Postgraduate Degrees in Law
Taught and Research

LL.M. PROGRAMMES / M.LITT AND PH.D. 2017-18
Trinity College Dublin, founded in 1592, is Ireland’s oldest and most internationally renowned university and one of the oldest in Europe. Founded in 1740, Trinity School of Law is one of the leading Law Schools in Europe, consistently ranked as one of the top 100 Law Schools in the world. We are a scholarly community of staff, students and alumni, dedicated to the pursuit of legal knowledge and critical engagement with the legal challenges that confront modern communities.

Our vibrant taught masters programmes - with a majority of students from outside Ireland, drawn from over 30 countries around the world - provide an opportunity for advanced legal study. In particular, they reflect Dublin's unique position as a centre of global trade and a technology hub. The Law School offers dynamic programmes of postgraduate legal research to over 50 Irish and international students.

In all of our activities, we respond to the rapidly changing technological environment for legal education and scholarship, while striving to meet our responsibilities to ensure equal access to law and to justice.

The School of Law is very proud of its postgraduate programmes which have attracted and continue to attract top legal graduates from prestigious universities around the world. Our postgraduate cohort of students benefit from an intellectually rigorous and culturally diverse environment with a deep sense of community. Our aim annually is to have a class that is academically excellent, as well as being dynamic and diverse, so that our students can have a genuinely enriching time while they study with us.

We offer four taught masters degree programmes - Master in Laws (LL.M.), Master in Laws (LL.M. (International and Comparative Law), Master in Laws (LL.M. (International and European Business Law)) and Master in Laws, (LL.M. (Intellectual Property and Information Technology Law)) and two research degree programmes - Master in Letters (M.Litt) and Doctor in Philosophy (Ph.D.).
Programme Outcomes

Having successfully completed this programme, students should be able to:

- Identify, evaluate and synthesise jurisprudential theories and concepts at a level appropriate to masters graduates;
- Use appropriate legal theories, doctrines and concepts to identify, formulate, analyse and solve legal problems within national and international contexts;
- Critically analyse the interplay between law and social change in a variety of different contexts;
- Conduct effective and targeted research in case law, legislation and academic legal commentary at both national and international levels at a level appropriate to masters graduates;
- Demonstrate the capacity to conduct effective research and to present the fruits of that research in a coherent and compelling manner;
- Discuss and debate different perspectives on legal problems, theories and doctrines;
- Communicate effectively in oral and written modes in professional and academic settings and work effectively in multi-disciplinary settings;
- Demonstrate flexibility, adaptability and independence in order to engage productively with a changing social, cultural and technological environment;
- Have the capacity to engage in life-long learning, including vocational training for the legal profession.

The LL.M seeks to promote critical analysis of, and reflection on, different aspects of national, European and international law. This flagship LL.M programme offers students the opportunity for postgraduate study where they can select modules from a substantial list of modules covering the disparate branches of law. Students can focus on public law or private law modules or may take a selection of both. A student might thus decide to learn about Information Technology Law, Financial Services Law, Aviation Law or International Dispute Resolution and Arbitration while at the same time availing of the opportunity to study Islamic Law, the Chinese Legal System, Corporate Governance in the EU or International Humanitarian Law.

Course Structure: The LL.M degree is taught over a period of one academic year, commencing in September. Candidates are required to take a total of six modules over two semesters (three per semester) and complete a research dissertation. Each module is awarded 10 ECTS, 30 ECTS are awarded for the research dissertation (90 ECTS in total). The research dissertation will count towards 33% of the overall grade or three modules.

Each module is offered in one semester only and involves 22 hours of lectures, independent reading and research. Various forms of assessment are utilized in the different modules. Where modules are assessed by way of examination, the examinations are scheduled at the end of each semester, in January and May. Students may be required to take Supplemental examinations in late August/early September.

