Lancaster University Law School
Student Exchange Programme

www.lancaster.ac.uk
Lancaster University Law School

The Law School is rated in the top 20 in the UK, and is the top ranking Law School in the North West. The Law School has an outstanding reputation for its research, which ranges from traditional "black letter" law to critical, socio-legal and interdisciplinary research. In the 2014 Research Evaluation Framework 80% of Lancaster University Law School's research was rated as ‘world leading’ or ‘internationally excellent’ (REF 2014).

The Law School is situated within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS) which is one of four faculties at Lancaster University.

The School enjoys some of the best class sizes in the country, with first year seminar groups of around 10 students, and second and third year groups not normally exceeding 15. An exceptionally high proportion of teaching is undertaken by established academic staff compared with other leading law schools, and our professoriate is fully engaged with undergraduate as well as postgraduate teaching and supervision.

Lancaster University Campus

Lancaster University is a campus university situated in 145 hectares (360 acres) of parkland, standing on a ridge overlooking the sea to the West, with views of the celebrated Lake District and Pennines to the North and East. All amenities and services are available on campus including a health centre, pharmacy, supermarket, post office, bars and restaurants, sports centre and pre-school centre for childcare.

The historic city of Lancaster, with its famous castle, is only a few minutes travel by car, with frequent bus connections. Manchester City can be reached in about an hour, Manchester International Airport in ninety minutes. Visit the Universities travel pages for further information.

Page 2
**The College System**

The University is based on a [college system](http://www.lancaster.ac.uk/study/teaching-and-learning/collegiate-system/). Every student and member of staff belongs to a college, independent of departmental affiliation. The colleges provide a focus for social activities, and visiting students have found the system beneficial for integration into the student community. Further information about the Colleges is available online at: [http://www.lancaster.ac.uk/study/teaching-and-learning/collegiate-system/](http://www.lancaster.ac.uk/study/teaching-and-learning/collegiate-system/)

**International Students**

Lancaster University has a strong tradition of supporting exchange programmes and is home to students from many countries. This gives a decidedly international atmosphere to the University, of which we are proud and which we are determined to maintain and strengthen.

Students from outside the United Kingdom enhance the atmosphere of the University giving it a cosmopolitan flavour. Lancaster University has about 3,000 international students, from over 100 countries.
**What can exchange students study?**

Courses are available at various levels to suit the differing needs, interests and aptitudes of the student; i.e. at different levels of undergraduate study. Subject to any special requirements of your home university, and subject to the School's approval, you may choose to follow any of the courses listed in the current Visiting Students Handbook which is updated every Spring and is available online. Please note not all options run every year. Examples of the courses available are listed below:

- Company Law
- Grievances and the State
- Legal Issues in Cybercrime
- Introduction to Business Law
- Family Law
- International Law
- International Human Rights
- Civil Liberties and Human Rights
- Employment Law
- Evidence
- Introduction to Comparative Law
- Courts, Law and Politics in Comparative Perspective
- Environmental Law
- Competition Law
- Responses to Massive Violations of Human Rights
- Intellectual Property Law
- Jurisprudence
- Crime and Criminal Justice
- Health Care Law and Ethics
- Gender and the Law

Some courses last for the whole academic year (**full units**) and some for one term (**half units**). In some cases you must have taken certain pre-requisite courses. Each course will normally involve 2 hours of lectures per week and 1 hour of tutorials every two weeks, plus at least 7 - 8 hours of private study time per week.
Language Requirements

All visiting students must have a sufficiently competent command of the English language so as to participate fully in all courses on the same basis as home students. Please see contact the Lancaster University International Office (details above) if you have concerns about this.

Erasmus Students:

Full units (courses lasting two terms) are worth 16 ECTS credits; half-units (courses lasting one term) are worth 8 credits. Students staying for a full academic year should study no more than 64 ECTS credits (i.e. 4 full units or eight half-units). Students staying for two terms should study no more than 48 credits worth of courses. Students staying for Michaelmas term (Term 1) only should usually study no more than 24 credits worth of courses (there are certain exceptions for some partner universities).

Students should indicate a preliminary course selection on their application forms. Should students wish to change their registration choices, they can do so at registration when they arrive or subsequently within two weeks of the beginning of term.

Study Abroad Students

If you are a visiting or study abroad student, credits will vary according to your home institution.

Study Abroad students will be asked to select their modules when they register with the Department. Should students wish to change their registration choices, they can do so within two weeks of the beginning of term.
Coursework and Assessment

Courses are taught by lectures and tutorials. Much emphasis is placed on preparation for small-group teaching in tutorials and seminars, where students are expected to participate actively to develop their powers of legal analysis, presentation, advocacy and other legal skills. Students are often expected to purchase for each course a textbook and/or casebook, and to engage in a significant amount of library and information technology research for their courses.

Student assessment is by a combination of coursework and written examinations. The particular form varies with the course. Visiting students are expected to do the same work as home students, as this is part of the experience of studying abroad. Some courses require students to write researched papers, others require oral presentations, teamwork exercises, moot court performances, and debates. In some courses the assessment is entirely by either coursework (100%) or exam (100%). Students should be aware of the method of assessment at the beginning of the course. You should consult with the convenor as to the type of assessment prescribed for the course, if you are unsure. Assessment of visiting students varies according to the course, and the period for which the student is visiting.

Where a student is staying for the entire year, they will have to do the same coursework and sit the same examinations as home students, including (depending on the course) the end of year examination sat by the home students. These examinations are held in May/June. The mark for the course will then consist of an aggregate of the assessed coursework(s) and the examination. Typically, this means students staying for a full year will have to write 8 x 2,500 essays and sit approximately 12 hours of examinations (the actual format of the work will vary considerably depending on the courses taken).
Where visiting students are staying for less than a full year (and so not attending the examinations), then the usual method of assessment is by the normal coursework that would be required of a home student, plus a supplementary piece of coursework in lieu of an examination in each course followed or an extended piece of coursework. Typically, for students staying only one or two terms, this means that for each course followed the student will write 2 x 2,500 word essays or 1 x 5,000 word essay. The form of this supplementary coursework must be agreed upon with the Course Convenor.

**International Office**

The international office team works alongside other departments at the university providing a service for visiting students and home students wishing to study abroad. They provide information and advice on matters such as

- Course entry requirements and the application process
- Visas and Immigration
- English Language Entry Requirements and Support
- Fees and funding
- Accommodation
- Learning Agreements

Please visit the Lancaster University’s International Students pages for further details at [http://www.lancaster.ac.uk/study/international-students/](http://www.lancaster.ac.uk/study/international-students/)

Or contact the International Office

Email: International1@lancaster.ac.uk
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