

# T2 2025

## TRIMESTER GUIDE

### Listed (Elective) Unit information

The Trimester Guide is prepared by the UNE Law Students' Society with the generous support of the School of Law, our sponsors, and contributors.





## **Acknowledgement of Country**

The University of New England Law Students' Society respects and acknowledges that its people, programs and facilities are built on land, and surrounded by a sense of belonging, both ancient and contemporary, of the world's oldest living culture.

In doing so, UNELSS values and respects Indigenous knowledge systems as a vital part of the knowledge capital of Australia.

As we share our own knowledge and learning within the University, we also pay respect to the knowledge embedded forever within the Aboriginal Custodianship of Country.

We recognise the strength, resilience and capacity of the Aboriginal community and pay our respects to the Elders past, present and future.



Message from

## **Deb Russell**

### **Publications Director and Interim Vice President**

Hi everyone,

This is my last edition of the Trimester Guide as your 2024/2025 UNE Law Students' Society (UNELSS) Publications Director. I hope you have found the content both useful for your trimester planning, and interesting to hear from fellow students and people in the legal profession.

Would you like to take the baton next trimester? I'll tell you how!

Each August, the UNELSS appoints its Directors for the next 12-months. Nominations will open next trimester, and we want to hear from you! Firstly, you need to be a member of the LSS (you can join on myLearn: <https://mylearn.une.edu.au/course/view.php?id=1919>). Then, keep an eye on your emails for an announcement about the UNELSS Annual General Meeting and call for nominations.

The main purpose of these Trimester Guides is to provide you with information about Listed Units, all in one place. Whether you are undertaking the Bachelor of Laws, Diploma in Paralegal Studies, Advanced Diploma in Paralegal Studies, or Bachelor of Legal Studies, information about Listed Units is relevant to you — always check the requirements of your specific course. We also aim to bring you some points of connection to the profession and each other.

For this edition, I interviewed Emeritus Professor David Weisbrot AM. Professor Weisbrot is the longest-serving former President of the Australian Law Reform Commission, and a lovely human being. Read on for his thoughts about the areas of law that are most ripe for reform today, along with advice to students who are (or want to be) engaging in critical analysis for law reform proposals.

We are grateful that Professor Weisbrot is also joining us at the inaugural UNELSS Mindful Justice Conference in Armidale from 8-10 May. He will speak on the topic of 'The Law Reform We Need Now: Independent, Expert, and Consultative'. You can see the full program and buy your ticket here: <https://unelss.tidyhq.com/public/schedule/events/67879-mindful-justice-conference>.

Whether this trimester is your first, last, or somewhere in between, I hope you're having a good one.

See you out there!

**Deb**

# ESSENTIALS

## Student Resources

<https://www.une.edu.au/about-une/faculty-of-science-agriculture-business-and-law/school-of-law/current-students/student-resources>

**Note:** The 'Law School Student Essentials' is always updated near the start of trimester.

## UNE Handbook

<https://handbook.une.edu.au/>

**Note:** Undergraduate students enrolled in the Bachelor of Laws may be able to enrol in some LLM listed units with permission from the School of Law. Please check your course requirements first, and complete the waiver of prerequisites form:

<https://www.une.edu.au/about-une/faculty-of-science-agriculture-business-and-law/school-of-law/current-students/school-policies/waiver-of-prerequisites>

## Law School Unit Offerings

To help with forward planning, the Law School provides a visual schedule to show when the Core and Listed units are offered in the current year and the next year.

<https://www.une.edu.au/about-une/faculty-of-science-agriculture-business-and-law/school-of-law/current-students/law-unit-offerings>

**Note:** Units in the next year can be subject to change.

# PRACTICAL LEGAL TRAINING

**Learn local in Armidale  
Start 17 November 2025**



**Get the guide**



**Michael Tangonan, PLT Graduate**

# UPCOMING EVENTS

**NEW!** See upcoming 2025 events on the UNELSS myLearn site:  
<https://mylearn.une.edu.au/course/view.php?id=1919>

**MAY  
8-10**

## **Mindful Justice Conference**

Thursday 8-Saturday 10 May 2025 (Armidale)

**MAY  
10**

## **Autumn Graduation**

Saturday 10 May 2025

**MAY  
7 & 19**

## **Kirby Seminars**

Wednesday 7 May 2025 (Armidale + online)

Monday 19 May 2025 (Armidale + online)

**TBC**

## **Trimester 2 Common Law Week**

*Stay tuned!*

### **What is Common Law Week?**

Common Law Week is organised by the School of Law each trimester. Attendees learn, engage and participate in presentations and social networking. All members of the Law School staff (permanent and casual) participate in Common Law Week. For some sessions, students in all year groups including Masters and PhD, adjunct and honorary staff, as well as community members and guests are welcomed to attend in person or online. The program and focus for each Common Law Week is publicised in advance, indicating which sessions are open to students to attend.