Candidates must also complete a research dissertation by end of June, of not more than 25,000 words, on an approved topic relating to some aspect of law. Dissertation topics are submitted in late October and Dissertation Proposal forms are submitted in late January. 5% of the total mark is based on the dissertation proposal with the remaining 95% of the total mark based on the final dissertation submission.
**LL.M. Modules**

We offer a very extensive and varied range of modules on the LL.M (General) to meet all student interests, a sample of which are set out below. Each module is worth 10 ECTS credits.

**Note:** The Law School reserves the right to vary the above list and, in particular, the right to withdraw and add courses. Note that timetabling considerations may also restrict choice. **Module descriptions are available at [http://www.tcd.ie/Law/postgraduate/taught-programmes/](http://www.tcd.ie/Law/postgraduate/taught-programmes/)

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With the increased globalisation of the last twenty years and, even earlier, with the rise to prominence of the international human rights movement, there has been a huge impetus for students of all nationalities towards studying areas of law with a broad international and comparative focus. In the LL.M. (International and Comparative Law) we offer students the chance to study from a large range of modules with a broad international and comparative law feel - many of which relate, unsurprisingly to international and regional human rights.

**Course Structure:** The LL.M. (International and Comparative Law) degree is taught over a period of one academic year, commencing in September. Candidates are required to take a total of six modules over two semesters (three per semester) and complete a research dissertation. Each module is awarded 10 ECTS, 30 ECTS are awarded for the research dissertation (90 ECTS in total). The research dissertation will count towards 33% of the overall grade or three modules.

Each module is offered in one semester only and involves 22 hours of lectures, independent reading and research. Various forms of assessment are utilized in the different modules. Where modules are assessed by way of examination, the examinations are scheduled at the end of each semester, in January and May. Students may be required to take Supplemental examinations in late August/early September.

Candidates must also complete a research dissertation by end of June, of not more than 25,000 words, on an approved topic relating to some aspect of International and/or comparative law. Dissertation topics are submitted in late October and Dissertation Proposal forms are submitted in late January. 5% of the total mark is based on the dissertation proposal with the remaining 95% of the total mark based on the final dissertation submission.

**Programme Outcomes**

Having successfully completed this programme, students should be able to:

- Identify, evaluate and synthesise jurisprudential theories and concepts as they apply to international and comparative law at a level appropriate to masters graduates;
- Use appropriate legal theories, doctrines and concepts to identify, formulate, analyse and solve legal problems within national and international contexts;
- Engage meaningfully in comparative legal research using mature comparative law methodology;
- Critically analyse the interplay between law and social change in a variety of different contexts as they pertain to international and comparative law;
- Conduct effective and targeted research in case law, legislation and academic legal commentary in areas pertaining to international and comparative law at both national and international levels at a level appropriate to masters graduates;
- Communicate effectively in oral and written modes in professional and academic settings and work effectively in multi-disciplinary and multi-jurisdictional settings;
- Demonstrate flexibility, adaptability and independence in order to engage productively with a changing, social, cultural and international environment; and
- Demonstrate the capacity to conduct effective research and to present the fruits of that research in a coherent and compelling manner.
**LL.M. (International and Comparative) Modules**

We offer a diverse range of modules within the vast field of International and Comparative Law on this programme. At least two modules must be chosen from the list of Section A modules set out below each semester (FOUR in total). The remaining two modules may be chosen from either Section A or Section B modules set out below. Each module is worth 10 ECTS credits.

**Note:** The Law School reserves the right to vary the above list and, in particular, the right to withdraw and add courses. Note that timetabling considerations may also restrict choice.

Module descriptions are available at [http://www.tcd.ie/Law/postgraduate/taught-programmes/](http://www.tcd.ie/Law/postgraduate/taught-programmes/)

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The LL.M. (International and European Business Law) is designed for graduates who wish to specialize in business law with a view to pursuing their research interests in this field or in preparing to work in busy international commercial firms or legal practice. Students choose from a large list of modules designed to deepen their knowledge of the laws surrounding corporate law, international trade law, international dispute resolution, international business tax law and more. Students on this LL.M. programme gain invaluable specialist knowledge.

