



# International Dispute Resolution:

PG Certificate  
PG Diploma  
LLM

## Distance Learning Prospectus





# School of Law

## International Dispute Resolution:

PG Certificate, PG Diploma, LLM



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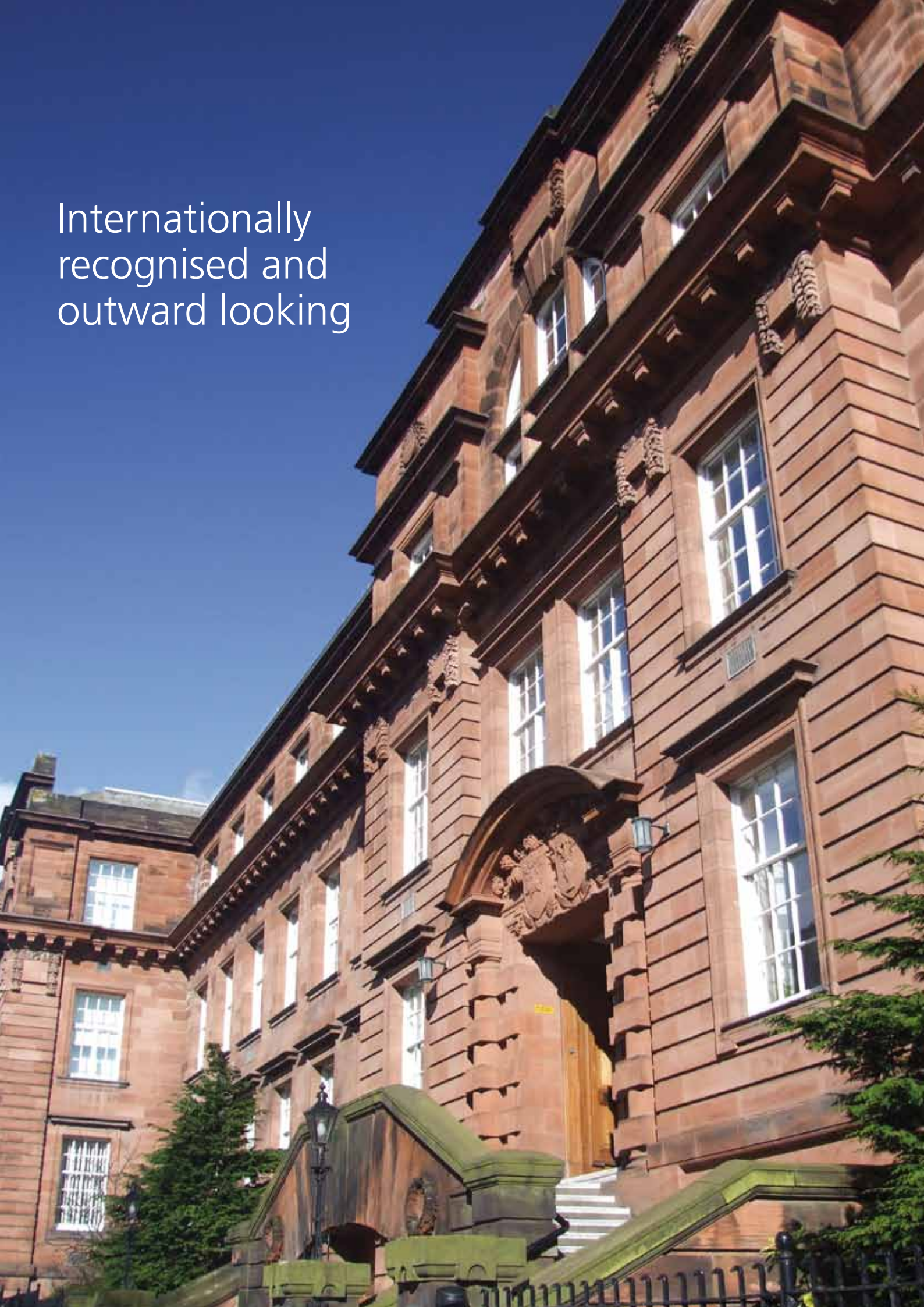
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The programme is not just one that equips students with important professional skills, it is also an advanced academic programme.

