



# POSTGRADUATE TAUGHT STUDENT HANDBOOK

2025/2026

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## **INTRODUCTION**

A very warm welcome to Kent Law School. We hope that your time here studying for your Masters, Diploma or Certificate, is inspiring, engaging and rewarding. You are now a student at a critical law school and as such we hope that you immerse yourself in this approach.

This document will be a reference point for the whole year: it contains a wealth of information, the relevance of which may not always be apparent until later in the year. It should be your first port of call whenever you have a question. If the answer is not apparent, try the administrative staff ([progadmin@kent.ac.uk](mailto:progadmin@kent.ac.uk)), your Pathway Director, one of your Module Convenors, one of the Deputy Directors or the Director of Education (PGT programmes). There are plenty of people to support you during your studies.

We hope you relish your time here at Kent Law School, making the most of time spent in classes, preparing for seminars, conducting research and writing. Your fellow students, with their diverse backgrounds and experiences, will contribute to making your time at Kent fascinating, so do get to know them and participate in class as much as possible.

Many opportunities and experiences will present themselves this year, whether it is contributing to a blog, earning employability points, participating in research seminars or volunteering for a presentation in class. We encourage you to take every opportunity that comes your way. The more you put into your time here, the more you will gain from it.

We look forward to getting to know you all and to hearing your perspectives on what you study this year.

Best wishes from the Director and Deputy Directors of Education (Postgraduate programmes):

*Dr Sophie Vigneron, Dr Martin Hedemann-Robinson, Dr Andreas Kotsakis, and Dr Josipa Saric.*

## **WHAT'S WHAT AND WHO'S WHO?**

**Kent Law School:** KLS

**Head of KLS:** Ms Lisa Dickson

**Postgraduate Taught Programmes:** PGT

**Director of Education PGT programmes:** Dr Sophie Vigneron

### **Pathway Directors**

Criminal Justice	Dr Antonia Porter	<a href="mailto:A.D.Porter-28@kent.ac.uk">A.D.Porter-28@kent.ac.uk</a>
Human Rights Law	Dr Eric Loefflad	<a href="mailto:E.Loefflad@kent.ac.uk">E.Loefflad@kent.ac.uk</a>
Intellectual Property Law	TBC	
International Commercial Law	Professor Amanda Perry-Kessaris	<a href="mailto:A.Perry-Kessaris@kent.ac.uk">A.Perry-Kessaris@kent.ac.uk</a>
International Environmental Law	Dr Martin Hedemann-Robinson	<a href="mailto:M.Hedemann-Robinson@kent.ac.uk">M.Hedemann-Robinson@kent.ac.uk</a>
International Law	TBC	
International Law with international Relations	Dr Josipa Saric	<a href="mailto:J.Saric-832@kent.ac.uk">J.Saric-832@kent.ac.uk</a>
Law (general)	Dr Sophie Vigneron	<a href="mailto:S.Vigneron@kent.ac.uk">S.Vigneron@kent.ac.uk</a>
Law and Health	Dr Julie McCandless	<a href="mailto:j.c.mccandless@kent.ac.uk">j.c.mccandless@kent.ac.uk</a>
Law and Society	Dr Sophie Vigneron	<a href="mailto:s.vigneron@kent.ac.uk">s.vigneron@kent.ac.uk</a>

### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICES STAFF**

- Office (general enquiries): [progadmin@kent.ac.uk](mailto:progadmin@kent.ac.uk)
- Engagement Support: [engagementsupport@kent.ac.uk](mailto:engagementsupport@kent.ac.uk)

## **IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES**

KV = KentVision

<b>Week KV</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>9</b>	29/09/2025	<b>Welcome week</b>
<b>10</b>	6/10/2025	<b>Autumn term</b> , start of teaching
<b>11</b>	13/10/2025	<b>Deadline for changing module registration</b> (module transfer)
<b>14</b>	3/11/2025	Assessment week
<b>18</b>	05/12/2025	<b>Deadline for January 2025</b> students: choosing a dissertation topic and a supervisor
<b>19</b>	08/12/2025	Assessment week
<b>23</b>	09/01/2026	Welcome for January 2025 Students
<b>24</b>	12/01/2026	<b>Spring term</b> : start of teaching
<b>25</b>		Deadline for changing module registration (module transfer)
<b>28</b>	09/02/2025	Assessment week
<b>33</b>	16/03/2026	Assessment week
<b>35</b>	03/04/2026	<b>Dissertation deadline</b> for January 2025 FT students (and PT January 2024 students)
<b>37</b>	13/04/2026	<b>Summer term</b> : start of teaching
<b>38</b>		Deadline for changing module registration (module transfer)
<b>41</b>	11/05/2026	Assessment week
<b>46</b>	15/06/2026	Assessment week
<b>49</b>	06/07/2026	<b>Late Summer term</b> : dissertation
		<b>Dissertation deadline for September 2025</b> students

Note: for January 2026 students, the rest of the timeline will be in the September 2026 Handbook

## **PROGRAMME REQUIREMENTS**

The requirements for the Masters, Postgraduate Diploma and Postgraduate Certificate programmes taught by the Kent Law School are subject to the University Regulations and Credit Framework for Taught Programmes. These documents establish regulations for the standards to be applied to your programme of study. Both documents are available on the University websites at:

<http://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/credit-framework/index.html>

The Masters, Postgraduate Diploma and Postgraduate Certificate programmes are offered on both a full-time and part-time basis with either a September or January entry (see below PROGRAMME STRUCTURE).

Each successfully completed taught module carries 20 credits (10 ECTS credits) and the dissertation carries 40 credits (20 ECTS credits). 20 credit amounts to approximately 10 hours of 'learning time' per week. The following list indicates the requirements of each level of postgraduate taught study:

- the Masters programme requires 180 credits (90 ECTS credits) gained from six taught modules and the dissertation,
- the Postgraduate Diploma requires 120 credits (60 ECTS credits) achieved through six taught modules
- the Postgraduate Certificate requires 60 credits (30 ECTS credits), achieved through completion of three taught modules.

Academic staff members will briefly introduce their pathways during Welcome Week. More details on the pathways can be found later in this handbook. Information on all Law modules can be found here:

<https://student.kent.ac.uk/studies/subject-requirements/cls>

You can also find details of the modules (LAWS modules) in the online University module catalogue at:

<https://www.kent.ac.uk/courses/modules>

For some Master's pathways, you can select modules taught by other academic schools within this University. For full details of modules offered by the School of Politics and International Relations (POLI modules) and modules taught by the School of Social Policy, Sociology and Social Research (SOCS modules), please refer to the online module catalogue or their websites:

<https://www.kent.ac.uk/courses/modules>

<http://www.kent.ac.uk/politics/>

<http://www.kent.ac.uk/sspsr/>

A variety of other information is posted on Moodle, particularly on the compulsory module pages for the Legal Research and Writing Skills module (LAWS8170 for September entry students studying full time and LAWS8171 for those studying part time or LAWS8172 for January entry students studying full time and LAWS8173 for those studying part time), the

[Postgraduate Taught - Law Student Guide](#) page as well as other individual module pages.  
Find Moodle here: <https://moodle.kent.ac.uk/2025>

## **PROGRAMME STRUCTURE**

### **MASTER'S (LLM)**

#### **Term structure**

Students who commence their studies in **September**

- i. Full-time students take two taught modules in the Autumn Term, two in the Spring term and two in the Summer Term consecutively and write their dissertation during the Late Summer Term and the remainder of the period of their registration (further information in the Dissertation section below). In addition, students must take and pass the following module: LAWS8170 Legal Research and Writing Skills that runs over the Autumn, Spring and Summer terms.

