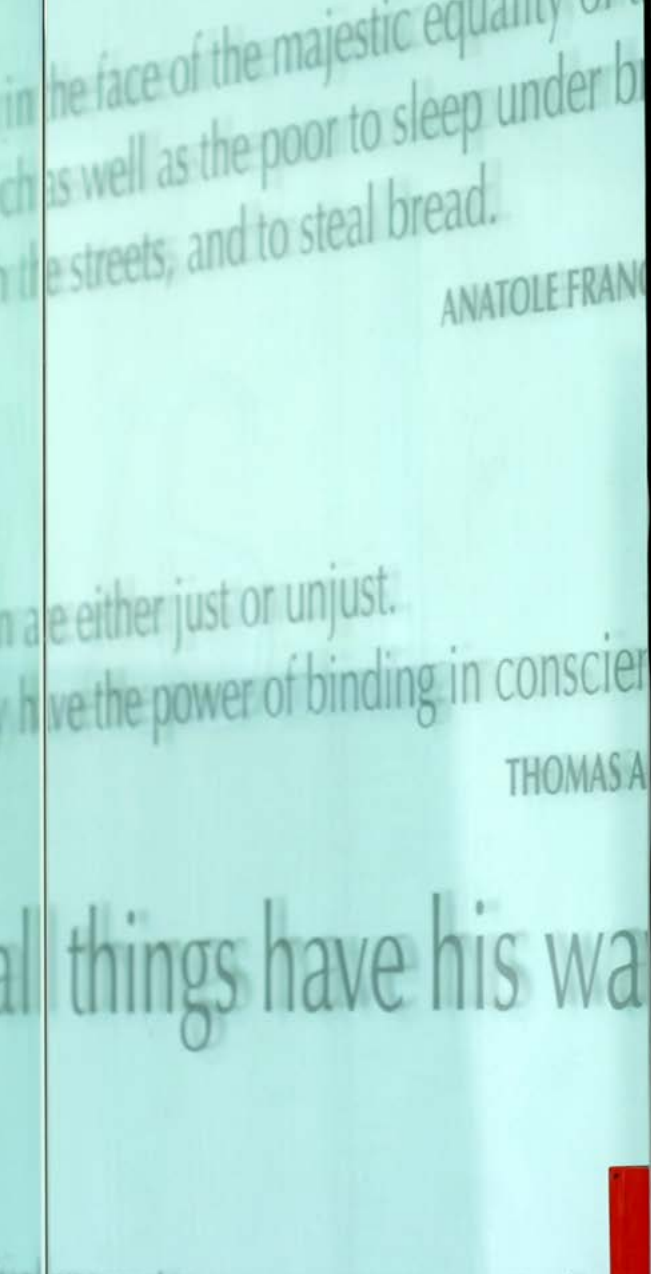


Kingsford Legal Centre Clinical Legal Education Guide



Your guide to CLE courses offered by
Australian universities in 2019/20



Law

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Introduction

Welcome to the thirteenth edition of the Clinical Legal Education Guide to courses offered in Australian Universities.



This publication lists clinical legal education courses offered in Australian Universities. It is great to see law schools around the country diversifying their clinical offerings, providing even greater opportunities for experiential learning and hands-on clinical legal education within their curricula. As universities review their curricula, many have been inspired to develop and expand their clinical legal education offerings. There are now numerous street law clinical courses being offered at Griffith University, Murdoch University and UNSW as well as various human rights clinics. A newer growth area is the use of apps to provide legal services and University of Melbourne offers a course around this development in law as does UNSW. Monash University has also grown its experiential learning offerings with its new clinical guarantee, and appointed Australia's first Associate Dean of Experiential Education, Professor Jeff Giddings. These are all great and very welcome developments in Australian clinical legal education.

Indeed, in the last year we have had an Australian symposium on clinical legal education hosted by UNSW in April, and the International Journal of Clinical legal education conference co-hosted by Monash University in November. Both events were great opportunities to share experience and grow the Australian clinical legal education movement.

There is a strong demand from students to learn about the law and its impact on disadvantaged communities; critique the law and legal system, as well as reflecting on their role as future lawyers. Clinical legal education provides this while developing students' legal skills. Embedding experiential education into law schools' curricula is the challenge for clinical academics and practitioners into the future.

As universities continue to experience financial pressure, we are confident that law schools will continue to appreciate the deep learning which students gain by participating in clinical legal education. We hope this Guide provides some inspiration to law schools wishing to grow and develop their experiential learning offerings.

Associate Professor Anna Cody

DIRECTOR

Kingsford Legal Centre

Faculty of Law

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Australian National University

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Overview

The ANU College of Law offers a range of clinical courses and placement opportunities to allow current Bachelor of Laws (Honours) and Juris Doctor students to gain practical experience during their legal education. Clinical placements are also available to students undertaking the Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice (GDLP) at ANU.

Objectives

Our clinical courses aim to:

- Contextualise the study of law and student learning in a wide range of other courses;
- Guide and support students in identifying, developing and applying ethical legal practice skills;
- Develop students' critical understanding of approaches to legal practice, the roles of lawyers in relation to individual clients and social justice issues; and
- Encourage and validate student aspirations to promote access to justice and equality before the law.

COURSE 1: Community Law Clinic

Description

During this course students undertake a clinical placement at Canberra Community Law, a community legal centre for low-income and disadvantaged people from the ACT. Students gain hands-on experience in a community legal practice environment, provide legal information and undertake casework under the supervision of practising solicitors.

Course details

- **Unit value:** 6 unit elective
- **Offered in:** Semesters 1 & 2
- **Programs:** Bachelor of Laws (Honours), Juris Doctor
- **Mode of delivery:** A two-day orientation session (compulsory); weekly seminars and onsite work for one full day per week during the course
- **Indicative assessment:** Evaluation of onsite work at Canberra Community Law; seminar participation; reflective assessment; a research project and presentation

Contact:

Coordinator Genevieve Bolton

COURSE 2: Environmental Law Clinic

Description

During this course, students undertake a clinical placement at the Environmental Defenders Office in the ACT under the supervision of practising solicitors. Students gain practical legal skills in environmental and planning law. Students also have the opportunity to explore law reform issues relating to environmental justice and consider the role of lawyers in this field of practice.

Course details

- **Unit value:** 6 unit elective
- **Offered in:** Semesters 1 & 2
- **Programs:** Bachelor of Laws (Honours), Juris Doctor
- **Mode of delivery:** A two-day orientation session (compulsory); weekly seminars and onsite work for one full day per week during the course
- **Indicative assessment:** Evaluation of onsite work at the Environmental Defenders Office; seminar participation; a reflective assessment; a research project and presentation

Contact:

Coordinator Steph Booker; *Convenor* Dr James Prest

COURSE 3: Indigenous Community Law Clinic

Description

During this course, students undertake a clinical placement at the Aboriginal Legal Service (NSW/ACT) under the supervision of practising solicitors. The focus of this placement is on promoting access to justice and equality before the law for Indigenous people. Students are encouraged to critically reflect on the effect of the law and the delivery of social justice to Indigenous people.

Course details

- **Unit value:** 6 unit elective
- **Offered in:** Semesters 1 & 2
- **Programs:** Bachelor of Laws (Honours), Juris Doctor
- **Mode of delivery:** A two-day orientation session (compulsory); weekly seminars and onsite work for one full day per week during the course
- **Indicative assessment:** Evaluation of onsite work at the Aboriginal Legal Service; seminar participation; reflective assessment; a research project and presentation

Contact:

Convenors Amy Begley and Dr Anthony Hopkins

COURSE 4: Myanmar Clinic

Description

Offered in partnership with Bridges Across Borders South East Asia Community Legal Education, this course includes a work placement in Myanmar. Students gain practical experience in a developing country through the delivery of community legal education sessions delivered to Myanmar law teachers and other students. During this course, students also get to see first-hand the legal and social justice issues arising in a country transitioning to democracy.

Course details

- **Unit value:** 6 unit elective
- **Offered in:** Summer Session
- **Programs:** Bachelor of Laws (Honours), Juris Doctor
- **Mode of delivery:** Pre and post travel workshops (compulsory) and onsite work in-country (one week training; two weeks in a Myanmar university)
- **Indicative assessment:** Pre and post workshop engagement; a weekly reflective journal while in-country and a research project and presentation

Contact:

Convenors
Associate Professor Vivien Holmes and Dr Anne McDuff

COURSE 5: Prison Legal Literacy Clinic

Description

During this course, students get to work with other students to deliver interactive legal literacy sessions to a cohort of detainees at the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC), the only adult prison in the ACT. Topics are chosen by detainees and are as diverse as detainee interests, ranging from parole to family law. Students get to explore social justice and law reform issues in relation to detainee experiences.

Course details

- **Unit value:** 6 unit elective
- **Offered in:** Semesters 1 & 2
- **Programs:** Bachelor of Laws (Honours), Juris Doctor
- **Mode of delivery:** Compulsory Security Awareness training; a two hour pre-course training session; six legal literacy sessions (during the first 6 weeks of the semester) and three two-hour research workshops (during the remaining 6 weeks of the semester)
- **Indicative assessment:** Evaluation of legal literacy sessions at the Alexander Maconochie Centre; a reflective assessment; a research project and presentation

Contacts:

Convenors Professor Mark Nolan and Dr Anthony Hopkins

COURSE 6: Public Interest Law Clinic

Description

During this course, students undertake a work placement at an ACT community agency. Students gain practical legal skills in public interest law and get to critically consider legal practice approaches and the role of lawyers in relation to individual clients and client groups.

Course details

- **Unit value:** 6 unit elective
- **Offered in:** Semesters 1 & 2
- **Programs:** Bachelor of Laws (Honours), Juris Doctor
- **Mode of delivery:** A two-day orientation session (compulsory); weekly seminars and onsite work for one full day per week during the course
- **Indicative assessment:** Evaluation of onsite work at the community agency; seminar participation; a reflective assessment; a research project and presentation

Contact:

Convenor Amy Kilpatrick

COURSE 7: Youth Law Clinic

Description

During this course, students undertake a clinical placement in the Youth Law Centre, a non-profit legal service for ACT youth aged 12–25 years. Students gain hands-on experience in a community legal practice environment, provide legal assistance to young people under the supervision of practising solicitors and explore social justice and law reform issues in relation to youth legal needs in the ACT.

Course details

- **Unit value:** 6 unit elective
- **Offered in:** Semesters 1 & 2
- **Programs:** Bachelor of Laws (Honours), Juris Doctor
- **Mode of delivery:** A two-day orientation session (compulsory); weekly seminars and onsite work for one full day per week during the course
- **Indicative assessment:** Evaluation of onsite work at the Youth Law Centre; seminar participation; reflective assessment; a research project and presentation

Contact:

Coordinator Brice Hamack; *Convenor* Mary Spiers-Williams

COURSE 8: Law internship

Description

Law internship placements are available within a variety of Commonwealth and Australian Capital Territory government departments, statutory bodies, community legal centres and other non-government organisations. Internships are also available under the supervision of a member of the ANU College of Law. In addition, students may arrange their own internship with a suitable organisation and professional supervisor, opening up the possibility to choose organisations and locations that best suit their future career interests. The professional supervisor of an intern must be a lawyer. Applications to complete self-arranged internships will be approved where they meet the requirements of the course.

