

LAWS 1003 FUNDAMENTALS OF AUSTRALIAN LAW

Credit Points 10

Legacy Code 200977

Coordinator Christian Chamorro-Courtland (<https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Christian Chamorro-Courtland/>)

Description This subject provides students with the fundamental legal skills required to succeed in the study and practice of law. Students will be introduced to the Australian legal system, legal study skills, academic integrity, how law is made, how cases and statute interact, the Australian court hierarchies, case analysis skills, statutory interpretation skills, an introduction to the role of legal professionals in Australia.

School Law

Discipline Law, Not Elsewhere Classified.

Student Contribution Band HECS Band 4 10cp

Check your fees via the Fees (https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/fees/) page.

Level Undergraduate Level 1 subject

Equivalent Subjects LAWS 1006 - Introduction to Law LAWS 1007 - Introduction to Law (WSTC)

Incompatible Subjects LAWS 1001 - Enterprise Law LAWS 1002 - Enterprise Law (WSTC)

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this subject, students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the basis of the Australian law and legal system, including common law institutions and their roles, and the role of legal professionals.
2. Apply basic logical and legal reasoning to legal scenarios.
3. Discuss the principles of academic integrity as they apply to University and professional practice;
4. Apply the doctrine of precedent and the rules of statutory interpretation to basic legal problems.
5. Communicate effectively in writing for lay and expert readers.

Subject Content

1. Legal study skills
2. Academic Integrity
3. How law is made
4. How cases and statute interact
5. Court hierarchies
6. Case analysis skills
7. Statutory interpretation skills
8. Introduction to the role of legal professionals in Australia
9. Indigenous Law as a source of law in Australia

Assessment

The following table summarises the standard assessment tasks for this subject. Please note this is a guide only. Assessment tasks are

regularly updated, where there is a difference your Learning Guide takes precedence.

Type	Length	Percent	Threshold	Individual/ Group Task	Mandatory
Professional Task	Part 1- Communications Diagnostic-45 minutes	S/U	Y	Individual	Y
Quiz	3 quizzes across the semester	20	N	Individual	Y
Professional Task	2 hours	30	N	Individual	Y
Final Exam	2 hours	50	N	Individual	Y

Prescribed Texts

- Michelle Sanson and Thalia Anthony, *Connecting with Law* (Oxford University Press, 5th ed, 2022).

Teaching Periods

Autumn (2025)

Campbelltown

On-site

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View timetable (https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=LAWS1003_25-AUT_CA_1#subjects)

Online

Online

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View timetable (https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=LAWS1003_25-AUT_ON_2#subjects)

Parramatta - Victoria Rd

On-site

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Spring (2025)

Online

Online

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Parramatta - Victoria Rd

On-site

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