



NUI Galway
OÉ Gaillimh

IRISH LAW AWARDS 2019 

WINNER
Law School of the Year  NUI Galway
OÉ Gaillimh

SECOND BACHELOR OF CIVIL LAW (HUMAN RIGHTS) (2BLH1)
Everything You Need To Know For the Year Ahead

School of Law
Academic Booklet
2020-2021

Scoil an Dlí
Leabhrán Acadúil
2020-2021



www.facebook.com/schooloflaw



www.twitter.com/NUIGLaw or @NUIGLaw



law@nuigalway.ie

Please note that the information contained in this document is subject to change.

September 2020

Welcome / Fáiltiú



Dear Student

I am delighted to welcome you back to the School of Law at NUI Galway.

You are undertaking your legal education at a very challenging time. I would like to acknowledge your decision to continue with your legal education amidst the uncertainties of this unprecedented global health crisis. The global pandemic is significantly transforming the ways that we study, work, live and engage with our communities. Your ability to adapt to these changes will serve you well as you complete your studies and prepare for your career.

Since 1849 the School of Law has been delivering innovative legal education in a dynamic school dedicated to impactful, high quality legal research. We have over 800 undergraduate and postgraduate students, over 40 academic staff, a range of undergraduate and postgraduate programmes and exciting clinical legal education opportunities. We emphasise student-focused, research-led teaching delivered in a supportive and intellectually challenging environment.

The School is passionate about research that meets the highest standards of scholarship, informs your learning and engages with current societal challenges, impacting public debate and informing government policy. Our contribution to public policy has never been more important. Equally the contributions that you will make as you embark upon your professional life have the potential for significant impact.

This will be a very different academic year for both students and staff. Modules will be delivered by way of blended learning. Blended learning involves the integration of face-to-face learning and teaching with complementary online learning activities. The face-to-face element of teaching will relate to core law modules, while optional modules will be delivered online.

These are extraordinary times with significant challenges and opportunities. The graduate attributes you acquire throughout your degree and your flexibility in adapting to the new learning environment ensures that you develop a wide range of knowledge, skills and dispositions that will stand to you as you embark upon your career.

My colleagues and I look forward to working with you over the course of the academic year and wish you well with your studies.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charles O'Mahony". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Dr Charles O'Mahony

Head of School

School of Law

2BLH1 PROGRAMME CONTACTS

Programme Director

Dr Maeve O'Rourke

Room 204

ICHR Earls Island

maeve.orourke@nuigalway.ie



GENERAL INFORMATION

ON-CAMPUS TEACHING

Second Bachelor of Civil Law (Human Rights) students will be **taught on campus every Wednesday*** for Semester 1. Specific lecture times for you will be indicated on your timetable which will be available from 25th September 2020. All other week days will consist of online teaching and tutorials.

Modules will be delivered by way of blended learning. Blended learning involves the integration of face-to-face learning and teaching with complementary online learning activities. The face-to-face element of teaching will relate to core law modules, while optional modules will be delivered online.

**Please note that Business or Language students may be required to be on campus on additional days as required by the School of Business and College of Arts timetables.*

SCHOOL SUPPORT

All queries relating to programmes, modules, examinations, etc. should be raised with the School Administration Office in the first instance by emailing law@nuigalway.ie or by logging onto the School of Law website and clicking on the 'Ask' icon on the bottom right of the page <http://www.nuigalway.ie/business-public-policy-law/school-of-law/students/>

The School of Law administration team are available to support you throughout the semester. Please email law@nuigalway.ie to book an online appointment with one of the team.

The School of Law administration offices are located on Floors 2 and 3, Tower Two, Arts/Science Building. However, due to the public health guidelines the school office will not have on-campus office hours.

