

How to

SURVIVE AND THRIVE IN YOUR FIRST YEAR



BY THE UNE LAW
STUDENTS' SOCIETY

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

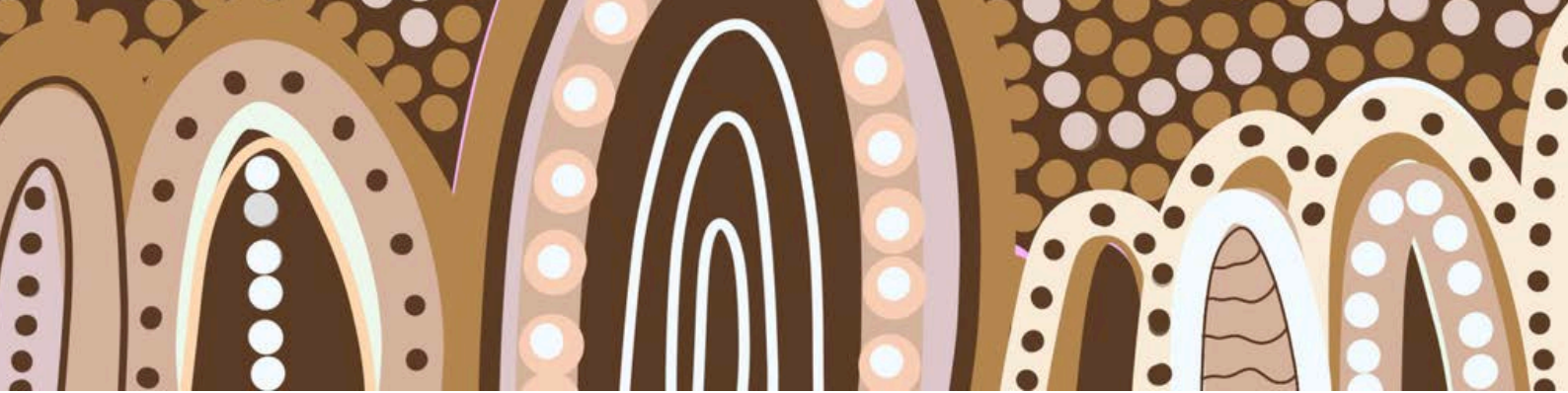


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Acknowledgement of Country

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.

Whose Country am I on?

For information about the Country you are living and studying on, [The Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies](#) provides guidance, as well as an interactive map that shows the breadth of traditional owners across Australia and the Torres Strait.

Deadly study advice: The Oorala Aboriginal Centre

For over 35 years, the Oorala Aboriginal Centre has offered services, programs and facilities of a nationally recognised standard to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students who have chosen to study at UNE. The Oorala team offer support with everything from course information, to tutoring, scholarships, and more.

Reach out the Oorala Student Experience team to find out more on 02 6773 3034 or ooralasupport@une.edu.au

DEB RUSSELL

Welcome from the UNE Law Students' Society President



Hi everyone,

Welcome to the UNE Law Students' Society
and to our 2026 First Year Students' Guide.

The UNE Law Students' Society (UNELSS) is run by students, for students. Established in 2010, the UNELSS aims to promote academic excellence, wellbeing, and professional growth. We produce regular publications and offer a variety of online and in-person social and academic events in an effort to build community and connection.

Earlier this month, we held one of our favourite events — the Annual UNELSS Law Ball. This event brings together staff, students, friends and special guests to celebrate and nurture the collegial spirit that is an important part of the legal profession and a valued part of the law school. We also hosted our Annual Conference over two days in Armidale and online. This was a free event featuring UNE academics and external speakers from the College of Law, a private law firm, local community legal centre, and the District Court of NSW. In the same week, we co-hosted a post-graduation event with the School of Law where The Hon Michael Kirby AC CMG was our guest.

As you begin your law school journey, I invite you to get involved with the UNELSS. We also organise online Trivia Nights (no legal knowledge required!), AGLC4 workshops, career information events, Practical Legal Training (PLT) information sessions, and Trimester Guides to help you plan your law electives.

I would like to thank the UNELSS Publications Director, Sharad Goodfella, and Publications Officer, Braydon Armour, for producing this 2026 First Year Students' Guide. The guide aims to bring together information to help you start with confidence and make the best of your studies. Highlights include information about first-year law units, essential resources and support, advice from lecturers and fellow students, and a look at Honours in Law for those who are interested.

On behalf of the UNE Law Students' Society, I wish you all the best with your studies and beyond. See you out there.

Warm regards,
Deb

UNE LAW STUDENTS' SOCIETY

Supporting Law Students at UNE Since 2010

The UNE Law Students' Society aims to provide services to UNE law students, on and off campus. We host academic and social events throughout the year to supplement students' legal education. The UNELSS has a strong and interactive relationship with the UNE School of Law, working with staff, the school, and the student body. [Visit our website here.](#)



Did you know?

Joining UNELSS offers many benefits ranging from networking opportunities and social engagement to skill development and academic support. By actively participating in your law society, you can enrich your university experience and lay a strong foundation for future success in the legal field.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to all students studying law at the University of New England. Membership costs \$15 for the life of your degree and offers benefits including discounted event tickets, early access to publications, communications and updates, and use of LSS facilities on-campus. Membership applications are processed using the UNE Clubs & Societies TidyHQ platform. [Join here.](#)

MEET THE 2026 UNE LAW STUDENTS' SOCIETY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Deb Russell
President



Tianaha Willson-Baker
Vice President



Jaimie Harrison
Secretary



Kirsti Nunn
Treasurer



Emmy Turner
**Communications &
Social Media Director**



Kirsti Nunn
**Student Affairs
Director**



Meg Watson
**Social Justice &
Equity Director**



Jessica Durrington
**Sponsorship
Director**



Pamela Mery
Merch Director



Hayley Ryman
Events Director



Sharad Goodfella
Publications Director



Shannia Cathcart
Careers Director



LSS Officers

Madeline Allen - Comms & Socials

Helen Mundy - Student Affairs

Ella Amati - Social Justice & Equity

Braydon Armour - Publications

Matt Raftis - Sponsorship

MEET PROFESSOR ALPANA ROY

Head of School



Welcome to UNE School of Law!

Our School was founded in 1993, and since its establishment has been dedicated to providing a world-class legal education, equipping our students with the critical thinking skills, deep knowledge, and practical experience needed to excel in a rapidly evolving legal profession and world. We pride ourselves on fostering a vibrant and supportive learning environment where you will be encouraged to engage, question and innovate.

BA (Soc Sci) (UTS), LLB (Hons) (Syd), MA (Journalism) (UTS), DipLegPrac (College of Law), PhD (Syd), GCHETL (UTS), Solicitor and Barrister of the Supreme Court of NSW and the High Court of Australia, Accredited Mediator.

As an institution, we've been innovating since the very beginning. UNE was established more than 70 years ago as Australia's first regional university, and ever since 1954 our University has been educating students across Australia and around the world. Along with outstanding rankings in teaching and research across numerous metrics, we are widely recognised as leaders in distance education (as confirmed recently again in the Commonwealth Government's Australian Universities Accord).

UNE Law has received the maximum 5 stars in the Good Universities Guide in numerous areas including learning resources and student support. Our School brings together leading international and local scholars, members of the judiciary and legal profession, illustrious alumni, leaders of industry and business to provide our students with a transformative learning experience. We are also leaders in several areas of legal research, including environmental and agricultural law; regional, rural and remote law (RRR law); Indigenous peoples and legal systems; and technology and AI law.

We have a diverse and talented community of students and staff, each of whom bring their unique perspectives and experiences to the study and understanding of the law. Our highly sought after graduates are fully prepared for the complete range of legal and other opportunities – both in Australia as well as abroad.

We have an extensive network of international partners on every continent in the globe, connecting us to leading scholars and law schools in the Pacific and Australasia, Asia, North America, the UK and Europe, South America, and Africa. We prepare our students to be global citizens, and they are able to undertake exchange programmes, study, and work around the world.

Our graduates have become leaders in the legal profession, in industry and business, in government, in civil society – across the nation, and around the world. We are enormously proud of our graduates, and are grateful for their on-going involvement and commitment to our UNE Law School.

