

KENT LAW SCHOOL/ POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH

Student Handbook 2019/2020



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University of
Kent

POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH STUDENT HANDBOOK

KENT LAW SCHOOL

2019-2020

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1. A brief introduction to Kent Law School

Kent Law School, one of the top law schools in the UK, is a dynamic and cosmopolitan place to study a variety of research degrees with an international and contemporary focus. It is widely regarded as a centre of excellence in critical interdisciplinary legal research and teaching in particular, and provides a stimulating and highly collegiate intellectual community for students and staff.

In the 2014 Research Assessment Exercise the Kent Law School was ranked 8th for research intensity in the UK. We were also ranked 7th for research power and in the top 20 for research output, research quality (GPA), and research impact. The School has had students from over 80 countries, and currently employs over 50 full-time academic staff drawn from across 15 nationalities. In recent years, it has an average of 50 students registered for its postgraduate research degrees at any one time.

The Law School's exceptional success in research is linked to its distinctive academic ethos, within which emphasis is placed on the social, political, historical and economic context of legal rules, phenomena and principles. This research ethos is reflected in the development by a great number of Law School academic staff of pioneering approaches to legal subjects which draw on other academic disciplines, a wide variety of research methodologies, on the comparative experience of other states, or on critical approaches based on social, political, and philosophical theory. It is reflected too in a preference for pedagogically innovative, discursive, critical and socially-minded styles of teaching.

2. Key Student Responsibilities

- Attending and preparing for supervision on a monthly basis and after each supervisory meeting completing the monthly SDS report;
- Acquainting yourselves with ethics and data management requirements and good practice;
- Informing yourself of the annual progress reviews and their requirements; preparing for progress reviews, submitting your portfolios on time, and making sure feedback provided by supervisors is incorporated before submitting your portfolios.
- Informing your supervisors if there are impediments to your making progress as soon as possible;
- Attending appropriate training if and when needed;
- Attending School research events and staff seminars (staff seminars are part of your research programme)
- Be considerate, collegiate and kind to your peers and supervisors.

For detailed information about the Support for Postgraduate Students provided by the University, please see <https://www.kent.ac.uk/learning/programmes/postgraduate.html>

3. Administrative Responsibilities for Postgraduate Research

It is important to understand how the Programme is organized. There are two teams of people involved in the running of the programme:

- **The Academic team** consists of the Directors of Graduate Studies (Research) who have overall responsibility for research programmes and the monitoring of the progress of research students with the support of their Deputy in Brussels, and act under the auspices of the KLS Graduate Studies Committee (which meets termly).
- **The Postgraduate Administrative team** are the first port of call in relation to administrative enquiries and are a mine of information about any practical difficulties that research students may encounter.

The Academic team for the academic year 2019-2020 is led by:

Dr Thanos Zartaloudis (Reader in Legal Theory and History), Co-Director, Oversight role on Programme, and Convenor of the Study Group. Your primary contact for all academic matters of the programme. Please note that Dr. Zartaloudis will be on parental leave from the 4th of November to 1st March 2020. During this time Prof. Ashiagbor, can be contacted instead.

Professor Rosemary Hunter, Co-Director, lead on Admissions/Scholarships.

Professor Diamond Ashiagbor, Co-Director, lead on Progress Reviews. Acting lead Co-director, for the period 4th November 2019-1st April 2020; Ethics Officer; and Welfare matters oversight role.

Other members of the team are:

Professor Emily Grabham, Convenor of the Research Methods Module.

Dr Gian Giacomo Fusco, GTA Liaison.

The Administrative Team comprises:

Mrs Lynn Osborne, Postgraduate Office Manager, has responsibility for the administration of the research postgraduate students.

Ms Rhea Ball, Postgraduate Office, has responsibility for the administration of the research postgraduate students.

Please note that this is subject to change. Further updates will follow during the Autumn Term.

3.1 Contact Details

Name	Email	Room	Extension
Rosemary Hunter	r.c.hunter@kent.ac.uk	Eliot W4.N6	3356
Lynn Osborne	l.osborne@kent.ac.uk	Eliot Extension 106/107	3405
Rhea Ball	r.ball@kent.ac.uk	Eliot Extension 107	4595
Diamond Ashiagbor	d.ashiagbor@kent.ac.uk	Eliot E W3.N1	3308
Thanos Zartaloudis	t.zartaloudis@kent.ac.uk	Eliot W4N2	6098
Emily Grabham	e.grabham@kent.ac.uk	Eliot EX 04	6543
Gian Giacomo Fusco	G.G.Fusco-3@kent.ac.uk	TBC	TBC

The Postgraduate Office is situated upstairs in the Eliot Extension building (room 107). The office is open to students daily from 0930-1200 and from 1400-1630. The general Postgraduate Office email is: klspgoffice@kent.ac.uk (please write to the office if in doubt as to whom to write to).

4. Kent Law School Research Centres and Groups

Kent Law School has established a number of interdisciplinary research centres and groups that focus on particular areas of law, and postgraduate research students are encouraged to become involved with those that are close to their own research interests.

4.1 [Kent Centre for Sexuality, Race and Gender Justice \(SeRGJ\)](#)

The Centre for Sexuality, Race and Gender Justice (SeRGJ) advances critical and interdisciplinary research that is theoretically informed and policy relevant. We are based in Kent Law School and membership is made up of interested academics and doctoral students based at the University of Kent.

At the intellectual heart of SeRGJ is the project of exploring the complex relationships between sexuality, race and gender with law and governance. Members of SeRGJ study these relationships in multiple ways in their individual research and collaborative research projects. The Centre, previously called the Centre for Law, Gender and Sexuality, has been at the core of research and teaching related activities at the Law School since 2004 when it was funded by the AHRB until 2009.

It established a programme of working on social justice issues relating to gender and sexuality foregrounding an intersectional approach. In recent years the Centre has hosted and worked with a range of international scholars working on and across areas of law and gender and law and sexuality as well as race and religion. These visitors have engaged with the

scholarly life of KLS, worked from the Centre's visitor office, presented their current research to colleagues and PGR students. In 2017-2018 we undertook a range of activities which continued our tradition of engaging with contemporary scholarship and supporting early career scholars. These include project exploring the disproportionate impact of austerity on BME women in the UK; equal access to (higher) education; abortion and surrogacy rights; child abuse and sexual violence; and [the legal recognition of gender](#).

SeRGJ is also home to the award winning [#DecoloniseUKC project](#). Visit also the related [Kaleidoscope Network](#). The Kaleidoscope Network is a collective of students and staff of colour and 'allies' (supporters) hosted by the Kent Law School Centre for Sexuality, Race & Gender Justice (SeRGJ). KN is committed to continuing the work of the KLS [Decolonising the Curriculum Project](#) (DtCP) and implementing its [Manifesto](#) launched at a [conference](#) in March 2019 at the University of Kent. DtCP is the first of its kind to be established in a UK law school and was initiated by Kent Law School Senior Lecturer [Dr Suhraiya Jivraj](#) and supported by [Dave Thomas](#), Student Success Project Manager from the School of Sport and Exercise Sciences and Sheree Palmer, Student Success Project Officer from the Law School. Read more about DtCP and what it has achieved [here](#).

KN is co-chaired by Chloe Gallien and [Sheree Palmer](#) and hosted by Dr Jivraj in the Centre [SeRGJ](#). It is run by a cross university working group that also includes: [Dr Barbara Adewumi](#), [Dr Patricia Baker](#), [Becky Lamyman](#), [Ahmed Memon](#), Melissa Mulhall (Assistant Director, Student Engagement and Experience), and [Dr Kathleen Quinlan](#) (Director of the [Centre for the Study of Higher Education](#) at Kent). KN members pledge to the following [principles](#). If you would like to become a member please answer the following [questions](#). Listen to the podcast on *Overcoming Challenges in the Development of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity Initiatives in Higher Education* [here](#).

4.2 Kent Centre for European and Comparative Law

The Kent Centre for European and Comparative Law was established in 2004 to provide a framework for the further development of the department's strength in the fields of European and comparative law, both in teaching and in research. It is founded on the conviction that the disciplines of comparative law and European Union law should inform one another both intellectually and practically.

Members of the Kent Centre for European and Comparative Law research in the general areas of comparative law and European public and private law. They also write on more specialized topics including the harmonization of private law in Europe, the constitutional law of the European Union, European economic law, European environmental law, comparative art law, and epistemological and methodological issues in comparative law.

The Centre's aim is to encourage and enable co-operation between academics whose research focuses on comparative law and European Union law whether in the UK or abroad. It offers a platform for critical and interdisciplinary discussion by way of guest lecture series, workshops and conferences on current issues arising from comparative law or European Union law.

4.3 Centre for Critical International Law (CeCIL)

The Centre for Critical International Law aims to foster critical approaches to international law and other areas of law that touch upon global legal problems. It offers an annual programme of activities, including speaker and film nights, an annual lecture addressing emerging themes in

critical scholarship in the field of international law and an annual workshop. Both in research and teaching its members put International Law into the context of history and political theory and extend its reach into International Relations. All PGR students are very welcome to participate in CeCIL events.

Based at Kent's Canterbury campus, the Centre offers an annual programme of activities for KLS students as well as a speaker and films series, workshops designed to engage scholars based at other institutions, and an annual lecture addressing emerging themes in critical scholarship in the field of international law. CeCIL also strives to engage students, scholars and practitioners interested in the critical study of international law around the world by developing collaborations, joint research efforts, our social media channels ([Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)) and CeCIL's podcast, [Fool's Utopia](#).

Research and teaching in international law at Kent begins from the premise that international law is not apolitical, and that its political ideology reflects the interests of powerful states and other actors. Through their research and teaching, Canterbury and Brussels-based staff place international law into the contexts of history and political theory and extend its reach into international relations. A number of staff also engage in the practical application of international law through litigation, training, research and consultancies for international organisations, NGOs and states.

Current and past activities of the Centre have focused on key themes in critical international legal scholarship, including the production of victimhood in and through international legal frameworks and interventions, and economic and social rights in the neoliberal age.

Aims and Objectives

- To promote research, both individual and collaborative, with staff and postgraduate students both within KLS and in collaboration with other academics and academic institutions.
- To promote conferences in both Canterbury and Brussels and publications reflecting the ethos of the Centre.
- To encourage and enable cooperation with other international law schools both in the UK and internationally.
- To coordinate and develop new teaching methods and resources and to create a library of visual resources, with the objective of facilitating innovative teaching in international law and international relations.
- To encourage visiting scholars interested in critical international law to participate in the activities of the Centre.
- To provide a focus for academic collaboration and cooperation between the Canterbury and Brussels campuses of the University of Kent.
- To build upon the guest lecture programme, which brings in academics and practitioners working critically on international law.

CeCIL is part of a global network of centres dedicated to the study of law from an international perspective, which today includes the [Centre for the Politics of Transnational Law](#) (CePTL) at VU Amsterdam, the [Institute for International Law and the Humanities](#) (IILAH) at Melbourne Law School, the [Erik Castrén Institute](#), at Helsinki University, the [Manchester International Law Centre](#) (MILC) at Manchester University, the [Critical Approaches to International Criminal Law Group](#) at Liverpool University, the [Dickson Poon Transnational Law Institute](#) (TIL) at King's University, the [Westminster Law & Theory Lab](#) at University of Westminster, the [Centre for the Study of Colonialism, Empire and International Law](#) (CCEIL) at SOAS, the [Institute for Global Law and Policy](#) (IGLP) at

Harvard Law School, the [Centre for Law, Regulation and Governance of the Global Economy](#) (GLOBE) at the School of Law University of Warwick, and the [Edinburgh Centre for International and Global Law](#) (ECIGL) at Edinburgh Law School. CeCIL is also a member of the [International Economic Law \(IEL\) Collective](#).

If you'd like to get in touch with a specific CeCIL member, please visit our [People](#) page for contact information.

[4.4 Kent Interdisciplinary Centre for Spatial Studies \(KISS\)](#)

There has been a 'spatial turn' in many disciplines, including legal studies, with spatial analytical techniques and spatial theories becoming central to many research programmes and initiatives. KISS builds on strong in-house expertise that spans across the Faculties of Humanities and Social Sciences and across campuses.

KISS is the UK's only research Centre dedicated to a holistic study of spatial patterns and phenomena through an interdisciplinary and integrative approach that brings together the Arts, Anthropology, Ecology, English, Geography, Law, Sociology, Architecture, Engineering, Economics, Classics and Archaeology.

The Centre organizes an Annual Lecture, a research seminar series, film screenings, readings, discussions, social events, an annual internal workshop open to all, collaborative work of all kinds, as well as training sessions in spatial technologies and methods.

