

WESTERN SYDNEY  
UNIVERSITY



SCHOOL OF LAW



# First Year Handbook 2024

With a particular commitment to our community of Greater Western Sydney, we develop high quality law graduates who are critical thinkers engaged with the issues of our world.

Our students develop a deep understanding of justice and ethics through authentic learning that combines real law experiences with critical theory.

Our rich research culture produces rigorous, world-class, impactful research and enhances our student experience.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

Western Sydney University acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Greater Western Sydney. As a matter of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural protocol, and out of recognition that its campuses occupy their traditional lands, the University acknowledges the Darug, Gandangarra and Tharawal peoples and thanks them for their support of its work in Greater Western Sydney.



## Dean's Welcome

### A very warm welcome to Western Sydney University School of Law.

You are now part of an academic community that cares deeply about your success and that is committed to providing you with the best legal education in the country. The lawyers of today are problems solvers. They require not just legal knowledge and the ability to carry out research, but also the creative and interpersonal skills that enable them to see problems from multiple dimensions; to understand the connections between institutions, people and power; to work in teams to achieve great outcomes; and confidence in their own ability to communicate and explain legal concepts. We believe in grounding what you learn in real-world problems, and we understand that education extends beyond the classroom into your lives and into the lives of your communities. At Western Law, you will have the chance to practice legal skills, try different types of legal practice, serve your community, pursue causes you care about and make amazing friends.

Your First Year Advisor, Dr Amira Aftab, is a great source of guidance and support. Please reach out to her about anything you are unsure of. All your teachers are ready to assist you.

As you progress through First Year, you will also be offered opportunities for peer support from students who have been in the same place you are – please take up these offers. There is no one who will not be challenged, at some point, during the first year of their law program. Things will only really fall apart if you don't reach out for help.

We see you as our partners in the exciting learning journey that lies ahead. We aim to create lawyers who are prepared for a changing world, who are compassionate, who are motivated by a sense of justice, and who have the skills to succeed in any of the diverse areas of work that a law degree can give you entry into. I am looking forward to meeting you in person at one of the events over the course of the year.

Professor Catherine Renshaw  
Dean, School of Law

# Hello from the Director of Academic Program, First Year

Welcome! We are very pleased that you are now one of our first year Law students. Your first year of university sometimes can be daunting, and it is our role to support you as much as we can. We organise events for first year students throughout the year and we are always available to answer your queries. This School of Law First Year Handbook should be your first point of call for any questions you have during your first year of study, but if you find that you need further guidance or advice, please feel free to contact us. We might not always have a simple answer, but we will often be able to help with identifying options and helping you feel more confident in the choices you make. On this page is a guide to who you should contact for queries you may have during your time at the School of Law.

<b>Administrative enquiries</b> (e.g. timetabling)	<a href="mailto:lawenquiry@westernsydney.edu.au">lawenquiry@westernsydney.edu.au</a>
<b>Subject enquiries</b>	Refer to the Learning Guide, which includes the contact details for each Unit Coordinator
<b>Course enquiries</b> (unit sequencing, progression to completion, unit selection, transfers etc.)	Refer to the online University Handbook: <a href="https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/">https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/</a> and if you still have queries contact <a href="mailto:courseadvicelaw@westernsydney.edu.au">courseadvicelaw@westernsydney.edu.au</a>
<b>Miscellaneous first year enquiries</b> not covered above	Refer to the School of Law First Year Handbook and if you still have queries contact <a href="mailto:firstyearlaw@westernsydney.edu.au">firstyearlaw@westernsydney.edu.au</a>



## **Dr Amira Aftab**

**Director of Academic Program, First Year**  
Parramatta South Campus, School of Law  
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# Understanding Our Terminology

You will soon understand the unusual acronyms and terms used at the University, but this new language can be very confusing at the beginning of your studies. Below is a useful guide.

→ **MyWestern** – the main student online portal for everything you need at the University. You can access all our online services (including the Library, your student email account and more).  
[westernsydney.edu.au/mywestern](https://westernsydney.edu.au/mywestern)

→ **MySR** – a specific site that covers enrolment, adding and removing units, etc. MySR is accessed through MyWestern.  
[mysr.westernsydney.edu.au](https://mysr.westernsydney.edu.au)

→ **vUWS** – this stands for ‘virtual UWS’ and is the University’s ‘online learning environment’ accessible through the University homepage or your MyWestern page. Every subject will have a vUWS site which you must access regularly.  
[vuws.westernsydney.edu.au](https://vuws.westernsydney.edu.au)

→ **LawvUWS** – this is a vUWS site specifically for Law students. It contains a vast array of information and has a folder exclusively for first year students.