**Course Structure:** The LL.M. (International and European Business Law) degree is taught over a period of one academic year, commencing in September. Candidates are required to take a total of six modules over two semesters (three per semester) and complete a research dissertation. Each module is awarded 10 ECTS, 30 ECTS are awarded for the research dissertation (90 ECTS in total). The research dissertation will count towards 33% of the overall grade or three modules.

Each module is offered in one semester only and involves 22 hours of lectures, independent reading and research. Various forms of assessment are utilized in the different modules. Where modules are assessed by way of examination, the examinations are scheduled at the end of each semester, in January and May. Students may be required to take Supplemental examinations in late August/early September.

Candidates must also complete a research dissertation by end of June, of not more than 25,000 words, on an approved topic relating to some aspect of International and/or European business law. Dissertation topics are submitted in late October and Dissertation Proposal forms are submitted in late January. 5% of the total mark is based on the dissertation proposal with the remaining 95% of the total mark based on the final dissertation submission.

**Programme Outcomes**

Having successfully completed this programme, students should be able to:

- Identify, evaluate and synthesise jurisprudential theories and concepts as they apply to international and business law at a level appropriate to masters graduates;
- Use appropriate legal, financial and economic theories, doctrines and concepts to identify, formulate, analyse and solve business and legal problems within national and international contexts;
- Critically analyse the interplay between law and social change in a variety of different contexts as they pertain to international and business law;
- Conduct effective and targeted research in case law, legislation and academic legal commentary in areas pertaining to international and business law at both national and international levels at a level appropriate to masters graduates;
- Discuss and debate different perspectives on legal, financial and economic theories and doctrines in the area of international business;
- Communicate effectively in oral and written modes in professional and academic settings and work effectively in multi-disciplinary settings;
- Demonstrate flexibility, adaptability and independence in order to engage productively with a changing, commercial and technological environment;
- Have the capacity to engage in life-long learning, including vocational training and continuing professional development; and
- Demonstrate the capacity to conduct effective research and to present the fruits of that research in a coherent and compelling manner.
LL.M. (International and European Business Law) Modules

We offer a very extensive range of modules on this programme which focus on all aspects of International and European Business Law. At least two modules must be chosen from the list of Section A modules set out below each semester (FOUR in total). The remaining two modules may be chosen from either Section A or Section B modules set out below. Each module is worth 10 ECTS credits.

Note: The Law School reserves the right to vary the above list and, in particular, the right to withdraw and add courses. Note that timetabling considerations may also restrict choice.

Module descriptions are available at [http://www.tcd.ie/Law/postgraduate/taught-programmes/](http://www.tcd.ie/Law/postgraduate/taught-programmes/)

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Intellectual Property and Information Technology have become a significant and growing area of law at both a European and an International level. With this in mind, the Law School recently introduced a new LL.M. in Intellectual Property and Information Technology law. Students on this programme will be able to choose electives from a large range of modules related to Intellectual Property law and Technology law. These modules cover both the substantive and practical elements of Intellectual Property and Information Technology law within a European and International context. This masters programme, popular with both EU and non-EU students, provides graduates with a knowledge base and a range of core tools to use in their future research or in their practice as intellectual property and information technology lawyers.

Course Structure: The LL.M (Intellectual Property and Information Technology Law) degree is taught over a period of one academic year, commencing in September. Candidates are required to take a total of six modules over two semesters (three per semester) and complete a research dissertation. Each module is awarded 10 ECTS, 30 ECTS are awarded for the research dissertation (90 ECTS in total). The research dissertation will count towards 33% of the overall grade or three modules.

Each module is offered in one semester only and involves 22 hours of lectures, independent reading and research. Various forms of assessment are utilized in the different modules. Where modules are assessed by way of examination, the examinations are scheduled at the end of each semester, in January and May. Students may be required to take Supplemental examinations in late August/early September.

Candidates must also complete a research dissertation by end of June, of not more than 25,000 words, on an approved topic relating to some aspect of Intellectual Property and/or Information Technology law. Dissertation topics are submitted in late October and Dissertation Proposal forms are submitted in late January. 5% of the total mark is based on the dissertation proposal with the remaining 95% of the total mark based on the final dissertation submission.