Autumn term	Spring term	Summer term	Late Summer term
6 October – 12 December 2025	12 January – 20 March 2026	13 April – 19 June 2026	6 July – 11 September 2026
2 x 20 credit modules	2 x 20 credit modules	2 x 20 credit modules	1 x 40 credit module = dissertation
1 x 20 credit module: LAWS8170 Legal Writing and Research Skills			

Full time students are NOT permitted to take more than two modules in a single term (in addition to LAWS8170 (September entrants) or LAWS8172 (January entrants) that are compulsory).

- ii. Part-time students complete the programme of study over two academic years, taking three modules in the first year (Autumn, Spring and Summer Terms), followed by another three in the second year (Autumn, Spring and Summer Terms) together with their dissertation over the Late Summer Term and the remainder of period of their registration. Students take one module per term in addition to LAWS8171 that runs over the Autumn and Spring terms of year 1 and the Summer term of year 2.

Autumn term year 1	Spring term year 1	Summer term year 1	Late Summer term year 1
6 October – 12 December 2025	12 January – 20 March 2026	13 April – 19 June 2026	6 July – 11 September 2026
1 x 20 credit modules	1 x 20 credit modules	1 x 20 credit modules	Vacation
1 x 20 credit module: LAWS8171 Legal Writing and Research Skills (terms 1 and 2)			

Autumn term year 2	Spring term year 2	Summer term year 2	Late Summer term year 2
October – December 2026	January – March 2027	April – June 2027	July – September 2027
1 x 20 credit modules	1 x 20 credit modules	1 x 20 credit modules	1 x 40 credit module = dissertation
		1 x 20 credit module: LAWS8171 Legal Writing and Research Skills (term 3)	

Part time students are NOT permitted to take more than one module in a single term (in addition to LAWS8171 (PT September entrants) or LAWS8173 (PT January entrants) that are compulsory).

#### Students who commence their studies in **January**

- i. Full-time students take two taught modules in the Spring Term, two in the Summer term and two in the following Autumn Term of the next academic year and write their dissertation over the Spring Term in year 2. In addition, students must take and pass the following module: LAWS8172 Legal Research and Writing Skills that runs over the Spring, Summer and Autumn terms

Spring term 2026	Summer term	Late Summer term	Autumn term	Spring term 2027
12 January – 20 March 2026	13 April – 19 June 2026	6 July – 11 September 2026	6 October – 12 December 2025	January – March 2027
2 x 20 credit modules	2 x 20 credit modules	Vacation	2 x 20 credit modules	1 x 40 credit module = dissertation
1 x 20 credit module: LAWS8172 Legal Writing and Research Skills			Term 3 of LWRS	

Full time students are NOT permitted to take more than two modules in a single term (in addition to LAWS8170 (September entrants) or LAWS8172 (January entrants) that are compulsory).

- ii. Part-time students study over a period of 28 months encompassing five Terms (Spring Term year 1, Summer year 1, Autumn Term year 1, Spring Term year 2, Summer year 2, Autumn Term year 2, Spring Term year 3) and submit their dissertation on the final day of the Spring Term year 3. They take one module per term (Spring, Summer and Autumn terms of year 1, Spring, Summer and Autumn terms of year 2) and write their dissertation in the Spring term of year 3. They will take in addition LAWS8173 that runs over the Spring and Summer terms of year 1 and the Autumn term of year 2.

Spring term 2026 year 1	Summer term year 1	Late Summer term year 1	Autumn term year 1
12 January – 20 March 2026	13 April – 19 June 2026	6 July – 11 September 2026	6 October – 12 December 2025
1 x 20 credit modules	1 x 20 credit modules	Vacation	1 x 20 credit modules
1 x 20 credit module: LAWS8173 Legal Writing and Research Skills (terms 1 and 2)			

Spring term 2027 year 2	Summer term 2027 year 2	Late Summer term year 2	Autumn term year 2
January – March 2027	April – June 2027	July – September 2027	October – December 2027
1 x 20 credit modules	1 x 20 credit modules	Vacation	1 x 20 credit modules
			Term 3 of LWRS

Spring term 2028 year 3
January – March 2028
1 x 40 credit module = dissertation

Part time students are NOT permitted to take more than one module in a single term (in addition to LAWS8171 (PT September entrants) or LAWS8173 (PT January entrants) that are compulsory).

### Pathway options (LLM)

The Kent LLM programme offers modules which are organised around several subject pathways; the title of your final degree award will depend on the modules you choose and your dissertation topic; you therefore need to choose these carefully, if you have a preferred degree title. You are advised to discuss this with your Academic Advisor. You have four options:

- Single subject pathway,
- Double subject pathway,
- International Law with International Relations pathway
- Law (general) pathway

### **Single subject pathway (LLM in \*\*\*)**

To qualify for the degree award of a **single subject pathway** (eg, an *LLM in International Commercial Law*), you should choose **at least three modules** from the relevant subject pathway **and** complete a **dissertation in that area**. The three modules taken to satisfy a

pathway requirement do **not** need to be completed in one term (e.g. you can do two modules in the Autumn Term and one in the Spring Term; or vice versa; or three in either term).

For example, you could choose three modules from the International Commercial Law pathway and research something related for your dissertation to be awarded a final degree titled '*Master of Laws in International Commercial Law*'. The remaining three modules can be chosen from any of the other law modules offered on the LLM, including the pathway already chosen.

Students can take **one** non-law module that does not form part of their chosen pathway. Where this is the case, students must ensure that they have at least three law modules from that pathway. However, where non-law modules form part of a pathway (e.g. Criminal Justice), a minimum of two of these three modules must be law modules.

The remaining three modules can be selected from the full range of law modules offered, including in the pathway already chosen. In all, students must take at least **five taught law modules** for a single subject-specialisation (regardless of the specialisation).

### **Double subject pathway (LLM in \*\*\* with \*\*\*)**

You can also combine two subject pathways to have a **double subject pathway** (eg. *LLM in International Commercial Law with International Environmental Law*). In this case, you should choose one pathway as your '**major**' pathway and study **three modules from that pathway** **and** complete a **dissertation** on this topic (eg International Commercial Law).

You would then choose a '**minor**' pathway and study three modules from that pathway. This would lead to a combined title degree award of Master of Laws in \*major stream\* with \*minor stream\*, for example '*Master of Laws in International Commercial Law with Criminal Justice*'.

The modules taken to satisfy the pathway requirements do not need to be completed in one term.

Modules do not double count. One module can count towards either the major or minor pathway but not both.

You can only choose one non-law module in each of your major and minor pathways (i.e. a maximum of two non-law modules). In all, students must take at least four taught law modules for a major/minor subject-specialisation (regardless of the specialisation), plus the dissertation.

### **International law with International Relations pathway (LLM in IL with IR)**

The double subject pathway of ***International Law with International Relations*** that leads to the award of a degree titled '*Master of Laws in International Law with International Relations*' is slightly different. International Relations is a 'minor' pathway which is only available when combined with the International Law 'major' pathway.

