

Pathway Type	Pre-masters in Law & Social Sciences
Pathway Areas	Law and Social Science
Pathways/s	Law One and Two Semesters
Course Code/s	PGLW
Pathway Provision	College: NQF Level: 6
Title	Pre-master's in Law
NQF (FHEQ)	Level 6
Credit Points	One (1) Semester =80 Two (2) Semester =120
Weeks of Study	One (1) Semester =Thirteen (13) weeks Two (2) Semester =Twenty-Six (26) weeks
Mode of Study	Full-time
Mode of Delivery	Face to Face/Blended
Notional Hours	One (1) Semester = 800 Two (2) Semester = 1200
Contact Hours	One (1) Semester = 208 Two (2) Semester = 338
Self-directed Study Hours	One (1) Semester = 580 Two (2) Semester =862
Delivery Model	Standard Delivery Model (SDM)
Teaching Institution	Birmingham City University International College
Awarding Institution	Birmingham City University
Faculty	Business, Law and Social Science (BLSS)
Teaching Location (Campus)	City Centre Campus
12-semester intakes	<u>September and May</u>
2-semester intakes	<u>September, January and May</u>
Subject Benchmarks Statements	QAA: https://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/subject-benchmark-statements/sbs-law-15.pdf?sfvrsn=ff99f781_8

Articulation Programmes

Awards by Pathway	Degree awards	NQF Award Level
<i>Law</i>	LLM International Business	7
	LLM International Law	7
Social Sciences	MSc. Forensic Psychology	7

EDUCATIONAL AIMS

This Pre-Master's Programme is designed to prepare international students for postgraduate study in law and social science and it is aimed at providing students with the opportunity to enhance their academic, research and language skills.

The aims of this programme include:

1. Bridge the gap between students' previous study and postgraduate study by enhancing critical thinking and analytical skills
2. Equip students with the requisite skills to undertake postgraduate research work especially on referencing skills and independent learning
3. Improve students' language proficiency and confidence to participate in various academic endeavours
4. Empower problem solving, teambuilding and leadership skills to prepare students for future careers
5. Enhance digital literacy and enabling environment that meets diverse learning needs
6. Familiarise and support students to be resilient and adapt to the community
7. Appreciate the importance of academic integrity, originality and innovation
8. Engender in students an awareness of their potential to contribute to the international community of the University

PROGRAMME LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the programme, students will be able to:

A: Knowledge and Understanding

- A1. Demonstrate the understanding of methodological and ethical challenges associated with investigating issues in own subject area, the requirements of originality and academic integrity in academic scholarship
- A2. Summarise theories and perspectives leading legal and social science issues in a global context.
- A3. Understand strategies for effective self-organisation, goal setting, and accessing support where appropriate, as well as effectively communicating using various media.
- A4. Critically formulate own research question, identify gaps in literature and select appropriate methodology back with justifications.

B: Cognitive and Intellectual Skills

- B1. Demonstrate the ability to independently collect and analyse various data using different methods and effectively communicating findings in a professional context.
- B2. Apply the subject-specific theories, concepts and principles to contemporary issues in a global context
- B3. Critically analyse social and legal issues in contemporary society and be able to proffer innovative solutions
- B4. Articulate well-reasoned arguments, demonstrating the ability to position oneself critically in a global debate on societal issues

C: Transferable Skills

- C1. Effectively gather, organise and communicate research evidence, data and information from diverse sources to academic and profession audiences.
- C2. Demonstrate strong interpersonal and intercultural skills to build professional relationships to collaboratively work in teams exhibiting leadership and independent capabilities
- C3. Creatively apply relevant information to address contemporary social, legal and global challenges with innovative solutions
- C4. Demonstrate self-awareness and reflective learning skills by assessing personal effectiveness, refining learning strategies using appropriate tools and media to synthesise and to fluently present findings

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy

The College will deliver the programme through interactive and in student centred environment using a blended approach. The blended approach will use a combination of traditional classroom and virtual sessions as well as online materials on the VLE. The student-centred approach will encourage independent learning, active engagement with digital tools and platforms thereby allowing students the flexibility that supports individual pace. Various teaching methods such as lectures, seminars, tutorials, discussions and debates will be used to deliver the content. The lecture sessions will introduce key concepts in the programme and seminar sessions will allow for further exploration and application of knowledge. Students will also enjoy one-one support sessions especially with their research projects; experiential learning will include field trips and guest lectures.

