

# Regulations and Syllabuses for the Degree of Master of Jurisprudence(J.M.) Programme

Programme Title	Juris Master for Non- LL.B Holder(B.A./B.S.B.E.)
Programme Code	035101
Teaching Institution	School of Law
Year of Admission	2015
Date	25 June 2015

This programme specification is made and approved by Graduate School of  $\ensuremath{\mathbf{GDUFE}}$ 

**Signature of Programme Director:** 

# **I.Aims of the Programme**

The degree of Master of Jurisprudence programme is offered by the Law School to meet the increasing demand for legal professionals, who are going to combine professional ethics with intelligence, and be versatile in basic knowledge of law and legal profession; who is a legal talent and has a strong belief in the rule of law in a socialist society. This programme equips candidates with following abilities:

- 1.To master the theories of Marxism, comply with Constitutional Law and regulations, possess righteous political mindset and attributes of a social citizen, contemplate the rule of law in a socialist society and strictly follow professional ethics;
- 2.To comprehend legal theories, legal reasoning, specialistic legal terminology, legal rules and professional skills on an advanced level;
- 3.To develop legal and related techniques, the capacity to work independently in legal practice and to serve as legal practitioner working in commercial and corporate business;
- 4.To demonstrate a good command of a foreign language, proficiency in translation, listening, writing and reading materials in a language other than Chinese.

## II. Basic Skills and Professional Techniques

The teaching format varies depending upon the basic skills and professional techniques that are possessed in the legal practice, including legal reasoning, "language" of legal professionals(communication and literacy skills), a wide range of knowledge concerning law, general office skills, interpersonal skills of legal professionals, whose abilities will be facilitated as follows:

- 1.To observe, analyse, adjudicate and solve social issues(including issues arising from the factual situation) with critical thinking skills and legal theories;
- 2. To make accurate and effective use of specialistic legal terminology;
- 3. To master knowledge in law and other disciplines;
- 4.To develop communication and literacy skills that deduce arguments lucidly and logically in specific cases;
- 5.To comprehend the criminal and civil procedures in which the investigation and collection of evidences is ongoing;
- 6.To engage in legal consultantancy and advocacy, alternative dispute resolution(consultation, negotiation and drafting the contract), organizational skills in a legal office;
- 7. To draft the regulations and legal documentation.

This programme offers techniques in combination of the said abilities and is mainly conducted by various means of teaching, practice workshops, seminars and research.

#### **III Period of Study**

The curriculum for J.M. requires two years of study. Candidates under no circumstances will be permitted to extend their studies beyond the maximum period of registration of

five academic years(including the period of non-study leave). A candidate who has demonstrated the ability to understand and examine legal issues throughout the study of programmes, shall spend the period of no less than one year working on the dissertation. In exceptional circumstances, a candidate who has completed the curriculum and shown exceptional merit during the whole examination, may apply to the Faculty Board of Examiners for graduation half year prior to the end of this programme.

# **IV Teaching Methods and Programme Structure**

- 1. This J.M programme is designed for full-time postgraduate students, and extends over a minimum of three academic years and a maximum of five academic years.
- 2. The basic teaching methods varies depending upon the needs of legal practices and in applying legal rules to factual situations. Where possible, courses are conducted by means of lectures, case studies, case analysis, and mooting.
- 3.Each Candidate will be assigned a supervisor for research and thesis writing after the admission, and placed in a study group conducted by a group of supervisors with professorship from the Law School and honorable legal professionals.
- 4.Seminars and workshops provide opportunities for the involvement of experts and legal practitioners in order to bridge the gap between teaching and practice.
- 5. The compulsory courses of this programme encompass two means of assessment: formal written examination that shall account for more than 80 percent of total courses in the syllabuses, and the examination of extended essays and thesis. Instead of remembering the facts and laws, the means of assessment varies upon the abilities and skills to apply, examine, explore, analyse, adjudicate and solve legal issues in practice.

## V. Programme Syllabuses

The curriculum for LL.M comprises of compulsory professional core courses and disciplinary electives. Eighteen teaching hours account for one course credit.

## **VI.Professional Practice Workshop**

The period of professional practice workshop shall be no less than one year in courts, procuratorate, law firm, Bar Pro Bono, notary office and legal departments of government office, and no less than six month in cooperate business. For those candidates who are funded by the People's Procuratorate of the Guangdong Province, the period of practice workshops shall be no less than one academic year.

#### VII Alternative Assessments

#### 1. Academic Attendance

The LL.M Students shall engage intensively in academic activities held by the University or the Faculty, and attend no less than five academic symposiums that are organized by the Faculty or other Universities.

## 2.Literature Reviews

A candidate shall read relevant materials either in Chinese or in other languages, and submit no less than five literature reviews to the supervisor during this programme, who will review and score the literature reviews and grade them according to their level.

#### VIII Means of Assessment

The basic means of assessment for compulsory professional course consists of formal, written examinations(closed or open-book examination included), written papers +written examinations, written and oral examinations, written examination +integrated practical report; for disciplinary electives, the means of assessment is by written examinations, oral examinations, essays, written paper + integrated practice report or their equivalences, which is subjected to the syllabus made by the examiner. A candidate passing the above assessments and scoring 70 in compulsory professional courses, is eligible for gaining course credits; a candidate satisfying the examiners and score 60 in disciplinary electives, is eligible for gaining the course credits.

## **IX** .Completion of the Curriculum

To complete the curriculum, a candidate shall satisfy the examiners with no less than the average score of 75.

# X. Dissertation and Award of Degree

To ensure high quality of dissertation or written project, three honorable examiners will be appointed, including one or two external examiners who are professors or honorable legal professionals.

To be eligible for the award of the degree of Master of Jurisprudence, a candidate shall complete the curriculum, pass the final oral defence of the dissertation, and satisfy the Faculty Higher Degrees Committee in accordance with the regulations set out above.