# UNE Law Students' Society Mindful Justice Conference

8–10 May, 2025  
Armidale



**COLLEGE  
OF LAW**

une  
University of  
New England

Student Services  
and Amenities Fee  
(SSAF)

## Thursday 8 May

6:30 pm **Welcome drinks and casual dinner** – Whitebull Hotel, 117 Marsh St  
*Pay your own way*

## Friday 9 May (all daytime sessions at UNE Law School, Belshaw Lecture Theatre)

- 9:00 am **Jordanna D'cruz and Claudia Barbosa**  
*'Answering a legal problem question + Writing a legal essay'*
- 10:00 am **Emeritus Prof David Weisbrot AM, Former President of the ALRC**  
*'The Law Reform We Need Now: Independent, Expert, and Consultative'*
- 11:00 am **College of Law**  
PLT Session
- 12:00pm **Conference lunch**
- 1:00 pm **Dr Christina Platz, RMIT**  
*'Balancing the Scales: Vicarious Trauma, Burnout and Wellbeing in the Legal Profession'*
- 2:00 pm **Dr Nina Hudson, Tasmanian Law Reform Institute**  
*'Trauma-Informed Practice For and By Judicial Officers and Lawyers: Insights From Research'*
- 3:00 pm **Florence Thum, College of Law**  
*'Minding Burnout: A Thought-Provoking Exploration'*
- 4:00 pm **Additional session TBC**  
*On the topic of Environmental Law*
- 6:00 pm **Conference dinner** – venue TBA  
*Keynote speaker: TBA*

## Saturday 10 May

- 10:30 am **Yoga session @ SportUNE**  
Worsell Room, SportUNE Drive
- 12:30 pm **Lunch** – New England Regional Art Museum, 106–114 Kentucky St  
*Pay your own way*
- 4:30 pm **Saturday Sundowner** – Dumaresq Dam Reserve  
*BBQ dinner provided by the LSS*

# UNE Law Students' Society **Mindful Justice Conference**

8-10 May, 2025  
Armidale



**COLLEGE  
OF LAW**



Student Services  
and Amenities Fee  
(SSAF)

## **\$150 PACKAGE**

Includes:

- 9 May: All sessions, lunch + dinner
- 10 May: Yoga + Saturday Sundowner

**Conference  
pass offers**

## **\$50 PACKAGE**

Includes:

- 9 May: All sessions + lunch
- 10 May: Yoga

## **What's in it for me?**

- Gain valuable insights and knowledge from industry experts
- Network with fellow students and potential employers
- Stay ahead of the curve with cutting-edge information and trends
- Enhance your skills and confidence in the legal industry
- Have fun and make unforgettable memories with your peers!

**BUY YOUR TICKET ONLINE AT:**

<https://unelss.tidyhq.com/public/schedule/events/67879-mindful-justice-conference>

# UNE Law Students' Society Mindful Justice Conference

8-10 May, 2025  
Armidale



**COLLEGE  
OF LAW**



Student Services  
and Amenities Fee  
(SSAF)

## \$450 PACKAGE

Includes:

- Return train ticket Sydney-Armidale
- 3 nights accommodation on campus
- Ticket to conference + social events

**Conference  
pass +  
travel offers**

## \$300 PACKAGE

Includes:

- 3 nights accommodation on campus
- Ticket to conference + social events

## What's in it for me?

- Gain valuable insights and knowledge from industry experts
- Network with fellow students and potential employers
- Stay ahead of the curve with cutting-edge information and trends
- Enhance your skills and confidence in the legal industry
- Have fun and make unforgettable memories with your peers!

**BUY YOUR TICKET ONLINE AT:**

<https://unelss.tidyhq.com/public/schedule/events/67879-mindful-justice-conference>

# Alternative Dispute Resolution

**Unit Coordinator:** Sotirios (Paul) Akon  
**Credit points:** 6

**Pre-requisite/Co-requisite:**

None.

**About this unit:**

Responding to and successfully resolving disputes is a core skill for lawyers. Skills in dispute resolution add value to your role in a wide range of workplaces.

This unit equips you with a thorough understanding of ADR processes both in criminal and civil matters such as arbitration, negotiation, conciliation and mediation.

The unit also examines Australian Indigenous Peoples' dispute resolution processes. There are opportunities to critically analyse disputes and evaluate alternatives to litigation.

You may build your capabilities in the art of effective listening and negotiating. These are fundamental bases of ADR. These skills are in high demand across many industries.