Course details

- **Unit value:** 6 units
- **Offered in:** Summer session, Semester 1, Winter Session and Semester 2
- **Programs:** Bachelor of Laws (Honours), Juris Doctor
- **Mode of delivery:** Students are generally expected to devote at least 10 hours overall per week to this course, with approximately the equivalent of one day per week spent in the workplace
- **Indicative assessment:** A research paper and reflective course report

Contact:

Program Administrator Marleya Isua

COURSE 9: Kimberley Community Legal Services – ANU College of Law initiative

Description

This place based initiative launched in August 2017 by the ANU Vice Chancellor and Senator Patrick Dodson aims to increase KCLS resources and capacity to respond to the civil law and civil justice needs of Aboriginal people in the Kimberley region of Western Australia.

Students undertake work placement as a paralegal with KCLS via the KCLS-ANU Hotdesk at the ANU Law School and/or with KCLS in the Kimberley. Students gain practical legal skills focusing on client casework, law reform and community legal education while engaging with Indigenous justice issues. The latter includes ethical, moral, legal, social and political dimensions of the cultural interface. The KCLS-ANU Hotdesk initiative is supported by pro bono contributions of ANU legal academics in areas of expertise (e.g. social security, employment law, credit and debt, civil procedure, wills and estates, coronial practice and historical injustice).

KCLS-ANU Hotdesk details

- **Unit value:** law students volunteer or undertake a law internship (6 unit elective)
- **Offered:** throughout the year, Mon-Fri on WA time zone matching KCLS work hours. Breaks for exams and Christmas
- **Programs:** Bachelor of Laws (Honours), Juris Doctor
- **Mode of delivery:** onsite work one full day per week, minimum 12 weeks, orientation facilitated by Hotdesk Coordinators (who are experienced law student KCLS volunteers) and Hotdesk shift leaders. Students are supervised remotely by KCLS lawyers in the Kimberley facilitated by the KCLS-ANU Project Coordinator (an ANU academic and KCLS pro bono lawyer) who works remotely from students and KCLS
- **Indicative assessment:** law interns prepare a research paper and a reflective course report

Paralegal experience with KCLS in the Kimberley details – Graduate Diploma Clinical Experience

- **Unit value:** law students volunteer or undertake a law internship (6 unit elective) or undertake GDLP legal practice experience (50 days, 9 units; 80 days 12 units)
- **Offered:** throughout the year except Christmas break (3 weeks)
- **Programs:** Bachelor of Laws (Honours), Juris Doctor, Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice
- **Mode of delivery:** onsite work full time with KCLS in Kununurra or Broome for the agreed period, supervised by KCLS lawyers
- **Indicative assessment:** as above for law interns. GDLP students are assessed as having completed the required legal practice experience

Contact:

KCLS-ANU Project Coordinator Judy Harrison and *KCLS Principal Lawyers* Hannah Levy (Kununurra) and Karen Findlay-Groves (Broome)



Bond University

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Convenor: Francina Cantatore

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COURSE 1: Family Law Legal Practice Clinic

Description

The Family Law Legal Practice Clinic is an intermediate level elective law subject in the Juris Doctor program. Students enrolled in this subject attend a family law firm (or family law department of a law firm) one day per week for 12 weeks. Students deal with issues such as property settlement, child support, child maintenance, divorce and family violence in the context of practising family law. Course credit – 10.

COURSE 2: Clinical Legal Placement

Description

The Clinical Legal Placement exposes students to general public interest law through service in community legal centres (CLCs) in Queensland. Students learn valuable real-life skills, and an appreciation of the professional responsibilities of lawyers. After learning about the history, philosophy and law governing practice of CLCs, students are placed in one or more clinics for 4-12 weeks to experience community law in operation. They also prepare research papers analysing contemporary legal problems, and reflect on their experiences in the community law centre. Course credit – 10.

COURSE 3: Litigation Clinic

Description

The Litigation Clinic provides students with exposure to general public interest law issues through service at LawRight, one day per week for 12 weeks. Students assist self-represented litigants and deal with Administrative Law such as social security, immigration, and children's services, guardianship, and corrective services law. Students research legal and procedural issues, interview, prepare materials and provide advice supervised by qualified practitioners. Students are assessed on their overall performance at the clinic. Students must attend the clinic one day every week over the semester under the supervision of a law faculty representative. Course credit – 10.





Curtin University

University Curtin University

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Brief Overview

Curtin Law School accepted its first intake of students in 2013, offering a professionally focused undergraduate legal education. It is the first law school in Western Australia to be located in the Perth CBD, in the heart of the legal precinct.

Currently, both clinical and internship placement programs are available as optional units to students enrolled in the Bachelor of Laws.

The vision for Curtin Law School includes a postgraduate Practical Legal Training course with an embedded clinical legal education component. The Law School is in the process of seeking approval to offer that course from mid-year 2019.

COURSE 1: John Curtin Law Clinic (LAWS3005)

Description

The mission of the John Curtin Law Clinic is to enhance the education of Curtin law students and improve access to justice through supervised professional experience. We do this by:

- creating opportunities for students to engage in professional activities in a supervised, clinical legal education environment;
- providing legal aid to small businesses;
- encouraging students to critically reflect on their roles and responsibilities as future members of the legal profession; and
- giving students training and development opportunities to develop their professional skills.

The Law Clinic's services are provided to small businesses who are unable to afford, or ineligible to receive, legal assistance elsewhere.

Key features

Prior to starting work in the Clinic, students attend two days of induction and training during which they are introduced to the Clinic's policies and procedures and also attend applied legal research and client interview skills workshops.

Over 11 weeks, students meet between 3 and 6 small business clients. Under the supervision of experienced legal practitioners, students are responsible for taking instructions from clients, carrying out legal research, preparing letters of advice and court documents, and delivering advice and information to clients. Client work is complemented by ongoing reflective exercises, weekly seminars, and occasional guest lectures and workshops delivered by external legal practitioners.

Throughout their time in the Clinic, students receive continuous instruction and mentoring to develop their practical legal skills, including interviewing techniques, effective and precise legal drafting, giving advice, legal ethics, instructing counsel, file management (including keeping file notes) and commercial strategy.

This unit is assessed on a pass/fail basis and is comprised of periodic reflection exercises, client portfolio work and professional practice skills including appropriate engagement with clients. Course credit – 25.0



COURSE 2: Legal Internship (LAWS2011)

Description

The Legal Internship Program is a dedicated unit within the Law School curriculum. The unit gives students the opportunity to work in a legal environment for one day a week for 13 weeks, or an equivalent amount undertaken intensively, for academic credit.

Students have the opportunity to contextualise the study of law; to identify, develop and apply legal practice skills; to critically analyse and reflect on the law in practice and its impact on individuals and society; and to foster an appreciation and awareness of legal ethics in a practical context.

Key features

Places are quota restricted. Students are selected on the basis of their academic record, their Expression of Interest and a short interview with the unit-coordinator. The course is only available to domestic students.

This unit is assessed on a pass/fail basis. Course credit – 25.0



Deakin University

University: Deakin University

Convenors Rebecca Tisdale & Syd Balachandran – Clinical Solicitors of Deakin Law Clinic

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Convenor Cassandra Seery (MLL351 Legal Internship)

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Website <http://www.deakin.edu.au/law>

Brief Overview of Deakin Law Clinic

Deakin Law Clinic is a community legal service offering free legal advice and assistance to people experiencing disadvantage in their access to justice, or whose matters are conducted in the public interest.

Based in the Melbourne CBD, Deakin Law Clinic aims to provide legal advice, assistance and information to the vulnerable and disadvantaged, and to also educate the broader community in relation to their legal rights and access to justice issues.

As a teaching law firm, Deakin Law Clinic forms a central part of Deakin Law School's clinical legal education programme providing legal placement for advanced students of Deakin Law School under the supervision of qualified legal practitioners and offering opportunities for students to build the legal skills that underpin their academic training. Students work in an office environment, deal with clients, research and provide strategic legal solutions, and engage with various parties including clients, parties on the other side as well as supervisors and colleagues.

COURSE 1: Civil and Commercial Law Clinic

Description

The Civil and Commercial Law Clinic provides legal services in contract law, consumer law and victims of crime compensation chosen to give students professional experiences touching the key types of legal problems, parties, decision makers and tribunals that will give students an insight into the diversity and complexity of legal practice.

Students will manage their own legal matters under supervision of the Clinical Solicitors from initial client intake and interview to final outcome and closing of file (subject to Clinic time limits). Students develop professional skills through the challenge of applying theoretical legal knowledge to real world clients in order to develop legal solutions that meet client needs. The Civil and Commercial Law Clinic develops employment ready skills and gives students the opportunity to critically look at the legal systems and the opportunities to engage in law reform.

Key features:

- Civil and Commercial Law Clinic runs every trimester (for 12 weeks) at Deakin Law School. Trimester 1 is from March to May; Trimester 2 is from July to September; and Trimester 3 is from November to January;
- As part of the Civil and Commercial Law Clinic, students have ongoing seminars in the areas of legal ethics, client interviewing, plain English drafting, and briefing barristers (counsel);
- All students complete a compulsory induction before starting onsite;
- Civil and Commercial Law Clinic currently involves mandatory attendance at Deakin Law Clinic for two days a week.
- This subject is available to undergraduate students (LLB students) and post-graduate students (JD students and LLM students)
- Course credit - 1

COURSE 2: Criminal Law Clinic

Description

The Criminal Law Clinic provides services to clients who have been charged with summary or indictable offences. The Clinic also undertakes appeal work and research work in appropriate cases. Under the supervision of the Clinical Solicitors, students will be engaged in the criminal law process from commencement to conclusion. This includes providing legal advice to clients, undertake ongoing casework, undertaking legal research in relation to appeals, briefing counsel, and in appropriate cases, appearing for clients in court and or instructing counsel who appear for clients in court.

Students also observe at the Melbourne Magistrates' Court or the County Court of Victoria, on a designated day. Observing other members of the profession at work is a critical part of this learning experience.

By undertaking this unit, students acquire a diverse range of practical legal skills including: the capacity to undertake legal research and apply legal research to factual scenarios; the ability to synthesise professional, technical and ethical knowledge acquired in the law degree and apply it in a practical legal context; skills in critical thinking and legal judgment; the capacity to independently devise legal solutions for complex legal problems; and the capacity to identify and respond to ethical, moral and professional dilemmas in legal practice. Students also develop an appreciation of social justice issues and have a heightened awareness of the operation of the criminal justice system, law reform needs and policy issues which face courts and criminal lawyers.

Key features:

- Criminal Law Clinic runs every trimester (for 12 weeks) at Deakin Law School. Trimester 1 is from March to May; Trimester 2 is from July to September; and Trimester 3 is from November to January;
- As part of the Criminal Law Clinic, students have ongoing seminars in the areas of legal ethics, client interviewing, plain English drafting, and briefing barristers (counsel);
- All students complete a compulsory induction before starting onsite;
- Criminal Law Clinic currently involves mandatory attendance at Deakin Law Clinic for two days a week.
- This subject is available to undergraduate students (LLB students) and post-graduate students (JD students)
- Course credit - 1

COURSE 3: Employment Law Clinic

Description

The Employment Law Clinic focuses on rights in the workplace, with a particular emphasis on the federal laws governing the employer/employee relationship and state and federal laws that prohibit discrimination. The unit will address issues such as the formation of an employment or

independent contractor relationship, rights and obligations during the relationship and the termination of a relationship and may also address issues such as employment benefits, wage and hour claims, severance negotiations, union issues, workplace safety, and more.

The Employment Law Clinic provides legal services over a range of legal issues in the area of Employment Law to give students professional experiences touching the key types of legal problems, parties, decision makers and tribunals that will give students an insight into the diversity and complexity of legal practice in the area of employment law.

The skills learnt in this unit will be useful for students who wish to practice law (particularly employment law), along with students interested in policy, government and social justice career pathways. The Clinic develops employment ready skills and gives students the opportunity to critically look at the legal systems and the opportunities to engage in law reform in the employment law domain.

