



Durham  
University

# Durham Law School

Postgraduate study opportunities 2012/13

World-class taught and research degrees to PhD

**Ranked 5th**

for Law by *The Independent Complete  
University Guide 2012.*

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## Law

**Durham Law School is a centre of international excellence in both legal scholarship and research. A Durham postgraduate Law qualification will provide you with an excellent foundation for a career in the legal profession.**

### ABOUT THE SCHOOL

Durham Law School was ranked fourth highest Law School in the UK in the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise, having returned 100% of its staff in the RAE. The ranking is based on the percentage of submissions graded 4\* (world-class).

Durham Law School has particular strength in the areas represented by the Human Rights Centre (HRC), the Institute for Commercial and Corporate Law (ICCL), the Centre for Criminal Law and Criminal Justice (CCLCJ), the Durham European Law Institute (DELI), the Centre for Gender and Law at Durham (GLAD) and the Law and Conflict at Durham (LCD) cluster.

The main part of the Law School is located just a few yards from Durham's ancient castle and from our own dedicated law library. Our postgraduate office is opposite the County Court. Our excellent library resources include electronic access to journals, case law and update services through databases such as HeinOnline, Westlaw, LexisNexis and other Butterworths' packages, as well as hundreds of direct electronic law journal subscriptions.

### RESEARCH DEGREES

- Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
- Master of Philosophy (MPhil)
- Master of Jurisprudence (MJur).

### MAIN AREAS OF RESEARCH

The Durham Law School is one of the UK's leading centres for legal research and provides a dynamic and vibrant environment for developing your research interests.

The following is a brief overview of the major areas of research in the School, but these are not the only areas in which our staff are research active. We would encourage you to refer to staff profiles on our website for further information about individual research interests.

- English private and commercial law: particularly international trade law, corporate law, contract law, tort law, law and economics, restitution, equity, Europeanisation of private law, consumer law and commercial fraud and intellectual property
- UK public law: particularly human rights, comparative constitutional law, separation of powers and scrutiny of security services



- Law and medicine: particularly bioethics and intellectual property issues
- Human rights: particularly the Human Rights Act, counter-terrorism issues, media freedom, religious liberty, international human rights law and discrimination law
- Criminal law and criminal justice: particularly international criminal law, criminology and corporate liability. The Centre for Criminal Law and Criminal Justice is currently engaged in a project on Islamic Criminal Justice
- Public international law: particularly international human rights law, international humanitarian law, conflict studies, international criminal law and WTO law
- Legal theory: particularly moral philosophy, socio-legal studies and theory of international law
- EU law: particularly constitutional law, external trade, competition law, Third Pillar matters
- Gender and law: particularly discrimination, women in the legal professions, equality and diversity, gender and crime.

#### RECENT THESIS TITLES

- “Recognition of violations of woman’s Human Rights under the European convention on Human Rights in the context of restrictive Abortion Regimes”
- “Rape and the Civil Law: An alternative route to justice”
- “The EU-China relations as a paradigm of WTO contingent trade protection under the transitional mechanisms”
- “A critique of Human Rights protection for suspects in the Chinese Criminal Justice System”
- “The protection and disclosure of medical confidentiality in Court proceedings in Thailand”.

#### POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH FACILITIES

In addition to dedicated research training facilities for postgraduate research, we also provide postgraduate student workrooms with extensive IT facilities, support for attendance at external conferences and student-led research seminars. All research students are attached to the School’s research clusters and centres, which run regular seminars in which research students are required to deliver papers.

#### TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR RESEARCH DEGREES

- MJur: Law degree with at least a good upper second class Honours (or equivalent)
- PhD, MPhil: Law degree with at least a good upper second class Honours (or equivalent); strong preference is given to those who also have a recognised Masters degree for which we normally expect an average grade of at least 65% (or equivalent).

#### ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS:

- IELTS of 7.0 (on every component) or equivalent.

We welcome applications from holders of international qualifications. For advice on the equivalency of international qualifications and further information on English language requirements, please contact our International Office on [international.office@durham.ac.uk](mailto:international.office@durham.ac.uk) or visit our website at [www.durham.ac.uk/international](http://www.durham.ac.uk/international)

#### FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH STUDENTS

Funding opportunities are notified on the School’s website as they become available at [www.durham.ac.uk/law/postgraduate/finances/funding](http://www.durham.ac.uk/law/postgraduate/finances/funding)

The University also has a range of funding opportunities for postgraduate students. To find out what support you could be eligible to receive see our online funding database at [www.durham.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/fees/search](http://www.durham.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/fees/search)

There will often be opportunities for research students to teach undergraduates, and all research students must undergo a programme of teacher training.

