LAWS5930

Legal Research Project Part B

Session 2, Special circumstances 2021

Macquarie Law School

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Disclaimer

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Session 2 Learning and Teaching Update

The decision has been made to conduct study online for the remainder of Session 2 for all units WITHOUT mandatory on-campus learning activities. Exams for Session 2 will also be online where possible to do so.

This is due to the extension of the lockdown orders and to provide certainty around arrangements for the remainder of Session 2. We hope to return to campus beyond Session 2 as soon as it is safe and appropriate to do so.

Some classes/teaching activities cannot be moved online and must be taught on campus. You should already know if you are in one of these classes/teaching activities and your unit convenor will provide you with more information via iLearn. If you want to confirm, see the list of units with mandatory on-campus classes/teaching activities.

Visit the MQ COVID-19 information page for more detail.

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.

General Assessment Information

Late assessment submission policy

*Unless a **Special Consideration** request has been submitted and approved, (a) a penalty for lateness will apply – **10 marks** out of 100 credit will be deducted per day for assignments submitted after the due date – and (b) no assignment will be accepted seven days (incl. weekends) after the original submission deadline.*

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
An online presentation and defense of the legal research project	30%	No	In-class, 18/10/2021 (Week 11)
Extended Honours Thesis	70%	No	18:00 05/11/2021 (Week 13)

An online presentation and defense of the legal research project

Assessment Type [1]: Viva/oral examination
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 40 hours
Due: **In-class, 18/10/2021 (Week 11)**
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.

Extended Honours Thesis

Assessment Type [1]: Thesis

Indicative Time on Task [2]: 80 hours
Due: **18:00 05/11/2021 (Week 13)**
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.

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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 2, 6, 11 and 12, with no tutorials on other weeks. 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://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
- 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.