LAWS11030 *Foundations of Business Law*
Term 1 - 2026

Profile information current as at 12/11/2026 11:07 am

All details in this unit profile for LAWS11030 have been officially approved by CQUniversity and represent a learning partnership between the University and you (our student).The information will not be changed unless absolutely necessary and any change will be clearly indicated by an approved correction included in the profile.

General Information

Overview
This unit will introduce you to the legal system and business law in Australia. On completion of this unit you will gain knowledge of the fundamentals of business law and develop your ability to analyse legal issues in a business context and apply your legal knowledge for informed business decisions. The unit is designed to develop your critical thinking, problem solving and communication skills expected of graduates. Topics include the Australian legal system, contract law, consumer law, tort law and business structures.

Details
Career Level: *Undergraduate*
Unit Level: *Level 1*
Credit Points: *6*
Student Contribution Band: *10*
Fraction of Full-Time Student Load: *0.125*

Pre-requisites or Co-requisites
There are no requisites for this unit.
Important note: Students enrolled in a subsequent unit who failed their pre-requisite unit, should drop the subsequent unit before the census date or within 10 working days of Fail grade notification. Students who do not drop the unit in this timeframe cannot later drop the unit without academic and financial liability. See details in the Assessment Policy and Procedure (Higher Education Coursework).

Offerings For Term 1 - 2026
- Online

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

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

Class and Assessment Overview

Recommended Student Time Commitment

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

Class Timetable

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

Metropolitan Campuses
Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, Sydney

Assessment Overview

1. Assessment Task 1 (Written Assessment)
Weighting: 50%
2. Assessment Task 2 (Written Assessment)
Weighting: 50%

Assessment Grading

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

CQUniversity Policies

All University policies are available on the CQUniversity Policy site.
You may wish to view these policies:

- Grades and Results Policy
- Assessment Policy and Procedure (Higher Education Coursework)
- Review of Grade Procedure
- Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure
- Academic Progression Policy and Procedure
- Student Refund and Credit Balance Policy and Procedure
- Complaints Policy and Procedure
- Information and Communications Technology Acceptable Use Policy and Procedure

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

Previous Student Feedback

Feedback, Recommendations and Responses

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

Feedback from Unit evaluations

Feedback
Love the ten week term

Recommendation
Support the School of Business and Law's implementation of a ten week term

Unit Learning Outcomes

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

1. Describe the Australian legal system including the formal structures, its historical evolution from reception of British Law to Federation, the role of the doctrine of precedent and statutory interpretation.
2. Explain and apply basic principles of contract law, consumer law, privacy law and tort law in a business context.
3. Identify and explain different business structures and liability to business owners and other stakeholders.
4. Communicate business advice/solutions and business risk management in legal issues commonly encountered within business situations, with justification from case law and legislation.

Alignment of Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Graduate Attributes

— N/A Level • Introductory Level • Intermediate Level • Graduate Level ◦ Professional Level ◦ Advanced Level

Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Learning Outcomes

Assessment Tasks	Learning Outcomes			
	1	2	3	4
1 - Written Assessment - 50%	•	•	•	•
2 - Written Assessment - 50%	•	•	•	•

Alignment of Graduate Attributes to Learning Outcomes

Graduate Attributes	Learning Outcomes			
	1	2	3	4
1 - Communication	•	•	•	•
2 - Problem Solving		•		
3 - Critical Thinking	•	•	•	•
4 - Information Literacy	•			
5 - Team Work				
6 - Information Technology Competence				
7 - Cross Cultural Competence				
8 - Ethical practice				
9 - Social Innovation				
10 - First Nations Knowledges				

Textbooks and Resources

Textbooks

LAWS11030

Prescribed

Business Law
Seventh Edition (2024)
Authors: Nick James
Wiley
Milton , Queensland , Australia
ISBN: 9781394267279
Binding: eBook

View textbooks at the University shop

IT Resources

You will need access to the following IT resources:

- CQUniversity Student Email
- Internet
- Unit Website (Moodle)
- Zoom Capacity (webcam and microphone)

Referencing Style

All submissions for this unit must use the referencing style: American Psychological Association 7th Edition (APA 7th edition)
For further information, see the Assessment Tasks.