Programme Outcomes
Having successfully completed this programme, students should be able to:

- Identify, evaluate and synthesise jurisprudential theories and concepts as they apply to intellectual property and information technology law at a level appropriate to masters graduates;
- Use appropriate legal theories, doctrines and concepts to identify, formulate, analyse and solve legal problems within national and international contexts;
- Critically analyse the interplay between law and social change in a variety of different contexts as they pertain to international and domestic intellectual property and information technology law;
- Conduct effective and targeted research in case law, legislation and academic legal commentary in areas pertaining to intellectual property and information technology law at both national and international levels at a level appropriate to masters graduates;
- Discuss and debate different perspectives on legal problems, theories and doctrines in the area of intellectual property and information technology law;
- Communicate effectively in oral and written modes in professional and academic settings and work effectively in multi-disciplinary settings;
- Demonstrate flexibility, adaptability and independence in order to engage productively with a changing, commercial and technological environment; and
- Have the capacity to engage in life-long learning, including vocational training for the legal profession.
**LL.M. (Intellectual Property and Information Technology Law) Modules**

We offer a selection of modules with an Intellectual Property and Information Technology Law theme on this programme. At least two modules must be chosen from the list of Section A modules set out below each semester (FOUR in total). The remaining two modules may be chosen from either Section A or Section B modules set out below. Each module is worth 10 ECTS credits.

**Note:** The Law School reserves the right to vary the above list and, in particular, the right to withdraw and add courses. Note that timetabling considerations may also restrict choice.


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General Admission Requirements

- Applications are invited from well-qualified graduates who hold a very good Honors Bachelor degree in law or in a law-based interdisciplinary programme.

- Applications will also be considered from exceptional graduates in related disciplines in the Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences who can convincingly demonstrate that their studies have fully prepared them for the LL.M.

- Assuming that this basic pre-requisite is in place, thereafter admission to the various LL.M. programmes is at the absolute discretion of the School of Law, which will decide on questions of admission having regard to a wide range of academic criteria, including the quality of the individual application and the objectives of ensuring a diverse LL.M. class of the highest possible academic calibre.

English Language Requirements

Applicants whose first language is not English and who have not been educated through the medium of English must present one of the following qualifications in the English language:

- IELTS: Grade 6.5
- TOEFL: 90 - Internet based (with a written score of 21)
- University of Cambridge:
  - Proficiency Certificate, Grade C or better (CEFR Level C1 or C2)
  - Advanced Certificate, Grade C or better (CEFR Level C1 or C2)
  - First Certificate, Grade A (CEFR Level C1)
- Pearson Test of English (Academic) - PTE Academic: a minimum score of 63 (with no section score below 59)

Please note that test scores are only valid for 2 years.

Submission of LL.M Applications

Applicants must complete an online application form and submit supporting documentation by 31st May of the year admission is sought. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis and applicants are encouraged to apply as early as possible.

Application instructions and links to the online application centre are available at http://www.tcd.ie/courses/postgraduate/ and http://www.tcd.ie/Law/postgraduate

Applications must be made through the online application system not through the School of Law.

LL.M applicants must complete the online application form and upload the following supporting documentation:

- Certified Academic transcript(s) for all completed and current academic and professional courses.
- Certified copy of degree certificate(s) for all completed academic and professional courses.
- Two Academic References.
- Curriculum Vitae.
- A recognised certificate of English Language Competency if English is not your first language (see above).
- Applicants are welcome to submit additional documentation for consideration if they wish.
The School of Law offers two postgraduate research degrees, the Master in Letters (M.Litt.) and the Doctor in Philosophy (Ph.D.). The Law School has a reputation for excellence in terms of research supervision. Each student is guided in his or her research by a supervisor who has expertise in the relevant research area. It currently has approximately 50 students on the postgraduate research register who are engaged in research across a wide range of areas, some of whom have formed into research groupings. Seminars are organised on a regular basis to provide a forum for postgraduate research students to present and discuss their work.

