This programme has been developed to enable students to:

- Gain a systematic understanding, in-depth knowledge and critical awareness of the differential experiences of women and men of human rights norms and institutions, especially in conflict and post-conflict situations;
- Understand foundational concepts in gender theory and their application to human rights, international law and transitional justice;
- Gain knowledge and skills in carrying out research projects from design to write-up;
- Enhance skills in critically appraising published and commissioned research;
- Develop skills highly relevant to legal practice, and to gender policy, research and advocacy roles in the voluntary, public and private sectors in the UK, Ireland and beyond;
- Successful completion may also open up a range of further study and research options.

Unique Selling Points

The Transitional Justice Institute in Northern Ireland is uniquely placed to deliver an effective and stimulating programme of study in this area. Key highlights include:

- Opportunity to undertake an LLM programme with a specific focus on gender and transitional justice – the only LLM programme of its type in the UK – while being located in post-conflict society
- Teaching is delivered by active researchers in the TJI, many of whom have received international recognition for their work;
- Gain unique insights into the differential legal protection of human rights of women and men in transitional contexts, while studying in a society currently in a process of transition;
- Take advantage of the opportunities to specialise in identified areas e.g. human rights, transitional justice, peace and conflict research in divided societies;
- Internship opportunities with local NGOs including Law Centre (NI).
- Best LLM Dissertation Prize, awarded by the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission.
- Extensive events programme (TJI Seminar Series, International Conferences) and distinguished Visiting Scholars programme.
- Excellent library facilities on campus.
- Fully equipped LLM teaching rooms with integrated audio visual and video conferencing facilities;
- Membership of the LLM Alumni Network on completion of the course.
- Multidisciplinary nature: the teaching team draws on different disciplinary perspectives and our student body includes people with degrees in Law, Politics, Sociology, Women’s studies, etc.
- Small seminar classes and three hour seminar blocks facilitate excellent staff student interaction;

Employability

The LLM promotes student employability and produces graduates capable of critical thinking and professional practice. In addition to the possibility of undertaking prestigious internships, the LLM prioritises the development of relevant professional and vocational skills, in particular, independent research and writing, advocacy, presentations, teamwork and critical evaluation.

Graduate Destinations

Graduates have used the LLM to secure positions in an impressive range of local and international settings. Within Northern Ireland, our graduates have advanced their careers in the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission, public authorities, the court service and civil service graduate schemes. International organisations employ our graduates, such as the United Nations Development Programme, UN Women, the International Organisation for Migration, Open Society Initiative and the European Parliament. Several graduates have moved into positions in legal practice, consultancy and PhD research.

Programme and Module Content

LLM students must complete the following 4 compulsory modules:

- Gender and Human Rights (30 credit points)
- Gender and Transition (30 credit points)
- Dissertation Research Methods (15 credit points)
- Dissertation (60 credit points)

PLUS 1 of the optional modules (30 credit points each) from the following list:

- Foundations of International Human Rights Law (30 credit points)
- Foundations of Transitional Justice (30 credit points)

PLUS 1 of the following optional half-modules (15 credit points each) from the following list:

- Policing and Human Rights
- Memory, Transition and Conflict
- International Criminal Justice
- Economic, Social & Cultural Rights
- Equality Law
- The Law of Armed Conflict/International Humanitarian Law
- Minority Rights, Indigenous Peoples and Human Rights Law
- Transitional Justice: Regional Perspectives
- Transitions from Conflict: Law and Politics

Please note that not all modules listed here will be offered in every academic year. Applicants are advised to check, prior to application, if modules of particular interest are likely to be offered in that academic year.

Any student who does not successfully complete the dissertation module within the time required may be awarded a Postgraduate Diploma in Gender, Conflict and Human Rights in place of an LLM.
About the Transitional Justice Institute

The Transitional Justice Institute (TJI) has rapidly become internationally recognized as a leading centre in developing the field of transitional justice – broadly, the study of law in societies emerging from conflict. It has placed research emanating from Northern Ireland at the forefront of both local and global academic, legal and policy debates. The TJI is also recognized as one of the leading law research units in the UK, with Ulster ranking 4th out of 67 law units, and 1st for Research Impact, in the 2014 Research Excellence Framework (REF) exercise.

The TJI is dedicated to examining how law and legal institutions assist (or not) the move from conflict to peace. A central assumption of the research agenda of the TJI is that the role of law in situations of transition is different from that in other times. In contrast to commonly held understandings of the law as underpinning order, stability and community, the role of law in transitional situations is a less understood role of assisting in the transition from a situation of conflict to one of ‘peace’ (perhaps better understood as non-violent conflict).

Since its inception, the TJI has led the field in gender research and secured substantial policy impact in its gender research, both locally and internationally. Whilst feminist doctrinal analysis remains prominent in gender research at the Institute, it is also informed by perspectives from psychology, sociology, political science, masculinities studies, and gender theory more broadly.

The aims of the Institute are:

- To build a theoretical and practical understanding of the role of ‘transitional justice’, and the underlying relationship between justice and peace;
- To examine the role of the international and domestic legal systems and institutions in facilitating transition from conflict;
- To make links between the experience of Northern Ireland and international experience, so as to benefit both Northern Ireland and other contexts;
- To inform policy makers involved in peacemaking in local and international institutions; and
- To make visible and critically examine gendered experiences of transition.

The TJI community of researchers is housed in restored 19th century buildings on two campuses – Dalriada House at Jordanstown and No. 8 College Avenue at Magee. It attracts international scholars and policy makers from all over the world. The TJI has played a key role in taking legal research in Northern Ireland to the centre of international stages. As such it constitutes an important resource for LLM students and PhD researchers.

The Transitional Justice Institute is affiliated to the Association of Human Rights Institutes.
Entry Requirements

Normally a second class Honours degree or above or equivalent recognised qualification in Law, Social Sciences, Humanities or a cognate discipline. Allowance may be made for special qualifications, experience and background, and students with other academic backgrounds will be considered.

Applicants whose first language is not English should also have obtained:

- a minimum score in IELTS test of 6.0, or
- a minimum score in TOEFL test of 550 (or the equivalent in the computer-based test which is 240).

Applications

The online application system can be accessed via: prospectus.ulster.ac.uk/

Applications should ordinarily be received before the last Friday in June, although consideration may be given to applications received after this date.

Fees and Funding

For further information on tuition and other fees, visit: ulster.ac.uk/finance/fees/

International Students

Further information for international students is available at: international.ulster.ac.uk

Further Information

For further information on the Transitional Justice Institute or the LLM in Gender, Conflict and Human Rights, please see: transitionaljustice.ulster.ac.uk/ or contact:

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Email: e.carlin@ulster.ac.uk

Social Media

Twitter: @TJI_
facebook.com/TransititionalJusticeInstitute
Youtube: youtube.com/user/UlsterTJI/videos

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This leaflet is prepared in advance of the academic year to which it relates. Ulster University offers the information contained in it as a guide only. While we make every effort to check the accuracy of the factual content at the time of drafting, some changes will inevitably have occurred in the interval between publication and commencement of the relevant academic year. We reserve the right to make changes to programmes when such action is reasonably considered to be necessary in the context of our wider purposes.