

NEW

# LLM in Oil and Gas Law



New **LLM in Oil and Gas Law** launched to complement our other internationally acclaimed LLM degrees



Holman Fenwick Willan is proud to sponsor the LLM Prize in Oil and Gas Law. The new LLM Degree in this field is a very exciting development at Swansea and I am sure it will be as successful as the other ones currently on offer. Anyone seeking to specialise in petroleum law should seriously consider it."

**Richard Neylon**  
Partner, Holman Fenwick Willan LLP

The LLM programmes already offered by Swansea University are established as specialist Master's degrees of the highest calibre, attracting enormous attention and support from students from the UK and worldwide. They are also highly regarded by employers and others in the global maritime, insurance and financial community, who rightly value them for their strong mix of practical insight and academic rigour.

Continuing this tradition and extending the existing impressive range of courses on maritime and commercial law, the new LLM in Oil and Gas Law will allow students to come away with a thoroughly detailed, practical and complex understanding of the major legal and commercial issues arising in the practice of oil and gas law.

The business of hydrocarbon energy supply remains one of the most fundamental aspects of global commerce and natural resources law in the modern era. It is not limited to exploitation of petroleum but encompasses many different aspects of law and business, from protecting the intellectual property rights of new oil and gas technology, to complex joint venture contracts, and to compensation regimes for pollution liability. Students pursuing the LLM in Oil and Gas Law have the opportunity to study an impressive and diverse choice of subjects of relevance to this growing area of law, enabling them to study and understand the complex legal features of the petroleum industry.

The LLM in Oil and Gas Law is taught by a team of acclaimed experts from the internationally renowned Institute of International Shipping and Trade Law (IISTL) at Swansea University.

## Swansea LLM: now with US opportunities as well

Like all Swansea LLM graduates, graduates in the LLM in Oil and Gas Law who have an undergraduate law degree from a common law jurisdiction, or who otherwise satisfy the New York bar educational requirements, are offered a unique opportunity to qualify for practice in the US. Such graduates benefit from the option to study for the New York bar qualification at Swansea with Barbri International Ltd -- the top international provider of US bar qualification courses -- and in addition will receive a substantial discount of £500 from the normal tuition fee.

Applications are currently being accepted for the class of 2015/2016

For more information please visit:

<http://www.swansea.ac.uk/law/postgraduate-legal-studies-department/>

For applications and enquiries please contact Professor Baris Soyer or Associate Professor Theodora Nikaki at: [LLM@swansea.ac.uk](mailto:LLM@swansea.ac.uk)

The Institute of International Shipping and Trade Law is an internationally renowned research centre within the College of Law, which promotes research of the highest standard in the fields of international shipping and trade law and facilitates the delivery of the wide range of LLM programmes available at Swansea University ([www.swansea.ac.uk/law/istl](http://www.swansea.ac.uk/law/istl)).



Swansea University  
Prifysgol Abertawe

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# LLM in Oil and Gas Law

## Programme Structure



**The LLM in Oil and Gas Law is divided into Parts I and II. Part I is made up of four taught modules. It is compulsory for students on the LLM in Oil and Gas Law to study Public and Commercial Legal Aspects of Oil and Gas Exploration and Production. Students will also be required to take 3 modules from the rest of the modules listed below.**

### **Oil and Gas Law: Contracts and Liabilities**

**Module Directors:** *Professor Barış Soyler and Ms Tabettha Kurtz-Shefford*

This module explores two of the most important aspects of oil and gas law, with particular emphasis placed on the key contracts found during the life cycle of a petroleum project, from the first confidentiality agreement down to decommissioning. These important contracts are evaluated in an international context and explore the main commercial and legal issues they present. The module also provides an extensive analysis of potential liability issues with serious critical discussion on major pollution compensation regimes, with particular emphasis on the environmental impact and the sometimes disastrous consequences of mistakes in the oil and gas business.

