



LAWS13010 Evidence and Proof

Term 1 - 2019

Profile information current as at 19/05/2022 09:31 pm

All details in this unit profile for LAWS13010 have been officially approved by CQU University 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

LAWS13010 Evidence and Proof examines the major features of evidence law and procedure, both statutory and common law, and the major sources of judicial interpretation relevant to a general study of the role, sources and foundation of the law of evidence and a trial procedure, of pre-trial obligations and of rules concerning the burden and standard of proof. Specific topics include: The relevant sources of the law of evidence and procedure; fair trials, proof and adversarialism, including principles underpinning accusatorial justice; Evidentiary issues to be addressed before trial: disclosure, notices and requests; forms of evidence; evidentiary principles and rules, and exceptions to the rules; the bases for privilege including legal professional and client privilege; judicial warnings, comment and directions; and mandatory and discretionary exclusions and the limitations on evidence. This unit meets the LPAB requirements for evidence. This unit also carries content to support Criminal Procedure.

Details

Career Level: *Undergraduate*

Unit Level: *Level 3*

Credit Points: 6

Student Contribution Band: 10

Fraction of Full-Time Student Load: 0.125

Pre-requisites or Co-requisites

Pre-requisites: LAWS11057 Introduction to Law LAWS11059 Statutory Interpretation LAWS11060 Criminal Law

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 - 2019

- 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. **Written Assessment**

Weighting: 30%

2. **Written Assessment**

Weighting: 30%

3. **Examination**

Weighting: 40%

Assessment Grading

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

CQUniversity Policies

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

You may wish to view these policies:

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

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

Previous Student Feedback

Feedback, Recommendations and Responses

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

Feedback from John Milburn

Feedback

The unit materials are of high quality but require a comprehensive overview to reflect recent developments in case law and legislation. Specifically, the materials need to reflect the current law of evidence in the federal criminal law jurisdiction.

Recommendation

Undertake a comprehensive overview of the study guides and online resources in this unit.

Unit Learning Outcomes

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

1. Interpret and apply common law and statutory rules of evidence in the Queensland and Commonwealth jurisdictions, including indigenous perspectives
2. Identify and discuss ethical challenges in the application of Evidence Law, particularly in relation to cross-examination technique, and the use of privilege
3. Critically analyse a body of evidence and discuss its admissibility and probative value
4. Research and present relevant cases and statutory sources, to utilise evidence law and its authoritative interpretation to respond to authentic legal problems
5. Use creative and analytical thinking skills to identify appropriate evidence to support legal propositions in a trial setting.

Alignment of Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Graduate Attributes



Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Learning Outcomes

| Assessment Tasks | Learning Outcomes | | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|---|---|---|---|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1 - Written Assessment - 30% | • | • | • | • | • |
| 2 - Written Assessment - 30% | • | • | • | • | • |
| 3 - Examination - 40% | • | • | • | • | • |

Alignment of Graduate Attributes to Learning Outcomes

| Graduate Attributes | Learning Outcomes | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|---|---|---|---|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

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

Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Graduate Attributes

| Assessment Tasks | Graduate Attributes | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 1 - Written Assessment - 30% | • | • | • | • | | | | | | |
| 2 - Written Assessment - 30% | • | • | • | • | | | | | | |
| 3 - Examination - 40% | | • | • | | | | | | | |

Textbooks and Resources

Textbooks

LAWS13010

Prescribed

Queensland Evidence Law

Edition: 4th (2017)

Authors: David Field

LexisNexis Butterworths

Binding: Paperback

Additional Textbook Information

Paper copies can be purchased at the CQUni Bookshop here: <http://bookshop.cqu.edu.au> (search on the Unit code)

[View textbooks at the CQUniversity Bookshop](#)

IT Resources

You will need access to the following IT resources:

- CQUniversity Student Email
- Internet
- Unit Website (Moodle)
- ZOOM

Referencing Style

All submissions for this unit must use the referencing style: [Australian Guide to Legal Citation, 3rd ed](#)
For further information, see the Assessment Tasks.

