Legal Studies
Assessment Task Booklet

Mr. Devlin

In this booklet, you will find

1. Assessment Procedures in HSIE
2. The Assessment Grid for Legal Studies
3. Assessment Task Notifications
4. Syllabus documents for the modules to be studied
1. Assessment Procedures in HSIE

PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT IN HSIE

The HSIE Faculty will follow the policy and procedures outlined in the AHS Assessment Policy and Procedures Booklet.

Please note in particular the following points:

- If you have a legitimate reason why you will be unable to achieve an assessment deadline, you may be eligible for special consideration on your task. You must notify your teacher and negotiate this well **BEFORE the due date** of your task. You may require supporting documentation.

- All tasks are generally required to be submitted in **PAPER** form, **NOT** electronically, unless your task specifically states otherwise. **Be organised.**

- Be aware that computer or electronic failure are **NOT** considered by NESA to be a valid reason for a late or non-completion of tasks. *Always, always, always back up your work.*

- Students are required to submit their tasks before the end of school day **ON THE DUE DATE** and it will therefore be enforced in HSIE that all tasks must be received by **2.50pm**.

- Failure to submit tasks on or before the due date will result in a deduction of marks. **20%** will be deducted for each day that the task is late. After 5 school days, students will receive a zero mark and be issued an academic warning letter. Students will still have to **submit the task to clear the warning** and to be able to complete the course.
Exceptions include the following;

- **ILLNESS** fully covered by **DOCTORS CERTIFICATE. You must see your classroom teacher / Head Teacher HSIE before school the morning of your return and present your paperwork.**

- **MISADVENTURE** covered by a **MISADVENTURE FORM. See your classroom teacher / Head Teacher HSIE before school the morning of your return** to school and present your paperwork.

Non-Serious Attempts and Malpractice.

- **NESA** requires that all student assessments submitted are a serious attempt of the task. **Non-Serious Attempts** attract and **N-Award Warning Letter** and you will be required to **resubmit the task** to ensure you meet NESA standards of ‘diligence’. Please be aware you must make a ‘**reasonable attempt**’ of all assessment tasks. Your teacher will specifically advise you of what constitutes a ‘reasonable attempt’.

- **Malpractice** is a serious matter and includes plagiarism and cheating. In HSIE, there is a significant research component across our subjects and it is important to pay particular attention to **plagiarism** and **accurate referencing**. ANY infraction to NESA policy will result in a **ZERO mark** on the task, an **N-Award Warning Letter** and you will be required to **resubmit the task**. Be aware that further consequences can include Executive intervention, suspension and formal reporting. Please refresh and ensure you understand your obligations as outlined during the compulsory “All my Own Work” program or seek advice from your teacher if you are unsure of your obligations.

For further information on Ambarvale High School Assessment requirements. Please refer to your HSC Assessment Booklet for further information.
2. Assessment Grid for Legal Studies

Faculty: HSIE            Course: LEGAL STUDIES

In this Subject you will cover:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CORE part 1 – The Legal System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORE part 2 – The individual and the law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORE part 3 – Law in Practice</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Course Themes:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Theme 1 – Nature and functions of law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theme 2 – Laws impact on individuals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theme 3 – How the law operates in practice</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CORE Part 1: The legal system:**

This component focuses on the students developing an understanding of the nature and functions of law through the examination of the law-making processes and institutions.

**CORE Part 2: The individual and the law:**

Students investigate the way in which the law impacts on individuals by referring to legal and non-legal institutions, laws and media reports.

**CORE Part 3: Law in Practice:**

Students investigate contemporary issues that illustrate how the law operates in practice.
### Preliminary HSC Course Assessment Components

A  Knowledge and understanding of course content.
B  Analysis and evaluation.
C  Inquiry and research.
D  Communication of Legal Studies information, issues and ideas in appropriate forms.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPONENTS</th>
<th>WEIGHTING %</th>
<th>TASK 1</th>
<th>TASK 2</th>
<th>TASK 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Due: Term 1 - Week 8</td>
<td>Due: Term 2 - Week 5</td>
<td>Due: Term 3 - Weeks 9 -10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Media file: Research/Case Study</td>
<td>Case Study: In Class Essay</td>
<td>Yearly Examination</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OUTCOMES</td>
<td></td>
<td>P3, P4, P6, P8, P10</td>
<td>P1, P2, P5, P9</td>
<td>P1, P2, P4,P7, P9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Marks</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td><strong>30%</strong></td>
<td><strong>30%</strong></td>
<td><strong>40%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Legal Studies Course Outcomes:

