Masters in Common Law (MCL)
(Two Years Full Time)

The Masters in Common Law is an intensive graduate entry programme providing non-law graduates with a university legal education. In addition to covering the core law subjects required by the legal professions, the course also provides students with the opportunity to select a small number of more specialist subjects of their choice. The programme is taught through lectures and dedicated seminars led by the principal lecturer in the subject.

The Masters in Common Law is designed to provide students with the relevant recognitions as part of the process of becoming a barrister or solicitor in Ireland. MCL graduates will be equipped with an appreciation of the principal branches of the discipline of law so that they can work effectively as a member of a legal team and possess the skills for presentation of legal reports and assignments.

Course Content and Structure

Students choose the six modules (60 credits) below in Year 1:
- Tort
- Contract Law
- European Law
- Criminal Law
- Property Law
- Constitutional Law

Students choose the four modules (40 credits) below in Year 2:
- Public Law
- Law of Corporations
- Equity and Trusts
- Evidence

Students will have a choice (20 credits) from a selection of option modules including:
- English Land Law
- English Public Law
- Family Law
- Jurisprudence
- Planning Law
- International Commercial Arbitration

Please see online for a full list of modules.
The Masters in Common Law at UCD is more than a degree and more than a masters. It is a full law degree, pitched at masters level and taught by some of the best law lecturers in Europe. The course work is challenging but the educational supports are terrific, particularly the seminars, which give a more intensive insight into key aspects of the curriculum. Much of the success of the MCL is down to the small class size and the varied backgrounds of participants. My primary degree was in civil engineering. I commenced the MCL programme having spent more than two decades working in engineering and business. My MCL class included art historians, philosophers and a neuroscientist. Some of my modules were shared with business graduates and legal practitioners. This mixture of experiences, backgrounds and nationalities created a rather unique and dynamic learning environment. Law reaches into all corners of life. There’s a lot to be said for studying core legal principles from a shared vantage point of diverse life experiences. The MCL offers this and more.