Teaching Contacts

Jodie O'Leary Unit Coordinator
j.oleary@cqu.edu.au

Schedule

Week 1 - 11 Mar 2019

| Module/Topic | Chapter | Events and Submissions/Topic |
|--|---|------------------------------|
| Introduction: Nature and source of Evidence Law; Onus and standards of proof | David Field, Queensland Evidence Law (LexisNexis Butterworths, 4th edn, 2017) chapter 1 | |

Week 2 - 18 Mar 2019

| Module/Topic | Chapter | Events and Submissions/Topic |
|--|---|------------------------------|
| Relevance and Admissibility: Presumptions; Judicial Notice and Judicial Discretion | David Field, Queensland Evidence Law (LexisNexis Butterworths, 4th edn, 2017) chapter 2 | |

Week 3 - 25 Mar 2019

| Module/Topic | Chapter | Events and Submissions/Topic |
|---|--|------------------------------|
| Methods of Proof Competence and Compellability | David Field, Queensland Evidence Law (LexisNexis Butterworths, 4th edn, 2017) chapters 3-4 | |

Week 4 - 01 Apr 2019

| Module/Topic | Chapter | Events and Submissions/Topic |
|----------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Oral Evidence Privilege | David Field, Queensland Evidence Law (LexisNexis Butterworths, 4th edn, 2017) chapter 5 | |

Week 5 - 08 Apr 2019

| Module/Topic | Chapter | Events and Submissions/Topic |
|--------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Examination of Witnesses | David Field, Queensland Evidence Law (LexisNexis Butterworths, 4th edn, 2017) chapter 6 | |

Vacation Week - 15 Apr 2019

| Module/Topic | Chapter | Events and Submissions/Topic |
|--------------|---------|------------------------------|
|--------------|---------|------------------------------|

Week 6 - 22 Apr 2019

| Module/Topic | Chapter | Events and Submissions/Topic |
|--------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| The rule against hearsay | David Field, Queensland Evidence Law (LexisNexis Butterworths, 4th edn, 2017) chapter 9 | |

Week 7 - 29 Apr 2019

| Module/Topic | Chapter | Events and Submissions/Topic |
|--|--|---|
| Exceptions to the Hearsay Rule (Common Law, Statutory, Res Gestae) | David Field, Queensland Evidence Law (LexisNexis Butterworths, 4th edn, 2017) chapter 10 | Written Assignment Due: Week 7 Friday (3 May 2019) 11:45 pm AEST |

Week 8 - 06 May 2019

| Module/Topic | Chapter | Events and Submissions/Topic |
|----------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Admissions and Confessions | David Field, Queensland Evidence Law (LexisNexis Butterworths, 4th edn, 2017) chapters 9 and 12 | |

Week 9 - 13 May 2019

| Module/Topic | Chapter | Events and Submissions/Topic |
|-------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| Documentary and Real Evidence | David Field, Queensland Evidence Law (LexisNexis Butterworths, 4th edn, 2017) chapter 10 | |

Week 10 - 20 May 2019

| Module/Topic | Chapter | Events and Submissions/Topic |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| Circumstantial and Character Evidence | David Field, Queensland Evidence Law (LexisNexis Butterworths, 4th edn, 2017) chapters 7 and 8 | Experiential Written Assignment Due: Week 10 Friday (24 May 2019) 11:45 pm AEST |

Week 11 - 27 May 2019

| Module/Topic | Chapter | Events and Submissions/Topic |
|------------------|--|------------------------------|
| Opinion Evidence | David Field, Queensland Evidence Law (LexisNexis Butterworths, 4th edn, 2017) chapter 11 | |

Week 12 - 03 Jun 2019

| Module/Topic | Chapter | Events and Submissions/Topic |
|---------------------------------|---------|------------------------------|
| Criminal Procedure and Evidence | | |