P1. Identifies and applies legal concepts and terminology
P2. Describes the key features of Australian and international law
P3. Describes the operation of domestic and international legal systems
P4. Discusses the effectiveness of the legal system in addressing issues
P5. Describe the role of law in encouraging cooperation and resolving conflict, as well as initiating and responding to change
P6. Explains the nature of the interrelationship between the legal system and society
P7. Evaluates the effectiveness of the law in achieving justice
P8. Locates, selects and organises legal information from a variety of sources including legislation, cases, media, international instruments and documents
P9. Communicates legal information using well-structured responses
### Notice of Assessment Task

**Preliminary HSC Legal Studies**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of initial notification:</th>
<th>Date of submission:</th>
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<tbody>
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</table>

**Task Number: 1 – MEDIA FILE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Allowed:</th>
<th>Weighting of task:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 WEEKS</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Course component/Focus area/Topic/Module:** Part I - The Legal System

**Task Description:** MEDIA FILE

Your task is to prepare a Media File on current events and issues which relate to different aspects of the law. The articles must relate to current legal events in Australia (preferably NSW). You will need to -

- Use original articles and sources (from newspapers or periodicals) or articles you find on the internet.
- Provide both the date of the article/media item and the name of the publication or site where you sourced the item.
- Include the original articles along-side your written information as part of your assignment.
- Address all three sections of the Media File Task.
- **Read the instructions carefully in each section to make sure you meet the outcomes of the task.**

**Part A - (10 marks)**
• Select 2 (two) newspaper articles on general legal matters. These articles should be no more than 12 months old and relate to one of the following areas; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples’ customary laws, the constitution, statute law, courts, international law, or private (civil law).

• For each article write a case summary of what the article is about, why this is a legal issue and what this case means for the Australian Legal System. (Approximately 200 words).

Part B - (10 marks)

• Select 2 (two) articles which relate to a criminal matter. These articles should be no more than 12 months old.

• Write a brief report (half a page) for each article that addresses the following;
  a) Provide a brief summary of the facts of the case
  b) Identifies all parties involved
  c) Identifies the criminal charges laid against the accused and the level of court where the case will be presented.
  d) Discusses the factors the judge/magistrate would consider in sentencing. For instance, the nature of the crime, any mitigating (special) circumstances; prior convictions (antecedents); the age of the offender; a psychiatrist’s report; the pre-sentence report.
  e) Discusses the resolution of the case. What sentence was passed or is likely to be passed?

Part C: (10 marks)

Reasons for law reform may include changing social values, new concepts of justice, failure of an existing law or due to new technology.

• From media reports (print or audio/visual) select an Australian legal issue where there has been change or reform. This may include; young drivers and the law, sport and the law, drug use and the law, animal welfare, gang laws, euthanasia, use of DNA and forensics, abortion, same sex marriage, anti-terrorism laws, sexual assault laws or anything else of interest.

• You should provide at least 3 media sources to support your investigation of this issue.

• Write a report (one page or approximately 500-800 words) that addresses the following;
  a) Summarise the Legal Issue
  b) Identifies who the law affects
  c) Identifies the different perspectives (points of view) concerning the matter
  d) Outlines the conditions which gave rise to a change in the law – why the law changed or needs to be changed
  e) Identifies how the law can be, or was changed
  f) Assesses how effective the law reform process is in achieving ‘just’ outcomes with regard to this issue.
Outcomes assessed:

P1. identifies and applies legal concepts and terminology
P2. describes the key features of Australian and international law
P3. describes the operation of domestic and international legal systems
P4. discusses the effectiveness of the legal system in addressing issues
P5. describes the role of law in encouraging cooperation and resolving conflict, as well as initiating and responding to change
P6. explains the nature of the interrelationship between the legal system and society
P7. evaluates the effectiveness of the law in achieving justice
P8. locates, selects and organises legal information from a variety of sources including legislation, cases, media, international instruments and documents
P9. communicates legal information using well-structured responses
P10. accounts for differing perspectives and interpretations of legal information and issues