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

| School of Law Staff | E-mail |
|--|--|
| Dr Charles O'Mahony <i>Head of School</i> | charles.omahony@nuigalway.ie |
| Ms Stella Carty <i>Director of Strategic Development & Administration</i> | stella.carty@nuigalway.ie |
| Ms Carmel Flynn <i>Administrative Assistant</i> | carmel.flynn@nuigalway.ie |
| Ms Tara Elwood <i>Administrative Assistant</i> | tara.elwood@nuigalway.ie |
| Ms Lorna Cormican <i>Administrative Assistant</i> | lorna.cormican@nuigalway.ie |
| Mr Michael Coyne <i>IT Administrator</i> | michael.coyne@nuigalway.ie |
| Law School Web Address | http://www.nuigalway.ie/law/ |
| Law School Email Address | law@nuigalway.ie |

LIBRARY



library@nuigalway.ie



<http://www.library.nuigalway.ie/>

Effective use of the library is a crucially important part of legal education. Students should take advantage of every opportunity to familiarise themselves with the library and the services it offers. Nowadays, many excellent services are available through electronic sources (located on the ground floor of the library). Training sessions are available and details may be found at the information desk located in the library.

***CHANGES TO LIBRARY** for this academic year 2020-2021

Users will need to reserve a seat in advance to gain admission as capacity will be significantly reduced under 2-metre social distancing and there will be no access to the book shelves (but borrowing will be facilitated via Click and Collect).

Full details of the Library Guidelines can be found here [Library Guidelines](#)

AVAILABILITY OF PHOTOCOPIED MATERIAL

Some module reading material is available on a pay-as-you-get basis in photocopied form, and can be purchased from the print shop Media Linn located opposite the Student Union's shop on campus.

STUDY ABROAD

Students who would like to spend a year of their law studies abroad may do so as part of the School's involvement in the ERASMUS and International Exchange Programmes. In Europe, some Law subjects are taught through English in reputable universities including University of Leuven in Belgium, University of Leiden and University of Groningen in Holland, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest in Hungary and Jagiellonian University, Kraków in Poland. For those with a high standard of spoken and written French, courses can be taken in University of Aix-en-Provence, University of Montesquieu - Bordeaux IV, University of Clermont-Ferrand, University of Poitiers and University of Toulouse; for those with German, University of Gottingen, University of Leipzig and University of Wurzburg; Spanish, University of Granada and University of Salamanca. Students also have the opportunity of spending a year at University of Iowa College of Law, Willamette University, Catholic University of America and other Universities in the United States, Shantou in China, University of Technology in Sydney, Australia and University of Ottawa, McGill University School of Law and Carleton University Department of Legal Studies in Canada. Places on both exchange programmes are limited.

Queries can be addressed by email to lawstudyabroad@nuigalway.ie

PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE IN 3rd YEAR

Students will choose to complete a Professional Work Placement or Study Abroad for their third year. This applies to law students entering the third year of their courses in September 2021.

Students work full time hours during this placement and it is an academically credited programme. The placements will be in large commercial law firms, general practice law firms, corporate legal environments, legal research in a public sector organisation, with barristers, International non-governmental organisations, United Nations bodies or developmental agencies and other human rights bodies. Some firms that have offered placements include Eversheds Sutherland, Arthur Cox, William Fry, Matheson, A&L Goodbody, Berwick Solicitors, RDJ Galway, Damien Tansey Solicitors, MacSweeney & Company Solicitors, MacDermott & Allen Solicitors, Bell & Carroll Solicitors, Catherine Murphy & Co. Solicitors, Eric Gleeson and Co. Solicitors, Charltons Solicitors, Gearoid Geraghtly & Co. Solicitors, Horan & Son Solicitors, Michael Houlihan & Partners Solicitors, Department of Justice and Equality, Central Bank of Ireland, Irish Water, Irish Refugee Council, Threshold and the Centre for Disability Law and Policy at NUI Galway. Students may apply for international work placement opportunities, including Lex Field and FundRock in Luxembourg.

