Set in the heart of Europe’s Energy Capital

Over 500 years of teaching and research excellence

A top UK Law School

Dedicated Law Library containing 55,000 volumes and access to all major legal databases

Diverse, thriving postgraduate community of 300 students

93% Student Satisfaction rate

Excellent employment rates
**Why Aberdeen**

Founded in 1495, the University of Aberdeen is the fifth oldest university in the UK, and combines ancient tradition with the best in modern teaching and study facilities. The University has a student population of around 16,000 and a large international community of students drawn from 120 different countries. Ranked in the top 1% of universities in the world, the university has an excellent reputation for teaching quality and research.

As Europe’s Energy Capital, Aberdeen is a prosperous, attractive and safe city. A commercial centre with high employment, Aberdeen is also a student-friendly city which is small enough to make it easy for students to find their way around and make friends. From the bustling city centre, it is a short distance to the tranquility of the nearby hills and countryside of one of the most beautiful parts of Scotland. As a hub for the oil industry, Aberdeen’s influence stretches far beyond the local region. Leading oil companies and contractors direct operations in locations as diverse as Russia, Africa and the Middle and Far East from their Aberdeen bases. With an international airport connections are easily available to the rest of the UK and the world.

**Why the School of Law**

Law has been taught at the University since its foundation. Today, the School ranks among the UK’s top Law Schools by The Times Good University Guide and achieves high satisfaction ratings in the National Student Survey, and has high graduate employment rates.

With 40 academic members of staff, the School has a broad range of research expertise. It is home to a Centre for Energy Law, Centre for Private International Law, a Civil Law Centre and an active Rural Law Research Group. Other key areas of expertise include Criminal Justice, Arbitration and Intellectual Property Law. In the most recent Research Assessment Exercise (RAE), published in December 2008, the School had a total of 80% of its submissions recognised internationally as being of excellence or of significance and originality.

Housed within the Law School building is a dedicated law library, which holds 55,000 volumes and subscribes to all the main law journals and legal databases.

With a population of 1200, the Law School student community is thriving and diverse. The students run busy undergraduate and postgraduate societies, and also a successful Mooting society. Students in the School also run a law clinic and publish a Student Law Review, which has a UK-wide circulation and holdings in some of the leading universities in the United States.
The School has been running successful Taught LLM programmes for 30 years. Today, the School offers specialist LLM degrees across four areas of Law: Commercial Law, Energy and the Environment, International Law, Human Rights & Criminal Justice.

### Our Taught Masters Programmes

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<th>Commercial Law</th>
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<td>The last 50 years has seen an explosion in international commerce. Trade, in particular, has always been the engine room of legal development. Today, thanks to the internet, international commercial transactions are so common that people barely realise they are conducting them – and at the other end of the scale multinational companies conduct million, even billion, pound transactions. These two transaction types and all those in-between rely on international commercial law. The International Commercial Law LLM program at the University of Aberdeen presents students with an opportunity to mould their study of this complex area. Drawing on the expertise of staff, the Law School offers a variety of specialist courses which cater for the full spectrum of international commercial law.</td>
<td>Among the multiple challenges facing the world today, the provision of sufficient energy at appropriate prices to promote and sustain growth whilst at the same time accommodating climate change concerns, must feature near the top of any list. With a role to play in terms of international agreements among states in relation to both energy security and climate change, in terms of agreements between states and the commercial energy sector, and in terms of agreements among the multiple actors within the that sector, to say nothing of the legislation and regulation that touches every aspect of the energy chain, Law is an inescapable but also indispensible aspect of this sector. Because of its expertise in Energy Law, the School is able to offer a range of programmes designed to prepare lawyers for working in this challenging context.</td>
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**Degree Specialisations:**

LL.M. International Commercial Law; PG Cert/Dip Arbitration

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<th>International Law</th>
<th>Human Rights &amp; Criminal Justice</th>
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<td>The School has a long tradition of research excellence in International Law. In today's global context, lawyers are increasingly confronted with cross-border family and commercial interactions and transactions. Indeed, most lawyers have an international aspect to their practice which requires specialist expertise in private international law. There is also a clear demand in national governments, international organisations, non-governmental organisations and relevant research institutes for staff with a clear appreciation of the complex international legal framework which has evolved in modern times in an attempt to manage inter-state relationships. Due to its research strength and tradition in International Law the School of Law can offer a range of programmes which will help prepare lawyers for work within these contexts. Together with the School of Social Science, interdisciplinary programmes are also on offer.</td>
<td>Human Rights is increasingly becoming a subject of both national and international importance, with many countries now endeavouring to ensure that their legal systems embody a full respect for citizens’ human rights and the growth of international protocols, such as that leading to the establishment of the International Criminal Court, those securing the rights of minority populations and indigenous groups, and the creation of international conventions designed to tackle Human Trafficking. Criminal Justice has long been an important area for study and is still developing fast particularly in the international arena. There is increased worldwide interest in ensuring that criminal justice systems comply with human rights requirements in order to ensure that states’ implementation and enforcement of the criminal law, through investigation, trial and punishment, respect the civil liberties of citizens accused of crime. Building upon its research strengths in these areas, the School offers both specialist and combined degrees to lawyers.</td>
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**Degree Specialisations:**

LL.M. International Law; LL.M. Public International Law; LL.M. Private International Law; LL.M. International Law with International Relations; LL.M. International Law with Strategic Studies

Students who do not wish to specialise can choose to study on a LL.M. General Law, allowing them to study options from across the four different areas of expertise.
Aberdeen has always been one of the UK’s research-led universities and the activities of the Law School reflect this tradition. Staff are appointed for their research record or potential as well as their ability to teach. The Law School believes that if teaching staff are also engaged in cutting-edge research in their specialist areas, this will provide the best learning environment for postgraduate students.

