



The University of Southern Queensland

Course specification

Description: Australian Law and Business						
Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
LAW	5503	44262	2, 2005	ONC	1.00	Toowoomba

Academic group:	FOBUS
Academic org:	FOB010
Student contribution band:	3
ASCED code:	090901

STAFFING

Examiner: Des Taylor
Moderator: Anthony Gray

OTHER-REQUISITES

Pre-requisite: Enrolment in a postgraduate program

RATIONALE

Law provides a framework within which businesses may operate - regulating, to a greater or lesser extent, their structures, management and transactions. An appreciation of the legal ramifications of particular actions and inactions is important for those entrusted with managerial responsibility.

SYNOPSIS

In order to introduce students to the impact of law on business, this course looks at the Australian legal system and the courts (such as the way in which legal decisions are made and their significance). It also covers in some detail areas of the law relevant to business, such as contract law (including agency law), selected topics from the law of torts, remedies, aspects of the law relating to some of the main business structures, aspects of property law and aspects of bankruptcy law.

OBJECTIVES

Successful completion of this course should enable students to:

1. understand and, where necessary, describe the Australian legal system, its components and the way it operates;
2. demonstrate basic skills in statutory interpretation and the operation of precedent;
3. explain the basic principles of law in the specific substantive topics covered;
4. identify the legal issues raised by case studies and apply the relevant legal principles to resolve those issues;
5. demonstrate satisfactory skills in communication.

TOPICS

	Description	Weighting (%)
1.	The Australian Legal System	5.00
2.	The Courts	5.00
3.	Torts	15.00
4.	Contract Law (including agency)	25.00
5.	Remedies	10.00
6.	Business Structures	20.00
7.	Aspects of property law	10.00
8.	Bankruptcy Law	10.00

TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED

ALL textbooks and materials are available for purchase from USQ BOOKSHOP (unless otherwise stated). Orders may be placed via secure internet, free fax 1800642453, phone 07 46312742 (within Australia), or mail. Overseas students should fax +61 7 46311743, or phone +61 7 46312742. For costs, further details, and internet ordering, use the 'Textbook Search' facility at <http://bookshop.usq.edu.au> click 'Semester', then enter your 'Course Code' (no spaces).

LAW5503 study package available from the USQ Bookshop.

Ardagh, A 2005, *Business law of Australia workbook*, 11th edn, LexisNexus Butterworths, Sydney.

Gibson, A, Rigby, S & Tamisitt, G 2003, *Commercial law in principle*, 2nd edn, Lawbook Company, Sydney.

IPP, The Honourable Justice & Weerasooria, WS 2002, *Butterworths business and law dictionary*, 2nd edn, LexisNexis Butterworths, Sydney.

(or any similar legal dictionary)

Vermeesch, RB & Lindgren, KE 2005, *Business law of Australia*, 11th edn, LexisNexus Butterworths, Sydney.

REFERENCE MATERIALS

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.

Partnership Act, 1891, (Queensland) or the comparable legislation in another Australian state. A copy of the Partnership Act, 1891, (Queensland) is available online by accessing the Queensland Government (Queensland Parliamentary Counsel) website at: <http://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/OQPChome.htm>.

Crosling, GM & Murphy, HM 2000, *How to study business law: reading, writing and exams*, 3rd edn, Butterworths, Sydney.

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Assessment	17.00
Lectures	42.00
Private Study	64.00
Tutorials	42.00

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg(%)	Due date
ASSIGNMENT	30.00	30.00	26 Aug 2005
3 HOUR EXAMINATION	70.00	70.00	END S2 (see note 1)

NOTES

1. The examination is scheduled to be held in the end-of-semester examination period. Students will be advised of the official examination date after the timetable has been finalised.

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- 1 Attendance requirements:
It is the students' responsibility to attend and participate appropriately in all activities (such as lectures, tutorials, laboratories and practical work) scheduled for them, and to study all material provided to them or required to be accessed by them to maximise their chance of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related activities and administration.
- 2 Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:
Students must submit assignments that represent a reasonable attempt as determined by the Examiner. Students must obtain at least 50% of the marks available for the examination.
- 3 Penalties for late submission of required work:
If students submit assignments after the due date without prior approval then a penalty of 20% of the total marks gained by the student for the assignment will apply for each working day late.
- 4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:
To be assured of receiving a passing grade a student must attempt all of the summative assessment items, achieve at least 50% in the examination and achieve an aggregated mark of at least 50% of the available weighted marks for the summative assessment items.
- 5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:
The final grades for students will be assigned on the basis of the weighted aggregate of the marks obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course.
- 6 Examination information:
This is a closed examination. Candidates are allowed to bring only writing and drawing instruments into the examination.
- 7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:

Any Deferred or Supplementary examinations for this course will be held during the next examination period.

8 University Regulations:

Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6. Assessment, and 5.10 Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might contravene University Regulations. These regulations can be found at the URL <http://www.usq.edu.au/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm>. Students should also read the Faculty of Business Guide to Policies and Procedures of the Faculty which can be found at the URL <http://www.usq.edu.au/handbook/current/buspolproc.html>.

ASSESSMENT NOTES

- 1 Assignments: (i) The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must despatch the assignment to the USQ. The onus is on the student to provide proof of the despatch date, if requested by the Examiner. (ii) If requested, students will be required to provide a copy of an assignment submitted for assessment purposes. This should be despatched to the USQ within 24 hours of receipt of a request being made. (iii) The Examiner may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances. If students submit assignments after the due date and wish to claim extenuating circumstances then they shall provide validated documentary evidence with the assignment, explaining the circumstances. The Examiner shall consider the statement accompanying a late assignment and decide on the outcome. (iv) Assignments are to be submitted with the appropriate assignment cover. (v) The Examiner will normally only accept assessments that have been written, typed or printed on paper-based media. (vi) In the event that a due date for an assignment falls on a local public holiday in their area, such as a Show holiday, the due date for the assignment will be the next day. Students are to note on the assignment cover the date of the public holiday for the Examiner's convenience.
- 2 Course Weightings: Course weightings of topics should not be interpreted as applying to the number of marks allocated to questions testing those topics in an examination paper. The examination may test material already tested in assignments.
- 3 Deferred Work: Students who, for medical, family/personal, or employment-related reasons, are unable to complete an assignment or to sit for an examination at the scheduled time may apply to defer an assessment in a course. Such a request must be accompanied by appropriate supporting documentation. One of the following temporary grades may be awarded: IDS (Incomplete - Deferred Examination); IDM (Incomplete Deferred Make-up); IDB (Incomplete - Both Deferred Examination and Deferred Make-up).
- 4 Internet Access: It will be assumed by the Examiner that all students enrolled in LAW5503 will have Internet access and can access such facilities as the course electronic discussion group.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 1 Learning Resources: Prescribed text and materials (see above); prescribed reference materials (see above); printed Introductory Book* and Study Book/s*; and course Website accessible via USQConnect. *part of the study package available from the USQ Bookshop.
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