



The University of Edinburgh

# Edinburgh Law School

Postgraduate Studies



# Welcome to Edinburgh Law School

Welcome to Edinburgh Law School, one of the leading law schools in the United Kingdom. The School offers a wide variety of postgraduate programmes, both taught and research based, and can offer academic supervision over a range of legal subject areas. In the most recent Research Assessment Exercise (RAE 2008), a government-funded study into the quality of academic research produced by UK institutions, Edinburgh Law School was ranked 1st in Scotland and 10th in the UK overall in terms of academic excellence.

The Law School is based in the University of Edinburgh's historic Old College, centrally situated within the city of Edinburgh. The Law Library, based in Old College, offers a superb collection of legal books, journals, law reports, and other research materials. Students also have access to the leading electronic legal research resources, such as LexisNexis and Westlaw, and electronic access to numerous on-line journals. The School also offers a rich programme of visiting speakers and lecturers. All postgraduate students are encouraged to attend these events, and can thereby benefit from access to a wide variety of international academics and other experts.



## RESEARCH CENTRES

Within the School there operate a number of discipline-specific research centres. Students are encouraged to play an active role in these centres and to help facilitate new and exciting research and lecture opportunities.

- AHRC Research Centre for Studies in Intellectual Property and Technology Law
- Centre for Law and Society
- Centre for Legal History
- CITSEE
- Edinburgh Centre for Commercial Law
- Edinburgh Centre for Constitutional Law
- Edinburgh Centre for Private Law
- Europa Institute
- Scottish Centre for International Law

## THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

The University of Edinburgh has enjoyed a long and distinguished history since its establishment by Royal Charter in 1582. The University's reputation for academic excellence has ensured that for over 400 years it has continued to attract first class scholars from institutions worldwide. Today, the University is ranked in the top 40 of higher education institutions worldwide and boasts an impressive array of well-known graduates.

The university is also associated with nine Nobel Prize winners in the fields of medicine, mathematics and economics.

# The City of Edinburgh

Edinburgh is Scotland's capital and is one of the most cosmopolitan and vibrant European cities. As a result it is often voted one of the best places to live in the United Kingdom. With its stunning Georgian and Victorian architecture, and winding medieval streets, it's easy to see why Edinburgh has been listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



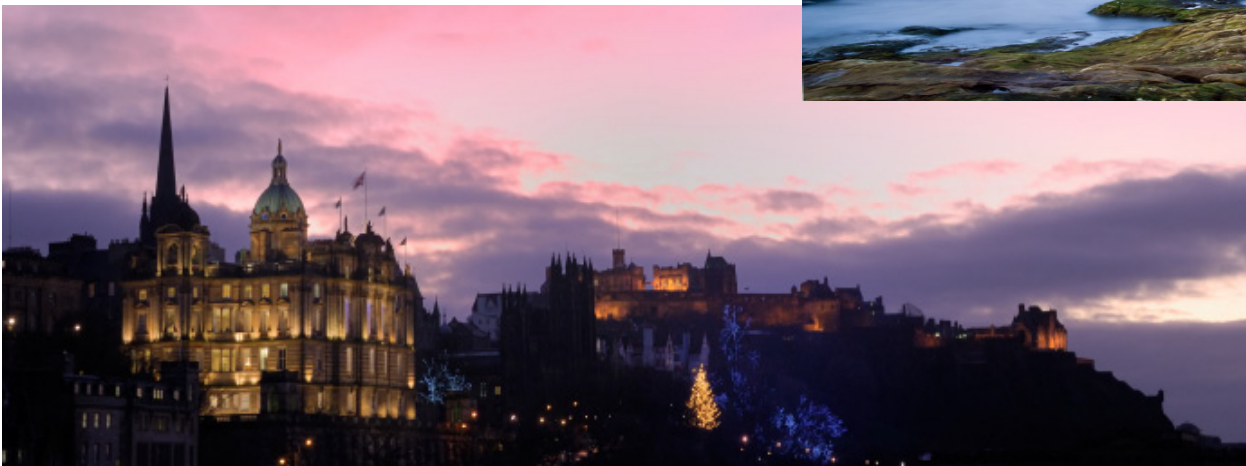
The City has an abundance of world-famous landmarks attracting thousands of visitors each year. Of particular interest are Edinburgh Castle, the Royal Mile, the Scottish Parliament, Arthur's Seat and Salisbury Crags (the remnants of an extinct volcano) and Holyrood Palace (the Queen's official residence in Scotland). Each year Edinburgh plays host to a number of festivals (such as the International Book Festival, the Fringe, the International Festival and the world-famous Military Tattoo), showcasing the work of some of the biggest names in literature and the performing arts.

