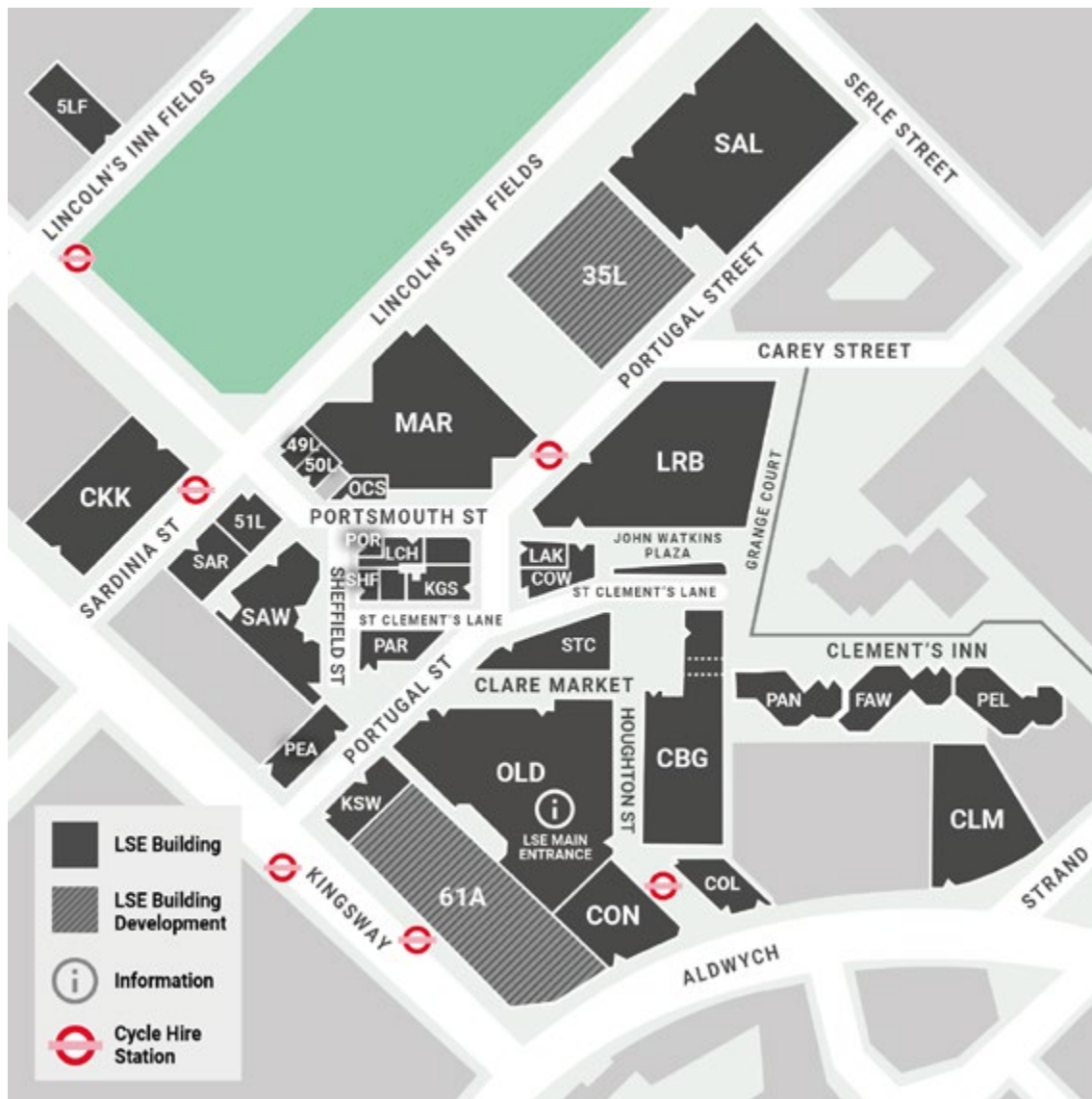
Codes, charters, and action plans

LSE has several codes and charters in place that outline the standards of education, conduct, and partnership between LSE, its staff, and students. Below is a selection of important codes, charters, and plans. A comprehensive list of School [Policies and Procedures](#) is available online.

- **[LSE Academic Code](#)**: Sets out what you can expect from your education in four areas: teaching standards, academic support, assessment and feedback, and student voice.
- **[LSE-LSESU Student Charter](#)**: Describes the community you're joining and how its members are expected to relate to each other.
- **[Codes of Good Practice](#)**: Explain the responsibilities of staff and students in relation to teaching, learning, and assessment.
- **[Ethics Code](#)**: Sets out the values the LSE community is expected to live by – covering responsibility, integrity, intellectual freedom, equality, collegiality, and sustainability.
- **[LGBTQ+ Inclusive Action Plan](#)**: Outlines six priorities to advance LGBTQ+ equity and inclusion.
- **[Race Equity Action Plan](#)**: Outlines six priorities to advance racial equity and inclusion, as part of the [Race Equity Framework](#).



LSE campus



Find out more on the [LSE campus map webpage](#).

[AccessAble](#) provides detailed accessibility guides for campus buildings, residences and study spaces, including route maps between locations to help students navigate campus confidently and independently. Explore more campus facilities with the [Facilities Guide for Current Students](#).

lse.ac.uk/law



LSE Law School

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