

EPHUMA 247: Law in Action

Online

Semester 2 - 2023



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA

The Pathways and Academic Learning Support Centre recognises and respects the unique history and culture of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their unbroken relationship with the lands and the waters of Australia over millennia. We are dedicated to reconciliation and to offering opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to access and succeed in higher education. The Centre is committed to providing a culturally safe and inclusive environment for all.

OVERVIEW

Course Description

Introduction to three specific areas of law: crime, consumer guarantees and the tort of negligence. Students learn about these legal areas and also how to assess legal problems and structure and answer hypothetical questions in law. The course also aims to explain and develop the critical analysis, researching and referencing skills needed for undergraduate study at university.

Contact Hours

Self-Directed Learning

Self-Directed

2 hour(s) per Week for 12 Weeks

Self-Directed learning is equivalent to face-to-face contact hours. It involves engagement with course materials that are delivered at a time that suits you via short videos, course notes, podcasts, readings and other activities.

Tutorial

Online

1 hour(s) per Week for 12 Weeks

Workshop

Face to Face On Campus

6 hour(s) per Term Full Term

Unit Weighting

10

Workload

Students are required to spend on average 120-140 hours of effort (contact and non-contact) including assessments per 10 unit course.

COURSE OUTLINE

www.newcastle.edu.au

CRICOS Provider 00109J

CONTACTS

Course Coordinator	Ms Susie Wright Susie.Wright@newcastle.edu.au Consultation: Please email to schedule an appointment.	
Teaching Staff	Other teaching staff will be advised on the course Canvas site.	
School Office	Callaghan Ground Floor, General Purpose Building (GP) Ph: 02 4921 5558 enabling@newcastle.edu.au	Ourimbah HO 168, Humanities Building Ph: 02 4348 4076 enabling@newcastle.edu.au

SYLLABUS

Course Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sources and divisions of the law• Criminology• Murder/manslaughter• Criminal defences• Consumer guarantees• Negligence• Academic integrity and referencing• Research skills and effective use of the university library• Analysis of legal problems and critical thinking skills
Course Learning Outcomes	<p>On successful completion of this course, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Define the categories, elements, defences and causes of crime.2. Describe two civil law areas in which legal disputes commonly arise: negligence and consumer guarantees.3. Apply academic, research, referencing and writing skills needed for undergraduate study at university.4. Locate, organise, and analyse legal information from a variety of sources including legislation and cases.5. Apply problem solving methods to identify, analyse, and explain areas of law covered in the course.
Course Materials	All course materials will be provided on the course Canvas site.

SCHEDULE

Week	Week Begins	Lecture Topic	Tutorial Activity	Assessment Due
1	17 Jul	Consumer law outline	Welcome tutorial	
2	24 Jul	Consumer guarantees	Problem question exercises	Quiz 1
3	31 Jul	Issue, Rule, Application, Conclusion (IRAC)	Problem question exercises	Quiz 2
4	7 Aug	Introduction to Crime	Assessment 2 discussion	Quiz 3
5	14 Aug	Criminology	Journal exercise	Quiz 4 Assessment 2 9pm Sunday 20 August
6	21 Aug	Murder	Case analysis	Quiz 5
7	28 Aug	Manslaughter	Problem question exercises	Quiz 6
8	4 Sep	Defences	Assessment 3 discussion	Quiz 7
9	11 Sep	Torts & Negligence Duty of care	Problem question exercises	Quiz 8 Assessment 3 9pm Sunday 17 September
10	18 Sep	Breach of duty of care	Problem question exercises	No Quiz
Mid Term Break				
Mid Term Break				
11	9 Oct	Causation & scope of liability	Problem question exercises	Quiz 9
12	16 Oct	Defences and damages	Assessment 4 discussion	Quiz 10
13	23 Oct	No lectures/Spare		Assessment 4 9pm Sunday 29 October
Examination Period - No Formal Exam for this course				
Examination Period				

ASSESSMENTS

This course has 4 assessments. Each assessment is described in more detail in the sections below.

