



COURSE OUTLINE

LAW102 Foundations of Australian Law B

Course Coordinator: Dale Mitchell (dmitchell@usc.edu.au) **School:** School of Law and Society

2021 | Semester 2

USC Sunshine Coast

ON CAMPUS

Most of your course is on campus but you may be able to do some components of this course online.

Please go to the USC website for up to date information on the teaching sessions and campuses where this course is usually offered.

1. What is this course about?

1.1. Description

This course introduces you to legal systems, contexts and perspectives. You will learn about other legal systems and their interactions with the Australian legal system. You will critically examine legal issues and current developments in diverse contexts, with reference to broader inter-disciplinary and inter-cultural perspectives. You will develop your legal writing skills and extend your research skills to include secondary legal sources.

1.2. How will this course be delivered?

ACTIVITY	HOURS	BEGINNING WEEK	FREQUENCY
ON CAMPUS			
Tutorial/Workshop 1 – On campus tutorial - 1 hour in weeks 2, 3, 5 and 8-13.	1hr	Week 2	9 times
Laboratory 1 – On campus computer lab - 1 hour in weeks 4 and 6.	1hr	Week 4	2 times
Lecture – On campus lecture - 2 hours in weeks 1-6 and 8-13.	2hrs	Week 1	12 times

1.3. Course Topics

- The value of legal theory to the practice of law
- Critical Legal Thinking
- Access to Justice
- Indigenous Legal Perspectives
- Liberalism
- Natural Law and Legal Positivism
- Law and Power
- Legal Realism
- Critical Race Theory
- Feminist Legal Theories
- Earth Jurisprudence

2. What level is this course?

100 Level (Introductory)

Engaging with discipline knowledge and skills at foundational level, broad application of knowledge and skills in familiar contexts and with support. Limited or no prerequisites. Normally, associated with the first full-time study year of an undergraduate program.

3. What is the unit value of this course?

12 units

4. How does this course contribute to my learning?

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES	GRADUATE QUALITIES
On successful completion of this course, you should be able to...	Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming...
1 Identify and articulate legal issues; and research, evaluate, synthesise and apply relevant legal and policy matters.	Knowledgeable Empowered
2 Critically analyse legal developments with reference to broader contexts.	Creative and critical thinker Empowered
3 Identify ethical issues arising in legal contexts and determine an appropriate response.	Ethical Sustainability-focussed
4 Demonstrate legal reasoning and Problem solving skills to generate appropriate responses to legal issues.	Knowledgeable Empowered
5 Demonstrate effective written communication skills.	Knowledgeable Empowered

5. Am I eligible to enrol in this course?

Refer to the [USC Glossary of terms](#) for definitions of “pre-requisites, co-requisites and anti-requisites”.

5.1. Pre-requisites

Not applicable

5.2. Co-requisites

LAW101 and enrolled in any Law Program or AR013

5.3. Anti-requisites

Not applicable

5.4. Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)

Not applicable

6. How am I going to be assessed?

6.1. Grading Scale

Standard Grading (GRD)

High Distinction (HD), Distinction (DN), Credit (CR), Pass (PS), Fail (FL).

6.2. Details of early feedback on progress

Early feedback on progress is available in weekly hands-on tutorials, where students have an opportunity to present (and receive feedback on) responses to hypothetical advice scenarios and discussion questions. There is also an online quiz in week 4 that will provide early feedback.

6.3. Assessment tasks

DELIVERY MODE	TASK NO.	ASSESSMENT PRODUCT	INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP	WEIGHTING %	WHAT IS THE DURATION / LENGTH?	WHEN SHOULD I SUBMIT?	WHERE SHOULD I SUBMIT IT?
All	1	Quiz/zes	Individual	10%	10 question quiz	Week 4	Online Test (Quiz)
All	2	Essay	Individual	40%	1500 words	Week 9	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	3	Examination - Centrally Scheduled	Individual	50%	4 hours	Exam Period	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check

All - Assessment Task 1: Online Multiple-Choice Quiz

GOAL:	The goal of this exercise is to develop your critical thinking skills.	
PRODUCT:	Quiz/zes	
FORMAT:	You will complete the quiz online at your convenience between Monday and Friday of week 4.	
CRITERIA:	No.	Learning Outcome assessed
	1 Demonstrating understanding of critical thinking	3 4

All - Assessment Task 2: Research essay

GOAL:	You will write critically on an assigned topic from the course, drawing on materials studied and other primary and secondary sources identified through your own research. To help you prepare for this task, you will undertake a writing and planning activity in the week 6 tutorial, with formative feedback provided during that tutorial.	
PRODUCT:	Essay	
FORMAT:	An essay, 1500 words, with footnote references in accordance with the Australian Guide to Legal Citation plus bibliography.	
CRITERIA:	No.	Learning Outcome assessed
	1 Knowledge and understanding of the topic	1
	2 Analysis and critical thinking	2 4
	3 Structure and writing	5
	4 Referencing	5

All - Assessment Task 3: Final examination

GOAL:	The goal of this examination is for you to identify legal and ethical issues, to synthesis and apply legal and ethical rules, principles, concepts and broader perspectives studied in the course to generate appropriate responses to legal issues, and to communicate effectively.	
PRODUCT:	Examination - Centrally Scheduled	
FORMAT:	This is an individual assessment. You will have four hours to complete and submit the online exam. You may use any materials to construct answers to unseen legal problems and questions drawn from any part of the course.	