Contact: Dr Thanos Zartaloudis.

[4.5 Centre for Critical Thought \(CCT\)](#)

The Centre for Critical Thought was initiated by the Kent Law School as a trans-Faculty centre. It aims to consolidate, sustain and develop research in contemporary critical theory across the social sciences and humanities at the University by providing a novel academic forum within which innovative, theoretical interdisciplinary research can be nurtured. It offers a focus for establishing collaborations across academic Schools and Faculties, and facilitates students conducting research across disciplinary boundaries.

All PGR students, particularly those whose work is interdisciplinary, are highly encouraged to participate in the Centre's visiting scholar seminar series and other events, and its reading and discussion groups. Together these offer valuable opportunities to meet with PGR students from other Schools and develop critical understandings that will complement and enrich their own research.

Contact: Prof. Maria Drakopoulou or Dr Connal Parsley

[4.5 Social Critiques of Law \(SoCriL\)](#)

This is a well-established research group within KLS initiated in 2013. It brings together work carried out at Kent that seeks to provide innovative approaches to the empirical and theoretical study of law and regulation by allying interdisciplinary critical insights with particular instances, examples, or empirical explorations of the social lives of law.

The work of its members cuts across a vast range of thematic interests (including for example financial regulation, law and science, welfare and wellbeing, law and religion, international law, law and political economy, and intellectual property) that are brought together in order to explore new ways of thinking about the workings of the law.

SoCriL is a hub for a vibrant programme of events and visiting scholars that research students are very welcome to participate in, and we would also welcome thoughts or suggestions for events you think we could support.

Contact: Prof. Donatella Alessandrini or Prof. Emilie Cloatre

4.6 [Centre for Heritage](#)

The Centre for Heritage at Kent (CH@K) is an interdisciplinary centre which brings together researchers and students from a variety of academic and professional disciplines, including archaeology, anthropology, law, geography, physics, heritage conservation and management, architecture and urban planning to develop high-quality interdisciplinary research and teaching on Heritage.

The Centre for Heritage at Kent is engaged in a number of [projects](#) and aims to:

- Assist in the delivery of the [MA in International Heritage and Law](#)
- Enhance student experience through the PG Forum in Heritage Studies
- Develop innovative research programs and projects around themed clusters
- Organise highly visible events and conferences, targeting a diversity of audiences

You can also visit the [PG Forum for Heritage Studies](#).

Contact: [Dr. Sophie Vigneron](#)

4.7 [Equity and Trusts Research Network \(ETRN\)](#)

This ETRN brings together scholars researching and teaching in the field of Equity & Trusts with an interest in investigating equity from a range of critical, interdisciplinary perspectives. The network creates a space to challenge established and dominant modes of thought and analysis in the field of Equity & Trusts which downplay the political, economic, cultural and ethical aspects of equity.

In establishing an international network of scholars we aim to support and nurture innovative engagements with equity past, present and future and cross-disciplinary collaborations. The ETRN works in collaboration with the [Trusts & Estates Collaborative Research Network of the Law & Society Association](#).

Equity is protean, traversing a number of registers, from the law formerly emanating from the English Court of Chancery (now inscribed within the architecture of modern law and legal governance) to important jurisprudential questions concerning forms of judgment within and beyond law, and ethical modes of conduct(ing) and relating to law. In this sense there is no ‘equity’ as such but rather equities, each with divergent histories, overlapping and intersecting – and perhaps passing one another by – in complex ways, but holding them together is a relation to Law.

Those involved in the ETRN support scholarship which pursues different visions of equity from a range of theoretical perspectives, including: investigations into the histories, traditions and cultures of equity; visual, metaphorical and psychical representations of equity; equity’s imagination, creativity and improvisation; questions of power, affect, ethics and subjectivity such as trusting relations, decorum and gender; equity’s proliferation and protection of property and role in wealth inequity; and the practices of equity within but also beyond the law. The network’s overarching concern is with equity’s role in modern law and society and what visions of equity – past, present and future – are possible.

The network was founded by [Nick Piska](#) and [Robert Herian](#), with support from the [Consortium of the Humanities and the Arts South-East England \(CHASE\)](#) and the University of Kent Faculty Research Fund.

Contact: [Nick Piska](#) or [Hayley Gibson](#)

4.8 [CLIO: A Law and History Research Group](#)

Bearing the name of the muse of history, Clio, it supports scholarship that promotes critical exchange between law and history. Although history has consistently formed and informed approaches to law, in much of contemporary critical legal studies this bond of engagement between the two remains largely unexplored. The language of history and that of law emerge as if alien to one another. In seeking to foster links between the two, however, Clio is neither interested in providing for a better or a more accurate legal history, nor offering correctives to the historical development of legal systems, theories and doctrines. Rather, the objective is to draw upon the critical possibilities that history and historiography hold for the law. To this purpose, Clio embraces legal research, which whether orientated towards the humanities or the social sciences, draws in particular upon tropes of history writing rooted in continental theory and philosophy.

Contact: [Iain Frame](#)

4.9 [Research Group on Philosophy, Political Theology and Law](#)

Law, philosophy, politics and theology are historically inextricably intertwined, as much so today as before, despite modernity's claims to secularization or juridification. Contemporary constitutions, institutions, social, economic, political and legal practices and texts all bear the traces of multiple and conflicting theological inheritances. 'Political theology' names this peculiar conjunction and for us this name remains a question. In recent decades, it has been a site of rich comparative and interdisciplinary exploration, across societies, cultures, religions, periods and academic fields.

Our purpose is to develop and promote research into the origins of Western institutions, such as Christianity, throughout history and the ways they have influenced and informed politics, society, economics and thinking more generally. Through conferences, seminars, workshops, collaborative funding grants and publications, this cluster of research aims to develop and promote research into the long-term genesis of, to start with, Western institutions and the conundrums of political theology. In doing so it also attempts to offer an appropriate understanding of *juridification* as a core, particular, process in Western institutional history, set in the contemporary context of the global proliferation of Western legal and social forms.

The research on this research group at KLS relates, thus, to the more recently much-discussed problematic of 'political theology' and 'secularization' but in an innovative way, focusing more centrally and intensively on the role of law, the history of philosophical and political ideas and the history of reigning normative systems than is common in several, otherwise closely related, research programmes. The group's research work was initiated earlier at the co-founding and co-directing by its members of a research centre named CRIPT (hosted until May 2019 at Birkbeck College, University of London).

CRIPT was a successful research centre created and co-directed by Dr. Anton Schütz (Paris), Dr. Massimiliano Traversino, Prof. Marinos Diamantides, Dr. Piyel Haldar (Birkbeck Law School); Dr. Thanos Zartaloudis (earlier at Birkbeck Law School and now at KLS), Prof. Jean-François Malherbe, Prof. Alberto Bondolfi (Trento) and Prof. Ghislain Waterlot (Geneva). The Research Group's work at KLS continues the work of CRIPT hosting all its activities and network which is comprised through an academic conglomeration with:

- Università degli Studi, Trento, Dipartimento di Lettere e Filosofia; Centro per le Scienze Religiose alla Fondazione Bruno Kessler, Trento (Italy).
- Université de Genève, Faculté de théologie protestante, Institut Romand de Systématique et d'Ethique, Genève (Switzerland).
- Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg (Germany) and Leucorea, Stiftung Öffentlichen Rechts, Wittenberg (Germany).

The unifying feature of all three partner universities is their close relation to post-sixteenth-century Christianity in the West. Wittenberg and Geneva are the birthplaces of the Lutheran and Calvinist Reform movements, respectively, and Trento is the birthplace of modern, reformed (or 'counter-reformed') continental Catholicism. CRIPT, as it was earlier named, was founded following a period of intense research in political theology by these institutions and colleagues. With Zartaloudis and Schütz now at Kent along with our Birkbeck Colleagues Haldar and Diamantides, working in collaboration with our international partners, we aim to develop this research further here at Kent.

Contact: Thanos Zartaloudis

Research Projects:

There are, finally, many Research Projects led by colleagues at Kent Law School, an indicative few of which are:

- [Global Security Assemblages and International Law](#)
- [The Role and Future of National Constitutions in European and Global Governance](#)
- [The Abortion Act: a Biography](#)
- [Law, Knowledges and the Making of 'Modern Healthcare'](#)
- [Women's Legal Landmarks Project](#)

5. Kent Law School Governance

Kent Law School endeavours to be as responsive as possible to the needs of all students, including our research students. If there is a matter on which any research student feels action needs to be taken by the School it should be raised for discussion as promptly as possible. In some cases, the matter might be most swiftly resolved by being informally raised with a supervisor or a member of the Kent Law School staff with special responsibility for postgraduate research students or with one of the PGR representatives (see below).

5.1 Committees

The PGR Staff-Student Liaison Committee (SSLC) meets each term (physically or virtually) to discuss issues relating to the PGR community. All research students are welcome to attend. The SSLC reports to the Graduate Studies Committee, which is also a vehicle for discussion and resolution of any matters that postgraduate students wish to have formally considered. The Minutes of previous SSLC meetings are available on-line via the Moodle page:

<https://moodle.kent.ac.uk/2019/course/view.php?id=450>

5.2 Student Representation

Postgraduate students are represented on the Kent Law School's Graduate Studies Committee, Research Committee and School Meetings, whilst those that undertake teaching responsibilities are also represented on the Education Committee.

Kent Union conducts elections online during the Summer Term to ensure representatives are in place for the beginning of the coming new academic year. Up until that time the representatives who were elected in the previous academic year will continue to act in this role. Following the elections an introductory welcome event will be held in the Summer Term – this is an informal opportunity for Student Representatives to meet others from different schools and faculties.

Further information on the role of Student Representatives on committees and boards can be found at: <https://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/codes/research/annexr.html>

5.3 Essential Reading

[The University Regulations and the Code of Practice](#) set out the formal requirements for the different categories of research degree, the responsibilities of the school, supervisors and students, and a range of other vitally important information. It is highly recommended that this information is studied carefully by all research students and consulted in the event of any difficulty. The University Regulations set out the rules and procedures governing the registration of students, use of library and computing facilities and a range of other matters. Again, the advice is to read this carefully and refer back to it in the event of difficulty.

6. SeNSS 1+3 Students

Students who have been awarded a SeNSS 1+3 studentship from the ESRC study for a Masters degree in their first year and a PhD afterwards. During their first year, they are expected to take 4 LLM taught modules (2 in the Autumn and 2 in the Spring Term in addition to the KLS Research Methods Module (LW9291). They are also expected to submit a 15,000 word dissertation by TBC August 2020. Please consult the PGT Student Handbook, as well as your supervisors, for the choice of modules and dissertation topic.

Supervision meetings relating to the LLM dissertation, which may be face-to-face or may take the form of email and telephone communication, will include a discussion and review of the structure and plan of a dissertation and a sample chapter. This will normally involve a minimum of 3 meetings (face-to-face, email or telephone) which should take place before the end of the Summer Term. Supervisors and students must keep a note of these meetings. Supervisors will be available from the end of the Summer Term until the submission deadline only to respond to specific issues or problems and this availability will normally be by email. Please note that supervisors will not review complete drafts of the dissertation.

7. Communications

Kent Law School uses the electronic mail system for most communications. It is the primary means of making contact with students both as individuals or groups, advertising meetings and drawing attention to matters which may be of particular concern to research students generally. Please do ensure that you have access to **a University of Kent email address** promptly upon beginning your studies and that you check your email regularly throughout the course of your studies. If you are using a personal email address it is your responsibility to arrange for a forwarding operation of all your Kent emails to your personal address.

Email Lists:

There are two email lists. (1) The kls-pgresearch@kent.ac.uk mailing list is for the use of both supervisory staff and research students, who may use this list to communicate with each other. New students will automatically be subscribed to this list after registration.

(2) The postgraduate research students also have their own email list for communication amongst themselves (excluding staff), kls-pgresearchers@kent.ac.uk, to which new students are also automatically added. PGR Directors will regularly email you on this list with events info, calls for papers, training opportunities and other important announcements.

Research students operate their own **Facebook** page (your student Reps will inform you of this during induction week).

Please note that email lists are currently under review and there may be some change to their practice of use during the academic year. We will inform you in detail of this, if and when it takes place.

Moodle:

In addition, there is [a designated PGR space on Moodle](#), the University's centrally supported virtual learning environment, where, for instance, materials for reading groups and from visiting scholars are shared.

Computing Laboratory:

A good deal of information is available from the Computing Laboratory. Students are urged to use the computing facilities and the support provided at the Computing Reception. Please note too that students with internet access may access their e-mail from their home computer.