OUR TERM	COMMON TERM
Degree	Degree
Subject	Subject
Program	Course
Core	Compulsory
Alternate	Elective
Session	Teaching term; semester
Blended learning	Online activities and face-to-face
WSLSA	Western Sydney Law Students' Association

# GETTING STARTED IN LAW

## CHECK LIST

- Read this Handbook
- Activate Western Sydney email account
- Enrol in your subjects
- Register for seminars/lectures/tutorials
- Log in to vUWS
- Attend Orientation

### At Orientation:

- Sign up for MATES
- Go on a campus tour
- Meet some of your teachers
- Meet your fellow students
- Visit the Library
- Visit the Moot Court
- Locate your classrooms if applicable
- Join the Law Students' Association
- HAVE FUN

### Before the first week of classes:

- Read the Learning Guides for your subjects
- Buy all of your textbooks and/or find out if they are available as ebooks through the Library
- Do the preparatory work for your first classes (check the Learning Guides for this and/or vUWS)

### First week of classes:

- Attend all of your classes with your textbooks, notes, pen and paper/electronic device ready to start work



# Before Session Starts

## 1. GETTING STARTED

If you have not already done so, visit [westernsydney.edu.au/starting](https://westernsydney.edu.au/starting)

This provides a step by step guide to getting started at the University. It explains how to:

- Activate your MyWestern account
- Plan your program
- Calculate your fees
- Get your student ID card
- Enrol in your subjects and classes
- Check your timetable
- Get prepared for uni to start

## 2. YOUR FIRST YEAR LAW SUBJECTS – A QUICK GUIDE

Western Sydney University offers several different Law programs. Some are combined with another discipline, e.g. Business, and others are straight Law programs. All Law students are required to complete 24 LLB (Law) subjects, which consists of 16 core LLB units and 8 alternate LLB subjects. Each specific combined Law program has different additional requirements, which you can find in the University Handbook <https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/>

Below is a quick guide to which Law units you are required to enrol in during your first year.

Please note that all first year students commencing in Autumn semester must study Fundamentals of Australian Law in Autumn semester and Legal Analysis and Critique in Spring semester. Students cannot study other law subjects without taking these 2 subjects. If you have any questions about this, please contact [courseadvicelaw@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:courseadvicelaw@westernsydney.edu.au)





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**UNDERGRADUATE (LLB) LAW STUDENTS COMMENCING IN AUTUMN SESSION\***


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Combined Law Full-Time	Autumn	LAWS1003 Fundamentals of Australian Law LAWS2004 Criminal Law Plus 2 non-LLB subjects from your other degree
	Spring	LAWS1009 Legal Analysis and Critique LAWS2013 Torts Plus 2 non-LLB subjects from your other degree
Combined Law Part-Time	Autumn	LAWS1003 Fundamentals of Australian Law LAWS2004 Criminal Law
	Spring	LAWS1009 Legal Analysis and Critique LAWS2013 Torts
Straight Law Full-Time	Autumn	LAWS1003 Fundamentals of Australian Law LAWS2004 Criminal Law Plus 2 of your non-law elective subjects**
	Spring	LAWS1009 Legal Analysis and Critique LAWS2013 Torts Plus 2 of your non-law elective subjects**
Straight Law Part-Time	Autumn	LAWS1003 Fundamentals of Australian Law LAWS2004 Criminal Law
	Spring	LAWS1009 Legal Analysis and Critique LAWS2013 Torts

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**JURIS DOCTOR (JD) STUDENTS COMMENCING IN AUTUMN SESSION\***


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Full-Time	Autumn	LAWS7056 Fundamental of Australian Law LAWS7048 Criminal Law LAWS 7047 Contracts LAWS 7066 Professional Responsibility and Legal Ethics
	Spring	LAWS7061 Legal Analysis and Critique LAWS7072 Torts Law LAWS7044 Alternative Dispute Resolution LAWS7057 Government and Public Law
Part-Time	Autumn	LAWS7056 Fundamental of Australian Law LAWS7048 Criminal Law
	Spring	LAWS7061 Legal Analysis and Critique LAWS7057 Government and Public Law

