

International Banking and Financial Technology Law LLM

Programme Specification

Academic Year:	2026/2027
Degree Awarding Body:	The University of Bradford
Main Location:	City Campus
Qualifications Framework:	HE Qualifications of UK Degree Awarding Bodies (FHEQ: QAA 2024)
Target Degree Award:	Master of Laws (LLM) International Banking and Financial Technology Law [Level 7]
Intermediate/exit awards:	Postgraduate Diploma (PGD) or Postgraduate Certificate (PGC) [FHEQ Level 7]
Programme Admission:	UK and international students
Programme Start Month:	September, January
Course Modes of Study:	12 months full-time (September start) 15 months full-time (January start)

Please note: The University has a set of terms and conditions for all students accepting an offer to study on a course here at Bradford. This is called the Student Contract. This document sets out the Terms and Conditions which apply when an offer of a place on a programme of study at the University of Bradford is accepted. [View our Student Contract for further details.](#) Information about this programme and its modules has been published in advance of the academic year to which it applies. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information is accurate at the time of publication, but changes may occur given the interval between publishing and commencement of teaching. Any change which impacts the terms and conditions of an applicant's offer will be communicated to them.

Changes Schedule

1. August 2025: Annual changes for the 2025 academic year, including changes to academic regulations.
2. June 2026: Annual changes for 2026 entry, focussed curriculum, updated references and admissions.

Programme overview

The LLM in International Banking and Financial Technology Law together with the other LLM programmes is part of the vibrant postgraduate community of Bradford's School of Law and Social Sciences. This LLM offers knowledge of traditional international banking law doctrines and principles along with knowledge of cutting-edge financial technology (FinTech) topics. Students have the freedom to prioritise traditional banking law subjects, FinTech-related law subjects or a mix of both. The Master of Laws programme engages with current global, regional and national challenges, with a strong focus on developing deep knowledge of the subject matter and employability skills for the varied sectors of work that graduates from the programme aspire to.

The LLM International Banking and Financial Technology Law will provide students with knowledge of the legal dimensions of banking operations and financial transactions, focussing in particular on the international context, and the developments at both national and global levels shaping regulation and practice in this area. It will enable the student to have a thorough understanding of traditional legal subjects in international banking, as well as emerging areas, brought about by technological advances, such as automation, artificial intelligence, blockchain technology and virtual currencies.

In many of these areas the legal responses are still emerging, and students will have the opportunity to engage with the current legal debates as well as the latest laws. This cutting-edge knowledge, which is secured through regular programme content updates, will equip students with knowledge and skills which will greatly improve their employability in the emerging law areas and in the financial and technology sectors. The knowledge offered will start from the introduction of the students to the international legal standards in the subject areas, which will offer them the shared legal knowledge of the fundamentals of law in the areas of study.

Students will then be able to approach the curriculum from their own personal, cultural or national perspective through the adoption of a flexible approach to the study of the subjects, which will allow students to select their own case studies, presentation and assessment topics and the literature. Comparative study of law will be broadly used to allow students to compare and contrast legal frameworks and principles from jurisdictions of their choice. This type of study will offer students an appreciation of the links and connections between the various national and regional legal frameworks and traditions and equip them with tools which will enable them to navigate the complex legal international legal landscape.

Students will also be extensively engaged with interdisciplinary research and study which will equip them with a diverse set of skills and knowledge which will improve their employability. Interdisciplinary knowledge aims at introducing students to various legal disciplines related to banking and technology law (such as regulatory theory, contract and commercial law, technology and banking operations) and will integrate them into a coherent field of knowledge which is needed to address complex real-world issues such as those related to the operation of financial and technology markets. The programme is taught by research active staff at Bradford University School of Law and Social Sciences who have interests and expertise in the issues the student will study, therefore ensuring they have access to cutting edge research and thinking. The programme is also designed to be accessible not only to Law graduates who want to pursue a career in legal practice, but also to graduates from a range of academic backgrounds who intend to apply their knowledge of international banking and financial technology law in various exciting professional contexts such as within business organisations, government departments, intergovernmental organisations, third sector organisations or academia.

