



LAWS11057 Introduction to Law

Term 2 - 2024

Profile information current as at 16/07/2025 04:56 am

All details in this unit profile for LAWS11057 have been officially approved by CQUniversity and represent a learning partnership between the University and you (our student). The information will not be changed unless absolutely necessary and any change will be clearly indicated by an approved correction included in the profile.

General Information

Overview

This unit introduces you to the Australian legal system, its institutions, processes and sources of law. It explores foundational principles and concepts, such as the Westminster system of governance, rule of law, doctrine of precedent and principles of statutory interpretation to provide you with insight into how the Australian legal system functions. The unit explores thinking, researching and communicating like a lawyer through the development of legal, ethical and technological literacy and a range of legal skills, which provides a foundation for your future law studies.

Details

Career Level: *Undergraduate*

Unit Level: *Level 1*

Credit Points: 6

Student Contribution Band: 10

Fraction of Full-Time Student Load: 0.125

Pre-requisites or Co-requisites

There are no requisites for this unit.

Important note: Students enrolled in a subsequent unit who failed their pre-requisite unit, should drop the subsequent unit before the census date or within 10 working days of Fail grade notification. Students who do not drop the unit in this timeframe cannot later drop the unit without academic and financial liability. See details in the [Assessment Policy and Procedure \(Higher Education Coursework\)](#).

Offerings For Term 2 - 2024

- Online

Attendance Requirements

All on-campus students are expected to attend scheduled classes – in some units, these classes are identified as a mandatory (pass/fail) component and attendance is compulsory. International students, on a student visa, must maintain a full time study load and meet both attendance and academic progress requirements in each study period (satisfactory attendance for International students is defined as maintaining at least an 80% attendance record).

Website

[This unit has a website, within the Moodle system, which is available two weeks before the start of term. It is important that you visit your Moodle site throughout the term. Please visit Moodle for more information.](#)

Class and Assessment Overview

Recommended Student Time Commitment

Each 6-credit Undergraduate unit at CQUniversity requires an overall time commitment of an average of 12.5 hours of study per week, making a total of 150 hours for the unit.

Class Timetable

[Regional Campuses](#)

Bundaberg, Cairns, Emerald, Gladstone, Mackay, Rockhampton, Townsville

[Metropolitan Campuses](#)

Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, Sydney

Assessment Overview

1. **Online Quiz(zes)**

Weighting: 20%

2. **Written Assessment**

Weighting: 30%

3. **Written Assessment**

Weighting: 50%

Assessment Grading

This is a graded unit: your overall grade will be calculated from the marks or grades for each assessment task, based on the relative weightings shown in the table above. You must obtain an overall mark for the unit of at least 50%, or an overall grade of 'pass' in order to pass the unit. If any 'pass/fail' tasks are shown in the table above they must also be completed successfully ('pass' grade). You must also meet any minimum mark requirements specified for a particular assessment task, as detailed in the 'assessment task' section (note that in some instances, the minimum mark for a task may be greater than 50%). Consult the [University's Grades and Results Policy](#) for more details of interim results and final grades.

CQUniversity Policies

All University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

You may wish to view these policies:

- Grades and Results Policy
- Assessment Policy and Procedure (Higher Education Coursework)
- Review of Grade Procedure
- Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – Domestic Students
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – International Students
- Student Refund and Credit Balance Policy and Procedure
- Student Feedback – Compliments and Complaints Policy and Procedure
- Information and Communications Technology Acceptable Use Policy and Procedure

This list is not an exhaustive list of all University policies. The full list of University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

Previous Student Feedback

Feedback, Recommendations and Responses

Every unit is reviewed for enhancement each year. At the most recent review, the following staff and student feedback items were identified and recommendations were made.

Feedback from Student feedback

Feedback

The assessment on corporations law was challenging

Recommendation

Review assessment to ensure the area of law covered in the assessment is not too challenging for first year students

Feedback from Unit Coordinator reflection

Feedback

The favourable student feedback suggests the unit should continue to focus on developing practical and useful skills

Recommendation

Continue to offer the unit with a focus on building practical legal skills

Unit Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

1. Analyse sources of law, legal institutions and processes, and the principles of professional ethical responsibility.
2. Apply the rules of precedent and principles of statutory interpretation to a practical scenario.
3. Conduct legal research and communicate effectively both orally and in writing.

Written Assessment 3 will be conducted as a take home paper around week 11. Students who are studying Accounting will be invigilated to ensure compliance with the Accounting body's requirements.

