LAWS1000

Foundations of Law

Session 1, Weekday attendance, North Ryde 2020

Macquarie Law School

Contents

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Convenor
George Tomossy
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Contact via e-mail
6FW 510
Mon 2-3 (Weeks 1-7, 9-13) or by appointment

Credit points
10

Prerequisites
Admission to LLB

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit will enable students to attain the key legal skills (legal research, reasoning, and writing; applying precedent; statutory interpretation; and legal problem solving) and to acquire the foundational legal knowledge (Australia legal institutions; legal theory; comparative legal systems; parliamentary process; role of the judiciary) necessary for further study in law. This unit will challenge students to apply their skills and knowledge to examine a contemporary socio-legal issue through a collaborative group project. Students will also engage in reflective practice.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates

Learning Outcomes

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

ULO1: Define, describe and relate sources of legal norms and foundational elements of the Australian legal system.

ULO2: Apply principles of academic honesty and rules for correct legal citation.

ULO3: Apply principles of statutory interpretation and the doctrine of precedent to interpret primary legal sources (case law and legislation) for the purpose of deriving legal

rules and principles.

ULO4: Analyse factual problem scenarios and prepare a structured response using the HIRAC framework for legal problem solving.

ULO5: Locate relevant primary and secondary sources through legal research using online databases, library resources and internet sources.

ULO6: Analyse legal problems in their broader social context

Assessment Tasks

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

Assessment details are no longer provided here as a result of changes due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Students should consult iLearn for revised unit information.

Find out more about the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and potential impacts on staff and students

General Assessment Information

Further instructions for each assessment task are available on the unit's iLearn page.

Students are also advised that:

1. All assessment tasks are due by 10:00 am on the dates indicated for each assessment task.

2. All assessment tasks are due by the first date as noted. The second 'Hurdle' due date corresponds to the deadline for supplementary work that may need to be completed in order to satisfy the learning outcomes associated with each assessment task.

3. All assessment tasks in this unit are 'hurdle requirements' and must be completed at a Satisfactory level (to the standard prescribed for each assessment task) in order to pass this unit.

4. In cases where students fail to complete <u>one</u> assessment task at a Satisfactory level (provided that they have made genuine attempts at <u>both</u> initial and supplementary work on that task), the Convenor <u>may</u> provide one further opportunity to reattempt the task or carry out supplementary work in order to achieve the required learning outcome(s). The Convenor will base this decision on a review of the student's work across the unit in consultation with the student's tutor(s) and/or marker(s).

5. The Faculty of Arts Late Submission Policy requires that: "Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, (a) a penalty for lateness will apply – two (2) marks out of 100 will be deducted per day for assignments submitted

after the due date – and (b) no assignment will be accepted more than seven (7) days (incl. weekends) after the original submission deadline. No late submissions will be accepted for timed assessments – e.g. quizzes, online tests." Please note that this rule applies to the <u>due date</u> of applicable assessment tasks in this unit; the rule does not apply to a subsequent deadline prescribed for an assessment task for the purpose of completing supplementary work or re-attempts of online quizzes in order to satisfy hurdle requirements.

6. This unit is ungraded and will not count towards a student's CGPA (Cumulative Grade Point Average). Students will be awarded 'Satisfactory' or 'Fail' at the end of the unit.

Delivery and Resources

> **Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update**
>
> Any references to on-campus delivery below may no longer be relevant due to COVID-19.
>
> Please check here for updated delivery information: https://ask.mq.edu.au/account/pub/display/unit_status

Tutorials and Lectures commence in **Week 1** of semester and conclude in **Week 13**.

Students should consult the official Timetable for class times, dates and locations at: http://timetables.mq.edu.au

Online content for this unit can be accessed at http://ilearn.mq.edu.au

<u>Required Textbooks:</u>

- Michelle Sanson and Thalia Anthony, *Connecting with the Law* (Oxford University Press, 4th ed, 2018).
- Michelle Sanson, *Statutory Interpretation* (Oxford University Press, 2nd ed, 2016).
- Gabrielle Appleby, Alexander Reilly and Laura Grenfell, *Australian Public Law* (Oxford University Press, 3rd ed., 2018).

Additional required and recommended reading materials will be posted at the unit's iLearn page.

<u>Computer and Internet access are **required** in order to successfully complete this unit.</u> Basic computer skills (e.g., internet browsing) and skills in word processing are also a requirement.

Unit Schedule

> **Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update**
>
> The unit schedule/topics and any references to on-campus delivery below may no longer be relevant due to COVID-19. Please consult iLearn for latest details, and check here for

updated delivery information: https://ask.mq.edu.au/account/pub/display/unit_status

Week #	Topics Covered
1	Welcome and Overview; Academic Honesty; Legal Citation
2	Common Law and Equity; Statutory Interpretation
3	The Australian Constitution and Separation of Powers; Briefing Cases
4	Judicial Reasoning and the Doctrine of Precedent; Legal Problem Solving
5	Law and Policy Reform
6	Australian Courts
7	Tribunals
8	Origins of the Australian Legal System and Indigenous Customary Law
9	International Law & Human Rights
10	The Rule of Law
11	Democratic Institutions and Consultative Law Reform
12	Advocacy
13	The Rest of your Law Degree

Further details on lecture topics and tutorial activities can be found on the unit's iLearn page.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central (https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- Academic Appeals Policy
- Academic Integrity Policy
- Academic Progression Policy
- Assessment Policy

- Fitness to Practice Procedure

- Grade Appeal Policy

- Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public

- Special Consideration Policy *(**Note:** The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.)*

Students seeking more policy resources can visit the Student Policy Gateway (https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit Policy Central (https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/study/getting-started/student-conduct

Results

Results published on platform other than eStudent, (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in eStudent. For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit http://students.mq.edu.au/support/

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to help you improve your marks and take control of your study.

- Getting help with your assignment

- Workshops

- StudyWise

- Academic Integrity Module

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- Subject and Research Guides

- Ask a Librarian

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the Disability Service who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy. The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.