Programme Specification

[Programme Title and Name of Award	LLM Corporate Governance		
Academic Level	7	**Total Credits**	180
Professional Body Accreditation / Qualification	not applicable		
Date of Professional Body Accreditation	not applicable	**Accreditation Period**	not applicable
UCAS Code	not applicable		
HECoS Code	100482		
Criteria for Admission to the Programme	We welcome applications from students who may not meet the formal entry criteria but who have relevant experience or the ability to pursue the course successfully. The formal entry requirements are: · An honours degree at 2:2 or above. · At least 2 years' relevant work experience. · English language at IELTS 6.5 (minimum of 5.5 in each component). Applications are considered from candidates who do not meet the formal entry requirements but can provide evidence of equivalence. Examples of equivalence are: · A wide range of professional qualifications and/or work experience. · Working or studying in English or an English-speaking environment. Applications will be considered from candidates who do not meet the formal entry requirements but who can demonstrate by interview the commitment to complete the programme successfully. APL will be considered.		
Teaching Institution	Robert Kennedy College		

Owning University Institute	Business, Industry and Leadership	
Programme delivered in conjunction with	The Programme is delivered by Robert Kennedy College with two modules delivered by the University of Cumbria	
Mode of Delivery	Distance learning	
Pattern of Delivery	Full-time and Part-time	
	Total weeks of study:	52 weeks
	Delivery pattern:	6 x 6 week semesters
	Standard semester dates:	No
Delivery Site(s)	Distance Learning via Robert Kennedy College's Online Campus Platform	
Programme Length	Full-time: Standard – 12 months Part-time: Standard – 2 years Maximum Registration - 5 years	
Exit Awards	You may be awarded one of the following Exit Awards if you fail to achieve the requirements of the full programme: - Postgraduate Certificate in Law (PGCert Law) if the student has obtained a minimum of 60 credits - Postgraduate Diploma in Law (PGDip Law) if the student has obtained a minimum of 120 credits	
Period of Approval	August 2023	

Cumbria Graduate Attributes

Throughout your studies, you will be provided with the skills and knowledge relevant to the global workplace. All successful graduates of the University of Cumbria will be:

- Enquiring and open to change
- Self-reliant, adaptable and flexible
- Confident in your discipline as it develops and changes over time
- Capable of working across disciplines and working well with others
- Confident in your digital capabilities
- Able to manage your own professional and personal development
- A global citizen, socially responsible and aware of the potential contribution of your work to the cultural and economic wellbeing of the community and its impact on the environment

- A leader of people and of places

- Ambitious and proud

Programme Features

The LLM Corporate Governance meets the current demand for specialist knowledge and skills in the rapidly expanding fields of international commercial law and corporate governance law. It provides students with the opportunity to explore, in-depth, the legal regulation of the world of international business and corporate governance. Academically rigorous, the LLM will expose students to a practical real-world application of the law.

This programme allows you to re-energise your career by learning a number of practical concepts that you can immediately apply to solve challenging situations. A unique aspect of the programme is the possibility to learn through applied, real case studies that will enhance your problem solving skills and therefore maximise your career potential.

The LLM is taught by an outstanding team of professional research active staff who have extensive practice and academic experience. The programme aims to enhance knowledge and critical thinking in this area.

The programme provides advanced critical analysis of the key themes and emerging challenges facing businesses, in a global context such as in international/global business environments and innovation and enterprise.

A key aspect of the programme is that students are able to convert their learning by critically reflecting on practice and experience, in line with the QAA benchmark statements (2.4) this is achieved through both formative and summative reflection throughout the programme. The summative assessments in terms of reflective practice within this programme are both verbal and written. Graduates are expected to be able to demonstrate a range of cognitive and intellectual skills together with techniques specific to business and management. They should also be able to demonstrate relevant personal and interpersonal skills.

This LLM offers students the opportunity to develop reflective and critical thinking skills by challenging reasoning and analytical mind-set. The problem-based learning process ensures the learning process encompasses the current global economic climate and evolving management reasoning, practices and solutions. Throughout the programme, students are also able to hone their academic and transferable skills such as report writing, portfolio creation, individual and group presentation, teamwork, negotiation skills, time management, research skills, business communication skills, leadership styles, business aptitude, IT skills, equality and diversity awareness.