\*Students commencing mid-year (Spring) should consult the Course Handbook for their relevant program, and contact the Academic Program Advisor if they have questions about their subject selection. See: <https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/> and email [courseadvicelaw@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:courseadvicelaw@westernsydney.edu.au)

\*\*Students who do not have non-law electives in their straight law program should consult the Course Handbook for their relevant program, and contact the Academic Program Advisor for the School of Law if they have any questions. See: <https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/> and email [courseadvicelaw@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:courseadvicelaw@westernsydney.edu.au)

### 3. HOW TO REGISTER IN A SUBJECT

A step by step explanation of how to register in your subjects and select your classes is available at [westernsydney.edu.au/starting](https://westernsydney.edu.au/starting)

Before you register, you will need activate your student account at Western.

Students may register in subjects until the end of the second week of session (17 March 2023). After this time, but before HECS census date (30 March 2023) you will need to complete a Rule Waiver Request if you want to enrol in a subject. See [westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current\\_students/enrolment/rule\\_waiver](https://westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/enrolment/rule_waiver)

Students cannot enrol in subjects after the HECS census date, and you can only withdraw from subjects if you make a formal application to do so.

### 4. HOW TO REGISTER FOR A CLASS

Once you have successfully registered in your subjects (e.g. Fundamentals of Australian Law) you will need to select the specific classes that you will attend (e.g. Monday 9am). This is known as 'Tutorial Registration'. See [westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current\\_students/enrolment/tutorial\\_registration/instructions](https://westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/enrolment/tutorial_registration/instructions)

Please note that selecting your preferences does not guarantee you a place in that class.

If you have an unavoidable timetable clash once your timetable is complete, please email [lawenquiry@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:lawenquiry@westernsydney.edu.au)

### 5. USEFUL APPS

Consider downloading one of several apps from the App Store which will be useful throughout your Law degree. They include:

- Blackboard Mobile Learn. This is essentially vUWS on your mobile device [westernsydney.edu.au/webservices/wsu/uws\\_app\\_-\\_info\\_page](https://westernsydney.edu.au/webservices/wsu/uws_app_-_info_page)
- A law dictionary, such as [lexisnexis.com.au/en-AU/Products/mobile-app.page](https://lexisnexis.com.au/en-AU/Products/mobile-app.page)

You may also like to follow the Law School on Twitter [@Westsydlaw](https://twitter.com/Westsydlaw)

For IT assistance, please contact [itservicedesk@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:itservicedesk@westernsydney.edu.au)

## 6. PREPARING FOR CLASSES

Before the first week of session you should access the vUWS site for each of your subjects. On vUWS you will find a Learning Guide for each subject, which provides all relevant information about the subject, including reading requirements, assessment tasks and contacts. You should also access the LawvUWS site, which provides helpful information to Law students.

Once you have read the Learning Guide for each of your subjects, you should purchase the required textbooks. The vUWS site should advise you the best place to buy your textbooks. Some of the common sites recommended are:

- **Booktopia**
- **Zookal**

You might also like to check whether your textbooks are available as ebooks through the Library.

We recommend that you attend a Library tour so you can meet the Law librarians and learn how to borrow a book, print, photocopy, and order an item from another campus. Further information on the University Library is available via the MyWestern portal or [library.westernsydney.edu.au](http://library.westernsydney.edu.au)

If you would like to read something to prepare for the session, the following texts may be useful:

- Michael Brogan and David Spencer, *Becoming a Lawyer: Success at Law School* (Oxford University Press, 3rd ed, 2014)
- Claire Macken and Cath Hall, *Law Student Survival Guide* (Thomson, 3rd ed, 2021)
- Richard Krever, *Mastering Law Studies and Law Exam Techniques* (LexisNexis, 10th ed, 2019)
- Anthony Marinac et al, *Learning Law* (Cambridge University Press, 2nd ed, 2020)
- [survivelaw.com](http://survivelaw.com)

## 7. ORIENTATION

First year Orientation is a wonderful way to meet Law staff and fellow Law students, pick up a few tips about studying Law and let your hair down before you embark on what is a challenging few years ahead. It will also equip you with information about how to successfully manage your transition into university life.