Students will be able to consider critical questions surrounding international real-world issues and develop and demonstrate knowledge and recognised competences essential to effective legal and ethically aware practice within international banking and financial transactions. Banking law and technology law are significant legal practice areas. As such, graduates of the LLM could pursue careers in legal practice in these areas within their own countries or internationally. Additional career destinations include regulatory bodies, legal offices and regulatory compliance departments

in the industry. Jobs in businesses which require some legal knowledge (e.g. dealing with consumer contracts and complaints, data protection etc) are also potential career destinations.

This LLM has been designed to maximise career potential by focusing on up-to-date, market-ready, transferable skills such as independent research, problem-solving, analysis and communication, interdisciplinarity and internationalisation. It also possesses significant future-proof value, which is ensured via research on and study during the course of emerging issues and legal responses to them which will occupy central role in society in the decades to come such as the regulations of artificial intelligence, automation blockchain and climate change. The students will be offered practical scenarios in-class and industry insights, through guest speakers, extra-curricular activities and events in the emerging areas.

To ensure that all students have the requisite knowledge and skills to effectively engage with the programme, there is a Foundations module at the beginning of the academic year which introduces legal concepts, institutions and sources as well as academic writing and research skills. The two core modules provide the student with knowledge of the broader regulatory context and sustainability dimension of international banking and financial technology law. A further four optional modules which the student can choose from a pool of specialist international banking and FinTech Law modules will deepen their knowledge of these subject areas. The capstone project is either a dissertation of 15,000 words or an advanced report pursuant to an internship. This will provide the student with the opportunity to research and prepare a substantial analysis of a specialist area of interest to them as well as demonstrate understanding of the complex policy and practical dimensions of the subject, thereby preparing them with the knowledge and skills for their chosen career.

There will be two enrolments each academic year in September and January. The September programme will run for 12 months whilst the January programme will run for 15 months. Students on the 15-month programme may have the opportunity to undertake an internship subject to their securing a place.

Programme Aims

The programme is intended to:

- A1. Deliver a programme of study in international Banking and Financial Technology Law that is contemporary, of policy and practical relevance, and reflects the expertise of the School and Faculty.
- A2. Ensure the accessibility of the programme to students from diverse backgrounds and various career trajectories.
- A3. Develop knowledge and understanding of legal frameworks in essential subject areas related to Banking and Financial Technology Law, such as the foundations of international banking law, the law of financial crime, the regulation of fintech and virtual currencies, data protection and privacy associated with fintech applications, regulation of financial markets and securities, insolvency law and legal technologies

- A4. Provide training in discipline skills to enable graduates to pursue careers in diverse areas including traditional legal practice, international banking and technology industries, public sector, civil society or other related areas.
- A5. Encourage participative, independent and reflective learning and the development of personal and professional skills.
- A6. Enable students to understand the complexities of international Banking and Financial Technology Law at an advanced level and in its ever-changing contexts.
- A7. Equip students to have mastery of the subject, conduct effective research and to critically analyse and assess the specific areas of study undertaken and apply this learning in the relevant practical context.

Programme Learning Outcomes

Students eligible for the FHEQ Level 7 Degree award of Master will:

1. Have a systematic and critical knowledge of the substantive concepts, values, principles and rules in International Banking and Financial Technology Law and their theoretical underpinnings within the framework of the wider legal environment in its historical, socio-political and economic contexts, including the role of contemporary developments such as technology and sustainability principles in the conduct and regulation of modern international financial transactions.
2. Demonstrate critical knowledge of the institutions and procedures operating at the international, regional and local levels in Banking and Financial Technology Law and their impact on the development of law and policy.
3. Conduct independent research which demonstrates the ability to evaluate approaches to legal research in this subject, develop appropriate research designs and techniques to investigate propositions/hypotheses.
4. Develop an advanced understanding of the role of law in each sub-subject area covered and its shortcomings and limitations as well as the interrelationship between International Banking and Financial Technology Law and other related legal disciplines.
5. Generate clear, concise and coherent communication orally and in writing in which style, scope and depth are appropriate to task, purpose and audience, whether working independently or as a group.
6. Employ relevant competencies and strategies to engage constructively with international Banking and Financial Technology Law in various roles
7. Identify and apply critical learning gained to current developments and debates in Banking and Financial Technology Law
8. Demonstrate initiative and independence in systematic academic inquiry, using relevant techniques to gather, evaluate and manage evidence, data and information from appropriate sources.

