

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Name, title and level of final qualification(s)	LLB Law and Language (French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Spanish) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LLB Law and French / German / Italian / Japanese / Spanish OR - LLB Law with French / German / Italian / Japanese / Korean / Spanish (Level 6)
Name and title of any exit qualification(s)	Dip HE (LLB) Cert HE (LLB)
Is the programme offered with a Foundation Year?	Yes
Awarding Body	University of London
Teaching Institution(s)	Birkbeck, University of London
Home School/other teaching departments	Law School School of Media, Language and Literature
Location of delivery	Central London
Language of delivery and assessment	English and relevant language
Mode of study, length of study and normal start month	Full-time (3 years) Part-time (4 years) Full-time with Foundation Year (4 years) Start of September (end of September for students on Foundation Year route)
Professional, statutory or regulatory body	Bar Standards Board https://www.barstandardsboard.org.uk/
QAA subject benchmark group(s) Higher Education Credit Framework for England	Law Languages, Cultures and Society
UCAS code	M111
Birkbeck Course Code	UUBLLWLG_C (full-time, 3 years) UBLLWLNG_C (part-time, 4 years) UUBFLWLG_C (full-time with FY, 4 years)
HECoS Code	100485 (Law) 100329 (modern languages) 100322 (French studies) 100324 (German studies) 100327 (Italian studies) 101143 (Brazilian studies) 100765 (Iberian studies) 101168 (Japanese studies) 101212 (Korean studies)
Start date of programme	Autumn 2024
Date of programme approval	Spring 2024
Date of last programme amendment approval	N/A
Valid for academic entry year	2024-25

Programme Director	Kojo Koram
Date of last revision to document	18/06/2024

Admissions requirements

We welcome applicants without traditional entry qualifications as we base decisions on our own assessment of qualifications, knowledge and previous work experience. We may waive formal entry requirements based on judgement of academic potential.

UCAS tariff: 96-128 points, A level – CCC-ABB

The UCAS tariff score is applicable to you if you have recently studied a qualification that has a UCAS tariff equivalence. UCAS provides [a tariff calculator](#) for you to work out what your qualification is worth within the UCAS tariff.

Course aims

The LLB (Hons) in Law and Language is a specialist programme that allows you to study towards a career in legal practice whilst developing proficiency in a language, which is vital in our ever-globalising world. The combination legal skills and language proficiency is highly valuable in almost any sector and will give you access to opportunities for work and further study that might have otherwise been out of reach.

Alongside the main law curriculum, comprised of the seven foundations of legal knowledge and taught in the School of Law, you will pursue study in the language of your choice in the Department of Languages, Cultures and Applied Linguistics in Birkbeck's School of Arts. The languages we offer are French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean and Spanish.

Not only will you attain a good level of competence in your chosen language, you will also have a chance to learn about the culture of the language-speaking area, choosing from a range of modules covering literature, film, history, visual culture and philosophy, among other fields. You will also have the opportunity to study a number of cross-cultural modules which will allow you to explore specific themes across a variety of language-speaking areas.

LLB (Hons) in Law and Language provides a comprehensive grounding in the seven foundational subjects of English law and extend students' legal knowledge and understanding in specialist areas through a broad range of research-led teaching on law optional modules.

Professional Qualification

The programme satisfies the first stage (academic) of professional qualification laid down by the Bar Standard's Board (<http://www.barstandardsboard.org.uk/>). It also provides a foundation for the functional legal knowledge tested on the Single Qualifying Exam (Part One) set by the Solicitor's Regulatory authority.

The School of Law also has progression agreements in place with major of providers of vocational legal training. Students who successfully complete the LLB Law and Language and who meet eligibility criteria are guaranteed places on the relevant programmes at the University of Law, BPP and Barbri.

More specifically, the School of Law at Birkbeck aims to:

- Provide a comprehensive grounding in foundational subjects of English law and extend students' legal knowledge and understanding in specialist areas;
- Provide students with an understanding of major legal concepts, values, principles and rules of the legal system, legislation and case law;

- Provide students with extensive careers support and opportunities
- Provide a broad appreciation of the range of possible approaches to legal scholarship;
- Promote a multi-disciplinary approach to the study of law which enables students to make use of theoretical frameworks developed in law, the humanities and social sciences;
- Place the study of law within its historical, ethical, social, political, cultural and economic context;
- Provide students with a range of subject specific and transferable skills which develop their capacity to learn, meet the needs of the wider society and prepare students for employment or further studies.