Once again, a very warm welcome to UNE School of Law!

MEET KATH JOHNSON

Course Manager, School of Law

Curriculum and Academic Management

Armidale NSW 2351

Phone 61 2 6773 3648

Email kjohnson@une.edu.au



MATEM, LAMP (Melb Uni);

BBusMan (HRM) (QUT)

Assoc. Member, Resolution Institute

Member, NSW Justices Assoc; IAC

Psychologically Safe Teams Certified.

Kath advises and assists undergraduate and postgraduate students across all School of Law awards. This encompasses the Bachelor of Laws (3 and 4 yrs), Pre-Law suite of awards (Diploma in Paralegal Studies, Advanced Diploma in Paralegal Studies, Bachelor of Legal Studies) and Postgraduate Law Awards. Kath has 20 years of experience in academic management roles across many disciplines.

Kath has been with the Law School since early 2019. The course manager portfolio is varied and involves working with course coordinators and the Chair of the School Education Committee to assure governance items are in order. This includes adherence to the Legal Profession Admission Board (LPAB) requirements as well as UNE policy requirements, setting recommended course plans for students, assisting with complex progression queries from students, and pre-requisite waiver queries and approvals with the course coordinators.

Kath is very experienced and well placed to assist Law School students with studying at UNE.

KEY RESOURCES

As a law student, you are expected to be self-motivated in staying up-to-date on law school information and your obligations as a law student. Here are some key resources you will want to be checking regularly.

UNE Law School website:

This contains news, resources, staff details, and Law School contact information. [Access the website here.](#)

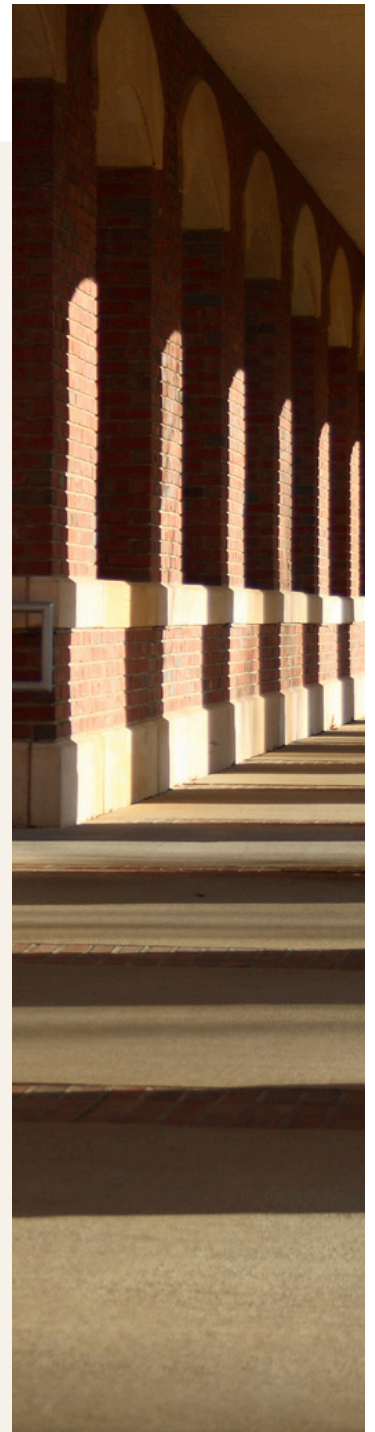
Law School Student Essentials

This document is 'essential' reading, *every trimester*. It contains the most current information on unit offerings, academic integrity - including Artificial Intelligence, checklists, and progression. It also summarises the UNE marking rubric, assessment types, and provides details of a range of support services. The essentials document has been carefully created to give students the best opportunity to succeed in their studies. [Access the document here.](#)

School of Law Student Resources

This webpage has links to the Law School Student Essentials, Law Skills Hub, AGLC4, Academic Integrity module (AIRLI), and IT support information. [Access the website here.](#)

To show respect to the academic and support staff at UNE, it is recommended that these resources are accessed first before raising a question. Law graduates are regarded as having a strong sense of initiative and good problem solving skills. Do what you can to practice these skills as soon as possible.



Help is on the way

*Getting support during
your studies*



MEET NOLA HOLMES

First Year and Academic Advisor



'No students achieve their best results working in isolation. Participate and engage with tutorials, UNE resources/support, and each other.'

'The wisest people are the ones who know to reach out and ask for help.'

- Nola

DipT(WIE), BA(UNE),
GradCertTEFLA(Camb.UK),
MPHC(Flinders), MBA(SCU), JP.

Phone: +61 02 6773 2181

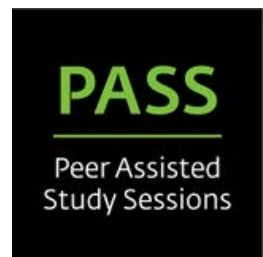
Email: nola.holmes@une.edu.au

Nola assists undergraduate Law School students across all units with discipline-specific academic requirements (including legal skills and assessments), strategies for success and 'being a Law School student'. Nola has extensive management and consultancy experience in both the private and public sectors in Australia and Hong Kong/China and has previously been a consultant, lecturer, teacher and advisor for universities, vocational colleges, and secondary schools in both countries. She is well-placed to assist Law School students transitioning into and through university study at UNE.

OTHER CONTACTS

UNE EXAMS TEAM	STUDENT ACCESSIBILITY
Issues with your exam timetable, or issues on the day of your exam? Contact the Exams & eAssessment team via AskUNE or phone 02 6773 2145.	The Student Accessibility & Wellbeing Office (SAWO) supports students to overcome barriers to their university studies. Contact SAWO via 02 6773 2897 or accessinclusion@une.edu.au .
STUDENT ADVOCACY & WELFARE	THE COUNSELLING AND PSYCHOLOGY SERVICE (CAPS)
Whether it's navigating academic challenges or seeking assistance with tax matters, Student Advocacy is an independent team available to help. Contact Student Advocacy via 02 6773 3116 or advocacy@une.edu.au .	CAPS provides a safe space for enrolled students to access one on one support to help navigate personal issues that are impacting your studies and improve your mental wellbeing. Contact CAPS via Call 02 6773 2897 or studentcounselling@une.edu.au .

PEER ASSISTED STUDY SESSIONS



LSU100, LAW100, LAW101, LAW102, LAW131, LAW162, LAW172, & LAW283

PASS@UNE offers peer-facilitated study sessions designed to assist students in specific courses. The sessions are led by students who have successfully completed the course, providing an opportunity for students currently studying the unit to gain a better understanding of course concepts, work on practice problems, and develop study skills.

PASS@UNE is held online via Zoom. The sessions are open to all students enrolled in the units that offer PASS, and are attended on a voluntary basis. As sessions are delivered online, students can join from any location and meet with students in their unit and cohort.

The PASS Leader will not re-teach content. Instead, they offer strategies and tips they found useful to achieve success in the unit. PASS@UNE sessions start in Week 1 or Week 2 and run weekly throughout the trimester. Keep an eye out for our PASS@UNE leaders who will introduce themselves within your subject via forums, with your Unit Coordinator, or in lectures/tutorials, or through PASS@UNE on myLearn.

Peer Academic Mentoring

Peer Academic Mentoring (PAM) is also available to all law students in any unit and year. PAM provides students with a real-time, one-on-one conversation with an experienced student throughout the week, including on weekends. Mentors offer personalised guidance on using different UNE student resources and can help you manage study challenges. You can book with general mentors, or a law specific mentor. This service is great if you are feeling isolated or not sure where to go to get help with something at UNE. Mentors are often also PASS leaders, so you might see a familiar face.

You can check out booking times and Mentors by searching "Peer Assistance" on the UNE website, or clicking [here](#).



'PASS are invaluable. They are a great opportunity to meet with fellow students each week to revise course work, ask questions and share study tips in an informal setting.'

Sherry Sayer | PASS Leader

REFERENCING FOR LAW

The Australian Guide to Legal Citation

Referencing is an essential academic skill. In law, referencing serves two purposes: it supports your arguments by giving appropriate legal authority (judicial decision or legislative provision), and it also gives credit to the work of others that you have relied on in preparing your work.