Notes:__________________________________________________________________________________
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## MARKING GUIDELINE:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRADE</th>
<th>CRITERIA</th>
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</table>
| A 26-30 | • Selects highly appropriate media sources and demonstrates an outstanding understanding of the issues presented in selected media.  
• Demonstrates an outstanding understanding of criminal proceedings and sentencing processes in the Australian Legal System.  
• Accurately identifies the conditions that give rise to law reform.  
• Thoroughly considers and evaluates the importance of different perspectives regarding a legal issue.  
• Usually relates contemporary legal issues to key themes including; justice (equity, fairness, access), the rule of law, relationship between institutions and jurisdictions, the reflection of social values and ethics, influences on the legal system and the process of change.  
• Presents an outstanding, well structured, cohesive response with an outstanding use of legal terminology and concepts. |
| B 20-25 | • Selects appropriate media sources and demonstrates a high understanding of key legal issues presented in selected media.  
• Demonstrates a high understanding of criminal proceedings and sentencing processes in the Australian Legal System.  
• Identifies most conditions that give rise to law reform.  
• Considers and evaluates the importance of different perspectives regarding a legal issue at a high standard.  
• Often relates contemporary legal issues to key themes including; justice (equity, fairness, access), the rule of law, relationship between institutions and jurisdictions, the reflection of social values and ethics, influences on the legal system and the process of change.  
• Presents a well structured, cohesive response of a high standard that includes proficient use of legal terminology and concepts. |
| C 13-19 | • Selection of sound media sources and demonstrates a sound understanding of key legal issues presented in selected media.  
• Demonstrates a sound understanding of criminal proceedings and sentencing processes in the Australian Legal System.  
• Soundly identifies conditions that give rise to law reform.  
• Soundly considers and provides some evaluation of the importance of different perspectives regarding a legal issue.  
• Can soundly relate contemporary legal issues to key themes including; justice (equity, fairness, access), the rule of law, relationship between institutions and jurisdictions, the reflection of social values and ethics, influences on the legal system and the process of change.  
• Presents a sound piece of writing that contains structure and cohesion and use of key legal terminology and concepts. |
| D 7-12 | • Selection of some appropriate media sources for review and demonstrates some understanding of key legal issues presented in selected media.  
• Demonstrates a basic understanding of criminal proceedings and/ or sentencing processes in the Australian Legal System.  
• Identifies some basic conditions that give rise to law reform.  
• Considers the importance of different perspectives regarding a legal issue at a basic level.  
• May make some basic reference to key themes including; justice (equity, fairness, access), the rule of law, relationship between institutions and jurisdictions, the reflection of social values and ethics, influences on the legal system and the process of change.  
• Presents a piece of writing that contains a basic structure and is occasionally cohesive. Some basic legal terminology is used at times. |
| E | • Inadequate media selected and limited understanding is demonstrated.  
• Limited understanding of criminal proceedings and sentencing processes.  
• A limited capacity or failure to identify conditions that give rise to law reform. |
- Limited or no discussion of perspectives regarding legal issues
- Limited or no discussion of legal themes.
- Limited written ability, structure, cohesion and use of legal terminology is demonstrated

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Outstanding</th>
<th>High</th>
<th>Sound</th>
<th>Basic</th>
<th>Limited</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Selection of appropriate media.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Demonstrated understanding of key legal issues presented in selected media.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Use of legal terminology and concepts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Demonstrated understanding of criminal proceedings in the Australian Legal System</td>
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<tr>
<td>Demonstrated understanding of sentencing processes in Australia.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Identifies conditions that give rise to law reform.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Considers the importance of different perspectives regarding a legal issue.</td>
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<td>Evaluates the effectiveness of law reform in Australia in achieving 'just' outcomes.</td>
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<td>Relates contemporary issues to key themes; including justice (equity, fairness, access), the rule of law, relationship between institutions and jurisdictions, the reflection of social values and ethics, influences on the legal system and the process of change.</td>
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Notice of Assessment Task
Preliminary HSC Legal Studies

Date of initial notification:  
Date of submission:  

Task Number:  2  

Time Allowed:  50 minutes  
Weighting of task: 30%  

Course component/Focus area/Topic/Module: The Individual and the Law

Task Description:

Students will research, draft and write an essay in response to the following question:

**QUESTION:**

*Technology is evolving at an incredible speed and as a result the law is always playing catch up. Outline the problems arising from the use of modern technology and the reasons why the law is not always effective in this area.*

Students will have five weeks to research, prepare, scaffold and draft their response, however will be required to complete the task under test conditions on the due date.
Students will be allowed to bring a single page of notes consisting of TEN (10) dot points into the test to assist them in the completion of the task. The dot points must be your OWN work and in your handwriting.