The city has excellent transportation links to many different locations worldwide. Edinburgh Airport has regular flights to London and other major cities in the UK and Europe. Waverley Railway Station is situated in the city centre and runs numerous daily connections to London and elsewhere.

Single students from outside the EU are guaranteed University of Edinburgh accommodation and many other students can be catered for as well. Edinburgh also has a huge range of private properties available for rent which means that finding a suitable place to live is usually very straightforward.

For further information about Edinburgh and other current attractions, please see the official City of Edinburgh website.

[www.edinburgh.org](http://www.edinburgh.org)



(Top) Edinburgh Castle

(Centre) A street performer at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival

(Above) The Forth Road and Rail Bridges

(Right) A view of the city skyline at night

# Taught Postgraduate Degrees

## LLM in Law

The LLM in Law offers the student the opportunity to pursue work and research to a high intellectual standard. The programme for the general LLM degree allows the student maximum flexibility to select from across an extensive range of course options. The breadth of choice of this degree should appeal particularly to the student with wide interests and the student who has not yet settled upon a field of specialisation he or she wishes to pursue.

## LLM in Commercial Law

The principal aim of the LLM in Commercial Law is to provide postgraduate students with the opportunity for advanced learning in certain key areas of international commercial law. A further aim is the study of law in its commercial and practical contexts. Each of the core commercial law lecturers is a fully qualified solicitor and the teaching teams on many of the courses include full-time legal practitioners (Scottish and English). Of central importance to the programme is the Edinburgh Centre for Commercial Law. The centre operates principally as a research centre allowing its members to co-ordinate their efforts. A Commercial Law seminar series takes place under the auspices of the Centre involving leading commercial lawyers from the UK and further afield.

## LLM in European Law

The LLM in European Law reflects the rapid evolution of contemporary European law and its impact on domestic legal orders. The courses offered on the LLM span the institutional, constitutional and substantive dimensions of EU law and are taught primarily by staff working within the Europa Institute. The interdisciplinary method of the Europa Institute also provides a unique environment for advanced study of EU law in its political and economic contexts. The Law School offers courses in both policy implications and applied economics, and has links with courses offered by colleagues in the School of Social and Political Sciences. The programme also involves teaching by legal practitioners and policy-makers working at the highest levels of the development of EU law, thereby offering students a broad range of perspectives on EU law and practice.



'The University of Edinburgh is one of the great education institutions. I feel my time has been well invested by studying here.'

Matthew Soper (USA)  
LLM in International Law

## Taught Postgraduate Degrees

### LLM in Global Environment and Climate Change Law

The LLM in Global Environment and Climate Change Law is designed to equip students with an advanced, interdisciplinary knowledge of the legal issues and techniques related to environmental protection and the management of natural resources, with special emphasis on climate change. The programme aims to enable students to analyse and evaluate the historic and ongoing development of international, European and national laws for environmental protection, the inter-relation between these different levels of law-making, as well as the interactions between environmental law and other areas of law.

### LLM in Innovation, Technology and the Law

The LLM in Innovation, Technology and the Law explores the role of the law in responding to, regulating, and promoting new and emerging technologies. The courses on offer allow students to examine legal, ethical and regulatory issues as these relate to a number of technology-related fields, including information technology, intellectual property, biotechnology, medical sciences, audio-visual media and artificial intelligence. The degree will equip students with a high level of knowledge in the field of law and technology and a sophisticated awareness of the problems in the area and the differing approaches to their solutions.

### LLM in Intellectual Property Law

The LLM in Intellectual Property Law is intended to equip students with both an advanced knowledge of substantive intellectual property law and the place of intellectual property within a domestic, regional and international context. The programme spans comparative study of the laws of patents, copyright, trade marks, designs, database protection, breach of confidence, passing off and related 'sui generis' rights, as well as investigating a range of issues which underpin contemporary intellectual property law. The programme enables students to explore intellectual property in not just its legal context but also in its social, ethical, cultural and commercial contexts as well. The programme is offered in partnership with one of the leading intellectual property centres in the UK - SCRIPT: the AHRC Research Centre for Studies in Intellectual Property and Technology Law, based at Edinburgh Law School.



'I would definitely recommend Edinburgh. The LLM programme is immensely informative and the lecturers are extremely knowledgeable in their field.'

Julienne Portelli Demajo (Malta)  
LLM in Commercial Law

## Taught Postgraduate Degrees



'Edinburgh is a wonderful place to live and being part of one of the world's best universities is a great feeling! I decided to come here mainly because of Edinburgh's international reputation, but also because you are taught by leading scholars in the field of law.'

Firdavs Kabilov (Uzbekistan)  
LLM in International Law

### **LLM in International Law**

The LLM in International Law provides an in-depth study of the fundamentals of international law and international relations, with the opportunity to take specialised courses on issues of contemporary significance. The programme encourages and supports the development of research skills and seeks to prepare students for a career in international law or international organisations. The programme has strong links with the Scottish Centre for International Law, established in 1999 at the University of Edinburgh. The Centre aims to promote research and study in international law and to play an active role in the development of laws on an international scale.

