

LAWS 7073 ANIMAL LAW

Credit Points 10

Coordinator Francine Feld ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Francine Feld/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Francine%20Feld/))

Description This subject examines the legal and ethical relations between humans and non-human animals. Students will apply theoretical perspectives to support their own stance regarding human/animal relations. They will critically evaluate the legal framework which governs those relations. The subject will examine a range of topics such as the moral and legal status of animals, animal rights versus animal welfare, farming and husbandry practices, animals in scientific research, animals in the entertainment industry, wildlife protection and endangered species, companion animals and Indigenous approaches to animal welfare. Students will engage in professional learning activities and use a range of legal research tools to demonstrate their application of this body of law in practice.

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 Postgraduate Coursework Level 7 subject

Pre-requisite(s) LAWS 7056 AND LAWS 7061

Incompatible Subjects LAWS 3090

Restrictions

Must be enrolled in the 2826 Juris Doctor program.

Learning Outcomes

After successful completion of this subject, students will be able to:

1. Apply a range of philosophical approaches to the status of non-human animals.
2. Construct solutions using advanced knowledge of animal law.
3. Critically evaluate legal issues and apply relevant legal principles to problems involving the use of animals and propose solutions.
4. Demonstrate legal research skills to assess legal frameworks for the regulation of relations between humans and non-human animals.

Subject Content

- Historical development of animal Law
- Philosophical approaches to the moral status of animals
- Legal status of animals
- Overview of Animal Law in Australia
- Regulation companion animals
- Regulation of farm animals
- Regulation of wild animals
- Regulation of animals in research
- Regulation of animals in entertainment and sport
- Indigenous approaches to animal welfare

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
Presentation	15 minutes/1500 words	30	N	Group/ Individual	N
Quiz	30 minutes	10	N	Individual	N
Critical Review	3,000 words	50	N	Individual	N
Participation	During class	10	N	Individual	N

Prescribed Texts

- Deborah Cao, *Animal Law in Australia* (Lawbook Co, 3rd ed, 2023)

Teaching Periods

Summer (2025)

Parramatta - Victoria Rd

On-site

Subject Contact Francine Feld ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Francine Feld/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Francine%20Feld/))

View timetable (https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=LAWS7073_25-SUM_PS_1#subjects)