

Postgraduate Online Learning Open Days 2025

LLM in Medical Law and
Ethics

Dr Murray Earle
Programme Director

Cat Roscoe
Current student



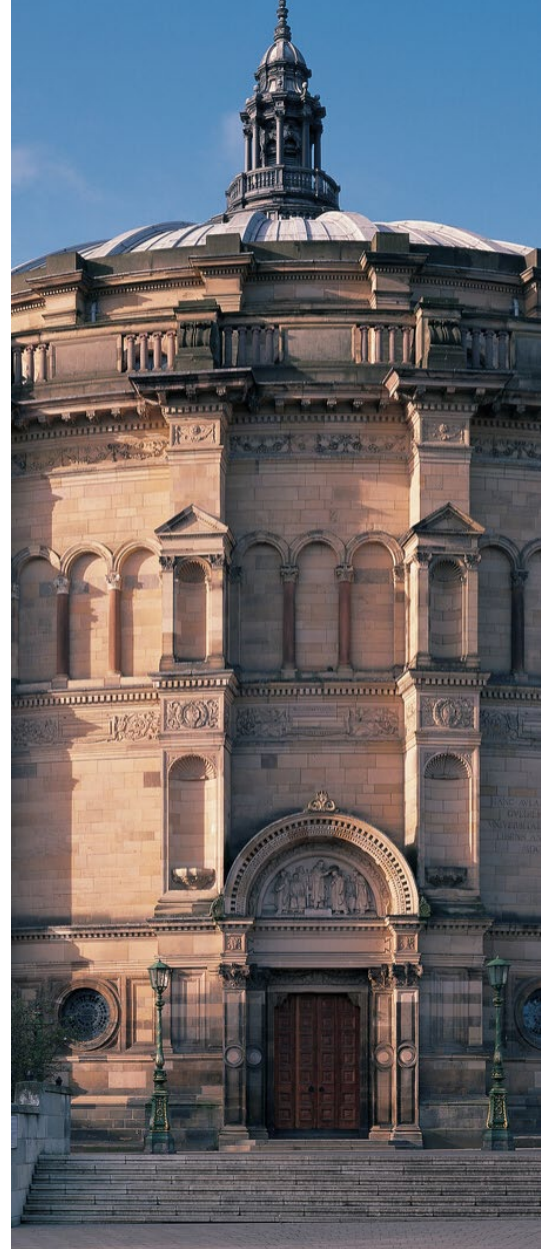
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The University of Edinburgh

- Founded in 1583
- Law School established in 1707
- The University is ranked 27th in the world, 8th in Europe and 5th in the UK (QS World University Rankings 2025)
- We are ranked 4th in the UK for Law (Times Higher Education (THE) World University 2025 Subject Rankings)
- We have been offering LLM degrees by online learning since 2005



Key features of our online programmes

- Internationally recognised qualification
- Study when it's convenient for you
- Study from anywhere in the world
- Flexible study options
- Taught by leading academics conducting cutting-edge research
- International, professional online community



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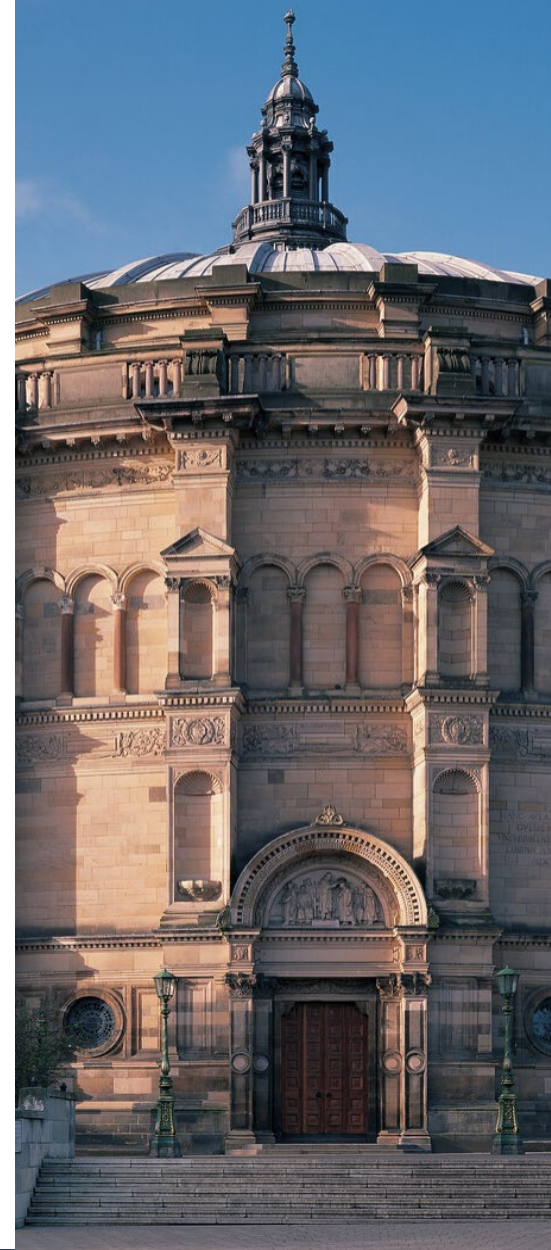
Key information

- Choose to study over 12, 20, 24, 32 or 36 months
- September and January start dates
- Study six courses over chosen study duration
- Coursework based, no examinations
- Complete 10,000 word dissertation
- No requirement to travel to the University



The LLM in Medical Law and Ethics

- The LLM is positioned at the constantly changing interface between medicine and law.
- You will gain high level knowledge and understanding of medical law and ethics.
- Improve your skills in analysis of medico-legal and ethical issues and the development of your own arguments.



