



BL502 Fundamentals of Law

Unit Outline

School/Division: Business

Unit Title: Fundamentals of Law

Unit Code: BL502

Level: **Introductory**

Advanced

Prerequisites: Nil

Corequisites: Nil

Exclusion(s): Nil

Credit Points: 15

ASCED Code: 091103

Objectives: Knowledge

- appreciate how law affects people in their everyday lives and that good business practice requires a knowledge of the legal system and its processes
- understand how Australian law is created (sources of law) and changed or developed (through precedent, statutory interpretation and legislation)
- gain knowledge about, and develop an interest in, how the Australian legal system works and compare this with other legal systems
- gain knowledge about a business and of the legal principles of contract and agency that are fundamental to good business practice and which will provide you with the foundation to study further legal areas

Skills

- develop your ability to think logically, analytically and critically and to articulate your thoughts in writing and orally
- develop your problem-solving and information literacy skills
- recognise legal issues and determine what steps need to be taken to manage any legal risks; and to communicate effectively with legal advisers
- take responsibility for your own learning and to critically evaluate your own and other's work



Values

- appreciate that the law is influenced by social, economic, political and/or international considerations
- appreciate that the law affects both business decision making and business practice
- appreciate the empowerment a knowledge of law gives both business and consumers
- develop a desire to be an active learner, one who reads, reflects, discusses, writes, makes linkages
- see learning as a life long process
- reflect on your weaknesses and strengths and how you learn

Content:

This subject covers the following topic areas and addresses the following questions:

Framework of Australia Law

- What is 'the law' and where do you find it?
- How does law interact with business and the community?
- What legal systems exist, which one do we have in Australia and why?
- How does the Australian legal system operate?
- How are case law and legislation made, changed and developed?
- How are legal problems 'solved'?

An introduction to business structures

- Under what structures can business operate?
- What are these structures' respective advantages and disadvantages?

Contract law

- What is the source of contract law?
- How do you know you have a contract?
- How do you know what your rights and obligations are under the contract?
- How do you know if a contract is valid and enforceable, including in an online environment?
- How do you know when a contract has come to an end?
- What rights do you have if a contract is breached?

Tort law

- What is a tort?
- What are the principles of the tort of negligence? What are the principles governing occupier's liability? How do these principles affect businesses and the community?
- What are the principles of professional negligence and how do they affect business professionals and the community?
- What is vicarious liability? Who does it affect, and how?

Learning Tasks & Assessment:

Learning Task	Assessment	Weighting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • participating in tutorials and completing tutorial exercises • problem solving • summarising and reviewing 	Test(s)	0-30%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sourcing, researching and interpreting law • analysing and critical 	Assignment	20-30%



thinking • drafting • writing		
• completing tutorial exercises • summarising and reviewing • consolidation of learning law and understanding concepts • analysing cases • problem solving	Exam	50-60%

Adopted Reference Style

APA Australian MLA Chicago

Other (please specify)

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