



Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences / School of Law

LLM/MA in Human Rights in Criminal Justice

1 year full-time
or 2 years part-time

Programme Overview

This programme is designed to emphasise the inter-relationship between what have traditionally been taught as the two distinct disciplines of human rights and criminal justice. Students will be provided with a comprehensive knowledge of this ever-developing field of law and encouraged to assess the merit of mainstreaming human rights within the criminal justice system.

Covering key areas such as policing and human rights, criminal justice processes and sentencing, penology and victimology, and law of the European Convention on Human Rights, the programme aims to foster general and specific skills with respect to the modern criminal justice system both in Ireland and internationally.

Entry Requirements

Applicants must normally have a second class honours degree, grade 2 (2.2) in law or in a relevant social science (Primary degree: Level 8 - National Qualifications Authority of Ireland). On successful completion of the programme, students with a primary degree in law will be awarded an LL.M., whereas students with an undergraduate qualification from cognate disciplines to law will be awarded an M.A. Otherwise, the structure, content, module elective and assessment instruments will be the same for all students.

In exceptional circumstances an applicant who cannot satisfy the undergraduate entry requirement may be accepted on the basis of relevant work experience in accordance with UL's Policy on Recognition of Prior Learning.

Applicants whose first language is not English must provide evidence of either prior successful completion of a degree qualification taught through the medium of English or evidence of English language qualification(s).

Applications from those with practical experience in either field of criminal justice or human rights are particularly encouraged.

Programme Structure

Full-Time

Autumn Semester	Spring Semester	Summer
LA6001 Advanced Legal Research Skills	LA6002 Dissertation Methodology	LA6150 Dissertation
Three electives from:	Three electives from:	
LA5153 Comparative International Protection of Human Rights Law	LA6132 International Criminal Law	
LA6111 Criminal Justice Processes and Sentencing	LA6142 Policing and Human Rights	
LA6121 Law of the European Convention of Human Rights	LA4052 Criminology	
LA6052 Penology and Victimology	LA6062 Comparative and European Criminal Justice	
	LA6162 Regulatory Crime	
	LA6182 Using evidence to improve societal outcomes in the real world	
	LA6192 Hate Crime	
	LA6202 Youth Crime	

Programme Structure continued

Part-Time Year 1

Autumn Semester	Spring Semester	Summer
LA6001 Advanced Legal Research Skills	Two electives from:	
One elective from:	LA6062 Comparative and European Criminal Justice	
LA5153 Comparative International Protection of Human Rights Law	LA6132 International Criminal Law	
LA6111 Criminal Justice Processes and Sentencing	LA6142 Policing and Human Rights	
LA6121 Law of the European Convention of Human Rights	LA4052 Criminology	
LA6052 Penology and Victimology	LA6202 Youth Crime	
	LA6162 Regulatory Crime	
	LA6182 Using evidence to improve societal outcomes in the real world	
	LA6192 Hate Crime	

Part-Time Year 2

Autumn Semester	Spring Semester	Summer
LA6001 Advanced Legal Research Skills	Two electives from:	
One elective from:	LA6062 Comparative and European Criminal Justice	
LA5153 Comparative International Protection of Human Rights Law	LA6132 International Criminal Law	
LA6111 Criminal Justice Processes and Sentencing	LA6142 Policing and Human Rights	
LA6121 Law of the European Convention of Human Rights	LA4052 Criminology	
LA6052 Penology and Victimology	LA6202 Youth Crime	
	LA6162 Regulatory Crime	
	LA6182 Using evidence to improve societal outcomes in the real world	
	LA6192 Hate Crime	

* Part-time students complete the programme over a 24-month period by taking two modules in both the autumn and spring semesters of each year, before completing a dissertation in the summer semester of the second year. The module selection for each semester will be by agreement with the Course Director.





Careers

Recent graduates of the programme have secured positions as advocates with national and international human rights organisations (NGO's), internships with criminal justice agencies and related bodies, pursued careers within An Garda Síochána (National Policing and Security Service), and increasingly, many students have continued with their postgraduate studies at PhD level at institutions within Ireland and internationally.

What Our Graduates Say

"I completed the LLM in Human Rights in Criminal Justice and then took up a position as a research fellow at the Courts Service of Ireland – my role utilised the research skills that I gained during my LLM every day as I drafted judgments and researched points of law for the judiciary of the High Court. What attracted me to the programme was the fact that it combines two distinct disciplines which are traditionally taught separately. The modules offered are designed to emphasise the inter-relationship between human rights and criminal justice. During the programme we covered key areas such as policing and human rights and the Law of the European Convention on Human Rights. I would highly recommend this course for anyone who wants to improve or begin their lawyering skills."

Denis Kennedy, Graduate of the LLM Human Rights in Criminal Justice and Research Fellow at the Courts Service of Ireland

"Through the program, I have gained more insights into global best practices of policing and supervisory roles in applying appropriate legal mechanisms to protect the rights of both the victims and suspected perpetrators of crime. The course has equipped me with multiple skills learned from my lecturers and fellow students of different countries and backgrounds – which has greatly contributed towards my academic and professional growth. Upon completing my study at UL, I resumed work in Nigeria where I got promoted to Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) and transferred to the National Headquarters of the Nigeria Police Force."

Aliyu Usman, Graduate of the LLM Human Rights in Criminal Justice and Deputy Superintendent of Police, Nigerian Police Force.



How to Apply

To make an application, please visit:
<https://www.ul.ie/gps/course/law-human-rights-criminal-justice-llm-ma>

Programme Contact

Programme Course Director
Dr Ger Coffey
School of Law
Email: Ger.Coffey@ul.ie
Tel: +353 (0) 61 202682

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