Description: Commercial Law

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Cat-nbr</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Campus</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LAW</td>
<td>5201</td>
<td>48047</td>
<td>3, 2005</td>
<td>EXT</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>Toowoomba</td>
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Academic group: FOBUS
Academic org: FOB010
Student contribution band: 3
ASCED code: 090901

STAFFING
Examiner: Mark Tranter
Moderator: Michael Maguire

OTHER-REQUISITES
Pre-requisite: Enrolment in an approved postgraduate program

RATIONALE
Law provides the framework within which commerce operates. An appreciation of the legal system and the judicial process is necessary for those involved in the commercial world. This applies particularly to accountants in that the law impacts on so many areas in which they must work.

SYNOPSIS
This course is designed to introduce students to the impact of law on business. To do this it commences with a review of the components of the Australian legal system, the judicial process and the means by which disputes are resolved or litigated. Civil liability in contract law, negligence and other tortious actions are examined in some detail. Criminal law is also briefly covered as well as the law of agency.

OBJECTIVES
Completion of this course should enable students to:

1. describe, explain, illustrate, and critique the Australian legal system;
2. describe, interpret, explain, demonstrate, and assess the role and application of precedent;
3. describe, interpret, explain and demonstrate the role and application of the rules of statutory interpretation;
4. describe, compare, evaluate and demonstrate knowledge of the processes of dispute resolution;
5. describe, interpret, explain, illustrate and assess the role and application of the criminal law; torts; the law of contract; and the law of agency;
6. provide appropriate illustrations of the principles of law dealt with in this course and the ability to apply those principles to factual scenarios;
7. illustrate an ability to communicate in a legal context.

TOPICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Introduction to the Australian legal system including Sources of law;</td>
<td>14.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Constitutional framework and Hierarchy of courts</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Judicial Process: (a) Statutory interpretation; (b) Precedent; (c)</td>
<td>14.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Litigation and alternate dispute resolution</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Principles of legal liability: (a) Criminal (7%); (b) Civil (i)</td>
<td>62.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contract (35%) (ii) Torts (20%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Agency</td>
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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).

Students may purchase a copy of the CD Rom 'Commercial law: much ado about something'. It covers contract law, consumer protection legislation and agency law. Available from the USQ Bookshop, PO Darling Heights, Toowoomba, Q, 4350.

A video 'Snakes in the greenhouse' which is incorporated into the CD Rom is also available for separate purchase from the USQ Bookshop, PO Darling Heights, Toowoomba, Q, 4350.

The study package for this course is available in CD format ONLY. All students are expected to have access to an IBM or equivalent computer. Details of computer requirements for the Faculty of Business can be found at the URL: http://www.usq.edu.au/handbook/current/busgeninfo.html.


Turner, C Australian commercial law, Lawbook Company, Sydney.
(latest edition of text is required)

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.

LATEST EDITIONS OF THESE TEXTS ARE RECOMMENDED.

(Modules 5-9)
Campbell, EM, Poh-York, L & Tooher, J *Legal research: materials and methods*, LBC Information Services, Sydney.
(Module 4)

(Modules 5-9)

Chisholm, R & Nettheim, G *Understanding law: an introduction to Australia's legal system*, Butterworths, Sydney.
(Modules 2 & 3)

(Modules 2-4)

Crosling, GM & Murphy, HM *How to study business law: reading, writing and exams*, Butterworths, Sydney.
(General reference)

(Module 4)

Evans, MJ, Woodgate, RW & Murphy, PJ *Legal studies for Queensland*, Butterworths, Sydney.
(Modules 2 & 3)

Fleming, JG *The law of torts*, LBC Information Services, North Ryde, New South Wales.
(Modules 5-9)

Gardiner, D *Outline of torts*, Butterworths, Sydney.
(Modules 5-9)

Gifford, DJ *Our legal system*, Law Book Co, North Ryde, New South Wales.
(Modules 2 & 3)

Gifford, DJ & Gifford, KH *How to understand an act of parliament*, Law Book Co, Sydney.
(Module 4)

(Modules 5-9)

Graw, S *Introduction to the law of contract*, LBC Information Services, North Ryde, New South Wales.
(Modules 5-9)

(Modules 2 & 3)

Khoury, D & Yamouni, YS *Understanding contract law*, Butterworths, Sydney.
(Modules 5-9)