Referencing is a way of acknowledging the works of other scholars. Referencing allows your readers to understand where your argument or opinion fits into the broader academic discussion, see that you are writing from an informed position with evidence and support for your claims, and search for the source themselves if they wish to pursue that idea further. Any work you submit for assessment must be referenced in accordance with UNE standards. The School of Law has adopted the Australian Guide to Legal Citation (4th ed), Melbourne University Law Review Association Inc., Melbourne, 2018, as the standard for referencing in law assessments.

You should access more information online and the full version of the AGLC style at [AGLC4](#).

AGLC4 WORKSHOP

Hosted by the UNELSS, this event is designed to unravel the complexities of the AGLC4 referencing system. Whether you are new to law or looking to refine your referencing skills, this workshop is for you. These workshops are offered each trimester, providing ongoing opportunities to build and refine your skills. Do not miss out on the chance to master the finer details of AGLC4 and ensure your academic work stands out with impeccable referencing. Workshop details, including registration information, will be published on the LSS website and social media channels.



“ Samira Tabbitt
Current Student

Attending an AGLC4 workshop can be highly beneficial for anyone who wants to excel in legal writing, research, or academic pursuits where accurate citation of legal sources is required.

The AGLC4 workshop has helped me understand the nuances of legal citations, including how to cite cases, legislation, treaties, and other legal materials accurately. Proper referencing is crucial in academic and professional settings to avoid plagiarism and give credit to original authors. By attending the AGLC4 workshop, I have learnt how to reference legal sources correctly, thereby upholding academic integrity. This skill is essential for conducting thorough legal research and writing scholarly papers.

DOING WELL IN EVERY STEP OF YOUR STUDIES

Helping you improve your study skills

Law Skills Hub

The Law Skills Hub is the first port of call for law student support. It provides you with centralised resources for basic skills required to 'be a law student'. Grouped into categories, including writing, studying, exam prep, referencing and research, Law Skills Hub provides multiple layers of assistance from general summaries to videos, exercises, PowerPoint presentations, book and other extracts.

The Academic Skills Office

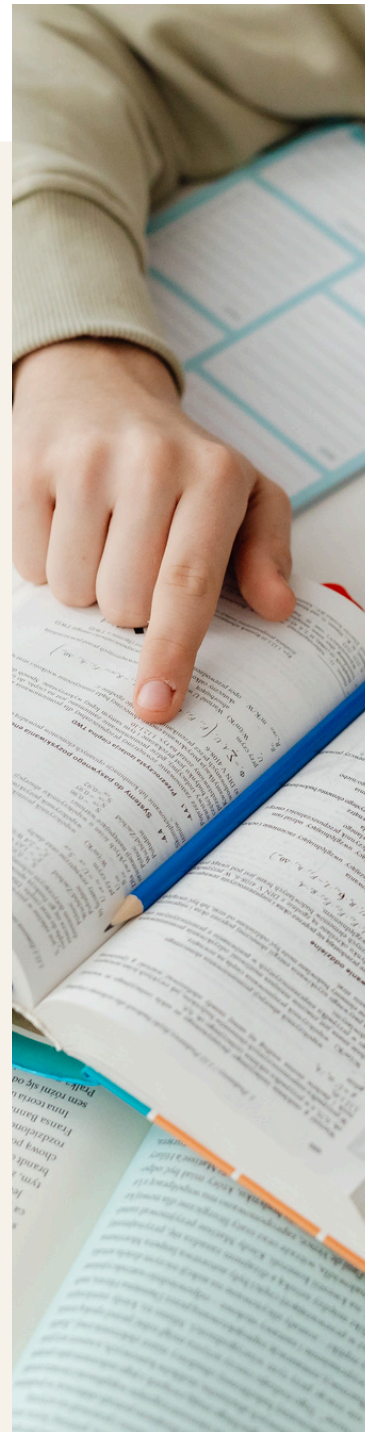
The Academic Skills Office (ASO) is a non-discipline specific tool that can help you succeed in your studies. ASO can be accessed through the first tile in the Law Skills Hub: 'Study Skills – General'. The ASO provides a range of free services and resources including study skills and assignment writing.

Student Support

The Student Engagement Officers provide referral information regarding UNE student supports and services, as well as external services. They can help with enquiries involving sensitive and confidential matters that may be impacting your academic goals, such as ongoing health/disability conditions, carer responsibilities, work-related issues, elite athletes and much more. A Study Access Plan (SAP) may be possible to help you. They can also assist you with university processes, such as Academic Progression Advice and any Intervention Conditions, by working with you on your goals and support needs.

Need to talk to someone now?

Urgent mental health support line available 24/7
call **1300 661 927** or text **0488 884 169**.



WHEN THINGS DON'T GO TO PLAN

Applying for extensions and special consideration

Many UNE students are fantastic multi-taskers. We study, work, volunteer, raise children, and much more. Unfortunately, things do not always go to plan and there are times where something unexpected happens, or life throws us in the deep end. It is important to remember that UNE can support us during these times to assist us in pushing through and completing our units. Knowing how to access this support is the most crucial step in the process and while we all hope we will never need to apply for an extension or special consideration, it may be unavoidable.

Extensions

If you are unable to submit an assignment by the due date and meet the requirements, you can apply for a 3-day automated extension. Students may apply for this extension via the Assessment Tile on myLearn without needing supporting documentation.

For extensions exceeding three days, students must first utilise the automated extension and subsequently submit a request for additional time, accompanied by the necessary documentation, through the [Assignment Extension Form](#). Section 6.4 of the Assignment Extension Policy is deemed redundant as the 3-day extension currently replaces the previous 7-day Short Extension.

For more information on extensions, visit the [UNE Law School Assignment Extension Policy](#) page.

Special consideration

If you experience unforeseen or unavoidable circumstances which negatively impacted your performance in an examination or assessment, you may be eligible to apply for special consideration. Special consideration may be taken into account during marking for a maximum of 3% of your final grade. You can apply for special consideration using the [Special Assessment Application](#) form, which must be received within 5 working days of your last exam. Your application must be supported by relevant supporting documentation, such as a medical certificate.

You can also use this link to apply for a deferred exam/assessment, special extension of time on an assessment, a supplementary assessment and withdrawal without failure.

For more information on special consideration, visit the [UNE Applying for Special Consideration](#) page.

CONTACTING ACADEMIC STAFF

Best practice when asking for help or feedback

When contacting academic staff, including by email or on MyLearn, it's important to remember that your professional reputation starts in law school. Under the Legal Profession Uniform Law Australian Solicitors' Conduct Rules 2015 (NSW), rule 4.1.2 provides that a fundamental ethical duty of a solicitor includes to 'be honest and courteous in all dealings in the course of legal practice'.

Best practice tips

- Check topic tiles, all unit information, and other UNE sites, before asking on MyLearn.
- Always be courteous and polite in your communications.
- Be patient when waiting for a response.
- When emailing staff, include your student number, unit code, and phone number.
- Always use your @myune.edu.au email address.

ASKING FOR FEEDBACK

Sometimes, you'll receive a mark on an assignment that you do not believe reflects how you met the marking criteria. Before you submit a formal appeal, you should seek extra feedback from your unit co-ordinator, and it is important to do this the right way. It is expected that you will have considered the feedback provided, given yourself time to think things through, and actively compared your paper to the marking criteria. It's recommended that you do not seek extra feedback for a *minimum* of 48-72 hours, and many UC's will not accept requests before this time. This gives you opportunity to read your feedback at least 2-3 times, and look at the marking criteria with calm analysis. If you would still like to seek feedback, see the example on the next page.

Feedback can be hard to hear but remember that it isn't designed to wound: it's designed to help you do better next time. It's also not a reflection of you as a person or of your worth – it's merely about what you were able to achieve in a task. [More on this here](#).

Remember: your overall performance at University is not determined by one assignment. A much bigger factor is how you learn from mistakes, put into action advice you've been given and how quickly you can bounce back from disappointment.

EXAMPLE EMAIL

➤ Send 🗑 Discard 📎 Attach File ...

