These regulations should not be read in isolation. It is important that you read them in conjunction with the Academic Regulations (Taught Courses).

LLM 1 DEGREE NAME

LLM 1.1 The University offers the degree of Master of Laws. Holders of this qualification are permitted to use the letters LLM (Open) after their names.

LLM 1.2 If you obtain a distinction in your dissertation and a distinction in at least one of the 30 credit taught modules, you will be awarded the degree with distinction. If you obtain a distinction in the dissertation and a merit in at least one of the 30 credit taught modules you will be awarded the degree with merit. If you obtain a merit in your dissertation and a merit or distinction in at least one of the 30 credit taught modules, you will be awarded the degree with merit.

LLM 2 REGISTRATION

LLM 2.1 To register as a student, you must adhere to registration regulations in the Academic Regulations (Taught Courses) and show evidence of suitable preparation for postgraduate study. The minimum entrance requirement is:

(a) an honours degree conferred by a UK university or other recognised degree-awarding body.

or

(b) other study or experience approved by the Faculty Teaching Committee.

LLM 2.2 To be awarded the degree, you must declare it as an intended qualification and ensure that your credit is linked to it.

LLM 3 CREDIT REQUIREMENT

LLM 3.1 To be awarded the qualification you must obtain a minimum of 180 credits through the successful completion of modules specified in the degree profile. Of these:

(a) 60 credits must come from compulsory modules

(b) at least 30 and up to 60 credits must come from specified option modules in Group A

(c) up to 30 credits can come from specified option modules in Group B

(d) 60 credits must come from the compulsory dissertation.

LLM 3.2 The credit for this qualification must include, from Open University modules, a minimum amount of credit that meets the University’s unique study regulations, that minimum amount is 60 credits.

LLM 4 CREDIT TRANSFER

LLM 4.1 The credit transfer scheme for the Master of Laws is governed by the Academic Regulations (Taught Courses).

LLM 4.2 Any award of transferred credit towards the specified option modules in Group B will take the form of general credit exemption.
LLM 4.3 Credit transfer is not permitted against the compulsory modules, specified option modules in Group A or the dissertation.

LLM 4.4 The maximum award of transferred credit towards the Master of Laws is 30 credits

LLM 5 PROGRESS TOWARDS THE DEGREE

LLM 5.1 In order to actively continue your studies, you must satisfy the examination and assessment requirements and make satisfactory progress as specified for the qualification. If you fail the examination and assessment requirements for the qualification for which you are registered or fail to make satisfactory progress, you will cease to be registered for the qualification and will have no more right to continue your studies than a new applicant.

LLM 5.2 The credit required from modules or any permitted credit transfer for the Master of Laws must be obtained during a period not exceeding seven years. Modules do not need to be studied consecutively.

LLM 5.3 Credit from particular modules may cease to be countable towards the award of the Master of Laws at a specified point in time after their final presentation.

LLM 6 DISSERTATION

LLM 6.1 You are required to submit a dissertation which must form the final credit for your degree.

LLM 6.2 The dissertation must be submitted within the specified period for the degree and must conform to the Academic Regulations (Taught Courses). The topic of your dissertation must be relevant to the subject matter of the taught module you have studied for this qualification and approved by your tutor. The dissertation must be between 15,000 and 18,000 words, including footnotes and excluding a bibliography. You may be required to attend a viva voce (oral) examination on your dissertation.

LLM 6.3 The dissertation will be submitted to examiners appointed by the Senate. It may be found to be:

(a) acceptable

(b) acceptable subject to satisfactory amendment within a specified timescale (only one re-submission allowed)

(c) unacceptable but with permission for you to re-submit (only one re-submission allowed)