



The University of Southern Queensland

## Course specification

The current and official versions of the course specifications are available on the web at <http://www.usq.edu.au/coursespecification/current>.  
Please consult the web for updates that may occur during the year.

### Description: Australian Law and Business

Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
LAW	5503	90871	2, 2009	ONC	1.00	Springfield

<b>Academic group:</b>	FOBUS
<b>Academic org:</b>	FOB010
<b>Student contribution band:</b>	3
<b>ASCED code:</b>	090901

### STAFFING

Examiner: Des Taylor  
Moderator: Noeleen McNamara

### OTHER REQUISITES

Pre-requisite: Enrolment in a postgraduate program. Students are required to have access to a personal computer, e-mail capabilities and Internet access to UConnect. Current details of computer requirements can be found at <http://www.usq.edu.au/ict/students/standards/default.htm>.

### 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 (for example, the way in which legislation and 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

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

1. understand and, where necessary, describe the Australian legal system, its components and the way it operates
2. demonstrate academic and professional literary 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
6. demonstrate problem-solving skills appropriate to contract law by completing case-based law questions.

## 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. The study package will be supplied at no cost to students.

Latimer, P 2009, *Australian business law*, 28th edn, CCH Australia, North Ryde, New South Wales.

## 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.

Gibson, A 2005, *Commercial law in principle*, 3rd edn, Lawbook Co, Sydney, New South Wales.

Goldwasser, V 2007, *Mastering business law*, LexisNexis Butterworths, Sydney, New South Wales.

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

(or any similar legal dictionary)

## STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Assessments	17.00
Lectures	42.00
Private Study	64.00
Tutorials	42.00

## ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg (%)	Due date	Objectives assessed	Graduate skill	Level assessed
ASSIGNMENT	30.00	30.00	04 Sep 2009	All		
EXAMINATION - PART A	45.00	45.00	END S2 (see note 1)	All		
EXAMINATION - PART B	25.00	25.00	END S2	All		

### 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 for Examination (Parts A and B) after the timetable has been finalised. The total working time for Examination (Parts A and B) is 2 hours.

## 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:  
To satisfactorily complete an individual assessment item a student must achieve at least 50% of the marks. (Depending upon the requirements in Statement 4 below, students may not have to satisfactorily complete each assessment item to receive a passing grade in this course.)
- 3 Penalties for late submission of required work:  
If students submit assignments after the due date without prior approval of the examiner, then a penalty of 5% of the total marks gained by the student for the assignment may apply for each working day late up to ten working days at which time a mark of zero may be recorded.
- 4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:  
To be assured of receiving a passing grade a student must achieve at least 50% of the total weighted marks available for the course.
- 5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:

The final grades for students will be assigned on the basis of the aggregate of the weighted marks obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course.

- 6 Examination information:  
This will be an open examination. Candidates may have access to any printed or written material and a calculator during the examination. In line with regulation 5.6.4.2 'Use of Electronic Devices during Examinations', laptop and notebook computers are not permitted.
- 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 Student Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might contravene university regulations. These regulations can be found at <http://www.usq.edu.au/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm>. Students should also read the Faculty of Business Procedures which can be found at <http://www.usq.edu.au/business/aboutfob.htm>.

## ASSESSMENT NOTES

- 1 Assignments: (i) The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must submit the assignment to the USQ. (ii) Students must retain a copy of each assignment submitted for assessment. This must be produced within 24 hours if required by the examiner. (iii) In accordance with university policy, the examiner may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances. (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 Referencing in assignments: Students studying this course as part of a Juris Doctor must use the Australian Guide to Legal Citation (AGLC) style. Students who are not enrolled in the Juris Doctor may use either Harvard (AGPS) or the Australian Guide to Legal Citation (AGLC) in their assignments to format details of the information sources they have cited in their work. For AGLC style guide enquiries, consult the AGLC manual from the USQ Library's referencing guide at <http://www.usq.edu.au/library/help/referencing/default.htm>, or contact the Law librarian. The Harvard (AGPS) style to be used is defined by the USQ Library's referencing guide at <http://www.usq.edu.au/library/help/referencing/default.htm>.
- 4 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).
- 5 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 Computer, e-mail and Internet access: Students are required to have access to a personal computer, e-mail capabilities and Internet access to UConnect. Current details of computer requirements can be found at <<http://www.usq.edu.au/ict/students/standards/default.htm>>.
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