This programme builds on the strong and long-standing track record in on-line delivery developed by Robert Kennedy College, and benefits greatly from the internationality derived recruitment of students from all the inhabited continents, and being able to draw on tutors, well qualified in their field, from across the globe. The value of the resultant exposure to legal business practice, culture and ideas from such a variety of experiences is incalculable, particularly to a LLM programme where participants already have a wide range of experience and expertise developed in a variety of international contexts.

This programme is entirely delivered by distance learning. RKC has tailor-made, state-of-the-art software for online course delivery called "OnlineCampus", which is a highly evolved all encompassing, interactive and easy-to-use software designed to make studying online an enjoyable experience.

The LLM teaching, learning and assessment strategy is based on the belief that all staff wish to provide the best possible learning experience for students and to continue to improve teaching competence through reflective practice. The institution wish to build a culture of critical self-evaluation and reflective practice within which the review of LTA is regarded as positive and developmental. LTA strategy and activities are continually reviewed via the institutions quality assurance framework and adaptations are introduced as a result. Peer observation is a fundamental aspect of the review of LTA and staff development and is embedded across higher education.

Much of the learning and development on this programme is designed to encourage you to become an independent learner. The combined student experience is one of high level participation and input. The main emphasis on the programme is on a strong practical and professional orientation, and the online work is developed and enhanced through the asynchronous discussion element, where the student experience is drawn together. Preceding this programme you would normally have at least two years' post-graduation work experience, and this programme will build upon your prior knowledge and skills gained within a wider organisational and contextual framework.

After successfully completing the programme you will acquire additional transferrable skills like critically reflect on personal knowledge, practice and skills, continually develop self-appraisal and insight into development plans and outcomes, and deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively and communicate your conclusions effectively to specialist and non-specialist audiences.

The establishment of learning sets is instrumental in driving through the concept of reflective practitioner and is designed to encourage you to interact with other participants, both formally and informally, in seeking best practice and challenging existing practices.

This programme benefits greatly from the internationality derived from recruiting students such as yourself, from all the inhabited continents, and being able to draw on tutors, well qualified in their field, from across the globe.

In this context you will have the opportunity to enhance your team working skills in a multi-cultural environment by conducting discussions and group activities in our OnlineCampus platform.

The programme builds on the strong and long-standing track record in online delivery developed by Robert Kennedy College. This programme is delivered entirely by distance learning. RKC's tailor-made, OnlineCampus, is a highly evolved all-encompassing, interactive and easy-to-use software designed to make studying online an enjoyable experience.

Robert Kennedy College uses a state-of-the-art proprietary technology "OnlineCampus" that allows you to study anywhere using a browser or mobile device. Robert Kennedy College in an e-learning technological pioneer (the College was founded in 1998, the same year as Google!) so you are in safe hands in studying with us. We offer around the clock support via email and Whatsapp, so help is literally just one click away.

The shared delivery reinforces the strong partnership between the University and the College. With 9 years of experience in delivery online programmes this is an excellent opportunity to give to students the best of both worlds. You enjoy a true University of Cumbria teaching experience combined the Swiss quality education offered by the College and its state of the art online learning platform.

This programme has been designed with a certain degree of flexibility in mind; however, some of the modules need to be taken at certain times (e.g. you need to start with the non-credit Induction and your first module needs to be Advanced Legal Skills).

Aims of the Programme

The overall aims of the Programme are:

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1. To provide an advanced understanding of the corporate and legal responsibilities and governance in an international business context.
2. To provide opportunities for the systematic development of the skills of objective analysis, evaluation and presentation to enable students to further develop confidence in effectively appraising and implementing market strategies in the context of international business law.
3. To develop an ability to apply knowledge and understanding of business law in relation to complex issues affecting global trade and corporate governance, both systematically and creatively, to improve business and management practice.
4. To provide a stimulating academic environment, rooted in the experiences of the student, but firmly based upon the values of academic openness and critical appraisal.
5. To explore and develop a comprehensive understanding of academic theory in order to inform and improve current business and commercial and legal practice in an international business context.
6. To critically apply 'action based learning' in the form of experiential activities and enable students to develop and manage solutions to complex circumstances, whilst analysing the impact this will have on the organisation with an emphasis on the international business context.