Outcomes assessed:
P1. identifies and applies legal concepts and terminology
P4. discusses the effectiveness of the legal system in addressing issues
P5. describes the role of law in encouraging cooperation and resolving conflict, as well as initiating and responding to change
P6. explains the nature of the interrelationship between the legal system and society
P9. communicates legal information using well-structured responses

Notes:____________________________________________________________________
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marking Criteria</th>
<th>Band/mark</th>
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</table>
| • demonstrates outstanding knowledge and understanding of legal issues arising in regard to innovation in technology  
  • evaluates the effectiveness of law in the area of new technology at an outstanding level.  
  • proficiently communicates using relevant legal terminology and concepts  
  • integrates a wide variety of highly relevant examples such as legislation, cases, media, international instruments and documents.  
  • present an outstanding written response that is sustained, logical and cohesive. | 21-25     |
| • demonstrates a high standard of knowledge and understanding of legal issues arising in regard to innovation in technology  
  • evaluates the effectiveness of law in the area of new technology at a high standard  
  • regularly communicates using relevant legal terminology and concepts  
  • regularly integrates a variety of relevant examples such as legislation, cases, media, international instruments and documents.  
  • present a quality written response that is sustained, logical and cohesive. | 16-20     |
| • demonstrates a sound knowledge and understanding of legal issues arising in regard to innovation in technology  
  • soundly evaluates the effectiveness of law in the area of new technology  
  • soundly communicates using relevant legal terminology and concepts  
  • soundly integrates some relevant examples such as legislation, cases, media, international instruments and documents.  
  • present a sound written response that is mostly sustained, logical and cohesive. | 11-15     |
| • demonstrates some basic knowledge and understanding of legal issues arising in regard to innovation in technology  
  • provides some discussion of the effectiveness of law in the area of new technology  
  • communicates at times with relevant legal terminology and concepts  
  • may or may not note some examples such as legislation, cases, media, international instruments and documents. Examples may lack relevance.  
  • presents a basic written response that may demonstrate basic structural features. | 6-10      |
| • demonstrates a limited knowledge and understanding of legal issues arising in regard to innovation in technology  
  • provides none, or extremely limited discussion of the effectiveness of law in the area of new technology  
  • Limited use of legal terminology and concepts.  
  • Fails to provide examples such as legislation, cases, media, international instruments and documents.  
  • Presents an inadequate or poorly structured written response. | 1-5       |
Notice of Assessment Task
Preliminary HSC Legal Studies

Date of initial notification:  

Date of submission:  
(as per examination timetable)

Task Number:  2

Time Allowed:  2 hours  
(additional 5 minutes reading time)  

Weighting of task: 25%

Course component/Focus area/Topic/Module:  
The Legal System  
- Basic legal concepts  
- Sources of contemporary Australian Law  
- Classification of Law  
- Law Reform  
- Law Reform in Action (either native title, sport, sexual assault or young drivers)

The Individual and the Law  
- Rights and Responsibilities  
- Resolving Disputes  
- The Individual and technology (contemporary issue)

Law in Practice  
- Groups suffering disadvantage (women, indigenous, children, disadvantaged)  
- Individuals / Groups in conflict with the state (Haneef)

Task Description: PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION

- 20 multiple choice (20 marks)  
- Short Answer (40 marks)  
- Extended Response (20 marks)

Outcomes assessed:  
P1. identifies and applies legal concepts and terminology  
P4. discusses the effectiveness of the legal system in addressing issues
P5. describes the role of law in encouraging cooperation and resolving conflict, as well as initiating and responding to change.

P6. explains the nature of the interrelationship between the legal system and society.