Notice Boards and Mail:

For other communications, there are various notice boards in the lobby and outside the Kent Law School as well as the Postgraduate Common Room that are specifically for postgraduate information. Mail for postgraduate research students will be held in the Postgraduate Office and students will be notified by email.

8. Research Training

The research training programme involves up to eight components, some of which are compulsory. The research training components comprise:

8.1 KLS Research Methods Module (LW9291) Autumn and Spring Terms

Compulsory, for LLM by research, 1st year MPhil and PhD students, and 1st year 1+3 SeNSS students. Subsequent years' students can attend specific sessions if they wish upon informing the convenor.

8.2 PGR Study Group, Autumn, Spring and Summer Terms

Compulsory for 1st and 2nd year PhD and MPhil students; highly recommended for LLM by research students; but all research students are welcome subject to the availability of seats!

8.3 KLS Staff-Graduate Seminars

Attendance is expected as we consider this series a part to your research programme and so they are highly recommended for all research students of all levels and years. See below section for more detail.

8.4 Faculty Research Modules on Research MA

Optional as desired/needed.

8.5 Graduate School Training - Researcher Development Programme

*Some workshops are compulsory whilst others are optional. The Research Development Assessment is compulsory for all 1st year PhD students and a **condition** for passing the Probation Review.*

8.6 Library Information Skills Workshops

Compulsory for 1st year students.

8.7 University Wide IT Training

Optional.

8.8 Ad hoc training arrangements

Optional.

Other appropriate elements from the research training programme should be discussed and agreed with supervisor(s) and if necessary with the PGR Co-Directors.

8.1 KLS Research Methods Module (LW9291)

This module is designed to enable and inspire students to conduct critical, creative and practical legal research by enabling and inspiring them to be critical, creative and practical about their research process. It pays attention to every aspect of the research process including conceptualisation, data collection, data analysis, dissemination, and evaluation. It emphasises principles of experimentation, transparency, sharing and reflection. Students will complete a series of highly specified tasks, each of which uses their own research project as a test case. Through these tasks they will come to understand their research project on different scales; from the inside and from the outside. Through these tasks they will explore and evaluate the anatomy of PhDs, legislation, presentations, interviews, books and articles; from the perspectives of participants, authors and audiences. And through these tasks they will engage in critical, creative and practical speculation about the implications of approaching their project as if it were, for example, quantitative, qualitative, archival, ethnographic, participatory, field-work based or object-based.

Convenor: Prof. Emily Grabham

Teaching Staff: Dr. Thanos Zartaloudis and Prof. Emily Grabham

Autumn Term: 1300-1500, Tuesdays in the KLS Brian Simpson Room

Spring Term: 1300-1500, Tuesdays in the KLS Brian Simpson Room

LW9291 is assessed via a portfolio of Tasks and a 5,000-word Reflection Statement to be submitted to the Module Convenor on the first Tuesday of the Summer Term, and then included as part of the Probation Review portfolio.

8.2 Postgraduate Research Students' Study Group

The Postgraduate Study Group functions as a dedicated compulsory training forum, which complements the research training above in a number of important ways. It provides a safe, supportive space in which students present and discuss their research, theories and their methods and thereby develop their presentation, communication, collaborative and critical academic skills. It hosts seminars, readings and workshops led by KLS staff and academic visitors, which focus on their current research and/or the specific theories and methodologies they use and alternate ways of thinking about law. It also occasionally organises a number of workshops and labs oriented at particular skills, such as those associated with academic publishing and applying for academic jobs. The Group meets on a weekly basis, though scheduling may vary through the year. Crucially, the Group is socially an invaluable part of our lively postgraduate research community.

Convenor: Dr Thanos Zartaloudis (Autumn, until Paternal leave; then on: Prof. Ashiagbor TBC)

Autumn,
Spring and
Summer Terms: 1500-1630, Tuesdays in the KLS Brian Simpson Room (unless stated otherwise - see separate communication on the study group programme via email.)

8.3 Kent Law School Staff-Graduate Seminar Programme

Kent Law School has a long-established programme of Staff-Graduate Seminars which are held during term-time (2-3 per term, though sometimes more). These involve a mixture of presentations from staff members of the School on publications, 'research projects in progress' and distinguished scholars from other institutions. For each seminar, roughly equal amounts of time are devoted to presentation and discussion, the latter of which is inevitably lively, wide-ranging and entirely welcoming your participation. Whilst it is recognised that the areas covered extend across the broadest possible spectrum of interdisciplinary legal study and will not always be directly relevant to the student's specific research projects, the strength of the Staff-Graduate Seminar programme is as an insight into the 'cutting edges' of legal research and is a facility which is regarded as invaluable for all research students. Thus, we expect all students to attend these (make sure you put the dates in your diary when they are announced). Details are circulated, termly, by email and are also available on the web. The organizer this year is **Dr Gavin Sullivan** (G.Sullivan@kent.ac.uk).

8.4 Faculty Research Modules on Research MA

This is a selection of broadly-based modules on social science research methodology:

SO817: Qualitative Research

Convenor: Dr Dawn Lyon (subject to change)

Autumn Term: Lecture/Sem 1200-1400 Mondays, Cornwallis North West Seminar Room 7
TBC

SO833: Design of Social Research

Convenor: Dr Tina Haux (subject to change)

Autumn Term: Lecture 1100-1200 Thursdays – Cornwallis Lecture Theatre 3 TBC

Workshop 1200-1300 – Darwin Seminar Room 14 TBC

Workshop 1300-1400 – Cornwallis North West Seminar Room 12

Workshop 1400-1500 – Cornwallis North West Seminar Room 12

SO832 Critical Social Research: Truth, Ethics and Power

Convenor: Dr Ben Baumberg Geiger (subject to change)

Spring Term: Lecture 1300-1400 Mondays – TBC

Workshop 1500-1600 - TBC

SO819 Quantitative Data Analysis

Convenor: Dr Heejung Chung (subject to change)

Spring Term: Lecture 0900-1000 Thursdays – TBC

PC 1100-1300 - TBC

Further details, including a registration form can be obtained from the Postgraduate Office of the School of Social Policy, Sociology and Social Research, or by email:

sspsr-pg-admin@kent.ac.uk

8.5 Graduate School Skills Training – Researcher Development Programme

The Researcher Development programme offered by the Graduate School is designed to equip research students and postdoctoral researchers with a full range of skills which will improve their effectiveness as researchers, and ensure that they are not only highly qualified but employable in a variety of careers by the end of their research project. All first year PhD students are required to complete a Researcher Development Assessment through attendance at a 'Kickstart your PhD: Guidance, Skills and the Researcher Development Assessment' workshop. Through the assessment all new research students are encouraged to consider their existing portfolio of skills, as well as the skills that they hope to acquire while doing their doctoral research. This will enable them to identify opportunities to develop those skills both by participating in the skills training programme, and through their own personal development as their research progresses.

The comprehensive programme of courses for the current and future terms, bookable online, can be viewed at: <https://www.kent.ac.uk/graduateschool/skills/index.html>

8.6 Library and Information Skills Training

There are Information Skills Training Sessions covering the use of the major databases. These will be noted on the Templeman Library Training pages below and all students are expected to attend: <http://www.kent.ac.uk/library/training/index.html>

Research students will be able to discuss their particular research needs with the Law Librarian, Theresa Thurston (t.k.thurston@kent.ac.uk) when they attend a Library Information Skills Workshop.

8.7 University Wide IT Training

The vital importance of a wide range of evermore sophisticated computer skills is increasingly recognised as a fundamental requirement for every postgraduate research student. Training is provided on a University-wide basis by the University's Computing Unit. Specialist staff from the Unit provide an extensive programme of workshops throughout the academic year (including training for the European Computer Driving Licence - ECDL), which cover the full range of computing skills that are likely to be required by research students. Amongst these, fluency in word processing, the use of e-mail and familiarity with internet resources are regarded as of primary importance. Attendance at workshops on these topics is required by all students unless it is clear that they already possess the necessary skills. See further: <https://www.kent.ac.uk/itservices/training/>

8.8 Other Research Training

In addition to the six components of the research training programme, it may be necessary for particular students to undertake other training provision. For example, research students may be required, if not encouraged, to audit particular modules to enhance their specialist subject knowledge.

9. Supervision

The University operates a system of team supervision for its research students. This usually and preferably at KLS consists of two co-supervisors.

At times, alternatively, a main supervisor, designated to act as the student's principal point of contact for support, advice and as the one who manages the student's progress and development, plus a secondary supervisor, whose role is primarily to offer an alternative perspective on the research project, usually once so annually (prior to progress review periods), and/or provide additional support when required and agreed by the team.

Sometimes, a third person may be added to the supervisory team to act as the so-called supervisory chair: the 'chair' is a colleague who has brought at least one student to the completion of the relevant degree as first or co-supervisor, and their role is to support students and supervisors when they are not yet chairs themselves.

It is essential that the supervisory relationship works well and this requires mutual respect and an effective work ethic. Both the supervisors and the student must take primary responsibility for ensuring this is the case to the best of their abilities.

All students are encouraged to be open and direct with their supervisors about how they are finding the programme, supervision and to request help and assistance as needed. The formal details of supervisory arrangements, expectations, and accountability are provided in the University Code of Practice, Annex H and they should be read carefully at:

<http://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/codes/research/annexh.html>

Students are entitled to regular meetings with their main supervisor, as well as comprehensive written feedback on their work. These meetings take place once a month for full-time students and bi-monthly for part-time students, and they should be arranged with sufficient notice for all concerned.

Supervisors expect students to take responsibility for their studies, and overall organization and in doing so to adequately meet any deadlines set for research tasks, draft papers, chapters, writing tasks etc.

Supervisors are also expected to provide appropriate written feedback before progress review portfolios are submitted (see section 10, below); and may, from time to time, give student's work to a colleague to read to enhance the feedback given if a particular expertise is needed.

It is essential that students keep an online record of the monthly supervisory meetings via the **Student Data System** (SDS). You should carefully record your progress, feedback and targets in some detail (do not just input one or two lines, reflect on what you input on these records). Once students have completed the online monthly, or bi-monthly, supervision record it will then be sent electronically to the supervisor for agreement and/or comment. It is your **responsibility** to do this. Please note also that completing the online supervision record is a compulsory part of the progress review process and you should not expect your supervisor or a member of the PGR team to notify you that you need to do that. Please place regular notifications in your diaries to ensure that you are reminded to do so.

If a student is experiencing any problem with their supervision, and is unable to resolve it directly with the members of the supervisory team (and you must first attempt to do that please in a collegiate and respectful manner), they should not delay in seeking help from the Director of Graduate Studies (Research): Thanos Zartaloudis (and after the 4th of November till March Diamond Ashiagbor).

If we do not know that something is not working, we cannot help to fix it. Indeed, in very rare cases, the supervisory relationship breaks down and a new supervisor needs to be allocated. A student may also wish to change supervisory arrangements if the focus of their project changes significantly, or add another member of staff which requires the agreement of the supervisory team and the PGR Co-Directors. Thus, any proposed supervisory changes must be discussed with and approved by the Director of Graduate Studies (Research): Thanos Zartaloudis (until 4th November; henceforth with Diamond Ashiagbor till March).

9.1 1+3 SeNSS students

Whilst there is no requirement for monthly supervision meetings regarding the PhD during the Master's year, it is advisable to maintain some student/supervisor liaison to discuss the planned PhD research and the Master's dissertation topic.

10. Progress Reviews and Reporting

In trying to ensure that all our postgraduate research students successfully complete their chosen programme of study, a strict set of regulations has been put in place. This includes a number of formal review processes spaced through the registration period in which students and their supervisors are required to participate. The main purpose of these reporting and review processes is to constructively ensure that all students are making satisfactory progress and to identify any help and support that the student might need. We will hold sessions explaining what is expected at each review stage but we have also made available samples of good thesis statements and portfolios via the Moodle Postgraduate Research – Law Student Guide:

<https://moodle.kent.ac.uk/2019/course/view.php?id=54>

Please make yourself familiar with the University requirements, now. Further details of these procedures can be found in the Code of Practice for Research Programmes of Study, Annex K: Progression and Examination available online at:

<http://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/codes/research/annexknew.html>

Reviews will normally take place in the following months for *full-time* students who begin in September, but they can be subject to change:

Induction	November for PhD, MPhil and LLM
Probation	August submission for PhD and MPhil (outcome communicated by the end of September); February of the following year for LLM
End of Year 2	16 June (Presentation Day)
Submission	June for PhD, MPhil and LLM
Continuation Year 1	February
Continuation Year 2	June
Mid-Year Review:	ad hoc arrangements, normally within 6 months from previous review

Reviews will normally take place in the following months for *part-time* students:

Induction	November for PhD, MPhil and LLM
Probation	October for PhD and MPhil; August of the following year for LLM
End of Year 2	October
End of Year 3	16 June (Presentation Day)
End of Year 4	October
Submission	June for PhD, MPhil and LLMR
Continuation Year 1	February
Continuation Year 2	June

Please note that:

- These dates above are just a guide and they will be subject to change if the student for e.g. takes an intermission etc.
- all portfolios and supporting evidence mentioned below (with the exception of induction) must be emailed to the **KLS PG Office** at least **two weeks** prior to the date of the review. Please do not be late! If you can/want to submit earlier please do as that helps us manage the workload.