Successful students will be able to:

1. engage in effective individual research and demonstrate the ability to understand and apply management theory, and to make, when necessary, sound judgments under conditions of uncertainty;
2. exhibit improved independent research and time management skills, having undertaken a substantial self-managed research project which involved application of a variety of legal research practices, and demonstrates expertise and understanding of issues in international business law, trans-national business law, corporate governance and corporate social responsibility;
3. demonstrate enhanced interpersonal and team skills, through working with others from different industry or cultural backgrounds;
4. continue to reflect on their existing experiences, and learn from and build on the experience of others;
5. develop into modern, well rounded and outward looking managers with a high concern for customers and colleagues, capable of taking responsibility for themselves, their people, their areas of responsibility and their organisation.

Level Descriptors

Level Descriptors describe in general terms the expected outcomes you will achieve at each level of study as you progress through your programmes. They describe the relative demand, complexity, depth of learning and learner autonomy associated with a particular level of learning and achievement. The University's Level Descriptors are aligned to the national [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#) (FHEQ) and are a key mechanism for ensuring the academic standards of the University's provision.

At Level 7 (Usually Master's level), you will be able to demonstrate that you have the ability:

- To display a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of your academic discipline, field of study or area of professional practice.

- Employ advanced subject-specific and cognitive skills to enable decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations.

- Generate new ideas and support the achievement of desired outcomes

- Accept accountability for decision making including the use of supervision

- Analyse complex concepts and professional situations by means of synthesis of personal and workplace reflection and data drawn from scholarship and research in the field.

Programme Outcomes – Knowledge and Understanding

The programme provides opportunities for you to develop and demonstrate the following:

After 60 credits of study (PGCert) students will be able to demonstrate:

K1. Relevant knowledge and understanding of organisations, the legal and external contexts in which they operate and how they are managed; with an emphasis on understanding and responding to change as well as consideration of the future of organisations along with the legal and external contexts in which they operate.

K2. The ability to conduct legal research and draft legal memoranda and other legal communications;

K3. An ability to perform critical analysis and coherent written and oral presentation of law issues.

After 120 credits of study (PGDip) students will be able to demonstrate:

K4. A systematic understanding of the relationships between law and business and their strategic focus within an evolving environment

K5. An understanding of the core disciplines of international business law, including corporate governance law, transnational business law, corporate social responsibility at middle/senior management level.

K6. The application of critical thinking to the successful legal management of organizations including a deep understanding of the processes of legal problem-solving and decision-making, and the ability to communicate the conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences.

After 180 credits of study (LLM) students will be able to demonstrate:

K7. The range of research methods that can be applied to the study of law in an international business context.

K8. The application of strategic thinking to the business context, including a critical understanding of the processes of strategic legal problem solving and decision making in planning areas such as contracts, transnational business, corporate governance law and corporate social responsibility.

K9. A strong understanding of how their knowledge and skills may be employed efficiently within an organisational setting.

Programme Outcomes – Skills and other Attributes (including Employability Skills)

The programme provides opportunities for you to develop and demonstrate the following:

After 60 credits of study (PGCert) students will be able to demonstrate:

S1. self-direction and originality in tackling and solving law related problems.

S2. the ability to ask and answer cogent questions about law and legal systems, identify gaps in their own knowledge and acquire new knowledge, and engage in critical analysis and evaluation

S3. awareness of principles and values of law and justice, and of ethics

After 120 credits of study (PGDip) students will be able to demonstrate an ability to:

S4. gain knowledge and understanding of theories, concepts, values, principles and rules of

public and private laws within an institutional, social, national and global context

S5. make decisions in complex and unpredictable situations

S6. act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional level.

After 180 credits of study (LLM) students will be able to demonstrate an ability to:

S7. critically reflect on personal knowledge, practice and skills, continually develop self-appraisal and insight into development plans and outcomes, and deal with complex issues of law both systematically and creatively

S8. communicate their conclusions effectively to specialist and non-specialist audiences.