Notes:____________________________________________________________________
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marking Criteria</th>
<th>Band/mark</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| • demonstrates outstanding knowledge and understanding of legal issues arising in regard to innovation in technology  
  • evaluates the effectiveness of law in the area of new technology at an outstanding level.  
  • proficiently communicates using relevant legal terminology and concepts  
  • integrates a wide variety of highly relevant examples such as legislation, cases, media, international instruments and documents.  
  • present an outstanding written response that is sustained, logical and cohesive. | 21-25     |
| • demonstrates a high standard of knowledge and understanding of legal issues arising in regard to innovation in technology  
  • evaluates the effectiveness of law in the area of new technology at a high standard  
  • regularly communicates using relevant legal terminology and concepts  
  • regularly integrates a variety of relevant examples such as legislation, cases, media, international instruments and documents.  
  • present a quality written response that is sustained, logical and cohesive. | 16-20     |
| • demonstrates a sound knowledge and understanding of legal issues arising in regard to innovation in technology  
  • soundly evaluates the effectiveness of law in the area of new technology  
  • soundly communicates using relevant legal terminology and concepts  
  • soundly integrates some relevant examples such as legislation, cases, media, international instruments and documents.  
  • present a sound written response that is mostly sustained, logical and cohesive. | 11-15     |
| • demonstrates some basic knowledge and understanding of legal issues arising in regard to innovation in technology  
  • provides some discussion of the effectiveness of law in the area of new technology  
  • communicates at times with relevant legal terminology and concepts  
  • may or may not note some examples such as legislation, cases, media, international instruments and documents. Examples may lack relevance.  
  • presents a basic written response that may demonstrate basic structural features. | 6-10      |
| • demonstrates a limited knowledge and understanding of legal issues arising in regard to innovation in technology  
  • provides none, or extremely limited discussion of the effectiveness of law in the area of new technology  
  • Limited use of legal terminology and concepts.  
  • Fails to provide examples such as legislation, cases, media, international instruments and documents.  
  • Presents an inadequate or poorly structured written response. | 1-5       |
4. Syllabus Documents (Excerpt)

Legal Studies

Stage 6

Syllabus

2009
## Part I: The legal system  

### 40% of course time

**Principal focus:** Students develop an understanding of the nature and functions of law through the examination of the law-making processes and institutions.

**Themes and challenges to be incorporated throughout this topic:**
- the need for law in the operation of society
- the importance of the rule of law for society
- the relationship between different legal institutions and jurisdictions
- the development of law as a reflection of society
- influences on the Australian legal system.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students learn about:</th>
<th>Students learn to:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Basic legal concepts</strong></td>
<td><strong>2. Sources of contemporary Australian law</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- meaning of law</td>
<td>- British origins, including:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- customs, rules and law</td>
<td>- development of common law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- values and ethics</td>
<td>- equity, precedent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- characteristics of just laws</td>
<td>- adversarial system of trial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- nature of justice:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- equality</td>
<td>- define law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- fairness</td>
<td>- distinguish between customs, rules, laws, values and ethics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- access</td>
<td>- describe the characteristics of just laws and the nature of justice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- procedural fairness (principles of natural justice)</td>
<td>- define and investigate procedural fairness and the rule of law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- rule of law</td>
<td>- define anarchy and tyranny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- anarchy</td>
<td>- outline the origin of common law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- tyranny</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
- court hierarchy:
  - jurisdiction of state and federal courts

### statute law
- role and structure of parliament
- legislative process
- delegated legislation

### the constitution
- division of powers
- separation of powers
- role of the High Court

### Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples’ customary laws
- diverse nature of customary laws
- spiritual basis, significance of land and water
- family and kinship
- ritual and oral traditions
- mediation and sanctions
- relevance to contemporary Australian law

### international law
- differences between domestic and international law
- state sovereignty
- sources, including:
  - international customary law
  - instruments (declarations and treaties)
  - legal decisions, writings
- role of:
  - United Nations
  - courts and tribunals
  - intergovernmental organisations
  - non-government organisations
- relevance to contemporary Australian law

### 3. Classification of law
- public law
  - criminal law
  - administrative law
  - constitutional law
- private law (civil law)
  - contract law
  - tort law
  - property law
- criminal and civil court procedures including

### Outline
- examine the hierarchy and jurisdiction of state and federal courts
- outline the role and structure of parliament and the legislative process
- describe the function of delegated legislation
- explain the difference between division and separation of powers
- examine the role of the High Court in the interpretation of the constitution
- examine the characteristics of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples’ customary laws
- outline the extent to which Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples’ customary laws have been integrated into Australian law
- distinguish between domestic and international law and examine the impact of state sovereignty
- examine the sources of international law
- describe the role of the various organisations involved in international law
- examine how international law impacts on and is incorporated into Australian law
- outline different types of law
- compare the purpose of different types of law
- distinguish between civil and criminal court procedures including
It is strongly recommended that if possible students should have the opportunity to observe the operation of one or more courts or tribunals in civil and criminal cases.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>legal personnel</th>
<th>procedures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• common and civil law systems</td>
<td>• identify the role of legal personnel involved in the court process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• compare and contrast common and civil law systems</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Part II: The individual and the law

30% of course time

**Principal focus:** Students investigate the way in which the law impacts on individuals by referring to legal and non-legal institutions, laws and media reports.

