



LAWS2100

Jurisprudence

Session 2, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2026

Macquarie Law School

Contents

<u>General Information</u>	2
<u>Learning Outcomes</u>	2
<u>Assessment Tasks</u>	3
<u>Delivery and Resources</u>	5
<u>Policies and Procedures</u>	5

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 Andrea Dolcetti Contact via via ILearn
Credit points 10
Prerequisites 60cp including LAWS1000 or LAW115
Corequisites
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

ULO2: Evaluate the law and legal institutions from a normative perspective

ULO3: Apply theoretical knowledge to real-life situations and topical controversies

ULO4: Develop the ability to build and communicate theoretical legal arguments under time pressure

ULO5: Communicate, interact and collaborate professionally and effectively in verbal and non-verbal contexts across diverse settings

ULO6: Work independently, meet deadlines, take initiative and be adaptable to diverse and changing environments

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due	Groupwork/Individual	Short Extension	AI Approach
Professional Skills	20%	No	Ongoing	Individual	No	Observed
Exam	50%	No	University Exam Period	Individual	No	Observed
Practice-Based Task	30%	No	20/09/2026	Individual	Yes	Open

Professional Skills

Assessment Type ¹: Professional task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 0 hours

Due: **Ongoing**

Weighting: **20%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: No

AI Approach: Observed

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:

- Analyse central debates in jurisprudence
- Evaluate the law and legal institutions from a normative perspective
- Apply theoretical knowledge to real-life situations and topical controversies
- Communicate, interact and collaborate professionally and effectively in verbal and non-verbal contexts across diverse settings
- Work independently, meet deadlines, take initiative and be adaptable to diverse and changing environments

Exam

Assessment Type ¹: Examination

Indicative Time on Task ²: 15 hours

Due: **University Exam Period**

Weighting: **50%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: No

AI Approach: Observed

An invigilated exam held in the formal examination period. The exam may cover any or all topics and materials covered in the unit.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Analyse central debates in jurisprudence
- Evaluate the law and legal institutions from a normative perspective
- Apply theoretical knowledge to real-life situations and topical controversies
- Develop the ability to build and communicate theoretical legal arguments under time pressure
- Communicate, interact and collaborate professionally and effectively in verbal and non-verbal contexts across diverse settings
- Work independently, meet deadlines, take initiative and be adaptable to diverse and changing environments

Practice-Based Task

Assessment Type ¹: Practice-based task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 15 hours

Due: **20/09/2026**

Weighting: **30%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: Yes

AI Approach: Open

An assessment on professional skills and knowledge relevant to the unit. This could be a legal or policy brief, a report, an essay, a law reform proposal, legal pleadings or other related professional task. This assessment may require students to prepare a response through research and adhere to discipline-specific scholarly conventions.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Analyse central debates in jurisprudence
- Evaluate the law and legal institutions from a normative perspective
- Apply theoretical knowledge to real-life situations and topical controversies
- Develop the ability to build and communicate theoretical legal arguments under time pressure
- Communicate, interact and collaborate professionally and effectively in verbal and non-verbal contexts across diverse settings

- Work independently, meet deadlines, take initiative and be adaptable to diverse and changing environments

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
- [Academic Success](#) 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.

³ An automatic short extension is available for some assessments. Apply through the [Service Connect Portal](#).

Delivery and Resources

Delivery

Lectures: 12 live lectures (weeks 1 to 12) - see iLearn for further details

All tutorials are F2F, commencing in week 2 - see iLearn for further details

This unit is worth 10 credit points, which equates to 150 hours of work. Therefore, students should expect to commit an average of 10 hours per week to this unit, including all scheduled and unscheduled activities and preparing and executing the assessment tasks.

Resources

The required textbook is: Brian H. Bix, *Jurisprudence: Theory and Context* (Sweet & Maxwell/ Thomson Reuters, 2023, 9th Edition)

Students can purchase this textbook online directly from the publisher's website or from online resellers such as Booktopia, Amazon, and Zookal. Thomson Reuters has informed that students can take advantage of a 20% discount and free shipping by purchasing directly through them if they use the student Promo Code (Book and eBook bundles can be purchased at a 25% discount). The Promo Code is: UNIS15.

Additional readings will be accessible through iLearn.

Students require access to a computer, internet with decent speed and a secure/reliable server. The iLearn page contains all Unit requirements and a weekly schedule for teaching, readings and tutorials. Information about all assessment tasks is also available on iLearn.

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.

- [Ask a Study Coach](#)
- [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 <https://students.mq.edu.au/support/technology/service-desk>.

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.

Unit information based on version 2026.06 of the [Handbook](#)