- **all members** of the supervisory team are expected to have read and commented on the student's portfolio **prior to its submission**; students are expected to have incorporated such feedback prior to the review.
- Make sure your portfolio work is planned in advance, and that you give **all** supervisors enough time to read and provide feedback. Enough time can vary between 2 weeks and 4 weeks depending on how busy your supervisors are at a time, please check with them their preference. By no means expect feedback in a week prior your review!

Should you wish to discuss matters concerning your progress independently of your supervisors before reviews take place, please contact the co-Director of Graduate Studies (responsible for Progress Reviews – Prof. Diamond Ashiagbor).

Below is a summary of how these reviews are conducted within the Kent Law School.

10.1 Induction Review

An Induction Review is conducted within six weeks of registration for all PGR students involving a meeting with the student and the main supervisor. The purpose of this review is to ensure that the student has settled in properly, to agree an initial work plan and identify any training requirements and opportunities.

The online induction review form needs to be completed after the review by the main or co-supervisor.

10.2 Probation Review (not requiring a meeting)

The Probation Review normally takes place approximately ten months after registration for full-time PhD and MPhil students, and twelve months for part-time students.

For full-time LLM students the probation review takes place approximately five months after registration, and eleven months for part-time LLM students.

The principal function of the probation review is to ensure that the student has embarked on the main body of their research and to address any issues of concern to students or supervisors and to identify future targets and work plan. In the Kent Law School the probation review is conducted as a paper review and students must submit electronically a portfolio containing:

- thesis statement, which includes the research questions, methodology, including ethics and data management where appropriate, expected contribution to an identifiable literature and a thesis outline (with a summary of chapters)
- summary of PhD work carried out to date (please do not include conference papers, articles drafts, etc - these can be referred to in the Annual Report)
- LW9291 portfolio of Tasks and a Reflection Statement
- planned schedule of future work (including a timetable to completion)

- a sample of written work such as a draft thesis chapter (~6000 words)
- completed Annual Report Form
- completed online supervisory records
- completed Researcher Development Assessment (for PhD students)

Probation Review timings for PhD students

Full-time PhD students who registered in September 2019 must submit their portfolio by 1st September 2020.

Part-time PhD students registered in September 2019 must submit their portfolio by 2nd November 2020.

Probation Review timings for LLM students

Full-time LLM students who registered in September 2019 must submit their portfolio by 28 February 2020.

Part-time LLM students who registered in September 2019 must submit their portfolio by 1st September 2020.

Students will be emailed by the PG Office, concerning the submission details.

Once a Co-Director of Graduate Studies (responsible for Progress Reviews) has considered the portfolios students and supervisors will be emailed comments. Sometimes, if necessary, the task will be undertaken by another Co-Director. Supervisors will then be requested to complete the online probation review form. If and only if there are serious concerns the student and supervisors will be requested to attend a follow-up in person meeting.

10.3 End of Year Reviews

End of Year Reviews are conducted at the end of Year 2 of registration for both full-time and part-time PhD and MPhil students, and then again at the end of Year 3 and 4 for part-time students only.

End of year reviews are used to ensure that the quality of research undertaken to date is of a PhD/MPhil standard and that the plan for completion of the research project is on target.

End of Year 2 Review for full-time students

At Kent Law School the end of year 2 review takes place in the context of the annual Presentation Day to be held on the **16th June 2020**. The presentation day is designed to celebrate our research student community and to share their research topics with the wider KLS audience (please note that this year we will invite all first-year students to informally present their PhD proposals or an idea from them to introduce them to the cohort).

The year 2 students will outline their thesis topic in a 15-20 minute presentation attended by the main supervisor, the co-Director of Graduate Studies (Reviews), fellow students and other members of KLS staff. Two weeks before the presentation day the student must submit electronically a portfolio containing:

- thesis statement, which includes the research questions, methodology, including ethics and data management where appropriate, expected contribution to an identifiable literature and a thesis outline (with a summary of chapters)
- summary of PhD work carried out to date (please do not include conference papers, articles drafts, etc - these can be referred to in the Annual Report)
- planned schedule of future work (including a timetable to completion)
- a sample of written work such as one near-completed chapter (*~10,000 new words, not including the work submitted for the Probation Review*)
- completed Annual Report Form
- completed online supervisory records

After the presentation day, and once the Director of Graduate Studies (Reviews) has considered the portfolios students and supervisors will be emailed comments. Supervisors will then be requested to complete the online end of year 2 review form. If there are serious concerns the student and supervisors will be requested to attend a follow-up in person meeting.

End of Year 2, 3 and 4 reviews for part-time students

At Kent Law School the end of year 3 review for part-time students is considered equivalent to the end of year 2 for full-time students. Consequently, only end of year 3 part-time students will be included in the annual Presentation Day.

Students will be emailed concerning the submission details and will be required to submit electronically a portfolio containing:

- a thesis statement, which includes the research questions, methodology, including ethics and data management where appropriate, expected contribution to an identifiable literature and a thesis outline (with a summary of chapters)
- summary of PhD work carried out to date (please do not include conference papers, articles drafts, etc - these can be referred to in the Annual Report)
- planned schedule of future work (including a timetable to completion)
- a sample of written work such as one or two near-completed chapter (*~10,000 new words, not including the work submitted for the Probation Review*)
- completed Annual Report Form
- completed online supervisory records

Review timings for End of Year 2, 3 and 4 for part-time students

Part-time students who first registered in September must submit their portfolio by 31 October 2020.

Once the Director of Graduate Studies (Progress Reviews) has considered the portfolios students and supervisors will be emailed comments. Supervisors will then be requested to complete the online end of year review form. If there are serious concerns the student and supervisors will be requested to attend a follow-up in person meeting.

10.4 Submission Review

The Submission Review takes place three months before the end of the minimum period of PhD registration (three years for full-time and five years for part-time students). The submission review for MPhil and LLM by research students takes place three months before the end of registration.

For full-time MPhil students this will be approximately twenty-one months after registration, and thirty-three months for part-time students.

The submission review for full-time LLM by research students takes place approximately nine months after registration, and twenty-one months for part-time students.

The purpose of this review is to determine if the student is in a position to complete and submit their research within the allotted time, or whether they have made sufficient progress to proceed to a continuation category of registration. This review will take place in the form of a meeting with the student, the supervisory team, and the Director of Graduate Studies (Reviews). Students and supervisors will be emailed concerning a date/time for the submission review.

Two weeks before the submission review the student must submit electronically a portfolio containing:

- a thesis statement, which includes the research questions, methodology, including ethics and data management where appropriate, expected contribution to an identifiable literature and a thesis outline (with a summary of chapters)
- a copy of the most recent drafts of each completed chapter
- schedule of future work including a timetable (if not ready to submit)
- completed Notice of Submission Form
- completed online supervisory records

After the submission review the Director of Graduate Studies (Reviews) will discuss the recommendations with the panel, and the student will be advised of the outcome of the review. The supervisor will then be requested to complete the online submission review form.

10.5 Mid-Year Reviews

Mid-year Reviews are conducted in less and less frequent cases where there are concerns about a research student's progress after a probation or an end of year review. The timing of the mid-year review will be discussed at the review being conducted and will normally involve the same panel members.

The student and supervisors will be emailed concerning a date/time for the mid-year review. Two weeks before the review the student will be asked to provide electronically:

- all written PhD work completed to date (please do not include conference papers and articles drafts)
- thesis statement
- schedule of future work including a timetable to completion

After the mid-year review the Director of Graduate Studies (Reviews) will discuss the recommendations with the panel, and the student will be advised of the outcome of the review by email. The supervisor will then be requested to complete the online mid-year review form.

10.6 Continuation Year Reviews for PhD students

If the student has not submitted their thesis by the fifth, and then the tenth month of the continuation year a formal review will be held at these two milestones to consider the student's progress towards submission.

Continuation Year 1

The Continuation Year 1 will take the form of a meeting with the student, the supervisory team, and the Director of Graduate Studies (Reviews).

Students and supervisors will be emailed concerning a date/time for the continuation year 1 review. Two weeks before the scheduled reviews students will be asked to provide electronically:

- all written PhD work completed to date
- thesis statement
- schedule of future work including a timetable to completion with details of which parts of the thesis are complete and which need work (and if so, what kind of work)
- completed Notice of Submission Form (if not already submitted). The notice kick-starts the appointment of examiners process
- completed online supervisory records (it is your responsibility to check SDS prior to your review to ensure that these are up to date)

After the continuation year review the Director of Graduate Studies (Reviews) will discuss the recommendations with the panel, and the student will be advised of the outcome of the review by email. The supervisor will then be requested to complete the online continuation year 1 review form.

Continuation Year 2

The Continuation Year 2 will take the form of a meeting with the student, the supervisory team, and the Director of Graduate Studies (Reviews).

Students and supervisors will be emailed concerning a date/time for the continuation year 2 review. Two weeks before the scheduled reviews students will be asked to provide electronically:

- all written PhD work completed to date
- thesis statement
- schedule of future work including a timetable to completion with details of which parts of the thesis are complete and which need work (and if so, what kind of work)
- completed extension application form (if not ready to submit)
- completed Notice of Submission Form (if not already submitted). The notice kick-starts the appointment of examiners process
- completed online supervisory records (it is your responsibility to check SDS prior to your review to ensure that these are up to date)

After the continuation year review the Director of Graduate Studies (Reviews) will discuss the recommendations with the panel, and the student will be advised of the outcome of the review by email. The supervisor will then be requested to complete the online continuation year review form.

Only in exceptional circumstances the panel may recommend to the Faculty that the student be allowed to proceed to a final writing-up period, which should not extend beyond 12 months.

10.7 Upgrading Review (RARE)

This much rarer type of review is held in cases where a student originally registered for an LLM by Research or an MPhil wishes to transfer to a higher-level degree programme. The principal function of the review is to assess the capabilities of the student and the viability of the project for a higher award.

The review panel will comprise the student, the supervisory team and the Director of Graduate Studies (Reviews).

Two weeks before the review the student will be required to submit a portfolio of work electronically containing:

- summary of the PhD work carried out to date
- planned schedule of future work including a timetable to completion
- substantial piece of written work
- completed online supervisory records
- statement from the supervisor indicating whether or not they support the upgrade

Students should advise the Director of Graduate Studies (Reviews) of their desire to be upgraded by 31 August 2020. The student will be interviewed by the panel and this will take the form of a viva voce examination.

After the upgrading review the Director of Graduate Studies (Reviews) will discuss the recommendations with the panel, and the student will be advised of the outcome of the review verbally. The supervisor will then be requested to complete the online upgrading review form.

11. Ethical Assessment of Research Project and Data Management

The University requires that each department has procedures in place to ensure that the ethical implications of research involving human participants have been considered and that ethical standards of conduct are achieved. All research proposals that involve any human participants should therefore be subjected to an ethical review prior to their commencement. Interviews and surveys of staff, students and other groups are included in this category alongside scientific interventional techniques and the use of non-anonymised primary source data.

You should complete an ethical review form and submit it to the **Chair of the Departmental Research Ethics Advisory Group, Prof. Diamond Ashiagbor** in consultation with your supervisor. You should follow the headings exactly and reflect them in your research proposal. Guidance on the principles that underpin the process of ethical review, as well as a link to the form, can be found via the Moodle Postgraduate Research – Law Student Guide:

<https://moodle.kent.ac.uk/2019/course/view.php?id=54>

Any large-scale research project such as an LLM by research or a PhD will also require you to have at least minimum plans in place for data management. Data management in effect is how you store and use the data you acquire and create during research on your project. This can have ethical implications (see above) but you should also have good plans from the beginning about how you are going to secure and back up your data.

