



## COURSE OUTLINE

# LAW201 Torts A

**Course Coordinator:** Teddy Henriksen (thenriks@usc.edu.au) **School:** School of Law and Society

2021 | Semester 1

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 the law of civil wrongs, known by lawyers as torts. You will examine the history and purpose of this body of law, identifying the various interests it seeks to protect. In part A of the course you will consider the intentional torts. These protect people against unauthorised interference with their bodies, reputation, land, goods and economic interests. You will also examine the strict liability torts of nuisance and breach of statutory duty.

### 1.2. How will this course be delivered?

ACTIVITY	HOURS	BEGINNING WEEK	FREQUENCY
<b>ON CAMPUS</b>			
<b>Lecture</b> – On campus lecture - 2 hours in weeks 1-6 and 8-13.	2hrs	Week 1	12 times
<b>Tutorial/Workshop</b> – On campus tutorial - 1 hour in weeks 2-6 and 8-13.	1hr	Week 2	11 times

### 1.3. Course Topics

Topic 1 (Week 1)	Introduction to Course and the Law of Torts
Topic 2 (Week 2 & 3)	Interference with Person
Topic 3 (Week 4)	Interference with Land
Topic 4 (Week 5)	Interference with Goods
Topic 5 (Week 6)	Interference with Economic Interests
Law Activities and Events (Week 7)	To be advised early in semester 1
Topic 6 (Week 8 & 9)	Defamation
Topic 7 (Week 10)	Private and Public Nuisance
Topic 8 (Week 11)	Privacy
Revision (Week 12)	Topics 1 to 8
Past Exams (Week 13)	Complete past exam questions

## 2. What level is this course?

200 Level (Developing)

Building on and expanding the scope of introductory knowledge and skills, developing breadth or depth and applying knowledge and skills in a new context. May require pre-requisites where discipline specific introductory knowledge or skills is necessary. Normally, undertaken in the second or third full-time year of an undergraduate programs.

### 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 Demonstrate knowledge and critical understanding of some of the elements of the major torts.	Knowledgeable
2 Identify legal issues, apply legal reasoning and reach arguable conclusions in response to a broad range of events that reflect real life scenarios.	Creative and critical thinker Empowered
3 Demonstrate the research skills that are needed to provide effective legal advice.	Empowered
4 Demonstrate the skills of organisation and time management to complete problems within a set time.	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

LAW102 and enrolled in any Law Program (except AR391) or

#### 5.2. Co-requisites

LAW101 and enrolled in AR391

#### 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

In your tutorial in weeks 3-6, you will engage in activities that ask you to self-assess and reflect on your learning; and provide peer feedback on tutorial answers.

### 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 Multiple Choice Questions, 60-minute time limit	Week 4	Online Test (Quiz)
All	2	Written Piece	Individual	40%	2000 words	Week 9	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	3	Examination - Centrally Scheduled	Individual	50%	2 hours plus 30 minutes preparation time	Exam Period	Exam Venue

#### All - Assessment Task 1: Cases Quiz

<b>GOAL:</b>	The goal of this assessment is to assess your ability to find, read and comprehend a key torts case. The case will be made available in week 1.		
<b>PRODUCT:</b>	Quiz/zes		
<b>FORMAT:</b>	10 multiple choice questions; each question is worth 1 mark. The quiz will be made available on Blackboard on Monday in Week 2. There is a 60-minute time limit. You can have only one attempt at the quiz.		
<b>CRITERIA:</b>	<b>No.</b>		<b>Learning Outcome assessed</b>
	1	Correct answers to quiz questions.	
	2	Assessment criteria are mapped to the course learning outcomes.	1 2 3 4

#### All - Assessment Task 2: Written Piece

<b>GOAL:</b>	The goal of this assessment is to assess your understanding and application of some of the principles of tort law and your ability to provide sound legal advice to a legal problem.		
<b>PRODUCT:</b>	Written Piece		
<b>FORMAT:</b>	Written Legal Advice (2000 words, there is NO +/- allowance). The legal advice will be in response to a hypothetical scenario that will be handed out in week 4.		
<b>CRITERIA:</b>	<b>No.</b>		<b>Learning Outcome assessed</b>
	1	Application of law, principles and knowledge	
	2	Critical thinking, analysis and reasoning	
	3	Structure and writing	
	4	Presentation and referencing	

### All - Assessment Task 3: Open Book Exam

<b>GOAL:</b>	The goal of this assessment is to assess your understanding and application of some of the principles of tort law and your ability to provide sound legal advice to hypothetical legal problems.		
<b>PRODUCT:</b>	Examination - Centrally Scheduled		
<b>FORMAT:</b>	This is an individual assessment. You will have two hours plus 30 minutes preparation time to complete the assessment. You may use any materials to construct an answer to two unseen legal problems drawn from any part of the course.		
<b>CRITERIA:</b>	<b>No.</b>		<b>Learning Outcome assessed</b>
	1	Correct identification of legal issues derived from a factual scenario	1 2
	2	Identification and application of correct principles of law derived from statute and/or case law	3 4

## 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

Please note that you need to have regular access to the resource(s) listed below. Resources may be required or recommended.

REQUIRED?	AUTHOR	YEAR	TITLE	PUBLISHER
Required	Martin Davies and Ian Malkin	2018	Focus Torts	LexisNexis
Recommended	Marin Davis and Ian Malkin	2020	Focus Torts	LexisNexis
Recommended	Nichola Corbett-Jarvis	2017	Effective Legal Writing: A Practical Guide	LexisNexis

### 8.2. Specific requirements

Nil

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:studentcentral@usc.edu.au)