9. Reflect critically on professional and career development needs and to take action to maintain the knowledge and skills required of a practitioner in International Banking and Financial Technology law.
10. Plan and execute a range of assignments, including essays and presentations in which style and, scope and depth are appropriate to the task.
11. Design and carry out, with appropriate ethical approval, an original and self-directed capstone research project which draws upon a comprehensive and critical review of relevant literature.
12. Exercise initiative and personal responsibility in completion of an advanced, original and self-directed capstone project using critical reflective communication to deepen understanding of the learning process, with appropriate documentation.
13. Recognise and be able to critically reflect on own values, experiences and orientation in ones' own academic work.

Learning and Teaching Strategy

This LLM programme aims to integrate applied and theoretical knowledge with assessment processes that test knowledge, application and analysis of the subject. To this end, the learning, teaching and assessment strategy for this programme has been developed to help them build their knowledge incrementally over the year of study and to develop their research, critical thinking and writing skills. Teaching on the programme will typically involve a combination of formal workshop styled seminars, group discussions, directed reading and personal research. Each 20 credits module represents approximately 200 hours of study time broken down into formal tutor led contact hours in class as well as engagement via the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) and independent study. Case study analysis and discussion is used to contextualise learning and the application of techniques. Students also work in small groups which encourage participative learning, provide experience of working with people from different cultures and help develop organisational skills.

All taught modules have a two-hour teaching slot every week throughout the Semester in which they are taught. In the early part of the programme, most of these slots will be used as class time with lecturer input, individual and group work activities. A module manual is provided with each module to provide clear instructions, guidance and details of the preparatory work required. Additional support materials – cases, video clips, audio recording, lecture notes/slides, etc. are also provided via the Canvas virtual learning environment (VLE). As their confidence with the material and research skills increase, the student will be expected to work more independently and lead sessions either alone or within a group. The student will be set research and writing tasks, be expected to contribute to discussions online, engage with other activities supported through the VLE or meet with their tutors to discuss a particular task or their progress generally.

The student is expected to take responsibility for their own learning and engage with the materials and ideas provided. The student must therefore prepare for all teaching sessions and take all opportunities offered to develop their skills and knowledge.

Students are also introduced to Academic Skill Advice and English Language support services of the University. These services offer additional support to students facing challenges in those areas. They include one-to-one meetings with advisors. On career support students can make use throughout of their studies of the career service of the University, while at programme level enrolled students will join the career booster week events. Career booster is a week of activities during each semester which aims at boosting the employability of the graduates through participation in workshops and other events with the involvement of employers, career advice experts and other relevant stakeholders.

In addition students will receive career information and advice from guest speakers and other experts which will be delivered lectures and workshops throughout the academic year. The Summer School which runs annually in June as an extracurricular event or as a LLM module covers emerging issues in law offering up-to-date information about legal developments in emerging areas with significant employment potential. Legal experts and representatives of the industry participate in the Summer School which covers a range of law themes.

Assessment Strategy

The assessment strategy on this programme is robust, adopting a range of assessment methods, thereby and aiming to be inclusive, and giving students the opportunity to play to their strengths while also developing areas of weakness. Assessment is based on the skills and knowledge developed throughout the programme and this LLM employs a variety of assessment methods- both formative and summative. The assessments are structured in such a way as to help them demonstrate that they meet the learning outcomes of each module and the programme overall. There are no timed, closed book examinations for this programme. Instead, we use a variety of programme work assignments to develop and test their research, critical thinking, problem solving and writing skills. The Student might therefore be asked to write a traditional academic essay, to create a portfolio of activities, to write a book review or develop a research plan. The type of assessment for each module will be specified in the module descriptor with more detail being available in the module handbook.