### **MSc in Criminology and Criminal Justice**

The MSc in Criminology and Criminal Justice provides comprehensive training in criminology, criminal justice and research methods, and offers an excellent foundation for those interested in undertaking subsequent doctoral research. The programme is actively involved with the Centre for Crime and Justice Research (SCCJR) and the Scottish Institute for Policing Research (SIPR). There are also numerous workshops, lectures, conferences and seminars which take place throughout the academic year and which provide a varied and stimulating environment in which to study criminology and criminal justice.

### **MSc in Global Crime, Justice and Security**

The MSc in Global Crime, Justice and Security integrates teaching in the School of Law and the School of Social and Political Sciences at the University of Edinburgh. The MSc is designed to equip students with an advanced, cross-disciplinary knowledge of the legal, political and policy issues in relation to crime, justice and security in a global context and enables students to analyse and evaluate alternative explanations for international and transnational developments in crime and responses to crime.

## Taught Postgraduate Degrees

### **LLM in Comparative and European Private Law** (NEW 2011)

This new programme builds on Edinburgh Law School's considerable strength in these fields and provides a course of study that is unique in the English-speaking world. Students will have the opportunity to examine the principles on which the laws of major jurisdictions are based, both in the civilian tradition and the common-law world, along with current harmonisation attempts.

### **LLM in Competition Law and Innovation** (NEW 2011)

This LLM programme aims to provide students with cutting edge knowledge of the rules on competition and on the control of mergers and especially to enable them to appreciate their complex interaction with other, equally relevant, rules governing the protection of intellectual property and, in appropriate cases, of public interests such as the plurality of the media and the circulation of information.

### **LLM in International Economic Law** (NEW 2011)

This LLM programme seeks to provide participants with a thorough understanding of the institutions, rules and principles of the international economic system, as well as of key legal and policy issues arising from the globalisation of the world economy. Through the compulsory courses of the programme, students will gain a theoretical and practical understanding of the core branches of international economic law.

### **LLM in Law and Chinese** (NEW 2011)

The two-year LLM in Law and Chinese provides students with a unique opportunity to study the law at LLM level while at the same time receiving intensive training in Modern Standard Chinese language (Mandarin). This innovative programme is jointly coordinated between the School of Law and the School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures. Students will spend time in both Edinburgh and China and will graduate with full Masters-level training in law as well as a solid grounding in Chinese language.



'There is no doubt that the LLM will be a valuable acquisition and I am grateful for having been afforded the opportunity to achieve it. I wish subsequent students as good a time in Scotland as I had.'

Baboke Dambe (Botswana)  
LLM International Law

# Postgraduate Research Degrees

## LLM by Research

The degree of LLM by Research aims to consolidate and build on legal research and writing skills acquired through undergraduate legal studies by enabling students to plan, undertake and complete a dissertation, working independently but under specialist academic supervision, within their chosen field of law.

The LLM by Research programme seeks to enhance and develop the student's ability to manage and engage with both primary legal sources and academic literature on the chosen topic, to present critical and engaged legal arguments, and to maintain the coherence of those arguments over a substantial piece of written work.

## LLM by Research in History and Philosophy of Law

The LLM by Research in History and Philosophy of Law builds on the Law School's national and international reputation in the fields of Legal History and Philosophy of Law. Staff expertise in those fields is grounded in a long and illustrious tradition of historical and philosophical research that can be traced back to the Scottish Enlightenment.

The LLM by Research in History and Philosophy of Law programme is designed to promote cross-fertilisation between the fields of Legal History and Philosophy of Law, while allowing students to focus on the areas that interest them the most.

## LLM in Legal Research

The LLM in Legal Research is designed to offer students the opportunity to undertake more in-depth guided study in an area in which they may wish to specialise in future, to understand the basics of legal research, legal scholarship and research methods, and to undertake a piece of supervised independent research involving practice in using research method skills leading to a dissertation.

This LLM in Legal Research programme is suitable for students wanting to specialise in any field of legal studies in which the Law School has supervisory expertise.



'The research-based courses offered on the LLM have been incredibly beneficial and have allowed me to develop my research skills considerably.'

Stephanie Law (Scotland)  
LLM in Legal Research

# Doctoral Research (PhD)

The degree of PhD can be undertaken in any of the core areas of research activity covered by Edinburgh Law School. The principal grounds for awarding a PhD degree are that it is an original work making a significant contribution to knowledge in the field of study and containing material worthy of publication.