Language - aims and distinctive features:

The aims of the Language component of the programme are:

- to allow students to reach a reasonable to high level of competence in a modern foreign language (French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean or Spanish).
- to study the associated culture(s) of the language.
- to acquire advanced knowledge of a range of comparative cultural topics.

The distinctive nature of the languages component of the programmes lies in the flexibility of our languages offering, which extends to the full range of languages taught at Birkbeck (currently French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean and Spanish) and allows entry at a variety of levels of language competence.

- For the European languages included in this programme, language entry levels are at one of five levels, as defined in the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR): Level A1 (Beginners); Level A2 (GCSE or equivalent); Level B1 (AS/A level or equivalent); Level B2 (A level + or equivalent); Level C1 (Proficiency).
- For Japanese there are four basic entry levels, all pegged to the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT): Beginners, Upper Beginner, Intermediate, Upper Intermediate.
- For Korean, there are three levels, pegged towards the Test of Proficiency in Korean (TOPIK): Beginners for Korean 1, Post-beginners for Korean 2 (entry with just under TOPIK 1), and Pre-intermediate for Korean 3 (entry with post-TOPIK 1 but under TOPIK 2).
- After three years (full-time), students who start at approximately A-level standard language competence will attain a level which conforms to the 'typical' exit level equivalent to CEFR Level C1/C2, as defined in the QAA benchmark statement for 'Languages, Cultures and Societies', or JLPT Level N2.
- Those full-time or part-time students who start at CEFR A1 or JLPT N5 (Language 1) or fulltime students who start with CEFR A2 or JLPT N5 (Language 2) will exit with either CEFR B2 or JLPT N4-N3 (Language 3) or CEFR C1 or JLPT N3-N2 (Language 4).
- For Korean, students will start from beginners and exit after three years with close to TOPIK 2 (entry to Korean 1, exit with Korean 3).
- PLEASE NOTE: All Language modules are taken over three terms (10+10+4 weeks, 2.5 hours per week)
- The eventual award title is:
 - LLB Law and French
 - LLB Law and German
 - LLB Law and Italian
 - LLB Law and Japanese

OR

 - LLB Law and Spanish
- If a student completes at least 150 credits on the Language side but does not achieve CEFR C2 (European Language 5) or JLPT Level N3 or above (Japanese 4/5), the degree awarded is LLB Law with Language (either French / German / Italian / Japanese / Korean / Spanish).

- If a student completes fewer than 150 (but at least 90) credits on the Language side, this constitutes a 'Minor' pathway, and the award title becomes, e.g., LLB Law with French, etc. Please note for the award of a language minor degree with 90 credits of language, ie LLB Law with Language (either French / German / Italian / Japanese / Korean / Spanish), students must achieve a language level of at least 3.
- For Korean, **only the 'with Korean' award title is currently available**, because we currently do not offer levels beyond Korean 3 for an exit level Korean proficiency.

Course structure

For the LLB (Hons) Law and Language award, following the course structure indicated in the table below, students will need to complete 210 credits in Law modules (including 180 credits compulsory and 30 credits in optional modules) and 150 credits in Language modules (the relative number of core and optional modules will depend on what language level the student begins at in the first year.) Students will also be required to complete the pre-sessional, 0 weighted, Legal Methods and Skills module in September of Year 1. Students who have completed the Foundation year in Law will be exempted from the requirement of completing Legal Methods and Skills.

To complete an award of LLB (Hons) Law with Language (that is, Law with a minor in Language) students must pass at least 90 credits of Language modules following the programme structure and achieve a minimum language level of 3.

