



LAWS14004 Dissertation B

Term 2 - 2018

Profile information current as at 20/05/2024 01:47 am

All details in this unit profile for LAWS14004 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

Legal professionals are required to solve complex legal problems by conducting research, critically analysing authorities through interdisciplinary knowledge and transmitting concepts to different audiences including clients, other professionals and public organisations. This unit further extends your research capabilities developed in Dissertation A. You will conduct a second research project into a legal issue agreed with your supervisor, critically examining the problem and preparing a written analysis suitable for publication. Your research in Dissertation B may be an extension of the research work undertaken in Dissertation A or a separate topic. Your focus may also extend beyond academic to professional journals.

Details

Career Level: *Undergraduate*

Unit Level: *Level 4*

Credit Points: 12

Student Contribution Band: 10

Fraction of Full-Time Student Load: 0.25

Pre-requisites or Co-requisites

Prerequisites: Enrolment in CH75 Bachelor of Laws (Honours) and LAWS14003 Dissertation A

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 2 - 2018

- Distance

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 12-credit Undergraduate unit at CQUniversity requires an overall time commitment of an average of 25 hours of study per week, making a total of 300 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. **Portfolio**

Weighting: 20%

2. **Written Assessment**

Weighting: 80%

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 Consultations, survey

Feedback

The mini-conference was a success and students appreciated the opportunity to attend in-person or remotely.

Recommendation

Continue to offer this as an opportunity, considering the preferences of the next cohort.

Feedback from Consultations

Feedback

Students really appreciated the additional support from supervisors, but this was not always offered in a consistent manner

Recommendation

Develop the supervisors' handbook and provide additional coherence through the regular supervisors/course coordinator meetings.

Feedback from Consultations

Feedback

The concept of using two linked dissertations, rather than a single large dissertation was successful and provided less stress leading up to final completion.

Recommendation

Retain this approach. Provide additional options for students transitioning from Dissertation A to Dissertation B. Look for ideas to combat the mid-course lag in the transition.

Unit Learning Outcomes

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

1. Conduct legal research extending the research conducted in Dissertation A or on a new topic and attain advanced theoretical and technical knowledge of a specialised area of law
2. Analyse critically, evaluate and transform knowledge of legal authorities and critical academic or professional commentaries
3. Scope, design and conduct a legal research project
4. Transmit knowledge and ideas in an academic or professional research context
5. Collaborate with academic supervisors and peers in a research community, providing and responding to feedback.

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 - Portfolio - 20%	•	•	•	•	•

Textbooks and Resources

Textbooks

There are no required textbooks.

IT Resources

You will need access to the following IT resources:

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

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

Scott Beattie Unit Coordinator
s.beattie@cqu.edu.au

Schedule

Week 1 - 09 Jul 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
This is a dissertation unit and does not have a weekly schedule		

Week 2 - 16 Jul 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Week 3 - 23 Jul 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Week 4 - 30 Jul 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Week 5 - 06 Aug 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
		Problem Analysis and Dissertation Plan Due: Week 5 Thursday (9 Aug 2018) 5:00 pm AEST

Vacation Week - 13 Aug 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Week 6 - 20 Aug 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Week 7 - 27 Aug 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Week 8 - 03 Sep 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Week 9 - 10 Sep 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Week 10 - 17 Sep 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Week 11 - 24 Sep 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Week 12 - 01 Oct 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Review/Exam Week - 08 Oct 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Exam Week - 15 Oct 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
		Dissertation Paper Due: Exam Week Thursday (18 Oct 2018) 5:00 pm AEST

Assessment Tasks

1 Problem Analysis and Dissertation Plan

Assessment Type

Portfolio

Task Description

A legal research project requires careful planning and scoping before substantive research and writing can begin. Once you have established a research topic with your supervisor and course mentor, you will develop a portfolio of resources which map out your plan and establish the foundation of your dissertation. This portfolio will include:

- A statement of your research topic, expressed as a critical argument
- An analysis of jurisdictional issues and map of regulatory networks
- An overview of the current field of research, including key stakeholders and important research voices and significant publications
- A project plan stating key timelines such as meetings with your supervisor and deadlines for drafts being available for feedback
- Other material that your supervisor or course mentor may require.

This portfolio will be due in week four to allow your supervisor and course mentor to be able to provide timely feedback.

Assessment Due Date

Week 5 Thursday (9 Aug 2018) 5:00 pm AEST

Return Date to Students

Week 7 Thursday (30 Aug 2018)

Weighting

20%

Assessment Criteria

Criteria

- Design of research topic and problem solving skills
- Planning and time management
- Research methodology
- Critical analysis of legal and interdisciplinary issues
- Clear and professional expression of project outcomes and elements

Full rubric is available on the unit site.

<https://goo.gl/ho5xtz>

Referencing Style

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

Submission

Online

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Conduct legal research extending the research conducted in Dissertation A or on a new topic and attain advanced theoretical and technical knowledge of a specialised area of law
- Analyse critically, evaluate and transform knowledge of legal authorities and critical academic or professional commentaries
- Scope, design and conduct a legal research project
- Transmit knowledge and ideas in an academic or professional research context
- Collaborate with academic supervisors and peers in a research community, providing and responding to feedback.

Graduate Attributes

- Communication
- Communication
- Communication
- Communication
- Communication

- Communication
- Communication

2 Dissertation Paper

Assessment Type

Written Assessment

Task Description

As an honours student you will attain specialised knowledge in a field of law that you will develop through two dissertation papers, each of an appropriate length for publication in an academic journal (6000-8000 words). These two papers should be connected in theme and will typically involve a more general overview of the field in Dissertation A followed by a more detailed investigation of a specific issue in Dissertation B.

It is crucial that your supervisor is aware of your progress and has the opportunity to view early drafts and to provide feedback on these. These timelines are negotiated in your portfolio assessment item and you are responsible for managing these.

Assessment Due Date

Exam Week Thursday (18 Oct 2018) 5:00 pm AEST

Return Date to Students

Exam Week Thursday (18 Oct 2018)

Papers will be returned within two weeks and submitted for external review.

Weighting

80%

Assessment Criteria

Criteria

- Statement of an innovative research problem and argument design
- Legal and interdisciplinary research methodology
- Critical analysis of legal and interdisciplinary data and theories
- Investigation of the social and ethical context of the problem
- Professional presentation of final dissertation

Full rubric is available on the unit site.

<https://goo.gl/1GSfiz>

Referencing Style

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

Submission

Online

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Conduct legal research extending the research conducted in Dissertation A or on a new topic and attain advanced theoretical and technical knowledge of a specialised area of law
- Analyse critically, evaluate and transform knowledge of legal authorities and critical academic or professional commentaries
- Scope, design and conduct a legal research project
- Transmit knowledge and ideas in an academic or professional research context
- Collaborate with academic supervisors and peers in a research community, providing and responding to feedback.

Graduate Attributes

- [illegible]

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