You should study at least three modules from the International Law pathway together with your dissertation. You must then choose two non-law modules from the International Relations 'minor' pathway. The remaining module (one) can be chosen from any of the other law modules offered on the LLM. In all, students must take four taught law modules.

The modules taken to satisfy pathway requirements do not need to be completed in one term.

### **Law pathway (LLM in Law)**

If you do not wish to have specific subject pathway(s) and hope to study law more generally, you may choose any six modules, at least five of which must be law modules, and your dissertation topic could be in any of these areas. This would lead to a **general degree award** titled '*Masters of Laws*'.

### **Stages of the LLM programme**

The LLM programme is divided into two stages:

- Stage 1 comprises 6 taught modules plus LAWS8170/1 Legal Research and Writing Skills for September students, or LAWS8172/3 for January students; these are compulsory modules.
- Stage 2 consists of the dissertation (see Dissertation below). You need to pass Stage 1 to progress to Stage 2. You will be notified by email by the office as to whether you have passed stage 1, or whether you need to resubmit any essays before proceeding to Stage 2. The decision is made by the Board of Examiners.

**Students are not permitted to submit a dissertation without passing Stage 1.**

### **POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA**

The Postgraduate Diploma consists of the taught modules only; there is no dissertation requirement.

To qualify for the award of a single subject pathway Postgraduate Diploma, students must choose **at least four modules from their chosen pathway**. At least three of those four modules must be law modules. The remaining selections can be made from the full range of law modules including the pathway already chosen.

To qualify for the double subject pathway, students must choose at least four modules in their 'major' pathway and two modules from their 'minor' pathway. At least three of the four modules in the 'major' pathway must be law modules; and the remaining two modules must be selected from the chosen minor pathway (one of which must be law)

Students undertaking a general Postgraduate Diploma in Law and not wishing to obtain any subject pathway may choose any six modules from the full range of modules offered over the different pathways (five of the six must be law modules).

## **POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN LAW**

Students undertaking a Postgraduate Certificate in Law may choose three taught modules from the full range of **law** modules offered over the different pathways.

### **COMPULSORY MODULE: LAWS8170 (FT SEPTEMBER ENTRANTS), LAWS8171 (PT SEPTEMBER ENTRANTS), LAWS8172 (FT JANUARY ENTRANTS) AND LAWS8173 (PT JANUARY ENTRANTS)**

All LLM and Diploma students must complete and pass the compulsory Legal Research and Writing Skills module, depending on when you start and your mode of study: LAWS 8170, LAWS8171, LAWS8172 or LAWS8173. The content of the module is identical but has different codes depending on registration intake (September/January) and study mode (FT/PT). Certificate students are not required to take these modules

There are **no waivers** for students studying for a second LLM, even if they took and passed a first LLM at Kent.

The module is worth 20 credits

For **September intake** students,

- Full time students: LAWS8170 Legal Research and Writing Skills runs over the Autumn, Spring and Summer terms.
- Part-time students: LAWS8171 runs over the Autumn and Spring terms of year 1 and the Summer term of year 2.

For **January intake** students,

- Full-time students: LAWS8172 Legal Research and Writing Skills runs over the Spring, Summer and Autumn terms
- Part-time students: LAWS8173 runs over the Spring and Summer terms of year 1 and the Autumn term of year 2.

The module will introduce the legal research and writing skills required to carry out research at Master's level, it will enable students to acquire and develop the skills necessary to carry out a longer-term research project, such as their dissertation. Students will be introduced to a range of theoretical frameworks that will enable them to develop their own critical approach to their chosen dissertation topic. In the third term of study, students will start work on their dissertation (identify a title, research question, key literature...).

Dr Sophie Vigneron is the Module Convenor. For more information, please read the relevant module guides.

## **PATHWAYS AND MODULES 2025/26**

For a list of the modules with links to brief outline of module contents please use this link:

<https://student.kent.ac.uk/studies/subject-requirements/cls>

The modules are listed in numerical order in that document. The modules listed below are organised by pathway and by the term in which they are taught.

or

the University's module catalogue: <https://www.kent.ac.uk/courses/modules>

Although we are aiming to teach all the modules listed below, it is always possible that some might not run due to unforeseen circumstances.

LAWS 8170, LAWS8171, LAWS8172 or LAWS8173 Legal Research and Writing Skills are compulsory and will be automatically added to your timetable in addition to the six modules that you need to complete a pathway (single or major with minor).

### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

<b><i>Autumn Term</i></b>	
LAWS8710	Policing
SOCI8322	Intersectionalities and Crime
<b><i>Spring Term</i></b>	
LAWS8430	International Human Rights Law
LAWS9460	Contemporary Issues in Criminal Justice
SOCI8324	Understanding Global Harms
<b><i>Summer Term</i></b>	
LAWS8460	International Criminal Law
LAWS8860	Transnational Criminal Law: Rights and Security
SOCI8323	Social Justice Debates
SOCI8680	Critical and Global Criminology

#### **NOTES:**

- Students choosing this pathway as a single, major or minor pathway must choose at least three modules from the list above.
- Students cannot do more than 2 non-law modules (SOCI modules)

## **HUMAN RIGHTS LAW**

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### ***Autumn Term***

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LAWS8710	Policing
LAWS9250	International Cultural Heritage Law
POLI7000	International Ethics and Human Rights

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### ***Spring Term***

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LAWS8140	Public International Law
LAWS8430	International Human Rights Law

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### ***Spring Term***

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LAWS8460	International Criminal Law
LAWS8860	Transnational Criminal law: Rights and Security
LAWS9431	Global Health and Human Rights

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#### **NOTES:**

- Students can choose **only one POLI module**
- Students choosing this pathway as a **single pathway must do five law modules** (at least three from the list above).
- Students choosing this pathway as a **minor or major** must do **three law modules from the list above**.

## **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW**

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### ***Autumn Term***

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LAWS8130	Contemporary Topics in Intellectual Property Law
LAWS9210	Privacy and Data Protection Law
LAWS9250	International Cultural Heritage Law

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### ***Spring Term***

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LAWS8470	World Trade Organisation Law and Practice
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### ***Summer Term***

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LAWS8010	Intellectual Property Law: Copyright and Breach of Confidence
LAWS9330	Intellectual Property and Industrial Practices

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#### **NOTES:**

- Students choosing this pathway as a **single pathway** must do **five law modules** (at least three from the list above).
- Students choosing this pathway as a **minor or major** must do **three law modules from the list above**.

## **INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL LAW**

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### ***Autumn Term***

LAWS8130	Contemporary Topics in Intellectual Property Law
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LAWS8410	International Trade Law and the Environment
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LAWS9070	Commercial Credit
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### ***Spring Term***

LAWS8390	Global Pollution law
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LAWS8470	World Trade Organisation Law and Practice
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### ***Summer Term***

LAWS8010	Intellectual Property Law: Copyright and Breach of Confidence
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LAWS8850	Law and Development
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LAWS9230	Law and Economy
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LAWS9339	Intellectual Property law and Industrial Practices
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#### **NOTES:**

- Students choosing this pathway as a **single pathway** must do **five law modules** (at least three from the list above).
- Students choosing this pathway as a **minor or major** must do **three law modules from the list above**.