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status	Teaching Terms
Full Time – 3 years					
Year 1					
4	LALW126Z4 (New)	Legal Methods and Skills <i>(Students who have completed the foundation year in Law are exempt from this module.)</i>	0	Compulsory	T1 September Pre-sessional
4	LADD033S4	Constitutional and Administrative Law	30	Compulsory	T1-T2
4	LADD034S4	Contract Law	30	Compulsory	T1-T2
4	LALW056S4	Criminal Law	30	Compulsory	T2-T3
4		Language 1, 2, 3 or 4	30	Core	T1-T3
Year 2 – 75 credits from Law and 45 credits from Languages					
5	LADD037S5	Tort Law	30	Compulsory	T1-T2
5	LALW095H5	Foundations of Property	15	Compulsory	T1
5	LALW096H5	Land Law	15	Compulsory	T2
5	LALW066H5	Law of the European Union	15	Compulsory	T3
5 or 6		Language 2, 3 or 4 OR Language 5	30	Core	T1-3

5	Various	Language specific survey module OR Themes in the European and Japanese Novel/Themes in European and Japanese Cinema OR Comparative module e.g. ARCL022S5 Reading Transnational Cultures	15	Option	T1, 2 or 3
Year 3 - 45 credits from Law, 75 credits Languages department					
6	LALW097H6	Trusts Law	15	Compulsory	T1
6		Options from Law	30	Options	T1, 2, 3
6		Language 3, 4 or 5 OR	30	Core	T1-3
5		Level 5 Language 'culture' module(s) if Language 5 already taken in Year Two		Option	
6		Language 'culture' module(s)	45	Option	T1,2 or 3
Part-time – 4 years					
Year 1					
4	LALW126Z4 (New)	Legal Method and Skills <i>(Students who have completed the foundation year in Law are exempt from this module.)</i>	0	Compulsory	T1
4	LADD033S4	Constitutional and Administrative Law	30	Compulsory	T1-T2
4	LADD034S4	Contract Law	30	Compulsory	T1-T2
4		Language 1, 2, 3 or 4	30	Core	T1-T3
Year 2					
4	LALW056S4	Criminal Law	30	Compulsory	T2-T3
5	LADD037S5	Tort Law	30	Compulsory	T1-T2
5		Language 2,3, or 4 OR	30	Core	T1-3
6		Language 5			
Year 3 (students must take 30 credits at level 6 before year 4)					
5	LALW095H5	Foundations of Property	15	Compulsory	T1
5	LALW096H5	Land Law	15	Compulsory	T2
5	LALW066H5	Law of the European Union	15	Compulsory	T3
5		Law or Language option	15	option	T1, 2 or 3
6		Language 3, 4 (must be taken at Level 6 if final stage in pathway) OR Language 5	30	Core	T1-T3
5		OR Level 5 Language optional module(s) if Language 5 (level 6) taken in Year 2)		Core Option	T1-3 T1 or 2

Year 4 (needs 60 from languages dept or 45 if language culture option selected in yr 3)					
6	LALW097H6	Trusts Law	15	Compulsory	T1
6		Law option (1 x 15 credits)(or 2 x 15 credits if no law options were completed in the previous year)	15		
6		Language 3, 4 or 5 OR Language optional module (if language pathway completed) OR Language 'culture' module (s)	30	Core	T1-3
6		Either 30 credits of Language optional module(s) (if only 30 credits taken from language in year 3) OR, (if 45 credits from languages taken in year 3) 15 credit Language option AND 15 credits either Law or Language option	30	Option	T1, 2 or 3

Foundation Year					
Year 0					
Level	Module Code		Credits	Status*	Term
3	CASE002S3	Fundamentals of Study	30	Core	1
3	LALW040S3	Legal Systems	30	Core	1
3	LALW041S3	Reading the Law	30	Core	2
3	LALW042S3	Law of the Trial	30	Core	2
Then students take years 1-3 from the full-time route shown above, but are exempt from taking Legal Methods and Skills in September.					