The Law School has various areas of research strength, both formal and informal. The Centre for Energy Law, led by Professor John Paterson, comprises several experts in various aspects of upstream and downstream Energy law, for example, Oil and Gas law, alternative or ‘Green’ energy sources, nuclear energy, the electricity industry, franchising, decommissioning of energy installations etc. The Centre for Private International Law also comprises several members of staff and its leader, Professor Paul Beaumont, has long been a member of the UK Government’s team which negotiates international private law instruments at the Hague. The practical expertise in both of these centres informs their research and publications.

Other areas of strength are in: international commercial law and arbitration where Law staff include a number of international experts who have published widely on these and related subjects; criminal justice and human rights, led by Professor Peter Duff; the Rural Law Centre, which specialises in environmental law and sustainable development, and has been involved in various major research projects commissioned by the Scottish Government. These and other research strengths contribute to an intellectually strong and vibrant Law School which welcomes a constant flow of visiting scholars through its Research Seminar Scheme and funds its own staff to attend academic conferences all over the world.

### PhD Supervision

The School of Law at the University of Aberdeen can offer PhD Supervision across a wide range of areas of law:

- **Alternative Dispute Resolution and Arbitration**
- **Civil Law**
- **Commercial and Company Law**
- **Criminal Justice and Criminal Procedure**
- **Energy Law**
- **Intellectual Property Law**
- **Legal Theory**
- **Private International Law**
Your Future

At Aberdeen, we have a proven track record in helping our graduates to take the first successful steps on the ladder of their chosen career. The number of our graduates who are still seeking for the right opportunity six months after their graduation is the lowest of all the traditional universities in Scotland.

Careers Service
The University maintains a professional Careers Service to support you in developing and fulfilling your career aspirations, throughout your studies and after your graduation. We provide:

> A team of Careers Advisers specialising in specific subject areas who work with academic programmes and offer one-to-one careers guidance interviews

> A Duty Careers Adviser available every day for quick queries and application checks

> Access to careers advice and guidance at any time and from anywhere through our Virtual Adviser Service

> Three Careers Fairs and a programme of presentations and skills sessions run by local, national and multi-national employers who recruit our graduates

> A library with information on a huge range of careers, postgraduate study, application advice and more

> An extensive website, including up-to-date events, vacancies and our Virtual Library of careers resources

Contact:—
Careers Service
The Hub, 2nd Floor
Elphinstone Road, Aberdeen
Tel: +44 (0)1224 273601
Email: careers@abdn.ac.uk
www.abdn.ac.uk/careers
What Do I Need?

Masters Degrees
The minimum requirement for entry to Masters programmes is a good first degree in Law (equivalent to a UK upper second class Honours degree). This means that you should have completed your previous studies to a very good standard, which demonstrates academic achievement. For further details on entry requirements, please contact law-pg-enquiries@abdn.ac.uk

PhD Degrees
The minimum requirement for entry to PhD programmes is a good first degree (as for entry to Masters programmes), plus a good Masters degree, equivalent to the UK Masters programmes and which has been completed to a standard which is better than average. Prospective students must be able to demonstrate that they have previously achieved academic excellence, have the ability to take the initiative in their own research work, and be able to take suggestions and recommendations on their work to improve and develop their research aims and objectives.

English Language Requirements
Prospective students whose first language is not English must be able to demonstrate that they meet our minimum entry requirements in either the IELTS, TOEFL or PTE tests. For full details of our minimum requirements, please see www.abdn.ac.uk/international/english-requirements

How to Apply
To apply please visit www.abdn.ac.uk/postgraduate/apply

Complete application forms must consist of:
> A completed postgraduate application form
> Copies of academic transcripts and degree certificates to date
> Academic References. Applicants for Masters programmes need only submit one reference. Applicants for PhD programmes must submit two academic references.
> For international applicants, proof of proficiency in English.

Applications for research degrees must also include a research proposal. Guidance on writing a research proposal is on the Law School website: www.abdn.ac.uk/law/research/proposal

If you have any enquiries about how to apply please contact:

Email: law-pg-enquiries@abdn.ac.uk
Telephone: +44 (0) 1224 274260

Finance and Funding

> Tuition fees will depend on your domiciled status. For up-to-date information on fees visit www.abdn.ac.uk/registry/tuitionfees

> Our Funding Database is the quickest and easiest way to search for any funding sources that may apply to you.

> Graduates of the University of Aberdeen can take advantage of our Alumni Discount Scheme

> Scholarships and bursaries are available from the College of Arts and Social Sciences Graduate School. For full details visit www.abdn.ac.uk/cass/funding

For full information on funding opportunities available at the University visit www.abdn.ac.uk/postgraduate/funding
COME HERE.
GO ANYWHERE.

For more information:
Visit: www.abdn.ac.uk/law
Tel: +44(0)1224 274260
Email: law-pg-enquiries@abdn.ac.uk