Key features:

- Employment Law Clinic runs every trimester (for 12 weeks) at Deakin Law School. Trimester 1 is from March to May; Trimester 2 is from July to September; and Trimester 3 is from November to January;
- As part of the Employment Law Clinic, students have ongoing seminars in the areas of legal ethics, client interviewing, plain English drafting, and briefing barristers (counsel);
- All students complete a compulsory induction before starting onsite;
- Employment Law Clinic currently involves mandatory attendance at Deakin Law Clinic for two days a week.
- This subject is available to undergraduate students (LLB students) and post-graduate students (JD students)
- Course credit - 1

COURSE 4: Family Law Clinic

Description

The Family Law Clinic offers family law assistance to community members, while at the same time providing legal students the opportunity to gain invaluable practical experience. The Family Law Clinic will provide assistance and exposure to matters relating to divorce, parenting orders, property, family violence orders and assistance for orders reached by consent.

The Family Law Clinic provides legal services over a range of legal issues in the area of Family Law to give students professional experiences touching on the key types of legal problems, parties, decision makers and courts that will give students an insight into the diversity and complexity of legal practice in the area of family law.

The skills learnt in this unit will be useful for students who wish to practice law (particularly family law), along with students interested in policy, government and social justice career pathways. Students will manage their own legal matters under supervision of Clinic Solicitors from initial



client intake and interview to final outcome and closing of file (subject to Clinic time limits). Students will develop professional skills through the challenge of applying theoretical legal knowledge to real world clients in order to develop strategic legal solutions that meet client needs. The Clinic develops employment ready skills and gives students the opportunity to critically look at the legal systems and the opportunities to engage in law reform.

Key features:

- Family Law Clinic runs every trimester (for 12 weeks) at Deakin Law School. Trimester 1 is from March to May; Trimester 2 is from July to September; and Trimester 3 is from November to January;
- As part of the Family Law Clinic, students have ongoing seminars in the areas of legal ethics, client interviewing, plain English drafting, and briefing barristers (counsel);
- All students complete a compulsory induction before starting onsite;
- Family Law Clinic currently involves mandatory attendance at Deakin Law Clinic for two days a week.
- This subject is available to undergraduate students (LLB students) and post-graduate students (JD students)
- Course credit - 1

COURSE 5: Venture Law Clinic

Description

The Venture Law Clinic works with those in the entrepreneurial and start-up community to provide legal information and assistance. This service provides assistance to clients in the critical stages of their business in areas such as entity formation and registration, shareholders agreements, intellectual property protection, contractual arrangements and regulatory compliance. The Venture Law Clinic legal assistance to start-ups and entrepreneurs, who may need help navigating areas of law which are rapidly changing, or are entirely new.

The Venture Law Clinic helps students to build on their practical legal skills, including client interviewing skills, legal writing and drafting skills. Students gain first-hand experience in working with real start-up companies under the supervision of the course instructor and supervisor, and experienced legal practitioners, getting the opportunity to deepen and critically reflect upon their substantive legal knowledge in entrepreneurial law and business law while developing critical professional skills through the direct representation of start-up businesses.

Key features:

- Venture Law Clinic runs every trimester (for 12 weeks) at Deakin Law School. Trimester 1 is from March to May; Trimester 2 is from July to September; and Trimester 3 is from November to January;
- As part of the Venture Law Clinic, students have ongoing seminars in the areas of legal ethics, director's duties and obligations, capital raising, client interviewing, plain English drafting, and briefing barristers (counsel);

- All students complete a compulsory induction before starting onsite;
- Venture Law Clinic currently involves mandatory attendance at Deakin Law Clinic for two days a week.
- This subject is available to undergraduate students (LLB students) and post-graduate students (JD students, LLM students and Masters of Accounting and Laws students)
- Course credit - 1

COURSE 6: MLL351 Legal Internship

Description

MLL351 Legal Internship is a 1-credit point unit which enables students to gain an appreciation of certain aspects of legal practice with a selection of host organisations that include a range of Community Legal Centres (CLCs), Victoria Legal Aid, corporate in-house counsel and other independent legal services. This unit requires students to undertake a minimum of 100 hours of placement over the course of a trimester.

This unit allows students to extend and deepen their theoretical knowledge of the law by working under supervision of a lawyer. During their placement in the law firm or legal service, students will receive instruction in the following areas of legal practice:

- taking instructions and client interviewing;
- dispute resolution and negotiation;
- legal writing;
- legal research and problem-solving;
- the litigation process;
- advocacy.

External placement opportunities such as those offered in MLL351 allow law students to gain experience in a variety of areas, including: family law, family violence, criminal law, social security law, victims compensation, disability law and civil matters, especially debts and motor vehicle accidents.

- Students are graded on a fail to high distinction scale. The assessments include a pre-placement task (20%), a host assessment (40%), a student journal (30%) and online participation (10%). Course credit - 1

The overall aims of the Unit are:

- to contribute to the service delivery capacity of the organisation, including provision of information, advice and casework to clients and to legal education and law reform projects and strategies;
- to provide students with a professional practice experience in a community law environment, contributing to their development of good lawyering skills; and
- to provide an opportunity for students to critically analyse and reflect upon issues including ethics, access to justice and equity within the legal system and the impact of these on social justice.

Edith Cowan University

University: Edith Cowan University – School of Business & Law

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COURSE 1: LAW3602 Community Legal Practice

Description

This unit teaches students interviewing and problem solving, legal research and analysis, and file management, oral and written communication skills. Under the supervision of qualified legal practitioners, students assist in the delivery of legal services, allowing students to apply much of the theoretical knowledge acquired in other law units. Students also learn about the practical and ethical aspects of giving legal advice including management of client expectations and confidentiality, and are encouraged to reflect upon the adequacy of the law within a social context. Reflecting the School of Business & Law's commitment to social justice, the unit is conducted in association with participating community legal centres, principally the Northern Suburbs Community Legal Centre (Inc) which is committed to developing and maintaining a quality legal service that ensures access and equality to the community in the northern suburbs of Perth in the areas of family law, tenant advocacy, elder abuse and criminal law.

Assignment

- Practical legal tasks as assigned by the supervising legal practitioner 70%

Practicum

- Reflective journal experiences in Community Legal Centre (Inc) Practicum 30%

Students must attend and participate in the work of the Community Legal Centre for approximately 70 hours throughout the duration of the semester. Course credit – 15.





Flinders University

University: Flinders University

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Brief Overview

The Flinders Legal Advice Clinic (FLAC) was established by the then Flinders Law School as an independent legal service in August 2012.

Prior to this date law students had the opportunity to volunteer with the Adelaide Magistrates Court Legal Advice Service (at that time co-supported by Adelaide University Law School and Flinders University Law School).

FLAC initially provided advice on-site at the Christies Beach Magistrates Court.

In 2013 FLAC also began providing advice on-site at the Flinders University Student Hub.

Advice is provided On-Campus (in the Flinders University Student Hub), at Coinda Neighbourhood Centre, Marion, SA, and from the Flinders Tonsley campus (in collaboration with the New Venture Institute). The clinic also manages a Legal Tech Clinic creating legal technology and provides an externship to the Welfare Rights Centre Inc. (supporting the centre's social security appeal work).

The Clinic is staffed by academic lawyers from Flinders Law and both employed and volunteer solicitors, with students undertaking LLAW3302 Law In Action and both student and graduate volunteers.

First year law students can undertake a one day First Year Clinic Placement Programme for credit in the first-year course LLAW1221 Professional Skills and Ethics.

COURSE 1: Law in Action

Description:

Law in Action is offered each semester. This course is an experiential learning opportunity which adapts its specific clinical experiences to changing community needs and technological changes. Clinics available in 2019 include two live client generalist advice clinics, an intensive specialist clinic (workshop presentation and legal advice provided to entrepreneurial start-ups), a legal tech creation clinic, and an externship.

Students in the general legal advice clinics must attend a minimum of 12 placement days throughout the semester. During these clinics they will interact directly with clients and provide written legal advice covering various areas of law. They will also consider issues of justice, access to legal assistance, and the role of law in society, plus examine ethical issues and concepts of professionalism and client-centred practice. Course credit – 4.5

Griffith University

University: Griffith University

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Griffith University Innocence Project

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Member, International Committee, Innocence Network

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Brief Overview

The clinical program offers students a range of work integrated learning options.

Students complete the University's Work Integrated Learning (WIL) induction before they commence any clinical work. Our in-house clinic, the Griffith University Innocence Project, runs in partnership with private legal firms. The other clinical courses are run in partnership with external agencies such as community legal centres, government, courts, private law firms and barristers.

Common Objectives

The Griffith clinical courses share a few common objectives, including:

- Providing a work integrated learning experience which requires students to take responsibility for their work under supervision;
- Developing students' critical understanding of the legal system, ethics, social justice and the role of lawyers, by encouraging reflective practice while respecting confidentiality;
- Placing learning in context and encouraging the critical development of a professional identity;
- Sharing legal information and solutions to empower clients and to promote access and equity,

Specific clinical learning objectives include the ability to:

- Subject the legal system to analysis and criticism;
- Deal effectively with unstructured situations;
- Enhance students' understanding of substantive law in practice;
- Utilise theoretical legal skills in practical situations;
- Work collaboratively with applicants for assistance, fellow students and supervisors;
- Identify, understand and respond to issues of professional responsibility as they arise in legal practice;

COURSE 1: The onsite Griffith University Innocence Project

Description

The Griffith University Innocence Project is an in-house clinic, conducted by GLS academic Ms Lynne Weathered at the Gold Coast campus, in conjunction with law firms, Nyst Legal and Behlau Murakami Grant. The Griffith University Innocence Project takes on cases where initial investigations support assertions that a person has been wrongfully convicted and where innocence may be established through the use of DNA technology, or in exceptional circumstances through other new evidence of innocence.

The course commences with a five-hour intensive introductory session in week 1 of semester, conducted by the Course Convenor/Director of the Project, which provides essential information prior to students beginning their case work. Students are then allocated into teams and are guided through the deconstruction and intensive investigative review of the cases by the Director/Convenor and following the instructions from the lawyers who are ultimately responsible for the applicant's case. Students need to allocate the equivalent of one day per week to their work on the Project and for weekly meetings with the lawyers. A procedural manual is accessible to students and steps out the required procedures and protocols on handling materials.

Assessment consists of:

- individual project work (60%),
- documentary file management (30% - group mark) and
- reflection piece (10%).

COURSE 2: Community Lawyering Clinic

Description

This elective course is offered in partnership with the Gold Coast Community Legal Centre & Advice Bureau Inc. 6 students attend weekly placements at the GCCLC for a trimester, where they interview and advise GCCLC clients under supervision. The group seminars allow time for student reflection and for sharing clinic experiences, which is valued by students. Course themes include supervision, encouraging reflective practice to develop a critical understanding of the legal system, ethics, social justice and the role of lawyers in the legal system. Presentation topics include substantive legal issues, lawyering skills and ethical practice.



Assessment consists of:

- placement performance (60%),
- seminar participation and presentation (25%) and
- reflective journal (15%).

COURSE 3: Advanced Family Law Clinic

Description

Students must have completed Family Law to be eligible for this elective clinic, which is run in partnership with Caxton Legal Centre. The students spend a day a week for a Trimester at the centre, interviewing and advising Family Law clients under supervision on issues including divorce, maintenance, access, custody and family violence. They are encouraged to take a multi-disciplinary approach, for example by working in partnership with the centre's social workers. Course themes include supervision, encouraging reflective practice to develop a critical understanding of the legal system, ethics, social justice and the role of lawyers in the legal system.

