



LAWS20059 Corporations and Business Structures

Term 1 - 2024

Profile information current as at 08/10/2024 09:28 am

All details in this unit profile for LAWS20059 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.

Corrections

Unit Profile Correction added on 13-02-24

Accreditation bodies no longer require invigilated exams, so we're replacing the invigilated exam with an online test. Additionally, following feedback from students like you, we've decided not to have invigilated exams at all. Instead, we'll be offering online tests for your convenience.

General Information

Overview

This unit will provide you with a comprehensive study of the law of business structures, with a particular focus on company and securities industry law. Topics include partnerships, trusts and other organisational structures, the effects of incorporation, the corporate constitution, registration requirements, prospectuses and share issues, administration of companies, raising finance, directors, shareholders, meetings, external administration and winding up, takeovers, special types of companies, and market regulation. If you have successfully completed the unit LAWS20029 you should not enrol in this unit.

Details

Career Level: *Postgraduate*

Unit Level: *Level 9*

Credit Points: 6

Student Contribution Band: 10

Fraction of Full-Time Student Load: 0.125

Pre-requisites or Co-requisites

Prerequisite: LAWS20058

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 1 - 2024

- Brisbane
- Melbourne
- Online
- Sydney

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 Postgraduate 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. **Presentation and Written Assessment**

Weighting: 40%

2. **Examination**

Weighting: 60%

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

Improve the unit expectations and requirements

Recommendation

Unit expectations and requirements will be made clearer using Moodle, live workshops and overall design of the unit.

Feedback from Student feedback

Feedback

Improve student feedback on the assessments

Recommendation

Feedback on the assessments to the students will be improved and more comprehensive feedback to be given to them.

Feedback from Student Feedback

Feedback

unit to be more organised and improving the quality of the quiz questions.

Recommendation

Feedback considered to further improve the learning content of the unit. This feedback will be considered and unit learning materials to be improved from T1 2024.

Unit Learning Outcomes

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

1. Research and advise on the principles of partnerships, trusts and company law
2. Advise on the practical and legal features of the various types of corporate and non-corporate business structures, including advice on the risks and problems associated with particular structures
3. Advise on and resolve problems and disputes arising out of partnerships, trusts and corporations
4. Advise on proper practices of corporate governance, finance, reporting and record-keeping.

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	4
1 - Presentation and Written Assessment - 40%	•	•	•	•
2 - Examination - 60%	•	•	•	•

Alignment of Graduate Attributes to Learning Outcomes

Graduate Attributes	Learning Outcomes			
	1	2	3	4
1 - Knowledge	○	○	○	○
2 - Communication	○	○	○	○
3 - Cognitive, technical and creative skills	○	○	○	
4 - Research	○		○	
5 - Self-management	○			
6 - Ethical and Professional Responsibility				○
7 - Leadership				
8 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures				

Textbooks and Resources

Textbooks

LAWS20059

Prescribed

Business and Corporations Law

Edition: 5th (2023)

Authors: Fitzpatrick, J; Symes, C; Veljanovski, A; and Parker, D

Lexis Nexis

Sydney , NSW , Australia

ISBN: 9780409355215

Binding: eBook

LAWS20059

Prescribed

Understanding Company Law

Edition: 22st (2023)

Authors: Phillip Lipton, Abe Herzberg and Michelle Welsh

Thomson Reuters

Sydney , NSW , Australia

Binding: eBook

[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 (both microphone and webcam capability)

Referencing Style

All submissions for this unit must use the referencing styles below:

- [Australian Guide to Legal Citation, 4th ed](#)
- [American Psychological Association 7th Edition \(APA 7th edition\)](#)

For further information, see the Assessment Tasks.

Teaching Contacts

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Schedule

Week 1 - 04 Mar 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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BUSINESS STRUCTURES
Different types of business structures and organisations in Australia, including sole traders, partnerships, trusts, associations and corporations

Ch 7-Business Structures- Fitzpatrick, J; Symes, C; Veljanovski, A; and Parker, D, (2023) *Business and Corporations Law*, 5th Edition, Lexis Nexis, Australia.

Workshop Activities:
Tutorial Questions appended at the end of the Chapter and additional pre-assigned questions.

Week 2 - 11 Mar 2024

Module/Topic

Chapter

Events and Submissions/Topic

REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR COMPANIES IN AUSTRALIA
What is a company; Overview of the Corporations Act 2001; ASIC: objectives, powers and functions; FRAA; ASX; Financial Reporting System: FRC, AASB, Auditing and Assurance Standards Board

Ch 1-Regulatory Framework- *Understanding Company Law*, Phillip Lipton, Abe Herzberg and Michelle Welsh, (Lawbook, 22nd ed, December 2023)

Workshop Activities:
Tutorial Questions from end of the Chapter and additional questions (replacing Q3 and Q4 from textbook)
Engagement Activity: Students are required to present on any topic of their choice from a list of topics to be provided to them at the end of Week 1. The topics will relate to the content covered in Week 1.
Student presentations can be oral or supported with ppt slides. Each student must present for 5 minutes each.

