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Disclaimer
Macquarie University has taken all reasonable measures to ensure the information in this publication is accurate and up-to-date. However, the information may change or become out-dated as a result of change in University policies, procedures or rules. The University reserves the right to make changes to any information in this publication without notice. Users of this publication are advised to check the website version of this publication [or the relevant faculty or department] before acting on any information in this publication.
General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Unit Convenor
Andrea Dolcetti
andrea.dolcetti@mq.edu.au
Contact via iLearn

Credit points
10

Prerequisites
60cp including LAWS1000 or LAW115

Co-requisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit is a philosophically-based introduction to law and legal thought. It has four main objectives. It aims to introduce students to the nature of the Australian legal system; to equip them to think in a theoretical and critical way about the nature of law and legal reasoning; to convey an understanding of some key legal concepts; and to assist them to draw on and apply these reflections in the context of some contemporary legal issues.

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: Analyse central debates in jurisprudence
ULO3: Apply theoretical knowledge to real-life situations and topical controversies
ULO2: Evaluate the law and legal institutions from a normative perspective.
ULO4: Develop the ability to build and communicate theoretical legal arguments under time pressure.

General Assessment Information

Late penalty policy

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, a 5% penalty (of the
total possible mark) will be applied each day a written assessment is not submitted, up until the 7th day (including weekends). After the 7th day, a mark of ‘0’ (zero) will be awarded even if the assessment is submitted. Submission time for all written assessments is set at 11.55pm. A 1-hour grace period is provided to students who experience a technical issue.

This late penalty will apply to non-timed sensitive assessment (incl essays, reports, posters, portfolios, journals, recordings etc). Late submission of time sensitive tasks (such as tests/exams, performance assessments/presentations, scheduled practical assessments/labs etc) will only be addressed by the unit convenor in a Special Consideration application. Special Consideration outcome may result in a new question or topic.

**Assessment Tasks**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essay</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>13/09/23 (23:55 Sydney time)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take home exam</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>8/11/23, 9:45 - 13:00 (15 min reading time + 3-hour exam)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Every week</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Essay**

Assessment Type: Essay  
Indicative Time on Task: 15 hours  
Due: **13/09/23 (23:55 Sydney time)**  
Weighting: **40%**

This assignment will require comprehension and critical analysis of some key readings on the nature of law.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Analyse central debates in jurisprudence
- Apply theoretical knowledge to real-life situations and topical controversies
- Evaluate the law and legal institutions from a normative perspective.
- Develop the ability to build and communicate theoretical legal arguments under time pressure.

**Take home exam**

Assessment Type: Quiz/Test
Indicative Time on Task: 15 hours
Due: 8/11/23, 9:45 - 13:00 (15 min reading time + 3-hour exam)
Weighting: 40%

The take-home exam will test critical reasoning skills and comprehension of the set texts.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Analyse central debates in jurisprudence
- Apply theoretical knowledge to real-life situations and topical controversies
- Evaluate the law and legal institutions from a normative perspective.
- Develop the ability to build and communicate theoretical legal arguments under time pressure.

Class Participation

Assessment Type: Participatory task
Indicative Time on Task: 0 hours
Due: Every week
Weighting: 20%

Participation in tutorial discussions, debates and presentations.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Analyse central debates in jurisprudence
- Apply theoretical knowledge to real-life situations and topical controversies
- Evaluate the law and legal institutions from a normative perspective.

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**

Weekly F2F lecture - **Monday, 5:00pm to 6:00pm, in the Lotus Theatre** (27 Wally’s Walk) + weekly pre-recorded lecture

Weekly **tutorials commencing in week 2**


For more info, including your reading list, please refer to the iLearn page and Leganto

**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
- Assessment Procedure
- Complaints Resolution 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](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](http://ask.mq.edu.au) or if you are a Global MBA student contact [globalmba.support@mq.edu.au](mailto:globalmba.support@mq.edu.au)

**Academic Integrity**

At Macquarie, we believe **academic integrity** – honesty, respect, trust, responsibility, fairness and
courage – is at the core of learning, teaching and research. We recognise that meeting the expectations required to complete your assessments can be challenging. So, we offer you a range of resources and services to help you reach your potential, including free online writing and maths support, academic skills development and wellbeing consultations.

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

The Writing Centre
The Writing Centre provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

- Workshops
- Chat with a WriteWISE peer writing leader
- Access StudyWISE
- Upload an assignment to Studiosity
- Complete the 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
Macquarie University offers a range of Student Support Services including:

- IT Support
- Accessibility and disability support with study
- Mental health support
- Safety support to respond to bullying, harassment, sexual harassment and sexual assault
- Social support including information about finances, tenancy and legal issues
- Student Advocacy provides independent advice on MQ policies, procedures, and processes

Student Enquiries
Got a question? Ask us via AskMQ, or contact Service Connect.

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