



ECTS Handbook

Incoming Students – Law School

Academic year 2023-24

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A: THE SCHOOL

Durham Law School www.dur.ac.uk/law is a world leader in legal education and research. The Law School is in its largest expansion of permanent full-time appointments in our distinguished 50-year history as we build additional capacity in core areas and further develop other strengths building critical mass in the areas of Public Law and Human Rights, Commercial and Corporate Law, EU Law, Chinese Law and Biolaw. Our award-winning 55 academic staff are producing ground-breaking research with significant impact and are highly active in public engagement both nationally and internationally. We are a top 50 QS World Ranked law school and our research ranked 3rd by grade point average in the UK's last national Research Excellence Framework exercise. Durham Law School is consistently ranked among the top ten or higher UK law schools across various league tables.

We are proud to deliver some of the best results for student satisfaction and employability – and our graduates include some of law's leading figures, such as current members of the UK Supreme Court, the Court of Appeal, Members of Parliament and in Government. Our top-ranked global law courses are very competitive with an excellent and diverse students population from across the world delivering a cutting-edge, research-led curriculum with a commitment to small group teaching through seminars and tutorials much prized by employers.

We teach our undergraduate degrees on the university's main Campus in Durham. All of our students benefit from an integrated, research-led curriculum and are taught by international leaders in their fields on the one campus.

The Law School is located 'on the science site' in the newly-built Palatine Centre which is next to the main library on Stockton Road.

Further information for Erasmus+ students can be found via the University's International Office link:

<https://www.dur.ac.uk/international/studyabroad/erasmus/>

We look forward to welcoming you to the School!

A1: Erasmus+ Staff in the Law School

Law School Exchange Team:

Exchange Coordinator: **Professor Catherine O'Rourke**

Exchange Support: **Learning & Teaching Team**

Durham Law School

Durham University

Palatine Centre

Stockton Road

Durham

DH1 3LE

Email: law.taughtprogrammes@durham.ac.uk

B: DEGREE STRUCTURE AND ASSESSMENT

All undergraduate degrees at Durham have a *modular* structure, usually consisting of six 10 ECTS modules each year for three years. Modules are usually studied over the first two terms of the three terms in an academic year. The third term is mostly dedicated to revision and the examination period. The terms at Durham are: **Michaelmas** from October to the end of December (10 weeks of teaching), **Epiphany** from mid-January to mid-March (10 weeks of teaching), and **Easter** from the end of April to mid-May (6 weeks of revision/examinations).

All modules are examined or assessed in the year in which they are taught, during the year and/or a dedicated exam period that takes place from the middle of May to the beginning of June. At the end of the first year there are preliminary examinations that do not contribute to the final degree classification, which is determined by the assessments and examinations taken only in the second and final year of study.

Incoming Erasmus+ students often wish to study at Durham only during the Michaelmas term, but in this case it is impossible for the University to provide housing so we do not encourage this. It is far more beneficial to study with us for a period of at least two terms. Durham Law School does not normally accept students who wish to come for less than a full academic year (October – June).

Students opting to study at Durham for a full academic year are expected to submit the same assessments and sit exams in May-June, like all full-time Durham students. These marks will be conveyed back to your home institution after the Board of Examiners meets at the end of June. The marks will be processed first by the School and then the University's central administration, after which they will be sent to your university (approximately 1-2 months later). Unfortunately, we are unable to speed up the process on your behalf, so please make sure your home institution is aware of the timeline we must adhere to under these circumstances.

C: REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS



This section contains important information for setting up your academic programme at Durham University. Please read through this section carefully before considering your Modules and completion of the Learning Agreement!

C1: General

Choice of Modules

At Durham University Erasmus+ study abroad exchange agreements are signed by individual University departments and are not university-wide agreements. This means that, in general, students will have to choose modules (courses) within the Durham University host departments through which the Erasmus+ agreement with their home University has been signed. (Students should check with the Erasmus Coordinator in their University if they are not sure which department this is). Modules offered by other departments are subject to availability and can only be taken with prior consent from the relevant department. *Incoming students must take at least 51% of their modules in the host department and can take modules outside in no more than two additional departments.* Certain restrictions may also apply to some courses and students need to follow the advice below carefully before completing their Learning Agreements.

Please clearly indicate the modules you wish to take on your Learning Agreement (included in your application package) for approval by the Law School. Before completing your Learning Agreement, it is very important that you read carefully the relevant departmental section(s) of the ECTS Handbook to check which modules are available to you and any restrictions which may apply. It is imperative that a properly completed Learning Agreement is submitted as part of the application form. Only complete applications can be processed.