## **INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW**

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### ***Autumn Term***

LAWS8410	International Trade Law and the Environment
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LAWS9060	International Environmental Law – Legal Foundations
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LAWS9250	International Cultural Heritage Law
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### ***Spring Term***

LAWS8390	Global Pollution Law
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### ***Summer Term***

LAWS8850	Law and Development
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#### **NOTES:**

- Students choosing this pathway as a **single pathway** must do five law modules (at least three from the list above).
- Students choosing this pathway as a **minor or major** must do **three law modules from the list above**.

## **INTERNATIONAL LAW**

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### ***Autumn Term***

LAWS9060	International Environmental Law – Legal Foundations
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LAWS9250	International Cultural Heritage Law
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POLI7000	International Ethics and Human Rights
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### ***Spring Term***

LAWS8140	Public International Law
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LAWS8430	International Human Rights Law
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### ***Summer Term***

LAWS8440	Legal Aspects of Contemporary International Problems
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LAWS8460	International Criminal Law
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LAWS8850	Law and Development
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LAWS8860	Transnational Criminal Law: Rights and Security
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LAWS9230	Law and Economy
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LAWS9431	Global Health and Human Rights
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## **NOTES**

- Students choosing this pathway as a **single pathway** must do **five law modules** (at least three from the list above).
- Students choosing this pathway **as a minor or major** must do **three law modules** from the list above.

## **International Relations – only available as a minor with International Law**

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### ***Autumn Term***

POLI8240	Analysing World Politics
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POLI8320	Pathways to Peace
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POLI9160	Security in a Changing World
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POLI7000	International Ethics and Human Rights
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### ***Spring Term***

POLI8480	Negotiation and Mediation
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### ***Summer Term***

POLI8109	Middle Eastern Politics and Society
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POLI7002	Global Perspectives on Political Resistance
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POLI9170	Terrorism and Crimes of the State
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## **NOTE:**

- Students must choose **two** modules from the list above (IR) and three modules from the International Law pathway with an additional law module of their choice.

## LAW AND HEALTH

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### ***Autumn Term***

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LAWS9210	Privacy and Data Protection Law
LAWS9410	Law and Regulation of Healthcare practice
BUSB7040	Leadership and change management for healthcare professionals

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### ***Spring Term***

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LAWS9440	Health Justice
SOCI7043	Contemporary Issues in Healthcare Management

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### ***Summer Term***

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LAWS9431	Global Health and Human Rights
SOCI7044	Global Sustainable Healthcare

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#### **NOTES:**

- Students can **only take two sociology** modules from the list above.
- Students choosing this pathway as a **single pathway** must do **four law modules (at least three from the list above)**.
- Students choosing this pathway as a **minor or major** must do **three law modules from the list above**.

## LAW AND SOCIETY

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### ***Autumn Term***

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SOCI8170	Qualitative Research
SOCI8320	Critical Social Research: Truth, Ethics and Power

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### ***Spring Term***

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LAWS8430	International Human Rights Law
LAWS9460	Contemporary Issues in Criminal Justice
SOCI8190	Quantitative Data Analysis
SOCI8330	Design of Social Research
SOCI8770	Key Issues in global and international Policy

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### ***Summer Term***

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LAWS8460	International Criminal Law
LAWS8850	Law and Development
LAWS9230	Law and Economy
LAWS9431	Global Health and Human rights

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#### **NOTES:**

- Students choosing this pathway as a **single pathway** must do **four law modules (at least two from the list above) and two sociology** modules maximum from the list above.
- Law modules are prefixed with LAWS; Sociology modules are prefixed with SOCI.

- Students choosing this pathway as a **minor or major** must do **two law modules from the list above and one sociology module from the list above OR 3 law modules from the list above.**

## **LAW – GENERAL**

<b><i>Autumn Term</i></b>	
LAWS8130	Contemporary Topics in Intellectual Property Law
LAWS8410	International Trade Law and the Environment
LAWS8710	Policing
LAWS9060	International Environmental Law - Legal Foundations
LAWS9070	Commercial Credit
LAWS9210	Privacy and Data Protection Law
LAWS9250	International Cultural Heritage Law
LAWS9410	Law and Regulation of Healthcare Practice
<b><i>Spring Term</i></b>	
LAWS8140	Public International Law
LAWS8390	Global Pollution Law
LAWS8430	International Human Rights Law
LAWS8470	World Trade Organisation Law and Practice
LAWS9440	Health Justice
LAWS9460	Contemporary Issues in Criminal Justice
<b><i>Summer Term</i></b>	
LAWS8010	Intellectual Property: Copyright and Breach of Confidence
LAWS8440	Legal Aspects of Contemporary International Problems
LAWS8460	International Criminal Law
LAWS8850	Law and Development
LAWS8860	Transnational Criminal Law: Rights and Security
LAWS9230	Law and Economy
LAWS9330	Intellectual Property and Industrial Practices
LAWS9431	Global Health Law and Human Rights

### **NOTES:**

- Students must choose at least 5 Law modules from this list
- Students may take one non law module, for a list please consult the subject requirements document and **discuss your choice with your Academic Adviser**

## **MODULE REGISTRATION**

You will be given the opportunity to hear about all pathways and modules during Welcome Week.

The first week of each term is a Taster Week. This means you can attend as many classes as you can manage, so that you can make an informed choice as to the modules you would like to select. You will be able to change your module registration at the end of the first week of each term.

However, you will need to register for all your modules through the Online Module Registration (OMR) at the end of the first week of the Autumn term (September students) or the Spring term (January students): <https://student.kent.ac.uk/studies/omr>. When registering for modules, please note that all law modules (LAWS\*\*\*\*) are assessed by 100% coursework made up of two pieces of work. Modules with a POLI\*\*\*\*, or SOCI\*\*\*\* code indicate that they are taught by another School and might have different assessment requirements. The Module Outlines for all modules will set out the assessment requirements; please check with the relevant School if in doubt or on the module catalogue, <https://www.kent.ac.uk/courses/modules>.

Whilst every effort is made to offer the Law modules listed, unavailability of staff, low student demand and unforeseen circumstances may occasionally necessitate the cancellation of a module. Every effort is made to inform students at the earliest opportunity, of any modules that cannot be run.

Please speak to your Academic Adviser or the office at [progadmin@kent.ac.uk](mailto:progadmin@kent.ac.uk) if you have any questions about your module selection.

## **MODULE TRANSFER**

Students can transfer from one module to another after the end of the first week of term. A *Module Transfer Form* is available electronically via the [Postgraduate Taught Law Student Guide](#)

The module transfer form must be submitted no later than the Wednesday of the second week of the relevant teaching term at 5pm

- Autumn term **Wednesday 15 October 2025**
- Spring Term. **Wednesday 20 January 2026**
- Summer term **Wednesday 22 April 2026**

***Please be careful to ensure that your module choices correspond to the pathways for your final degree title. It is your responsibility to choose relevant modules for your pathway. If you are in doubt, please discuss this either with the relevant pathway director or your Academic Adviser.***

## **TEACHING**

The University has adopted a new term structure and new teaching patterns starting from September 2025. Each term (Autumn, Spring and Summer) is 10-week long, with no teaching in weeks 5 and 10 when assessments are due.