Assessment includes:

- placement performance (60%),
- seminar participation and presentation (25%) and
- observation/ reflective journal (20%).

COURSE 4: Legal Clinic

Description

This elective course is run in partnership with Caxton Legal Centre. 6 students attend the centre one day a week for a trimester. They interview and advise clients on a range of issues including consumer law, minor crime, traffic matters, neighbourhood disputes, family law, tenancy and debt. The students research and draft letters, court and other legal documents. Course themes include supervision, encouraging reflective practice to develop a critical understanding of the legal system, ethics, social justice and the role of lawyers in the legal system. Students are encouraged to take a multi-disciplinary approach, for example by working in partnership with the centre's social workers.

Assessment consists of:

- 65% for the placement performance,
- work on a community education project addressing a casework-generated issue or a "virtual" client problem (15%) and
- small group presentation (20%).

COURSE 5: Refugee Law and Policy Clinic

Description

This elective course is run in partnership with Refugee and Immigration Legal Service (RAILS). Students must have studied Immigration and Refugee law to be eligible. The 6 students work under the supervision of experienced lawyers to assist clients, for example to claim refugee status or advance family reunion claims.

This includes researching country of origin information, gathering and collating evidence, writing submissions and client advocacy. Students are also involved in group work on refugee law projects as identified by RAILS. Course themes include displacement, trauma, working cross culturally, working with interpreters, supervision, encouraging reflective practice to develop a critical understanding of the legal system, ethics, social justice and the role of lawyers in the legal system.

Assessment consists of:

- placement performance (60%),
- a reflective journal (20%) and
- seminar participation and presentation (20%).

COURSE 6: Trimester in Practice

Description

20 students spend a day a week for a trimester in a variety of workplaces, including law firms, barristers' chambers, Community Legal Centres and Government. Students are mentored and coached by a designated supervisor from the host organisation. Course themes include effective supervision, encouraging reflective practice to develop a critical understanding of the legal system, ethics, social justice and the role of lawyers in the legal system.

Students attend fortnightly seminars to explore the course themes and share what they have learned on the job, while observing strict confidentiality. They reflect on the range of legal workplaces, roles and cultures through readings and discussions. They are also encouraged to critically reflect on the development of their own professional identities.

Assessment consists of:

- 55% for placement performance which is settled in consultation with the on-site supervisor,
- 20% for seminar contributions and
- 25% for a reflectively journal submitted fortnightly with a final longer piece at the end.

COURSE 7: Social Justice Lawyering

Description

This elective course is run in partnership with Law Right. 6 students assess applications for assistance from Law Right. They review the evidence, research the options and prepare recommendations. Students consider public policy issues and the need for law reform. They test their skills in research, issue identification, legal analysis and their oral and written communication skills. Course themes include teamwork, supervision, encouraging reflective practice to develop a critical understanding of the legal system, ethics, social justice and the role of lawyers in the legal system.

Assessment consists of:

- placement performance (65%),
- a reflective journal (15%) and
- seminar participation and presentation (20%).



COURSE 8: Street Law

Description

Street Law provides students with a window into the world of community legal education, which is key to the effectiveness of community legal centres, legal aid commissions and even law firms. Responsive and adaptable communication skills make for effective lawyers, and community education hones this skill. Students develop strategies to convey legal information tailored to the interests of the target audience.

Course themes include the role of community education in promoting access and equity in the legal system, learning styles, presentation techniques, encouraging interactive learning, encouraging reflective practice, promoting social justice and empowering disadvantaged groups.

Assessment consists of:

- presentation performance (30% for presentation one and 35% for presentation two),
- workshop and seminar contributions (20%) and
- writing a reflective journal (15%).

COURSE 9: Internship clinic

Description

This elective is open to penultimate or final year students who are selected by clinic partners to complete unpaid work at a Law firm, government department or other legal work environment. This course offers students the opportunity to develop a range of professional skills, enhance their practical legal knowledge, and build their confidence, enhancing employability They reflect

on the range of legal workplaces, roles and cultures through readings and discussion, while observing strict confidentiality. They are also encouraged to critically reflect on the development of their own professional identities.

Assessment consists of:

- a technical or professional presentation (20%) and
- a Reflective journal (80%)

COURSE 10: International Experience Clinic

Description

Students are selected for an international experience or arrange a pre-approved international experience. The academic focus is a 4000-word research essay. This course offers students the opportunity to develop cross cultural competence, to develop international networks and to build their understanding of international and comparative law. They also develop a range of professional skills, enhance their practical legal knowledge, and build their confidence, enhancing employability They reflect on the range of legal workplaces, roles and cultures through readings and discussion, while observing strict confidentiality. They are also encouraged to critically reflect on the development of their own professional identities.

Assessment consists of:

- a technical or professional presentation (20%) and
- a 4000-word research essay (80%)



James Cook University

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COURSE 1: Clinical Legal Studies

Description

Final year law students participate in a semester long clinic with Townsville Community Legal Service Inc (TCLS), the North Queensland Women's Legal Service and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Legal Service North Queensland. Students interview and assist clients during daytime and evening services. They assist with casework and drafting correspondence and documents. Students do a three day intensive workshop, covering essential skills such as legal interviewing, ethics and values, legal drafting and general lawyers' skills prior to beginning client contact.

8-12 Final Year Law Students attend a clinic at TCLS, with a further 1 -3 students attending at the North Queensland Women's Legal Service and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Legal Service North Queensland throughout an academic semester. Students provide advice and casework at daytime and evening services. Students are assessed against client interviewing, file management and legal drafting skills. Students also submit a personal journal and undertake a research, community education or law reform project. Both are assessed. An overall grade is given to each student.



La Trobe University

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Brief Overview

Clinical legal education at La Trobe dates back to 1978.

Today the Law School both places students with a range of government, private and public organisations and operates specialist clinics with a number of community legal centres. The specialist clinics enable students to provide service to the community whilst enriching their legal education through their practical experience. Clinical experience is offered in dedicated units and embedded within a range of core units.

La Trobe's clinical legal education programs have the following characteristics:

- Students interact directly with real clients in a supervised lawyer/client relationship
- Students work with client groups on legal issues of public interest
- Foster in students a deep understanding of the ethical and professional responsibilities of legal practitioners
- All students are supervised by a Law School staff member
- Students' clinical work is complemented and informed by classroom learning

COURSE 1: Legal Practice and Conduct – LAW2LPP (semester one and two)

Description

In this clinical program, students work under the supervision of Ben Walsh, Lecturer (benedict.walsh@latrobe.edu.au) and Joanne Ellis (j.ellis2@latrobe.edu.au) at Whittlesea Community Legal Service. Students run the clinics onsite and offsite as outreach service to community. Working in pairs, the students conduct casework, under supervision, on behalf of clients.

This subject is a clinical version of the compulsory profession responsibility unit that all law students must complete to be eligible to practice law in Australia. What constitutes ethical legal practice is the theme of this unit. Students have the opportunity to engage with, observe and reflect on how a practitioner's duties and ethics are relevant to daily legal practice as well as on the efficacy of law, the legal system, the legal aid system, the legal profession and the nature of justice. The context for this study is the issue of access to justice and recent reforms to the legal profession.

COURSE 2: Public Interest Law Practice LAW2PLP (semester one and two)

Description

This subject aims to give students the opportunity to experience law in practice (not necessarily 'legal practice' as conventionally defined) and to reflect critically on the work and obligations of lawyers, the operation of the legal system and the way in which law is practised in the public arena and/or in the public interest.

Students are placed with a range of outside agencies, usually not-for-profit or public interest (including government) for one day a week during semester as well as attending fortnightly seminars on campus. Students are supervised on site by staff of the host organisation and attend fortnightly supervision meetings with the Law School academic supervisor, Ben Walsh, Lecturer (benedict.walsh@latrobe.edu.au). The seminars provide the opportunity for students to identify and discuss issues of common interest and encourage them to learn from their own and others experiences.

COURSE 3: Legal Internship LAW4INT and LAW5INT (all semesters)

Description

The aim of this subject is to give students the opportunity to experience law in practice and to reflect critically on the work and obligations of lawyers, the operation of the legal system and the way in which law is practised.

Students are placed and can source their own placements at a diverse range of organisations including private law firms, corporate legal departments and Victoria Legal Aid. In this subject around metropolitan Melbourne, Bendigo and further afield. The placements can be completed a day a week or in a block mode.

COURSE 4: Legal Internship LAW4INB and LAW5INB (all semesters)

Description

The aim of this subject is to extend and deepen a student's understanding and provide an opportunity for the substantive development of skills through a longer placement. Students can source a placement that meets their specific career aspirations or can be placed by the law school. They can complete this longer term placement within Australia or internationally and get academic credit for an extended piece of research that arises from their experiences. Students are matched with a suitable academic to formulate a meaningful research question.

COURSE 5: Rural and Regional Issues in Justice LAW2RRJ (semester two Bendigo)

Description

This subject allows Bendigo based law students to experience law in practice via placements with a range of social justice oriented legal organisations, including the Loddon Campaspe community legal centre and Victoria Legal Aid, as well as local private law firms and barristers. The subject particularly focuses on rural and regional issues and a complementary seminar program addresses topics such as professional responsibility, practical legal skills and the Legal Aid system. Students from the Law School work both with the La Trobe law lecturer and a dedicated supervisor with the host organisations.

COURSE 6: Sentencing Law and Practice LAW2SEN (summer semester)

Description

This focus of this subject is the law and practice of sentencing in Victoria. The subject is partly taught through field trips to various institutions in Victoria involved in sentencing, such as a prison, the Courts and the Sentencing Advisory Council. Students are encouraged to view sentencing from multiple perspectives such as the accused, policy makers and legal practitioners. Ben Walsh, Lecturer (benedict.walsh@Latrobe.edu.au) is the subject co-ordinator.

COURSE 7: Human Rights Advocacy LAW2HRA (semester two)

Description

This subject has been designed to enable students to develop their communication and research skills in the context of human rights practice. Working closely with legal practitioners from a variety of organisations, students engage in activities designed to promote awareness of international human rights standards in Australia, including Federal and State legislative compliance with the principles of international human rights law, and to support practitioners who assist victims of human rights violations in Australia.

Working under the supervision of an academic coordinator, students engage in legal research and produce position papers, blog entries, submissions, and other materials as required by their host. Practical skills such as written communication skills for specific contexts such as social media or government submissions, file management, and teamwork will be developed.

In addition to working one day a week in the organization or in block mode the students attend a fortnightly two-hour seminar which will cover substantive topics of relevance.

COURSE 8: Judicial Mentoring Program

Description

Another aspect of the clinical legal education program is the Judicial Mentoring Program. This program provides an opportunity for law students to observe, discuss and reflect upon the decision-making process of courts and tribunals. Students are personally mentored by a Magistrate or Judge and conduct research into and write on a legal issue of relevance to their mentor's work. This program is embedded into a number of core units.



Macquarie University

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COURSE 1: Access to Justice Clinical Placement Program – LAWS538

Description

This program focuses on access to justice and practising in the public interest. The unit is run as a partnership with Western Sydney Community Legal Centre and the Public Interest Advocacy Centre. Practising in the Public Interest PIPI program. Additional internships are currently offered with the Aboriginal Legal Service NSW/ACT and the NSW Land and Environment Court. Course credit – 3.

Western Sydney Community Legal Centre Clinical Placement

Description

The Western Sydney Community Legal Centre (MLC) placement program gives students the opportunity to link the theory, philosophy and substantive law learned at university with the practice of law. Students explore those links through observation, practice, and discussions with fellow students and supervising solicitors; and through reflection, supported by reading, and group discussion. Course credit – 3.

