The Law Society of Ireland’s Diploma Centre offers two innovative masters in association with the Northumbria Law School, Northumbria University.

**LLM ADVANCED LEGAL PRACTICE**

**LLM EMPLOYMENT LAW IN PRACTICE**

Through a supervisory structure, these Masters provide a platform to research, prepare and present a dissertation on a chosen area of legal practice. The programmes are shaped with busy professionals in mind - offering the space for participants to work within their own schedule with the necessary supervision and support to deliver the dissertation.
Apart from the personal satisfaction of gaining a Masters, the programmes provide career benefits through focus on skills that are directly relevant to the needs of a modern work setting, including:

- The development of existing expertise and knowledge;
- The opportunity to gain expertise in a new area;
- Enhancement of skills in research and legal analysis; and
- Enhanced understanding of the wider context in which the law is developed and is implemented.

I would recommend the Northumbria University/Law Society of Ireland masters to practitioners who would like to undertake additional studies on a particular area of interest to them and who would like the flexibility to continue to work and maintain a life, outside their studies. The successful completion of the masters can open doors to the student within their careers and career progression and to additional studies. From my perspective, the qualification allowed me to commence a PhD in law.

James Meighan, Graduate LLM advanced Legal Practice 2018
Our LLM Advanced Legal Practice is specifically designed for those who are qualified solicitors. Uniquely the LLM provides you with the opportunity of using your solicitor qualification as a building block to achieve recognised academic qualifications. In summary, the award requires 180 credits and your solicitor qualification already provides 120 points towards this. A research based dissertation then makes up the remaining 60 points required.

**STRUCTURE**
Building upon your solicitor qualification, the programme provides the ideal opportunity for professional development in a specialised area of law. Candidates undertake in-depth study of an agreed legal topic under individual tutor supervision. The programme starts with an Induction day and is taught primarily through distance learning, with supervisors predominantly based in the Law Society. The programme lasts for up to two years with early exit points, a timescale designed to allow students flexibility to complete the LLM in keeping with their work commitments.

The programme focuses on legal research and coherent presentation of legal research in a written form. You will begin by attending a course induction day onsite in the Law Society, during which the Legal Research and Study Skills unit of the programme will be introduced. This unit is not assessed but is designed to update your writing and research skills. For the remainder of the programme, you will complete a dissertation of between 15,000-17,000 words. The project is the sole assessed element of the programme. The topic of study is of your choosing, but generally must relate to an area of Irish law and there must be an appropriate tutor available to support you. The possibility also exists of you choosing a topic relating to international jurisdictions if there is internal expertise to supervise the topic.

**AUDIENCE**
Applicants must either be
- Qualified as a solicitor in this jurisdiction, or
- Enrolled on the PPC at the same time as they enrol to the LLM Advanced Legal Practice. Any student enrolled on the PPC at the same time as the LLM must satisfactorily complete the PPC before they can be awarded the LLM.
Our new LLM Employment Law in Practice is specifically designed for those who have completed our Diploma in Employment Law. Uniquely the LLM provides you with the opportunity of using the Diploma in Employment Law as a building block to achieve a further recognised academic qualification. In summary, the award requires 180 credits and the Diploma in Employment Law already provides 120 points towards this. A research based dissertation then makes up the remaining 60 points required.

**STRUCTURE**

Building upon the Diploma in Employment Law, the programme provides the ideal opportunity for professional development in a specialised area of employment law. Candidates undertake in-depth study of an agreed legal topic under individual tutor supervision. The programme is taught primarily through distance learning, with supervisors predominantly based in the Law Society. The programme lasts for one year, a timescale designed to allow students flexibility to complete the LLM in keeping with their work commitments.

The programme focuses on legal research and coherent presentation of legal research in a written form. You will begin by attending a course induction day onsite in the Law Society, during which the Legal Research and Study Skills unit of the programme will be introduced. This unit is not assessed but is designed to update your writing and research skills. For the remainder of the programme you will complete a dissertation of between 15,000-17,000 words. The project is the sole assessed element of the programme. The topic of study is of your choosing, but generally must relate to an area of Irish employment law and there must be an appropriate tutor available to support you. The possibility also exists of you choosing an employment law topic relating to international jurisdictions if there is internal expertise to supervise the topic.

**AUDIENCE**

Those who have completed the Diploma Centre's Diploma in Employment Law are eligible to apply for the LLM Employment Law in Practice.
THE DIPLOMA CENTRE
The award winning Diploma Centre as part of the Society’s Education Department provides postgraduate courses which are open to solicitors, trainees and barristers and welcome other suitably qualified professionals. We aim to provide a rewarding, high quality learning experience, offering value for money and a high level of friendly, efficient customer service.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
Rory O’Boyle (Programme Leader)
Diploma Centre, Law Society of Ireland, Blackhall Place, Dublin 7.
E R.OBoyle@LawSociety.ie or diplomateam@LawSociety.ie
T 01 881 5774

Please note that the Law Society of Ireland’s Diploma Centre reserves the right to change or modify the course that may be offered and course price may be subject to change.