

The Dickson Poon School of Law, King's College London

1. Overall impression

King's College London is an amazing university, and the perfect place for a double degree. It is at the heart of London, where you will never get bored. Because you are part of the LLM program, there are plenty of opportunity to meet people who are in the same situation as you, want to explore London, and can share their experience as lawyers or law students in their home country with you.

2. Making preparations (e.g. administrative matters, finding information)

There is, for now, no need for any visa or registration. There is therefore not many administrative struggles. For any questions, King's has information on their website, or contact people. You can also visit the government website, where there are many useful FAQs

3. Contacts/Responsibilities

(e.g. important contact persons at the Partner University and Faculty)

The person to contact with any enquires regarding the LLM is Ms Lydia Gladstone (lydia.gladstone@kcl.ac.uk)

4. Housing / Finding accomodation

King's has a number of good accommodation. I would recommend Orchard Lisle House because of its great location. In any case, I recommend signing up for a student accommodation, and if the obtained room is not the one you wished, you can always refuse it. I would not recommending accepting a room that is far outside of the centre (such as Angel Lane), as the commute will keep you from enjoying London as much as you could.

5. Arrival

I recommend participating in the introduction weeks. Even though they are not mandatory, they're a great opportunity to find out about everything you can do during the year, important information for the classes and most of all meet tons of people.

6. Telephone (e.g. costs, carriers)

I recommend using Giffgaff. You can order a free SIM online, and although the service might not be the best, its the cheapest and is very flexible (you can change your plan each month, cancel it any time, and call abroad quite cheaply).

7. Bank account

Most banks will let you open a bank account for free. I opened one with HSBC, and it was fine and easy to use once set up. You might just have to go through an annoying process to open it, for which it is necessary to have all documents requested, especially a letter from King's with your exact UK address on it. Book an appointment early on, as it gets very busy in September with all foreign students coming in.

8. Transport

(e.g. from Switzerland, to the University)

If you plan on using the tube every day, you should order a Student Oyster Card (info on TFL website) for good rates on the monthly travel cards.

9. General information about the Partner Faculty and student life

You can make the most out of your year by keeping up to date with the events organized by the Uni and by the societies, through newsletters and Facebook pages. There are a great number of conferences and parties!

10. Teaching and studying at the Partner Faculty

(e.g. program structure, methodology, exams, etc.)

Most classes are one semester only. All exams, including those on first semester classes, take place in May. Then, the dissertation must be written over the summer. I would advise taking a mix of classes assessed by exams and classes assessed by essay, to spread the work over the year.

When choosing the classes, I advise to take some that are in smaller groups, the experience is then very different than in the bigger ones, since the teaching is based on participation.

11. City

(e.g. cultural activities, sports, discounts, nightlife, must-sees, short trips, etc.)

You won't get bored! All museums are free, there are tons of markets, restaurants, bars and pubs! Around London you can go on day trips to Brighton, Bath, Oxford or Cambridge.