**Student recommendation:**

ADR is a subject that I think is imperative to include in your choice of electives. It is such a large part of the judicial system today and is required in so many areas of law. The strategies and skills you acquire as alternatives to litigation are so useful, even if you don't necessarily practice as an ADR consultant. The art of negotiation, facilitation, mediation and knowing what to say and when to say it are crucial to us as future officers of the Court.

I highly recommend this unit; as we learned that a good deal of litigation is settled even before you even enter the courtroom.

— Sharron Adam

**30%**

Written assessment  
(2,500 words)

**60%**

Take home exam

**10%**

Online assessment



*'The art of negotiation, facilitation, mediation and knowing what to say and when to say it are crucial ... I highly recommend this unit ...'*

— Sharron Adam

# Criminal Procedure

**Unit Coordinator:** Karthigeyan

Kanagasabapathy

**Credit points:** 6

**Pre-requisites:**

36cp in Law including LAW100, LAW102 and (LAW161 or LAW162).

**About this unit:**

An understanding of criminal procedure is essential for understanding how criminal law and criminal justice operates in Australia.

This unit introduces you to the procedural law relevant to the criminal justice system and related ethical issues. You will examine topics such as the law pertaining to police investigations, bail, roles and responsibilities of prosecutors and defence lawyers, court procedures, fair trial doctrine, convictions, and appeals against conviction.

You will also consider some challenging issues, such as wrongful convictions and the over-representation of indigenous Australians in the criminal justice system. Critical consideration will also be given in each iteration to topical issues relevant to criminal justice.

**Message from the UC:**

This unit teaches the 'black-letter law' of criminal procedure and critically analyses it, to help students understand what the rules of criminal procedure are and why they are the way they are. Throughout the unit we will be critically analysing tensions between the power of the state and the rights of the individual.

Students will learn about: the police, specifically their powers of investigation and search; the roles and duties of prosecutors, judges and juries; and the rights of the accused. Towards the end of the unit we will also deal with wrongful convictions and indigenous Australians in the criminal justice system. Students have found the material challenging but approachable, and the lectures and tutorials are structured to make it easy to digest. Those with an interest in being criminal lawyers have found it a useful subject to prepare them for criminal practice.

**10%**  
Quiz

**40%**  
Assignment  
(2,000 words)

**50%**  
Take home exam



*'We covered a broad range of topics such as arrest rights, bail, prosecution, and wrongful convictions. ... the assignment helped me understand how procedures can vary depending on the person in custody.'*

**— Stephanie Hupfeld**

# Criminal Procedure (continued)

*Unit Coordinator: Karthigeyan  
Kanagasabapathy*  
**Credit points: 6**

## **Message from the UC (continued):**

The criminal procedure is a balancing act between the rights and liberty of the individual, the rights of victims, and the interests of the broader community. Hopefully, interested students will understand that delicate balance and come to their own conclusions about how it could be strengthened or improved.

## **Student recommendation:**

I found Criminal Procedure to be a very engaging unit. The Unit Coordinator and Lecturer were both very experienced in Criminal Law and the lectures and tutorials were interesting and interactive. We covered a broad range of topics such as arrest rights, bail, prosecution, and wrongful convictions.

The workload for this unit was very manageable. I completed Criminal Procedure at the same time as two core units, Equity & Trusts and Civil Procedure. I found that it was easy to allocate time for Crim Pro as I enjoyed the content. The lectures were also very detailed which meant that the readings were easier to absorb.

The assignment included issues surrounding arrest rights and in particular the rights of First Nations People during the arrest process. I found this an essential aspect of criminal procedure, and the assignment helped me understand how procedures can vary depending on the person in custody. For the exam, there was a question which related to wrongful convictions which I enjoyed researching, especially as it was around the time when there was a discussion about Kathleen Folbigg's conviction being quashed which made the question very topical.

— Stephanie Hupfeld

**10%**  
Quiz

**40%**  
Assignment  
(2,000 words)

**50%**  
Take home exam

# Interviewing for Advocacy

*Unit Coordinator: Igor Mescher*  
**Credit points: 6**

**Pre-requisite/Co-requisite:**

None.

**About this unit:**

This unit is designed to familiarise you with the advanced and specialist knowledge of interviewing in the context of advocacy and preparation for litigation.

You'll gain a broad understanding of theories of psychology, law, communication and linguistics relevant to interviewing and recognising rational and social political factors that may impact on questioning and interviewing different cohorts. These include children, elderly and vulnerable, juveniles and Indigenous people.

You'll also apply your theoretical knowledge to develop your practical skills in interviewing questioning and communication techniques.

**Student recommendation:**

This is a highly practical and enjoyable unit that I would recommend to anyone pursuing a career in advocacy.

