

LM029 Bachelor of Laws (Law Plus)

NFQ Level 8 Major Award Honours Bachelor Degree
Baitsiléir Dlíthe (Dlí Móide)



Course Info

CAO Points 2019: 473

Course Length: 4 Years

Course Director: Dr John Lombard

Enquiries

Email: Law@ul.ie

Tel: 00 353 61 202015

www.ul.ie/admissions-askus

Entry Requirements

Min requirements: 2 H5 & 4 O6/H7

English: O6/H7

2nd language: O6/H7 or H4 for language

Maths: F6/O6/H7

Other: —

Additional info:

- Mature Pathways
- QQI Pathways

Note: Students wishing to take a language option must have a H4 grade in that language with the exception of Japanese and beginners Spanish where a H4 grade in a language other than English is required.

Note: Grade F6 in Foundation Mathematics also satisfies the minimum entry requirements. Foundation Maths is not reckonable for scoring purposes.

Note: For certain electives, additional special qualifications specific to individual subjects or disciplines may be determined by the respective departments in accordance with Academic Council regulations.

About You

If you are the type of person who enjoys working out real solutions to problems that occur in everyday life then Law Plus is the programme for you. If you would like to study a traditional law degree but have the flexibility of studying elective subjects that allow you to tailor the programme to your own interests, then Law Plus is also the programme for you.

Why study Law Plus at UL?

The study of law is an enriching educational experience that provides intellectual stimulation and an exposure to decision-making and argumentative skills. The Law Plus programme allows you to choose elective subjects in other disciplines including Politics, History, Psychology, Economics, Maths, Sociology and languages. You can therefore expect to have a wide variety of options open to you upon graduation.

Our moot court and appellate court facilities are utilised throughout the programme to develop these skills and ensure our students graduate equipped to deal with working in a legal environment. These skills are of course transferable and of great benefit to those who choose to pursue a career outside of law.

You will also have the opportunity to participate in Advanced Lawyering projects. These projects provide students with a unique opportunity to engage with community partners and to apply their legal knowledge and skills in a practical manner. Projects vary from year to year and have in the past included topics such as miscarriages of justice, sentencing, Street Law, and legal app development.

What you will study

The programme is of four years' duration, of which seven semesters are spent on campus and one on Cooperative Education. In general, the programme consists of three law modules and two elective modules per semester. The law component of the course is designed to provide you with a mastery of the discipline of law through the study of the core legal subjects which are considered essential to a rounded legal education: Lawyering Skills, Contract, Torts, Criminal Law, Constitutional Law, Equity and Trusts, EU Law and Land Law.

The elective component of the degree consists of a wide variety of modules, including additional Law modules. The electives serve to broaden the base of your legal studies and refine your

knowledge of the wider world. For a full list of these options, go to www.ul.ie/courses/LM029.html

During the first half of Year 3, an eight-month period of Cooperative Education provides you with an opportunity to apply the knowledge that you have already acquired. This will take the form of a work placement. There is also the opportunity to spend this period abroad. In the second half of Year 3, a limited number of academic placements are available, either through an exchange programme with a European law school or with one of our partner law schools in the United States, Canada or China.

Final year students will also participate in 'Advanced Lawyering Projects'. These are group projects which focus on an area of law in which you have a particular interest (e.g. criminal justice, employment law or property law etc). You will work together with a lecturer to complete a project where you will develop practical research, writing and presentation skills.

Details of some Advanced Lawyering projects are available on www.ulsites.ul.ie/law/node/18261

Exemptions

The Bachelor of Laws (Law Plus) covers the core subjects required for the Law Society of Ireland Final Examination, Part 1, and is an approved degree for the purpose of Rule 4 of the Education Rules of the Honorable Society of Kings Inns. The degree is also recognised for admissions to the Institute of Professional Legal Studies at Queens. Please contact the School of Law, University of Limerick, for further information.

Career Opportunities

Careers open to you with a Law degree include:

- Solicitor
- Barrister
- Legal Advisor
- Compliance Officer
- Mediator
- Civil Service administrator

A legal education gives you a number of career options. You may decide to enter the legal profession or you may engage in further study and become an academic. These are not the only options, as a law degree will give you a rich and invaluable education which may also interest those who intend to pursue a career outside the profession and academia, including administration, government and business.

A law degree will provide you with life-long skills that can be adapted to suit a wide variety of careers.

Follow-On Study

After finishing your Law degree, you may decide to stay on at University and pursue a Masters Degree or PhD. We offer a number of innovative and interesting postgraduate programmes:

- LLM in Human Rights in Criminal Justice
- LLM General
- LLM in International Commercial Law
- PhD



Student Profile

John Davitt

Knowing that I wanted to study law, the fact that The School of Law at UL has an excellent reputation, leading academics and very strong ties with the top commercial law firms was very appealing. Moreover, the Co-Op programme offered by UL influenced my decision; given how competitive the job market is, it is a massive benefit to have the opportunity to undertake a 6-12 month work placement.

Law Plus allows you to supplement a traditional law degree with electives from a broad spectrum of disciplines. Each semester I studied three law modules and two 'optional' modules, in my case one in Politics and one in Sociology.