Data management need not be onerous but does require some forward thinking. If the data consists of case-law and legislation, you can probably fulfil data management by being aware of which sources are already in the public domain and thinking clearly about how you store your own work. If you create any new data in the course of your research, for example interview transcripts or notes of participant observation, again, check ethics requirements about this and acquaint yourself with the requirements of any major UK funder as a guide (for example the ESRC or the Wellcome Trust). You will need to think carefully about your processes for maintaining anonymity, securing personal information of research participants, storing and processing material securely, and disposing of data when you are finished. You should never store raw personal data such as transcripts of interviews or any identifying information on cloud-based systems such as *dropbox* as these fall outside what the University can back up and secure itself. Instead, anonymise your data early on using participant codes, keep any documents that identify participants password protected (including word documents and Nvivo projects), and avoid referring to research participants by name when you record interviews (so that if you lose your recording device, the participant is not identifiable).

At each stage of the research process, think about how the data would be secure and how the research participant's anonymity would be maintained if the data were to fall into the wrong hands.

12. Funding

12.1 Research Annual Allowance

Kent Law School provides an allowance of £500 for full-time research students, and £250 for part-time research students, per year of registration. Please note that this allowance is only available to registered research LLM and PhD students. The allowance can only be used for purposes related to research activities, such as attending conferences, travel to visit libraries, field work, business cards and printing expenses (see sections below on booking travel and conferences). For information on how to make travel and conference bookings please see section 13 below.

Study Extension Students: If you are a student who has obtained an extension to your study please note that a pro-rata allowance will be awarded depending on the length of extension. For example, an annual allowance of £500 is available, for a six-month extension, an allowance of £250 will be granted ($£500/12*6$ months).

12.2 Research Support Fund (including Fieldwork)

Students can apply to the Research Support Fund **only** if their annual allowance has been exhausted.

This additional amount will not exceed £500 on the discretion the PGR Director (Strategic lead) – the funding is limited and is not exhaustive. The application form can be found on the Moodle Postgraduate Research – Law Student Guide:

<https://moodle.kent.ac.uk/2019/course/view.php?id=54>

Completed forms should be emailed to KLS PG OFFICE (klspgoffice@kent.ac.uk) by the deadlines below. Applications should be supported by the student's main supervisor and will be considered by the Directors of Graduate Studies (Research). Students will be informed of the outcome within one week after the deadline.

Autumn Term deadline by 14.00, Friday 13 December 2019

Spring Term deadline by 14.00, Friday 3 April 2020

Summer Term deadline by 14.00, Friday 19 June 2020 (*Please note that this deadline cannot fund travel and or events beyond 31/07/2020. The University's financial year ends on the 31st July and we are not permitted to use current financial year budgets to fund activities that fall in the following financial year*).

12.3 Faculty of Social Sciences Top-Up Fund

The Faculty has introduced a top-up fund to support exceptional requests to assist PhD research. Examples of activities that might be supported include: specialised training, the presentation of papers at overseas conferences, or visits to archives. Applicants are required to comment on how the proposed funding could help them in their efforts to publish their work and how it will contribute to their personal and professional development. Applications should

be made using a specific form (here: <http://www.kent.ac.uk/socsci/studying/postgrad/>; 2 pages maximum; along with details as to where to email it to, included in the above link) in consultation with the Supervisor(s) and School Director of Graduate Studies (academic lead), both of whom must endorse and sign the application.

Please note that these are limited to only two applications per registration period, but this could be in the continuation year, also. The crucial requirement is that **in order to be eligible to apply, applicants must have used up their School PGR allocation. Finally, please note that applications in excess of £400 will not be considered and most successful applications will be for less.**

Decisions on applications will be made on the 4th, 8th and 12th week of the Autumn and Spring terms and at the end of the summer term. Decisions for applications submitted over the summer vacation period will be made, usually, at the end of July.

12.4 Other External Sources of Funding

In addition to the internal research funding, PGR students, where appropriate, may also wish to apply for other external sources of funding. For current PGR students, this usually comes in the form of a fieldwork or conference attendance bursary or a ‘writing up’ year fellowship or stipend. Some examples are listed below. PGR students are very welcome to contact the KLS Research Office for advice and help in preparing and writing applications (but please not that you will be writing the application after all and you have to take up the inevitable responsibility for it and the process entailed (klsresearch@kent.ac.uk)).

a) Learned Societies

Socio-legal Studies Association:

- PhD Fieldwork Grant: <https://www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php/small-grants#how>
- Bursaries for Annual Conference attendance and sometimes bursaries for attending the American Law and Society Annual Conference, or other international socio-legal conferences co-sponsored by SLSA: <https://www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php/students>
- *KLS, including KLS PGR students, have a good success rate with applications to SLSA schemes.*

Society of Legal Scholars:

- Research Activities Fund: <http://www.legalscholars.ac.uk/research-activities-fund/>

American Society of International Law:

- Helton Fellowships (‘micro grants’ for fieldwork on issues involving international law, human rights, humanitarian affairs and other related areas): <https://www.asil.org/about/helton-fellowship-program>

If your work is interdisciplinary, other learned societies – eg British Society of Criminology, the British Sociological Association, British Society for the History of Philosophy, Social History Society – may have similar schemes.

b) Academic Journals

Modern Law Review:

- Scholarships for research students: <http://www.modernlawreview.co.uk/about-mlr-scholarships/>

Feminist Review Trust:

- Funding for projects that support women (not necessarily academic research): <http://www.feminist-review-trust.com/>

‘Writing-up’ Fellowships (sometimes residential):

- *The Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation - USA* (projects relating to human violence and aggression): <http://www.hfg.org/df/guidelines.htm>
- *Max Plank Institute for Comparative and International Private Law – Germany:*
<https://www.mpipriv.de/en/pub/Work%20and%20Study%20at%20the%20Institut/scholarships.cfm>
- *Institute for Global Law & Policy Residential Fellowship Program at Harvard Law School:* <http://www.opportunitydesk.org/2018/02/05/iglp-residential-fellowship/>

These are just some examples – specialist research centres and institutions in your academic field may well have more opportunities. Previous PGR students have found this ‘writing-up’ fellowships funding database at the University of Notre Dame a useful search tool:

https://graduateschool.nd.edu/professional_development/research/dissertation-completion-fellowships/

13 Travel and Conference Bookings

All travel should be booked through KLS. Please note that in general, the earlier travel is booked the cheaper it is likely to be. Travel bookings should be emailed to KLSTravel@kent.ac.uk giving full details of any requirements and stating the relevant budget source e.g., research annual allowance. A minimum of 3 weeks’ notice should be provided for requests to be processed.

Please do not incur any expenses personally unless you have prior written agreement with KLS Finance Office/Jon King otherwise we will be unable to reimburse these costs. Please note that it is the student’s responsibility to find out about and arrange any visa or entry requirements and to do so promptly. Find out as to what is required and how long it would take to obtain it, allow for some extra time for contingencies and then make any bookings.

Conference bookings and registration fees including any accommodation costs should also be paid directly by KLS. A completed booking form must be passed to the KLS Finance and Travel Team (Eliot Extension building) and they will arrange for payment to be made, subject to sufficient funds remaining from the budget source. Please ensure that the request is put in at least 3 weeks before the deadline for registration, to allow time for processing: KLSFinance@kent.ac.uk. Use your allowance wisely: only go to workshops/conferences for instance that are absolutely essential to your actual thesis.

In order to claim reimbursement of any other expenses you will need to complete a University Expense Claim Form (available from the KLS Postgraduate Office, or the [Postgraduate Research – Law Student Guide](#) Moodle page). Please make sure that you complete all relevant sections of the form. **All expenditure must be supported by receipts or invoices** (credit card vouchers are not acceptable). The completed form should be submitted to the Finance Team, Kent Law School, University of Kent, Canterbury, Kent CT2 7NS.

*Receipts should be submitted no later than three weeks after the event and before the University's financial year end closure of **31 July**. Any receipts submitted after this date will most likely not be processed for reimbursement.*

14. Facilities

14.1 Library

The Law Library is located on Level 2 of the Templeman Library West, and contains the books, periodicals and primary materials of law, although many of the books and journals required for postgraduate study may be found in other areas of the library as well. Theresa Thurston, the Law Librarian, and her assistant Sue Grimer will be happy to provide detailed instruction on the range of electronic information sources and how to use them. Their contact details are:

Theresa Thurston	t.k.thurston@kent.ac.uk	Extension 3111
Sue Grimer	s.k.grimer@kent.ac.uk	Extension 16638

The Law Library subject guide *Lawlinks* is structured to help you find your way around legal resources and contains many guides and tutorials to help you. You can access Lawlinks here: <http://www.kent.ac.uk/library/subjects/lawlinks/>

The three sections to look out for to get you started are:

Signposts

The Signposts are links to freely available websites that we recommend as good starting points for legal research.

Electronic Law Library

The Electronic Law Library has links through to subscription datasets (eg, Westlaw, Lexis Library) which are only available to registered members of the University of Kent.

Researching the law

Researching the law contains electronic versions of quick guides to brush up your research skills or get you started in an unfamiliar area.

14.2 Using Other Libraries

If you are not based within travelling distance of Canterbury, or if the material you need is not held at the Templeman Library, you may visit another library closer to your home, or one that has the specialist material you wish to consult. You can find out more information on how to access other libraries here:

<https://www.kent.ac.uk/library/finding/visiting.html>

Kent Law School has an agreement with the 'national' law library at the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (IALS) to provide access to their resources and services for all of our postgraduate law students: <http://ials.sas.ac.uk/>

The Library also provides a document delivery service that allows you to request materials from the British Library which is a vital resource for students undertaking broader dissertation research. You can find out more information about this here:

<http://www.kent.ac.uk/library/templeman/services/documentdelivery/index.html>

14.3 Student Facilities (incl. KLS PGR Common and Computer Rooms)

The [Graduate School](#) (Faculty) also have a relatively new study/social area for all postgraduate students. Open from 8 am to 6 pm, this communal space is a relaxed area where postgraduates can study, socialise and meet to work together. With a large open terrace, a kitchen and note that there is also outside space to enjoy when the weather is good. It can be found in Cornwallis East, Room 329 on the third floor (take the elevator on your right once you enter the building).

Kent Law School provides its own Postgraduate Common Room as well as a Computing Room (air- conditioned) on the lower ground floor of the Eliot Extension building. Both rooms are for the sole use of all KLS postgraduate research students and have wireless networking. The Computing Room has storage lockers for leaving books etc (any issues with access please speak to Jon King). There is a large photocopier which can also be used for printing and scanning. Paper is provided free of charge and printing to the photocopier/printer in the Computing Room is also free.

Please note that the KLS Computer Room is a quiet study space. In some contrast, the KLS PGR Common Room is a dedicated space in which students can relax, socialise, chat as well as study. The room contains a fridge, microwave, kettle, sink etc and comfortable sofas and chairs. The room is also used for the PGR Study Group, for film showings, and other get-togethers and it has, as of last year, a communal research library which is 'read only' (please do not remove material from this library) and which also contains a significant amount of publications by KLS Staff. If you publish papers or chapters or else please feel free to leave a copy to this library.

The doors to both the Computing and Common rooms have an electronic door lock operated by a yellow fob. You will be given a fob with access to these rooms when you arrive, or they can be collected from Lynn in the Postgraduate Office.

For out of hours access to the main outside door on the lower ground floor please see Lynn who can arrange for access to be granted via your Kent ID card.

Please note: Keeping the PGR facilities tidy and well cared for is the responsibility of the PG students; Kent Law School will not be responsible for any loss or damage to items left in the Common Room or Computing Room so please take good care of your things and of the space.

15. Welfare

The broad division of labour between the Kent Law School staff with special responsibilities for postgraduate students has been described above, and they will be pleased to help with any difficulties that arise within their respective spheres of responsibility. Depending upon the nature of a problem that arises however, it may be best to raise it with one or other supervisor unless this is inappropriate in your circumstances. If a supervisor is not the best person to resolve the difficulty, then at least s/he will be in a position to advise the student as to who is.

If the supervisor is unable to help, please do not despair or give up. One of the staff concerned with postgraduate research students should be in a position to help. In particular, the Director of Graduate Studies responsible for Welfare (Thanos Zartaloudis for the Autumn and Summer Terms; and Diamond Ashiagbor for the Spring term and the last few weeks of the Autumn term if necessary), encourages students to confidentially approach them with concerns they do not feel otherwise able to resolve. If a student feels unable to speak to them, s/he should feel free to contact the Head of School directly.