The Macquarie Legal Centre Program involves attendance at the Centre on a designated day for a period of 10 weeks during the semester. Each week involves experience in a different aspect of the legal issues dealt with by Centre. These include: Domestic Violence, NCAT, Family Law and Contact Services, Children's Court, Capacity, Advice, Family Law, Litigation, Discrimination and Alternative Dispute Resolution, Reflection.

Students also attend four evening seminars at the University.

PIAC Practising in the Public Interest Clinical Placement

Description

Through placements in legal practices and institutions, students in the PIPI program learn about the idea and practice of public interest law. The training and the placement together provide an opportunity for students to reflect on and analyse how lawyers can engage in a variety of strategies to achieve social change.

The PIPI program students do a 1 week intensive course run by the Public Interest Advocacy Centre (PIAC) in conjunction with the Public Interest Law Clearing House (PILCH). The course has classes conducted by PIAC and invited guests for three days, and two, one day public interest placements with legal institutions.

Students also attend evening seminars at the University. Course credit – 3.

Western Sydney Community Legal Centre Family Law Clinical Placement

Description

The WSCLC Family Law placement is an intensive 10 day program. There are three programs a year during the summer, winter and spring breaks. The program involves attendance at various venues each week day for 2 weeks. Each day involves experience in a different aspect of family law practice: Induction; Family Relationships Centre - mediation; Family Court / Federal Magistrates Court; Less adversarial trials; Family Relationships Centre - mediation; Supervised Contact Centre / Family Relationships Centre - advice; Federal Magistrates Court – divorce; Parramatta Local Court - domestic violence; Macquarie Legal Centre - victims compensation; Macquarie Legal Centre - drafting; Supervised Contact Centre / Family Relationships Centre - advice.

Students also attend evening seminars at the University.

The assessment for all placements in this unit comprises four components: attendance at placement for 10 days (satisfactory/fail), Macquarie Law School seminar attendance & participation, reflective report, presentation and research essay. Course credit – 3.

There are 8 places offered in each placement per session. 16 Places are offered with the Aboriginal Legal Service. Students apply and are selected through written application and ballot.

COURSE 2: Macquarie University Social Justice Clinic – LAWS578

Description

The Social Justice Clinic's innovative model offers students hands-on legal experience under the supervision of experienced human rights and public interest lawyers. Taking a lead from the US clinical education model, the University appoints lawyers from partner organisations as academic staff, placing the emphasis on students' education rather than on caseload and clients. Placements are run on campus at Macquarie Law School in partnership with leading Australian public interest legal practices. Current partners include the National Justice Project and Refugee Advice and Casework Services. Students work on real-world social justice cases, undertaking a range of activities including legal research and writing, client interviewing and non-legal advocacy.

The assessment is designed around reflective learning. Students to complete a quiz, goal setting exercise, weekly participation journal and final reflective report. The unit is run in both semester 1 and 2, with 16 places available in each semester. Students apply and are selected through written application and ballot. Course credit – 3.

COURSE 3: International Participation and Community Engagement – LAWS452

Description

In LAWS452 students undertake an international internship as part of Macquarie University PACE International program.

On either a 4 week (winter vacation) or 8 or 12 week program (summer vacation), interns travel overseas to Cambodia, China, India, Borneo, Vanuatu, the Philippines and Vancouver to participate in internships with law firms and a range of non-government organisations that provide legal advice, education, services and contribute to public debate about legal standards, policies and reform. During their internship students engage in a needs-based project, assist with legal research, legal policy drafting, legal reform reviews, preparing case briefings, undertake international and local comparative law analysis, communication and education about legal issues, or community advice, as well as provide general paralegal assistance.

Each intern focuses on a particular project under the direction of the partner organisations such as Cambodian NGO Forum of Cambodia, HAQ Child Rights Delhi, PACOS Trust Sabah Borneo, Bahay Tuluyan Manila, and West Coast Environmental Law Centre Vancouver. The intern, partner, academic convenor and in country-managers consult on the project and students are involved in the daily operations of the partner organisation.

There are up to 20 places offered in each program. Students apply and are selected through written application, and successful applicants are awarded a participation grant.

The assessment for this unit comprises four components: placement participation, Macquarie Law School seminar attendance & participation, reflective report, and portfolio or equivalent. Course credit – 3.

COURSE 4: Professional and Community Engagement On-Campus Consultancy – LAWS499

Description

Students interact with legal practitioners and social justice policy-makers from the legal profession, government, industry and advocacy groups to generate law reform proposals. Practitioners relate their experiences of diverse challenges in legal practice and policy development and lead students in addressing issues in governance, access to justice, social opportunity, and deliberative democracy. Students develop socio-legal innovations and advocacy with direct Australian and global application, and present their proposals for consideration by real stakeholders.

The assessment for this unit has four components: attendance, reflective report, team research report, and team oral presentation. Course credit – 3.

COURSE 5: Professional and Community Engagement – LAWS551

Description

In this unit students engage with the legal profession and community through participating in law firms, legal centres, community based legal organisations and services, government agencies and not-for profit organisations. The experience may be via clerkship, volunteer work, or internship, and may be undertaken on a weekly or block basis. Students nominate their own placement for approval.

The assessment for this unit has five components: placement participation (satisfactory/fail), Macquarie Law School seminar attendance (satisfactory/fail), online participation, reflective report, and research essay. Course credit – 3.

Monash University

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Brief Overview

Developed more than 40 years ago, the Monash Law clinical legal education program was the first of its kind in Australia.

Under expert supervision, students work with real clients and cases, developing their ethical awareness and learning other vital skills relating to the practice of law while providing important services to various communities.

The Legal Services and placement firms involved in the Monash Law clinical legal education program handle a wide range of legal issues. The major categories are family, crime including traffic offences, consumer and debt problems, motor accidents, tenancy problems and social security problems. Every student is exposed to the operation of the law and the legal process in their social context and learns the essential skills of communication, analysis and judgment and the demands of professional ethics.

The Monash Clinical Guarantee

Monash now offers every commencing LLB and JD student the guarantee that they will be able to participate in a clinical experience if they choose to do so. A new clinic site has been opened in the Melbourne CBD and is operating as Monash Law Clinics – Melbourne. New clinics in areas including Anti-Death Penalty work, World Trade Organisation Law and a partnership with the Australian Law Reform Commission now operate from Monash Law Clinics – Melbourne. Further clinics are being developed involving health-justice partnerships and a small business clinic.

COURSE 1: Professional Practice (undergraduate and postgraduate)

Description

Students work under close practitioner-academic supervision at one of three Legal Services (Monash Law Clinics – Clayton [formerly known as Monash Oakleigh Legal Service], Monash Law Clinics – Melbourne or Springvale Monash Legal Service). Students interview clients during a half-day client-intake session each week, and are involved in ongoing follow-up work and discussion with their supervisor. There is a two-hour seminar each week. Students also do a case study report or a reflective journal (this is dependent on the particular legal service) and contribute to law reform and education projects. Students participate for a 19-week clinical period and receive double the standard credit points for completion of this unit. They are expected to spend between 2 and 3 days each week on clinic-related work.

Originally established as a pilot project in 2010, the multidisciplinary clinic at Monash Law Clinics – Clayton runs two client intake sessions per week throughout the year. The students interview clients in a team (law, social work and finance) and the supervisors also sit together as a team to advise the students.

At all three services, students develop an (i) understanding of the legal process in its social context, and (ii) analytical and decision-making skills. Halfway through the clinical period there is an informal 'mid-term' review when teachers discuss strengths and areas for improvement with each student individually. The remaining assessment can be either a written assignment or a case report which incorporates student appearances or reflection on cases handled or a reflective journal. At all three legal services, all students are involved in ongoing community engagement projects. For the LLB students, component of the course is valued at 20 marks.

COURSE 2: Professional Practice (FLAP)

Description

The Family Law Assistance Program (FLAP) operates from Monash Law Clinics – Clayton. Students work under the close supervision of a qualified practitioner-academic assisting people involved in Family Court (or Federal Circuit Court) litigation who do not have legal representation. In addition to assisting self-represented litigants with drafting documentation, the program provides information on family law procedure as well as mediation and other forms of dispute resolution.



The unit runs over a 19-week period, including changeover between teaching periods. Three half-day client interview sessions are conducted each week and students are involved in ongoing follow up work in discussion with their supervisors. Two of these sessions are multidisciplinary and include students from social work as well as their supervisor.

Students run their own family law files under supervision and are responsible for all aspects of those matters. Students receive double the standard credit for completion of this unit and are expected to spend between 2 and 3 days each week on clinic-related work. Supervisors closely monitor the students, with file reviews taking place weekly and an informal 'mid term' review when supervisors discuss strengths and areas of improvement with each student individually.

As part of the duty lawyer service, students enrolled in FLAP attend on a rotating basis the Family/Federal Circuit Court at Dandenong each Monday. A two-hour seminar is conducted most weeks and 2 intensive seminars dealing with family law and practice and procedure are conducted in the first 3-4 weeks of the clinical period. In addition to the clinical component of the unit, students are required to write a report setting a family law related problem they encountered during their placement and their proposed solution

Students acquire a diverse range of practical legal skills including the capacity to undertake legal research and apply this research to factual scenarios and the ability to synthesise information and to independently devise legal solutions for complex legal problems. Students also develop an appreciation of social justice issues and have a heightened awareness of the operation of the justice system, law reform and policy issues.

COURSE 3: Clinical Placement

Description

This unit is a standard elective and is available in clinical periods and semesters across the year. Students participate in a common induction and seminar program as well as undertaking work as agreed with their host organisation. This unit provides students with the opportunity to develop a level of specialist expertise in a particular area of practice.

Students may enrol in one of multiple clinics including the following:

1. Anti-Death Penalty Clinic, in partnership with Reprieve Australia. Students engage in team-based research work to support legal practitioners representing death row clients in the USA and countries in South-East Asia.
2. Australian Law Reform Commission Clinic. Students work on research projects related to references received by the Australian Law Reform Commission (ALRC). They are supervised by Monash Law academics and ALRC Legal Officers.
3. Corporate Governance and Responsibility Clinic at King and Wood Mallesons Australia, Melbourne - Preparation of Corporate Governance Reports in respect of ASX listed companies.
4. Employment Law clinic at Jobwatch, Melbourne - Training and support to give advice on the telephone advice line in relation to employment law issues.
5. Family Violence Clinic at Springvale Monash Legal Service – Assisting victims of family violence and making victims of crime applications to Victims of Crime Assistance Tribunal. Students also provide legal information and ongoing support where clients have other legal problems that emerge through their experiences of family violence (e.g. family law children and property advice, wills and estates advice).
6. Human Rights Clinic, in conjunction with the Castan Centre for Human Rights at Holding Redlich, Solicitors - litigation involving human rights dimensions. All kinds of civil litigation can have a human rights dimension. Holding Redlich attempt to place students in this clinic in Human Rights-rich caseload under the supervision of a Holdings' partner – develops expertise in general civil litigation on behalf of plaintiffs, with a Human Rights focus.
7. Joint Sexual Assault Clinic, in conjunction with the South-East Centre Against Sexual Assault (SECASA) at Springvale Monash Legal Service – offers legal services to victims of sexual assault. This clinic works with highly vulnerable clients and requires students to have well developed self-esteem and a demonstrated sensitivity to victims of crime. Develops expertise in managing cases in this area of criminal practice.
8. Judicial Clinic at the Supreme and County Courts of Victoria - Students participate in clinic work with judges, faculty members and other judicial staff in Judge's Chambers at the Supreme Court of Victoria. Students attend the Supreme Court of Victoria for one full day each week over a 12 week period, drafting speeches, preparing case summaries; and conducting legal research.
9. TradeLab Clinic. Students work in small groups under close supervision of academics and invited expert mentors to address specific legal questions related to international economic law coming from international clients such as international organizations, governments, small-medium enterprises and NGOs
10. Placements with one of a range of law firms, in-house legal departments, government agencies and statutory authorities.