The assessments were varied and interesting, and among my favourite assessments in the degree so far. They included a partnered exercise in interviewing a 'witness' (with lecturers as actors!) and a research essay that allowed me to engage deeply with Evidence Law concepts.

In particular, the content about memory recall and interview techniques added another dimension to material that is covered elsewhere in the degree. I have found this to be essential knowledge that is extremely helpful in practice.

— Deb Russell

**10%**  
Quiz

**40%**  
Essay  
(2,000 words)

**30%**  
Oral assessment

**20%**  
Witness statement  
(1,000 words)



*'This is a highly practical and enjoyable unit that I would recommend to anyone pursuing a career in advocacy.'*

**— Deb Russell**

**Unit Coordinator:** Stephen Janes  
**Credit points:** 6

**40%**

Viva Voce individual  
presentation via  
Zoom (2,000 words  
equivalent)

**60%**

Open book exam  
(2,000 words)

**Pre-requisites:**

36cp in Law or candidature in GCTSP or GDTSP.

**About this unit:**

This unit provides you with a comprehensive insight into succession law. You will gain a broad depth of knowledge in the theory and practice of succession law and be introduced to a range of topics related to wills including testamentary succession, testamentary capacity, knowledge and approval, undue influence, formal requirements, revival and revocation and the construction of wills.

Additionally, you will explore distribution on intestacy, grants of administration and the role of executors and administrators, administration of assets and family provision. Throughout, you will also develop your legal reasoning and critical thinking skills.

**Message from the UC:**

Succession is about how property passes within families from one generation to the next and the disputes that arise within those families. Today people are dying older and with more wealth. As we die older more issues about our mental competency to make a will emerge. There are more disputes and not just over property but involving matters such as who has the right to bury a loved one. Succession is what most lawyers do as part of busy city, suburban, regional and rural practices. This area is not something you can avoid in your professional or personal lives.



*'I gained a better understanding of an area I was already working in, which was incredibly valuable, as it allowed me to apply the legal concepts directly to my work.'*

**— Tianaha Willson-Baker**

# Succession (continued)

*Unit Coordinator: Stephen Janes*  
*Credit points: 6*

**40%**

*Viva Voce individual  
presentation via  
Zoom (2,000 words  
equivalent)*

**60%**

*Open book exam  
(2,000 words)*

**Student recommendation:**

What I liked about this unit was the relevance of succession law, as an area of law that everyone will eventually encounter in their lives making the content both practical and essential. Dr. Stephen Janes' teaching style and expertise were another highlight. His deep knowledge and clear communication made the topics much easier to understand.

I also appreciated the structure for assessments, most people find a viva-voce assessment daunting, I found this form of assessment more suited to me and my style of learning.

The workload for this unit is very reasonable, Dr Janes provides thorough notes for the topics throughout the unit, which encompass the majority of readings required each week, making for a light reading load which can be supplemented further with the textbook if so desired. This is a great unit to do at the same time as one of the heavier Core units

I chose Wills for my assessment topic, which I enjoyed learning more about. I gained a better understanding of an area I was already working in, which was incredibly valuable, as it allowed me to apply the legal concepts directly to my work.

— Tianaha Willson-Baker



## Words from Emeritus Professor David Weisbrot AM

Former President of  
the Australian Law  
Reform Commission

***‘Ultimately, the success of any law reform exercise will depend substantially upon your ability to craft recommendations that are practical and susceptible to ready implementation. This requires a clear sense of both the possibilities and the limitations of law reform.’***

David is the longest serving Australian Law Reform Commission (ALRC) President, from 1999–2009. He presided over 15 major national inquiries, including: privacy law; the protection of human genetic information; the federal civil justice system; uniform evidence laws; protection of classified and security sensitive information; civil and administrative penalties; reviews of federal sedition laws, secrecy laws, and sentencing.

David started his academic career at the University of Papua New Guinea before joining UNSW Law School, where he co-founded the Indigenous Law Centre and the International Diplomacy Training Centre with Nobel Laureate Jose Ramos-Horta.

David was awarded a Centenary Medal by the Australian Government in 2003 for ‘services to law reform’, and in 2006 was made a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for ‘service to the law in the areas of law reform, education and access to legal services, and through contributions to research, analysis and policy development on a range of matters of public interest’.

### **Why did you choose to study law?**

I was a university student in the 1970s in the US, and was very much influenced by the Civil Rights and Anti-Vietnam War movements of that time, in which lawyers played a prominent role in shaping legislation and fighting for social justice in the courts.

So studying Law seemed to be a good fit for my interests and skills (I've always been better with words than numbers). However, I wasn't fully determined to be an actual practising lawyer. Rather, Law seemed to be a good way to keep my options open, whether that might lead eventually to journalism, academic life, politics, the public service, or Law.