This is the only law course available in Ireland which offers specific practical "lawyering" modules, giving students the chance to hone practical skills in areas such as Alternative Dispute Resolution - this really enhances your learning. In addition to typical class-room based lectures, we got the opportunity to use the newly developed Moot Court, a replica of a real-life court. This was particularly enjoyable, and implemented a practical element into the course.

I graduated from UL in June 2013, and subsequently pursued a Master's degree at the London School of Economics. I also had the opportunity to work as a Parliamentary Assistant at the UK House of Lords and gain a wealth of experience. The strong legal foundation and skills I acquired at UL made the progression to post-graduate study as seamless as possible, and left me well equipped to enter the professional legal environment.

The moot court room at the UL School of Law

This facility enables UL Law students to get hands-on court room experience. With all the trappings of a traditional courtroom, students can assess their performance in court, with a judges bench, 12-seat jury area, prosecution and defence stands, witness stand, and 60-seat public gallery.

Key Fact

Law Plus at UL is a fully accredited Law degree with the added benefit of a choice of additional subjects and relevant workplace experience.



www.studyatul.ie

Q. How does the Law Plus degree work?

The 4 year programme includes seven semesters on campus and one on Cooperative Education. In general, the programme consists of three law modules and two elective modules per semester. Extra law may be taken as one of the electives, in this way, you can study four law subjects and one non-law elective per semester. The law component of the course provides students with a comprehensive knowledge of the discipline of law through the study of legal subjects like: Lawyering Skills, Contract, Torts, Criminal Law, EU Law and Land Law.

Q. What subjects may I choose to study in addition to law?

Law Plus is a flexible degree allowing students to choose two electives from a wide range of subjects and disciplines. Students can choose any combination from groups 1-6, as long as no two are in the same group*:

Law can only be selected as an elective once.

- **Group 1:** Law or Psychology or German
- **Group 2:** Law or English or Politics
- **Group 3:** Law or Digital Culture and Communications or Gaelige or Economics
- **Group 4:** Law or Public Administration or Spanish (beginners or advanced)
- **Group 5:** Law or Sociology or Linguistics with TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) or Maths or Japanese
- **Group 6:** Law or History or French

Students can attend as many lectures as they want in the first week of term and then choose the ones that suit them best. This flexibility is excellent for students who are uncertain as to their future career but know the value of a legal training coupled with exposure to other disciplines. The student can effectively design an individual programme of their choosing. Students are always welcome to speak with the Course Director about registration options.

Q. Do I need to study a language?

Students may choose not to study a language.

Q. Do I gain any experience in the workplace?

During the first half of Year 3, an eight-month period of Cooperative Education provides the students with an opportunity to apply the knowledge that has already been acquired. Normally this will take the form of a work placement in a range of sectors including legal, financial and government sectors.

Students also have the opportunity to undertake a semester abroad as part of an Erasmus programme in the second semester of third year.

Q. Will I develop skills which are useful in the workplace?

The School of Law is dedicated to ensuring that Law graduates are self-motivated and highly professional people who are equipped with invaluable transferable skills, skills which are integral to a legal training, but are also highly prized skills in general. Law Plus places significant emphasis on the development of skills including excellent oral and written communication skills, analytical and logical reasoning skills, negotiation, legal research, organisational and team work skills, particularly through the Lawyering Skills modules in the first and fourth year of the programme.

In addition, students are offered an Advanced Lawyering module which builds upon skills previously identified and imparts students with an understanding of the alternative mechanisms for solving disputes outside the legal system (ADR) and the skills inherent in these processes, an area of increasing importance to legal professionals in modern times.

Final year students will also participate in 'Advanced Lawyering Projects'. These are group projects which focus on an area of law in which you have a particular interest (e.g. criminal justice, employment law or property law etc). You will work together with a lecturer to complete a project where you will develop practical research, writing and presentation skills.

Q. What kind of degree will I get at the end of my course?

Law Plus is a Bachelor of Laws (LLB)

degree rather than a Bachelor of Civil Law (BCL) as it is a four year degree encompassing an eight month co-operative education placement rather than a traditional three year law degree.

Q. Can I become a barrister or solicitor when I am finished my Law Plus degree?

Yes! The Law Society of Ireland (Solicitors) does not require applicants to have a law degree to pursue a career as a solicitor, however, every student in the country must sit entrance exams to gain entry to the Law Society of Ireland. All of the subjects are offered by the School of Law in the University of Limerick.

The Honorable Society of Kings Inns (Barristers, The Bar) does require students wishing to become a barrister to hold a law degree and Law Plus is an approved degree for these purposes.

Students on the Law Plus programme will also have the opportunity to study the subjects on which there are entrance exams in order to gain entry to Kings Inns.*

Further information on becoming a barrister is available from www.kingsinns.ie and further information on becoming a solicitor is available on www.lawsociety.ie**

Q. Is Law Plus recognised for teaching?

No, but you can make an individual case to the Teaching Council. There are no guarantees that your LLB will be accepted.

Q. Do I get a degree in my elective subjects?

No, the elective subject gives the student the opportunity to study an area outside of law that complements the study of law and enriches their knowledge. On graduation, you will be awarded a LLB in Law with the list of electives taken detailed your official student transcript.

* Please note that the choice of electives is subject to continual change and not all electives may be available due to a variety of factors including, but not limited to, scheduling and resourcing.

** Due to the regular alterations to the entry requirements for the professional bodies, students are advised to keep abreast of any developments in this regard.