Core: Module must be taken and passed by student

Compulsory: Module must be taken but can be considered for compensated credit (see CAS regulations paragraph 24)

Option: Student can choose to take this module

Indicative List of Optional Modules - Law

Offered at Level 5

Equality and Diversity (LADD002H5)
Introduction to Comparative Law (LALA094H5)
Introduction to Commercial Law (LALW082H5)

Offered at Levels 5 and 6

Consumer Law (LALA101H5) (LALW054H6)
Space Law (LALA191H5) (LALA19H6)
Contemporary Issues in Islamic Law (LALA201H5) (LALA202H6)
Housing Justice and the Law (LALW012H6) (LALW011H5)
Human Rights (LALW007S5) (LALA003S6)

International Law of Armed Conflict (LALW051H5) (LALA220H6)
Labour Law (LALW034H5) (LALW024H6)
Legal Argument and Language (LALA227H5) (LALW026H6)
Secrecy, National Security & the Law (LALW018H5) (LALW019H6)

Optional Modules Offered at Level 6

Child Law (LADD006H6)
Adult Relations (LADD062H6)
Banking and Monetary Law (LALW016H6)
Competition Law (LALW090H6)
Contemporary Issues in Medical Law and Ethics (LALW049H6)
Cyberspace Law (LALW001H6)
Evidence (LALW076H6)
Immigration Law I Fundamentals of UK Law (LALA144H6)
Intellectual Property Law I (LALW045S6)
Intellectual Property Law II (LALW094S6)
Law History and Political Violence (LALA135H6)
Media Law (LALW007S5)
Mooting & Trials Skills (LALW055H6)
Principles of Medical Law & Ethics (LALW050H6)
Private International Law (LADD065H6)
Public International Law and the use of Force (LADD058H6)
Transformative Lawyering (LALW083H6)
Undergraduate Dissertation (LADD049S6)

Indicative list of Language survey/culture options from languages department:

Options for **level 5** currently include:

ARLL012S5 Themes in the European and Japanese Novel
ARLL011S5 Themes in European and Japanese Cinema
ARLL007S5 Contemporary Literature in French
TBC Cultural Perspectives on German and Italian 19th and 20th Century History
ARMC145S5 Popular Culture in Japan and East Asia
TBC Word and Image: Constructing the Other in the Hispanic World
ARCL022S5 Reading Transnational Cultures
LNLN024S5 Representations of Love, Desire and Sexuality

Options for **level 6** currently include:

ARMC187S6 Manga and Anime
AREL003H6 Sensibility and Sociability in the Eighteenth-Century French Novel
AREL049H6 The French Novel of Disillusionment
ARCL054H6 The Twentieth-Century German Novel
LNLN003H5 The Weimar Republic
TBC Sex, survival and la dolce vita: Neorealist to Contemporary Italian Film
ARCL057H6 The Spanish Noir: Crime and Detection in Contemporary Fiction
ARCL034H6 The Auteurist Tradition in Spanish Cinema
LNLN054S6 Space, Culture and Society in Brazil

How you will learn

Your learning and teaching is organised to help you meet the learning outcomes (below) of the course. As a student, we expect you to be an active learner and to take responsibility for your learning, engaging with all of the material and sessions arranged for you.

Each course is divided into modules. You will find information on the virtual learning site (Moodle, see Academic Support below) about each of your modules, what to expect, the work you need to prepare, links to reading lists, information about how and when you will be assessed.

The School of Law employs a variety of teaching and learning strategies to enable learning outcomes to be achieved. In particular we promote student learning through lectures; seminars; virtual learning; private tutorials; web based independent skills tutorials; weekend and pre-sessional skills workshops; public lectures and research seminars.

From the outset, you will work with us to design a degree path which is tuned to your interests and goals. You can choose between French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean or Spanish starting at the level of language learning that suits you, whether you are a complete beginner or a native speaker. Language classes are normally 2.5 hours long. Activities are varied; the Languages department pioneered the use of learning software for languages, and this has now been extended to Moodle, which allows access to additional targeted language learning materials. Regular homework is given and returned to students, with extensive feedback, usually within a week. All classes are conducted in the target language.

How we will assess you

The course will use a variety of assessment methods. Assessment is used to enhance your learning rather than simply to test it. For most of the modules associated with this course, your assessment will be through the following types of assessment:

- independent research essays,
- problem scenario essays,
- seen and unseen exams,
- workbooks,
- group work,
- oral presentations,
- reflective journals and creative and critical thinking exercises.

