

General

A1. These Assessment Regulations apply to the Legal Practice Course (LPC), the LL.M in Legal Practice (Top-Up) and the LL.M in Legal Practice (Full Award). They apply to all assessments, at whatever point in the programme they are undertaken, that formally contribute to the recommendation of academic credit or an award of the University.

A2. All units that form part of the LPC and LL.M In Legal Practice are aligned to Level 7 of the [QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#), and the [Higher Education Credit Framework for England](#). Level 7 alignment reflects the sophistication of the learning outcomes associated with the units and the academic abilities a students are required to develop and demonstrate through the assessment scheme. The structure of the Programme is calibrated in accordance with the [Regulations for Academic Awards of the University](#).

A3. The parts of these Regulations that are relevant to the LPC are informed by the requirements of the [Solicitors Regulation Authority \(SRA\)](#)

A4. These Regulations shall be applied so as to ensure equity of treatment of students regardless of their mode of study and the number of credits that they have studied over each contributing assessment period.

The Legal Practice Course (LPC)

A5. Stage 1 of the LPC is comprised of the following units:

- Business Law and Practice
- Property Law and Practice
- Litigation (Criminal Litigation & Civil Litigation)
- Professional Conduct and Regulation (PCR1 and Solicitors Accounts)
- Taxation
- Wills and Administration of Estates
- Practical Legal Research
- Writing
- Drafting
- Interviewing and Advising
- Advocacy

All Stage 1 assessments must be undertaken at Manchester Met.

A6. In order to complete Stage 1 of the LPC students must demonstrate achievement of the learning outcomes by passing all Stage 1 summative assessments.

A7. Stage 2 of the LPC is comprised of three vocational elective units. Students may undertake additional elective units (for which a tuition fee will be payable), however only three vocational elective units may contribute towards the final Manchester Met award classification. Students must nominate which vocational elective units will contribute towards their classification in accordance with the LPC Manchester Met policy in force from time to time.

A8. Having completed Stage 1, in order to complete Stage 2 of the LPC, students must demonstrate achievement of the learning outcomes by passing three Stage 2 elective units.

The LL.M in Legal Practice (Full Award and Top-Up)

A9. Students undertaking the LL.M in Legal Practice (Full Award) will complete Stage 1 and Stage 2 of the LPC and a 60-credit Dissertation/Research Project.

A10. Students on the LL.M in Legal Practice (Top-Up) will have obtained the Postgraduate Diploma in Legal Practice or equivalent level legal professional qualification. These students will complete a 60-credit Dissertation/Research Project.

Enrolment; period of student registration; suspension of studies

A11. Students are enrolled on the Legal Practice Course (LPC) subject to the criteria below:

- That they can evidence completion of the Academic Stage of training;
- That they have complied with Manchester Met's [Regulations for the Payment of University Fees](#).

A12. The maximum period within which a student can complete both stages of the LPC is five years from the date of a student's first assessment. This applies regardless of whether a student passes this assessment.

A13. Students may apply to the Head of School to [suspend their studies \('intercalate'\)](#). If the Head of School considers that the reasons for the request are valid, they may agree to a suspension of studies for a period of up to one year, taking account of the implications of the timing and duration of the suspension for the student's engagement with the programme and with assessment and re-assessment opportunities.

Assessment, progression, re-assessment

Assessment

B1. Students must pass the specified number and level of credits for any award for which they are eligible in order to gain that award. A final award shall only be granted to students who have demonstrated achievement of the learning outcomes for the programme on which they are registered.

B2. The MMU [Policy and Procedures for Addressing Academic Misconduct](#) shall apply to all students undertaking the Legal Practice Course (LPC) and the LL.M in Legal Practice (Top-Up and Full Award). LPC students guilty of Academic Misconduct should refer to the SRA Suitability Test (<http://www.sra.org.uk/solicitors/handbook/suitabilitytest/content.page>)

B3. All summative assessments (including re-assessments) will be based on the law in force at the time of the assessment, regardless of the law taught to students during the course.

B4. In sitting or submitting an assessment, students undertaking the Legal Practice Course (LPC) confirm that they are fit to sit or submit the assessment and they are not aware of any reasons existing at the time of sitting or submitting the assessment which may give rise to an [Exceptional Factors claim](#).

B5. Students who submit assessments after the published deadline shall be deemed to have failed the relevant assessment.

B6. Summative assessment marks shall be subject to internal and external moderation before final confirmation by the Assessment Board, in accordance with the University's [Procedures for the Verification, Marking and Moderation of Assessments](#).

Progression

B7. Student progression shall be determined by their performance in, and engagement with, the summative assessments in the units on which they are enrolled.

B8. With the exception of those given in B9, a summative element of assessment shall be passed when students achieve a mark of at least 50%.

B9. Course Skills assessments (i.e. Advocacy, Drafting, Interviewing and Advising, Practical Legal Research, Writing) and the assessment of Wills and Administration of Estates shall be assessed on a competent / not yet competent basis and shall not contribute to a student's final Manchester Met award classification.

B10. Students undertaking the LPC and the LL.M in Legal Practice (Full Award and Top-Up) shall not be entitled to a compensated or condoned pass in any assessment.

Re-assessment

B11. Students shall always be required to undertake re-assessment where they have failed to achieve a mark of Competent or a weighted average mark of at least 50% in a unit. In addition, in the Professional Conduct and Regulation unit, students must achieve a mark of at least 50% in each element of summative assessment in order to pass the unit. Except in the Professional Conduct and Regulation unit, where a student is required to undertake re-assessment, they will do so in all elements of the unit, regardless of whether one element was passed at an earlier attempt.

B12. Re-assessment shall take place at the next available assessment point after the associated period of student learning.