There is a balance of formative and summative assessments, including feedback during individual and group task to ensure that students are supported effectively in their learning and are able to produce their best work for the summative assessment. Formative assessment is built into specific modules but not all, the expectation being that the students develop as independent learners, they will need to rely less on this form of support and can transfer the skills learned from one module to another.

Study abroad opportunities

This programme is not recommended for opportunities to study abroad at another University for a semester due to how dissertation support and supervision is spread out.

Students can still explore opportunities for short international activities (1-6 weeks) that are held over the summer periods by speaking to the University International Opportunities team. Further information about short [internships and placements](#) and [study abroad opportunities](#) is published on the University's website.

Curriculum

The LLM International Banking and Financial Technology Law is made up of two distinct parts. First, students will study six taught modules which cover Semesters 1 and 2. They will subsequently undertake a research project which culminates in the writing of their dissertation.

At the beginning of the course (usually September or January), students will be required to complete a compulsory non-credit bearing pre-Masters module Foundations of Law and Skills, which will provide them with the foundation necessary to study for the LLM. Students will study two 20 credits of core modules (one in each of semester 1 and 2). These are Sustainable Development Law in Contemporary Business and Society (20 credits) and Regulatory Theory and Practice (20 credits). These modules will provide the student with knowledge of the broader regulatory context and the implications for human rights protection and development.

Throughout the course, September entry students will study the "Semester 1" modules first, January entry students will study the "Semester 2" modules first.

**Table 1: LLM International Banking and Financial Technology Law Cores Modules:
Study all of**

Mod. Code	Module Title and Level	Credit	Study in
LAW6029-Z	Foundations of Law and Skills [FHEQ Level 6]	0	Induction
LAW7030-B	Sustainable development law in contemporary business and society [FHEQ Level 7]	20	Semester 1
LAW7035-B	Regulatory Theory and Practice [FHEQ Level 7]	20	Semester 2

Sustainable Development Law in Contemporary Business and Society explores the principle of sustainable development and its implementation, including the impacts and responsibilities of businesses in the modern context and their impacts on society and human rights.

The Regulatory Theory and Practice module will introduce the student to a critical examination of the underlying theories and rational for regulation and a critical discussion of the various approaches to and forms of regulation, with a focus on the business dimensions of this practice and the implications for human rights.

In addition to the core modules, students select at least two specialism modules required for the award of LLM International Banking and Financial Technology Law, at least one in each Semester:

- LAW7037-B International Banking and Finance Law (Semester 1)
- LAW7085-B Law of Financial Crime (Semester 1)
- LAW7076-B Regulation of Capital Markets and Securities (Semester 2)
- LAW7078-B Regulation of Financial Technologies and Virtual Assets (Semester 2)

Students may study all of these taught modules to complete the LLM degree taught component or select one or two different module options from the wider Law Department catalogue in international commercial law.

In Semester 1 students select 2 modules including at least one of the specialism modules:

**Table 2: LLM International Banking and Financial Technology Law Options (FHEQ Level 7):
Select 2 Semester 1 Modules**

Mod. Code	Module Title	Credit	Specialism
LAW7007-B	International Competition Law	20	
LAW7008-B	International intellectual property law	20	
LAW7031-B	International Commercial Contracts and E-commerce	20	
LAW7037-B	International Banking and Finance Law	20	Yes
LAW7045-B	International Trade and investment law	20	
LAW7080-B	Law and Ethics of Technology and Artificial Intelligence	20	
LAW7081-B	Data Protection and Privacy Law	20	
LAW7082-B	International Company and Corporate Governance Law	20	
LAW7085-B	Law of Financial Crime	20	Yes

In Semester 2/3 students select 2 modules including at least one of the specialism modules:

**Table 3: LLM International Banking and Financial Technology Law Options (FHEQ Level 7):
Select 2 Semester 2/3 Modules**

Mod. Code	Module Title	Credit	Specialism
LAW7039-B	Cyber Law	20	
LAW7041-B	Business, Human Rights and Environment	20	
LAW7047-B	International Commercial Dispute Resolution	20	
LAW7073-B	International Law of Taxation	20	
LAW7074-B	Emerging Issues in Law (Summer School)	20	
LAW7076-B	Regulation of Capital Markets and Securities	20	Yes
LAW7078-B	Regulation of Financial Technologies and Virtual Assets	20	Yes
LAW7083-B	International Insolvency Law	20	
LAW7084-B	Legal Technology	20	

Module LAW7074-B starts later than other modules and is taught/studied between May and June. If student numbers and interest permit it the Summer School may be made available as an attendance-only extracurricular activity.