Murdoch University

University: Murdoch University

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Brief Overview

Murdoch University's clinical legal education program offers a comprehensive clinical experience starting with an introductory unit that builds the knowledge and skills necessary to participate in one of the live client clinics.

This introductory unit is a compulsory unit within the Murdoch law degree. Students can then choose from a number of clinics including in our generalist practice, family law or human rights. All clinics are elective units.

The objectives of the program are:

- to develop students' critical appreciation of the law as an active social process in a community based context;
- to encourage students to think critically and reflectively about the adequacy of the law, legal system and the role of practitioners;
- to develop students' professional legal skills including communication, interviewing, advising, negotiating, advocacy, letter writing and the drafting of documents;
- to develop students' professional skills involving judgment, such as investigation of facts, the recognition of issues, the analysis of problems and situations, the use of tactics and decision-making generally;
- to develop students' understanding of professional lawyer/client issues, involving awareness of personal morality and professional ethics, and the consequences of the breaches of rules of conduct; and
- to provide legal services to the community.

COURSE 1: Clinical Legal Education (LLB390)

Description

The general practice clinic is based at the community legal centre, Southern Communities Advocacy Legal and Education Service Inc. (SCALES), in Rockingham and provides a generalist legal service to low-income and disadvantaged people in the Kwinana and Rockingham region. The types of legal issues dealt with include private and public tenancy, family law, criminal law, family and domestic violence including violence restraining orders, Department for Child Protection matters, criminal injuries compensation and minor civil issues.

Students attend a client interview session at SCALES each week, as well as having the conduct of 3-6 ongoing case files at any one time under the supervision of the Clinic's solicitors. Students are required to interview clients, research law, negotiate with other parties and draft letters, provide written advice and prepare court documents. Students may also have the opportunity to appear under supervision in the Tenancy Court, Children's Court, and other appropriate forums. They also attend Courts and Tribunals and assist the solicitors and pro bono Barristers.

In addition to attending SCALES, students participate in a bi-weekly two-hour seminar on campus. The seminar program focuses on the skills for practice, professional ethics and reflection including a student presentation on broader social/ethical issues arising from a case.

The course is a pass/fail with 80% of assessment based on work at SCALES, and 20% on seminar participation including a reflective piece on any aspect of their clinical experience.

COURSE 2: Family Law Clinic (LLB386)

Description

The Family Law Clinic is also run from the SCALES office in Rockingham. It runs in a similar manner to that of the general clinic with a specific focus on providing clients with advice, information and support prior to and during the conduct of family dispute resolution. Students are provided with training in interest based negotiating and interview techniques. These techniques are modelled by the supervisors and developed through the student's client work focusing clients on interests, particularly the interests of the children, prior to participating in family dispute resolution.



The Family Law Clinic also provides students with opportunities to assist clients with initiating court actions where mediation is unsuccessful or inappropriate and referral to specialist dispute resolution services dealing with cases involving family violence. Students also provide advice, referral and advocacy in areas that impact on family law including restraining order matters.

In addition to attending SCALES, students are required to participate in a weekly two-hour seminar on campus. The seminar program focuses on practical skills, professional ethics and client communication issues with a considerable emphasis on building skills.

The course is a pass/fail with 80% of assessment based on work at SCALES, and 20% on seminar participation including a reflective piece on any aspect of their clinical experience.

The places offered depend on resourcing but are around 12 annually.

COURSE 3: Human Rights Clinic (LLB387)

Description

The Human Rights Clinic is run from SCALES' offices on campus at Murdoch University. This stream looks specifically at Human Rights including Refugee and Humanitarian cases, discrimination, prison conditions, complaints to the United Nations and other issues. Students develop specific skills such as working with interpreters, cross cultural communication, submission writing and lobbying, while gaining a real understanding of the human rights framework both internationally and domestically.

In addition to attending SCALES, students are required to participate in a bi-weekly two-hour seminar on campus. The seminar program focuses on practical skills, professional ethics and client communication issues with an emphasis on building skills.

The course is a pass/fail with 80% of assessment based on work at SCALES, and 20% on seminar participation including a reflective piece on any aspect of their clinical experience.

The places offered depend on resourcing but are around 24 annually.

COURSE 4: Law in the Community (LLB393)

Description

This clinic uses the methodology of Street Law, a global legal literacy movement to train students to present community legal education to high schools and other groups. Students liaise with their target group and develop an interactive session that engages with topics relevant to the group. In the case of high schools, this first session will be a topic within the curriculum. At the end of the first session, students consult the student group to find out the legal issues they are most interested in. The second session is an interactive session on that issue.

This happens alongside three workshops which give an introduction to the methodology of community legal education, as well as an understanding of the role of community legal education within issues of access to justice. These workshops also give the students the opportunity to develop and test out their ideas around interactive delivery as well as content with their supervisors and peers.

This unit is a pass/fail unit assessed on the lesson plans and development of their lessons, as well as a reflective piece due at the end of the semester. There are up to 40 places in this unit each semester.



Queensland University of Technology

University: Queensland University of Technology

Convenor: Catherine Campbell, Legal Clinic Co-ordinator/Kaylene Matheson, Placements Co-ordinator

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Brief Overview

QUT's Legal Clinic and International Placements program is an externship/internship type program in which students undertake 'clinical' experience with a community organisation external to the Law School.

Students are placed in a community legal service or not for profit organisation to assist with client work, community awareness and legal education and/or research projects. This can include international placements as well as local placement opportunities. Students are supported in their learning by workshops at QUT and both their placement supervisor and QUT academic staff. In addition, students can undertake placements with law firms, corporate legal offices, the courts and government legal offices through 'Learning in Professional Practice'.

COURSE I: LLB463 Legal Clinic

Description

Queensland University of Technology (QUT) offers Legal Clinic as a 12 credit point elective unit to undergraduate LLB students from second year. The unit runs over a standard semester. Assessment is on a one to seven numeric scale and includes a reflective workbook with workshop activities (40%), a final reflection including supervising lawyer's final evaluation report (50%) and an online group presentation (10%).

The aim of this unit is to provide students with a supervised clinical experience in either a community legal service or not for profit community organisation. Through this experience students develop:

- lawyering skills such as law-related research, legal analysis, letter or submission drafting and dispute resolution;
- an understanding of the dynamic relationship between academic skills and knowledge and their practical application in a legal workplace or community context.
- an understanding of the law and ability to communicate this to diverse audiences and legal literacies.
- an ability to develop as a legal practitioner through lifelong learning, reflection and career management
- a sense of social justice, empathy and understanding about the social and ethical responsibilities of lawyers
- an ability to analyse and critique the legal system and the role of lawyers

Students spend a minimum of 60 hours working with their placement partner and attend 7 x two hour workshops over the 13-week semester. These compulsory workshops cover topics such as: preparation for their clinical experience (health & safety, confidentiality etc)); reflective practice; intercultural capabilities and cultural humility; client interviewing and dispute resolution skills; professional identity, legal ethics and social responsibility; and career planning.

The clinical work undertaken by the students is supervised by lawyers at QUT's placement partners including Caxton Legal Centre, Law Right, Aged Disability Advocacy Australia, Queensland Advocacy Incorporated, EDO, Salvos Legal Humanitarian, Pine Rivers CLS, Bayside CLS and LGBTI Legal Service. Students may interview clients, work on client files and prepare briefs, undertake policy work or research, or create resources to assist self-represented individuals or groups. Students may also be involved in preparing and presenting



community legal information sessions to community groups, resources and doing presentations. Students also have the opportunity to work with other community organisations such as the Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council on community justice projects. They are supervised by QUT academics on these projects.

Students must complete a minimum of 60 hours work either in-country or through a combination of in-country work and related research at home.

Pre-departure workshops are conducted to prepare students for their international experience.

COURSE 2: LLB464 International Legal Placement

Description

QUT offers this unit as a 12 credit point elective unit to undergraduate LLB students from second year. The unit runs over a standard semester. Assessment is non-graded (pass/fail) and includes a Pre-Departure Learning Plan and Workbook (50%), a final Portfolio with completed activities and reflections (40%) and an online group presentation (10%).

This unit provides students with opportunities to undertake short-term international externships, field placements and study tours overseas. Students can either apply for one of the advertised placement opportunities or can organise their own international placement with a local in-country organisation (subject to approval by the unit coordinator). Placement experiences cover a broad range of international work experiences, including community legal education, human rights advocacy, research and global policy, comparative law and business.

Through this experience students develop:

- intercultural capacity and intercultural communication skills
- personal and professional skills, including resilience, flexibility, communication, collaborative skills and reflective practice
- ability to adapt and work in a challenging environment
- understanding of the role of law in our global society
- awareness of international career options and networks.

COURSE 3: LLB462 Learning in Professional Practice

QUT offers this unit as a 12 credit point elective unit to final year undergraduate LLB students. The unit runs over a standard semester. Assessment is non-graded (pass/fail) and includes a Learning Plan (40%), Reflective Portfolio and Supervising Lawyer's final report (40%) and group discussions (20%).

Students can organise their own legal placement or apply for an organised placement with the courts or government legal offices. They must attend and complete a minimum of 60 hours work experience under the supervision of a suitably qualified lawyer.

Through this work integrated learning experience, students develop an understanding of:

- the dynamic relationship between academic knowledge and skills and their practical application in a legal workplace
- the importance of being able to work independently, learn from experience and engage in reflective practice, and
- professional and ethical responsibilities in a legal workplace

This unit enables students to gain practical experience and equip them with skills for an easier transition to the workplace.



RMIT University

University: RMIT University (Graduate School of Business and Law)

Convenor: Professor Bronwyn Naylor (Academic Coordinator) & Anna Howard (Clinical Supervisor)

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Brief Overview

The Clinical Legal Education course is offered to 12-14 students each semester.

Students undertake a clinical legal education placement in one of four clinics. Those clinics are:

1. The Mental Health Legal Centre's Inside Access Program. Students work alongside lawyers, social workers and social work students to provide legal and social work advice and assistance to Victorian prisoners and forensic patients through a weekly clinic outreach.
2. The Law and Advocacy Centre for Women. Students work alongside lawyers, social workers and social work students to deliver criminal law advice and representation and non-legal support to women charged with criminal offences.
3. The Young Workers Centre. Students are involved in the provision of legal advice to young people about their employment law rights, through a telephone advice service as well as through participation in community campaigns.
4. The Neighbourhood Justice Centre. Students work alongside lawyers, financial counsellors and financial counselling students in a weekly Fines Clinic that provides advice and assistance to disadvantaged people who access the NJC about their infringements.

COURSE I: Clinical Legal Education

Description

The focus of the course is to develop the practical lawyering skills of students during their placement.

These skills include drafting, providing advice to clients, interviewing, legal research, preparation of advice memoranda, handling of client files and general correspondence on a range of matters depending on the clinical placement.

During their placement, students work under the supervision of a qualified legal practitioner and their academic instructor.

Students also attend an introductory workshop during which they are taught ethical principles relating to legal practice and given practical information about the operation of each of the clinics. Towards the end of their placements, the students attend a reflective practice workshop, where they engage in reflective practice about their clinical placement experience.

The course runs for one semester and is assessed through work undertaken during their placement, a reflective blog/journal and written assignments. Course credits – 12.



Southern Cross University

University: Southern Cross University

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Brief Overview

The School provides opportunities to gain insights and practical skills through work experience within a variety of legal environments.