C2: Departmental Requirements and Restrictions

The School has no specific requirements for incoming Erasmus+ students, but we will assess every application individually.

If the School Coordinator has concerns about the modules you choose to study at Durham, you might be contacted directly to discuss your choices. New choices can be made upon your arrival, but it is preferable to avoid this as far as possible. However, it does happen and we can accommodate new choices if your interests have changed or you find timetabling conflicts.

Please check with your home university's exchange coordinator that you have taken the right number of credits when filling in the learning agreement and again as soon as you have arrived and registered in Durham. All assessments are in English.

Please note that those students currently registered on an undergraduate programme can only take undergraduate modules here in Durham.

D: MODULE DETAILS

This section contains a list of modules Erasmus+ students can choose from. Please only select from the modules listed in sections D1 or D2 in this ECTS Handbook!

We are currently in the process of changing our modules offered at Level 2 and Level 3, and the information provided here is correct at time of publication. To find out about the details for each module (teaching methods and contact hours, method of assessment, content, etc.) please refer to the Faculty Handbook online under:

<https://www.dur.ac.uk/resources/faculty.handbook/degrees/frameworks/m101.pdf>

Then click on the module codes on the right for further information (for example 'LAW1051' etc).

D1: Modules available to students coming on a departmental link

Year 2

Module	Module Title	Subject Area	Durham Credits
LAW2011	Land Law	LAW	20
LAW2021	Advanced Issues in Public Law	LAW	20
LAW2081	Contemporary Issues in The Law of The European Internal Market	LAW	20
LAW2111	Employment Law	LAW	20
LAW2121	Law of Family Relationships	LAW	20
LAW2131	Public International Law	LAW	20
LAW2211	Trusts Law	LAW	20
LAW2221	Criminal Law	LAW	20
LAW2241	Commercial Law	LAW	20
LAW2291	Contemporary Issues in Biolaw	LAW	20
LAW2311	Legal Philosophy	LAW	20
LAW2321	Financial Law	LAW	20

Year 3

Module Code	Module Name	Subject Area	Durham Credits
LAW3011	Competition Law	LAW	20
LAW3031	Company Law	LAW	20
LAW3061	Intellectual Property Law	LAW	20
LAW3071	Law and Medicine	LAW	20
LAW3141	Advanced Issues in International Law	LAW	20
LAW3151	International Human Rights	LAW	20
LAW3291	Advanced Issues in Legal Philosophy Please note name change – was Jurisprudence	LAW	20
LAW3321	Law and History	LAW	20
LAW3337	Counterterrorism Law and Policy	LAW	20
LAW3347	Corporate Finance	LAW	10
LAW3351	Comparative Constitutional Law	LAW	20
LAW3397	Law and Literature	LAW	10
LAW3421	Law of The European Convention On Human Rights Please note this will be running as a Year 2 module in 23-24	LAW	20
LAW3431	Chinese Legal System	LAW	20
LAW3447	Pensions Law	LAW	10
LAW3461	Media Law	LAW	20
LAW3501	The Legislature and Legislation	LAW	20
LAW3521	Advanced Issues in Criminal Law	LAW	20
LAW3531	Climate Change Law and Policy	LAW	20
LAW3557	Revenue Law	LAW	10

Please note:

Due to specific modular requirements exchange students cannot be admitted to study the following Modules:

- LAW3022 - Dissertation

This list is not definitive and decisions in relation to other modules will be made at the discretion of Durham Law School. All module selections must be approved by the Durham Law School Exchange Coordinator. Permission to take a module will depend on a variety of factors, including availability of modules, and whether the module is available in the term of study of the exchange student.

Our Postgraduate modules are not available for Erasmus students.

**D2: Modules available to students coming on an external link
(through a different Durham University department)**

For students with no prior knowledge of Law, there are six year 1 modules available. They may also be suitable for students coming through a direct link and this is up to your discretion.

Students who already possess a background in Law should refer to section D1 for a more appropriate choice of modules. Although these Year 1 modules below can also be made available to students with some background, this is only in the instance where the subject is not taught at the student's home institution.

Year 1

MODULE CODE	MODULE TITLE	SUBJECT AREA	DURHAM CREDITS
LAW1051	Tort Law	LAW	20
LAW1071	Contract Law	LAW	20
LAW1061	European Union Law	LAW	20
LAW1081	The Individual and the State	LAW	20
LAW1091	UK Constitutional Law	LAW	20
LAW1121	Introduction to English Law and Legal Method	LAW	20