For more information see [westernsydney.edu.au/orientation](http://westernsydney.edu.au/orientation)

## 8. STUDENTS ENROLLING MID-YEAR

All students enrolling mid-year (Spring) should undertake Fundamentals of Australian Law, which is available for mid-year intake students. Mid-year enrolling students should consult the Course Handbook for their relevant program, and contact the Academic Program Advisor if they have questions about their subject selection. See: <https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/> and email [courseadvicelaw@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:courseadvicelaw@westernsydney.edu.au).

# During Session

## 1. WHAT IS EXPECTED OF STUDENTS

### (a) Workload

If you are commencing your studies straight from school, you will find that studying at university is very different from studying at school. At school you may have been given a lot of direction by your teachers – how to study, what to write, where to go for resources etc. At university you are expected to be an independent learner. This means that the onus is on you to enrol correctly, complete the work for class and to find out what is required for assessment tasks. Some students struggle with this responsibility, but the important thing to remember is that the more you put into your university studies, the more you will get out of them.

In addition to the nature of university study in general, Law is a demanding (and rewarding) degree. It requires reading and synthesising large amounts of often difficult materials. Assessment tasks are designed to challenge you and they will require a significant amount of preparation. Students are expected to spend **at least ten hours a week studying for each subject** – for a full-time course,

this represents a forty hour week. These hours are made up of class attendance, preparing for class (generally in the form of readings) and completing assessments. If you have considerable commitments outside of University (eg work, family, community engagements), then we suggest taking a lighter study load and/or enrolling on a part-time basis.

All Law classes commence in the first week of session. Students are required to attend their scheduled classes and be ready to participate in discussions and take notes. You should bring the Learning Guide for each subject, plus any notes, textbooks or other materials posted on vUWS for the relevant class.

Students in Fundamentals of Australian Law will be required to complete a Module called 'Communication for Legal Professionals'. As part of this Module, students may be required to attend communications workshops outside of class time. Students need to ensure that they are available to attend these workshops.

### (b) Academic Standards

As a university student your work is expected to comply with universal academic standards. This means that all work must be well researched and thoroughly referenced. The method of referencing legal work is set out in the Australian Guide to Legal Citation (AGLC). Students can access the current edition of the AGLC here: [law.unimelb.edu.au/mulr/aglc/about](http://law.unimelb.edu.au/mulr/aglc/about) You will learn more about this referencing style in your first year of Law School.

Referencing your work adequately is particularly important. A failure to do so may lead to a claim of plagiarism, for which significant penalties may apply – including being permanently excluded from the University. **Plagiarism** involves submitting or presenting work as if it were your own, when in fact, it is not. It also includes submitting the same piece of work for two different units.

Allowing someone to copy from you is also **academic misconduct**. You must not feel pressured to supply a friend with information which you know may get you into trouble. If you are in this position, direct your friend to the strict policies on plagiarism at [westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current\\_students/student\\_misconduct\\_rule](https://westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/student_misconduct_rule).

Of course, the same thing applies if you find a USB stick or a printed paper in the library or computer lab. Don't look at it! It is not worth it.

**Collusion** is another form of academic misconduct for which penalties apply. If you have an individual assignment, you may discuss generally with other students what the assignment requires you to do, and how you are going with it. However, it may be regarded as collusion if you have detailed discussions, look at each other's drafts or write the assignment together.

### c) Professional Standards

It is important for lawyers to maintain high standards of professional conduct at all times. University is a good place to practise and develop these professional skills. Students are expected to be polite and courteous in their dealings with members of academic and professional staff, and with other students. This extends to behaviour in class, as well as online.

Prior to emailing any member of staff, you should check to see whether the information you need is already available, for example, in this Handbook, on the University website, in the Unit Learning Guide or on vUWS. You must always use your student email address to communicate with the University. All emails should contain full student details, including your full name and student number. You should ensure that you address academic staff appropriately (eg Dear Dr, Professor, Ms/Mr) in your email correspondence. Academics and professional staff will not respond to emails which do not follow appropriate email protocol.