From:

nyune.edu.au) ⌵

⌵

To:

UNIT COORDINATOR EMAIL ADDRESS

Cc Bcc

Subject:

2202123456 LAW700 - Seeking Assignment Feedback

Priority ⌵

Calibri ⌵ 11 ⌵ A ⌵ B *I* U 🔄 👉 👈 🔗 ✖ ✖ ☰ ☰ ☰ ☰ ☰ ☰ 🔊 ⋮

Dear <unit co-ordinator>,

I am writing to you to ask for your assistance in relation to my ***unit*** assignment, and am hoping to seek extra feedback, including a review of my mark.

I have reviewed my comments multiple times and compared my paper and comments against the marking criteria for the assessment.

***[Here, you should aim to specifically detail where, and how you believe you have engaged with the assessment at a higher level.**

These grounds need to be well-reasoned and detailed, while referring to the actual marking criteria. Your request should not contain critique of the marker's comments – it should instead focus on **how** your paper has engaged with the assessment at a higher level.]*

The grounds on which I am seeking further feedback are:

- In the analysis of fiduciary duty, I received comments that case law analysis was not provided. However, I have provided case law analysis on the next page, including two cases which supported my argument, and a discussion on an alternative case which did not support. I believe this analysis was 'comprehensive consideration of arguments for and against the client's case' as stated in the marking criteria.
- In the analysis of confidential information, I had a comment on my paper that discussion was required on actual knowledge, and constructive knowledge. While I did not use the words 'constructive knowledge', I did include an analysis of the reasonable person in the position of the party test, and footnoted the case law. I believe this analysis is at least a 'good consideration of the elements of each type of relationship of trust' as stated in the marking criteria.
- Finally, I received a 6/10 mark for my referencing and AGLC compliance. I have gone through the referencing and cannot locate the errors, and there are no mark ups or comments on the paper to show where the compliance has not been met.

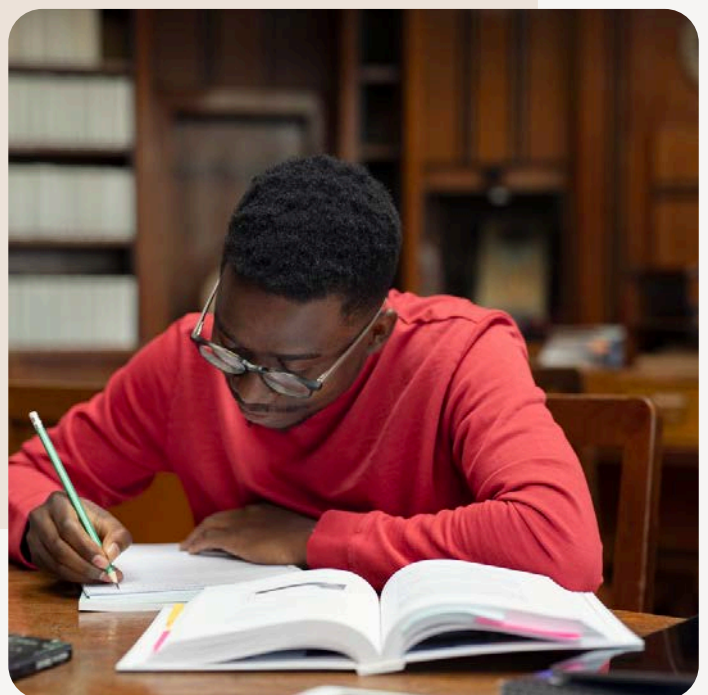
Could you please let me know if there is anything else you need from me, for you to review the paper? Thank you for your time.

Yours faithfully,

<your name>
<your phone number>
<your student number>

Building an incredible degree

*Making the most of
UNE law*



COURSE PLANS

Law, Legal and Paralegal

Bachelor of Laws (3 Years)

Commencing Trimester 1 2026

Commencing Trimester 2 2026

Commencing Trimester 3 2026

Bachelor of Laws (4 Years)

Commencing Trimester 1 2026

Commencing Trimester 2 2026

Commencing Trimester 3 2026

Please note: You may need to be flexible around Course Plans as there are many competing factors. Forward planning is essential as not all units are offered every trimester, so some jigsaw planning or swapping of units may be needed. To help with forward planning, students should consult the 'Law School Unit Offerings' site [Law School Unit Offerings - University of New England \(UNE\)](#) for the current and next year for both Core and Listed units.

Bachelor of Legal Studies

Commencing Trimester 1 2026

Commencing Trimester 2 2026

Commencing Trimester 3 2026

Diploma of Paralegal Studies

Commencing Trimester 1 2026

Commencing Trimester 2 2026

Commencing Trimester 3 2026

Advanced Diploma of Paralegal Studies

Commencing Trimester 1 2026

Commencing Trimester 2 2026

Commencing Trimester 3 2026

Bachelor of Laws Double Degrees (5 Years)

Criminology | Arts | Economics

Accounting | Science | Business

Computer Science | Agriculture

Environmental Science | Media and Communication

For more information regarding courses, please contact the course progression team through ASK UNE.

HONOURS IN LAW

Have You Thought About Undertaking Honours?



With an Honours law degree you can access career opportunities both inside and outside law firms. Through this program, you develop critical thinking abilities, problem-solving skills, effective research techniques, and refined communication capabilities. These skills are highly transferable and can lead to personal growth and professional success in any career.

Students who complete Honours graduate with an 'Honours' degree. It can be a great way to differentiate yourself from other candidates. It is also a fantastic opportunity to do a 'deep dive' into a topic that you are interested in or passionate about.

In Law, Honours is embedded in the degree, which means that students can graduate with Honours without additional time studying. LAW490, Honours in Law, is a double unit completed over trimesters 1 and 2. The main assessment item is a 10,000-word thesis based on a research project that you develop with the aid of an academic supervisor. An Honours degree is a great way to demonstrate that you are a high achiever, capable of advanced research and high-end critical analysis as well as being capable of managing a demanding project over eight months'. It sends a strong signal to employers of your advanced-level skills.

Students thinking about undertaking Honours should read the information in the 'Honours in Law' tile in the Law Skills Hub and read the sample theses provided by past students. Students should also plan their degrees carefully, as undertaking Honours means that you will have fewer listed units available. The core requirements of Honours are LAW490 and LLM500, and these will replace 18 cp, (three standard units) of your listed units in your degree. If you have further questions about what is involved in Honours, contact the Unit Coordinator, Dr Laura Smith Khan Laura.Smith-Khan@une.edu.au. If you have questions about the process of applying or your eligibility, contact the Law School's Course Manager, Kath Johnson kjohnson@une.edu.au.

WATCH THE 2024 INFORMATION SESSION HERE

2025 HONOURS STUDENT

Victoria Vivente



Victoria finished her studies in November 2025 and will be attending the graduation in May 2026. In January 2026, she started as Associate to his Honour Judge Troy Anderson SC in the District Court of New South Wales.

Her thesis argued that Australian banks do not have strong enough legal obligations to protect vulnerable customers. She argued for 'Janet's Law': named after Janet Mackozdi, who died from hypothermia in July 2010 after being left overnight in an uninsulated shipping container by her daughter and son-in-law. While elder financial abuse did not cause Janet's hypothermia, the ongoing misappropriation of Janet's finances, or 'elder financial abuse' was fundamentally what caused her death. The research examined the current remedies when banks fail to treat vulnerable customers with extra care, and the very limited cases where conduct is referred to ASIC. It highlighted the critical gap in the current consumer protection framework, that a consistent approach to vulnerability is required in the financial services laws.

It's a great way to prove to yourself how much you have learned.

Janet's Law would see a vulnerability obligation inserted into section 912A of the Corporations Act, so that banks must legally take reasonable extra care with vulnerable customers, allowing ASIC to enforce this duty and impose penalties, with the aim of preventing elder financial abuse and better reflecting community expectations.

Victoria chose to do Honours because she was interested in testing the research and critical analysis skills she'd developed over the course of the degree in a self-directed project.

"It's a great way to prove to yourself how much you have learned. Plus, it was a huge benefit that I was able to structure it into my degree without needing to add another year of study."

"I have been incredibly lucky – I would say almost every academic in the law school has had an email from me at some point, and without fail they have been generous in their time and knowledge. I will give special mention to Professor Micheal Adams, Dr Rene Cornish, Igor Mescher, and Associate Professor Sue Field. Lyn Gollan and Kath Johnson have both been an incredible help throughout the degree too. And of course, his Honour, who I first met at UNE and now answers my questions every day."