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL INTERNSHIPS

The School of Law establishes and maintains links with various local and national organisations that offer summer internship opportunities for NUI Galway law students. NUI Galway law students have taken summer internships in, among others, the Irish superior courts, the Office of the Attorney General, the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, the Massachusetts appellate courts, Secretary of State's office, and the Suffolk County District Attorney's office in the USA.

CAREERS IN LAW

The School of Law will host our annual “Careers in Law Seminar Series” this October 2020 in collaboration with our Careers Development Centre. Events this year will be virtual and will include a distinguished Alumni panel event and various seminars including successful application tips and other career related topics. This year’s Careers Fair will be held on a well-established virtual and interactive careers fair platform and gives law students an opportunity to network with representatives from Ireland’s major law firms and other organisations to explore exciting career opportunities both in and beyond the legal profession.

FURTHER EDUCATION

PROFESSIONAL LEGAL QUALIFICATION

Students who intend to seek entry to the Law Professions must inform themselves of the current requirements of the professional bodies, which are subject to change. At the time of print, the table below outlines the modules in which students are required to sit entrance examinations for the professional legal bodies:

| Law Society of Ireland (Solicitor) | The Honorable Society of King’s Inns (Barrister) |
|---|---|
| Contract Law I & II | Contract Law I & II |
| Constitutional Law I & II | Constitutional Law I & II |
| Tort Law I & II | Tort Law I & II |
| Criminal Law I & II | Criminal Law I & II |
| EU Law I & II | EU Law I & II |
| Equity Law I & II | Equity Law I & II |
| Company Law I & II | Company Law I & II |
| Land Law I & II | Land Law I & II |
| | Evidence I & II |
| | Administrative Law I |
| | Jurisprudence |

EXAM REGULATIONS

Full details of University Marks and Standards can be found on the following links:

Undergraduate:

[QA228 - Undergraduate Marks and Standards](#)

[QA228* - Undergraduate Marks and Standards](#) *Emergency Revision - 15th April

Postgraduate:

http://www.nuigalway.ie/academic_records/documents/updated_pgt_marksstandards_04april2016.pdf

ACADEMIC YEAR & ECTS

- The academic year is divided into two periods, called semesters, which are of approximately 12 weeks each. Programmes are organised into modules and carry a credit unit weighting (European Credit Transfer System), or value, which reflect extent and difficulty of the module concerned.
- Students must accumulate a minimum total of 60 ECTS per academic year and pass each year of their programme. The 60 ECTS must include the core obligatory modules specified for each year. It is not possible to present for modules which have been taken in previous years.
- A student will be given credit for modules passed and will not have to represent for examination in any module in which a minimum mark of 40% has been returned within the time limit set out in regulations for the successful completion of the particular semester.
- The normal time limit for carrying forward of marks to subsequent examination sessions is two academic years.

EXAMINATION & COMPENSATION

- Following registration, students of the degree shall be required to pass examinations in each of the academic years of the programme, from first to final, in succession before proceeding to the following year.
- At least eight semesters or four academic years must elapse between passing the First Year Examination and Graduation.
- First Year Examinations must be passed within two academic years from the date of entering the programme.
- Exception: A student, who is permitted to transfer to the first year of the alternative programme, having failed in another school, must pass the First Year Examination within three semesters or one academic year of entering the programme.
- Students must present for the first sitting of their examinations unless they have received permission to defer an examination.
- A student will normally be examined at the end of the semester in the module they have completed. Some modules extend over two semesters and may be examined at the end of the second semester only. Some modules may be examined entirely by continuous assessment, the details of which will be communicated by the lecturer. For academic year 2020/2021 first Semester modules will be examined in January 2021, provisional results will be issued but the formal examination results in such modules will be issued only with the results of the Summer Examination Session. Examinations for Semester One will be held online from 11th to 22nd January 2021.
- Marks of 40% and above are carried forward to the next session and are not repeatable.
- Compensation will only be applied in cases where its application enables the student to pass the University Examinations as a whole. The pass standard for a module is 40%. However, a student with marks of less than 40% in one or more modules will be deemed to have passed the academic year provided:
 - The aggregate mark for all modules of the year is at least 40%
 - The mark in every module is 35% or more
 - Not more than 15 ECTS have marks in range 35 – 39%

Note: Where one or more of these conditions have not been met each module where the mark is below 40% must be repeated.