Doctor in Philosophy (Ph.D.)
A Ph.D. normally takes between 3-4 years of full-time research and writing to complete, subject to satisfactory progress being demonstrated at each stage of the process (in particular probation (year 1); confirmation (year 2); and viva-voce (year 3/4), as well as completion of the Postgraduate Research module component (detailed below).

Master in Letters (M.Litt.)
The M.Litt degree generally takes between 1-2 years of full-time research. Completion of the Postgraduate Research module component is also required.

Ph.D. Transfer/Confirmation interviews
Students intending to complete a Ph.D. thesis generally apply for admission directly to the Ph.D. register, but must be confirmed on the register following a confirmation interview and submission of a confirmation report typically in their second year on the register. Alternatively, a student who is admitted onto the M.Litt. register may apply (typically in the second year of study) to be transferred to the Ph.D. register and may be transferred on foot of such application following a transfer hearing and submission of a transfer report.

Postgraduate Research Seminar Series
A series of seminars for all postgraduate research students is organised on an ongoing basis. This is designed to enhance the students’ academic and social experience at the Law School and at Trinity College. The seminars cover a range of topics relating to research and scholarship and also provide a forum for students to present and discuss their work with fellow research students and academic staff. Further information will be provided to registered students throughout the academic year.

Postgraduate Research Desk Space
The School of Law currently holds postgraduate research desk space in Phoenix House, the Trinity Social Science Research (TRISS) Area and the Long Room Hub and invites Postgraduate Research students to apply for desks on an annual basis.
Postgraduate Legal Research Module

This module is compulsory for students in their first year of a postgraduate research degree programme (M.Litt. or Ph.D.) at the Law School. The aim of the module is to support research students in establishing a solid foundation for their research and writing. The module is conducted as a small group seminar and brings together students and members of the Law School staff for discussion on a range of themes related to research.

The module opens with a consideration of the nature of postgraduate legal research with particular emphasis on its educational objectives. This is followed by practical sessions on the organisational elements of postgraduate research such as establishing a framework for research, formulating research questions and planning the stages of a programme of research. Additional sessions focus on matters such as the importance of legal writing at postgraduate level and developments in the use of library and electronic resources.

The module also incorporates seminars on legal research methodologies. Members of the Law School staff and occasional guest lecturers lead discussion of diverse methodologies such as legal theory, historical legal research, international and comparative perspectives, empirical work and multi-disciplinary research. A key objective of this aspect of the module is to draw on shared experiences and identify common challenges that legal researchers encounter.

A central theme of the module is the significance of research and writing beyond the immediate context of a postgraduate research degree. Students are encouraged to reflect on the potential application of research and writing in a range of academic and professional contexts. The module will include a dedicated session on the importance of postgraduate research skills in legal practice.

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

- Articulate in detail the substantive objectives of their research and formulate a research question.
- Describe in detail the structure of their proposed research supported by a viable research plan;
- Critically discuss various methodologies employed in advanced legal research;
- Identify and describe their chosen research methodologies and link those methodologies to their substantive research goals;
- Demonstrate effective legal research skills in coursework including the use of electronic resources.
- Demonstrate advanced legal writing skills in coursework;
- Present research findings in oral and written form to a peer audience;
- Critically analyse the role of postgraduate research and writing in legal education and scholarship;
- Discuss within a peer group the importance of postgraduate research and writing skills in the field of legal practice.

Assessment

Coursework (100%)

Assessment is based on a range of short written and oral submissions. These include the production of an abstract; the formulation of research questions; an analysis of research methods; and a short oral presentation. These should all be completed and assessed during the first semester of the first year.

Lecturer

Professor Caoimhín MacMaoláin
General Admission requirements

- In most circumstances, successful applicants will have, as a minimum requirement, a good Law degree although it is possible that the Law School may accept a student without a law degree onto the relevant register, where, by reason of the choice of topic for research, his or her undergraduate degree is compatible with such study.
- Applicants must also have a fluent command of the English language (see below)
- The decision to accept or not to accept a student’s application is exclusively with the discretion of the Law School. Any questions in respect of applications to the PG register should be submitted to the DTLP, or, where appropriate, to the member or members of faculty that the student would like to supervise his or her proposal.