The School's CLE/ work integrated learning units encourage students to experience legal practice and paralegal work, and to reflect upon and evaluate the role of lawyers, paralegals and the legal profession.

COURSE 1: Law Placement

Description

Aims: This unit requires students to complete a 15-day supervised placement within a legal environment and aims to support their transition to working in a legal work environment. The placement models the work experience component of Practical Legal Training. The unit is completed within one teaching session, and is available only during Session 3, SCU's summer teaching session. However, the timing of the placement can be negotiated with the Unit Assessor if necessary. This unit is only available to students enrolled in a Bachelor of Laws program.

Mode of delivery: Distance studies, online learning environment. Students participate as a community of learners via an online learning environment so that they can share, discuss and critically reflect upon their experience in placement.

Assessment: The Placement component is assessed on a Satisfactory/Not Satisfactory basis. Grading is based upon completion of an Online blog (40%) and a Reflective Journal (60%). The assessment aims to encourage students to question and to reflect upon notions of professionalism, the role of the legal system and of legal practitioners, and professional conduct. Course credit – 12 points.

Placements: Must be supervised by a qualified lawyer in any Australian jurisdiction; international placements are supported if approved by the Unit Assessor.



COURSE 2: Paralegal Placement

Description

Aims: This unit aims to help students gain insights into the role of a paralegal in the practice of law and to support their transition to working in a law-related work environment. The unit is completed within one teaching session, and is available only during Session 3, SCU's summer teaching session. This unit is only available to students enrolled in a Bachelor of Legal & Justice Studies or the Associate Degree (Paralegal Studies).

Mode of delivery: Distance studies, online learning environment. Students participate as a community of learners via an online learning environment so that they can share, discuss and critically reflect upon their experience in placement.

Assessment: The Placement component is assessed on a Satisfactory/Not Satisfactory basis. Grading is based upon completion of an Online blog (40%) and a Placement Portfolio (60%). The assessment aims to support students to reflect on their learning experience (both in their studies and in their placement) so that they can record their progress, reflections and achievements while on placement. It also aims to enable students to reflect upon and to appreciate the skills learned in their paralegal studies. Course credit – 12 points.

Placements: Can be undertaken in a variety of organisations involving paralegal work in any Australian jurisdiction; international placements are supported if approved by the Unit Assessor.



The University of Melbourne

University: Melbourne Law School / The University of Melbourne

Convenor: Ms Kate Fischer Doherty, Director, Public Interest Law Initiative and Director of Clinical Programs

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Brief Overview

Melbourne Law School offers a range of clinical legal education opportunities for JD students under the umbrella structure of the Public Interest Law Initiative ('PILI'), a hub for public interest law and clinical education at Melbourne Law School.

Students can choose from clinics based at Melbourne Law School, agency clinic placements at legal assistance organisations and an extensive range of internships at public interest organisations.

All PILI clinical subjects aim to provide students with the opportunity to develop their legal skills and professionalism, and reflect critically on the role of lawyers and the legal system in achieving justice for clients. The clinics cover a range of areas of law and types of legal work, including interviewing clients, advice and casework, legal information, research and policy, transactional and community legal education.

COURSE 1: Public Interest Law Clinic (JD program)

Description

Public Interest Law Clinic is an external agency clinic. Students complete 12 days (1 day per week) of supervised placement at one of three clinics, where they directly assist in providing legal services to disadvantaged clients. Current clinic sites are Victoria Legal Aid (Civil Justice Clinic), Flemington and Kensington CLC (Police Accountability Clinic) and JobWatch (Employment Law Clinic). Public Interest Law Clinic runs in semesters 1 and 2 and enrolls between 55-60 students each year.

The placement experience is complemented by ongoing seminars incorporating skills development, reflective practice, and scholarship on social justice and public interest legal practice. The seminars encourage students to consider and critically reflect on the role of lawyers in the legal system and on broader issues of disadvantage and access to justice. Course credit – 12.5.

The focus of students' work in clinic varies between the placement sites, but includes:

- Interviewing clients
- Drafting letters, complaints, briefs to counsel and court documents
- Legal research
- Attending court
- Policy, advocacy and law reform
- Referrals to other legal and non-legal services
- Community legal education
- Students at VLA Civil Justice Clinic also have the opportunity to represent clients in hearings at Melbourne Magistrates' Court.

COURSE 2: Street Law (JD program)

Description

Street Law is a community legal education subject in which students prepare and deliver presentations or lessons on topical legal issues to young people and community groups. The subject encourages students to look beyond casework and appreciate the importance of legal literacy in enabling access to justice, and of clear and effective communication skills in legal practice generally.

Students in Street Law research, prepare and deliver up to three presentations to either a class at a secondary school in Melbourne or to other community groups. Students prepare for this experience by attending seminars covering the relevant substantive legal topics, and receive instruction on teaching methodology and lesson planning from lecturers from the Melbourne Graduate School of Education. The subject provides an opportunity for students to develop their technical and communication skills through the preparation and delivery of tailored community legal education for a particular client group. Course credit- 12.5.

COURSE 3: Sustainability Business Clinic (JD program)

Description

Sustainability Business Clinic is an in-house clinic at Melbourne Law School that connects JD students to small, start-up community and social enterprises that work to improve environmental wellbeing. These enterprises, including community wind farms, neighbourhood urban renewal projects, green energy co-operatives and transport sharing initiatives, do not have the capacity to pay for the specialised legal assistance they need to launch and support their sustainability projects. Students are supervised by the subject coordinator and by lawyers from Ashurst Australia in giving transactional and start-up legal advice to these enterprises to enable them to achieve their aims. Students undertake 12 days of clinical work, and research and advise on a potentially wide area of laws — climate and renewable energy law, local government, environment and planning law, tort law, property law, intellectual property law and corporate governance law. The placement experience is complemented by ongoing seminars. Course credit – 12.5.

COURSE 4: Disability Human Rights Clinic (JD program)

Description

Students enrolled in Disability Human Rights Clinic identify, analyse and report on rights violations experienced by persons with disabilities and propose and advocate for solutions. They collaborate closely with a range of external stakeholders, including Disabled People's Organisations (DPOs), government bodies, civil society organisations, international non-governmental organisations, and international human rights bodies. Students work in small groups to undertake legal analysis, research, collaborative work and advocacy in relation to their selected projects, which are designed and executed in consultation with DPOs. The clinic has a multidisciplinary focus bringing together the fields of disability studies and international human rights law. The placement experience is complemented by ongoing seminars. Course credit – 12.5.

COURSE 5: Law Apps (JD program)

Description

In Law Apps, students design, build and release a live legal expert system that can provide legal information to non-lawyers.

Law Apps offers students an opportunity to explore and apply the potential of artificial intelligence to provide practical solutions to common legal problems. In groups, students work to develop a law app for a not-for-profit community organisation to address a need of the organisation's clients or the broader community, enabling students to build on and develop their skills in legal analysis, creativity, problem solving and innovation. Students are introduced to the fundamentals of law apps design and basic mastery of the Neota Logic platform. Throughout the semester students have access to advice from Neota Logic's experts.

In seminars, students also explore related issues of technology and legal practice, and issues of professional regulation, and hear from guest speakers from the profession and experts in digital technology. From 2019 Law Apps will be offered in both semester 1 and 2. The placement experience is complemented by ongoing seminars Course credit – 12.5.

COURSE 6: International Criminal Justice Clinic (JD program)

Description

(not offered in 2019)

In International Criminal Justice Clinic, students have the opportunity to consider current topical issues of human rights in actual proceedings before international criminal tribunals. Through this lens, students examine and critically reflect on compliance with human rights in all aspects of international criminal proceedings and for all those involved, such as the accused, victims and witnesses.

International Criminal Justice Clinic is run in partnership with Amnesty International. Under the supervision of an experienced international legal practitioner, students are supported in the development of skills in trial monitoring, legal research and analysis and writing. In small groups they work on a legal research project as well as monitor ongoing international criminal proceedings (for example, at the International Criminal Court), and may also prepare rapid response legal analysis briefs on emerging issues in international criminal proceedings. The placement experience is complemented by ongoing seminars. Course credit – 12.5.



COURSE 7: Legal internship (JD program)

Description

Legal Internship provides students with the opportunity to undertake a public interest/community-focused legal workplace placement that complements their coursework learning. Through their internship, students develop a range of practical legal skills, enhancing their ability to undertake legal work in a professional environment. Students are encouraged to reflect on their own skills and professional understanding as well as the wider social and policy issues relevant to particular areas of practice.

Internships are of a minimum 20 days' duration and can be locally based, interstate or international. A wide range of internship placements are offered each year in partnership with public interest organisations (PILI Internships). Placement hosts include government departments, regulatory and statutory bodies, courts and tribunals, legal assistance sector organisations such as legal aid or community legal centres, and public interest non-government or not-for-profit organisations. There are no seminars in this program. Course credit – 12.5.

Students may also seek approval for an independently-sourced placement at a public interest organisation in their area of interest (Independent Internships).

COURSE 8: International Legal Internship (Available to Melbourne Law Masters students only)

Description

The International Legal Internship provides students with the opportunity to undertake at least ten weeks of full-time advanced legal research and analysis at a public interest/not for profit international institution or organisation that complements and deepens their coursework learning. This subject focuses on providing students with an opportunity to engage with legal and policy issues in contemporary society through work experience, which further develops their legal skills.

Internships can be hosted by any public interest organisation outside Australia that will facilitate the student undertaking legally-oriented work, including United Nations agencies, international regulatory and statutory bodies, international courts and tribunals, and non-government or not-for-profit organisations. There are no seminars in this program. Course credit – 12.5.

University of Adelaide

University: University of Adelaide

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Brief Overview

The University of Adelaide Law School runs a clinical program for up to 5 students in each of First, and Second Semesters, and runs an intensive program for 20 students over the shorter Summer Semester.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the course are: to provide students with understanding of the intersection of theory and practice in legal service delivery; to enable students to develop insight into the role of law in society and the concept of justice and equality in the legal system; to provide students with the opportunity to exercise, in a real environment, the core skills of good lawyering; to provide students with the capacity to make informed decisions about the ethical standards expected of legal practitioners; to enable students to develop the practice of professionalism in their conduct and outlook; and to contribute to the provision of legal services in the community.

Students interview clients, undertake legal research, manage their own case load, represent clients in administrative tribunals, prepare legal documents and correspondence. Students each work on one major community education or community service project during their placement. Many of these projects focus on practical system reform and build on evidence-based research undertaken by students.

The program is managed by two members academic staff, and three legal practitioners each employed part time, share the supervision of students at the Law School Clinics. The program is supported by the pro bono contribution of lawyers from two Adelaide commercial law firms.

The CLE program takes an active role in contributing to Continuing Professional Development through the Law Society of SA, offering presentations on areas of legal service delivery to vulnerable clients, legal ethics in practice, and legal practice law reforms for justice access.

The assessment for the course consists of a professional journal (online blogs and dialogic journal), class participation, a practical writing assignment, performance on placement and a major project. All assessable work, including placement performance, is graded. Course credit is 3 units.

There is a seminar program which runs throughout the semester and an intensive induction before the courses start.

Funding

The Clinical program is funded by the Faculty of the Professions/Law School. Additional funding is provided by the Law Foundation of South Australia, and by private law firm partner Lipman Karas. In kind contribution (office space and resources) is provided by the Adelaide Magistrates Court, the Equal Opportunity Commission, and the Westcare Community Centre.