In addition, there is a wide variety of support services available on campus including academic support, emotional and spiritual support, financial advice and support, medical support and health and safety advice, as well as other support services. We have chosen to highlight some of these below. Students are encouraged to make the most of these services in dealing with any problems they may encounter. The Student Services web address is:
<http://www.kent.ac.uk/student-services/>

15.1 Wellbeing Services and Mental Health

The Wellbeing Team offers free support to all enrolled students experiencing distress arising from psychological, emotional or mental health issues. The Team consists of Wellbeing Advisers, Counsellors and Student Mentors. For more information about the services offered, please see:

Wellbeing services at Kent guide: <https://www.kent.ac.uk/student-support/wellbeing/>

Information for students in particular:

<https://www.kent.ac.uk/student-support/wellbeing/student.html>

Over the past few years the KLS PGR Students have organized their own informal group for support and discussion of mental health and other well-being concerns, which can be a helpful informal first step towards discussing any concerns you may have, but this will be entirely your choice and responsibility please. Your PG Reps will inform you at the start of the Autumn term as to any meetings or points of access for this informal initiative.

15.2 Support for Student Teachers

KLS aims to give postgraduate researchers teaching experience if they wish it. The Education Committee operate teaching induction sessions at the start of the new academic year, and offer follow-up training throughout the year. This process is overseen by the KLS Directors of the Education Committee. In addition, the KLS GTA Liaison responsible for research student teachers, Dr. Gian Giacomo Fusco, will meet once a term to provide briefings, feedback and any issues arising.

The Academic Practice Team of the Unit for the Enhancement of Learning and Teaching organises and teaches the PGCHE and AFS programmes. It is now compulsory for all GTAs and students who teach to study for one of these qualifications; register as soon as possible. There are two core modules; [UN819: An Introduction to Learning, Teaching and the Academic Environment](#) and [UN820: Critical Perspectives on Academic Practice](#).

Further information, FAQs and application forms are here:

<https://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qualifications/pgche/>

The Team also offers advice and information on how to obtain support and find resources to help students develop their academic careers or the work of the department. See:
<http://www.kent.ac.uk/uelt/academic-practice/>

There is also a mentoring system by which research students with previous teaching experience offer advice and support to newer ones.

16. Changes in Registration

In cases of illness and other good cause a student may apply for permission to interrupt their registration for a period of time or change the mode of registration (e.g. from full-time to part-time). More details concerning intermission and other changes in registration can be found in the University Regulations for Research Programmes of Study.

17. Plagiarism and Duplication of Material

The University does not accept plagiarism or duplication of submitted material and imposes severe penalties if it occurs in theses. Guidance on referencing is contained within the Kent Law School Style Guide enclosed with this information pack. The Oxford Standard for Citation of Legal Authorities (OSCOLA) is recommended. Further guidance on academic integrity and avoiding plagiarism can be found on the PGR webpage and at:

<http://www.kent.ac.uk/uelt/ai/students/index.html>

18. Complaints Procedure

If a matter arises which a student feels has not been satisfactorily handled or resolved, there are a number of ways in which the issue can be pursued. The supervisors, however, should be the first persons to approach. Student representatives can also be effective, particularly where a number of research students are affected by the same issue. The Co-Director of Graduate Studies responsible for student welfare (Thanos Zartaloudis till November and after March; Diamond Ashiagbor between November-March) is, next, someone who can be confided in unless they are the student's supervisor in which case the student should contact another Co-Director of Graduate Studies. Please do not let problems fester - seek help to resolve any issues swiftly by first seeking to resolve them yourself with your supervisory team and/or the student representatives and then with one of the Co-Directors of Graduate Studies.

If the complaint cannot be resolved by the Director of Graduate Studies responsible for student welfare, the student should submit a formal written statement to the Head of School before the end of their registration. If the matter cannot be resolved at School level, students are advised to consult the complaints and appeals procedure found in the Regulations and Student Charter of the University of Kent below:

<https://www.kent.ac.uk/regulations/general.html>

If not satisfied with the outcome of the complaint's procedure students can request a formal review by the relevant Deputy Vice-Chancellor. Further information via links below:

<http://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/regulations/index.html?tab=research-programmes>

<http://www.kent.ac.uk/regulations/general.html>

19. Appeals

Should a student wish to appeal a School decision that has been made in their case they will need to refer to the University's appeals procedure found in the Regulations at:

<http://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/regulations/research/soga.html>

Please note: there are time limits and criteria within which formal appeals must be launched.

20. Thesis Submission Procedures

Please consult the KLS Style Guide for guidance on how to prepare a thesis for submission. A copy is enclosed with this information pack or a copy can be found online via Moodle.

The word count in KLS for research theses is as follows:

PhD between 70,000 and 100,000 words

MPhil 50,000-60,000 words

LLMRes 40,000 words maximum

The total number of pages or words referred to above may be taken as **excluding** bibliographies, references, appendices, quotations, footnotes and any supplementary material (tables of results etc), which it may be desirable to submit for ease of reference, but which do not form an essential part of the main text of the thesis.

For the initial submission for examination two 'perfect' bound copies of the thesis with card/plastic covers are required. For information regarding submission the Instructions to Candidates should be referred to at:

<http://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/regulations/research/pgdipresc.html>

Completion of the 'Notice of Submission' Form is now a requirement as part of the Submission and Continuation Year reviews. They should be completed and returned to the KLS Postgraduate Office who will instigate the appointment of examiners. This will avoid any delay in the examination of your thesis following submission. The PGR team will deal with the appointment of the examiners - an internal and an external examiner.

NB: Under no circumstances should students contact their Internal or External Examiners, or any Independent Observer, about their research degree examination outside the formal examination process.

Once received, examiners have three months in which to examine a thesis and during this period the student will be contacted concerning viva arrangements – the oral examination. For guidance on the viva and to view 'The Good Viva Guide' please see:

<https://www.kent.ac.uk/graduateschool/Your-PhD.html>

<https://www.kent.ac.uk/graduateschool/skills/onlinetraining/vivaguidance.html>

Provided the student has the permission of the examiners, their supervisors can also attend the viva (though as an observer not participant). Details of the viva procedures and possible outcomes are in the University Regulations available at:

<http://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/codes/index.html?tab=research-programmes>

20.1 Digital Deposition of Theses

All final examined copies of theses are required to be submitted electronically via Moodle (LW999). Final details concerning the digital deposition will be provided after your thesis has been examined. However, for further information, details can be found at:

<https://www.kent.ac.uk/library/research/your-thesis/index.html>

Appendix: Titles and Abstracts of indicative current PhD theses at KLS

Richard Warren

A Critical History of the Immigration Tribunal

This thesis concerns the role of the immigration tribunal in mediating the claims to remain of long-resident non-nationals with contested immigration status. An immigration tribunal creates a public forum in which a long resident non-national and those supporting him often seek to contest that person's official construction as someone who does not belong to a community in the UK. Whilst the tribunal provides a forum for alternative narratives to be put forward, at the same time it is arguable that in utilising the restrictive language and structure of the law, an immigration appeal provides a space where such narratives are neutralised and ultimately subjugated beneath that of the state. Immigration tribunals have emerged at specific times in UK history and have often been introduced in parallel to restrictive legislation in order to create the impression that executive action is not arbitrary. They have always led to tension between the different departments of government and been unpopular with the executive branch but at certain periods it has been expedient for the government to make use of them. Recent developments to restrict the appeal rights of non-nationals can be understood as the executive attempting to reclaim power over immigration decision making. A consequence is to create more precarious classes of non-nationals resident in the UK unable to develop a secure sense of belonging. However, it is hypothesised that as the controlled legal forum for contesting the right to belong is removed, debates over what it means to belong in the U.K will emerge in more political ways.

Gabriele D'Adda

The response of PAH - Plataforma Afectados por la Hipoteca (Platform of people affected by mortgage) to the precarization of the right to housing: the case of Barcelona

The right to housing is granted by Article 47 of the Spanish constitution and also by several international treaties signed by Spain. Despite this constitutional right, since 2007, in Spain, hundreds of thousands of people have been evicted from their homes as a result of their inability to pay their mortgages. This "mortgage crisis" and its consequences are just one symptom of a more generalized process of precarization of the right to housing which has emerged as a result of the financialisation and commodification of housing. My thesis focuses on PAH (Plataforma

Afectados por la Hipoteca), the ‘Platform of People Affected by Mortgages’, a social movement established in 2009 in Barcelona to support, through grassroots activism, people at risk of losing their homes because of mortgage default. Bridging the precarity and social movements’ literature, this thesis analyzes, through the case study of PAH, how social movements can respond to housing precarity and its consequences. A combination of observant participation, semi-structured interviews and quantitative data analysis is used to examine how PAH developed and uses a double strategy – “Challenging the law” and “Changing the law” – to respond to housing precarity.

Steve Crawford

A study of Constitution and Legitimacy: Influences of Protestant thinking on perceptions of the legitimacy of constitutional reform as enacted by the 1688 English Bill of Rights

My PhD argues that the 1688 English Bill of Rights enshrined in law a constitutional settlement that can be conceived as having some perceptions of its legitimacy derived from the introduction of the relationship of authority between the people and their government. The Protestant Reformation re-imagined a church structure built upon a relationship between the congregation and their spiritual authorities. The Bill of Rights might be perceived as transferring elements of this idea into the temporal political sphere, through Parliament’s claim to be representative of the People as the basis for a parliamentary constitutional model. Foundational to the Protestant Reformation was the attack on the prevailing Papal hierarchy, and hierarchical authoritarian structure of the medieval Roman Catholic Church. This hierarchical structure was underpinned by the Papal claim to authority based upon being God’s individual representative on earth; providing unique access to divine legislative sovereignty. This in turn meant the tiered form of appointed leadership within the Catholic Church was legitimised by the extension of this hierarchical relationship, as well as by the office holders’ privileged positions as ‘connected’ to Papal authority through direct and indirect Papal appointment. Universal among the theological principles of the Protestant reformers was the firm conviction that the authority of the Pope as voice of God, and leader of the church on earth, was a human creation and not a divine appointment. Instead, Protestant theology placed the individual at the heart of the spiritual experience. The individual believer had the capacity to engage directly with Scripture and, stemming from this, a right to a personal relationship with their God. As opposed to access filtered through layers of church bureaucracy as medieval papal doctrine required. The role of the church was not to be gatekeepers to divine wisdom and

knowledge, but to better facilitate access of the laity to their deity on an individual as well as congregational level. I contend that these basic Protestant principles can be seen to act within the Bill of Rights, conveying aspects of the perception of the legitimacy of the document and allowing it to function both as a constitutional settlement to the tumultuous English seventeenth-century, and as an interrelated source of legitimacy for subsequent constitutional reform.

Christos Marneros

Human Rights After Deleuze: Towards a Jurisprudence of a Becoming-Human.

Christos' PhD thesis takes as its point of departure Gilles Deleuze's critical remarks on human rights and it aims to draw a link between his critique and his broader philosophical thought. In particular, by examining Deleuzian notions such as those of 'immanence,' 'ethics,' 'becoming' and 'jurisprudence,' the thesis aims to offer a potentiality of (re)thinking about human rights and theorising differently beyond the current human rights framework.

Mia Tamarin

Transboundary water conflict and pacification in Palestine/Israel: the process of water commodification and the dispossession of land and livelihoods

My research engages critically with alarmist scholarship that argues that water conflicts pose threats to international security. In contrast to current theories of "water peace" and "water war", and also in conversation with Virtual Water scholarship that argues that what we are witnessing is best understood via trade relations, I suggest that the ways in which water scholars and practitioners conceptualise water itself – as a commodity – necessarily have effects on how water is being managed and shared. Accordingly, I analyse the process of, what I call water commodification and how this process attends to the particularities of water. I maintain a theoretical approach inspired by Marxist international legal scholarship and drawing on political ecology theories, whilst deploying socio-legal research methods using the Palestine/Israel case study. This methodology enables me to simultaneously focus on the legal-discursive and material dimensions of commodification. Observing water use within the agricultural sector in particular, I identify two manifestations of this commodification of water emerging from my fieldwork within the specific landscape of Palestine/Israel, namely, the

dispossession of land and of livelihoods. Ultimately, I argue, commodification leads to a violent pacification of water conflicts.

Maayan Niezna

What is the impact of different legal frameworks addressing ‘unfree labour’ of migrant workers; can a ‘labour approach’ better explain and address this phenomenon.

My research project interrogates different legal frameworks addressing ‘unfree labour’ of migrant workers; it asks whether a ‘labour approach’ that focuses on structural causes for vulnerability can better explain, and then help us to resolve, this phenomenon of economic exploitation. I address two aspects of this question – the conceptual and the contextual. The conceptual part asks whether the legal terms describing unfree labour can be applied in a meaningful and consistent way in the context of temporary low-skilled migrant workers, and if so, under what conditions. The Contextual discussion follows, and is based on qualitative empirical research focused on Israel. It identifies specific initiatives, programmes or policies which can be said to reflect a labour approach, and assesses their short and long term impact.