Each module has 24 hours of contact time spread over the eight weeks of teaching. Depending on the module, teaching might be 3 hours per week (lecture + seminar + workshop) or 2 hours per week (lecture + seminar or lecture/seminar + 2 hour-workshops every other week). The timetable on KV will show your timetable after you will have registered for your module. Please be aware that **contact times might vary every week.**

Teaching methods may vary according to the Module Convenor and School, but usually involve a combination of lectures, seminars, and workshops. You are expected to **prepare for, attend and participate in all classes in addition to undertaking independent research.**

It has come to our attention that some students have been recording lectures and seminars. This is **NOT PERMITTED** and a member of staff can ask you to delete the recording that you have made.

If you are concerned about note taking, please read the following <https://www.kent.ac.uk/guides/reading-and-notetaking/note-making>

## **TIMETABLE**

Your personal timetable will become visible online via KentVision after you will have registered for your modules. Students are encouraged to check the modules for which they are registered as well as their marks/progress via the web on KentVision. The University online Student Guide is available at: [www.kent.ac.uk/student](http://www.kent.ac.uk/student) and you can access KentVision from there. Alternatively, KentVision can be accessed directly via: <https://evision.kent.ac.uk>

### **Week Numbers**

Since September 2021, the calendar adopted by KentVision starts the first week of August (week 1) and finishes the last week of July (week 52). This means that the first week of the Autumn Term is week 10. It also means that the Late Summer Term runs from week 49 (July) to week 11 (September). It is not very intuitive, but you will get used to it.

### **Term dates**

Welcome Week	Week 9	29 <sup>th</sup> September – 3d October 2025
Autumn Term	Weeks 10-19	6 <sup>th</sup> October – 12 <sup>th</sup> December 2025
Spring Term	Weeks 24-33	12 <sup>th</sup> Jan – 20 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
Summer Term	Weeks 37-46	13 <sup>th</sup> April – 19 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
Late Summer term	Weeks 49-4	6 <sup>th</sup> July – 28 <sup>th</sup> August but September entry students' registration period runs until 11 <sup>th</sup> September 2026??

## **KLS ASSESSMENT WEEKS**

The Autumn, Spring and Summer Terms each have two assessment weeks (weeks 5 and 10 of the term), **during which there is NO teaching and assessments will be due**. In KLS, these weeks are:

- in the Autumn Term, weeks 14 and 19
- in the Spring Term, weeks 28 and 33
- in the Summer Term, weeks 41 and 46

These dates **may not** match the dates of Assessment Weeks in other academic schools.

## **TEACHING MATERIALS**

KLS operates a *green policy* concerning the production of module materials, which means that paper copies of materials are not provided.

## **MOODLE: VIRTUAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT**

Moodle is a virtual learning environment used by the University to support teaching and learning. It provides access to course materials, seminar preparation, reading lists, discussion forums, interactive activities, assignment submissions and feedback (Turnitin). It is also a hub for announcements and links to academic resources. It is your digital classroom and academic organiser.

If after registration, you have problems in accessing the Moodle pages of your modules or experience technical difficulties please contact the University's Information Services Helpdesk at [itservices@kent.ac.uk](mailto:itservices@kent.ac.uk).

More information regarding the Moodle platform can be found here:  
<https://moodle.kent.ac.uk/2025/>

## **STUDY SPACES AND STUDENT FACILITIES**

In addition to any facilities offered by the Graduate and Researcher College to postgraduate students, Kent Law School has a kitchen for KLS PGT students. It is furnished with a fridge, a microwave, a cold and hot tap water (for drinking). This kitchen can be used as a social space.

All the doors have electronic door locks - to gain access to these rooms you will need to have the rooms added onto your Kent ID card at Eliot College Reception.

*Please note that Kent Law School will not be responsible for any loss or damage to items left by students in the postgraduate kitchen.*

## **COURSEWORK: ESSAY AND DISSERTATION**

For **most** law modules, students are required to submit two pieces of coursework (the first in week 5 and the second in week 10) For each module, the assessment requirements and submission deadlines will be detailed in the relevant Module Outline.

### **COURSEWORK QUESTIONS**

Each Module Convenor will set a list of coursework topics for the students to choose from ***or may*** give students the opportunity to set their own essay topic after consultation and agreement of an alternative essay title.

### **STYLE GUIDELINES**

Essays and dissertations should be typed, double or 1½ line spaced and fully referenced following OSCOLA ; the margins should be at least 1 inch (2.5 cm).

Students must follow the *Instructions to Candidates* available on the website at:

<http://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/regulations/taught/cwkinstc.html>

Please use the Moodle pages for LAWS8170/1/2/3 for more detail on how to write, and how to reference.

For more information see <https://www.kent.ac.uk/guides/academic-and-reflective-writing>

### **WORD COUNT POLICY**

The length of your submission should not exceed the specified requirements, as set out in each Assessment Brief. This means that written work should not exceed the specified word count, and oral and/or practical work should not exceed the specified time requirements, etc. of the assessment.

Unless otherwise stated, there is an allowance of up to 10% over the stated word count and/or time requirements for an oral submission. Word count and time requirement adherence forms part of the overall assessment criteria, with markers considering excess length when evaluating how well students have addressed the assessment brief and demonstrated effective communication skills.

The word count includes everything in the main body of the text, such as quotations, in-text citations, explanatory footnotes, and subheadings. **Explanatory footnotes** offer additional information that enhances the reader's understanding of the main text; for example they provide definitions, background context, clarifications, or commentary that would be too detailed or distracting if included directly in the body of the text.

The word count does **not include referencing footnotes** that cite sources following OSCOLA (or another referencing style). They provide bibliographic details of the works that support the claims, quotations, or data presented in the main body of the text.

It does **not include** the assessment title, **bibliography**, appendices or other supplementary material which does not form an essential part of the text.

It is the student's responsibility to state the total word count of written assessment submissions on the assessment coversheet entitled *KLS Postgraduate Essay Submission Sheet* at the beginning of your written work (please see further details below under 'Submission').

This is in accordance with Section 6.2 of the Academic Regulations for Taught Course of Study.

## **PLAGIARISM AND SELF-PLAGIARISM**

Please refer to Annex 10 of the Credit Framework on academic misconduct procedures: - <https://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/ga/credit-framework/documents/cf2020-annex10-academic-misconduct.pdf>

**Plagiarism is the act of presenting the ideas and discoveries of another as one's own. To copy sentences, phrases or even striking expressions without acknowledgement in a manner which may deceive the reader as to the source is plagiarism; to paraphrase in a manner which may deceive the reader is likewise plagiarism.**

The University imposes severe penalties on plagiarism in coursework or dissertations. Guidance on referencing is contained within the Kent Law School *Style Guide* which can be found on the [Postgraduate Taught – Law Student Guide Moodle](#) page.

Kent Law School uses Turnitin text matching software. All coursework and dissertations are submitted electronically via Turnitin which operates through Moodle.

Notwithstanding that work may not be identified by Turnitin as potentially problematic, the essential test is whether a reasonable case can be made out that the work is not yours or is not in your own writing 'voice'. You are strongly advised to look at the guidance on academic integrity, avoiding plagiarism and information on Turnitin can be found here:- <https://www.kent.ac.uk/ai/index.html>

### **Use of Chat GPT and other AI tools**

AI tools can support you in your studies, for example translation tools like DeepL are very useful. **However**, there are many pitfalls, and these tools should be used ethically so that you are not accused of plagiarism.

Please read this <https://www.kent.ac.uk/guides/using-artificial-intelligence-in-your-studies>

This issue is constantly evolving and will be further discussed in Legal Research and Writing Skills 1 (LAWS8170/1/2/34) in a session dedicated to AI and plagiarism.