### **Public and Commercial Legal Aspects of Oil and Gas Exploration and Production (Compulsory)**

**Module Director:** *Ms Tabettha Kurtz-Shefford*

One of the global giants of the international trade, the petroleum industry is both innovative and daring. With a steeply inclined growing pace, technology development for oil and gas exploration speeds upwards faster than the law can match and for this reason, the importance of regulation cannot be overestimated. This module aims to give students a comprehensive understanding of the current global framework in place, with an in depth consideration of the role of entities such as the World Trade Organisation (WTO). Concentration is also placed on some of the hottest topics of the oil and gas industry, including the development and effects of fracking and the increasingly important influence of human rights. In addition, this module introduces students to the financing and licencing of these - often massive - oil and gas projects. It also allows students to understand the role Intellectual Property plays within the petroleum industry - which is essential in protecting product and service differentiation from business competitors.

### **Charterparties: Law and Practice**

**Module Director:** *Professor Richard Williams*

The charterparty represents the major contract under which ships are engaged for commercial purposes. The unit identifies and analyses the main categories of charterparty, namely the bareboat or demise charterparty, and time,

voyage and hybrid charterparties which are often used in engaging tankers that carry oil and gas products. Also examined is the relationship between charterparties and negotiable bills of lading, for chartered ships frequently carry cargo in respect of which a bill of lading has been issued. Charterparty fraud is also addressed.

### **Marine Insurance Law**

**Module Director:** *Professor Barış Soyler*

The module provides an analysis of the foundations and fundamental concepts relating to the insurance of ships (including tankers and oil platforms), cargoes and freight. The law considered is predominantly English law, which is of international relevance. It represents the basis of the law followed in Commonwealth countries, the United States and in many other countries. The insurance forms and documents used on the London marine insurance market are also adopted in a large number of overseas insurance markets. Throughout the module the respective positions of assureds and underwriters are analysed, as also are the special features of the marine insurance contract, the risks covered and the concepts of causation, indemnity, subrogation, co-insurance and reinsurance.

### **International Trade Law**

**Module Director:** *Professor Andrew Tettenborn*

The module analyses the structure and operation of international sale contracts, especially CIF, CIP and FOB contracts, focusing on the respective obligations and rights of seller and buyers, questions of title and risk, and remedies for breach. Also examined are INCOTERMS promulgated by the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), international sales under the Vienna Convention 1980 and commodity trading contracts. Emphasis is given to an examination of the relevant transport documentation, especially the bill of lading, the insurance of goods in transit, and the different legal mechanisms by which the law protects international buyers.

### **International Litigation and Arbitration**

**Module Directors:** *Dr George Leloudas and Dr Shuangge Wen*

International disputes that cannot be otherwise resolved are customarily referred to national courts and arbitration. National courts may assume jurisdiction over international disputes and a global network of arbitration organizations and international institutions exist to address references to arbitration. The module examines the judicial and arbitration structures which exist to resolve international disputes, the special international law that has been developed and the associated questions of the private international law.

### **Law and Practice in International Banking and Commercial Payments**

**Module Director:** *Professor Andrew Tettenborn*

The module examines the different payment mechanisms that may be adopted by parties to discharge the payment obligations of international buyers of goods and services. These include cash payments, bills of exchange systems and documentary credits. The methods that may be adopted to guarantee payment are also examined, for example, surety, promissory notes and performance bonds. The different payment mechanisms are analysed and compared, their fundamental characteristics identified and their advantages and disadvantages considered. Also analysed are the various ways the international banking system may be integrated into international payments.

**For more information please visit:**

<http://www.swansea.ac.uk/law/postgraduate-legal-studies-department/>

All LLM modules are assessed by a combination of coursework and examination, with an equal weighting of 50% normally given to each component in the final total assessment.

Following the successful completion of the taught modules, students proceed to Part II, which is composed of two projects (LLM Research Projects). At least one of the LLM Research Projects must be written in the area of Public and Commercial Legal Aspects of Oil and Gas Exploration and Production or Oil and Gas Law: Contracts and Liabilities. The LLM Research Projects will customarily be researched and written up over the summer period and are designed to enable LLM students to develop their research skills.



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