	Assessment Name	Due Date	Involvement	Weighting	Learning Outcomes
1	Online Weekly Quizzes	Every Sunday at 9pm except weeks 1, 10 & 13	Individual	30%	1, 2, 5
2	Problem Based Learning Question 1	9pm Sunday 20 August	Individual	15%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
3	Writing, Referencing and Research Assignment	9pm Sunday 17 September	Individual	25%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
4	Problem Based Learning Question 2	9pm Sunday 29 October.	Individual	30%	2, 3, 4, 5

Late Submissions

The mark for an assessment item submitted after the designated time on the due date, without an approved extension of time, will be reduced by 5% of the possible maximum mark for that assessment item for each day or part day that the assessment item is late. Note: this applies equally to week and weekend days.

Assessment 1 – Online Weekly Quizzes

Assessment Type	Written Assignment
Description	These quizzes are a self-study task designed with activities for students to complete in their own time based on topics that have been covered in class which allows students to develop research and summary skills. It also establishes a weekly revision and study regime that is essential for undergraduate study.
Weighting	30%
Due Date	Every Sunday, 9pm except weeks 1, 10 and 13.
Submission Method	Online
Assessment Criteria	Marks for correct answers
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	One time view after submission.

Assessment 2 – Problem Based Learning Question 1

Assessment Type	Case Study/Problem Based Learning
Description	1100 (+/-10%) word problem-based learning question. This will involve identifying the relevant facts or issues, identifying the relevant area of the law and then a consideration of the elements which must be established to succeed in an action regarding consumer guarantees.
Weighting	15%
Due Date	9pm Sunday 20th August
Submission Method	Online
Assessment Criteria	Rubric in Canvas
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	Individual and group

Assessment 3 - Writing, Referencing and Research

Assessment Type	Written Assessment
Description	1200 (+/-10%) word written assessment allowing for a formal evaluation of student's depth of referencing, writing and research skills.
Weighting	25%
Due Date	9pm Sunday 17th September
Submission Method	Online
Assessment Criteria	Rubric in Canvas
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	Individual and group

Assessment 4 - Problem Based Learning Question 2/Take home exam

Assessment Type	Case Study / Problem Based Learning
Description	2000 (+/- 10%) word problem-based learning question. This will involve identifying the relevant facts or issues, identifying the relevant area of the law and then a consideration of the elements which must be established to succeed in an action regarding negligence.
Weighting	30%
Due Date	9pm Sunday 29 October
Submission Method	Online
Assessment Criteria	Rubric in Canvas
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	Not returned

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Grading Scheme

This course is graded as follows:

Range of Marks	Grade	Description
85-100	High Distinction (HD)	Outstanding standard indicating comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an outstanding level of academic achievement; mastery of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
75-84	Distinction (D)	Excellent standard indicating a very high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a very high level of academic ability; sound development of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
65-74	Credit (C)	Good standard indicating a high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a high level of academic achievement; reasonable development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
50-64	Pass (P)	Satisfactory standard indicating an adequate knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an adequate level of academic achievement; satisfactory development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
0-49	Fail (FF)	Failure to satisfactorily achieve learning outcomes. If all compulsory course components are not completed the mark will be zero. A fail grade may also be awarded following disciplinary action.

*Skills are those identified for the purposes of assessment task(s).

Communication Methods

Email is the principal form of communication at the university and within this course. Always use your student email (NUmail), rather than a private email address, and check this regularly. As Course Coordinator I will try to respond to your email within three (3) working days. I will not normally respond to emails over the weekends. Please be courteous in your email communication and in the online space. The University of Newcastle has a [Social Media Communication Guideline](#) that covers all communications in the University for staff and students.

Canvas is used to distribute course material, announcements and other information. It is also used for online quizzes and to allow students to track their individual progressive assessment results throughout the semester via Grades. Recordings of the lectures will also be available.

Discussions: You can ask questions about minor issues on the Discussion forums. Students are strongly encouraged to use these to communicate with each other, discuss issues relating to the course, and solve minor problems.

Additional Contact Details

If you have any questions about your course, please speak with your course coordinator, lecturer or tutor first.

For general enquiries, please contact the Pathways and Academic Learning Support Centre Office or your Student Liaison Officer. Additional contacts will be available on your Canvas site.