Students who participate in online forums of any description (including Discussion Boards on vUWS/study groups on social media) should ensure that they follow the netiquette guide available at: [vuws.westernsydney.edu.au/bbcswebdav/institution/ELearning%20Resources/Global%20Resources/Online%20Netiquette%20Video.mp4](https://vuws.westernsydney.edu.au/bbcswebdav/institution/ELearning%20Resources/Global%20Resources/Online%20Netiquette%20Video.mp4)

Inappropriate conduct in online forums can constitute student misconduct at University: [westernsydney.edu.au/about\\_uws/leadership/governance/student\\_misconduct\\_rule](https://westernsydney.edu.au/about_uws/leadership/governance/student_misconduct_rule)

### (d) Submitting and Collecting Assignments

To assist students in recognising whether their work is adequately referenced, all written assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via vUWS and Turnitin – online text-matching software that highlights similarities between your text and another text.

Most subjects will use Grademark, which enables your teachers to mark and comment upon your assignment/essays online. The work will then be returned to you electronically.

**(e) Sitting Examinations**

Some subjects will have a mid-session exam, which will usually be held in class time or on a Saturday. Please see your subject's Learning Guide for more details. Final examinations are held during the formal exam period, which usually commences two weeks after the last week of session. You can find out when the exam period is scheduled, and the exam timetable, via your MyWestern portal [westernsydney.edu.au/mywestern](https://westernsydney.edu.au/mywestern)

**(f) Assessment Results**

Marks for assignments will be displayed via the MyGrades page on vUWS. If your mark does not appear, contact the Subject Coordinator for that subject.

Marks for final exams will be included in your overall result, which is released on a set date across the whole University.

If you are unhappy with your results, you should read the feedback on your assignment or in the case of an exam, seek feedback from the Subject Coordinator. Having received the feedback, refer to the Learning Guide and consider how you performed against the criteria and standards outlined. If you are still dissatisfied, or you feel some error has been made, you may consider seeking a review of your grade. See [westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current\\_students/results/review\\_of\\_grade](https://westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/results/review_of_grade). This is NOT a re-mark, it is simply a decision as to whether there has been a mistake in the marking or calculating process.

**2. WITHDRAWING FROM A SUBJECT**

Sometimes, first year students find it difficult to cope with the workload of a law degree. This is a marathon-not a sprint. We would rather you succeed in 2 or 3 subjects than be disappointed with your results in 4. If you are finding a full load of subjects challenging, you might want to consider dropping one. If you do this before census date you will not incur any academic or financial penalty.

You should consult Student Central prior to withdrawing from a subject, to make sure you follow the correct procedure: [westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current\\_students/services\\_and\\_facilities/student\\_central](https://westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/services_and_facilities/student_central)

Please note that students commencing in Autumn semester must study Fundamentals of Australian Law. You cannot drop Fundamentals of Australian Law and remain in your other law subjects.

Students commencing in Spring semester must study Fundamentals of Australian Law, and should consult the Course Handbook for their relevant program, and contact the Academic Program Advisor if they have questions about their subject selection. See: <https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/> and email [courseadvicelaw@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:courseadvicelaw@westernsydney.edu.au)

### 3. STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

One of the best ways to survive and thrive at the University is to become engaged in the activities on offer. Students who make connections with other students feel less isolated and more confident at university, which positively impacts on their studies. The University has a range of support services and initiatives to help students settle into university life. Some of these are run by the School of Law, while others are run by the University and are available to all students.

Below is an outline of what is available.

#### (a) MATES

MATES is a voluntary program which provides first year students with an opportunity to connect with other new students and mentors in later years of study. This helps new students meet and network with other students as well as gain knowledge and skills to settle into life at university.

Every attempt is made to match a participating first year Law student with a later year Law student.

If you would like to request a MATE, register at [westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current\\_students/services\\_and\\_facilities/student\\_welfare\\_services2/mates\\_@\\_western](https://westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/services_and_facilities/student_welfare_services2/mates_@_western)

#### (b) Western Sydney Law Students' Association (WLSA)

The WLSA is an association run by Western Sydney Law students. It hosts various events throughout the year, including practical legal skills workshops, mooted competitions, careers events, industry competitions and socials. The WLSA has a significant presence within the legal community, both within and outside of the University. Their events are always highly anticipated and very successful.