Her advice to new Students is that Law will test you constantly and there will be disappointments. However, it will make you resilient. It will teach you to think critically. These skills will serve you forever, regardless of what you do after your studies.

TOP TIPS

Thoughts from Fellow Students

How to best study and what methods work best?

• Write a plan on what needs to be done. • Start with readings, read read read! • Write concise notes after readings and watching lectures. • Stick to one subject a day to focus on, don't chop and change. • A study group is a fantastic way to focus and bounce ideas off each other. • Participate in any extra study sessions run by other students. • Silent study sessions over Zoom can keep you accountable.

How do you stay motivated?

• Discipline. • Combine interesting units with core units. • Focus on your goal of finishing law school. • Think of the people you want to help once you graduate. • Find ways to enjoy studying.

Did you know the UNELSS offers trivia nights and other social events to bring some fun to your law degree!!

What's the hardest thing about studying law

• THE READING!!!! • The personal sacrifices that are made such as financial, social, parenting. • The hours spent (probably reading).

What's the most rewarding thing about studying law?

• Friends made while studying. • Achieving great results while parenting/working is very rewarding. • Constantly learning and working hard to create work you are proud of.

What do you wish you knew at the beginning of your degree?

• How to write great study notes. • How expensive textbooks are and where to buy second hand ones. • The importance of work/life balance. • What units go well together (this study guide can help with that!). • The importance of building a community around you as online study can be lonely.



GIVING YOURSELF THE BEST SHOT

Teachers Share Common Mistakes and how to Avoid them

Is there a common mistake that students make, and how can it be avoided?

A common mistake that students make is not sticking to a feasible study schedule and not seeking help early when they encounter difficulties. This can lead to falling behind and becoming overwhelmed. To avoid this, I encourage students to be realistic about their workload and to seek help if they need it. There are many support services available. Being proactive about addressing challenges can make a significant difference. For example, Nola Holmes, our fantastic First-Year Advisor, is a wealth of knowledge and is extremely supportive and helpful. She is always available for consultations. Reach out; don't suffer in silence if you are experiencing issues. We want you to succeed. – **Dr Wellett Potter**

The common mistake is to assume that they can get high grades by doing little, unable to accept feedback or who expect that teacher gives everything. The purpose of every law school is to provide knowledge and competencies so that the student would be capable in meeting the demands of the legal profession. Being open-minded and to leave behind prejudices or biases are important in creating harmonious relationship with the teaching team and with fellow students. Respect is also a quality that is most essential in fostering a harmonious learning and teaching environment.

– **Dr Imelda Deinla**

Yes, failing to manage their anxiety. Learn to manage anxiety – consistent application can really help with this, as can healthy breaks from work and study, so – structure and routine! – **Professor Cameron Moore**



Sometimes students come to the study of law with unrealistic expectations, therefore set realistic goals for your first year as you set out to 'learn the ropes'. In terms of legal professional skills, I often see students write in a manner to which they are not accustomed in an attempt to sound more 'like a lawyer'. This usually does not lead to a discussion which is easy to follow. I suggest students aim for the 3C's: clarity, clarity, concision and correctness.

– **Law Academic Staff**

A common mistake that I see in first year is that students can get so caught up in the facts that they neglect the law. I think most academic staff will explain to students what they need to do to succeed in their units. My advice would be to listen and follow the program. – **Law Academic Staff**

I'm not sure if there is one that's common to everyone, but one helpful suggestion would be to try to frame your study experience as one of building your skills and knowledge, rather than one where you need to prove you're already on top of everything. We are ALL in a lifelong process of learning and developing (your teachers included). So while, yes, you do need to achieve certain marks to pass and progress in your units, try to focus on the unique opportunity your study presents for you to learn new things. Be kind to yourself and to your fellow students and teachers.

– **Dr Laura Smith-Khan**

GIVING YOURSELF THE BEST SHOT

Teachers Share Common Mistakes and how to Avoid them

Is there a common mistake that students make, and how can it be avoided?

Yes. I often see first year students who are looking for a way to cut corners; or who want everything done for them, for example, so they don't have to spend the time making their own notes. But this attitude doesn't make for good results and doesn't help aid comprehensive understanding of the law. Nor does it help them develop the skills necessary to work in the law.

I would also say that such students may miss the point of how carefully designed courses are, and this too is a mistake. For example, materials and resources are carefully designed/chosen to provide repeat exposure to essential points of law, which will help students develop an understanding of the law and how it works; and most importantly expose them in different ways to key points of law and legal reasoning.

For example, the lecture provides a high level introduction to the readings; readings in a textbook may cover the same material but in more depth (having listened to the lecture helps know what to focus on); reading case law helps develop understanding of legal reasoning; engaging with problem questions helps apply what has been covered and develops skills needed to give sound legal advice; etc...

Students thus need to understand for example, that the usefulness of lectures is that they are a first exposure to content and are often set up in a way to draw out the key points that students should then focus on in their readings of texts and case law. It is a mistake to think that the lecture can be ignored in favour of just doing the readings; or to think one can successfully complete a law degree without engaging with the materials at all. It is a mistake to think that one is not responsible for one's own learning. I.e., To successfully complete a law degree at university, students need to actively engage in their studies as this will help them learn and develop skills they need for practice. – **Law Academic Staff**

You need to keep abreast of your readings and work. It is hard to cram for tests and papers. – **Professor Guy Charlton**





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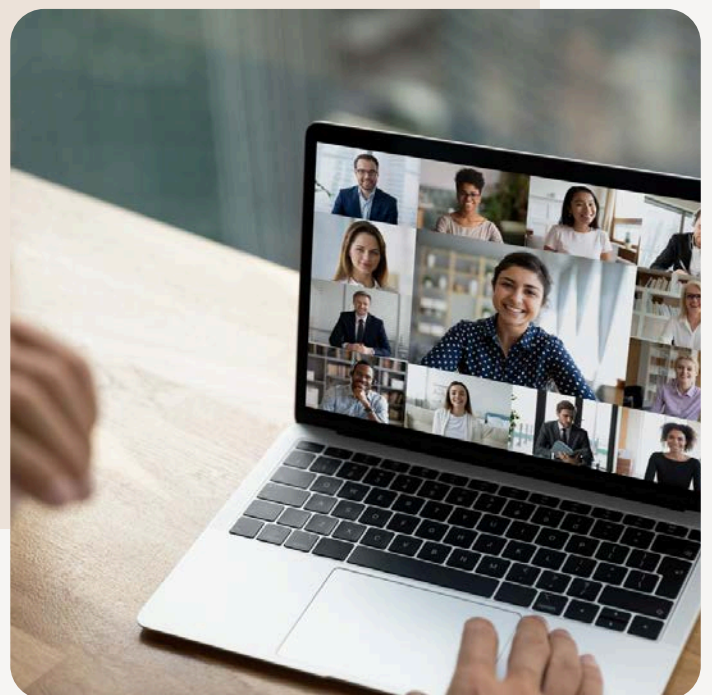
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First year units

*The foundation of your
law degree*



First year units

The early units for students commencing all courses in the Law School are 100-level units. These provide foundational knowledge and skills. Depending on which course you are doing and the trimester you commence, the recommended 100-level units, and their order, will vary. Some are Core units, others are 'Listed/Elective' units in courses. Check your specific Course Plan carefully and/or contact the First Year Adviser, Nola Holmes, for advice. Here are some of the Law School's 100-level units. The Unit Coordinators featured on the following pages have conducted the units previously, and may not necessarily be the Unit Coordinator at the time you take the unit.

While there are some units that have prerequisites and/or co-requisites, there is no requirement to do the units in numerical order.

#LSU100	Introduction to Legal Studies
LAW157	Alternative Dispute Resolution***
LAW172	Contract Law
LAW162	Criminal Law
LAW100	Foundations of Law
LAW164	Law and First Peoples of Australia***
LAW101	Law in Context
LAW102	Legal Professional Skills
LAW131	Torts Law

*** listed (elective) units
not a CORE B.Laws unit

IMPORTANT NOTE:
All comments are from staff who have, at some time, coordinated these units – not necessarily the 'current' coordinators.