#### TAUGHT PROGRAMMES LLM in International Trade and Commercial Law

This programme offers students from a wide variety of backgrounds the opportunity to develop their legal knowledge and skills in some of the most intellectually challenging and practically relevant areas of trade and commercial law. The course has a particular emphasis upon

the international aspects of these areas of legal knowledge and practice.

Students attending the programme are drawn from a broad range of countries, and their previous academic or professional experiences enrich the programme. The School is host to the Institute of Commercial and Corporate Law, and students on the LLM are encouraged to participate in its activities.

#### LLM in European Trade and Commercial Law

This programme provides an opportunity to develop an advanced knowledge of the law of the European Union, with particular emphasis upon its commercial aspects. If you are new to European law, there is a (compulsory) foundation course providing a solid grounding in the subject. Having completed your choice of taught modules, you will then undertake an extended dissertation on a European law topic of your choice. The School is host to the Durham European Law Institute, and you are encouraged to participate in its many activities. The library, which includes a European Documentation Centre, has extensive holdings of European materials.

#### General LLM

This programme gives you the widest choice of modules. It is ideal if you wish to select modules from those available in each of the specialised LLM programmes. Having completed your taught modules, you will undertake an extended dissertation of 10,000, 15,000 or 20,000 words in length, under the supervision of a member of staff who is an expert in your chosen field of research.

Teaching is by a mixture of lectures and smaller student-led seminars. The dissertation is pursued by independent research under the guidance of a supervisor. You will benefit from the excellent resources available through the School’s dedicated law library, and are encouraged to participate in the many activities undertaken by the School’s research clusters. Please note that we regularly introduce new modules, and not all modules may be available each year.

#### TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR TAUGHT PROGRAMMES

- A good 2:1 degree (or its equivalent) in Law, or in a degree in which law is a major component.



#### ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

- IELTS of 7.0 (on every component) or equivalent.

We welcome applications from holders of international qualifications.

For advice on the equivalency of international qualifications and further information on English language requirements, please contact our International Office on [international.office@durham.ac.uk](mailto:international.office@durham.ac.uk) or visit our website at [www.durham.ac.uk/international](http://www.durham.ac.uk/international)

#### FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR TAUGHT POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS

- Chevening Scholarships
- Ustinov Scholarships
- Durham Santander Scholarships.

The University also has a range of funding opportunities for postgraduate students. To find out what support you could be eligible to receive see our online funding database at [www.durham.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/fees/search](http://www.durham.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/fees/search)

#### CAREERS AND EMPLOYABILITY

For further information on career options and employability, including the results of the Destination of Leavers survey, student and employer testimonials and details of work experience and study abroad opportunities, please visit [www.durham.ac.uk/law/postgraduate/employability](http://www.durham.ac.uk/law/postgraduate/employability)

#### KEY INFORMATION

Durham Law School recruits around 175 undergraduate and 100 taught postgraduate students each year. In addition, there are over 47 postgraduate research students. Our complement of over 30 full-time members of staff within the Law School, many of whom teach on the LLM programmes, is comprised of researchers of distinction and high reputation, as well as a number of promising early career researchers. Students can, however, undertake their dissertation with any member of staff which provides students with a wide choice of topics, from Advanced Law of Obligations to Public International Law.

We provide our students with information and advice on a range of careers, including legal ones, as well as opportunities for many other careers, such as governance, commerce and higher education.

Name:  
Max Meltzer

Home Country:  
UK

Postgraduate Course:  
LLM International Trade  
and Commercial Law

Before joining Durham University I did a lot of research into the institutions that offered law and discovered that Durham was highly ranked with a world-class reputation. The international focus was also important to me and provided a further attraction.

I've really been impressed by the quality of the teaching and the enthusiasm for the subject that the lecturers have is infectious. Tutorials are typically quite small which encourages greater interaction and debate. I've also really enjoyed and benefit from studying alongside an incredible mixture of international students. As many have not been taught English Law before it has created some really interesting debates that have made me think of things in different perspectives.

I can't help but emphasise how brilliant the facilities are; for anyone with a real motivation and interest in studying Law the law library is excellent.

Durham's collegiate system is also fantastic; it divides the University into smaller communities that make it easier to make friends and enjoy the social life Durham has to offer.

Once I've completed my studies I'm looking forward to getting started in a career in law and I'm sure my experiences at Durham will hold me in good stead.



## Contact details

For further information on research degrees contact:

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