Doctoral candidates at Edinburgh Law School are assisted by the appointment of two academic supervisors, a principal supervisor and an assistant supervisor. These are experts in the field of study and are carefully chosen to provide each candidate with the best possible support to develop their thesis. Supervision is tailored to each candidate's needs, identifying specific training requirements such as empirical methods or language training.

In addition to personal supervision, students are assisted in their doctoral research by a comprehensive programme of support and training. Doctoral training at Edinburgh Law School has two strands: a formal programme of classes and events, and a range of informal opportunities which the School encourages and facilitates, such as self-led student reading groups and organising PhD conferences and other events to build PhD networks. A PhD Steering Committee is elected each year to work closely with staff and candidates to develop these informal opportunities and other initiatives to foster a dynamic research environment.

The PhD Programme offers structured legal research courses in the first year of study, alongside more specific training for students as needed, depending on their project requirements, and transferable skills (e.g. presentation skills). The focus of the second year is on supporting the external dissemination of work. In third year, all students participate in our Graduate Student Seminar Series.

Candidates for the doctoral research degree are examined orally by an external examiner expert in the subject and an internal examiner. There is no written examination.

**The maximum permitted word length of a PhD thesis is 100,000 words.**



'Edinburgh is an excellent place to do a PhD. The reputation of the university is outstanding and the support networks, both in terms of research and social matters, are very well developed.'

Rebecca Zahn (Germany)  
PhD

# Funding Opportunities

Edinburgh Law School offers a variety of different sources of funding to students studying at both LLM, MSc and PhD level. In addition, the University of Edinburgh itself also offers a wide range of scholarships, both general and country-specific.

## FUNDING FROM EDINBURGH LAW SCHOOL

In each academic year the number of available funding opportunities may vary as particular scholarships are only offered on a sporadic basis. Other scholarships, such as the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and the Africa LLM/MSc Tercentenary Scholarship, are available in each academic cycle.

Information about the available sources of funding offered by Edinburgh Law School can be found on the School's funding webpage.

[www.law.ed.ac.uk/scholarships](http://www.law.ed.ac.uk/scholarships)

## FUNDING FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

Students should use the main university scholarship search tool to obtain information about the available sources of funding for postgraduate study.

[www.scholarships.ed.ac.uk](http://www.scholarships.ed.ac.uk)

## THE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PROCESS

All applications for funding must be submitted in parallel with an application for postgraduate study.

Full details on how to apply, and which supporting documents to provide (if required), can be found on the individual funding webpages detailed above.



'If you seek a solid extension of your education and an excellent quality of life, Edinburgh is the way to go. The variety of lecturers and courses keeps the programme interesting, an essential aspect for an advanced degree.'

Kasey Lowe (USA)  
PhD

# Application Procedure

## How to Apply

Applications for postgraduate study are made through the university's online application portal, EUCLID. 'Apply Now' links can be found at the top and bottom of each of the individual programme pages on the Edinburgh Law School website.

[www.law.ed.ac.uk/pg](http://www.law.ed.ac.uk/pg)

## Entry Requirements

Candidates are normally required to have obtained, or expect to obtain, a degree at 2.1 level or equivalent.

Applicants for PhD study are also normally required to hold a good Masters degree in a relevant subject area.

[www.hss.ed.ac.uk/postgraduate](http://www.hss.ed.ac.uk/postgraduate)

## Supporting Documentation

You should include the following supporting documentation with your application form:

- Original transcripts of previous academic qualifications (if this document is not in English you should also include an official translation)
- Two academic references
- Evidence of your English language proficiency, if required
- PhD and LLM by Research applicants should also submit a research proposal and a sample of their written work

[www.hss.ed.ac.uk/postgraduate](http://www.hss.ed.ac.uk/postgraduate)

## The International Office

The International Office provides support and advice to all applicants from outside the United Kingdom.

[www.international.ed.ac.uk](http://www.international.ed.ac.uk)

## English Language

All tuition is in English. If this is not your first language you will be required to provide evidence of your English language proficiency. The university accepts a wide range of English language qualifications:

- IELTS 7.0 (with at least 6.0 in each section)
- TOEFL 600 (with 55 in each section plus 4.0 in TWE)
- TOEFL-iBT 100 (with at least 20 in each section)
- CPE Grade A
- A degree from an English speaking university may be accepted in some circumstances

[www.hss.ed.ac.uk/postgraduate](http://www.hss.ed.ac.uk/postgraduate)

## Tuition Fees

All students are classified as either Home/EU or Overseas for tuition fees purposes. Further information about the cost of tuition fees, and how to pay these, can be found on the University of Edinburgh Registry website.

[www.registry.ed.ac.uk/fees](http://www.registry.ed.ac.uk/fees)

## Further Information

For further information about postgraduate study, or if you wish to speak to a member of the administrative support team, please contact the Postgraduate Office.

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