External and Internal Reference Points

The following Subject Benchmark Statements and other external and internal reference points have been used to inform the Programme Outcomes:

UoC Strategic Plan

UoC Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy

UoC Academic Regulations and Academic Procedures and Processes

Subject Benchmark Statement: Law (July 2019)

http://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/subject-benchmark-statements/subject-benchmark-statement-law.pdf

Graduate Prospects

Graduates from the programme will have a wide range of career opportunities in the legal field. It will allow them to work in or manage a corporate legal department or compliance office. Legal practitioners will be able to enhance their legal offering with a more in-dept understanding of international corporate governance and commercial law.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies employed to enable the Programme Outcomes to be Achieved and Demonstrated

As a student at the University of Cumbria and Robert Kennedy College, you are part of an inclusive learning community that recognises diversity. You will have opportunities to learn by interacting with others in a collegiate, facilitative and dynamic learning environment. Teaching, assessment and student support will allow equal and equitable opportunities for you to optimise your potential and develop autonomy.

We seek to create a stimulating and innovative community of learning, even at a distance. Facilitated by our expert practitioner staff, you will experience a learning environment that is well equipped, flexible, and stimulating.

Learning and Teaching

The teaching and learning methodologies applied will embed the principles of the aims of the programme, in terms of international development, global awareness and individual development for the workplace.

The promotion of inclusive practice across a range of learner types, utilising the appropriate learning technologies and the provision of active learning and social learning underlie the teaching principles applied.

In terms of workplace preparedness, workplace and professional learning necessary for the needs of the workplace entail applying problem solving under the interaction of theory and practice with strong emphasis on practical management and work-related activities.

Finally the learning processes will emphasise the global perspective and internationalisation with strong emphasis on development of entrepreneurial skills. These principles are reinforced through research informed teaching, supported by industry-based knowledge and expertise.

Summative and Formative Assessment

Intellectual and cognitive skills are assessed by means of written assignments, including extended essays and reports. Quantitative skills, including the use of ICT, are assessed via worked problems.

Assessment is focussed on providing opportunities for both formative and summative assessment. For all modules, formative assessment is in an interim assignment and also continuously and on-going via the medium of the online forums whereby tutors comment on ideas expressed, give feedback on the direction of the discussion, and recommend courses of action/lines of thought that might be taken.

Summative assessment is based on analysis and critical evaluation of case-study material to facilitate the real-world application of knowledge and integration of the often considerable expected experience of the students as well as theoretical material.

Student Support

We provide responsive learner support that promotes student success. Our approach to learner support is designed to support achievement and progression, champion inclusivity and accessibility, prepare you for opportunities beyond study, and promote independence and resilience, enabling you to achieve your potential.

As a student of the University of Cumbria and Robert Kennedy College, you will be taught by academics and expert practitioners who facilitate learning through structured inquiry. You will be provided with access to high quality academic resources through physical and digital libraries and will be supported to develop skills that enable you to become a critical, reflective, discerning and independent learner and researcher.

You will study the greater part of your award online with Robert Kennedy College (RKC). Your support will be provided directly by RKC.

Induction

Students receive a comprehensive induction both to RKC's VLE (OnlineCampus) and the various University of Cumbria regulations through the online module "Induction". This non-credit module covers various introductory issues such as: Motivation, Understanding the Programme Handbook,

Registering and Withdrawing from a module, Academic Writing, Academic Malpractice, and Grading Policy. The module is composed of these six main units and each unit includes a video and audio tutorial. Students are also introduced to the concept of online asynchronous communications via the OnlineCampus forums. Continuous monitoring of the module by RKC faculty members ensures a prompt resolution of any questions well before the start of the first credit-bearing module. The induction module is ongoing: there is no end-date and students can always refer to it or post questions in the relevant forum at any stage of the programme.

Library and Academic Support

In principle all modules will provide all the necessary learning resources (e.g. in PDF format) to complete the course successfully. Some modules might require the purchase of a physical textbook and students will be notified of this requirement well in advance. To conduct their academic research students will have access to dedicated University of Cumbria online library services via https://my.cumbria.ac.uk/rkc

In terms of academic skills support, students should contact their module tutor at Robert Kennedy College.

IT and Technical Support

Given the distance learning/online nature of the course students are expected to have a certain familiarity with basic IT systems and internet access. Through the "OnlineCampus" app provided by the college students are also able to access course material and download it in their online devices.

For IT matters related to the College students have access to support via email, telephone and chat via the Studentcare assistance.