Programme assessment strategy is designed to check for learning, facilitate reflections and assess the achievement of the learning outcomes. Formative assessments will involve quizzes, discussion forums, reflective journals peer and tutor feedback. This is aimed at supporting students and to help the tutors identify the learning needs in each teaching group. Summative assessments evaluate the achievement of the programme outcomes and adopts a range of assessment types such as written reports, presentations, projects, examinations, group projects and research tasks.

The strategy also involves clear guidance on assessment methods and processes through a deliberate promotion of assessment literacy. Assessment regulations are assessable, and summative tasks are supported with clear information on the tasks and the criteria. Summative assessments are moderated by internally and externally for quality assurance. A subject specialist within the College moderates a ten percent sample of each assessment. Link tutors from Birmingham City University and appointed external examiners are invited to review these samples. All summative works follow the governance processes before final outcomes are published to the student

Student Engagement and Graduate+ Strategy

Theme	Engagement strategy
Academic Engagement	Encourage peer learning, guest lectures and exposure to industry practice; tutorial support. Incorporate student voice through regular feedback and active participation in governance processes. Continuous enhancement of LTA strategy and professional development of staff
Pastoral Support	Detailed orientation to event that will cover wellbeing and counselling support
Career and Employability	Insights on career paths, engagement with Graduate+ and encourage students to volunteer and promote student mentorship programme. Students will be encouraged to actively engage with initiatives by BCU Graduate+, take on volunteering role on campus and within the community.
Digital	Encourage entrepreneurial skills and innovation; use the VLE to share updates on events and facilitate community of practice
Smooth transition and social integration	Pair IFY students with current university students; promote involvement in university societies; encourage events that promote cultural diversity
Intercultural competence	Engagement in campus wide activities, clubs and student union and awareness of global issues
Teambuilding	Students will be encouraged to balance individual autonomy with teamwork in a multidisciplinary and global setting
Ethics and time management	Students will be encouraged to give due attention to ethical consideration of their work as professionals and managing own workload to successfully meet deadlines.

Programme Structure

Stage(s) of Study



Curriculum Structure

One Semester Rotation

1 Semester -Law & Social Sciences			
Semester 1	Interactive Learning Skills and Communication for Postgraduate Study (20 Credits)	Research Methods (40 Credits)	Global Governance & Social Justice (20 Credits)

Two Semester Rotation

2 Semester - Law & Social Sciences			
Semester 2	Critical Thinking for Postgraduate Study (20 Credits)	Research Methods II	Global Governance & Social Justice (20 Credits)
Semester 1	Interactive Learning Skills and Communication for Postgraduate Study (20 Credits)	Research Methods I (40 Credits)	ICT Skills for Postgraduate Study 20 Credits

Course Structure - Curriculum

One Semester Rotation

Pre-Master's in Law and Social Science						
Core Modules			Credit Points	Pass Mark %	Exam %	Coursework %
Contact Hrs/Week	College Module Code	Module Name				
Semester 1						
4	PG1000	Interactive Learning Skills and Communication for PG Study	20	60	30	70
8	PG1001	Research Methods for PG Study	40	50	-	100
4	PG1003	Global Governance & Social Justice	20	50	-	100
Undergraduate Stage 1:Law & Social Sciences			80 Credit Points			

Two Semester Rotation

Pre-Master's in Law						
Core Modules			Credit Points	Pass Mark %	Exam %	Coursework %
Contact Hrs/Week	College Module Code	Module Name				
Semester 1						
4	PG1000	Interactive Learning Skills and Communication for PG Study	20	60	30	70
4	PG1001	Research Methods for PG Study	40	50	-	100
4	PG1ICT	ICT Skills for Postgraduate Study	20	50	40	60
Semester 2						
4	PG1002	Critical Thinking for Postgraduate Study	20	50	100	-
4	PG1001	Research Methods for PG Study II	-	50	40	60
4	PG1003	Global Governance & Social Justice	20	50	-	100
Pre-Masters Stage 1: Pre-Masters in Law & social Sciences			120 Credit Points			

Progression and Award Requirements

Each module offered on the programme has a minimum overall pass mark. Please refer to Module Guide (MD). The College's Policy and Regulation (CPR9) explains all our assessment regulations for further details on the assessment regulations and failing to progress. - <https://bcuic.bcu.ac.uk/about/policies/>

Final and intermediate awards

Students that successfully complete the programme with the minimum 120 credits in a two semester will be eligible to progress to their chosen BCU degree programme as per offer letter and CAS and receive a transcript.