## **DISSERTATION**

Details on the dissertation will be discussed in LAWS8170/1/2/3.

### Dissertation word count

Dissertations should be up to a maximum of 8,000 words. For allowance, see Word Count Policy above.

### Dissertation supervision meetings

Supervision meetings may be face-to-face or may take the form of email and telephone/Zoom/Teams communications. They will involve:

- a minimum of 3 meetings (students to take the initiative to organise these)
- a discussion and review of the structure and plan of a dissertation; and
- discussion of a sample section. NOTE: Supervisors will **not** review complete drafts of the dissertation.

Supervisors and students must keep a note of these meetings.

All meetings should take place by:

- End of week 52 –for September intake full-time, and all part-time students
- End of week 29 - for January intake students

Supervisors will **not** be expected to be available after these deadlines for any further meetings.

Any major difficulties or differences of opinion that might emerge between a student and a supervisor should be referred to their Academic Adviser as soon as possible and, if not resolved, to the Directors of Graduate Studies.

### ETHICAL REVIEW

If you would like to conduct any empirical research for your dissertation, you will need to undertake an ethical review. The University requires that each School has procedures in place to ensure that the ethical implications of research involving human participants have been considered and that ethical standards of conduct are achieved. All research proposals that involve any human participants should therefore be subjected to an ethical review prior to their commencement. Interviews and surveys of staff, students and other groups are included in this category alongside scientific interventional techniques and the use of non-anonymised primary source data.

An ethical review form should be completed, signed off by your supervisor and submitted to the Chair of the School Research Ethics Advisory Group, [klsresearchethics@kent.ac.uk](mailto:klsresearchethics@kent.ac.uk). The headings should be followed exactly and reflected in the research proposal. Guidance on the principles that underpin the process of ethical review can be found on the [the PGT Law student guide Moodle page](#) itself. Do speak to your supervisor at the earliest possible opportunity to discuss research ethics as part of your dissertation project.

### SUBMISSION: MAKING SURE YOUR WORK IS ANONYMISED

Coursework and dissertations are submitted online and are anonymised to ensure fairness. All essays and dissertations must be submitted electronically via Moodle **using your Candidate Number** as identification; this is *a six or seven digit number located on your*

*KentVision record*. This means your work is submitted anonymously. Please **DO NOT** put your **name** on your dissertation.

Electronic submission is done using the Turnitin software, accessed on the relevant module page on Moodle. KLS is using Turnitin to issue the receipt for your coursework/dissertation and to archive it. There is NO need to submit paper copies of any work.

More detailed instructions on how to submit coursework/dissertations electronically, and a more detailed explanation of what Turnitin does, are available on the [Postgraduate Taught – Law Student Guide Moodle Page](#). There will be an introductory session during the Welcome week. If you have any difficulties, you should email: [progadmin@kent.ac.uk](mailto:progadmin@kent.ac.uk)

### Coursework and Essays

Please ensure that, at the beginning of each piece of coursework you submit electronically, you incorporate an *Essay Submission Cover Sheet*, which should include your Candidate Number. The text in the submission sheet will be picked up by your word count software, but you may discount up to 70 words from your declared word count to allow for this. The *Essay Submission Cover Sheet* can be found on all the [Postgraduate Taught - Law Student Guide Moodle page](#) in the 'Assessment' section.

You will be given the opportunity to submit multiple times (up until the deadline) as practice submissions to see your 'similarity' report on Turnitin. ***Please be aware that it can take Turnitin up to 24 hours to generate a similarity report.*** The report is NOT a direct indication of whether there has been plagiarism, or another academic offence. Turnitin detects matching text even where it is fully referenced and (unless you have plagiarised or otherwise cheated) there is no need to worry. For guidance on interpreting an originality report please see the document 'KLS Guide to Turnitin Similarity' available on the [Postgraduate Taught – Law Student Guide Moodle](#) page.

Once you have submitted, you will receive an email receipt and a paper ID number. We highly recommend that you save it for your records so that, in the unlikely event of an issue occurring with your submission, you can provide this evidence to us.

### **Deadline for Autumn, Spring and Summer Term Essays**

*Unless indicated otherwise* by a Module Convenor in their Module Outline, Friday **12:00pm (midday)** on week 5 and week 10 of the term.

### Late Submissions

The university has introduced a new late submission policy, whereby if you submit your work late without an approved extension, a mark penalty will apply on a sliding scale as follows:

- Up to 24 hours late: the highest mark you can get is 60%.
- From 24 to 48 hours late: the highest mark you can get is the pass mark for the module (40% for undergraduate level modules)
- More than 48 hours late: your work will get a mark of zero.

***These timeframes include weekends and bank holidays.***

Even if your work is late, as long as you submit it within seven days of the original deadline, you'll still get feedback.

For further information on the policy, please see ['Late Submission Policy'](#).

### Dissertations

The arrangements for the submission of dissertations will be the same as for essays.

Please ensure that at the beginning of your dissertation you incorporate a *Dissertation Submission Cover Sheet* which gives your Candidate Number, the title of your dissertation, the degree title for which the dissertation is submitted and the word count. The *Dissertation Submission Cover Sheet* can be found on the dissertation module Moodle page LAWS8180 (September entrants FT and PT) LAWS8182 (January students FT and PT).

### **Deadline for dissertations**

For September entry (2025) full-time and second year part-time students (2024), the deadline for the submission of dissertations is **12:00pm (midday) noon on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2026**.

The deadline for full time students (January 2025) will be at the beginning of **April 2026**.

The Deadline for full-time students (January 2026 start) will be at the beginning of **April 2027**.

The deadline for part-time students who started in January 2025 will be beginning of April 2027 – date to be confirmed later.

### **APPLICATION FOR EXTENSIONS IN EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES**

#### **What are extenuating circumstances?**

All students have a responsibility to manage their learning, revision, and assessment activities throughout the duration of each term or assessment period at university. Students are partners with the University in their studies and are expected to plan carefully and manage their workloads. It is reasonable to expect students, in general, to be able to cope with normal life events, to manage their workloads properly, and to expect a level of stress and anxiety around assessments.

We understand that sometimes unforeseen circumstances can negatively affect your performance in assessed work and when this happens you can request to have these circumstances considered; these are called Extenuating circumstances. There are two types of extenuating circumstances requests: (i) In-course and (ii) End of year (outlined below).

*Examples of extenuating circumstances include:*

- Serious personal illness
- Serious personal accident or injury or hospitalisation
- Significant adverse personal or family circumstance
- Worsening or acute episode of an existing medical condition
- Absence from an assessed event (that could not be rescheduled)
- Failure to submit coursework or attend an examination

- Advance request for permission to be absent from an in-course test
- Absence from an in-course test, after the test has taken place

### **In-course extenuating circumstances (extensions and late submissions)**

In-course extenuating circumstances requests recognise minor events or circumstances, outside of your control, that affect your ability to submit assessments by the deadline.

For full details regarding the process, see <https://student.kent.ac.uk/studies/extenuating-circumstances>

### **End of year Extenuating Circumstances**

End of Year requests for mitigation of extenuating circumstances are used to recognise events or circumstances which caused exceptional interference with your academic performance throughout the academic year and/or could not be considered as an In-course request.

All requests are considered by the Mitigation Committee on behalf of the Board of Examiners.