StudentCare Assistance

RKC operates an online student support system 'StudentCare'. The StudentCare assistance facility features an online Live Support function via instant messaging where students are able to get instant answers to general questions. This is in addition to a dedicated phone line, an online forum and a problem-solving ticketing system, Live Support has several representatives ready to provide assistance. This means that the most common issues students may experience can usually be solved in a few minutes.

Programme Curriculum Map

For programmes with pathways, consider provide separate curriculum map tables for each pathway

Academic Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Module Status*	Programme Outcomes achieved
7	LAWS7100	Advanced Legal Skills	20	Compulsory	K1, K2, K3, K4, S1, S2, S3, S4
7	LAWS7104	International Alternative Dispute Resolution	20	Compulsory	K1, K4, K5, K6, S1, S2, S5, S6, S7, S8
7	LAWS7123	Transnational Business Law	40	Compulsory	K1, K5, K6, K8, S4, S5, S7, S8
7	LAWS7136	Corporate Governance	40	Compulsory	K1, K5, K6, K8, S4, S5, S7, S8
7	LAWS7122	Dissertation	60	Core	K6, K7, K8, K9, S3, S4, S7, S8

Notes

This programme operates in accordance with the University's Academic Regulations and Academic Procedures and Processes.

http://staff.cumbria.ac.uk/Public/AQS/Documents/AcademicRegulations/AcRegs.pdf

Advanced Legal Skills is the entry module but other modules can be taken as desired by the student.

Most modules are offered a minimum of three times a year. Multiple residencies are held yearly, and others will be made available if justified by student numbers.

Students exiting with a minimum of 60 credits are awarded a Postgraduate Certificate in Law, with a minimum of 120 credits a Postgraduate Diploma in Law, and with 180 credits a LLM.

* Key to Module Statuses

Core Modules	Must be taken and must be successfully passed
Compulsory Modules	Must be taken although it may possible to carry as a marginal fail (if the award permits)

Programme Delivery Structure: Full Time / Part Time / Block / Accelerated				
Module Code	**Module Title**	**Delivery Pattern**	**Method(s) of Assessment**	**Approximate Assessment Deadline**
		Autumn Semester / Spring Semester / Extended / Year-Long		
LAWS7100	Advanced Legal Skills	Compulsory entry module (offered four times a year)	Formative assessment by week 6, final summative assessment at 12 weeks	Twelve weeks after module start
LAWS7104	International Alternative Dispute Resolution	Compulsory module may be offered three times a year	Formative assessment by week 6, final summative assessment at 12 weeks	Twelve weeks after module start
LAWS7123	Transnational Business Law	Compulsory module offered four times a year	Formative assessment by week 6, final summative assessment at 12 weeks	Twelve weeks after module start
LAWS7136	Corporate Governance	Compulsory module offered four times a year	Formative assessment by week 6, final summative assessment at 12 weeks	Twelve weeks after module start
LAWS7122	Dissertation	Core module offered four times a year	Ongoing formative liaison with supervisor, final summative assessment on submission of final paper	6 to 12 months

Exceptions to Academic Regulations
There are no exceptions to the Academic Regulations for LLM Corporate Governance.

Methods for Evaluating and Improving the Quality and Standards of Learning	
Mechanisms used for the Review and Evaluation of the Curriculum and Learning, Teaching and Assessment Methods	- Module Evaluation - Programme Validation and Periodic Review - Annual Monitoring - Regular Peer Review of Teaching, both formal (internal moderation before University moderation) and informal - Constant dialogue between RKC and UoC Link tutors - External Examiner Reports
Mechanisms used for gaining and responding to feedback on the quality of teaching and the learning experience – gained from: Students, graduates, employers, placement and work-based learning providers, other stakeholders, etc.	- Module Evaluation Forms - Input from post-module student surveys, encompassing quality of teaching, e-learning tools, learning outcome, assessments and feedback - Programme review of modules - Module/Programme/Personal tutorials - Meetings with External Examiners

Date of Programme Specification Production:	July 2020
Date Programme Specification was last updated:	August 2024
For further information about this programme, refer to the programme page on the University website	

The following information has implications for potential international applicants who require a Tier 4 visa to study in the UK	
Is the placement requirement more than 50% of the programme?	No

If yes, what % of the programme is the placement requirement?	0%
If yes, is the amount of placement a statutory requirement to meet Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) or Department of Education requirements?	No