Alignment of Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Graduate Attributes

 N/A Level	 Introductory Level	 Intermediate Level	 Graduate Level	 Professional Level	 Advanced Level
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Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Learning Outcomes

Assessment Tasks	Learning Outcomes		
	1	2	3
1 - Online Quiz(zes) - 20%	•		•
2 - Written Assessment - 30%	•	•	•
3 - Written Assessment - 50%		•	•

Alignment of Graduate Attributes to Learning Outcomes

Graduate Attributes	Learning Outcomes		
	1	2	3
1 - Communication			•
2 - Problem Solving		•	
3 - Critical Thinking	•		
4 - Information Literacy			•
5 - Team Work			•
6 - Information Technology Competence			•
7 - Cross Cultural Competence			
8 - Ethical practice	•		•
9 - Social Innovation	•		
10 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures	•		

Textbooks and Resources

Textbooks

LAWS11057

Prescribed

The New Lawyer

Edition: 3rd (2024)

Authors: Nikolas James, Rachael Field and Jackson Walkden-Brown

Wiley

Brisbane , QLD , Australia

ISBN: 978-1-394-18438-5

Binding: Paperback

[View textbooks at the CQUniversity Bookshop](#)

IT Resources

You will need access to the following IT resources:

- CQUniversity Student Email
- Internet
- Unit Website (Moodle)
- Zoom
- Microphone and camera to attend the Zoom sessions

Referencing Style

All submissions for this unit must use the referencing style: [Australian Guide to Legal Citation, 4th ed](#)

For further information, see the Assessment Tasks.

Teaching Contacts

Nichola Corbett-Jarvis Unit Coordinator

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Luke Price Unit Coordinator

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Schedule

Week 1 - 08 Jul 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Orientation to Law	See the reading list in the study guide.	Weekly Zoom Workshop.

Week 2 - 15 Jul 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
The Australian Legal System	See the reading list in the study guide.	Weekly Zoom Workshop.

Week 3 - 22 Jul 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Researching and Writing Like A Lawyer: Part 1	See the reading list in the study guide.	Weekly Zoom workshop.

Week 4 - 29 Jul 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
The Courts and Case Law	See the reading list in the study guide.	Weekly Zoom workshop.

Week 5 - 05 Aug 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
The Doctrine of Precedent	See the reading list in the study guide.	Weekly Zoom workshop.

Vacation Week - 12 Aug 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
		No workshop this week.

Week 6 - 19 Aug 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Legislation	See the reading list in the study guide.	Weekly Zoom workshop. Written Assessment Due: Week 6 Monday (19 Aug 2024) 6:00 pm AEST

Week 7 - 26 Aug 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Researching and Writing Like A Lawyer: Part 2	See the reading list in the study guide.	Weekly Zoom workshop.

Week 8 - 02 Sep 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Lawyers	See the reading list in the study guide.	Weekly Zoom workshop. Quiz Due: Week 8 Friday (6 Sept 2024) 6:00 pm AEST

Week 9 - 09 Sep 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Justice	See the reading list in the study guide.	Weekly Zoom workshop.

Week 10 - 16 Sep 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Law in Society		Weekly Zoom workshop.

Week 11 - 23 Sep 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Legal Theory		Weekly Zoom workshop.

Week 12 - 30 Sep 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Preparing for Exams and Future Law Studies		Weekly Zoom workshop.

Assessment Tasks

1 Quiz

Assessment Type

Online Quiz(zes)

Task Description

This assessment will test your ability to locate and analyse primary and secondary sources across a range of legal databases and your knowledge of the referencing rules contained in the *Australian Guide to Legal Citation*.

This quiz will be made available at 10:00 am on Wednesday 4 September 2024. You must submit your answers to the quiz by 6:00 pm on Friday 6 September 2024 [week 8, AEST]

You must complete the quiz by submitting your answers to all questions online. You have one attempt to complete and submit your answers. You must therefore submit your answers online in one sitting (you cannot save your answers and return to them or amend them at a later date).

You will have 90 minutes to submit your answers online once you commence the quiz.

You must complete your submission online by 6:00 pm on Friday 6 September 2024 [week 8, AEST]. Note that all answers must be submitted by this time.

Open attempts will be submitted automatically when the time limit (90 minutes) expires and/or when the due date/time is reached.

If you experience technical difficulties with the quiz, please contact the unit coordinator immediately by email.

Number of Quizzes

1

Frequency of Quizzes

Other

Assessment Due Date

Week 8 Friday (6 Sept 2024) 6:00 pm AEST

Students have one attempt at the quiz. Open attempts will be submitted automatically when the time limit expires and/or when the due date/time is reached.

Return Date to Students

The quiz is graded automatically, but quiz results will be released once all students have submitted the quiz.

Weighting

20%

Assessment Criteria

The quiz is graded automatically and tests your ability to:

- locate cases and legislation on legal databases;
- use, and interpret information in, a range of case citators;
- locate information online in Halsbury's and the Laws of Australia;
- locate journal articles on legal databases; and
- reference in accordance with the *Australian Guide to Legal Citation* (AGLC4).

Referencing Style

- [Australian Guide to Legal Citation, 4th ed](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

Students have one attempt at the quiz. Open attempts will be submitted automatically when the time limit expires and/or when the due date/time is reached.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Analyse sources of law, legal institutions and processes, and the principles of professional ethical responsibility.
- Conduct legal research and communicate effectively both orally and in writing.