### **How do I submit a request for Extenuating Circumstances?**

Please follow this hyperlink for [video guidance](#) for submitting either an In-Course or End of Year Extenuating Circumstances request.

## **MARKING AND FEEDBACK**

### **MARKING PROCESS**

Essays will be marked by one internal examiner and moderated by a second internal examiner. A sample of marking from each module will also be reviewed by an external examiner.

Dissertations will be marked by two internal examiners and reviewed by an external examiner.

Coursework and dissertations are marked out of 100 with a pass mark of 50%. The Kent Law School uses the categorical marking scale as set out in the [Credit Framework Annex 6: Marking](#).

Staff members will release marks and feedback to work that students have submitted in accordance with published requirements and deadlines unless the work is to be held for further examination as part of the assessment process. Marks will be released within three calendar weeks of the published deadline, except where this period is interrupted by the Winter or Spring vacations. In such circumstances, marks and feedback will be released on the Friday of the first week of the new term.

Module Convenors will mark online using the GradeMark tool in Turnitin. Students will be notified by email when the feedback is available and when the marks have been released (via KentVision). ***Please note that these marks remain subject to change until confirmed by a Stage 1 Board of Examiners.***

There will be three meetings of the Board of Examiners each year. There will be two Stage 1 meetings – February and June to consider students’ progress in the coursework and to decide formally which students will be allowed to proceed to the dissertation stage (Stage 2) of the programme. The Board of Examiners meets again in October to make final decisions on the award of degrees.

The Board of Examiners will set resubmission deadlines for any failed coursework. Students will automatically be permitted **two** resubmission opportunities **per coursework module**, and **one** resubmission opportunity for the dissertation. **All resubmitted coursework and dissertations will be capped at the pass mark unless a successful mitigations application is submitted to the Board of Examiners** (please refer to the section on Mitigations). Please note that a failure recorded for two or more modules will delay your completion of Stage 1; this will therefore also delay your being able to proceed to Stage 2. This will furthermore result in a delayed dissertation submission and delayed graduation (assuming you do satisfy the criteria to pass the degree).

- For September 2025 intake, full-time students, dissertation and final degree results will be released via KentVision in October 2026 (day TBC).
- For January 2025 intake full-time students, dissertation and final degree results will be released via Kent Vision in June 2026 (day TBC).
- For January 2026 intake full-time students, dissertation and final degree results will be released via KentVision in June 2027 (day TBC)

Successful students will then graduate as follows:

- September intake students: in November.
- January intake students: in July

Final degree certificates are only available after graduation. Results are not disclosed by telephone or by any other means. ***Results will not be released if there are any monies owing to the University.***

## **MARKING CRITERIA AND GRADING DESCRIPTORS**

For each module and assessment, the relevant marking criteria and grading descriptors are available on Moodle. You are strongly encouraged to consult these documents before submitting your work, as they provide essential guidance on how to meet academic expectations and improve your performance.

Marking criteria are the academic benchmarks used to evaluate the quality of your submitted work. They reflect the expectations of postgraduate-level study and they usually include four elements: research, knowledge and understanding, critical thought, structure

and presentation. These criteria ensure that assessment is transparent, consistent, and aligned with the learning outcomes of your module.

Grading descriptors provide qualitative indicators of performance at each grade band. They help you interpret your mark and understand how your work aligns with postgraduate standards:

- Fail (Serious): 0, 10, 20, 25, 32, 35, 38
- Fail: 42, 45, 48
- Pass: 52, 55, 58
- Merit: 62, 65, 68
- Distinction: 72, 75, 78
- High distinction: 82, 85, 95, 100

Your mark and your feedback will appear on Turnitin – you may find comments both in the text of your essay and in the box(es) entitled Feedback Summary and/or Grading Form. All assessed work is graded holistically following the categorical marking system. For more information, please read the Taught Postgraduate Assessment Guide, available on Moodle.

## **SUPPORT FOR RESEARCH AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT**

The following information is relevant to all Masters, Postgraduate Diploma and Postgraduate Certificate programmes.

### **EMPLOYABILITY AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT**

Employability is important throughout the entire university and as a graduate student you can opt to take the [Global Learning Opportunities](#). We liaise closely with the University's Careers and Employability Service and the Graduate and Researcher College to ensure that throughout the academic year you will have access to a wide range of opportunities to develop your skills and career awareness, no matter what your future career aspirations. Within the Law School, there are regular talks and workshops relating to both legal and non-legal careers and an annual law fair. You may also access one-to-one guidance with a University Careers Adviser'

### **ACADEMIC SUPPORT**

LAWS8170/1/2/3 Moodle pages have a lot of information and links to websites on how to read, how to write, how to plan an essay. Please consult these first.

#### **Academic Advisers**

Every student will be allocated an Academic Adviser (AA). You will be advised the name of your AA by email early on in the Autumn Term (for September entrants) or Spring Term (for January entrants) and you will be invited to meet with them at an appropriate time. The role of the AA is to provide you with academic advice relating to studying at PG level. For pastoral or personal issues, please contact Student Support (see below).

### Kent Law School Skills Hub

The KLS Skills Hub is a physical and online space for law students designed to support you with your studies. The Moodle page is here:

[Course: KLS PG Skills Hub \(kent.ac.uk\)](#).

You will find practical guidance to help you in your studies. Alternatively, come and see them in real life! The KLS Skills Hub is based in Eliot College and our staff are there to help any law student with any query. Look out for emails from the Skills Hub during Term time letting you know when you can visit them for advice with your studies.

### **RESEARCH SUPPORT**

#### Kent Law School Research Centres and Research Groups

Kent Law School has established several research centres and research groups that focus on particular areas of law, and postgraduate students are encouraged to become involved with those that are close to their own research interests.

An up to date list of our centres and research groups is accessible [here](#)

- Centre for Sexuality, Race & Gender Justice (SeRGJ)
- Kent Centre for European and Comparative Law
- Centre for Critical International Law
- Centre for Critical Thought
- Centre for Heritage
- Kent Interdisciplinary Centre for Spatial Studies
- Social Critiques of Law
- Equity and Trusts Research Network
- Clio: A Law and History Research Group
- Research Group on Philosophy, Political Theology and Law
- World Anticorruption Research Network

#### Groups, Workshops and Guest Lectures

A lively range of informal groups, workshops and guest lectures for staff and postgraduate students will be held throughout the year on topics of current interest. Postgraduate taught and research students are warmly encouraged to treat these as part of their weekly routine. Information will be circulated by email.

### Law Library

The Law Library is located in the Templeman Library. Emma Mires-Richards is the library liaison for the Law School. You will meet her at various points in the year and you should contact her should you require assistance.

### Law links

The Law Library subject guide *Lawlinks* is structured to help you find your way around legal resources and contains many guides and tutorials to help you. You can access *Lawlinks* here:

<http://www.kent.ac.uk/library/subjects/lawlinks/> It might be useful to add it to your toolbar while you are a student.

The three sections to look out for to get you started are:

#### Signposts

The Signposts are links to freely available websites that we recommend as good starting points for legal research.

#### Electronic Law Library

The Electronic Law Library has links through to subscription datasets (eg, Westlaw, Lexis Library) which are only available to registered members of the University of Kent.

#### Researching the law

Researching the law contains electronic versions of quick guides to brush up your research skills or get you started in an unfamiliar area.