Categories of Performance

A (High Distinction, 80 - 100%) – Distinctive level of knowledge, skill and understanding which demonstrates an authoritative grasp of the concepts and principles and ability to communicate them in relation to the assessment event without plagiarism or collusion. Indications of originality in application of ideas, graphical representations, personal insights reflecting depth and confidence of understanding of issues raised in the assessment event.

B (Distinction, 70 - 79%) – Level of competence demonstrating a coherent grasp of knowledge, skill and understanding of the assessment and ability to communicate them effectively. Displays originality in interpreting concepts and principles. The work uses graphs and tables to illustrate answers where relevant. Ideas and conclusions are expressed clearly. Many aspects of the candidate's application and result can be commended.

C (Merit, 60 - 69%) – Level of competence shows an acceptable knowledge, skill and understanding sufficient to indicate that the candidate is able to make further progress. The outcome shows satisfactorily understanding and performance of the requirements of the assessment tasks. Demonstrates clear expression of ideas, draws recognisable and relevant conclusions.

D (Pass, 50 - 59%) – Evidence of basic competence to meet requirements of the assessment task and event. Evidence of basic acquaintance with relevant source material. Limited attempt to organise and communicate the response. Some attempt to draw relevant conclusions.

F (Fail 40- 49%) – The candidate's application and result shows that the level of competence being sought has not yet been achieved. The assessed work shows a less than acceptable grasp of knowledge, skill and understanding of the requirements and communication of the assessment event and associated tasks.

Progression Criteria: minimum pass mark for ILSC is 60% , all other modules requires 50% achieved to pass
NB: See individual Module Guides for details marks classification

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Programme Assessment Map

Module Title	Individual Essay	Examination	Presentation	Research
Interactive Learning Skills and Communication for Postgraduate Study				
ICT Skills for postgraduate Study		50%		
Critical Thinking for Postgraduate Study				70
Research Methods for Postgraduate Study	70%			30%
Global Governance and Social Justice	50%		50%	

Appendix 2 - Constructive Alignment

Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	Assessment Methods and Strategies
<p>A1. Demonstrate the understanding of methodological and ethical challenges associated with investigating issues in own subject area, the requirements of originality and academic integrity in academic scholarship</p> <p>A2. Summarise theories and perspectives leading legal and social science issues in a global context.</p> <p>A3. Understand strategies for effective self-organisation, goal setting, and accessing support where appropriate, as well as effectively communicating using various media.</p> <p>A4. Critically formulate own research question, identify gaps in literature and select appropriate methodology back with justifications.</p>	<p>Acquisition of Intended LOs via a combination of small group lectures (listening, writing and reading); small group-based tutorial labs/coursework (oral, reading, listening and written presentation); and individual coursework (oral, and written presentation) and summative examination (reading and writing).</p> <p>Additional support is provided through the provision of small peer-led tutorial group work and of individual tutorial support; College module-specific subject specialists delivering modules; guest speakers (industry/topic specific); monitoring and appraisal by College academic management.</p> <p>The opportunity to interface regularly with noted platforms in College, Birmingham City University library and independent environments to develop an understanding of the implications of the use of different e-learning for research.</p> <p>Students are encouraged throughout the stage of study to undertake independent study both to supplement taught/learnt and to broaden their individual knowledge and understanding of the subject.</p>	<p>A combination of summative (closed-book) examinations and summative coursework along with written assignments, portfolios and in-course assessments/tests, computer-based coursework and tests, project reports and presentations</p> <p>All students are required to maintain an 85% attendance record.</p> <p>Formative assessment is a constant feature of the programme and is deployed in the form of peer discussions, debates and the creation of a classroom environment which challenges conventional wisdom and encourages critical engagement.</p>