Interestingly, I was accepted into a number of PhD programs in Political Science and Communications, which were my undergraduate majors, but when I consulted my favourite professors in those fields, they all said "Do Law!", precisely because it opened up so many possibilities.

### **You've had a distinguished career, including as the longest-serving President of the Australian Law Reform Commission. What have you enjoyed most about your work?**

Basically, all of my work has involved teaching, research, teamwork, writing and community consultation – and I really enjoy all of those things. I loved being an academic, but hated the increasing amount of admin and especially being the Dean.

My time at the NSW and Australian Law Reform Commissions was fantastic, because these were essentially academic jobs but with great resources, talented colleagues with a common mission, lots of media work, and consulting with the community and with the leading figures in the relevant field.

For example, when the ALRC did its landmark work on Genetic Privacy and Discrimination, we were able to pull in many of Australia's top clinical geneticists, research scientists, genetic counsellors, members of genetic support groups, ethicists, and so on, to ensure that we got the science and technology right, understood the lived experience of individuals and families affected, and could make sound recommendations to government that would achieve meaningful reform.



***'It's not good enough simply to have your heart in the right place, you really need to put in the hard work, be able to answer hard questions, and convince your audience.'***

### **What is your advice to students when critically analysing laws and writing proposals for reform?**

Ultimately, the success of any law reform exercise will depend substantially upon your ability to craft recommendations that are practical and susceptible to ready implementation. This requires a clear sense of both the possibilities and the limitations of law reform. And every good law reform proposal must commence from a very thorough examination of law and practice, both in Australia and in similar jurisdictions overseas.

It's not good enough simply to have your heart in the right place, you really need to put in the hard work, be able to answer hard questions, and convince your audience.

### **Which laws do you think are most ripe for reform in Australia today?**

As a rule of thumb, the areas most in need of attention are those undergoing the greatest stresses and social change.

For example, this might involve dynamic changes in social attitudes (such as to gender, race or sexuality); demographics (such as an aging population or limited opportunities for the new cohort of young people); new technology (such as privacy protection, identity theft, and cyber-bullying).



***'As a rule of thumb, the areas most in need of attention are those undergoing the greatest stresses and social change.'***

### **If you were a student at UNE this trimester, which Listed Units might catch your attention?**

A lot of this comes down to personal preference, of course. Without denying the importance of Taxation Law, Succession, or Competition, I'm just a lot more interested in Human Rights, Criminal Procedure, and Environmental Law, and I know that I will work harder, and learn and retain more, when I'm more engaged with the subject matter.

I should also say that I have long advocated for more (much more!) professional/clinical skills training in the legal curriculum in Australia. Most of what I still remember about my own legal education relates to the live client interviewing, negotiations, and advocacy. Consequently, the units on ADR, Interviewing for Advocacy, and Law Experiential Learning certainly caught my attention.

# Law Experiential Learning

**Unit Coordinators:** Kip Werren,  
Bronwen Jackman  
**Credit points:** 6

## Pre-requisites:

Permission of Head of School; minimum GPA of 5.0; 72cps in Law.

## About this unit:

This unit provides you with an opportunity to refine your knowledge of the law or related policy in a practical setting.

With supervision from an experienced academic and plenty of opportunities to reflect on your experience, you have the choice of a range of practical settings. These include, but are not limited to, internship or partnered research involving an industry, community or government partner, clinical legal work or industry placement, team applied research projects, competitions (for example, client interviewing, negotiations, paper presentations, witness examinations) and editing a law journal.

This experiential learning unit will expose you to networking opportunities and help you to develop a range of key skills and knowledge. This includes legal research, presentation and communications skills, alongside professional ethics, teamwork, bargaining, mediation, writing, time management, planning, problem solving and critical thinking.

## Message from the UC:

In this unit it is expected that students will exercise independence, initiative, and flexibility. Experiential learning considers errors as an opportunity for learning and for this reason the process of reflection on the whole learning process is crucial.

The reflective journal represents an opportunity to record and reflect on possible errors or successes and the whole learning process and its outcomes. For the oral presentation students present on an area of interest that arises from their placement. The aim is to produce a quality presentation with a clear argument.

**50%**

Participation  
(assessed by  
supervisor)

**30%**

Written reflective  
journal (2,000 words  
equivalent)

**20%**

Oral presentation  
(2,000 words  
equivalent)



*'This subject has been a wonderful practical experience. I thoroughly enjoyed my time with my supervisor and learned so much. I will not hesitate in recommending this as a subject.'*

— **Former student**

# Law Experiential Learning (continued)

**Unit Coordinators:** Kip Werren,

Bronwen Jackman

**Credit points:** 6

## Student recommendation:

LAW306 isn't your typical unit. You find a workplace that is willing to have you for 8-10 hours a week or more, you apply to do the subject and then you work for them, fulfilling the duties you have agreed to. If you are working in the industry already you can use your own workplace, but the tasks you do during your placement hours have to be above and beyond your normal role. This can be difficult to maintain for the trimester in your own workplace.