Membership is voluntary but highly recommended. For more information see:

[wlsa.com.au](https://wlsa.com.au)  
[facebook.com/WesternSydneyLSA](https://facebook.com/WesternSydneyLSA)

#### (c) First Year Law Social Events

Early in the session the WLSA organises a function for first year Law students, giving them a chance to meet each other and senior Law students informally. Details will be posted on the LawvUWS site.

Other events are organised during the academic year and we encourage students to attend. Law school is less daunting when you have others to talk to.

#### (d) 'At Risk' Program

This program is designed to identify and make contact with students who may be struggling with the workload of university. During your first session, the first year team will monitor your attendance and your academic results. A senior Law student will then contact students who, through poor attendance or poor marks, appear to be having difficulties. We are concerned for your welfare and we want to help you succeed in your studies.

**(e) Individual Consultation**

Dr Amira Aftab, School of Law, Director of Academic Program, is available for individual consultation with first year Law students by phone, email or face to face. Contact [a.aftab@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:a.aftab@westernsydney.edu.au)

**(f) Academic Workshops and Programs**

If you do not feel confident that your previous studies have adequately prepared you for studying at university, some free academic preparation programs are available through the University. There are also several workshops held throughout the year to assist you with academic reading, writing and researching, as well as assistance with the University's computer systems.

Face-to-face workshops are available for academic literacy and grammar.

A series of online workshops are also available including:

- Online writing and literacy support (Library Study Smart) at [westernsydney.edu.au/studysmart](http://westernsydney.edu.au/studysmart)
- Returning to Learning ([westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current\\_students/services\\_and\\_facilities/study\\_and\\_life\\_skills\\_workshops](http://westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/services_and_facilities/study_and_life_skills_workshops))
- Introduction to e learning online workshops ([westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current\\_students/services\\_and\\_facilities/study\\_and\\_life\\_skills\\_workshops](http://westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/services_and_facilities/study_and_life_skills_workshops))
- Study, money and life skills online workshops and ebooks, ([logincms.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current\\_students/services\\_and\\_facilities/study\\_and\\_life\\_skills\\_workshops/?a=365511](http://logincms.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/services_and_facilities/study_and_life_skills_workshops/?a=365511))

See [westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current\\_students/services\\_and\\_facilities](http://westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/services_and_facilities)

**(g) The Peer Assisted Learning (PASS) Program**

PASS is a program in which a later year Law student provides guided study to a study group made up of first year students. It is offered to all first year Law students in one or more first year subjects. More information on PASS is provided at Orientation and will also be posted on the relevant first year subject's vUWS site early in the session. [westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current\\_students/services\\_and\\_facilities/study\\_and\\_life\\_skills\\_workshops/pass\\_-\\_peer\\_assisted\\_study\\_sessions](http://westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/services_and_facilities/study_and_life_skills_workshops/pass_-_peer_assisted_study_sessions)

**(h) Counselling**

If you are having personal difficulties at home, in your relationship or at university, or you otherwise wish to talk to the University Counsellor, this service is offered free of charge and is entirely confidential. There is a counselling service on each campus and you can request an appointment by calling **9852 5199** or emailing [counselling@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:counselling@westernsydney.edu.au)



For more information see [westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current\\_students/services\\_and\\_facilities/counselling\\_services](https://westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/services_and_facilities/counselling_services)

There is also helpful information about health and wellbeing on [westernsydney.edu.au/wellbeing\\_mentalhealth](https://westernsydney.edu.au/wellbeing_mentalhealth)

In addition, the Chaplaincy offers a free and confidential service, providing spiritual guidance and support. It is available to people of all faiths and none. It also provides facilities for meeting, prayer, reflection and meditation. For more information see [westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current\\_students/services\\_and\\_facilities/chaplaincy](https://westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/services_and_facilities/chaplaincy)

### **(i) Disability Support**

The Disability Service provides confidential advice and support for students who have a disability or chronic health condition. Where a student is affected by a disability or chronic illness, the Disability Service will assist the student in arranging reasonable adjustments (such as providing special equipment or a note taker or preparing subject materials in an alternative format). For more information see [westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current\\_students/services\\_and\\_facilities/disability\\_service](https://westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/services_and_facilities/disability_service)