**Themes and challenges to be incorporated throughout this topic:**
- relationship between justice, law and society
- relationship between rights and responsibilities
- balancing the rights of individuals with the needs of the state
- role of the law in regulating technology
- effectiveness of legal mechanisms for achieving justice for individuals and society.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students learn about:</th>
<th>Students learn to:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Your rights and responsibilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>2. Resolving disputes</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• the nature of individual rights</td>
<td>• the roles of the federal and state police and other law enforcement agencies</td>
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<td>• relationship between rights and responsibilities</td>
<td>• resolving disputes between individuals:</td>
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<td>– alternative dispute resolution</td>
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<td>– tribunals</td>
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<td>– courts</td>
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<td>• resolving disputes with the state:</td>
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<td>– non-legal methods:</td>
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<td>‧ media</td>
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<td>‧ members of parliament</td>
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<td>‧ trade unions</td>
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<td>‧ interest groups, including non-government organisations</td>
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<td>– legal methods:</td>
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<td>‧ internal review</td>
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<td>• outline the types of rights to which individuals are entitled</td>
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<td>• outline the responsibilities of citizens within a society</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• explain the interrelationship between rights and responsibilities</td>
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<td>• outline the roles of law enforcement agencies</td>
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<td>• identify and examine methods of resolving disputes between individuals</td>
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<td>• compare and contrast disputes between individuals and those between individuals and the state</td>
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<td>• assess the effectiveness of methods of resolving disputes</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• distinguish between non-legal and legal methods of enforcing rights and resolving disputes</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
- external review: administrative, judicial, ombudsman, statutory bodies including Australian Human Rights Commission, Independent Commission against Corruption (ICAC), Royal Commissions

3. Contemporary issue: The individual and technology

- impacts of technology on the individual
- legal implications
- difficulties with enforcing rights
- future directions – the role of law reform

Examples that may be studied could include:
- misuse of interactive technologies
- cyber-bullying
- genetic profiling
- cyberspace
- privacy issues
- security and surveillance
- mobile phones
- copyright.

- assess the effectiveness of dispute resolution processes in achieving justice for and between individuals
- explain the difficulties with enforcing rights
- assess the role of law reform in addressing emerging technological issues and enforcing rights
- discuss the legal implications of the use of technology and its impact on the individual.
Part III: Law in practice

Principal focus: students investigate contemporary issues that illustrate how the law operates in practice.

Themes and challenges to be incorporated throughout this topic:

- the relationship between justice, law and society
- the development and reform of law as a reflection of society
- the importance of the rule of law
- the responsiveness of the legal system in dealing with issues
- the effectiveness of legal and non-legal mechanisms in achieving justice for individuals and society.

The Law in practice unit can be integrated with Part I and/or Part II of the Preliminary course, or treated as a separate unit.

The Law in Practice unit is designed to provide opportunities for students to deepen their understanding of the principles of law covered in Part I and Part II of the Preliminary course. Students will develop the research, analytical and communication skills that underpin the process of investigation.

At least TWO contemporary issues should be studied. Students should synthesise information from a range of sources, including cases, legislation, the media and international instruments, to support a legal argument. Topics should extend particular areas of individual or group interests.
### Students learn about:

Issues that involve an Australian in a domestic jurisdiction, or Australian citizen(s) in another jurisdiction, focusing on the mechanisms for achieving justice and the responsiveness of the legal system when attempts are made to achieve justice.

### Topics that may be studied include:

- groups or individuals suffering disadvantage:
  - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples
  - people who have a mental illness or an intellectual or physical disability
  - migrants
  - people who are socioeconomically disadvantaged
  - members of other groups covered by human rights legislation, including anti-discrimination legislation
  - women
- events which highlight legal issues
- individuals or groups in conflict with the state
- criminal or civil cases that raise issues of interest to students.

### Students learn to:

- examine at least two contemporary issues that involve Australian citizen(s) in either a domestic or another jurisdiction
- describe the legal and non-legal responses to this issue
- evaluate the effectiveness of the legal and non-legal responses to this issue.

Criteria to evaluate effectiveness could include:

- resource efficiency
- accessibility
- enforceability
- responsiveness
- protection of individual rights
- meeting society’s needs
- application of the rule of law
- has justice been achieved?