

## **Advice for Students On Publishing Adapted Student Work in the QMLJ**

Thank you for your interest in publishing in the Queen Mary Law Journal!

This info sheet is intended to help guide you on the process of submitting your manuscript to the QMLJ. We encourage you to adapt your student work to be an academic article and submit! We are excited about the novel and interesting arguments that students provide.

1. Please ensure that your submission is in accordance with our guidelines, available at <https://www.qmul.ac.uk/law/research/journals/qmlj/>. Everything you need to know about the submission process, and the format of the submission, is included in the guidelines.
2. More than likely your dissertation (or other student work) will require some editing to conform with the requirements of an academic article. Some primary requirements of an academic article that our editors **will require** include:
  - a. **Going beyond the merely ‘descriptive’**: Make sure the article advances a clear argument throughout the paper by clearly stating the argument in the introduction, showing how each section provides necessary information to support that argument, and strongly making the argument by the conclusion. The number one reason we reject student work is because it is merely descriptive.
  - b. **Stating the paper’s importance**: Tell the reader why they should want to read your article. Does it advance a new theory? Explore an issue from a new perspective? Discuss new developments in the law that no one else has yet analyzed? Etc. Set out in the introduction what sets this paper apart from others on the same or similar topics. It is ok if the difference is minimal but make it clear how it is different.
  - c. **Having a clear structure that serves the central argument**: outline the structure of the paper in the introduction and then sign-post the structure (and argument) throughout the article. Be very clear in the introduction, including a paragraph devoted to explaining the structure of the paper, for example: “Part 1 explores X. Part 2 describes Y. Part 3 shows Z.” etc.
3. We regret that we are unable to offer speculative feedback on papers. We are already very busy editing the papers that are submitted, so we can only send feedback on an article through the submission process.
4. Please do feel encouraged to apply! Even if a paper is not perfect, our editors will work with you to make it better if we believe it can get to be the point of being published.

Thanks and good luck!