REPEAT EXAMINATION & CAPPING

- Repeat Examinations in the modules of the first and second semesters will be held in the Autumn Examination Session, typically August.
- The maximum mark which may be awarded for an Autumn Repeat Examination of a module at undergraduate level will be the pass mark for the module, viz. 40%.
- Capping will be applied to the Autumn Examination Session of the undergraduate programmes as follows:
 - Capping will not apply in the first year of undergraduate programmes.
 - Capping will apply to all other years of undergraduate programmes from second year through to final year.
 - Capping will apply in all cases unless a Deferral has been granted.

EXAMINATION DEFERRAL

- Repeat examinations are confined to those who fail at the first attempt or who have permission to defer.
- Deferrals are only permitted at the discretion of the Head of School on bona fide grounds of ill-health, bereavement of close family members, or serious personal circumstances which can be verified independently.
- Requests for exam deferral must be made on a special Deferral Application Form. Students can request this form by emailing the School of Law office at law@nuigalway.ie. Students must provide documentary letters, medical certificates or other support material from medical doctors, student counsellors or others along with their application. The School reserves the right to verify the stated grounds for deferral.
- Only the modules listed on the form will be considered for deferral and students should contact law@nuigalway.ie to be informed of the outcome of their application.

DEGREE AWARDS

- Honours degree is awarded following the successful passing of the Fourth Year Examinations.
- Honours in the second year of the undergraduate programme will be calculated according to the following table:
 - H1 70% on the aggregate
 - H2.1 60% on the aggregate
 - H2.2 50% on the aggregate
- Honours in final year of the undergraduate programme will be calculated on the basis of 30% of the aggregate mark obtained in **second** year of the programme and 70% of the aggregate mark obtained in **final** year of the programme according to the following table:
 - H1 70% on the aggregate
 - H2.1 60% on the aggregate
 - H2.2 50% on the aggregate
 - H3 40% on the aggregate

MODULE SELECTION

| Module Code | Module Title | ECTS | Core |
|-------------------|--|------|------|
| Year-long | | | |
| LW3129 | Guided Essay | 5 | * |
| GR208 | Legal German | 10 | |
| LW213 | Legal French I | 10 | |
| Semester 1 | | | |
| LW301 | Criminal Law I | 5 | * |
| LW427 | European Union Law I | 5 | * |
| LW3130 | European Human Rights Law - Systems & Themes I | 5 | * |
| LW3127 | International Protection Of Human Rights I | 5 | * |
| LW212 | Labour Law I | 5 | |
| LW356 | Industrial And Intellectual Property Law | 5 | |
| LW357 | Environmental Law I | 5 | |
| Semester 2 | | | |
| LW304 | Criminal Law II | 5 | * |
| LW428 | European Union Law II | 5 | * |
| LW3131 | European Human Rights Law - Systems & Themes I | 5 | * |
| LW3128 | International Protection Of Human Rights II | 5 | * |
| LW437 | Mooting | 5 | * |
| LW216 | Labour Law II | 5 | |
| LW383 | Information Technology Law | 5 | |
| LW358 | Environmental Law II | 5 | |

* Students are obliged to complete Core modules as part of their 60 ECTS for the year

Every effort will be made to offer the modules as listed, each module may not be available every year. Modules are offered subject to availability of staff and sufficient demand.

Please note that your timetable may change during the year. The most up-to-date timetable can be found on www.nuigalway.ie/law/timetables