I really enjoyed the research undertakings and the reflection assignment in this unit. You have a broad scope to work with for the research project. Any topic that arises during your work placement could be a viable topic. I liked the freedom and flexibility I had within the unit to explore an area of interest, even though it was a bit of a challenge to pin down my research topic.

This subject doesn't have a study workload. There are no lectures or tutorials for the subject – just the agreed work hours and the two assessments. All assessments are due later in the trimester.

I did my placement at my workplace with UNE Life in Advocacy & Welfare. My duty statement was to research how to establish a Community Legal Centre (CLC) and develop a business case for legal support for UNE students. During the research phase, family law was identified as the most common legal problem, so I did my research project in this area of law because that seemed more interesting than legal centre stuff I was researching for a project. In hindsight, I might have been better off choosing the CLC research I was doing already for the assessment as well.

— Lara Glasson



*'I liked the freedom and flexibility I had within the unit to explore an area of interest, even though it was a bit of a challenge to pin down my research topic.'*

— Lara Glasson

**50%**

Participation  
(assessed by  
supervisor)

**30%**

Written reflective  
journal (2,000 words  
equivalent)

**20%**

Oral presentation  
(2,000 words  
equivalent)

# Employment Law

**Unit Coordinator:** Igor Mescher  
**Credit points:** 6

**Pre-requisites:**

36cp including LAW100 or LLM533) and (LAW171 or LAW172) and (LAW220 or LAW399).

**About this unit:**

This is an advanced unit of study that delves further into individual issues within employment law.

You will examine a variety of social issues from a legal perspective. These include the development of Australian employment law, unionisation within and casualisation of the Australian workforce, the notions of 'employer' and 'contractor' and alternative modes for the performance of work and their regulation and implied terms, as well as the scope of employer and employee duties.

You will also explore the distribution of opportunity at work, including employee entitlements, leave arrangements and anti-discrimination, as well as legal regimes that promote work-life balance and issues surrounding termination of employment at common law and statute.

Throughout, you will build transferable critical thinking, legal reasoning and analytical skills.

**Message from the UC:**

This is a great unit to study if you want to know about, for example, rights of dismissal at common law and under statute. The greater social dimensions of regulating employment are dealt with in the early topics.

We look at what makes persons employees and what makes them independent contractors.

**40%**

Written assessment  
(2,000 words)

**10%**

Online assessment  
(500 words)

**50%**

Take home exam



*'Igor always does  
a banger of a  
unit!'*

**— Former student**

# Employment Law (continued)

*Unit Coordinator: Igor Mescher*  
*Credit points: 6*

**Message from the UC (continued):**

We study some interesting areas of law (where students will get to research and apply in essay or problem questions) such as sexual discrimination & harassment, racial discrimination and vilification together with age & disability discrimination.

We also go through same great hypothetical problem questions during Zoom meetings, involving dismissal and discrimination scenarios in the workplace.

My favourite part about teaching the subject is to hear students' own experiences in the workplace and how these experiences relate to the topics that we study.

**Student recommendations:**

The weekly tutorials were very good, interactive and informative for the small group that attended. I thought Igor shared the benefit of his knowledge and years of practice extremely well, and I feel fortunate to have been able to be a part of those tutorials.

Lectures were informative. Succinct and well thought out. Igor is very personable, knowledgeable and practiced on the subject. I am grateful to have been able to listen to and learn from his experience. Igor has a very engaging teaching style which kept students engaged throughout the unit.

— Former students

**40%**

Written assessment  
(2,000 words)

**10%**

Online assessment  
(500 words)

**50%**

Take home exam

**Unit Coordinator:** *Greg Carne*  
**Credit points:** 6

**Pre-requisites:**

36cp in Law.

**About this unit:**

The study of human rights raises some of the most important issues in Australia and the world. Within the context of international legal relations, this online unit will help you to develop a broad understanding of the underlying principles, structure, institutions and vocabulary of human rights as complemented by national law.

You will explore a range of contemporary human rights topics and issues including the origin, content, nature, scope and implementation of human rights, as well as human rights protection in the UN system and regional systems and prohibition of discrimination.

Additionally, you may also examine minority rights, human rights and terrorism, human rights and the environment, and Australia and human rights. You will be encouraged to develop your critical thinking and legal analysis skills by reflecting on contemporary human rights issues, including the effectiveness and impact that human rights law has on society.