The modules studied, in addition to a taught component of the dissertation module will provide the student with subject knowledge and skills necessary to complete the final research project- a dissertation or an advanced report following an internship.

The taught component (8 hours) of the dissertation module will start in Semester 2 and will build on the introductory material in the non-credit bearing Foundation of law and Skills, focusing on a variety of empirical material and the methods used to gather empirical data.

The taught modules studied provide the student with detailed subject knowledge and the skills they will need to successfully complete the final part of the LLM programme which is their dissertation. The student will complete the dissertation or an advanced report following an internship.

**Table 4: LLM International Banking and Financial Technology Law Dissertation (Level 7):
Assigned One**

Module Code	Module Title	Module Credit	Study period	Selection
LAW7032-E	Dissertation	60	Ns Academic Year	BDA : September entry
LAW7032-E	Dissertation	60	Ns Academic Year	BDB : January entry

In addition to the assessed components of the programme, students will have access to several skills-based professional courses as part of the Faculty of Management, Sciences & Engineering Career Booster programme as well as other non-assessed courses available to students on programmes delivered in Bradford.

Assessment, continuation and award regulations

This programme follows the Assessment, Continuation and Award regulations for postgraduate taught courses published on the University's Website ([Regulation 9](#)).

The LLM award is made up of 180 credits listed in the curriculum tables above. Students must select at least two of the specialism module options to be eligible for the named award "International Banking and Financial Technology Law":

- LAW7037-B International Banking and Finance Law
- LAW7085-B Law of Financial Crime
- LAW7076-B Regulation of Capital Markets and Securities
- LAW7078-B Regulation of Financial Technologies and Virtual Assets

Admissions

We are proud to be [one of the most inclusive universities in the UK](#). All our students have potential, and we believe that as many people as possible should have the chance to benefit from higher education, no matter what their background or circumstances. We take the time to understand the background of our applicants, understand their journey to education, and make decisions based on an applicant's potential to thrive at university and beyond.

Applicants to LLM International Banking and Financial Technology Law will typically have an undergraduate degree in a social science discipline (which may or may not be in law) classified

Lower Second (2:2 or 50%) or higher. Examples of other equivalent international qualifications are provided on the [University of Bradford page for a country or region](#).

For international students, the level of English required is listed on the [University of Bradford English language requirements website](#). Exceptionally, holders of a UK degree awarded within 2 years prior to entry to the Bradford programme may be exempt from these English test requirements. International applicants who do not meet the IELTS requirement can take a [University of Bradford pre-sessional English course](#).

Applications are welcome from students with non-standard qualifications or mature students (those over 25 years of age on entry) with significant relevant experience. Applicants through this route can provide evidence of their interests and work experience and may be interviewed.

If applicants have prior certificated learning or professional experience which may be equivalent to parts of this programme, the University of Bradford has procedures to evaluate and recognise this learning to provide applicants with exemptions from specified modules or parts of the programme. Find more information about [recognition of prior learning decisions](#) on the University website.

People thinking of studying with the University of Bradford don't need to wait for the start of the year to contact our Disability Service. The University can arrange for anyone to talk to this team about what support is on offer at Bradford including an invitation to our Get Set Day. To contact the Disability Service please complete the [request support form](#).

Information in this document is for the contemporary recruitment cycle and was accurate at time of publication. The current tariff and accepted qualifications for entry onto the programme is published at the online course page:

<https://www.bradford.ac.uk/courses/pg/international-banking-and-financial-technology-law/>