B13. LPC students shall have an automatic right to two opportunities of re-assessment in any failed unit. The number of attempts undertaken to pass any failed unit shall be recorded on their transcript.

B14. Students who fail the 60-credit Dissertation/Research Project for the LL.M (Full Award) or LL.M (Top-Up) shall have one opportunity only to redeem the initial failure.

B15. No re-assessment shall be permitted to enable students to improve upon a unit mark above the pass level, except where they have been permitted to be re-assessed as if for the first time due to approved [Exceptional Factors](#).

B16. Unit marks where re-assessment has taken place will be shown as capped at 50% for the purposes of calculation of the Manchester Met award.

B17. Where an LPC student fails a Stage 1 assessment following a final re-assessment attempt, they will have failed Stage 1 overall. In such circumstances, if a student wishes to obtain the LPC qualification they must re-enrol on Stage 1 and must re-take all Stage 1 assessments without exception. Students re-enrolling must do so with attendance and will be liable for the relevant tuition fee.

B18. Where an LPC student fails a Vocational Elective at Stage 2 following a final re-assessment attempt, they will have failed that Vocational Elective and must re-enrol on the failed elective with attendance or apply for admission to an alternative elective. Students who then re-enrol and pass will still be able to gain the LPC qualification as accredited by the SRA, but will not be eligible for any Manchester Met award. Students re-enrolling for a vocational elective under this regulation must do so with attendance and will be liable for the relevant tuition fee.

B19. If it is established that a student's absence, failure to submit work or poor performance in all or part of an assessment was due to illness or other Exceptional Factors found valid on production of acceptable evidence, they shall have the right to be re-assessed as if for the first time in any or all assessments, as specified by the Assessment Board. If an assessment affected by illness or other Exceptional Factors was itself a second (or further) attempt, the student shall be permitted to be re-assessed again as if for the second (or a further) time.

B20. In the event that an LPC student sits or submits assessment(s) and subsequently applies for [Exceptional Factors](#), the University must be satisfied that the judgement of the student in deciding to sit or submit the assessment was so impaired that the student was not capable of making that decision.

Awards

Criteria for Award

C1. The approved Programme Specification for the Legal Practice Course (LPC) shall state explicitly the learning outcomes to be met by students in order to achieve each award.

Award of Postgraduate Certificate in Legal Practice

C2. The Postgraduate Certificate in Legal Practice may be awarded at pass level, with Merit, or with Distinction. The classification of the award is based on those units that are marked on a percentage basis.

C3. For a Postgraduate Certificate in Legal Practice to be awarded at pass level, a student must pass all Stage 1 LPC assessments.

C4. For a student to be awarded the Postgraduate Certificate in Legal Practice with Merit, they must gain an overall average of at least 60% across all Stage 1 LPC assessments.

C5. For a student to be awarded the Postgraduate Certificate in Legal Practice with Distinction, they must gain an overall average of at least 70% across all Stage 1 LPC assessments.

Award of Postgraduate Diploma in Legal Practice

C6. The Postgraduate Diploma in Legal Practice may be awarded at pass level, with Merit, or with Distinction. The classification of the award is based on those units that are marked on a percentage basis.

C7. For a Postgraduate Diploma in Legal Practice to be awarded at pass level, a student must pass all of the assessments for three Stage 2 LPC Vocational Electives and have passed all assessments required for Stage 1 of the LPC.

C8. For a student to be awarded the Postgraduate Diploma in Legal Practice with Merit, they must gain an overall average of at least 60% across all Stage 1 and Stage 2 LPC assessments.

C9. For a student to be awarded the Postgraduate Diploma in Legal Practice with Distinction, they must gain an overall average of at least 70% across all Stage 1 and Stage 2 LPC assessments.

Award of Master of Laws in Legal Practice (Full Award)

C10. The Master of Laws in Legal Practice (Full Award) may be awarded at pass level, with Merit, or with Distinction. The classification of the award is based on those units that have been studied at Manchester Met and are marked on a percentage basis.

C11. For the Master of Laws in Legal Practice (Full Award) to be awarded at pass level, a student must pass the 60-credit Dissertation/Research Project unit, and have passed all Stage 1 and Stage 2 LPC assessments.

C12. For a student to be awarded the Master of Laws in Legal Practice (Full Award) with Merit, they must gain an overall average of at least 60% across the full 180 credits of study, comprising of the 120 credits of Stage 1 and Stage 2 LPC assessments and the 60-credit Dissertation/Research Project unit.

C13. For a student to be awarded the Master of Laws in Legal Practice (Full Award) with Distinction, they must gain an overall average of at least 70% across the full 180 credits of study, comprising of the 120 credits of Stage 1 and Stage 2 LPC assessments and the 60-credit Dissertation/Research Project unit.

Award of Master of Laws in Legal Practice (Top-Up)

C14. The Master of Laws in Legal Practice (Top-Up) may be awarded at pass level, with Merit, or with Distinction. The classification of the award is based only on the 60-credit Dissertation/ Research Project unit. For the Master of Laws in Legal Practice (Top-Up) to be awarded at pass level, a student must pass this unit with a mark of at least 50%; to be awarded with Merit a student must achieve a mark of at least 60%; to be awarded with Distinction a student must achieve a mark of at least 70%.

Award of Postgraduate Diploma in Practical Legal Studies (Interim Exit Award)

C15. Students who fail to pass the full 120 credits of Stage 1 and Stage 2 LPC assessments will be awarded the interim exit award of Postgraduate Diploma in Practical Legal Studies, provided that they have passed the 60-credit

Dissertation/Research Project unit and at least 60 credits out of the 120 credits of Stage 1 and Stage 2 LPC assessments.

Aegrotat Award

C16. There shall be no provision for the Assessment Board to make an Aegrotat award or any other such award given to students where they have not successfully completed all of the assessments on the programme.