**40%**

Assignment  
(2,000 words)

**60%**

Take home exam

# START YOUR *journey* WITH US

By joining the Law Society of NSW as a student member, you become part of a community of over 33,000 members whose wellbeing and success are our priorities.

Our purpose is to help you grow into the best lawyer you can be by providing you with professional development and engagement opportunities to support you as you transition from student to professional.

## AS A STUDENT MEMBER YOU CAN ENJOY

- ✓ Access to the online Law Student Portal containing information on upcoming events and programs in addition to helpful information and resources to give you a headstart in your career
- ✓ Exclusive and early access to a range of professional, networking, social and wellbeing events including:
  - The Law Students Careers Summit
  - Student and Young Lawyers Golden Gavel Competitions
  - Graduate and Clerkship Recruitment Programs and information sessions
- ✓ Exclusive access to our range of career, study and wellbeing resources and publications including:
  - Student Connect e-newsletter
  - LSJ Online
  - Thriving in Law Guides
- ✓ Tips and advice on applying for graduate and clerkship positions
- ✓ Resume writing and interview guidance and examples
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# Environmental Law

**Unit Coordinator:** Andrew Lawson  
**Credit points:** 6

**Pre-requisites:**

24cp in Law including LAW100 and LAW101; or candidature in LLM from 2015 (rule b – Australian); or candidature in LLM from 2015 (rule b – non-Australian) and LLM533; or candidature in LLM from 2015 (rule c) and 24cp including LLM533.

**About this unit:**

This highly topical unit provides you with a broad understanding of environmental issues and the role of law both as part of the problem and as an attempt to provide solutions.

You will examine constitutional issues, Commonwealth environmental legislation, common law remedies and likely future directions in environmental law. The legal regime is considered in the broader context of law and society.

Throughout, you will build transferable critical thinking, legal reasoning and analytical skills to future proof your career.

**Message from the UC:**

I love teaching this unit because students are highly engaged and passionate about the environment. Some of them work in environmentally focussed workplaces, so I learn as much as I teach. The subject is close to my research interests, and my professional and personal interests before I came into academia. I have a great teaching partner in Dr Amy Cosby.

Assessments will help students develop a mix of oral and written skills using key contemporary environmental law cases as a focal point.

**Student recommendation:**

Andrew has a very extensive knowledge of Environmental Law and he is patient with us students as we grapple with the imperfections of Environmental Law but at the same time I feel inspired to keep learning under Andrew and Amy's guidance.

— Former student

**40%***Oral presentation***10%***Quiz***50%***Take home exam*

*'I found myself actually enjoying the subject and the learning of it rather than being overwhelmed.'*

**— Former student**

# Gender and the Law

**Unit Coordinator:** Skye Charry  
**Credit points:** 6

**Pre-requisites:**

48cps in Law including LAW101.

**About this unit:**

This unit is designed to encourage you to think critically about the impact of gender in several socio-legal contexts.

With a focus on a range of legal areas including sex discrimination law, criminal law, family law and professional legal practice, you will consider the impact of gendered norms and assumptions in the Australian legal system since colonisation.

By overlaying feminist, historical and cultural frameworks, you will analyse and understand the implicit (and sometimes explicit) influence of gender stereotypes and biases on issues of law and its practice.

Ultimately, you will be encouraged to think creatively to develop innovative ideas for cultural change and necessary law and policy reform.

**Message from the UC:**

I love teaching *Gender and the Law* because it enables us to unpack the powerful influence of gendered norms on our legal system and the legal profession. By exploring feminist, historical, and cultural frameworks—and drawing on examples from popular culture—we examine how gender stereotypes shape both laws and legal practice. It's a space for critical thinking, open dialogue, and imagining what a more inclusive legal system could look like.

**35%**

Creative reflection  
task (1,500 words  
equivalent)

**15%**

Online participation

**50%**

Essay  
(2,500 words)



*'Skye is a superb educator. Her passion and knowledge make this unit fascinating, and the range of resources is phenomenal.'*  
— Former student

# Gender and the Law (continued)

**Unit Coordinator:** Skye Charry  
**Credit points:** 6

## Message from the UC (continued):

Students frequently say this unit changes how they view both law and society. They find the learning transformative, relevant, and inspiring, often noting its practical value for their future careers.

The assessments are engaging and creative, giving students a chance to delve deeply into critical issues like sex discrimination law, family law, criminal law, and professional legal practice. Students will be encouraged to develop innovative solutions for cultural change and propose meaningful law and policy reforms—making their research both relevant and impactful.

## Student recommendations:

Skye is an incredible coordinator, who shares her passion for the topic and interweaves a panoply of fascinating resources and wonderful guest lecturers. Of the 16 units I have completed at UNE, this was a stand-out.

Skye is a superb educator. Her passion and knowledge make this unit fascinating, and the range of resources is phenomenal.

