

LAWS 7074 FAMILY LAW

Credit Points 10

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

Description Family Law is a key area of study for students who intend to enter legal practice. This subject aims to graduate students who will become reflective, ethical, and effective family lawyers and/or family dispute resolution practitioners. Students will engage in professional learning activities to demonstrate their application of this body of law in practice. This subject adopts a range of critical perspectives in relation to developments in theory, laws, policies, and practices concerned with the legal regulation of intimate relationships, particularly after separation. Family law balances the competing rights, obligations and interests of partners, children and others following separation, often in the context of complex family dynamics. It also examines the cultural, social, political, psychological and economic contexts that influence separating families.

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

Incompatible Subjects LAWS 3023

Restrictions

Must be enrolled in the 2826 Juris Doctor program.

Learning Outcomes

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

1. Critically analyse the impact of family domestic violence on families and children and propose appropriate measures to ensure the safety of family members.
2. Apply relevant legislation and case law, focusing on the Family Law Act, to provide practical assistance to clients with post separation problems.
3. Critically evaluate developments in law, policy, and practices in family law systems.
4. Critically reflect on their own development and competence as a family law professional.

Subject Content

- Family Law
- Constitutional & Jurisdictional Context
- Regulating adult relationships: marriage and divorce
- Family Domestic Violence
- Family Dispute Resolution
- Children & Parents 1
- Children & Parents 2
- Child Support
- Economic context and spousal maintenance
- Property & 3rd party rights

- Property - assessing contribution
- Indigenous people and the family law system

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
Case Study	2,500 words	45	N	Individual	N
Professional Task	24 hours (for take home exam). 30 minutes for Moot	45	N	Individual	N
Participation	Ongoing	10	N	Individual	N

Prescribed Texts

- G.Riethmuller & R. Smith, *Family Law* (Lawbook Co., 7th Ed, 2022)

Teaching Periods

Autumn (2025)

Campbelltown

On-site

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View timetable (https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=LAWS7074_25-AUT_CA_1#subjects)

Online

Online

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View timetable (https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=LAWS7074_25-AUT_ON_2#subjects)

Parramatta City - Macquarie St

On-site

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