## IDR Programme Details

The IDR programme at Dundee provides students with a detailed understanding of core issues relevant to international dispute resolution and allows for further specialisation in the fields of alternative dispute settlement and litigation. The programme has been designed to comprise a series of compulsory modules which are the essential building blocks for a programme of this type: **Introduction to International Dispute Resolution** which focuses on the various

forms of dispute resolution and provides the foundation for the programme and three modules focusing on discrete alternative methods of dispute resolution which have been accredited by appropriate external bodies: **International Commercial Arbitration, Negotiation** and **Mediation**.

The programme is available via Distance Learning. Students may additionally enrol in practical training courses in Negotiation & Mediation skills which are periodically run by the Law School. Students registered for the full IDR LLM programme are entitled to a reduction in fees for such skills training sessions.

The programme is not just one that equips students with important professional skills, it is also an advanced academic programme. Students are therefore required to demonstrate the skills of interpretation, argument and analysis through two major pieces of written work in the **Diploma Essay** and the **Dissertation**. Students receive preparation and guidance for both of those projects with the **Research Skills** module.

Once the compulsory taught elements have been achieved, students are invited to choose two modules from a range of four electives.

Although the list of available options may vary from year to year, instruction is provided at LLM level on aspects of international commercial litigation and settlement of disputes involving States.



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### IDR Programme Dual Academic and Professional Focus

Dundee Law School has secured recognition from external bodies for three of the modules in the programmes. The **Chartered Institute of Arbitrators** has awarded the Law School Recognised Course Provider status in relation to the module in International Commercial Arbitration. Successful completion of this module will permit those who already have passes in Evidence, Contract and Delict or Tort (usually standard with an LLB degree in the UK) to apply for Membership of the CI Arb and thus entitles candidates for exemption from CI Arb examinations at Associateship and Membership levels.

Dundee has also secured Recognised Course Provider status from **Mediation Scotland LLP** as regards the modules in Negotiation and Mediation. Successful completion of these modules leads to Certificates in Negotiation Theory and in Mediation Theory respectively.

The modules on offer within the IDR programme portfolio are organised in such a way that students most interested in the professional skills may acquire this competence promptly and graduate with a Postgraduate Certificate in International Dispute Resolution *with all the professional benefits and certificates* within 7 months of the start of the programme.

Students who want to graduate with a postgraduate degree of greater and deeper academic content can alternatively continue with the postgraduate diploma and LLM modules for which they are largely allowed to choose their focus, be it via the LLM electives or through their individual choice of diploma essay & LLM dissertation topics.



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### Progression through the Programme

#### Element 1 - **Certificate** Stage

##### Four Compulsory modules

- Introduction to International Dispute Resolution – 20 credits
- International Commercial Arbitration – 20 credits
- Negotiation – 15 credits
- Mediation – 15 credits



#### Element 2 - **Diploma** Stage

Successful completion of the above

- Research Skills module – 15 credits
- Diploma Essay – 35 credits



#### Element 3 - **LLM** Stage

Successful completion of the above

- 2 modules to choose from a range of 10-credit electives
- LLM Dissertation – 40 credits



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### Flexible Distance Learning

The programme is characterised by its extreme flexibility, subject to the following *requirements*:

1. The PG Certificate Modules must be completed before the PG Diploma modules; the PG Diploma modules must be completed before the LLM Modules.
2. Within the PG Certificate, Negotiation must be completed before Mediation.
3. Within the PG Diploma, Research Skills must be completed before the Diploma essay.
4. Minimum duration of the PG Certificate - 7 months; of the PG Diploma - 12 months; of the LLM - 18 months.
5. Maximum duration of the PG Certificate - 23 months; of the PG Diploma - 40 months; of the LLM - 5 years.

The programme may be **commenced at any time during the academic year**.

**Three main pathways** may be exemplified as follows:

#### **Pathway 1: LLM completed in 18 months (minimum duration).**

Absolute deadlines: all PG Cert units submitted before the formal start of the PG Dip (36 weeks after the start of the programme); all PG Dip units completed before formal start of LLM (53 weeks after the start of the programme); LLM element completed within 25 weeks.

#### **Pathway 2: LLM completed in 3 years.**

**Year 1:** Intro to IDR + 2 other PG Cert modules (all units submitted on or before the 52nd week since the start of the programme) -.