2 Written Assessment

Assessment Type

Written Assessment

Task Description

You must write a response to a problem question focused on the doctrine of precedent. You will be assessed on your ability to identify the legal issues and interpret and apply the law to the facts of the scenario. You must reflect on the problem solving process you adopted, including explaining the steps you took, your reasoning process and how this impacted on the work you produced.

Assessment Due Date

Week 6 Monday (19 Aug 2024) 6:00 pm AEST

Students must submit their work as a Word document.

Return Date to Students

Estimated return timing is 2 weeks.

Weighting

30%

Assessment Criteria

This assessment will test your ability to:

- identify legal issues;
- explain and analyse the relevant law;
- apply the law to a factual scenario;
- provide clear, supportable conclusions;
- communicate effectively in writing;
- comply with the *Australian Guide to Legal Citation*; and
- reflect on problem-solving process you adopted.

Referencing Style

- [Australian Guide to Legal Citation, 4th ed](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

Students must submit their work as a Word document.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Analyse sources of law, legal institutions and processes, and the principles of professional ethical responsibility.
- Apply the rules of precedent and principles of statutory interpretation to a practical scenario.
- Conduct legal research and communicate effectively both orally and in writing.

3 Take Home Examination

Assessment Type

Written Assessment

Task Description

For this take home exam, you must provide a response to a series of essay-style questions. The questions will be based on topics discussed in the weekly workshops from Modules 2 to 12.

This assessment will be carried out as a 'take home paper', which is the equivalent of an exam. The take home exam is 2.5 hours (150 minutes) duration. You must be available to sit this take home exam as extensions are not permitted and submissions after the due date/time are not accepted.

The take home exam will be held during the University exam period. As these are coordinated by the School of Business and Law, the date and time of the take home exam will be advised in due course.

Note the following conditions apply to the take home exam:

1. take home exams are for 2.5 hours (150 minutes) duration only;
2. submissions received after the deadline has passed will not be accepted and will be graded as zero;
3. extensions are not available for take home exams (although Accessibility adjustments still apply); and
4. exam conditions apply to take home papers.

Assessment Due Date

Submissions after the deadline has passed will not be accepted and will be graded as zero. Extensions are not available for take home papers. Students must submit their work as a Word document.

Return Date to Students

Results will be withheld until certification of grades.

Weighting

50%

Assessment Criteria

The take home exam will test your ability to:

- analyse both legal and practical issues;
- explain the relevant law;
- critically analyse the law and/or its practical effects;
- make evidence-based and logical arguments;
- cite suitable sources in support of your discussions;

- communicate effectively in writing; and
- reference in accordance with the *Australian Guide to Legal Citation*.

Referencing Style

- [Australian Guide to Legal Citation, 4th ed](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

Submissions after the deadline has passed will not be accepted and will be graded as zero. Extensions are not available for take home papers. Students must submit their work as a Word document.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Apply the rules of precedent and principles of statutory interpretation to a practical scenario.
- Conduct legal research and communicate effectively both orally and in writing.

Academic Integrity Statement

As a CQUniversity student you are expected to act honestly in all aspects of your academic work.

Any assessable work undertaken or submitted for review or assessment must be your own work. Assessable work is any type of work you do to meet the assessment requirements in the unit, including draft work submitted for review and feedback and final work to be assessed.

When you use the ideas, words or data of others in your assessment, you must thoroughly and clearly acknowledge the source of this information by using the correct referencing style for your unit. Using others' work without proper acknowledgement may be considered a form of intellectual dishonesty.

Participating honestly, respectfully, responsibly, and fairly in your university study ensures the CQUniversity qualification you earn will be valued as a true indication of your individual academic achievement and will continue to receive the respect and recognition it deserves.

As a student, you are responsible for reading and following CQUniversity's policies, including the [Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure](#). This policy sets out CQUniversity's expectations of you to act with integrity, examples of academic integrity breaches to avoid, the processes used to address alleged breaches of academic integrity, and potential penalties.

What is a breach of academic integrity?

A breach of academic integrity includes but is not limited to plagiarism, self-plagiarism, collusion, cheating, contract cheating, and academic misconduct. The Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure defines what these terms mean and gives examples.

Why is academic integrity important?

A breach of academic integrity may result in one or more penalties, including suspension or even expulsion from the University. It can also have negative implications for student visas and future enrolment at CQUniversity or elsewhere. Students who engage in contract cheating also risk being blackmailed by contract cheating services.

Where can I get assistance?

For academic advice and guidance, the [Academic Learning Centre \(ALC\)](#) can support you in becoming confident in completing assessments with integrity and of high standard.

What can you do to act with integrity?

**Be Honest**

If your assessment task is done by someone else, it would be dishonest of you to claim it as your own

**Seek Help**

If you are not sure about how to cite or reference in essays, reports etc, then seek help from your lecturer, the library or the Academic Learning Centre (ALC)

**Produce Original Work**

Originality comes from your ability to read widely, think critically, and apply your gained knowledge to address a question or problem