



Faculty of Law, The Dickson Poon School of Law, King's College London (Great Britain)

Study Guide

1 Overall impression

The overall impression of the past few months was great - it has been a good experience and I would recommend it to everyone who is not in a hurry with finishing university.

2 Making preparations

(e.g. administrative matters, finding information)

Preparations for me was manageable. Sometimes I found it hard to find the correct information about the courses in advance - I recommend using the links and documents provided via email by the faculty of law and not searching online (via Google and the King's College-website), as this was not too clear.

It took them around one week to respond via the application website which needs to be taken into account when preparing the stay.

The timeschedule of the modules was only provided a few days before the semester started, which made planning in advance a bit harder.

Apparently there has been a WhatsApp group (and Facebook) way before the LLM programme started - you may want to look on facebook using the search term "LLM candidate, Dickson Poon School of Law" or "LLM King's College" or something like this.

3 Contacts/Responsibilities

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

Even though we have been assorted a so-called tutor (who would've been responsible for questions of any matter), I only met this person once during a meeting with all the other tutees. The most important people to stay in contact with are the administration team of the taught modules who help organise the schedule in case of overlaps (or other problems) via pgt-law@kcl.ac.uk and the professors of your classes, who you can email directly (or even talk to them).

4 Housing

For the first three weeks, I could stay with my friend's mother in Stoke Newington (North London), which enabled me to look for a room in a shared house using the portal "SpareRooms". I arrived in the beginning of September to explore the city before university started and also to enjoy the British autumn in different parks.

The new room was situated in White City (Shepherds Bush) and did cost me £ 717.- (bills included), but it was a year-long contract I recommend looking in advance and then try to live in a hostel for a few days so you can go to viewings. Once you are in London, there are plenty of rooms all over the city.

5 Arrival

I arrived at around 8pm at Kings Cross/St. Pancras International as I took the train.

Advantages were that I had plenty of space during my journey, could bring as much as I could carry and also experienced the Eurostar for the first time in my life.

Disadvantage could be that it is a bit more expensive than the usual airline (it did cost me around CHF 195.- one way; but if you book in- and outbound, it is cheaper AND there are many sales with the Eurostar which can make your journey cheap and easy as well).

In London, you could simply use the App "City Mapper" and type in the destination - the app calculates the best option for you to travel (and also gives you several opportunities to choose from).

Another advantage is that you can use your normal VISA card (instead of buying an OYSTER card for public transport) and "pay as you go" with tapping at the entrances.

6 Telephone

(e.g. costs, carriers)

I bought a giffgaff SIM card which allowed me to use the British telecommunication services for about £ 10.- to £ 15.- per month. A very big advantage was that I could also use the SIM all over Europe without having to pay an extra fee (probably this comes from a deal prior to the Brexit).

7 Bank account

I opened a Revolut bank account to transfer money from Switzerland, and once I had arrived in London, I opened a Monzo bank account to "get rid of my cash" (explanation: due to COVID-19 (and the digitisation), it was very hard for me to use my cash as many places refused to take cash (stores and restaurants), but only accepted card payment).

These two bank accounts are online banks without any opportunity to go to an actual employee/building.

8 Transport

In Central London, it is possible to walk around to nearly every place - for further distances, you can take the TUBE or Buses (cheaper option).

9 General information about the Partner Faculty and student life

The student life was very vibrant, even though there were some COVID-restrictions.

The partner faculty is not better or worse than the uzh.

10 Teaching and studying at the Partner Faculty

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

Teaching is different in the sense that the professors want to know the personal opinion rather than legal facts - you have to base your arguments on case law which is something to get used to.

The exams were very different from everything that I've experienced before (24-hour take-home exam). Even though they argued that it was possible to solve the problems within two hours, it took me between 8 - 14 hours.

The program structure is very individual and differs from pathway to pathway (as are the exams). In general, it can be said that many exams are more of an essay.

11 City

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

The cultural life in London is overwhelming - if you want to, you can go out every night; you can also go to many concerts, musicals, etc.

I recommend making a list and then deciding spontaneously.

Date: July 2022