LSU100: Introduction to Legal Studies[^]

Unit Coordinator:
Karen Conte



Offerings

Trimesters 1, 2, & 3.

Enrolment Rules

LLB, BAgr/LLB, BA/LLB, BAcc/LLB, BBus/LLB, BCompSc/LLB, BCrim/LLB, BEc/LLB, BEnvSc/LLB, BMediaComm/LLB, BSc/LLB

About the unit

An understanding of how the legal system works is a valuable skill for students pursuing a wide range of career outcomes. This unit is suited to non-law students and provides a comprehensive introduction to legal studies, starting you on the path to achieving an understanding of how legal systems operate in Australia and elsewhere.

You will explore the ways in which the law is made, and how law applies in various contemporary contexts. As part of your study, you will also develop introductory level skills in legal research, writing and analysis.

Assessments

Assignment 1 - 30%

Total No. Words: 2000

Assessment 2:

Quizzes - 20%

Assessment 3:

Open Book Exam - 50%

Time: 2h

Karen Conte

Karen is a lecturer in the Law School at UNE and a practising barrister (since 2007), mediator and arbitrator. Karen practices in the areas of Family Law, Crime, Care and Protection Law and Defamation.

Prior to her life as a lawyer and a lecturer, Karen was a primary school principal and primary school teacher for twenty years. Lecturing in law combines her two passions: the law and education. Karen has a particular interest in all aspects of Children's Law issues and has written this unit of study for the LLB and LLM programs at UNE. Karen is the unit coordinator and lecturer in Introduction to Legal Studies, Professional Conduct and Children's Law units at UNE.

As a teacher, Karen has received a National Excellence in Teaching Award and worked with the 'Project Zero' team at Harvard University. As a barrister, Karen has written and presents the 'Barristers In Schools' program through the NSW Bar Association and NSW Talent Centre, a program she sees as integral in raising up the next generation of outstanding lawyers. Karen also presents on Family Law issues at conferences for practising lawyers. Karen's academic qualifications are: MEd (Administration) (UWS); LLB (Macquarie); BEd (UWS); Dip Legal Practice (College of Law NSW); Dip Teach (Nepean).



[^]IMPORTANT NOTE:

LSU100 is offered only in the OUA BLaws Open Access pathway and pre-law awards, including the Diploma and Advanced Diploma in Paralegal Studies and the Bachelor of Legal Studies. If completed before entry into the four-year OUA BLaws degree, the unit counts as an elective (non-law coded) unit. UNE BLaws students do not complete LSU100.

LAW157: Alternative Dispute Resolution

Listed Unit

Unit Coordinator:
Sotirios (Paul) Akon



Offerings

Trimesters 1 & 2.

Enrolment Rules

Restrictions: LLM457

About the unit

Responding 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.

Assessments

Assessment 1:

Assignment - 30%

Total No. Words: 2500

Assessment 2:

Quizzes - Weight: 10%

Assessment 3:

Open Book Exam - 60%

Time: 3h

Paul Akon

Paul's background is in 35 years of general legal practice in NSW, with an emphasis on litigation. He has worked in the Sydney CBD, suburban Sydney, and regional NSW. He has practised in both the private and public sectors.

Paul has been a lecturer at the School of Law, UNE since 2006. He currently coordinates and lectures in:

- LAW480: Remedies and Advanced Legal Skills (incl Moot)
- LAW157: Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)
- LAW336: Local Government Law
- LAW321: Conveyancing

In the past, Paul has coordinated and lectured in LAW398: The Local Court Internship Program; GSB 749 - The Law of Commercial Associations and LS 281 - Property Law. He has also tutored LS 160 - Criminal Law.

In company with a colleague, Paul successfully supervised an Ag-Law PhD candidate on the pleadings, practice, and procedure of Land and Environment Court. This was for a moot at which The Hon Keith Mason QC presided and assessed as part of the candidate's PhD.



LAW172: Contract Law

Core Unit

Unit Coordinator:
Dr Laura Smith-Khan



Offerings

Trimesters 2 & 3

Enrolment Rules

Co-requisites:
LAW100 or LLM533
Restrictions:
LAW171 and LAW272

About the unit

In an era of global business transformation and the rise of privatisation, studying Contract Law will equip you with a solid understanding of the journey through a contract, ensuring you have the skills to apply to real-world business scenarios.

This unit examines the legal aspects of obligations arising from agreements or promises and will provide you with a thorough overview of the formation of enforceable contracts, identifying and defining terms, performance, discharge and remedies.

Dr Laura Smith-Khan

When did you commence teaching? I've been teaching law since 2015 though - before joining UNE this year, I taught law at the University of Sydney, Macquarie University, and the University of Technology Sydney. I've had lots of different experiences - I have taught intensives, lectured and run tutorials in undergraduate and postgraduate units. I've taught across many subjects, online and face-to-face.

What is your top piece of advice to students in their first year? It may feel like everyone else knows what they are doing, but we don't always! Try to ask questions when you don't understand and accept that it will take some time to get the hang of things. You're learning a lot of new skills and that is always going to take time and patience.



What qualities do you observe in the most successful students? Both in my personal experience and also something I've identified in my research with law students, one key factor for success is to develop good support networks. Many students find it valuable to connect with other students and form study groups. These can help far beyond the one unit – some will become supports throughout your study and even after graduation, and perhaps even lifelong friends. That's not to say you can't succeed while working on your own – a core practice for all successful students is time management: blocking out regular time to stay on top of your learning and scheduling in key dates and deadlines is crucial.

What units do you teach at UNE? This year I'm teaching Contract Law and Law in Context (LAW101). At other universities I've taught International Human Rights Law; Law, Human Rights and Global Governance; Public International Law; and Ethics Law and Justice. I've also run units to introduce non-lawyers to all areas of the law and to introduce international students from civil law background s to the Australian legal system, case law analysis and statutory interpretation.

If you could create a new unit, what would it be and why? I have two in mind, each drawing on my research expertise. I'd love to develop a migration and refugee law unit. This is a key area of law and with over 50% of our population now born overseas, Australia's migration law affects many of us directly, and the rest indirectly.

My other dream is to develop a unit on law and language. My research has found that there are limited offerings in Australian law schools on language and its impact in law and legal procedures, yet language is fundamental. A colleague and I run an interdisciplinary research network on this topic and offering a unit at UNE would be a great addition to our network's efforts (you can find out more about the network and our work [here](#)).

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LAW162: Criminal Law

Core Unit

Unit Coordinator:
Phil Glover



Offerings

Trimesters 1 & 3.

Enrolment Rules

Co-requisites:
LAW100 or LLM533
Restrictions:
LAW161 or LAW312

About the unit

This unit provides you with a comprehensive introduction to substantive criminal law as well as an introduction to the key elements of criminal procedure. After completing this unit, you will be able to identify the essential elements of an offence and of selected defences and apply the general principles of the criminal law.

You will understand the distinction between substantive and procedural law as well as the procedural framework that applies to criminal law, with opportunities to apply your knowledge and critical thinking skills to analyse a variety of criminal law issues. This unit meets the Priestley requirements for criminal law and procedure.

Assessments

Assessment 1:

Quiz - 10%

Assessment 2:

Assignment - 40%

Total No. Words: 2000

Assessment 3:

Open Book Exam - 50%

Time: 2h

Phil Glover



What you enjoy about teaching this unit?

Having taught aspects of this unit previously at Edith Cowan University, I have found the level of student engagement with the various topics in Australia's national-level criminal law very rewarding. For many students, the unit marks a first encounter with national-level criminal justice and executive investigative powers.

What feedback students have given about this unit in the past

Student feedback has generally been very positive. As the potential law-reformers of tomorrow, the topics have tended to foster a strong interest in critically examining the scope and impact(s) of executive power and accountability in Australia.

LAW100: Foundations of Law

Core Unit

Unit Coordinator:
Dr Wellett Potter



Offerings

Trimesters 1, 2, & 3.

Enrolment Rules

Course dependent - refer to handbook

Assessments

Assessment 1:

Assignment - 40%

Total No. Words: 1500

Assessment 2:

Quizzes - 10%

Assessment 3:

Open Book Exam - 50%

Time: 2h

About the unit

This introductory unit will help you to gain a foundation in contemporary legal knowledge, from how the legal system operates to how the law is made, and its role in our changing society.