Assessment methods in Languages include a variety of exercises testing skills in writing, reading, speaking and listening, including (but not limited to) short coursework assignments, in-class written tests, oral and listening comprehension tests; at Level 5 students complete a self-reflexive essay; and at Level 6 they undertake a short project.

Learning outcomes (what you can expect to achieve)

'Learning outcomes' indicate what you should be able to know or do at the end of your course. Providing them helps you to understand what your teachers will expect and also the learning requirements upon which you will be assessed.

At the end of this course, you should be able to:

- Demonstrate general law related skills
- Identify, explain and critically assess the main characteristics of the legal system, including general familiarity with its institutions and procedures;
- Present a sound and accurate understanding of the detail of the law and its context in relation to most areas of law studied;
- Identify and demonstrate depth of knowledge of some of the political, economic, commercial, social and cultural factors that inform and underlie legal theory and doctrine;
- Understand complex aspects of the problems, tensions and contradictions within certain legal theories and doctrines;
- Identify and critically analyse contemporary legal debates.

Subject specific skills

- Demonstrate systematic knowledge and understanding of a wide range of legal concepts, values, principles and rules of English law and an ability to explain the relationships between them in a number of particular areas,
- Accurately state the law in key areas of foundational subjects, including but not limited to: Constitutional and Administrative Law, Contract Law, Criminal Law, Tort, Law, Property Law, Equity Law, and Law of the European Union
- Demonstrate the ability to critically discuss contemporary public and scholarly debates which are relevant to law in the UK Transferrable skills
- Demonstrate research and writing skills in the context of writing a postgraduate Research Project
- Demonstrate self-direction in formulating an original research question and independent learning ability suitable for writing a postgraduate Research Project

Additionally, on successful completion of the **Language** component of this programme a student will be expected to be able to:

French, German, Italian, Spanish:

A. Use of the target language

- Demonstrate appropriate use of the French, German, Italian and/or Spanish language. Our courses have been mapped to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) as follows:
 - Stage 1 A1-A2
 - Stage 2 B1
 - Stage 3 B2
 - Stage 4 C1
 - Stage 5 C1/C2

The aims and objectives for each of these stages can be found in each corresponding module proposal.

- Communicate fluently and appropriately, maintaining a high degree of grammatical accuracy, in the target language (TL), with competent or native speakers of the TL, to a level approximately equivalent to CEFR level B2 to C2, depending on starting level.
- Be able to exploit for a variety of purposes and, as appropriate, to contextualise a broad range of materials in written or spoken TL appropriate to the level attained.
- Be able to apply effectively and appropriately language skills in a professional context.

B. Explicit knowledge of language

- Demonstrate a detailed knowledge and effective understanding of the structures, registers and, as appropriate, varieties of TL.
- Demonstrate a detailed knowledge and effective understanding of the linguistic principles required to analyse TL. (This aim applies to certain modules only.)

C. Knowledge of related studies

- Demonstrate an ability critically to evaluate through appropriate methodologies one or more aspects of the arts, cultures, histories, institutions or linguistic situation of the societies in which TL is spoken.
- Demonstrate a broad knowledge and, using appropriate methodologies, a critical understanding of the cultures and societies of countries in which TL is spoken gained through one or more of the creative media of TL.

D. Intercultural awareness and understanding

- Demonstrate a reasoned awareness and critical understanding of one or more cultures and societies, other than the student's own.

Japanese:

A. Use of the target language

- With a focus especially on advancing students' reception skills, to demonstrate experience at comprehending Japanese at natural speed using audio-visual materials; to use original texts from a variety of sources and subject fields to develop their reading techniques including scanning and skimming for key information, reading extended paragraphs and complex sentences, and in-depth reading; to sustain complex conversations in social, cultural, and business situations using appropriate speech forms and politeness registers; to begin to acquire academic-level verbal communication skills, including participation in discussions, and preparing and delivering presentations; to write substantial reports and short essays based on texts read and discussed in class, using their knowledge of between 800-1,000 kanji characters and of appropriate compositional structure.
- Demonstrate cultural sensitivity in communicative exchanges in Japanese.