Teaching Contacts

Matt Nichol Unit Coordinator
m.nichol@cqu.edu.au

Schedule

Week 1 - No Classes - 09 Mar 2026

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

Week 2 Fundamentals of Law I: What is Law? - 16 Mar 2026

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Introduction to law and business law, basic legal concepts	Nickolas James, Business Law (Wiley, 6th edition: 2022) Chapter 1 pp. 3-10, Chapter 4	

Week 3 Fundamentals of Law II: Sources of Law - 23 Mar 2026

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Categories of law, indigenous law, common law, equity	Nickolas James, Business Law (Wiley, 6th edition: 2022) Chapter 1 pp. 10-22, Chapter 2 pp. 35-38, Chapter 3 pp. 75-76, 97-101	

Week 4 Fundamentals of Law III: The Australian Legal System - 30 Mar 2026

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

Characteristics of the Australian legal system, federalism, the Constitution, courts, parliaments, litigation	Nickolas James, Business Law (Wiley, 6th edition: 2022) Chapter 2, Chapter 3 pp. 64-96	

Week 5 Contract Law I: What is a Contract? - 06 Apr 2026

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Types of contracts, features and formation of a contract, formation, genuine consent	Nickolas James, *Business Law* (Wiley, 6th edition: 2022) Chapter 7, Chapter 9 pp. 289-301	

Vacation Week - 13 Apr 2026

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
		Assessment Task 1 Due: Week 6 Friday (17 Apr 2026) 11:00 pm AEST

Week 6 Contract Law II: Contractual Terms and Remedies - 20 Apr 2026

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Express and implied terms, classification of terms, unenforceable terms, termination, remedies	Nickolas James, Business Law (Wiley, 6th edition: 2022) Chapter 8 pp. 256-264, 274-281, Chapter 9 pp. 301-313	

Week 7 Contract Law III: Contractual Terms and Statutory Provisions - 27 Apr 2026

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Australian Consumer Law - statutory guarantees, Sale of Goods Acts - implied terms	Nickolas James, *Business Law* (Wiley, 6th edition: 2022) Chapter 8 pp. 264-272, Chapter 9 pp. 300-301, Chapter 11 pp. 349-351, 369-370, 377-378	

Week 8 Contract Law IV: Australian Consumer Law - 04 May 2026

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Consumer protection law: misleading or deceptive conduct, unconscionable conduct, unfair contract terms, unfair practices, enforcement, remedies	Nickolas James, *Business Law* (Wiley, 6th edition: 2022) Chapter 11 pp. 345-377	

Week 9 Law in Context I: Privacy Law - 11 May 2026

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Privacy law, confidentiality, data security	Nickolas James, *Business Law* (Wiley, 6th edition: 2022) Chapter 11 pp. 377-386	

Week 10 Law in Context II: Tort Law - 18 May 2026

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Overview of torts, tort of negligence	Nickolas James, *Business Law* (Wiley, 6th edition: 2022) Chapter 5 and Chapter 6	

Week 11 Law in Context III: Business Structures and Law - 25 May 2026

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Sole traders, partnerships, joint ventures, trusts, franchises, corporations, corporate governance	Nickolas James, *Business Law* (Wiley, 6th edition: 2022) Chapters 15 and 16	Assessment Task 2 Due: Week 11 Friday (29 May 2026) 11:00 pm AEST

Week 12 - No Classes - 01 Jun 2026

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

Exam Week - 08 Jun 2026

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

Vacation/Exam Week - 15 Jun 2026

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

Assessment Tasks

1 Written Assessment

Assessment Title
Assessment Task 1

Task Description
Assessment Task 1 involves a problem solving exercise on Fundamentals of Law (Weeks 2 to 4) and Contract Law (Weeks 5 to 6) where students must demonstrate research, analytical and writing skills. Students are required to analyse a factual scenario and then apply relevant laws to a number of questions.
This assessment requires students to adhere to the guidelines on the use of artificial intelligence tools as specified in the Artificial Intelligence Assessment Scale (AIAS). Any misuse or lack of disclosure regarding the use of AI tools will be considered a breach of academic integrity. This assessment task is AIAS Level 1 - No Artificial Intelligence is permitted.