Pathways and Academic Learning Support Centre Office

Callaghan
Ground Floor, General Purpose Building (GP)
Ph: 02 4921 5558
enabling@newcastle.edu.au

Ourimbah
HO 168, Humanities Building
Ph: 02 4348 4076
enabling@newcastle.edu.au

Student Liaison Officer

PALS-SLO@newcastle.edu.au

Yapug	Indigenous Enabling Learning Advisor Hannah Pipe Birabahn Building Ph: 02 4921 7952 Hannah.Pipe@newcastle.edu.au	Program Convenor Dan Collins SAS-217, Birabahn Building Ph: 02 4055 3266 Daniel.Collins@newcastle.edu.au
Attendance and Engagement	<p>In addition to viewing lecture recordings and attending online tutorials, out-of-class study and related work will require an additional commitment of up to 10 hours per week of reading, preparation, and study time over the semester. Students are required to spend on average 120-140 hours of effort (contact and non-contact including assessment) per semester per 10 unit course.</p> <p>To maximise your learning opportunities, you should read all relevant material prior to attending lectures and tutorials.</p> <p>It is strongly recommended that you attend your online tutorials every week. Our data shows that you will get better results if you attend these classes with your peers. If you do have to miss a class, you should catch up on any missed work by accessing recordings available on your Canvas site. If you cannot attend at least 50% of your tutorials, please contact your Course Coordinator or Student Liaison Officer and discuss the options.</p> <p>A plan of regular revision throughout the semester is also strongly recommended to help you manage your time, consolidate information and retain that knowledge for the duration of the course and beyond.</p> <p>Assessment items have been designed to reinforce and revise the course material, and ensure you are up to date with course content. You are required to submit all assessable items by the due dates unless prior arrangements have been made.</p>	
Timetable	Your timetable for this course is available via the myUni Student Portal and can also be found here .	
Software	Free Microsoft Office software is available to enrolled students here and includes 5 TB of free cloud storage with OneDrive.	
Written Assessment Word Limits	Word limits for your written assessments includes headings, sub-heading, in-text citations, quotes and referencing but does not include the list of references, appendices and footnotes. You will not receive a penalty for exceeding the word limit (there is a tolerance of up to 10%), but any work after the maximum word limit may not be included within the allocation of marks.	
Adverse Circumstances	<p>The University acknowledges the right of students to seek consideration for the impact of allowable adverse circumstances that may affect their performance in assessment item(s).</p> <p>Applications for special consideration due to adverse circumstances will be made using the online Adverse Circumstances system where:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. the assessment item is a major assessment item; or2. the assessment item is a minor assessment item and the Course Co-ordinator has specified in the Course Outline that students may apply the online Adverse Circumstances system;3. you are requesting a change of placement; or4. the course has a compulsory attendance requirement. <p>Before applying you must refer to the Adverse Circumstances Affecting Assessment Items Procedure.</p> <p>In the Pathways and Academic Learning Support Centre, applications for Adverse Circumstances must be lodged via the online Adverse Circumstances system for all individual assessment items worth 30% or greater.</p>	

Oral Interviews (Vivas)	As part of the evaluation process of any assessment item in this course an oral examination (viva) may be conducted. The purpose of the oral examination is to verify the authorship of the material submitted in response to the assessment task. The oral examination will be conducted in accordance with the principles set out in the Oral Examination (viva) Procedure . In cases where the oral examination reveals the assessment item may not be the student's own work the case will be dealt with under the Student Conduct Rule .
Academic Misconduct	All students are required to meet the academic integrity standards of the University. These standards reinforce the importance of integrity and honesty in an academic environment. Academic Integrity policies apply to all students of the University in all modes of study and in all locations. Please refer to the Student Academic Integrity Policy .
Student Support	A wide range of help, advice and support sessions will be available during your studies and emails will be sent throughout the semester as a reminder at key times.
Course Evaluation	Each year feedback is sought from students and other stakeholders about the courses offered in the University for the purposes of identifying areas of excellence and potential improvement.
Important Policy Information	The Help button in the Canvas Navigation menu contains helpful information for using the Learning Management System. Students should familiarise themselves with the policies and procedures that support a safe and respectful environment at the University.
Workplace Health and Safety Requirements	There are no specific WH&S requirements for this course.

This course outline was approved by the Director, PALS. No alteration of this course outline is permitted without Director approval. If a change is approved, students will be notified and an amended course outline will be provided in the same manner as the original.
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