B-D. As above, and:

- Demonstrate a critical understanding of the key moments and concepts in the cultural/social history of modern Japan.

Korean:

A. Use of the target language

- With a focus especially on advancing students' reception skills, to demonstrate experience at comprehending Korean at natural speed using audio-visual materials; to use original texts from a variety of sources and subject fields to develop their reading techniques including scanning and skimming for key information, reading extended paragraphs and complex sentences; to sustain complex conversations in social, cultural, and business situations using appropriate speech forms and politeness registers; to begin to acquire verbal communication skills, including participation in discussions, and preparing and delivering presentations.
- Demonstrate cultural sensitivity in communicative exchanges in Korean.

B-D. As above, and:

- Demonstrate a critical understanding of the modern Korean society and culture.

Careers and further study

You will find LLB Law graduates in the following kinds of roles:

- Barristers
- Solicitors
- Paralegals and legal assistants
- Advocates
- Policy Researchers

A law degree from Birkbeck will provide students with not only a broad range of transferable skills, but knowledge and understanding of the English legal system that may be relevant within a diverse range of jobs and roles.

Birkbeck's Law graduates will complete with a set of valuable attributes, for example:

- The ability to work as part of a team
- High-level oral and written communication skills in English
- Research skills
- Skills in evaluating and assessing types of information
- The ability to present yourself and an argument

Birkbeck offers a range of careers support to its students. You can find out more on [the careers pages of our website](#).

In addition to the centralised support offered by the College, the School of Law also has bespoke careers support, including:

- Internship and clinical practice opportunities
- Scholarship schemes
- Birkbeck Mooting team (award winning)
- The Legal Practice Conversation Series
- Practitioner Engagement – 'Visiting Lawyers'
- Practitioner Engagement in Teaching

Academic regulations and course management

Birkbeck's academic regulations are contained in its [Common Award Scheme Regulations and Policies](#) published by year of application on the Birkbeck website.

You will have access to a course handbook on Moodle and this will outline how your course is managed, including who to contact if you have any questions about your module or course.

Support for your study

Your learning at Birkbeck is supported by your teaching team and other resources and people in the College there to help you with your study. Birkbeck uses a virtual learning environment called Moodle and each course has a dedicated Moodle page and there are further Moodle sites for each of your modules. This will include your course handbook.

Birkbeck will introduce you to the Library and IT support, how to access materials online, including using Moodle, and provide you with an orientation which includes an online Moodle module to guide you through all of the support available. You will also be allocated a personal tutor and provided with information about learning support offered within your School and by the College.

[Please check our website for more information about student support services.](#) This covers the whole of your time as a student with us including learning support and support for your wellbeing.

Quality and standards at Birkbeck

Birkbeck's courses are subject to our quality assurance procedures. This means that new courses must follow our design principles and meet the requirements of our academic regulations. Each new course or module is subject to a course approval process where the proposal is scrutinised by subject specialists, quality professionals and external representatives to ensure that it will offer an excellent student experience and meet the expectation of regulatory and other professional bodies.

You will be invited to participate in an online survey for each module you take. We take these surveys seriously and they are considered by the course team to develop both modules and the overall courses. Please take the time to complete any surveys you are sent as a student.

We conduct an annual process of reviewing our portfolio of courses which analyses student achievement, equality data and includes an action plan for each department to identify ongoing enhancements to our education, including changes made as a result of student feedback.

Our periodic review process is a regular check (usually every four years) on the courses by department with a specialist team including students.

Each course will have an external examiner associated with it who produces an annual report and any recommendations. Students can read the most recent external examiner reports on the course Moodle pages. Our courses are all subject to Birkbeck Baseline Standards for our Moodle module information. This supports the accessibility of our education including expectations of what information is provided online for students.

The information in this programme specification has been approved by the College's Academic Board and every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information it contains.

Programme specifications are reviewed periodically. If any changes are made to courses, including core and/or compulsory modules, the relevant department is required to provide a revised programme specification. Students will be notified of any changes via Moodle.

Further information about specifications and an archive of programme specifications for the College's courses is [available online](#).

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