

LAWS 7027 LEGAL PHILOSOPHY AND METHODOLOGY

Credit Points 10

Legacy Code 200901

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

Description This subject equips postgraduate students with a solid understanding of theoretical and methodological approaches to studying law. It encompasses essential aspects of the legal research process including; accessing relevant sources, defining a research question, selecting appropriate research methodologies, and presenting a research project. Students can choose from three topics selected by the subject coordinator for their project.

School Law

Discipline Law

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 7061

Restrictions

Students must be enrolled in 2824 Master of Laws or 2826 Juris Doctor to enrol in this subject.

Learning Outcomes

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

1. Critically analyse legal theories and apply those to complex contemporary legal issues
2. Evaluate complex legal issues in its symbiotic context with the philosophical, social, political, and economic fabric of society
3. Plan and undertake a research project
4. Present research outcomes using highly developed written and oral communication skills

Subject Content

1. Legal methodologies
2. International governance and legal philosophies, including theories of Law and Justice
3. Legal research

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
Participation	Ongoing in seminars	10	N	Individual	Y

Literature Review	2,500 words	45	N	Individual	Y
Proposal	2,000 words	45	N	Individual	Y

Prescribed Texts

- Terry Hutchinson, *Researching and Writing in Law* (Thomson Reuters, 34th ed., 2018).
- Margaret Davies, *Asking the Law Question* (Thomson Reuters, 4th ed., 2017)

Teaching Periods

Autumn (2025)

Online

Online

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View timetable (https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=LAWS7027_25-AUT_ON_2#subjects)