Assessment Due Date
Week 6 Friday (17 Apr 2026) 11:00 pm AEST
Submitted online via Moodle

Return Date to Students
Week 8 Friday (8 May 2026)
Online via Moodle

Weighting
50%

Assessment Criteria
The assessment task will be assessed according to the following criteria:
Problem solving: students must demonstrate problem solving skills by identifying and applying relevant legal rules and principles.
Critical thinking: students must demonstrate critical thinking by analysing, applying and evaluating facts and law in a problem solving context.
Information literacy: students must demonstrate information literacy by identifying, understanding and applying legal rules and principles.
Writing and presentation: students must submit answers with a clear writing style that uses appropriate grammar and expression. Ideas and arguments must be presented using a logical structure and order.
Referencing: students must appropriately cite relevant references when using legislation, cases and secondary materials.

Referencing Style
American Psychological Association 7th Edition (APA 7th edition)

Submission
Online

Submission Instructions
Submission is online by Moodle

Learning Outcomes Assessed
- Describe the Australian legal system including the formal structures, its historical evolution from reception of British Law to Federation, the role of the doctrine of precedent and statutory interpretation.
- Explain and apply basic principles of contract law, consumer law, privacy law and tort law in a business context.
- Identify and explain different business structures and liability to business owners and other stakeholders.
- Communicate business advice/solutions and business risk management in legal issues commonly encountered within business situations, with justification from case law and legislation.

2 Written Assessment

Assessment Title
Assessment Task 2

Task Description
Assessment Task 2 involves a problem solving exercise on Contract Law (Weeks 7 to 8) and Law in Context (Weeks 9 to 11) where students must demonstrate research, analytical and writing skills. Students are required to analyse a factual scenario and then apply relevant laws to a number of questions.
This assessment requires students to adhere to the guidelines on the use of artificial intelligence tools as specified in the Artificial Intelligence Assessment Scale (AIAS). Any misuse or lack of disclosure regarding the use of AI tools will be considered a breach of academic integrity. This assessment task is AIAS Level 1 - No Artificial Intelligence is permitted.

Assessment Due Date

Week 11 Friday (29 May 2026) 11:00 pm AEST
Submitted online via Moodle

Return Date to Students
Online via Moodle after certification of grades

Weighting
50%

Assessment Criteria
The assessment task will be assessed according to the following criteria:
Problem solving: students must demonstrate problem solving skills by identifying and applying relevant legal rules and principles.
Critical thinking: students must demonstrate critical thinking by analysing, applying and evaluating facts and law in a problem solving context.
Information literacy: students must demonstrate information literacy by identifying, understanding and applying legal rules and principles.
Writing and presentation: students must submit answers with a clear writing style that uses appropriate grammar and expression. Ideas and arguments must be presented using a logical structure and order.
Referencing: students must appropriately cite relevant references when using legislation, cases and secondary materials.

Referencing Style
American Psychological Association 7th Edition (APA 7th edition)

Submission
Online

Submission Instructions
Submission is online by Moodle

Learning Outcomes Assessed
- Describe the Australian legal system including the formal structures, its historical evolution from reception of British Law to Federation, the role of the doctrine of precedent and statutory interpretation.
- Explain and apply basic principles of contract law, consumer law, privacy law and tort law in a business context.
- Identify and explain different business structures and liability to business owners and other stakeholders.
- Communicate business advice/solutions and business risk management in legal issues commonly encountered within business situations, with justification from case law and legislation.

Academic Integrity Statement

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

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

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

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

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

What is a breach of academic integrity?

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

Why is academic integrity important?

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

Where can I get assistance?

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

What can you do to act with integrity?

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

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

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