**Year 2:** remaining PG Cert module + PG Dip modules.

**Year 3:** LLM modules.

#### **Pathway 3: LLM completed in 5 years (maximum duration).**

**Year 1:** Intro to IDR + Arbitration OR Negotiation.

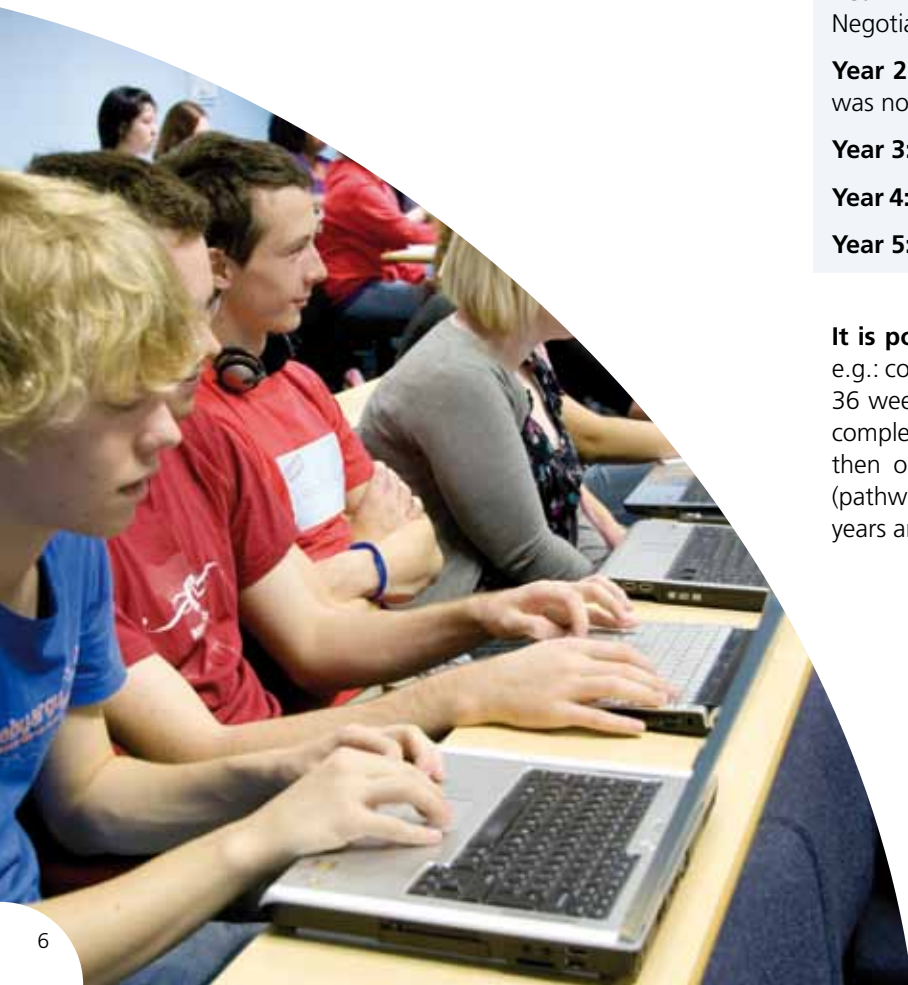
**Year 2:** Arbitration OR Negotiation (whichever was not done in year 1) + Mediation.

**Year 3:** IDR Diploma modules.

**Year 4:** 2 LLM options + start of the dissertation.

**Year 5:** end of dissertation.

**It is possible to combine these pathways** - e.g.: complete the PG Certificate element within 36 weeks (pathway 1), then take a full year to complete the Diploma element (pathway 3) and then one year to complete the LLM element (pathway 2): thus completing the IDR LLM in 2 years and 8 months.



## Aims & Objectives of the Law Modules

### Introduction to International Dispute Resolution

A core component of the IDR Programme, this module covers all the theoretical foundations to the courses on offer within the programme & provides advanced instruction in general aspects relating to the settlement of disputes, including litigation and ADR mechanisms, which are of particular relevance to practitioners in a European and International commercial context.

### International Commercial Arbitration

The module provides tuition in all major aspects of arbitration in international commercial law, including the arbitral process and the recognition and enforcement of arbitral awards.

### Negotiation

Negotiation is the process used to resolve the vast majority of commercial disputes both domestically and internationally. This course introduces students to the relevant academic literature on negotiation, provides a detailed analysis of the negotiation process from both a theoretical and practical perspective and consider it within the framework of the litigation, arbitration and mediation processes used in international dispute resolution.

### Mediation

The aim of this module is to introduce students to aspects relating to the role of mediation in the context of international and domestic dispute resolution, to provide knowledge of the skills required by mediators, and instruction on the practical skills required for mediation advocacy.

