LAWS1300
Criminal Justice
Session 1, Special circumstances 2021
Macquarie Law School

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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 activities on campus, and most will keep an online version available to those students unable to return or those who choose to continue their studies online.

To check the availability of face-to-face 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
Convenor
Andrew Burke
Contact via iLearn
Room 622, 6 First Walk
Tuesdays 11am-12pm either in person or via Zoom

Credit points
10

Prerequisites
LAW115 or LAWS1000

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit aims to develop in students a critical understanding of substantive criminal law - what makes an accused guilty or not guilty of a crime. Students will learn the principles of criminal responsibility and the defences available to an accused, and then apply that knowledge to a range of crimes including murder, assault and property offences. Students are encouraged to consider if the criminal law of NSW is rational, fair and just, and how it has been shaped by historical, social, political and philosophical factors.

Important Academic Dates
Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates

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

UL01: Apply principles of statutory interpretation and problem solving methods to criminal justice scenarios

UL02: Explain general doctrines of criminal responsibility and outline elements of offences and defences in accordance with Priestley requirements for legal practice

UL03: Research, analyse, synthesise, interpret and derive legal principles from legislation, case law and parliamentary debate governing the administration of criminal
ULO4: Identify how the criminal law of NSW has been shaped by historical, social, political and philosophical factors

**General Assessment Information**

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.

Word limits will be strictly applied and work above the word limit will not be marked. Footnotes are only to be used for referencing. Substantive material in footnotes will not be marked.

All assessments in the unit are to be submitted electronically via Turnitin. Plagiarism detection software is used in this unit.


Assessments must be submitted in double line spaced text, 12 point, Times New Roman font. Headings and subheadings should be used where appropriate. No bibliographies are required.

Detailed marking rubrics will be made available on iLearn. Markers in this unit undertake a process to establish a common marking standard and all Fail papers are double marked.

**Assessment Tasks**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAWS1000 Skills Revision</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Friday 12th March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Problem Question 1</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Sunday 18th April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Problem Question 2</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Sunday 30th May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revision Quiz</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Monday 7th - Friday 11th June</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Class participation**

Assessment Type 1: Participatory task
Indicative Time on Task 2: 2 hours
Due: Ongoing
Weighting: 20%

Students are required to participate in set activities, including class discussions, opening and
closing addresses, law reform proposals, individual and group quizzes, and other set work. Participation requires consistent demonstration of understanding and critical engagement with the required readings. When students are required to participate in group presentation exercises in tutorials, as part of class participation, then these are timed assessments and no late submission will be accepted.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Explain general doctrines of criminal responsibility and outline elements of offences and defences in accordance with Priestley requirements for legal practice
- Identify how the criminal law of NSW has been shaped by historical, social, political and philosophical factors

**LAWS1000 Skills Revision**

Assessment Type: Quiz/Test
Indicative Time on Task: 10 hours
Due: **Friday 12th March**
Weighting: 20%

This formative assessment task asks students to apply the skills learnt in LAWS1000 to criminal law. It will require application of the principles of statutory interpretation, case brief writing and demonstration of other legal skills.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Apply principles of statutory interpretation and problem solving methods to criminal justice scenarios
- Research, analyse, synthesise, interpret and derive legal principles from legislation, case law and parliamentary debate governing the administration of criminal justice

**Problem Question 1**

Assessment Type: Professional writing
Indicative Time on Task: 20 hours
Due: **Sunday 18th April**
Weighting: 30%

This problem question will focus on a unit topic to be determined. Students will be presented with a hypothetical factual scenario and are required to apply the principles of criminal responsibility, the relevant offence provisions and common law, and the law of defences to assess the criminal liability of a specific individual.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Explain general doctrines of criminal responsibility and outline elements of offences and
defences in accordance with Priestley requirements for legal practice

- Research, analyse, synthesise, interpret and derive legal principles from legislation, case law and parliamentary debate governing the administration of criminal justice

**Problem Question 2**

Assessment Type 1: Professional writing
Indicative Time on Task: 20 hours
Due: **Sunday 30th May**
Weighting: 30%

This problem question will focus on a unit topic to be determined. Students will be presented with a hypothetical factual scenario and are required to apply the principles of criminal responsibility, the relevant offence provisions and common law, and the law of defences to assess the criminal liability of a specific individual.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain general doctrines of criminal responsibility and outline elements of offences and defences in accordance with Priestley requirements for legal practice
- Research, analyse, synthesise, interpret and derive legal principles from legislation, case law and parliamentary debate governing the administration of criminal justice

**Revision Quiz**

Assessment Type 1: Quiz/Test
Indicative Time on Task: 40 hours
Due: **Monday 7th - Friday 11th June**
Weighting: 0%

This is a hurdle assessment task (see assessment policy for more information on hurdle assessment tasks)

This quiz will cover all of the content across all weeks of this unit. Students will be presented with 20 questions from a much larger question bank. Questions will be multiple choice format. The time limit is one hour from when the student commences. The pass mark for this quiz is 75% (that is, minimum 15 correct answers out of 20). It is a hurdle assessment - a student cannot pass the unit without passing this assessment task. Students who do not achieve a 75% pass mark on their first attempt will be allowed a second and, if necessary, third attempt. No more than 3 attempts will be allowed. There is a mandatory minimum 24 hour delay between attempts. All attempts must be made during the 5-day time period that the quiz is open. This is a timed assessment task and late submissions will not be allowed.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain general doctrines of criminal responsibility and outline elements of offences and defences in accordance with Priestley requirements for legal practice
• Research, analyse, synthesise, interpret and derive legal principles from legislation, case law and parliamentary debate governing the administration of criminal justice

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 Learning Skills Unit 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

This unit is delivered via weekly online lectures and a weekly tutorial (on-campus or online). Lectures and tutorials both commence in Week 1.

Unit Schedule
Lecture Schedule
1. Introduction to criminal justice: what is crime?
2. Principles of criminal responsibility
3. Summary offences
4. Murder
5. Voluntary manslaughter
6. Involuntary manslaughter
Mid-semester break
7. Defences: self-defence, duress, necessity
8. Defences: mental illness, intoxication, automatism
9. Assault
10. Property offences
11. Sexual assault
12. Drug offences
13. Extended criminal liability
Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central (https://policies.mq.edu.au). 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

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

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit Policy Central (https://policies.mq.edu.au) and use the search tool.

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/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
Student Enquiry Service
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

Equity 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.

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.

Changes since First Published

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23/02/2021</td>
<td>Change to consultation hour due to addition of 5th tutorial which clashed with previous consultation hour.</td>
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