Week 3 - 18 Mar 2024

Module/Topic

Chapter

Events and Submissions/Topic

COMPANY FORMATION AND REGISTRATION, LEGAL STRUCTURE OF A COMPANY
Legal Characteristics of a company; separate legal entity doctrine and its effects-case study: *Salomon v. Salomon*; Concept of the corporate veil and 'lifting' of the corporate veil Formation of a company-registration and its effects

Ch 2-Registration and its effects- *Understanding Company Law*, Phillip Lipton, Abe Herzberg and Michelle Welsh, (Lawbook, 22nd ed, December 2023)

Workshop Activities:
Tutorial Questions appended at the end of the Chapter.

Week 4 - 25 Mar 2024

Module/Topic

Chapter

Events and Submissions/Topic

TYPES OF COMPANIES

How are companies classified in Australia; Different Types of Companies including Proprietary and Public Companies-Companies limited by membership; Companies limited by shares; Companies Limited by guarantee; Unlimited Companies; No Liability Company; ASX Listed Companies; Foreign Companies; Holding and Subsidiary Companies; Trustee Companies

Ch 3-Types of Companies-*Understanding Company Law*, Phillip Lipton, Abe Herzberg and Michelle Welsh, (Lawbook, 22nd ed, December 2023)

Workshop Activities:
Tutorial Questions appended at the end of the Chapter

Week 5 - 01 Apr 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
RULES GOVERNING INTERNAL MANAGEMENT OF A COMPANY Rules governing internal management of a company; Doctrine of ultra vires and current situation; Company Constitution; Replaceable Rules; Effect of the Constitution and Replaceable Rules; Alteration of Company Constitution and Replaceable Rules	Ch 4-Constitution and Replaceable Rules- <i>Understanding Company Law</i> , Phillip Lipton, Abe Herzberg and Michelle Welsh, (Lawbook, 22nd ed, December 2023)	Workshop Activities: Tutorial Questions appended at the end of the Chapter

Vacation Week - 08 Apr 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

Week 6 - 15 Apr 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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COMPANIES RELATIONS WITH OUTSIDERS

Organic Theory of company;
Legal effect of companies' contracts with outsiders;
Effect of contracts made by company's agents: Apparent and ostensible authority; *Royal British v. Turquand* case rule; Doctrine of constructive notice;
Exceptions to the rule in *Royal British Bank* case;
Statutory assumptions under s 129 of the Corporations Act 2001; Limitations to statutory assumptions: s 128(4)

Ch 5- [5.05-5.80]-
[5.110-5.375]-
Understanding Company Law, Phillip Lipton, Abe Herzberg and Michelle Welsh, (Lawbook, 22nd ed, December 2023)

Workshop Activities:
Tutorial questions appended at the end of the Chapter

Week 7 - 22 Apr 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
DIRECTORS Who is a director; Definitions of Director-s 9 definition; Types of Directors; Functions and Powers of the Board; Board Procedure; Appointment of Directors; Disqualification, termination and removal of Directors; Payment and Remuneration of Directors; Other company officers including company secretary	Ch 12-Directors- <i>Understanding Company Law</i> , Phillip Lipton, Abe Herzberg and Michelle Welsh, (Lawbook, 22nd ed, December 2023)	Workshop Activities: Pre-assigned questions to be released before the teaching week Written Assignment Submission Due: Week 7 Friday (26 Apr 2024) 11:59 pm AEST

Week 8 - 29 Apr 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
DIRECTORS' DUTIES What are duties of the Directors and Why are they important; Statutory and fiduciary duties of the Directors: Good faith in the best interests of the company, Proper purpose, Conflicts of interest and disclosure, Duties of care, skill and diligence, Duty of prevent insolvent trading, Consequences of contravention	Ch 13-Overview and Summary of Directors' Duties- <i>Understanding Company Law</i> , Phillip Lipton, Abe Herzberg and Michelle Welsh, (Lawbook, 22nd ed, December 2023)	Workshop Activities: Tutorial questions appended at the end of the Chapter.

