**Major Modifications Proposal**

1. **Program**: Bankruptcy and Insolvency Law LLM, Osgoode Professional Development, Osgoode Hall Law School
2. **Degree Designation:** LL.M.
3. **Type of Modification:** Formal closure of the specialization
4. **Effective Date:** Fall 2020

1. **Provide a general description of the proposed changes to the program.**

We propose to formally close the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Law LLM specialization at Osgoode Professional Development.

1. **Provide the rationale for the proposed changes.**

We recently proposed a major modification of the existing Banking and Financial Services LLM specialization at Osgoode Professional Development (which we have proposed to rename “Financial Law LLM.”) As a part of this change, we are proposing to offer an expanded course offering for students in program. The courses will focus on banking law, financial services law, bankruptcy and insolvency. As such, we will be offering several courses from the Bankruptcy and Insolvency LLM specialization as a part of the new Financial Law specialization. Since these subjects will be offered in the Financial Law LLM, there is no longer a need for a Bankruptcy and Insolvency LLM specialization at Osgoode Professional Development. As such, we propose to formally close the existing specialization.

The goal of combining the Banking and Financial Services LLM specialization and the Bankruptcy and Insolvency LLM specialization courses is to attract a broader array of applicants and to provide those applicants with more choice in terms of courses and subject matter. Based on our market research, there is significant overlap in the types of students who would be attracted to and competitive for both programs. As such, combining th e course offerings will result in greater flexibility for students in the Financial Law specialization. In the Financial Law specialization, all students will be required to take foundational courses in both banking and bankruptcy and insolvency law in order to prepare them for higher level courses in both subject areas in the remainder of the program.

1. **Comment on the alignment between the program changes with Faculty and/or University academic plans.**

The Financial Law LLM program aligns with the University’s Strategic Mandate Agreement, in particular it speaks directly to York’s mission to “…broaden and deepen our impacts within the broader communities we serve through teaching and learning processes, scholarship, [and] research…” Specifically, the program will bring together law professionals and non-law professionals from across Canada, providing for a rich learning atmosphere with insights from professionals and instructors across various industries.

The program also aligns with the overall learning objectives of the Professional LLM. These objectives include (but are not limited to):

* Students demonstrating a depth and breadth of knowledge in the subject area(s) of the LLM;
* Students engaging in research and scholarship and being able to critically evaluate current legal research, theory and scholarship in the student’s area(s) of specialization; and
* Students having the ability to apply their knowledge critically assess and formulate sound solutions to complex legal problems in the student’s area(s) of specialization.

The program course offerings will enable students to achieve these learning objectives (as well as others) via the opportunities to write research papers and the opportunity to critically engage with existing literature and foundational legal concepts and frameworks in class and in their assignments.

1. **Provide a detailed outline of the changes to the program and the associated learning outcomes, including how the proposed requirements will support the achievement of program learning objectives (i.e., the mapping of the requirements to the program learning outcomes).**

Not applicable.

1. **Summarize the consultation undertaken with relevant academic units, including commentary on the impact of the proposed changes on other programs. Provide individual statements from the relevant program(s) confirming consultation and their support.**

In order to determine the scope of the Financial Law specialization, which has necessitated the closure of the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Law specialization, we have consulted with an advisory group of academics and industry leaders to determine the key competencies and emerging trends in banking and financial services law. We have also consulted with the current Academic Director of the Securities Law LLM, Dean Mary Condon, who has provided input on the courses that should be offered for the Financial Law specialization. We have also consulted with professors Stephanie Ben-Ishai as well as other members of the Osgoode faculty who have expertise in teaching related subjects. Since the program has not been offered in recent years, there is no potential for duplication of subject matter. In addition, the program in its new iteration will provide students in other specializations with more course offerings to choose from for elective courses.

1. **Are changes to the program’s admission requirements being proposed coincident with the program change(s)? If so, outline the admission changes, and comment on the appropriateness of the revised requirements to the achievement of the program learning outcomes.**

Not applicable.

1. **Describe any resource implications and how they are being addressed (e.g., through a reallocation of existing resources). If new/additional resources are required, provide a statement from the relevant Dean(s)/Principal confirming resources will be in place to implement the changes.**

Not applicable.

1. **Is the mode of delivery of the program changing? If so, comment on the appropriateness of the revised mode(s) of delivery to the achievement of the program learning outcomes.**

Not applicable.

1. **Is the assessment of teaching and learning within the program changing? If so, comment on the appropriateness of the revised forms of assessment to the achievement of the program learning outcomes.**

Not applicable.

1. **Provide a summary of how students currently enrolled in the program will be accommodated.**

There are currently no students enrolled in the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Law LLM program, so there will be no impact on current students.

1. **Provide as an appendix a side-by-side comparison of the existing and proposed program requirements as they will appear in the Undergraduate or Graduate Calendar.**

Not applicable.