



LAWS5028

Competition Law

Session 1, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2025

Macquarie Law School

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Disclaimer

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

Adrian Coorey

Contact via iLearn

Tutor

Barbara Williams

Contact via iLearn

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

(80cp in LAW or LAWS units including LAWS2300) or (130cp including (BUSL250 and BUSL301) or BUSL251 or ACCG2051)

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

The unit introduces students to the principal areas of law in Australia which aim to preserve competition in the economy and to ensure consumer protection. Attention will focus on the competition law provisions in the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* and their theoretical underpinnings. Topics include cartels; anticompetitive agreements and concerted practices; misuse of market power; mergers; warranties and guarantees; misleading or deceptive conduct; unconscionable conduct and unfair contract terms; remedies and enforcement of both consumer and competition law.

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: Understand the economic concepts used in competition law to articulate the effects of anticompetitive practices.

ULO2: Consolidate the development of competition law in Australia and various parts of

the world and examine the objective(s) of competition law in the economy.

ULO3: Consider the powers of the courts, regulatory bodies, and private individuals to distinguish between different enforcement methods in competition and consumer law.

ULO4: Apply the Competition and Consumer Act, case law, and soft law to solve problems in competition and consumer law.

General Assessment Information

All assessments are submitted electronically. Turnitin plagiarism detection software is used to check all written assessments. Students should carefully check that they submit the correct file for an assessment. **You can only submit your assessment once. This applies to both Assessment 2 and Assessment 3.**

Footnotes are to be used only for referencing. Referencing must conform to the requirements set out in the Australian Guide to Legal Citation 4th edition. Marking of all assessments is moderated through a process of blind marking and the use of detailed marking rubrics.

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 assessments (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 Supplementary Assessment. **Special Consideration** Students should submit applications for Special Consideration electronically via Service Connect portal, along with the supporting documentation. Before submitting their applications, students should refer to the Special Consideration Policy (link provided under 'Policies and Procedures' below).

Further information in relation to all Assessments is uploaded on iLearn.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
<u>Professional Skills</u>	20%	No	Start: Week 2 Finish: Week 13
<u>Hypothetical Problem Question</u>	40%	No	Start: 9am, 21 April 2025 Due: 11:55pm, 24 April 2025
<u>Take Home Exam</u>	40%	No	Start: 9am, 18 June 2025 Due: 12pm, 18 June 2025

Professional Skills

Assessment Type ¹: Practice-based task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 0 hours

Due: **Start: Week 2 Finish: Week 13**

Weighting: **20%**

Students will engage in classroom activities including mootings, presentations or demonstrations, structured discussion and problem solving, doctrinal analysis, simulated client consultations, and collaborative legal research. Through these activities students will develop skills in oral advocacy, legal analysis, critical reasoning, teamwork and team leadership, and/or strategic problem-solving. These activities are designed to strengthen students' ability to communicate legal concepts verbally and engage professionally within a supportive learning environment.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Understand the economic concepts used in competition law to articulate the effects of anticompetitive practices.
- Consolidate the development of competition law in Australia and various parts of the world and examine the objective(s) of competition law in the economy.
- Consider the powers of the courts, regulatory bodies, and private individuals to distinguish between different enforcement methods in competition and consumer law.
- Apply the Competition and Consumer Act, case law, and soft law to solve problems in competition and consumer law.

Hypothetical Problem Question

Assessment Type ¹: Problem set

Indicative Time on Task ²: 35 hours

Due: **Start: 9am, 21 April 2025 Due: 11:55pm, 24 April 2025**

Weighting: **40%**

Students will be required to solve two hypothetical problem questions.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Understand the economic concepts used in competition law to articulate the effects of anticompetitive practices.
- Apply the Competition and Consumer Act, case law, and soft law to solve problems in

competition and consumer law.

Take Home Exam

Assessment Type ¹: Quiz/Test

Indicative Time on Task ²: 18 hours

Due: **Start: 9am, 18 June 2025 Due: 12pm, 18 June 2025**

Weighting: **40%**

Students will be required to solve a hypothetical problem question in a time-limited take home test

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Understand the economic concepts used in competition law to articulate the effects of anticompetitive practices.
- Apply the Competition and Consumer Act, case law, and soft law to solve problems in competition and consumer law.

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

Delivery

Lectures

Each week will consist of a 2 hour lecture that is recorded and uploaded to Echo 360 on iLearn. It is advised that you listen to the weekly lecture in advance of your corresponding weekly tutorial.