CRITERIA:	No.	Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Correctly identifies legal and ethical issues; 1 3
	2	Synthesises and applies principles, concepts and broader perspectives to generate appropriate responses to legal issues; 2 4
	3	Communicates effectively. 5

7. Directed study hours

A 12-unit course will have total of 150 learning hours which will include directed study hours (including online if required), self-directed learning and completion of assessable tasks. Directed study hours may vary by location. Student workload is calculated at 12.5 learning hours per one unit.

8. What resources do I need to undertake this course?

Please note: Course information, including specific information of recommended readings, learning activities, resources, weekly readings, etc. are available on the course Blackboard site– Please log in as soon as possible.

8.1. Prescribed text(s) or course reader

There are no required/recommended resources for this course.

8.2. Specific requirements

Not applicable

9. How are risks managed in this course?

Health and safety risks for this course have been assessed as low. It is your responsibility to review course material, search online, discuss with lecturers and peers and understand the health and safety risks associated with your specific course of study and to familiarise yourself with the University's general health and safety principles by reviewing the [online induction training for students](#), and following the instructions of the University staff.

10. What administrative information is relevant to this course?

10.1. Assessment: Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the ethical standard of university participation. It ensures that students graduate as a result of proving they are competent in their discipline. This is integral in maintaining the value of academic qualifications. Each industry has expectations and standards of the skills and knowledge within that discipline and these are reflected in assessment.

Academic integrity means that you do not engage in any activity that is considered to be academic fraud; including plagiarism, collusion or outsourcing any part of any assessment item to any other person. You are expected to be honest and ethical by completing all work yourself and indicating in your work which ideas and information were developed by you and which were taken from others. You cannot provide your assessment work to others. You are also expected to provide evidence of wide and critical reading, usually by using appropriate academic references.

In order to minimise incidents of academic fraud, this course may require that some of its assessment tasks, when submitted to Blackboard, are electronically checked through SafeAssign. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work that SafeAssign has access to.

10.2. Assessment: Additional Requirements

Eligibility for Supplementary Assessment

Your eligibility for supplementary assessment in a course is dependent of the following conditions applying:

The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%

The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale

You have not failed an assessment task in the course due to academic misconduct

10.3. Assessment: Submission penalties

Late submission of assessment tasks may be penalised at the following maximum rate:

- 5% (of the assessment task's identified value) per day for the first two days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.
- 10% (of the assessment task's identified value) for the third day - 20% (of the assessment task's identified value) for the fourth day and subsequent days up to and including seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.
- A result of zero is awarded for an assessment task submitted after seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task. Weekdays and weekends are included in the calculation of days late. To request an extension you must contact your course coordinator to negotiate an outcome.

10.4. Study help

For help with course-specific advice, for example what information to include in your assessment, you should first contact your tutor, then your course coordinator, if needed.

If you require additional assistance, the Learning Advisers are trained professionals who are ready to help you develop a wide range of academic skills. Visit the [Learning Advisers](#) web page for more information, or contact Student Central for further assistance: +61 7 5430 2890 or studentcentral@usc.edu.au.

10.5. Wellbeing Services

Student Wellbeing provide free and confidential counselling on a wide range of personal, academic, social and psychological matters, to foster positive mental health and wellbeing for your academic success.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 1226.

10.6. AccessAbility Services

Ability Advisers ensure equal access to all aspects of university life. If your studies are affected by a disability, learning disorder mental health issue, , injury or illness, or you are a primary carer for someone with a disability or who is considered frail and aged, [AccessAbility Services](#) can provide access to appropriate reasonable adjustments and practical advice about the support and facilities available to you throughout the University.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email AccessAbility@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 2890.

10.7. Links to relevant University policy and procedures

For more information on Academic Learning & Teaching categories including:

- Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs
- Review of Assessment and Final Grades
- Supplementary Assessment
- Administration of Central Examinations
- Deferred Examinations
- Student Academic Misconduct
- Students with a Disability

Visit the USC website: <http://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching>

10.8. General Enquiries

In person:

- **USC Sunshine Coast** - Student Central, Ground Floor, Building C, 90 Sippy Downs Drive, Sippy Downs
- **USC Moreton Bay** - Service Centre, Ground Floor, Foundation Building, Gympie Road, Petrie
- **USC SouthBank** - Student Central, Building A4 (SW1), 52 Merivale Street, South Brisbane
- **USC Gympie** - Student Central, 71 Cartwright Road, Gympie
- **USC Fraser Coast** - Student Central, Student Central, Building A, 161 Old Maryborough Rd, Hervey Bay
- **USC Caboolture** - Student Central, Level 1 Building J, Cnr Manley and Tallon Street, Caboolture

Tel: +61 7 5430 2890

Email: studentcentral@usc.edu.au