**35%**

Creative reflection  
task (1,500 words  
equivalent)

**15%**

Online participation

**50%**

Essay  
(2,500 words)



*'Of the 16 units I have completed at UNE, this was a stand-out.'*  
— Former student

# Australian Competition and Consumer Law

*Unit Coordinator: Patrick Graham*

**Credit points: 6**

## **Pre-requisites:**

24cp in Law including LAW100 and (LAW171 or LAW172).

## **About this unit:**

This unit will equip you with a thorough understanding of the law governing consumer protection in Australia, within the key legislative framework of the Competition and Consumer Act 2021 (Cth). You will examine controls on restrictive practices—both horizontal and vertical—as well as the regulation of unconscionable conduct and unfair contracts.

Additionally, you will analyse the role and application of consumer protection provisions and the role and regulatory design of competition law in Australia, beginning with the primary concept of the misuse of market power. In doing so, you will gain insights into how such regulation is applied in practice, as well as the design, history, economic theory and political thinking underpinning those protections.

## **Message from the UC:**

Australia has extraordinarily powerful, world-leading consumer protection laws. We benefit from those laws every time we go to the supermarket, scroll social media, or buy petrol: but most people have very little idea about their consumer rights. LAW375 will change that and also make you rethink how the Australian economy works. We look not only at what the law is, but how history, politics, and Australia's unique geography and society have shaped those rules. A focus this year in the unit is how the Australian government is facing the massive legal challenges posed by digital platforms. I hope to see you there!

## **Student recommendation:**

Patrick was great at giving us the information we needed and was always available to answer any questions. The lectures get to the heart of each topic and it was easy to work out what I needed to know. I found each topic interesting and never felt like I had too much information to get through. This was probably the most enjoyable unit I have done at UNE.

— Former student

**40%**  
Assignment  
(2,000 words)

**20%**  
Online quizzes x 3

**40%**  
Open book exam



*'Patrick went to a lot of effort to provide informative and helpful feedback during the unit. The guest speakers were of a high calibre and added a 'real world' component to Australian competition and consumer law.'*  
— **Former student**

# Advanced Taxation Law

**Unit Coordinator:** *Pritam Dey*  
**Credit points:** 6

**Pre-requisites:**

60cp in Law including LAW100 and (LAW251 or LAW351) and LAW352.

**About this unit:**

This unit builds upon foundational Australian taxation law knowledge and equips you with an advanced understanding and mastery of the legislation and procedures for tax compliance.

You will examine a range of topics including fringe benefits taxation, goods and services taxation, taxation of superannuation entities and special taxpayers as well as tax losses.

You will also explore issues in tax avoidance and evasion, the ethical and professional obligations of tax advisers and agents and tax administration. In doing so, you will develop your legal reasoning and research skills and be equipped with contemporary skills to meet challenges in a complex and ever-changing field.

**20%**

Online assessment  
(1,000 words)

**60%**

Open book exam  
(2,000 words)

**20%**

Research essay  
(2,500 words)



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# TRIMESTER DATES

**JUNE  
23**

## **Trimester 2 (T2) starts**

Monday 23 June 2025

**JUNE  
30**

## **Last day to add T2 units**

Monday 30 June 2025

**JULY  
21**

## **Census Day**

Monday 21 July 2025 (this is the last day to withdraw without paying for the unit)

**AUG  
4-15**

## **Mid-trimester intensive and assessment period**

Monday 4-Friday 15 August 2025

**AUG  
25**

## **Last day to withdraw without academic penalty**

Monday 25 August 2025 (if you withdraw by this date you avoid a 'fail' but must pay for the unit)

# TRIMESTER DATES

**SEP  
22–28**

## **End-of-trimester intensive and assessment period**

Monday 22–Sunday 28 September 2025

**SEP  
28**

## **T2 ends**

Sunday 28 September 2025

**OCT  
10**

## **Last day for release of T2 results**

Friday 10 October

## **Looking ahead...**

**OCT  
20**

## **Trimester 3 starts**

Monday 20 October 2025

## **Official UNE Calendar:**

<https://www.une.edu.au/about-une/principal-dates/principal-dates-2025>

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**SAMIRA TABBIT**  
**LSS TREASURER**

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Once again, thank you for your incredible support and we look forward to continuing our partnership.

Sincerely,

**Samira Tabbitt**

Treasurer

Law Students' Society

University of New England

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*'... although the vast majority of Australians enjoy some measure of human rights protection, whether this level of protection is adequate should be judged on how well it protects the rights of the most vulnerable and marginalised sections of society.'*

— Gabrielle Appleby, Alexander Reilly and Laura Grenfell, *Australian Public Law* (Oxford University Press, 2014) 371.