Tutorials

Each student **must** attend the tutorial that they are enrolled in. For online tutorials, a Zoom link is available on iLearn. For face-to-face tutorials, please see online for room location.

For face-to-face and online students, each week consists of a 1 hour tutorial. Please only attend the tutorial you are enrolled in.

Resources

Prescribed Textbooks

1. Adrian Coorey, *Australian Competition Law - The Comprehensive Guide (Vol 1)* (Jurisprudentia, Sydney, 2024).
2. Adrian Coorey, *Australian Consumer Law - The Comprehensive Guide (Second Edition)* (Jurisprudentia, Sydney 2025).

The above prescribed textbooks are available online at <https://www.jurisprudentia.com.au/>. You may acquire the textbooks in a bundle at a discount. Alternatively, there is limited copies available at the Library.

Unit Schedule

Reading List

Prescribed Materials:

Adrian Coorey, *Australian Competition Law – The Comprehensive Guide (Vol 1)* (Jurisprudentia, Sydney, 2024) (**ACompL Book**)

Adrian Coorey, *Australian Consumer Law – The Comprehensive Guide (Second Edition)* (Jurisprudentia, Sydney, 2025) (**ACL Book**).

Please **note** that Additional Reading (as listed below) is not mandatory reading. Students who wish to specialise in Australian Consumer Law and/or Australian Competition Law are encouraged to undertake the Additional Reading.

Week	Topic	Prescribed Reading	Additional Reading (<i>Optional</i>)
Australian Competition Law			
1	Introduction to Australian Competition Law Definitions and Key Concepts I	ACompL Book – Ch 1 ACompL Book – Ch 2 (pp 21 – 64)	ACompL Book – Ch 2 (pp 64 – 81)
2	Definitions and Key Concepts II Primary Contravener and Accessorial Liability	ACompL Book – Ch 3 (pp 82-141) ACompL Book – Ch 4 (pp 152-173)	ACompL Book – Ch 3 (pp 142-151) ACompL Book – Ch 4 (pp 173-189)

3	Civil Cartels	ACompL Book – Ch 5 (pp 190-236, 355-361, 384-391, 405-413)	ACompL Book – Ch 5 (all remaining pages)
	Criminal Cartels	ACompL Book – Ch 6 (pp 450-452, 488-522)	ACompL Book – Ch 6 (all remaining pages)
	Exceptions to Cartels		ACompL Book – Ch 7
4	Anti-Competitive Agreements	ACompL Book – Ch 8 (pp 584-615)	ACompL Book – Ch 8 (all remaining pages)
	Secondary Boycotts	ACompL Book – Ch 9 (pp 653, 665-695)	ACompL Book – Ch 9 (all remaining pages)
5	Misuse of Market Power	ACompL Book – Ch 10 (pp 739-740, 750-755, 769-771, 778-836)	ACompL Book – Ch 10 (all remaining pages)
	Exclusive Dealing	ACompL Book – Ch 11	
6	Resale Price Maintenance	ACompL Book – Ch 12	----
	Mergers	Materials will be provided on iLearn	
	Authorisation and Notification	Materials will be provided on iLearn	
Australian Consumer Law			
7	Introduction to Australian Consumer Law	ACL Book – Ch 1	
	Definitions and Key Concepts	ACL Book – Ch 2 (pp 24 - 60)	ACL Book – Ch 2 (pp 60 -80)
8	Misleading or Deceptive Conduct – General Principles	ACL Book – Ch 4	ACL Book - Ch 7 ACL Book - Ch 8
9	Misleading or Deceptive Conduct and Advertising	ACL Book – Ch 5	----
	Misleading or Deceptive Conduct and the Internet	ACL Book - Ch 6	
10	False or Misleading Representations	ACL Book – Ch 9	----
11	Unconscionable Conduct	ACL Book - Ch 10	----

12	Unfair Contract Terms	ACL Book – Ch 11	---
	Specific Unfair Practices	ACL Book – Ch 12	
13	Consumer Guarantees (and Remedies)	ACL Book – Ch 13	---
		ACL Book – Ch 14	

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](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 \(https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies\)](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 \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](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 connect.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact 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/>

Academic Success

[Academic Success](#) 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 the [Service Connect Portal](#), or contact [Service Connect](#).

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

Date	Description
17/02/2025	Minor amendments made.

Unit information based on version 2025.03 of the [Handbook](#)