

# The Degree of Master of Laws (LLM – 120 points)

These regulations must be read in conjunction with the General Regulations for the University.

## 1. Version

- (a) These Regulations came into force on 1 January 2025.
- (b) This degree was first offered in 1906.

## 2. Variations

In exceptional circumstances, the Amo Matua, Ture | Executive Dean of Law or delegate may approve a personal programme of study which does not conform to these Regulations.

## 3. The structure of the qualification

The Master of Laws (LLM) may be completed by research courses and dissertation; or with permission of the Amo Matua, Ture | Executive Dean of Law or delegate, by thesis alone.

- (a) To qualify for the degree by research courses and dissertation a student must be credited with all courses in Schedule C: Group 1 to these Regulations.
- (b) To qualify for the degree by thesis a student must be credited with the course in Schedule C: Group 2 to these Regulations.

## 4. Admission to the qualification

- (a) Before enrolling for the qualification, a student must:
  - i. Either qualify for the Degree of Bachelor of Laws with a minimum B Grade Point Average if applying for the LLM by coursework; or with a minimum B+ Grade Point Average if applying for the LLM by Thesis; from an Aotearoa New Zealand university, or be admitted with Academic Equivalent Standing; and
  - ii. Be approved as a student for the degree by the Amo Matua, Ture | Executive Dean of Law or delegate.
- (b) Relevance and standard of a student's undergraduate studies and the availability of suitable supervision will be criteria for approval.
- (c) For the purposes of Admission Regulations 5(a)(vi) and 5(b), those applicants who are required to demonstrate competency in English must provide evidence of:
  - i. IELTS (Academic) 7, with no individual score below 6.5; or
  - ii. TOEFL iBT - total minimum 100, with minimum writing score of 23; or
  - iii. Pearson Test of English (Academic) - overall score 64 and no band below 58.
- (d) Distance enrolment is not available for this qualification. Unless an exemption is granted by the Amo Matua, Ture | Executive Dean of Law or delegate, a student must attend in person.

## 5. Subjects

There are no majors, minors or endorsements for this qualification.

## 6. Time limits

The time limits for this qualification are:

- (a) Full-time study:
  - i. A student must normally be enrolled on a full-time basis.
  - ii. The minimum period of enrolment for full-time is 12 months.
  - iii. The maximum period of enrolment for full-time is 24 months, which shall be consecutive unless the enrolment is suspended under Regulation 6(d).
- (b) Part-time study:
  - i. With the approval of the Amo Matua, Ture | Executive Dean of Law or delegate, a student may be enrolled on a part-time basis.
  - ii. A part-time student is one who, because of employment, health, family or other reasons, is unable to devote himself or herself full-time to study and research.
  - iii. The minimum period of enrolment for part-time is 24 months, which shall be consecutive unless the enrolment is suspended under Regulation 6(d).
  - iv. The maximum period of enrolment for part-time is 48 months, which shall be consecutive unless

the enrolment is suspended under Regulation 6(d).

- (c) After the commencement of study and research for the degree a student may, with the permission of the Amo Matua, Ture | Executive Dean of Law or delegate, transfer from part-time to full-time status, or vice versa. In granting such permission, the Amo Matua, Ture | Executive Dean of Law or delegate shall determine the minimum and maximum periods of study and may impose other conditions.
- (d) In special cases the Amo Matua, Ture | Executive Dean of Law or delegate may suspend or extend the enrolment of a student, and may extend the time for submission of a research paper, thesis or dissertation. In such a case the Amo Matua, Ture | Executive Dean of Law or delegate shall determine whether the student remains eligible for Honours.

### 7. Transfers of credit, substitutions and cross-credits

This qualification adheres to the Credit Recognition and Transfer Regulations, with the following stipulations:

- (a) credit may be awarded in terms of the provisions that apply to taught postgraduate courses;
- (b) there is no provision for transfer of credit in relation to theses.
- (c) cross-credits and substitutions do not apply to this qualification.

### 8. Progression

This qualification adheres to the General Regulations for the University, with the following stipulations:

- (a) In special circumstances, the Amo Matua, Ture | Executive Dean of Law or delegate may permit a student who fails a course, or the dissertation, to re-enrol in that or another course or the dissertation, in a subsequent year.
- (b) Only one failure is permitted.

### 9. Honours, Distinction and Merit

This qualification adheres to the General Regulations of the University and may be awarded with Honours.

- (a) The degree may be awarded with Honours, which may be First Class or Second Class (Division I or II).
- (b) Merit or Distinction are not awarded for this degree.

### 10. Exit and Upgrade Pathways to other Qualifications

- (a) There are no exit qualifications for this degree.
- (b) With the approval of the Amo Rangahau | Dean of Postgraduate Research, and on the recommendations of the Tumuaki Kura | Head of School and the Amo Matua, Ture | Executive Dean of Law or delegate, a student for a Master's degree may apply to transfer to the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in accordance with the Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy.
- (c) Where a thesis has been presented for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Te Kaupeka Ture | Faculty of Law and the examiners are of the opinion that it does not justify the award of that degree they may recommend the award of the Degree of Master of Laws with or without Honours.

## Schedule C: Compulsory Courses for the Degree of Master of Laws (LLM)

For full course information, go to [courseinfo.canterbury.ac.nz](http://courseinfo.canterbury.ac.nz)

Note: Enrolment in the following courses will be subject to there being suitable supervision available within the Department in any one year.

### Group 1

Course Code	Course Title	Pts	2025	Location	P/C/R/RP/EQ
LAWS670	Legal Research Methods	15	SI	Campus	P: Admission to LLM candidature. Head of Department Mandatory. R: LAWS410 EQ: LAWS410
LAWS671	Legal Research Paper 1	15	FY	Campus	P: Admission to LLM candidature. Head of Department Mandatory.
			CY	Campus	
LAWS672	Legal Research Paper 2	15	FY	Campus	P: Admission to LLM candidature. Head of Department Mandatory.
LAWS673	Legal Research Paper 3	15	FY	Campus	P: Admission to LLM candidature. Head of Department Mandatory.
			CY	Campus	
LAWS674	Legal Dissertation	60	FY	Campus	P: Admission to LLM candidature. Head of Department Mandatory.
			CY	Campus	

### Group 2

Course Code	Course Title	Pts	2025	Location	P/C/R/RP/EQ
LAWS690	LLM Thesis	120	A	Campus	P: Admission to LLM candidature. Head of Department Mandatory.