You will learn how to find and interpret the principal sources of law as well as apply legal principles to solve problems. Additionally, you will develop your skills in planning, organising and communicating complex material.

Whether you are studying this unit as the first step towards a legal career or to broaden your general knowledge, this unit will help you to develop the knowledge and capabilities necessary to be a successful learner and valuable professional.

Dr Wellett Potter



What do you enjoy most about teaching LAW100? I love meeting our students at UNE - they are the best - and it is incredibly satisfying to accompany them on their learning journeys and watch them grow. Teaching LAW100/LLM533 allows me to engage with students at the very beginning of their legal education, helping them to build a strong foundation and encouraging their interest in the law. Seeing their progress and enthusiasm as they grasp new concepts is truly rewarding.

When did you commence teaching at UNE? I commenced working at UNE over 13 years ago as a sessional academic. I have been a full-time member of staff for two years and have been teaching for over four years.

What units do you teach at UNE? I am currently the Unit Coordinator (UC) for LAW100/LLM533 Foundations of Law. In Trimester 3, I will be the UC for LAW100/LLM533 Foundations of Law and LAW323/LLM523 Intellectual Property Law. Throughout my time at UNE, I have contributed to a wide range of units, being involved in over 24 law units.

If you could teach in any other unit, what would it be? I am really looking forward to Unit Coordinating in LAW323/LLM523 Intellectual Property Law in T3. IP Law is a dynamic and exciting area of the law and it is what my PhD thesis specialised in, (which examined the copyright protection of digitised databases in the fourth industrial era). IP is what most of my legal research focuses on.

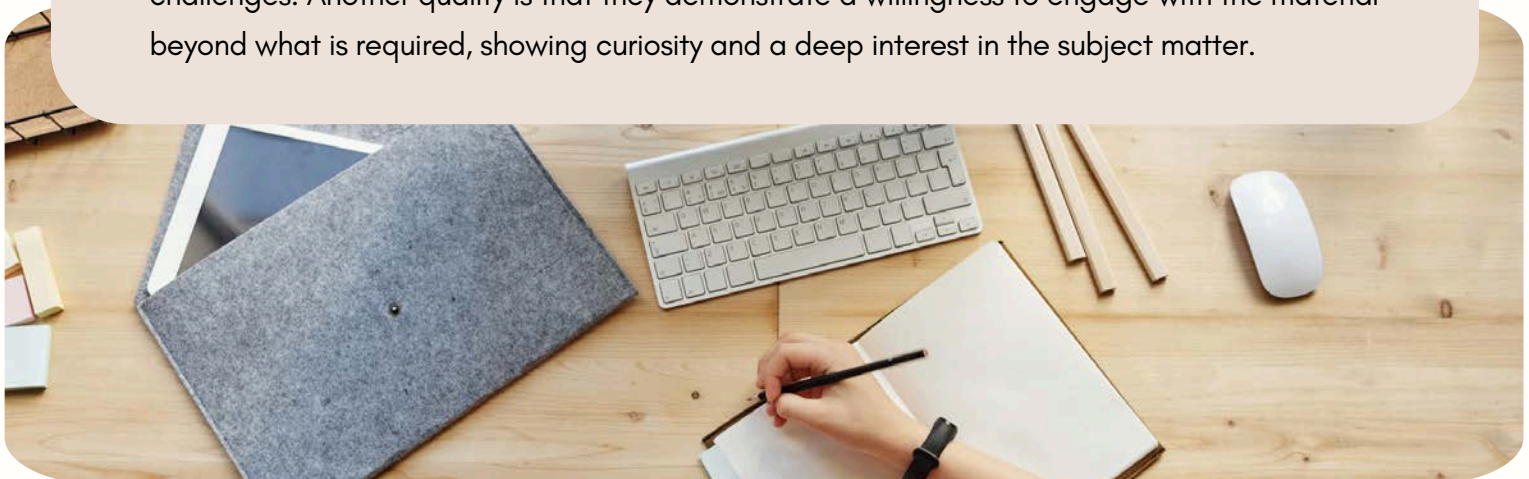
If you could create a new unit, what would it be and why? That would be a unit focused on AI and the law (it was not my idea, but I think it is a great one). This is an area that all students need to learn about in-depth, as AI is increasingly influencing various aspects of the legal profession, from legal research and contract analysis to ethical considerations and regulatory frameworks. Understanding AI's impact on the law will be crucial for future lawyers.

What is your top piece of advice to students in their first year? My top piece of advice for first-year students is to approach your studies with humility and a willingness to learn. It's common for new students to enter law school with a strong sense of confidence, believing they already know much about the law. However, the reality of legal education can be quite different, and it's normal to experience a learning curve.

I believe that students should focus on treating their first six months to a year as a vital training ground to learn the skills necessary to effectively study the law. This period is essential for developing the foundational legal study skills and knowledge necessary for your future success. Remember, you need to learn to crawl before you can walk, and walk before you can run a marathon. Be realistic about your position and set achievable goals that emphasise growth and understanding over perfect assessment results.

By adopting this mindset, students will be better prepared to absorb the material and ultimately build a solid foundation for their legal careers. Embrace the learning process, stay open to constructive feedback, and remain persistent. Your efforts and dedication will pay off in the long run. Don't be afraid to ask questions and reach out if needed.

What qualities do you observe in the most successful students? The most successful students tend to be highly motivated, organised, and resilient. They have a strong work ethic, they watch all the lectures, do all the readings and attend the tutorials and PASS sessions. They accept any constructive feedback, take time to absorb it and then use it to improve their work for next time. Time management is a key skill, and they are able to adapt to new challenges. Another quality is that they demonstrate a willingness to engage with the material beyond what is required, showing curiosity and a deep interest in the subject matter.



LAW164: Law and First Peoples of Australia

Listed Unit

Unit Coordinator:

Associate Professor Guy Charlton



Offerings

Trimester 1

Enrolment Rules

Co-requisite:
LAW100/LLM533/LS100
and LAW101

About the unit

This unit will introduce you to First Peoples systems of law and the interaction between these laws and the Anglo-Australian legal system as well as critically examine the impact of Anglo-Australian law and policies on First Peoples.

You will also explore the complex legal, political, social and cultural factors that contribute to current debates on legal issues of significance to First Peoples and develop skills in cultural competency to assist you to work effectively with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and communities.

Associate Professor Guy Charlton

What do you enjoy most about teaching LAW164? I like teaching Law 164 because it involves an investigation into law (both domestic and international), history, policy, sociology and anthropology. It is important to investigate the underlying legal doctrines and rules by which Australia was settled and how this history continues to impact us today. The law in this area is subject to a lot of misunderstanding and bias, the grappling with these problems in learning this law can assist students in becoming better lawyers and scholars.

What is your top piece of advice to students in their first year? Try to take advantage of the privilege you have to go to university, work very hard [law is a different way of thinking], do your reading, [read the cases and statutes], write whenever you can and do not fall behind.

What qualities do you observe in the most successful students? Hard work. Law is not particularly intellectually difficult compared to other disciplines, eg philosophy but there is a lot to know...it is about solving people's problems. Is there a common mistake that students make, and how can it be avoided. You need to keep abreast of your readings and work. It is hard to cram for tests and papers.

What units do you teach at UNE? Law-in-Context, Property, Corporations law, American constitutional law.

If you could teach in any other unit, what would it be? Human Rights.

If you could create a new unit, what would it be? Comparative South Pacific Law, Law and Literature.



Assessments

Assignment 1:

Review Essay - 40%

Total No. Words: 1000

Assignment 2:

Open Book Exam - 60%

Time: 2hr

LAW101: Law in Context

Core Unit

Unit Coordinator:
Dr Imelda Deinla



About the unit

This unit will orientate you into the discipline of law with a comprehensive overview of the historical, jurisprudential, commercial, cultural and global contexts in which Australian law operates today.

To develop your foundational knowledge, you will explore the major trends and influences shaping the future of Australian law and practice.

You will also develop your basic research skills relating to secondary materials, as well as your ability to discuss abstract legal questions through writing an academic essay.