If you need any help accessing legal resources for your research please contact Emma. (Contact information is available at the back of this Handbook.)

#### Using Other Libraries

If you wish to consult material that is not held at the Templeman Library, you may visit another library. You can find out more information on how to access other libraries here: <https://www.kent.ac.uk/guides/using-other-libraries>

Kent Law School has an agreement with the 'national' law library at the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (IALS) to provide access to their resources and services for all of our postgraduate law students: <http://ials.sas.ac.uk/> but you need to apply online before your first visit [Joining the Library | Institute of Advanced Legal Studies](#).

The Templeman Library provides a document delivery service that allows you to request materials from the British Library which is a vital resource for students undertaking broader dissertation research. You can find out more information about this here: <https://www.kent.ac.uk/guides/document-delivery>

### **GRADUATE STUDIES INITIATIVE FUND (GSIF)**

The Graduate Studies Initiative Fund was created to support initiatives to enhance the postgraduate taught programmes of studies at Kent Law School. The application form can be found on the [Postgraduate Taught – Law Student Guide Moodle](#) page *The over-riding objective is that initiatives funded by the grants should enhance academic dimensions of the taught postgraduate student experience at KLS.*

Applications from academic staff and groups of postgraduate students will be considered by a sub-committee of the KLS Graduate Studies Committee, consisting of three members of the Graduate Studies Committee, including a student representative. Deadlines will be communicated to students at the beginning of the term. The sub-committee will meet no

later than within two weeks of application deadlines to consider applications that have been received. Applications to the Graduate Studies Initiative Fund should:

- (a) State the purpose of the grant and indicate how the funds will be used to achieve that purpose;
- (b) Indicate the expected academic enhancement to the taught postgraduate experience at Kent Law School;
- (c) Provide a detailed breakdown of the amount requested, including all anticipated travel and subsistence costs (receipts required for reimbursement);
- (d) Indicate any other sources of KLS support for the initiative;
- (e) Include any other information the applicant thinks relevant.

Applications should include as much information as possible about the proposed initiative. Applications by a postgraduate student group should be discussed with, and signed by, the relevant Pathway Director.

Successful applicants must submit a Graduate Studies Initiatives Fund report to the Secretary of the Graduate Studies Committee (ie Sian Lewis) within three months of the conclusion of the funded initiative. The Graduate Studies Initiatives Fund will not fund an application from an applicant who has not submitted a report on a previous grant.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

A whole host of information can be found electronically via [the Postgraduate Taught – Law Student Guide Moodle](#) page.

## **TEACHING RELATED INFORMATION**

### **Email etiquette and staff availability**

KLS will communicate with you via your student email account. You are expected to check your University email regularly and not let your mailbox fill up. All email correspondence that you have with Law School staff should be sent from your University email account to avoid any ambiguity in knowing who has sent the message.

Law School staff aim to be approachable and supportive; students are very welcome to email them with legitimate queries and concerns but a bit of common-sense restraint is called for:

- Please use a formal/polite mode of address: eg Dear Sophie.
- If your email relates to a specific module, seminar group and/or piece of work, please state these clearly.
- Please include your full name when you sign off
- Staff are very busy and deal with hundreds of students; please allow a reasonable time for a reply and use common sense and courtesy in following up. Do not expect staff to reply after 5pm or at the weekends.

- If you really need to **discuss** something with a member of academic staff, please visit them during their Student Contact Hours (listed on the relevant Module outline) rather than expect lengthy email correspondence.
- Check the information provided in module handouts, online etc. before emailing anyone. If you still need help, can someone in the Nexus team help you?

### Module Evaluations

Online evaluations will be conducted electronically for every module. You will be contacted with guidance once these are available to complete. Please take the time to submit the online evaluations - these are extremely helpful to Module Convenors in improving the content and delivery of their modules. Current students have benefited from previous generations of students having completed the module evaluations and providing suggestions for the improvement of modules and programmes.

### Transcripts

Where a student needs a transcript (for example, for a job application, for an application for a PhD etc), they can use this link to request one:

<https://www.kent.ac.uk/csao/transcript/form.html>

## **UNIVERSITY RELATED INFORMATION**

### Information Compliance

The Kent Law School adheres to the Document Retention and Archiving Policy set out by the Office for Quality Assurance and Validation which complies with the General Data Protection Regulation (2018). More detailed information on data protection and the Kent Guidelines can be found at: <http://www.kent.ac.uk/data-protection/>

It is now a Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) requirement that institutions make external examiners' annual reports available in full to all students. The University Quality Assurance Office has made these reports accessible at: <http://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/extexaminers/>

### Complaints

All students are entitled to receive competent teaching on all modules within a programme. Shortcomings in teaching or unsatisfactory administrative arrangements may legitimately be the subject of complaint. Module evaluation forms are intended to provide an opportunity for suggestions for year-on-year improvements to modules and programmes. However, problems may arise that need to be more immediately addressed at the most appropriate level so that they can be swiftly rectified.

In the first place, problems with particular modules should be raised with the Module Convenor, who should be available to discuss difficulties during Student Contact Hours. If a satisfactory resolution of the difficulty cannot be reached with the Module Convenor, the matter should be raised with your Academic Adviser. In the event of a particularly intractable problem, the matter may be further considered by the Directors of Graduate Studies or the

Head of School, providing that it has first been raised with the appropriate Module Convenor and Academic Adviser.

If the problem is of a kind that affects the student body collectively it should be raised by a student representative. The relevant Pathway Director or the Directors of Graduate Studies will consider difficulties of a general kind concerning either teaching or other arrangements concerning the programme. The student representative can also raise general problems at either the Graduate Students' Voice Committee or the Graduate Studies Committee.

The University's complaints procedures can be found below and these deal with both academic and non-academic complaints – [here](#).

### Student Representation

Kent Union (the students' union on campus) will conduct the election of student representatives by week four of the Autumn Term. These representatives will be members of the Graduate Studies Student Voice Committee, which will meet once a Term. The representatives will be able to discuss matters concerning the LLM programmes as a whole, with Kent Law School staff at meetings of the Graduate Studies Committee.

### The Safe Zone App

The University has launched an app to help give round-the-clock safety reassurance to staff and students. SafeZone is a simple-to-use application that is free to download. It is designed to help students and staff summon security or safety assistance via your mobile phones. You can download the app to your smartphone here: <https://www.kent.ac.uk/safezone/>

## **STUDENT SUPPORT**

Should you have any concerns, there are a variety of people who can be approached, depending on the nature of the problem.

Module specific queries	Module Convenor
Administrative matters	<a href="mailto:progadmin@kent.ac.uk">progadmin@kent.ac.uk</a>
Academic queries	Pathway Director/your Academic Adviser
Library queries	<a href="mailto:libraryhelp@kent.ac.uk">libraryhelp@kent.ac.uk</a>
Personal or other	"Engagement Support" <a href="mailto:engagementsupport@kent.ac.uk">engagementsupport@kent.ac.uk</a>

### Student Health and Wellbeing

In addition to support available in Kent Law School, the University of Kent provides a friendly, supportive environment and is committed to helping you get the most out of the challenges and opportunities university study brings.

You can find some of the support services available to you, as well as where you can go for advice at Kent by following these links:

<https://www.kent.ac.uk/studentsupport/>

<https://www.kent.ac.uk/student/support-and-wellbeing/>