Ahmed R. Memon

Networks, Governance, Violence: Towards a new sociology of international law

In my project I explain international law as a body of knowledge that is produced and facilitated by transboundary social actors and institutions that I refer to as network organizations. These network organizations are driven by ideological imperatives that may be defined by religious, secular, political or economic views that shape core international legal principles; specifically sovereignty and separation between war and peace. My claim is that these network organizations are deeply embedded within the history of international law as co-producers and benefactors of the body of knowledge generated in the discipline of international law within their historical contexts. These network organizations can be seen in different forms through history, implementing, benefiting and legitimizing their role in the production of knowledge that shapes international legal rules, through imperial governance. The imperial governance of these network organizations is inherently violent in nature as it relies on administrative, economic and regulatory means of policing and controlling populations. However, an orthodox reading of international law and its history which solely justifies itself as ‘territorially bounded state based rules of war and peace’ renders other forms of violence that are part of the

governance of network organizations invisible and unaccountable. My project highlights this hidden operation of international law through governance of transboundary social actors and institutions by sketching a sociological history of network institutions, their governance and the violence that is inherent in such governance.

Joséphine Uwineza

Intermediaries, In-Between Spaces and the International Criminal Court –Uncovering New Sites for Opportunity and Challenge

Approaches to the practice of international criminal justice have largely focused on the relationship between institutions and states. This has overlooked the role of other actors, such as intermediaries. This thesis examines the role of intermediaries in international criminal justice with a particular focus on their place at the ICC. Through this examination it argues/shows that international criminal justice also takes place in in-between spaces. The central insight of the thesis is that in-between spaces are productive of particular forms of international criminal law practices. These in-between spaces are not captured in dominant international criminal law literature and they are hardly capable of regulation. Furthermore, much of the literature on intermediaries overlooks the existence of these practices because it tends to study the relationship between intermediaries and the international criminal court (ICC/the Court) through global/local lenses.

The thesis develops the concept of in-between spaces, both analytically and empirically, to illuminate these practices of international criminal justice to which intermediaries give rise. To that end, I argue that existing conceptualisations of intermediaries as in-between agents through whom the Court extends its work on the ground is unhelpful. Rather, the thesis conceives intermediaries as mediators of the Court's work in in-between spaces which opens up new conversations about the way in which knowledge is produced, subjects are represented and power is exerted in these in-between spaces in which intermediaries occupy. Next, the thesis discusses the question of security. I argue that the Court is unable to fully protect intermediaries in in-between spaces. Therefore it should partner with other stakeholders. Lastly, this research discusses the issue of accountability. I argue that intermediaries' accountability is complex because in-between spaces produce different accountability registers. While the Court captures a small fraction of intermediaries' accountability, intermediaries are accountable to other actors such as donors and states. What

is more, the current framework of accountability does not provide for the Court's accountability toward intermediaries.

The thesis concludes that the ICC should enhance its partnership with intermediaries and change some of the ways in which it currently relates to them because in-between spaces are productive of a new kind of practice of international criminal justice which is not captured by existing literature and law. Despite the challenges that such engagement may bring, intermediaries are indispensable to the Court's work on the ground.

Mateja Koltaj

Radical Experimentation: Yugoslavia, the Non-Aligned Movement and the Archive of International Law

The Cold War has conventionally been viewed through the lenses of the Great powers; a coercive standstill, with most nation-states placed on the margins of that bi-polar legal, economic, political and cultural international arrangement. My thesis examines how during the Cold War period peripheral sovereignties functioned as a tool for state-based resistance and as sites for the creation of alternative visions of the international legal order, and how domestic policies can serve as prisms to examine alternative international pasts and futures. To this end, my thesis explores the Non-aligned Movement (NAM) as an example of a critical geopolitical project and radical experimentalism through the experience of Yugoslavia. At the core of my examination is the dialectical relationship between 'nonalignment' – NAM's organisational concept and Yugoslavia's foreign policy central pillar – and Yugoslavia's domestic policy of 'self-management'.

I argue that self-management's vision of a direct democracy through decentralisation was showcased abroad in nonalignment, as a way of affirming national sovereignty and as means for international cooperation, peaceful coexistence and solidarity irrespective of political, legal or socio-economic differences of any state. By problematising the principle and right of self-determination, I argue that, while the Cold War was a space-moment that permitted forms of national and international experimentation, it generated simultaneously a geopolitical context that stifled radical change. NAM's vision of self-determination as a legal concept for independence and the generation of an egalitarian world order proved contingent on the two power-blocs' specific understanding of it and a vehicle for advancing their own interests, and as such undermined the horizons of self-management and nonalignment. NAM's shortcomings

and achievements invite us, however, to reassess the value and significance of local-global interactions in the creation of alternative modalities of global governance.

My analysis is based on archival work conducted in the Archives of Yugoslavia in Belgrade, Serbia. Engaging with this archive as a place of struggle, I argue that it is a site to engage critically with global orders and hierarchies underpinned by international law. My findings demonstrate the dual function of the archive: it functions as a register of both domestic and international (hi)stories, and the container of radical forms of experimentation of world formation. The way the archive is constructed and organised performs, as a result, the critical work of my thesis; it makes my critical reading possible.

By bringing the national and the international together, the archive becomes a source of an alternative analysis of history as it recognises an emancipatory potential to peripheral actors, in particular to break the supposed coherence, linearity and simplicity of the global order. The archive is a space, then, for resistance and redefinition of fixed, imposed or controlled representations of the domestic and the international order. Such approach disrupts assumed understandings of the local and the international, and of self-management and nonalignment, and invites us to problematise a proclivity to historical closures in the study of international law.

Raul Madden

A Dignity Theory of Equity: Conferring Dignity on the Law, Compelling it from, and Upholding it for, the Wrongdoer and the Wronged

This thesis examines the relationship between the concept of dignity and the body of law called Equity in common law jurisdictions. It will contend that dignity theory explains something about Equity that existing theories of Equity leave untouched. Identifying three strands of dignity that Equity promotes – relating to the law, the conduct of, and the respect owed to, parties who come before it– with reference to Equity’s underpinning values, its doctrines, and its remedies, this project will establish that the notion of dignity is inextricable from its jurisprudential separateness and uniqueness.

Eric D. Loefflad

Popular Will and International Law: The Expansion of Capitalism, the Question of Legitimate Authority, and the Universalisation of the

My thesis focuses on how a liberal pluralist conception of 'popular will', evidenced by *de facto* territorial control, emerged as the justification for domestic authority under international law. Drawing on critical legal historiography the historical sociology of international relations, I show how the nexus between international law, capitalist political economy, and the modern nation-state shaped the substance and form of contemporary political consciousness. Tracing the current doctrinal understanding of popular will back to the Swiss jurist Emer de Vattel's 1758 treatise *The Law of Nations*, I examine the material influence of its proclamations and presumptions through interconnected case studies of the American Revolution, the French Revolution, the formation of the European states-system, and the independence of Latin America. I argue that the legacies of these meta-events consolidated to form the UN system thus entrenching the contestable, but nevertheless durable, understanding of popular will that exists at the heart of today's international legal doctrine.

Chen Yang

The Regulation of Online Peer-to-Peer (P2P) Lending: A Comparative Study in the UK and China.

Over the last decade, P2P lending has emerged in markets of most countries and experienced a high-speed growth in the wake of the progress of internet technology and fintech. The objective of this study is to generate new insights about the design and evaluation of P2P lending regulation regimes of today, by undertaking a comparative study of the P2P lending regulation of the two leading P2P lending markets, the UK and China.

Siobhan Collins

Parents on the Periphery: Child Protection Law and Parents with Learning Disabilities.

This thesis will seek to identify aspects of current child protection law and legal process that particularly disadvantage parent(s) with learning disabilities. This will be undertaken by a critical exploration of the emergence and development of current ideologies such as theories of individual responsibility and the post-liberal subject underpinning the current legal framework relating to parenthood and child protection. These will be contrasted with more communitarian theories of responsibility (Eckstein) and the Vulnerability Theory (Martha Fineman) in an effort to propose alternative ways to reimagine the current law on child protection to enable it to be more inclusive of this group of parents. The research will include

the views of parents with learning disabilities and professionals who work with them on their experiences of the current legal system and include their voices on how the law could be reframed to empower more parents with learning disabilities to raise their own children.

Carina Lamont

Protection of civilians jus post bellum: In search of a normative framework for effective, purposive and sustainable protection of civilians in United Nations peace operations

The research identifies a normative framework for the protection of civilians in UN peace operations. A primary focus is on the regulation of the use of force as entailed in international humanitarian law (IHL) and international human rights law (IHRL), and on the interplay between these frameworks in situations where both apply. The research thereby contributes to the furthering of a *jus post bellum* framework specifically designed for the complex and legally uncertain time period between armed conflicts and peace. It is argued that the legal frameworks applicable to protection engagements (IHL and IHRL) enable different forms of protection, and contribute in distinct ways to peace and security. The identification of a dividing line between IHL and IHRL in protection engagements in transitional environments is therefore, it is submitted, key both to furthering the quest for sustainable peace and to ensuring protection that is effective, purposive and sustainable in complex transitional environments.

Eleanor Jeffrey-Chaplen

Putting the Legal Cart Before the Scientific Horse

The introduction of special rules to enhance the common law test for admissibility of expert evidence represents an attempt to regulate uncertainty rather than an effective strategy to reduce the risk of wrongful convictions. My thesis contends that the reliability test for the admission of expert evidence into criminal proceedings in England and Wales, as introduced via the Criminal Procedure Rules 2014, is not fit for purpose. By focusing on the procedure behind the reform, it will illustrate that the intense focus on ‘sufficient reliability’ by the legal community is a misinterpretation by the Law Commission of the original recommendations made by the House of Commons Science and Technology Committee in 2005. It will be illustrated that the reliability test was predicated on a consultation document that lacked clarity and precision and that remains unsupported by demonstrable data or evidence. Viewed from a risk response perspective, this thesis will argue that the reform was in fact driven by the outrage

surrounding a cluster of high-profile successful appeals rather than flowing from a strong evidence-based enquiry. Consequently, the new codified test will not improve on the current common law assessment and may even serve to introduce problems of interpretation leading to greater uncertainty and legal challenge.

Rebecca Gulbul

A critical reflection on the no-property rule in the human body and biomaterials in the context of biobanks.

My research examines the ambiguity around the property status of biomaterials in the context of biobanks. This uncertainty appears to be the foundation of the asymmetry between the rights exercised by tissue donors and third parties. It has led to a dualism in biobanking where public interests exist alongside commercial ones. My thesis explores this using three main concepts: the gift, biological citizenship and temporality.

Elena Paris

International law and the post-foundational challenge: theologies of legal universalism

International law is complicit in the hegemonic manoeuvre by which a few define and appropriate the meaning of its concepts (like state, territory, jurisdiction, democracy, citizenship, justice), and claim that the meaning so obtained is firmly grounded in reason, hence universal. Those on whom such “universals” are imposed are not allowed a say about alternative ways of relating to the realities depicted by those concepts, and international law lends its ceremonial power to impose a preferred meaning upon the world at large through legal, political, economic, physical violence.

The origins of this foundational way of thinking are in Western metaphysics, which prompted a specific epistemology of autonomous reason and an atomistic ontology. This particular metaphysics wants us to imagine the universal as something located outside society and politics, as already *a priori* established, that we should merely acknowledge, rather than question, and endowed with a legal authority pre-emptively immune to revision. Based on such foundational premises, international law functions in a way which is detrimental to the political agency of the subjects from whose consent it takes authority. Their voice and participation in international law-making is subsumed to obeying those immutable principles. The post-modern critique of this foundationalism originated within the Western paradigm itself produced a

differential epistemology and ontology, in which both the concept and the subject are defined through how they differ from the world of concepts and, respectively, subjects around them. I claim that this differential approach actually reinforces the exclusionary dynamic of modern international law, and the way in which international community is conceived.

Eastern Christian metaphysics offers an alternative account, yet unexplored, which maintains that both how we know and how the subject is constituted is not differential, but referential, that is, centred on the dynamics of relationality. Crucially, this alternative account points at a difference at the level of the degree of participation in decision-making in general, relevant also for the quality of participation in international law-making in particular. Moreover, it requires a new conception of community against the exclusionary dynamic of international community formation deriving both from the old (modern) drive to sameness, and from the differential way in which the post-modern subject understands its relationships with her others. I draw on this alternative, relational, metaphysics, as a possible support for re-thinking international law as a medium that sustains a democratic realm of international decision-making.

Tracey Varnava

Narratives of homelessness: an examination of local governance in Canterbury.