Review/Exam Week - 10 Jun 2019

| Module/Topic | Chapter | Events and Submissions/Topic |
|--------------|---------|------------------------------|
|--------------|---------|------------------------------|

Exam Week - 17 Jun 2019

| Module/Topic | Chapter | Events and Submissions/Topic |
|--------------|---------|------------------------------|
|--------------|---------|------------------------------|

Assessment Tasks

1 Written Assignment

Assessment Type

Written Assessment

Task Description

You will be assigned a research question (via an assignment instructions document that will be released in Moodle in Week 1). The question will require you to research and consider the principles of the law of evidence in analysis and response to the question. You will be required to submit a written response of 2000 words in a Word document uploaded via a Moodle link.

Assessment Due Date

Week 7 Friday (3 May 2019) 11:45 pm AEST

Return Date to Students

Week 9 Friday (17 May 2019)

The assessment, with feedback, will be returned approximately two weeks after all students in this unit, including those with an approved extension, have submitted their assessment.

Weighting

30%

Assessment Criteria

You will be assessed according to the rubric provided with the assignment instructions.

Particularly, you will be assessed on:

- the comprehensiveness of your research and your ability to interpret the law of evidence;
- your ability to write accurately, clearly and concisely and to structure your response logically;
- your ability to identify and discuss ethical challenges with respect to privilege;
- your ability to comprehend and critically analyse the material and present a well-supported, reasoned argument; and
- your ability to reference correctly.

Referencing Style

- [Australian Guide to Legal Citation, 3rd ed](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

You must submit the assignment online via Moodle.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Interpret and apply common law and statutory rules of evidence in the Queensland and Commonwealth jurisdictions, including indigenous perspectives
- Identify and discuss ethical challenges in the application of Evidence Law, particularly in relation to cross-examination technique, and the use of privilege
- Critically analyse a body of evidence and discuss its admissibility and probative value
- Research and present relevant cases and statutory sources, to utilise evidence law and its authoritative interpretation to respond to authentic legal problems
- Use creative and analytical thinking skills to identify appropriate evidence to support legal propositions in a trial setting.

Graduate Attributes

- Communication
- Problem Solving
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy

2 Experiential Written Assignment

Assessment Type

Written Assessment

Task Description

You will be assigned a problem question (via an assignment instructions document that will be released in Moodle), which will require you to research the law of evidence and apply the law to the facts. You will be required to submit (in a Word document uploaded via a Moodle link) a written submission of 1500-2000 words for a pre-trial application related to the admissibility of evidence.

Assessment Due Date

Week 10 Friday (24 May 2019) 11:45 pm AEST

Return Date to Students

Week 12 Monday (3 June 2019)

Weighting

30%

Assessment Criteria

You will be assessed according to the rubric provided with the assignment instructions.

Particularly, you will be assessed on:

- your ability to identify the correct issues and the correct rules of evidence in Queensland to be applied to the problem;
- your ability to present an accurately, clearly and concisely written submission and to structure it logically;
- your ability to comprehend the law, apply it to the facts, and present a well-supported, persuasive argument about the admissibility of the evidence; and
- your ability to research (particularly case law and statutory sources) and reference correctly.

Referencing Style

- [Australian Guide to Legal Citation, 3rd ed](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

You must submit your assignment online via Moodle.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Interpret and apply common law and statutory rules of evidence in the Queensland and Commonwealth jurisdictions, including indigenous perspectives
- Identify and discuss ethical challenges in the application of Evidence Law, particularly in relation to cross-examination technique, and the use of privilege
- Critically analyse a body of evidence and discuss its admissibility and probative value
- Research and present relevant cases and statutory sources, to utilise evidence law and its authoritative interpretation to respond to authentic legal problems
- Use creative and analytical thinking skills to identify appropriate evidence to support legal propositions in a trial setting.

Graduate Attributes

- Communication
- Problem Solving
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy

Examination**Outline**

Complete an invigilated examination

Date

During the examination period, at a CQUniversity examination centre

Weighting

40%

Length

120 minutes

Details

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

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