Dr Imelda Deinla

What do you enjoy most about teaching LAW101? LAW101 situates law in its societal context and thus it enables me to connect law to my interdisciplinary roots. It is an area of law that I have extensively researched and published on, and it gives me that privilege to share my knowledge and learn from students. Beyond its black-letter form, the unit presents law in its more concrete and real form and scrutinises its substance. This is the unit that prepares students to develop their critical legal reasoning.

What is your top piece of advice to students in their first year? Autonomy, Diligence, Responsibility, and Engagement. It is important to understand that law as a discipline has its particular method and logic of reasoning. Some people may not get it at once, while others have a natural flair for it. Reading the resources especially in its original texts is necessary as you learn how arguments and sentences are constructed and expressed. Legal research and writing are necessary skills to hone for those who aspire to become legal professionals. In an era of rapid technological innovation, law practitioners should not only be technologically adept but should be critical thinkers, first and foremost.

What qualities do you observe in the most successful students? Results are consistent for those who possess the qualities above. Those who engage in the content and own up to their own responsibilities in learning – and not those who merely engage to get high distinction or the ‘ropes’ of the exam or assignments, are the ones who also excel in their grades.

Offerings

Trimesters 1 & 3.

Enrolment Rules

None

Assessments

Assessment 1:

Research Essay – 35%

Total No. Words: 1750

Assessment 2:

Quizzes – 15%

Assessment 3:

Open Book Exam – 50%

Time: 2h 15m



LAW102: Legal Professional Skills

Core Unit

Unit Coordinator:

Fiona Burns, Dr Skye Charry



About the unit

Legal Professional Skills builds your confidence and competence in the core practices of legal research, writing and communication, guiding you step by step from finding and interpreting primary and secondary sources through to planning and producing a structured piece of legal writing and communicating your analysis clearly, persuasively and concisely for different audiences in authentic professional contexts, with weekly topic parcels, supportive tutorials and PASS sessions designed to give you a steady study rhythm and plenty of practice as you grow into the thinking, writing and communication habits of an emerging legal professional.

Dr Skye Charry & Fiona Burns

What I enjoy about teaching this unit? I enjoy teaching LAW102 because it gives students an early opportunity to develop the practical skills that underpin legal study and legal practice. It is especially rewarding to see students grow in confidence as they learn to communicate clearly, think critically and approach legal problems in a structured and professional way.

What have students past students said about this unit? Students have consistently told us that LAW102 is helpful in building confidence, improving legal writing and research skills, and making the transition into law study more manageable. Students have also commented positively on the clear communication, structured learning design and the way feedback on early assessments supports improvement in later tasks.

What will students focus on in the assessments? The assessments in LAW102 focus on foundational professional skills, including legal research, legal writing, clear communication, assessment formatting and reflective practice. Students are encouraged to build these skills progressively across the trimester so that they can apply feedback, refine their approach and develop habits that will support them throughout the rest of their degree.

"The lecturer's feedback and attentiveness throughout the unit were a real standout. Questions were responded to clearly and thoughtfully, and support was consistently available when needed."

"The way complex legal concepts and assessment formatting requirements were explained was particularly helpful, especially in a first-year law context, as it reduced confusion and allowed students to focus on developing their legal reasoning and writing skills."

Offerings

Trimesters 1, 2, & 3.

Enrolment Rules

Co-requisite: LAW100 or LSU100

Assessments

Assessment 1:

Assignment - 20%

Total No. Words: 800

Assessment 2:

Assignment- 30%

Total No. Words: 1500

Assessment 3:

Open Book Exam - 50%

Time: 2hr



LAW131: Torts Law

Core Unit

Unit Coordinator: TBA



Offerings

Trimesters 1 & 3.

Enrolment Rules

Co-requisite:
LAW100 or LLM533
Restriction:
LAW231 or LAW232

About the unit

Torts are common law actions for civil wrongs. This unit provides you with a social context of the law of torts and covers negligence including defences, damages, concurrent liability and compensation schemes.

You will consider torts relating to personal, property, and economic interests and their defences. In particular, you will consider the quantum of damages.

This unit will provide you with a good understanding of the black-letter law, whilst incorporating skills-based approaches. You will be encouraged to take a critical view of the law, particularly with regard to current tort reform.

Assessments

Assessment 1:

Quiz - 20%

Assessment 2:

Quiz - 20%

Assessment 3:

Open Book Exam - 60%

Time: 2h

The answer is
it depends.

It's the vibe.



NEW MERCH DROP!

Good luck!

*Law school will make you
realise what you are
capable of.*

Thank You from the Treasurer

As Treasurer of the UNE Law Students' Society, I'd like to extend a sincere thank you to all of our members for being part of such a supportive and engaged community. Your involvement is what allows the LSS to continue growing and delivering opportunities that enrich your law school experience.

At UNE LSS, we aim to provide both practical support and opportunities to connect beyond the classroom. Each semester, we run AGLC4 compliance workshops to help build essential legal writing skills, alongside our much-loved trivia nights which offer a more relaxed way to unwind and meet fellow students. Our flagship event, the Law Ball, is a highlight of the year, bringing everyone together to celebrate. We're also excited to have recently introduced a free annual LSS Conference, expanding access to professional development for all members.

Getting involved with the LSS – whether through attending events or participating more actively – is one of the best ways to meet people and feel part of the law school community. This is especially valuable for our online students, providing opportunities to connect, build friendships, and engage with peers who are on the same journey.

We look forward to seeing you at our events throughout the year.



Thank you!

Kirsti Nunn

knunn4@myune.edu.au

“Law school taught me one thing: how to take two situations that are exactly the same and show how they are different.” - Hart Pomerantz

Thank You from the Secretary

My name is Jaimie, and I am the current Secretary for the Law Students' Society. I am delighted to have this opportunity to warmly welcome all new Law Students to the University of New England.

First I would like to thank the Publications Team, Sharad and Braydon, for putting together this valuable First Year Guide and I strongly recommend you take the time to read the contents. The guide will answer many of your questions, including those you have not yet considered.

If you are part of the University of New England Law Students' Society (UNELSS) you would likely have received email from me, as I coordinate communications that are sent to members. If you are not yet a member, I recommend signing up. Membership lasts the life of your degree and provides you with considerable value.

There are periodic publications to assist you with your studies including the Trimester Guide to assist you with upcoming units, the Rural and Online Study Guide, and the Wellbeing Guide. Online we have events to improve your legal writing including the AGLC4 beginner and advanced workshop, as well as the much sought after Trivia, which always receives raving reviews!

In addition to online events, the UNELSS puts together the annual Law Ball and Conference which, I am delighted to say, are being held in Armidale this year (the campus in Autumn is absolutely gorgeous!) The Law Ball and Conference provide wonderful opportunities to engage with fellow students and teaching staff, and this year we have a few special guests, including the Mayor!

Joining the Law Society has provided me with so many opportunities, from hosting a panel discussion, to developing social connections with peers, and learning vital AGLC4 skills! I encourage all of you to get involved, the committee members are extremely welcoming and provide valuable opportunities to develop personally and professionally.

Thank you!

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Thank You

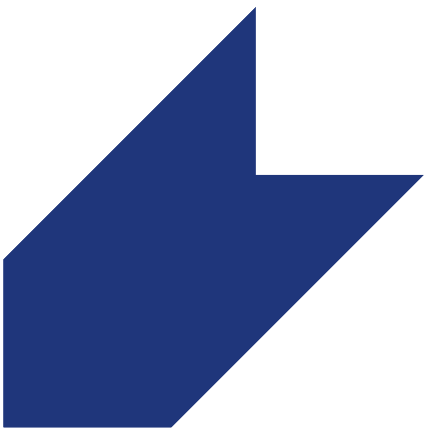
Firstly, to all new First Year Students, welcome!

Thank you to the Academic and support staff who so generously gave interviews, provided feedback, and contributed advice to the 2026 guide and a special mention to Kath Johnson for her extraordinary help.

I am grateful to the entire LSS Executive Committee, but I would like to make a special mention to our Publications Officer, Braydon Armour in assisting me putting this guide together. This year's guide would not be possible without the teamwork of everyone involved.

Thank you for your unwavering support on this project.

-Sharad



Sharad Goodfella
Publications Director