Tracey's PhD research is on the governance of street homelessness. The research focuses on Canterbury as the site of study as a means of creating space to move beyond the ideological to look in detail at the governance of homelessness at the local level. Tracey's research seeks to interrogate the way in which homelessness is currently conceived and addressed, suggesting that context is fundamental to shaping decision-making and ultimately outcomes. Specifically, her work questions the prevailing trend in much of the literature to depict cities as disciplinary in their responses to street homelessness and seeks to make space for other stories to be written.

Zainab Bakari

Access to medicines in Tanzania: Utilizing TRIPS flexibilities to promote public health.

This research focuses on access to essential medicines in Tanzania, in terms of physical and geographical availability and accessibility, affordability and quality. Access to essential medicines has been a problem in Tanzania. This research aims specifically looking at the role

of legal regulation in mediating access to medicines, and at how Tanzania has sought to deploy adequate responses to enhance or facilitate access.

A core (if not exclusive) focus of this analysis will be the international agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs), and the flexibility it offers to its signatories, including Tanzania, in the context of public health. While research previously conducted in Africa has suggested that such flexibility was not always applied, nor useful, limited research has been conducted to date on its relevance to Tanzania. Because little is known of the everyday practice that surround intellectual property and access to medicines in Tanzania, data for this research will need to be collected empirically, from policy actors closest to the issue. An overview of experiences of countries with similar socio-economic development that have implemented or are in the implementation phase of TRIPs agreement will be carried out to assess whether and how they have improved their citizens' access to medicines. The research will also look beyond the issue of compliance and implementation of TRIPs flexibilities (particularly if the latter is found to be inadequate) to consider feasible policies that will enhance physical and geographical availability and accessibility, affordability and quality, including the support for local pharmaceutical industries.

Edward Fairhead

The Society of the Anti-Spectacle: The Visuality of Drone Warfare and the Legitimation of Lethal State Force

The militarised drone has become an iconic weapon of modern warfare over the past decade. The purpose of this research is to interrogate how the visual style of modern drone warfare occasioned by the advent of the unmanned aerial vehicle relates to the question of legitimacy. This thesis argues that drone visuality is different from the spectacular visuality which dominated in the late modern era. I develop the concept of *the anti-spectacle* to name this difference in visuality. Instead of war being transmitted as a visually spectacular mode of entertainment which invites civic attention, the anti-spectacularity of drone visuality paradoxically *reveals* to the spectator that there is *nothing notable to see*. This visual difference, and a corresponding change in spectatorship, opens up a distinct dimension of legitimacy that I name the *negative space of legitimation*; designating the absence of friction between state action and an indifferent affective public. I develop this theoretical paradigm of the nexus between the anti-spectacle of drone warfare and negative legitimation to account for the distinctive visual style and political force of drone visuality.

Judith Onwubiko

The continuity of slavery: An examination of the Law's failure to address indigenous forms of slavery in Southeastern Nigeria.

In precolonial southeastern Nigeria, indigenous slavery practices existed in various forms including *osu*, *ohu* and *igba-egbe*. Although the extent of their prevalence is yet unknown, some of these indigenous forms of slavery continue to exist in modern southeastern Nigeria. Local NGOs and news reports have shown how various individuals have been disadvantaged and exploited due to their status as slaves under indigenous legal systems. Due to the pluralistic nature of the Nigerian legal system, the situation of these so-called 'indigenous slaves' are easily overlooked by the legal frameworks abolishing slavery in Nigeria. The aim of this thesis is to examine why each of these legal systems fail to effectively address indigenous forms of slavery in southeastern Nigeria, and to identify factors which need to be taken into account to enable the abolition of indigenous forms of slavery. I argue that the legal abolition project in Nigeria has been significantly influenced by international initiatives which are often ignorant or insensitive to local issues of slavery in non-western states, but are more concerned about promoting and protecting the economic and political interests of powerful western states. As a result, the Nigerian anti-slavery regime has adopted anti-slavery strategies which fail to effectively address indigenous forms of slavery in southeastern Nigeria.

Jessica E.G. Smith

The 'storied place' of state documentation: A spatial study of birth registration at the Beaney House of Art & Knowledge

My interdisciplinary project responds to recent calls within socio-legal studies for deeper reflection on the state's documentation of births. Despite significant change to social relationships, the legislative framework has seen little amendment since the establishment of civil registration and fails to address diverse experiences of kinship or personal identity. In responding to these calls, my thesis offers a different approach. Moving beyond the details recorded on the certificate, I draw insights from a case study conducted at the Beaney House of Art & Knowledge (Canterbury, UK): a museum, gallery, library, café, community exhibition space, tourist information point and registration hub. I locate imaginative potential in the

Beaney's 'tessellating' spaces and develop a methodology which engages with the collections to think creatively about registration. In doing so, my thesis identifies a novel site from which to explore the state's documentation of births and illustrates the 'spatial politics' which may otherwise go unnoticed.

Allison Lindner

Localising international law: the implications for sustainable development in the lives of waste pickers in South Africa

This thesis explores what happens in a localised setting when sustainable development, an international legal concept, is translated into national laws through an empirical case study involving waste pickers in Johannesburg, South Africa. I chose South Africa as the centre of the empirical examination given that sustainable development is both enshrined as a right in the highly-regarded and progressive South African Constitution, and is the prime objective of many local laws which comprise the waste management regime. The thesis uses an Economic Sociology of Law (ESL) approach, which considers legal life and economic life as part of wider social life; and conceptualises social life in terms of human rationalities, regimes, actions and interactions. This approach both prompts and facilitates a systemic interrogation of the interplay of the economic, legal and social dimensions of 'sustainable development'; and of how these dimensions are manifested in the life at local level. Empirical research reveals how stakeholders interact in their experience of the waste management regime aimed at achieving sustainable development. It explains that waste pickers in Johannesburg do not benefit from improved social, economic or environmental conditions because sustainable development is ill-equipped to respond to the social dynamics that complicate its operation in South Africa. Symptomatic of this is a lack of recognition of the value of waste pickers' work, resulting in policies that do not facilitate waste pickers' full access to waste, and a national recycling rate which has stagnated at 10% of all recyclable materials. Policy strategies aimed at achieving sustainable development in the South African waste management economy must address these issues in order to achieve success. This study is important for policy makers and waste pickers, and joins a handful of studies focused on the relationship between international law and the informal waste management economy.

Dibo Ebanja

*What roles can and does law play in determining whether natural resources are a ‘curse’?
Lessons from Chad and Zambia*

My thesis critically investigates the allegations that International law and its regimes have played a role in shaping post-colonial development process in natural resources rich developing countries. In an era – post second world war – poised with international political tension, I posit that, the corrupt influence of politics on international law (rule of law) had had a great influence and somehow attenuate development process in resource rich developing countries. Based on the so-called resource curse discourse, this research critiques the perception of natural resources being a ‘curse’ and try to trace the phenomena commonly manifested as curse back in the transition from the ‘old world order system’ through law and development discourse to present date. In a nutshell, my research also explores the importance of law as a tool in shaping and influencing societies. Its influence in the structural building of a market economy and the social consequences. Employing international taxation laws and treaties (ITLTs), and Bilateral investment treaties (BITs) as case studies of international law regimes, this paper will examine their underpinning structures with reflection on development process in two natural resource rich developing countries. Chad and Zambia – rich in Petroleum and Copper – will be explore as developing countries rich in natural resources to test this hypothesis.

Timur Bocharov

Compensation for Pain and Suffering in England and Russia: a Comparative Study of Legal Cultures

My PhD research aims to compare moral damages in Russia with pain and suffering and loss of amenity damages in England. The social contexts which shape these respective institutions provide promising material for a comparative socio-legal study. In England, there is on-going debate within the media, political circles, and academia regarding the supposed problem of a so-called ‘compensation culture’. The public is concerned the number of personal injury claims being brought is excessive, and that awards for even minor injuries are unreasonably large. In Russia, the situation with personal injury damages is the converse. It is the absence of a developed compensation culture and the apparently low value of human health and life that is regarded as a social problem. Therefore, there are significant differences in judicial approaches to personal injury damages and public perceptions in both countries, with awards being

considered relatively generous in England, but insufficient in Russia. These contradictions demonstrate that pain and suffering damages are deeply rooted in the cultural and historical context of Russia and England, including the attitudes and values of legal professionals and ordinary people. In order to better understand these differences, I explore how legal cultures shape compensation for pain and suffering in the two jurisdictions.

Tristan N. Webb

The meaning and significance in international law of the principle of non-intervention

This thesis is a doctrinal study of the principle of non-intervention (PONI) in international law. Accordingly, the study follows Article 38(1) of the Statute of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) by reviewing PONI's place in treaty law, customary international law, 'general principles of law recognised by civilised nations', and judgments of the ICJ; it also considers the meaning and status of PONI as an *a priori* universal (and on this point, in the spirit of Article 9, identifies commonalities in classical philosophical thought in Europe and East Asia regarding principles and order). The research shows how (and speculates why) UK discourse has, in recent generations particularly, been confused by the legal meaning and significance of PONI. It concludes with comments not only on the relationship between that confusion and UK foreign policy, but also on the implications for humanity of PONI and its sibling principles as we face the existential crises of successive anthropogenic catastrophes.

Moritz Neugebauer

Lawyers and agency working: the role of legal practices in shaping atypical work arrangements

My research explores how the encounter between labour law and agency-mediated work in the UK has unfolded on the levels of legal doctrine, business practices and the wider socio-political context since the 1970s. To do so, I draw on case law and doctrinal commentary, semi-structured interviews with legal practitioners, recruitment professionals and trade union officers and the documents produced in the context of recent government consultations and inquiries. I seek to bring a greater historical awareness to current debates over the 'crisis of labour law' and the 'future of work', which have tended to foreground trends occurring over relatively short time spans, while at the same time engaging with resurgent attempts at

conceptualising law on its own terms rather than in relation to its (economic, ethical, etc.) context.

Elena Caruso

A socio-legal experience: the case of abortion in Italy.

Italian abortion law was liberalised in 1978, following a prolonged feminist struggle. Since that time, however, the law seems to have been substantially “paralyzed” by the exercise of conscientious objection rights of medical personnel. This means that, in practice, legal abortion is often not available. Partly for this reason, abortion has continued to be a central focus of activity for the Italian feminist movement. This thesis will explore the role of the feminist movement in shaping Italian abortion law and policy, and – conversely – the ways in which a focus on abortion law reform has shaped Italian feminism. It thus explores the connections between Italian feminism as a social movement and law reform, and between socio-political and legal change. Moving beyond an analysis of formal law, it also explores the role which Italian feminism has played, and continues to play, in making effective a right to abortion.

In drawing on forty years of experience of feminist engagement with law, the thesis will also aim to consider ways of addressing current problems with ensuring an effective right to abortion in Italy.

Beyond the immediate focus on Italy, the thesis will explore what an analysis of the peculiarly Italian feminist experience of abortion might offer to discussion of contemporary legal problems regarding abortion more generally. First, the Italian situation is indelibly marked by the influence of the Catholic church. While this dimension of abortion law and policy has been extensively discussed with regard to the Irish situation and, perhaps to a lesser extent, that of Latin America, it has been far less considered with regard to Italy. Secondly, the thesis will assess the extent to which an analysis of Italian feminism might offer insights and lessons for feminist and socio-legal studies more generally. For example, Italian feminism speaks interestingly to current debates within contemporary Anglo-American feminist socio-legal studies regarding how law and policy might respond to women’s legal needs as diverse and non-universal. Italian feminism is little translated and understood outside Italy and, indeed, is little studied even in Italy, where feminist legal studies is not an object of mainstream interest in academia. The project will also speak to a wider literature on the appropriate role of law reform within feminist campaigning, which has, thus far, been dominated by a focus on the Anglo-American experience (Smart 1989).

Hüseyin Disli*Juridical Truth: Metaphysical Closure in Modern Legal Thought*

On the basis of the argument that modern law's relation to truth is marked by the discourse of 'metaphysical closure', my thesis undertakes a reading of the 'metaphysics of law' in relation to the notion of juridical truth, through examining the relation between the 'elimination' of metaphysical thought in both philosophical discourse and modern legal thought.

Farhana Begum*The experiences of Litigants in Person in the Family Court*

The thesis will explore the experience of litigants in person (LIPs) in the family court system following the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 (LASPO). LASPO removed legal aid funding for family court proceedings in most cases, with the result that there has been a dramatic increase in LIPs in the family courts since the Act came into force in 2013, particularly in child arrangements cases. The thesis will focus on a single court, and investigate the impact of self-representation on LIPs over the course of their court journey, as well as the impact of LIPs on the court.