### **(j) Financial, Welfare and Advocacy Support**

The Student Welfare Service provides professionally trained staff to help you work through the unexpected problems that sometimes catch you by surprise. Student Welfare staff can assist you with advocacy, financial assistance, accommodation issues, textbook vouchers, sexual health concerns and bullying. For more information see [westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current\\_students/services\\_and\\_facilities/student\\_welfare\\_services2](https://westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/services_and_facilities/student_welfare_services2)

### **(k) Careers Service**

Careers can help you with everything from finding a part-time job, placement or internship, through to helping you with preparing your resume or assisting you with career planning and development. These free services are available to all current students and recent graduates. For more information see [westernsydney.edu.au/careers](https://westernsydney.edu.au/careers)

### **(l) Student Legal Services (SLS)**

The Student Legal Service is a free legal advice and referral service. The SLS is available to all current domestic and international students of Western Sydney University or Western Sydney University, The College.

The service is provided by a qualified lawyer who, depending on the semester, may be helped by law students completing a clinical education unit and/ or law graduates completing their Practical Legal Training.

[westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current\\_students/services\\_and\\_facilities/student\\_legal\\_service](https://westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/services_and_facilities/student_legal_service)

# Progression Through Your Studies

During your years as a Law student you may have specific questions about the progression of your studies. Below is an outline of the more common questions that students want to know.

Information about progression in your particular law course, and the order in which you should study your Units, can be obtained through the University Handbook: <https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/>

If the information you need is not located here, you can contact [courseadvicelaw@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:courseadvicelaw@westernsydney.edu.au).

## (a) What are the core Undergraduate (LLB) (compulsory) Law subjects I will be required to complete?\*

Fundamentals of Australian Law

Criminal Law

Legal Analysis and Critique

Torts Law

Contracts

Professional Responsibility and Legal Ethics

Alternative Dispute Resolution

Administrative Law

Government and Public Law

Equity & Trusts

Law of Associations

Remedies

Constitutional Law

Property Law

Criminal Procedure and Evidence

Civil Procedure and Arbitration



\*The core subjects studied by Juris Doctor (JD) students are different. See: <https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/programs/juris-doctor/#sequencetext>

## (b) What alternate Undergraduate (LLB) (elective) Law subjects can I do?\*

Advanced Family Law	International Climate Law
Advanced Taxation Law	International Criminal Law
Advanced Torts and Civil Wrongs	International Environmental Law
Advocacy	International Trade Law
Anti-Discrimination Law	Islam, International Law and Human Rights
Australian Competition Law	Issues in the Criminal Justice System
Australian Consumer Law	Judicial Internship
Banking and Securities Law	Jurisprudence
Bioethics	Law Economics and Business Ethics
Clinical Legal Placement	Law and Public Policy (Development and Implementation)
Comparative Law: Legal Systems of the world	Law, Economics, Ethics and Change
Conflicts of Law	Law of Employment
Corporate Governance	Law of International Organisations
Cyber Law and Justice	Law of the Sea
Designing Law Apps for Access	Law Honours Dissertation
Elder Law	Law's Self Understanding
Family Law	Legal Research and Methodology
Family Dispute Resolution	Media Law
Financial Services Law	Mediation
First Peoples and the Australian Legal System	Medical Law
First Nations Peoples' Access to Justice Clinic	Mental Health Law
Foundations of Chinese Law	Moot Court
Foundations of Indian Law	Planning and Environment Law
Human Rights Law	Practising in the Public Interest
Immigration and Refugee Law	Public Health Law
Independent Study (Law)	Public International Law
Information and Data Governance Law and Regulation	Revenue Law
Insolvency Law and Policy	Space Law – Commercial Aspects
Intellectual Property	Street Law Clinic
International Business Transactions Law	Technology, Innovation and the Law
	Work, Health and Safety Law
	Wills and Succession

## (c) Can I get credit for previous studies that I have done?

This is known as 'Advanced Standing'. You can apply for Advanced Standing through the School of Law for both Law and non-Law subjects. To obtain Advanced Standing for a Law subject, the previous study must have been part of an accredited law degree (this excludes law related business degrees, for example). Work experience is not applicable to Advanced Standing for Law subjects but it may be relevant to non-Law subjects.