### Research Skills

The Research Skills module prepares IDR students for postgraduate legal research as well as, develops critical thinking and provides training in the writing of extended legal essays at a postgraduate level.

### Diploma Essay & LLM Dissertations

For these modules, students are free to choose any topic relevant to international dispute resolution which they wish to explore in an extended piece of academic work and which has been approved by the programme coordinator. Individual supervision is offered.

### LLM electives may include the following modules:

#### International Litigation: Jurisdiction, Recognition & Enforceability

This module explores issues of relevance to international commercial litigation from the applicable jurisdictional bases to the rules governing the effect of judgments abroad.

#### International Litigation: Disputes involving States

This module considers disputes between corporate bodies and States (including diplomatic protection and ICSID mechanisms).

#### International Litigation: Procedural Aspects

This module considers key procedural tools (eg anti-suit injunctions; freezing orders), evaluating both their practical use and their legal framework.

#### Dispute Settlement at the WTO

This Module provides an overview of the evolution and operation of the World Trade Organisation's Dispute Settlement Understanding [DSU].



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## Delivery of the Programme

The School makes use of Blackboard, a virtual learning environment, under the name of 'My Dundee'. This structured website allows students access to information relevant to their studies as well as materials for each module and offers a means of communication. The programme as a whole, as well as all modules, have dedicated Blackboard space.

Distance learning students can make use of the on-line library resources and facilities as individual login details will give students access to the library catalogue and a wide range of electronic books and journals. The Library offers many other services and students can communicate with the library personnel. Home Students are alternatively or in addition permitted to use many other universities' Libraries in the UK (via the UK 'Libraries Plus' System).

Although this is a distance learning programme, there are opportunities for students to contact staff via email, by telephone, video conferencing or to arrange face-to-face meeting, if necessary. There is also the opportunity to discuss aspects of the programme with other students by using Blackboard's on-line discussion facilities and message board.

## Assessment

Assessment takes the form of formative and summative exercises. Formative work is meant to help gauge progress in the module, but does not count towards your final mark for the module. Summative exercises/exams contribute to the determination of the final mark.

Students registered for the IDR distance learning programme are taught and assessed exclusively on-line.

## Fees

To view our current fee structure, please visit our webpage:

[http://www.dundee.ac.uk/law/idr/idr\\_fees.htm](http://www.dundee.ac.uk/law/idr/idr_fees.htm)

Students with no UK bank account should note that the University's preferred methods of payment are electronic bank transfer or credit card payment.



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## IT Requirements

### **Technical Specifications**

This programme is taught via Blackboard ("MyDundee"). To be able to participate, students must ensure that their IT set up meets a number of requirements in terms of the platform, browser, hardware, network, software and plugins used. For full details, please consult:

[https://my.dundee.ac.uk/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp?tab\\_tab\\_group\\_id=\\_80\\_1](https://my.dundee.ac.uk/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp?tab_tab_group_id=_80_1)

### **IT Skill Prerequisites**

- Ability to use a Web browser to access on-line programme material
- Ability to use Microsoft word to prepare module assignments
- Ability to view Microsoft PowerPoint presentations
- Training in these skills can be provided in advance of the Programme, if necessary.

## How to apply

The Dundee IDR programme is challenging. This is reflected in the selection criteria:

Applicants must normally either have, or expect to receive in the anticipated year of entry one of the following:

- A good honours degree in law, of at least upper second class or equivalent,
- An LLB, and now be engaged in professional legal training or other relevant professional employment,
- An LLB and be able to demonstrate appropriate intellectual capability to undertake the programme successfully.

Non law graduates with relevant legal experience may be considered.

Applicants whose first language is not English must provide evidence that they have achieved a sufficient level of competence in English so as to enable them to undertake post-graduate study in law.

Applicants must have taken an IELTS exam within two years of their intended start date and have achieved a minimum overall score of 6.5 with a minimum of 6.0 in the writing component.

All Applicants must provide two references: one academic reference showing that they are suitable for enrolment to the post-graduate programme applied for and one academic or professional reference from a person willing to act as a mentor for the candidate during the duration of the programme.

Applicants must also prepare a personal statement emphasising why they want to enrol, and giving details of relevant practical experience.

An application form can be downloaded from:

<http://www.dundee.ac.uk/law/idr/applications.htm>

For further information, please contact: Mrs Fiona Clark:

Email: [law-idr@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:law-idr@dundee.ac.uk) or

Tel: 00 44 (0)1382 384464

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