English Language Requirements

Applicants whose first language is not English and who have not been educated through the medium of English must present one of the following qualifications in the English language:

- IELTS: Grade 6.5
- TOEFL: 90 - Internet based (with a written score of 21)
- University of Cambridge:
  - Proficiency Certificate, Grade C or better (CEFR Level C1 or C2)
  - Advanced Certificate, Grade C or better (CEFR Level C1 or C2)
  - First Certificate, Grade A (CEFR Level C1)
- Pearson Test of English (Academic) - PTE Academic: a minimum score of 63 (with no section score below 59)

Please note that test scores are only valid for 2 years.

Submission of Postgraduate Research Applications

No closing dates apply for applications to the M.Litt and Ph.D. Register but there are only two registration periods (September and March). Applicants are advised, where possible, to apply for September entry and to apply as early as possible prior to their chosen registration period as supervisory capacity may be limited.

The application process involves two stages:

1. Applicants should submit a research proposal and CV to the Director for Teaching and Learning (Postgraduate) – Professor Caoimhin MacMaolain, DTLPLaw@tcd.ie - who will assess whether there is a school member who would be prepared or competent to supervise such proposal.

2. If stage 1 is in order, the applicant must complete the online application process. The fact that an applicant’s proposal has been deemed acceptable by a potential supervisor does NOT necessarily mean that the application will be successful. Approval must be granted by the School of Law and Graduate Studies.

Application instructions and links to the online application centre are available at http://www.tcd.ie/courses/postgraduate/ and http://www.tcd.ie/Law/postgraduate

Postgraduate Research Scholarship Opportunities in 2017-18

Trinity College Dublin offers a number of postgraduate awards open for application to students intending to register (or registered) for full-time higher research degrees on the Ph.D. register. Applications are assessed competitively on academic merit.

Detailed information is available at http://www.tcd.ie/Law/postgraduate/research-programmes/scholarship/
### LL.M Tuition Fees 2017-2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>EU Total Fees*</th>
<th>Non-EU Total Fees*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LL.M</td>
<td>9,340</td>
<td>18,140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LL.M (International &amp; Comparative Law)</td>
<td>9,340</td>
<td>18,140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LL.M (International &amp; European Business Law)</td>
<td>9,340</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>LL.M (Intellectual Property and Information Technology Law)</td>
<td>9,340</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
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*Fees listed do not include Sports Centre Charge (€120), USI Levy (€8) and Commencement/Graduation fee (€135)

Further information available at [http://www.tcd.ie/academicregistry/fees-payments/](http://www.tcd.ie/academicregistry/fees-payments/)

- Fees listed are annual fees and are subject to change
- College regulations permit the payment of EU tuition fees in 2 instalments.
- New entrant Non-EU students must pay fees in full in advance of registration.
- Regulations relating to the payment of fees are set out in the College Calendar and can be viewed at [http://www.tcd.ie/calendar](http://www.tcd.ie/calendar)

### M.Litt/Ph.D. Fees 2017-2018

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<th>Course</th>
<th>EU Total Fees*</th>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M.Litt (full-time)</td>
<td>5,910</td>
<td>9,905</td>
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<tr>
<td>M.Litt (part-time)</td>
<td>4,140</td>
<td>6,870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ph.D. (full-time)</td>
<td>5,910</td>
<td>9,90</td>
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<td>4,140</td>
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LL.M Course Office - Contact Information

All programme related enquiries should be referred to:

Ms Kelley McCabe
School of Law
Trinity College Dublin,
The University of Dublin,
Dublin 2

Tel.: + 353 (0) 1 679 2392
Email: law.postgraduate@tcd.ie
Website: http://www.tcd.ie/Law/postgraduate/
Facebook: www.facebook.com/TrinityCollegeDublinLaw

Other useful websites:
http://www.tcd.ie/academicregistry/
https://www.tcd.ie/courses/
http://www.tcd.ie/Graduate_Studies/
https://www.tcd.ie/study/