LLM degree structure

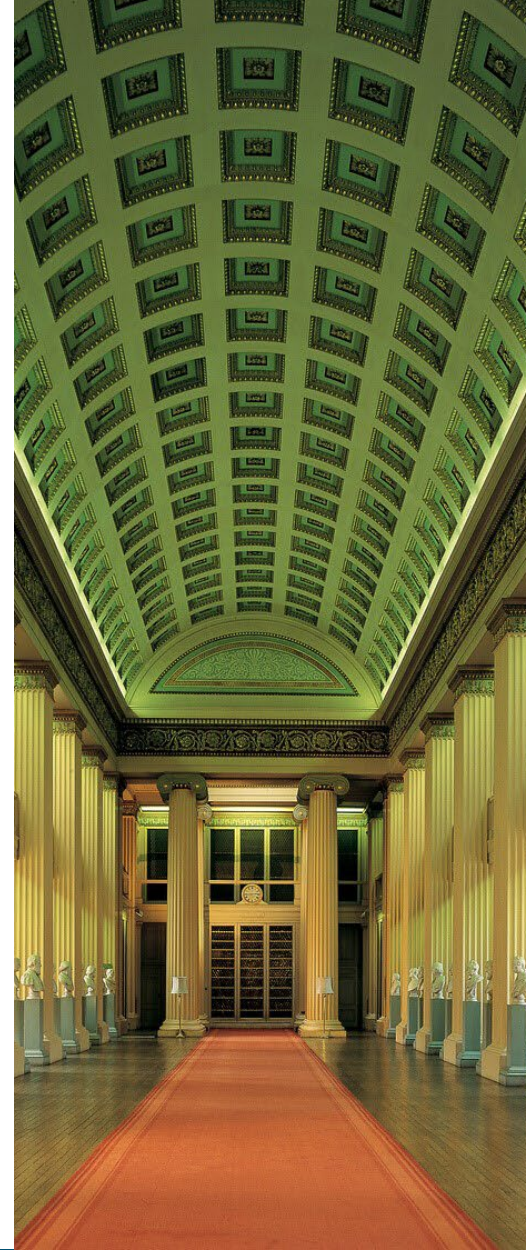
Basic requirements - completion of 180 credits

120 credits in taught courses



Contingent on successful
completion of taught element

60 credits in through a dissertation



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Courses for the 2025-26 academic year

Compulsory courses – Group A (60 credits)

- The Fundamentals of Law and Medical Ethics (20 credits)
- Fundamentals in Bioethics (20 credits)
- Law and Ethics at the Start and End of Life (20 credits)

Plus:

- Dissertation in LLM Medical Law and Ethics (60 credits)



Core courses - Group B (select between 40 and 60 credits)

- Public Health Ethics (20 credits)
- Mental Health Law (20 credits)
- Ethics of Health Technologies (20 credits)



Core courses - Group C (select between 0 and 20 credits)

- European Competition and Innovation (20 credits)
- Regulation of Autonomous Systems: the Law of Robotics (20 credits)
- EU Data Protection Law (20 credits)
- International and European Law of the Media (20 credits)
- Space Law and Policy (20 credits)
- Software and the Law (20 credits)
- E-Commerce Law (20 credits)



Core courses - Group D (select between 0 and 20 credits)

Optional courses

You can choose between 0 and 20 credits from the following courses **with the approval of your Programme Director:**

- Banking and Financial Law: Case Studies (20 credits)
- Corporate Compliance: Case Studies in Law & Ethics (20 credits)
- Comparative & International Corporate Governance (20 credits)
- Dispute Resolution Methods (20 credits)
- International Law, Human Rights & Corporate Accountability (20 credits)
- International Commercial Arbitration (20 credits)
- Contract Law in Europe (20 credits)



Studying online

- Two 10-week semesters
- Asynchronous study
- Class sizes typically 15 to 25 students.
- Participation in weekly online discussions and activities (over 10 weeks). Interaction with tutors and classmates.
- Set reading (e.g. textbook chapter, articles, case law).
- Assessment typically:
 - 60% - essay (4,000 words)
 - 40% - shorter written exercise (1,000 words)
- Please note assessments will vary from course to course.



Dissertation

- Process starts in February of your final year of study
- Topic proposals
- Allocation of topic and supervisor
- Pay attention to the limitations that apply to the programme when choosing your topics
- 3 month supervision process including 3 scheduled meetings with your supervisor
- August submission deadline

Worth 60 credits - 10,000 words max



Programme staff

Gerard Porter

Medical negligence; medical research; public health; patent law and policy.

Murray Earle

Healthcare law; law and medical ethics; human rights law.

Emily Postan

Data ethics, neuroethics, regulation of health research.

Agomoni Ganguli-Mitra

Bioethics; biomedical research in low-income countries; exploitation.

Anne Maree-Farrell

Law and the human body (blood, organ, tissue), health technologies, clinical negligence and no-fault compensation for medical injury.

Annie Sorbie

Health research regulation; regulation of healthcare professionals.



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Student support

- Student Advisor/Online Learning Team in first instance
- The University offers wide-ranging services to students including disability support, mental health and wellbeing, financial, study skills and learning resources etc
- Important to make use of the specialist support services





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Thank you

Any questions?

If any questions come to mind later, you're also
welcome to email LLM.online@ed.ac.uk