For more information, see: [westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current\\_students/enrolment/advanced\\_standing](https://westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/enrolment/advanced_standing)

Note that not all LLB alternate subjects are offered every year or on each campus. More information about subjects can be found in the Handbook at <https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/>. For a full list of LLB alternate subjects, see: <https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/programs/bachelor-laws-non-graduate-entry/#sequencetext>

The alternate subjects studied by Juris Doctor (JD) students are different. See: <https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/programs/juris-doctor/#sequencetext>

### **(d) Can I study a subject at another institution?**

Students may apply to study a subject at another institution, both in Australia and overseas (known as cross institutional study), if it is a subject that is not offered at Western Sydney University or where the student is temporarily moving interstate for a period of time. Students must apply and obtain permission before they commence the study, otherwise they will be required to pay up front full fees at the other institution and risk not being able to count this study towards their Western Sydney University degree. If you are granted permission to study a subject at another university, you will be granted unspecified credit (i.e. satisfactorily completed or unsatisfactorily completed).

For more information see [westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current\\_students/applying\\_to\\_study/cross\\_institutional\\_studies](http://westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/applying_to_study/cross_institutional_studies)

### **(e) Can I enrol in subjects over summer?**

The period between Spring and Autumn sessions is the Summer session. In your first year, you may not be eligible to complete any Law subjects in your first Summer Session of study. This is due to progression requirements and restrictions. You should check the pre-requisites for any Summer subjects. You are however eligible to study subjects for your second degree (if you are studying a combined Law degree). If you want to study up to two subjects during the summer session, they will be covered by HECS just like your other subjects. You enrol into Summer Session the same way as you enrol for Autumn and Spring sessions. See [westernsydney.edu.au/summer](http://westernsydney.edu.au/summer)

### **(f) Can I study at a foreign university?**

The University enables students to study either one or two sessions overseas at specified universities. The arrangement between the overseas university and Western Sydney University, known as international exchange, is that the Western Sydney University student pays the Western Sydney University fees rather than the fee at the overseas university. For more information see [westernsydney.edu.au/globalmobility](http://westernsydney.edu.au/globalmobility) or email [exchange@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:exchange@westernsydney.edu.au)

### **(g) Can I do Honours?**

If you are an undergraduate (LLB) student, Honours in Law is a special commendation that appears on your University degree and academic record. Rather than 'B.Laws' after your name, your degree is listed as 'B.Laws(Hons)'. It is a distinguishing feature that stays with you for life. Completing your degree with Honours is an effective way of making you more competitive in the job market. Anyone wishing to do further study should consider doing Law Honours Dissertation.

Unlike other courses, Honours in Law does not require an extra year of study – Honours takes the place of three alternate subjects in your final year of study. Instead, you take Legal Research and Methodology and Law Honours Dissertation.

Students receive training in research methodology and then must write a research dissertation of 8,000-12,000 words on a legal topic, under the supervision of an academic in the School of Law.

These subjects give students the opportunity to further develop and refine their legal research and writing skills and to explore and analyse a legal topic of their choice to produce a high quality piece of academic work.

For more information see [westernsydney.edu.au/law/school\\_of\\_law/honours](http://westernsydney.edu.au/law/school_of_law/honours) or email [lawhonours@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:lawhonours@westernsydney.edu.au)

### **(h) Can I change programs?**

The process for changing programs depends on which program you are changing to. If you want to change from a combined degree to a straight Law degree you must complete a Course (Program) Variation Application. See [westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current\\_students/enrolment/varying\\_your\\_course](http://westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/enrolment/varying_your_course)

If you want to change to a program with a different UAC entry code you must reapply through either MySR or UAC. If you are successful in changing your program, you may apply for transfer credits for the subjects you have completed in your initial program. For more information see [westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current\\_students/enrolment/adding,\\_dropping\\_and\\_changing\\_units](http://westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/enrolment/adding,_dropping_and_changing_units) or email [courseadvicelaw@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:courseadvicelaw@westernsydney.edu.au)

# Campus Maps



## Parramatta

[westernsydney.edu.au/  
future/our-campuses/  
parramatta-south-campus](https://westernsydney.edu.au/future/our-campuses/parramatta-south-campus)



## Parramatta City

[westernsydney.edu.au/  
future/our-campuses/  
parramatta-city-campus](https://westernsydney.edu.au/future/our-campuses/parramatta-city-campus)



## Campbelltown

[westernsydney.edu.au/  
future/our-campuses/  
campbelltown-campus](https://westernsydney.edu.au/future/our-campuses/campbelltown-campus)

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