

# LAWS 7056 FUNDAMENTALS OF AUSTRALIAN LAW

Credit Points 10

Legacy Code 201046

**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 and the importance of academic integrity for law students, how law is made, how cases and statute interact, the Australian court hierarchies, , case analysis skills, statutory interpretation skills, an introduction to legal ethics and justice, and an introduction to the impact of the Australian legal system on Australian First Peoples.

**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/](https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/fees/)) page.

**Level** Postgraduate Coursework Level 7 subject

**Co-requisite(s)** None

**Incompatible Subjects** LAWS 1003 Fundamentals of Australian Law

**Restrictions**

Students must be enrolled in a postgraduate program.

## Learning Outcomes

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

1. Discuss the basis of the Australian law and legal system, including common law institutions and their roles, and the concepts of justice and ethics and the impact of the Australian legal system on Australian First Peoples.
2. Apply basic logical and legal reasoning to legal scenarios.
3. Apply the doctrine of precedent and the rules of statutory interpretation to basic legal problems.
4. Formulate legal arguments that demonstrate an understanding of the varied functions and techniques of effective communication in legal practice.

## 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 legal ethics and justice
9. Introduction to the impact of the Australian legal system on Australian First Peoples

## 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
Quiz	3 quizzes across semester	20	N	Individual	Y
Case Study	2 hours	30	N	Individual	Y
Professional Task	45 minutes	S/U	Y	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

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

View timetable ([https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject\\_code=LAWS7056\\_25-AUT\\_CA\\_1#subjects](https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=LAWS7056_25-AUT_CA_1#subjects))

#### Online

#### Online

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

View timetable ([https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject\\_code=LAWS7056\\_25-AUT\\_ON\\_2#subjects](https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=LAWS7056_25-AUT_ON_2#subjects))

## Parramatta - Victoria Rd

#### On-site

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

View timetable ([https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject\\_code=LAWS7056\\_25-AUT\\_PS\\_1#subjects](https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=LAWS7056_25-AUT_PS_1#subjects))

## Spring (2025)

#### Online

#### Online

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

View timetable ([https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject\\_code=LAWS7056\\_25-SPR\\_ON\\_2#subjects](https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=LAWS7056_25-SPR_ON_2#subjects))

## **Parramatta - Victoria Rd**

### **On-site**

**Subject Contact** Christian Chamorro-Courtland (<https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Christian%20Chamorro-Courtland/>)

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