Week 9 - 06 May 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
DUTIES OF DIRECTORS DURING INSOLVENCY Position of Directors during insolvency, Duty not to prejudice creditors' interests; Duty to prevent insolvent trading-s 588G, defences, contravention	Ch 18-[18.05-18.240]- Directors of Insolvent Companies- <i>Understanding Company Law</i> , Phillip Lipton, Abe Herzberg and Michelle Welsh, (Lawbook, 22nd ed, December 2023)	Workshop Activities: Tutorial questions appended at the end of the Chapter

Week 10 - 13 May 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
CORPORATE GOVERNANCE What is corporate governance; Importance of corporate governance for businesses and companies; Regulation of corporate governance; Corporate governance for listed companies-ASX Listing Regulations; Corporate Governance Principles and Recommendations	Ch 14-Corporate Governance- <i>Understanding Company Law</i> , Phillip Lipton, Abe Herzberg and Michelle Welsh, (Lawbook, 22nd ed, December 2023)	Workshop Activities: Tutorial questions appended at the end of the Chapter

Week 11 - 20 May 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
LEGAL REGULATION OF FINANCIAL REPORTING AND DISCLOSURE What is financial reporting and its purpose; Financial Records; Annual Financial Reports; Australian Financial Reporting System: FRC, AASB, Australian Accounting standards · Directors Reports · ASX listing rules and periodic disclosure · Lodgement of reports with ASIC · ASIC exemptions and modifications · Consequences of contravention	Ch 22- Financial Reporting and Disclosure- <i>Understanding Company Law</i> , Phillip Lipton, Abe Herzberg and Michelle Welsh, (Lawbook, 22nd edn, December 2023)	Workshop Activities: Pre-assigned questions to be released before the teaching week

Week 12 - 27 May 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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STATUTORY RULES REGARDING AUDITORS

Functions of Auditors;
Appointment of Auditors;
Who can be an auditors;
Auditors Independence;
Auditing Standards;
Auditors' duties to
companies
· Accounting Professional
and Ethical Standards Board

Ch 23- Auditors-
*Understanding Company
Law*, Phillip Lipton, Abe
Herzberg and Michelle
Welsh, (Lawbook, 22nd edn.,
December 2023)

Workshop Activities:
Pre-assigned questions to be
released before the teaching
week

· Liabilities of Auditors to
shareholders and outsiders

Review/Exam Week - 03 Jun 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Exam Week - 10 Jun 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Assessment Tasks

1 Written Assignment Submission

Assessment Type

Presentation and Written Assessment

Task Description

Assessment 1 is a written assignment consisting of factual, problem, case-study based questions designed to test students' understanding, knowledge and research skills of the content covered in topics from Weeks 1 to 6.

The assignment consists of two case studies based on certain important topics related to corporate law, as covered during Weeks 1-6 teaching. The first case study covers topics including business structures, Legal structure of a company, its formation and registration. Based on the case study, there are a set of questions-to which students are expected to provide their responses. Each question within this list of questions carries marks individually, hence, students are required to answer the questions based on the allotted marks for each individual question. The second case study covers the topic: types of companies. Similar to the treatment required for the first case study, students are required to answer a set of questions based on the marks allotted for each question within this list of questions.

Assessment Due Date

Week 7 Friday (26 Apr 2024) 11:59 pm AEST

Assignment submission is due by 26 April 2024 (Friday) by 11.59 PM.

Return Date to Students

Week 11 Friday (24 May 2024)

Students to receive their marks and feedback via Moodle

Weighting

40%

Assessment Criteria

The assignment will be assessed according to the following criteria:

1. **Problem solving:** students must demonstrate problem solving skills by identifying and applying relevant legal rules and principles.
2. **Critical thinking:** students must demonstrate critical thinking by analysing, applying and evaluating facts and law in a problem solving context.
3. **Information literacy:** students must demonstrate information literacy by identifying, understanding and

applying legal rules and principles.

4. **Writing and presentation:** students must submit answers with a clear writing style that uses appropriate grammar and expression. Ideas and arguments must be presented using a logical structure and order.
5. **Referencing:** students must appropriately cite relevant references when using legislation and other secondary materials

Referencing Style

- [Australian Guide to Legal Citation, 4th ed](#)
- [American Psychological Association 7th Edition \(APA 7th edition\)](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

Students must submit the assignment as a Word file ('.doc' or '.docx') via the assignment submission link in the 'Assessment' tile in Moodle for the unit

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Research and advise on the principles of partnerships, trusts and company law
- Advise on the practical and legal features of the various types of corporate and non-corporate business structures, including advice on the risks and problems associated with particular structures
- Advise on and resolve problems and disputes arising out of partnerships, trusts and corporations
- Advise on proper practices of corporate governance, finance, reporting and record-keeping.

Examination

Outline

Complete an invigilated examination.

Date

During the examination period at a CQUniversity examination centre.

Weighting

60%

Length

180 minutes

Exam Conditions

Open Book.

Materials

Dictionary - non-electronic, concise, direct translation only (dictionary must not contain any notes or comments).
Law dictionaries, Business and Law dictionaries (discipline specific dictionaries) are authorised.

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