Latimer, PS *Australian business law*, CCH Australia Ltd, North Ryde, New South Wales.
(Modules 5-9)

MacAdam, AI & Smith, TM *Statutes: rules and examples*, Butterworths, Sydney.
(Module 4)

Pearce, DC & Geddes, RS *Statutory interpretation in Australia*, Butterworths, Sydney.  
(Senddon, N *Cheshire & Fifoot's law of contract*, LexisNexis Butterworths, Sydney.  
(Stmit, M *Butterworths' student companions: contracts*, Butterworths, Sydney.  
(Sweeney, B & O'Reilly, J *Law in commerce*, 2nd edn, LexisNexis Butterworths,  
(Terry, A & Giugni, D *Business, society and the law*, Thomson Learning Australia, South Melbourne.  
(Vermeeesch, RB & Lindgren, KE *Business law of Australia*, Butterworths, Sydney.  
(Waller, L, Derham, DP & Maher, FKH *Derham, Maher and Waller: an introduction to law*, LBC Information Services, North Ryde, New South Wales.  

### STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Directed Study</td>
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<td>Private Study</td>
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### ASSESSMENT DETAILS

<table>
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<th>Description</th>
<th>Marks out of</th>
<th>Wtg(%)</th>
<th>Due date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ONLINE TEST 1</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>25 Nov 2005</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>(see note 1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ONLINE TEST 2</td>
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<td>02 Dec 2005</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASSIGNMENT</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>09 Jan 2006</td>
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<td>EXAM PART B (MULTIPLE-CHOICE)</td>
<td>11.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>EXAM PART A (WRITTEN)</td>
<td>39.00</td>
<td>39.00</td>
<td>END S3</td>
</tr>
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### NOTES

1. Students are required to complete each online test by the due date. Each online test will be available from the USQConnect Study Desk. Students will not be permitted to attempt any online test after its respective due date.
2. The examination is scheduled to be held in the end-of-semester examination period. Students will be advised of the official examination date for Exam (Parts A and B) after the timetable has been finalised. The total working time for Exam (Parts A and B) is 2 hours.

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

1 Attendance requirements:
If you are an international student in Australia, you are advised to attend all classes at your campus. For all other students, there are no attendance requirements for this course. However, it is the students' responsibility 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 a written assignment that represents 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 submit a written assignment that represents a reasonable attempt as determined by the Examiner, 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 the summative assessment items in the course.

6 Examination information:
This is a restricted examination. Candidates are allowed access to specific materials during the examination. The only materials that candidates may use in the examination for this course are (i) written materials (non-electronic) such as textbooks and personal study notes; and (ii) translation dictionaries (non-electronic).

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) Students must retain a copy of each
item submitted for assessment. This must be produced within 24 hours if required by
the Examiner. (iii) In accordance with University's Assignment Extension Policy
(Regulation 5.6.1), 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 in the appropriate assignment folders. (v) The Examiner
will normally only accept assessments that have been written, typed or printed on
paper-based media. (vi) Students who do not have regular access to postal services or
who are otherwise disadvantaged by these regulations may be given special
consideration. They should contact the Examiner to negotiate such special arrangements.
(vii) 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 Dishonest Actions: (i) Any student who is alleged to have performed a dishonest action
relating to any assessment in the course will have a course of action taken against
him/her as outlined in the Academic Regulations. (ii) Pieces of assessment should be
the work of individual students. Joint pieces of assessment are not permitted unless
written approval has been obtained from the Examiner. (iii) Dishonest action in relation
to assessment includes: copying or attempting to copy the work of others; use of or
attempting to use information prohibited from use in that form of assessment; submitting
the work of another as your own; consciously committing acts of plagiarism, that is,
taking and using another's thoughts or writings as one's own with intent to deceive,
which occurs when paragraphs, sentences, a single sentence or significant parts of a
sentence which are copied directly, are not enclosed in quotation marks and appropriately
footnoted or referenced in the text; direct quotations are not used, but text is paraphrased
or summarised, and the source of the material is not acknowledged by footnoting or
other reference in the text.

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).

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

1 Learning Resources: Prescribed texts and materials (see above); recommended reference
materials (see above); printed Course Planner; CD (compact disc); and course Website
accessible via USQConnect.