# LAWS5930

## Legal Research Project Part B

Session 2, Special circumstance 2020

*Macquarie Law School*

# Contents

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**Notice**

As part of Phase 3 of our return to campus plan, most units will now run tutorials, seminars and other small group learning activities on campus for the second half-year, while keeping an online version available for those students unable to return or those who choose to continue their studies online.

To check the availability of face-to-face and online activities for your unit, please go to timetable viewer. To check detailed information on unit assessments visit your unit's iLearn space or consult your unit convenor.

# General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Rita Matulionyte
rita.matulionyte@mq.edu.au

Credit points
10

Prerequisites
LAWS5920

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This is an advanced legal research unit for Bachelor of Laws students intending to graduate with Honours. In this unit, students work under the close supervision of the academic convenor of the unit and their research supervisor to develop a thesis that addresses a contemporary legal problem. Building on the methodology, plan and literature review developed in Legal Research Project A, students will complete an advanced independent legal research project in the form of a 15,000 word thesis. This unit requires advanced independent legal research skills, the ability to engage in self directed research under supervision, and superior legal writing ability. The unit is particularly suited to Law students considering higher degree research.

## 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:** Critically analyse complex legal problems by identifying, researching, evaluating and synthesising relevant factual, legal and policy issues

**ULO2:** Identify and apply the ethics of legal research scholarship to the execution of an extended independent legal research project

**ULO3:** Prepare and present an oral defense of your legal research thesis for diverse audiences.

**ULO4:** Plan, prepare and execute a sophisticated legal research thesis presented in written form.

# Assessment Tasks

| Name | Weighting | Hurdle | Due |
|---|---|---|---|
| Extended Honours Thesis | 70% | No | Week 13, Friday 5pm |
| An online presentation and defense of the legal research project | 30% | No | Weeks 3-6 |

## Extended Honours Thesis

Assessment Type [1]: Thesis
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 80 hours
Due: **Week 13, Friday 5pm**
Weighting: **70%**

Students will prepare a written thesis of no more than 15,000 words. This thesis will build on the preparation undertaken in Laws5920

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Critically analyse complex legal problems by identifying, researching, evaluating and synthesising relevant factual, legal and policy issues
- Identify and apply the ethics of legal research scholarship to the execution of an extended independent legal research project
- Plan, prepare and execute a sophisticated legal research thesis presented in written form.

## An online presentation and defense of the legal research project

Assessment Type [1]: Viva/oral examination
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 40 hours
Due: **Weeks 3-6**
Weighting: **30%**

Students will prepare an online presentation of their key findings and respond to online questions about their thesis

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Critically analyse complex legal problems by identifying, researching, evaluating and synthesising relevant factual, legal and policy issues
- Identify and apply the ethics of legal research scholarship to the execution of an extended independent legal research project
- Prepare and present an oral defense of your legal research thesis for diverse audiences.

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[1] If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- the Writing Centre for academic skills support.

[2] Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

# Delivery and Resources

**1. Technology used and required**

To participate successfully in this unit, students will require access to the unit iLearn page. This will require access to secure and reliable computer facilities. Students will be required to upload all assessment tasks by way of Turnitin on the unit iLearn page.

**2. Delivery mode**

This course will be delivered in a semi-intensive mode. Two-hour tutorials (live or online) will run during Weeks 1-6, with no tutorials for the rest of the semester.  Attendance at the other tutorials is optional but highly recommended.

The unit will use an iLearn website.

**3. Tutorial times and locations**

For the tutorial time and location please consult the MQ Timetables website: http://www.timetables.mq.edu.au.

**4. Required and recommended resources**

There are no prescribed textbooks for this course. All recommended readings will be available online in iLearn.

# 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.