COURSE 1: Legal Advice Clinics

MCLAS

The Magistrates Court Legal Advice Service (MCLAS) provides advice and assistance to people in the minor civil jurisdiction of the Adelaide Magistrates Court. It provides legal advice, letter drafting, document drafting, trial preparation support, mediation and negotiation advice, and a referral service. It does not provide in court representation services. MCLAS is co located at the Magistrates Court. Specialist litigation firm Lipman Karas is a partner in MCLAS with solicitors on a pro-bono basis to assist with supervision of students and offering a triage service for complex civil cases. MCLAS operates 3 days per week and also supports the Mediation Information Service which provides pro bono mediation services in the Magistrates Court two days per week. Students are supervised on placement by a solicitor employed on contract by the law school.

ALOS

The Adelaide Legal Outreach Service (ALOS) provides advice and support primarily to homeless or vulnerable people, but will assist any clients who are unable to otherwise access justice. ALOS is co-located at the Westcare Community Centre in Adelaide. It provides legal advice and will take on limited representation of clients in all areas of law, but does not provide legal representation in court. Practicing in all areas of law, ALOS does most of its work in housing, family, driving offences, minor business, and then a diverse range of matters spanning civil, criminal and administrative law. The service operates on one day per week throughout the year. Students are supervised on placement by a solicitor employed on contract by the law school.

EOCLAS

The Equal Opportunity Commission Legal Advice Service (EOCLAS) provides advice and support in the Equal Opportunity jurisdictions in the Commission and the Industrial Court in South Australia. The service provides preliminary advice in all areas of anti discrimination and equal opportunity law, and will provide ongoing advice in complex matters. The service is co located at the Equal Opportunity Commission and operates one day per week throughout the year. Students are supervised on placement by a solicitor employed on contract by the law school.

EVAC

The Entrepreneur and Venture Advice Service (EVAC) provides legal advice and support to new businesses, start ups, or individuals developing business opportunities. A diverse range of clients seek advice across the full range of small business/commercial/compliance law. EVAC operates in during University Semesters 1 and 2. Supervision is provided on a pro bono basis by solicitors from Adelaide Law Firm Cowell Clarke, supported by a member of law school academic staff.

COURSE 2: Externship Program

Additional students undertake externships at diverse community law organisations, including Welfare Rights centre, Adelaide Credit and Consumer Advice Service, Adelaide Central Legal Service, and JusticeNet. Students are placed for one semester (12 weeks). Placements are for two days per week in the summer semester and for one day a week during semesters 1 and 2. All students attend pre-placement training, a seminar program, and undertake common assessment tasks.





University of Canberra

University: University of Canberra

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COURSE 1: Small Business Legal Advice Clinic

Description

The Small Business Legal Advice Clinic is offered in conjunction with Legal Aid ACT. An initial consultation service is offered to small business operators with a legal problem or query. Examples include advice on contracts, debt recovery, litigation and dispute resolution, employment law, corporation law, insurance, and business law. Each semester, between 6 and 10 students are offered the opportunity to enrol in the unit. They attend the clinic and assist the solicitor by providing background research, sitting in on the client interview, and conducting follow up action as required. They attend one afternoon a week over the semester.

The students are assessed based on a reflective journal and a presentation, their work at the clinic, and also by completing a project which they choose based on some legal issue they have encountered. Course credit – 3 points.

COURSE 2: The Health Justice Legal Advice Clinic

The Health Justice Legal Advice Clinic (the Clinic) is a partnership between the University of Canberra Medical and Counselling Service; School of Law and Justice; and Legal Aid, ACT. Clients are referred from the UC Medical and Counselling Service to the Clinic who health professionals think will benefit from receiving legal advice. Lawyers then assist these clients by providing a range of legal services. Law students then assist the lawyers. This work may include legal research, drafting letters, pleadings and advice. Examples of the types of matters dealt with by the Clinic include family law, immigration, debt problems, minor criminal matters, sexual assault and domestic violence matters. Each semester, between 6 to 8 students are offered an opportunity to do this unit. The Clinic is run one day per week, during the semester. There is no seminar program for this course.

COURSE 3: Law and Justice Internship

Description

Students complete a placement of at least 40 hours under the supervision of a legal practitioner in a diverse range of legal environments. It can be undertaken anywhere within Australia or overseas. Assessment is based on the supervising solicitor's assessment of the student's performance, a reflective journal and a presentation.

Or students are able to do project for a workplace, under the supervision of academic staff and an external partner. Students complete a project and are also assessed on a reflective journal and a presentation. Students have completed projects for government departments, pro bono organisations, law firms and other agencies. There is no seminar program for this course. Course credit – 3 points

COURSE 4: Law and Justice Internship Extended Internship

Description

Students complete a placement of at least 150 hours under the supervision of a legal practitioner in a diverse range of legal environments. It can be undertaken anywhere within Australia or overseas. Assessment is based on the supervising solicitor's assessment of the student's performance, a reflective journal and a presentation.

Or students are able to do a project for a workplace, under the supervision of academic staff and external partner. There are three workshop sessions. Course credit is 6 points.

COURSE 5: Law Extended Internship

Description

Students complete a placement of at least 450 hours under the supervision of a legal practitioner in a diverse range of legal environments. It can be undertaken anywhere within Australia or overseas. Assessment is based on the supervising solicitor's assessment of the student's performance, a reflective journal and a presentation.

Or students are able to do a project for a workplace, under the supervision of academic staff and external partner. There are three workshop sessions. Course credit is 12 points.



University of Newcastle

University: University of Newcastle

Convenor: Shaun McCarthy

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Brief Overview

The University of Newcastle Law School takes a whole of curriculum approach to the integration of clinical legal education into its law degree.

This is done through curriculum design and assessment being built around real client experiences and simulations. In the final two years of the law degree Newcastle Law School offers a clinical legal training program (the LLB Practice Program and Juris Doctor Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice) which is fully integrated with the University's Bachelor of Laws and Juris Doctor degree courses. The clinical program's centrepiece is the University of Newcastle Legal Centre (UNLC) which is co-located with seminar teaching rooms in Newcastle city and close to law firms, barristers chambers and courts. The UNLC is a community legal centre which hosts law students on intensive clinical placement. Its activities include morning and evening advice clinics throughout the year and pop up clinics at the Callaghan and Ourimbah campuses. The casework of the Centre is diverse including consumer credit, discrimination, employment, crime, tenancy, family law and civil disputes with a strong focus on public interest and human rights advocacy.

All law students have a guaranteed opportunity of an intensive clinical experience at the UNLC from as early as the first year of their studies.

Students who successfully complete the clinical program graduate with both a Bachelor of Laws and a Diploma of Legal Practice or a Juris Doctor and a Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice. The Program is accredited by the NSW Legal Profession Admission Board so that graduates of the program are eligible to be admitted to practice law without having to undertake any further study or workplace experience. This enables students to be admitted to legal practice earlier than most other law programs in Australia.

COURSE 1: LLB Practice Program / Juris Doctor Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice

Description

Students in this practical legal training program deal with real clients and their legal problems at the UNLC and in externships. The aims and objectives of the program are to:

- Enable students to learn substantive areas of law and the practice of law in an integrated and incremental model over the two year program. Students develop skills in interviewing, legal analysis and synthesis, research, drafting, decision making including the making of commercial and business decisions, negotiation, dispute resolution and advocacy while at the same time developing high standards of professionalism. The program provides many opportunities for students to deeply reflect on their practical learning and the ethical dimensions and professional responsibilities of legal practice.
- Provide problem based learning experiences so that students develop high level capacity to solve clients' legal problems.
- Provide an intensive clinical placement site for students where they undertake in-depth casework.
- Develop a deep awareness of the barriers clients face in accessing justice and provide opportunities for students to be exposed to the legal and social issues which provide a context for the practice of law.
- Undertake public interest advocacy and human rights cases where students see firsthand when there has been a possible miscarriage of justice or other serious failure in the administration of justice or a serious wrong which is unlikely to be properly redressed by the legal system without public interest advocacy.

Students undertake a series of clinical modules in a diverse range of legal practice areas. These include Family Law Practice, Wills Practice, Employment Law Practice, Dispute Resolution, Environmental Law Practice, Commercial Practice and Tribunals Practice. The assessment in the modules includes advocacy hearings, drafting legal documents and consent orders and court pleadings, group work, simulations, drafting transactional documents, letter writing, reflective journals and seminar participation.

Students undertake legal professional workplace placement over the 2 years of the Program. A minimum of 105 hours of placement is undertaken at the UNLC. At the UNLC law students have opportunities for interdisciplinary learning and collaboration with students in other disciplines such as social work. Students

have the opportunity to work on major public interest cases through the UNLC's Justice Project. The Justice Project is designed to assist and act for persons who may have been wrongfully convicted and where there has been a miscarriage of justice.

As part of the student placement program at the UNLC, students prepare and deliver seminars and workshops to community groups including newly arrived international students in its 'Street Law' project and are involved in the development of mobile device apps to provide legal information to international students. They are actively involved in making submissions to public and government inquiries. Students participate in externships and external placement at law firms, government departments and agencies, Aboriginal Legal Service, Legal Aid, Director of Public Prosecutions and the Hunter Community Legal Centre.

COURSE 2: Public Interest Environmental Law Clinic

Description

The Public Interest Environmental Law clinic provides free legal advice to members of the community on public interest environmental law matters. If matters warrant further assistance and the Centre has capacity to assist, these matters progress to become cases run by the UNLC in the Land & Environment Court of NSW. Students undertake litigation tasks ranging from drafting documents and preparing briefs to counsel, briefs to experts and submissions to court, to assisting counsel and instructing solicitors in court on the day the matters are heard. Course credit is 10 units.

COURSE 3: Public Interest Advocacy

Description

This course draws upon academic and clinical knowledge, skills, experience and application to render a practical and effective contribution to public interest advocacy and justice. Students are engaged in the supervised preparation and carriage of public interest cases and projects. Students may also be engaged in 'street law' projects undertaken to inform the community as to the means by which they can access and seek justice. From engagement in public interest advocacy students will learn about the law's techniques, methods and limits in serving the interests of justice.

Students critically evaluate the uses and limitations of legal process available to individuals and groups seeking to achieve individual and social justice. Students also develop skills in analysis and synthesis, problem solving, factual investigation, communication, negotiation, media strategies, litigation and alternative dispute resolution, case management and the resolution of ethical dilemmas. Course credit is 10 units.

COURSE 4: International Clinical Legal Externship

Description

Students undertake an intensive international externship with a variety of law firms and government and non-government institutions. The course introduces students to the key administrative and public policy processes and institutions in a number of Asian and Pacific nations. This is done through a work integrated internship in a network of in-country public interest environmental NGOs, judicial and administrative bodies, and academics from partner Universities.

Students work alongside regulators, adjudicators, diverse client groups and with communities giving them first-hand study experience of legal systems in Asia and the Pacific. The externship provides the crucible for the exchange of ideas and the cementing of ongoing relationships between students and participants. Course credit is 10 units.

COURSE 5: Law on the Beach

Description

Law on the Beach is a free legal advice clinic conducted by UNLC over summer. The clinics are held in the Newcastle Surf Club and aim to make seeking legal advice more approachable and accessible for the community. Social work students work alongside law students to provide deep inter-professional learning opportunities for both student cohorts, enabling them to draw upon their respective professional responsibilities and at the same time generating a commitment to social justice and service to the community. Course credit is 10 units.



University of Queensland

University: University of Queensland

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Brief Overview

Clinical Legal Education at the T.C. Beirne School of Law, University of Queensland, is run by the UQ Pro Bono Centre. The UQ Pro Bono Centre was established in February 2009 to streamline the pro bono and public interest activities of the School.

The Centre's functions include:

- administering and coordinating the School's Clinical Legal Education Program;
- developing and managing a pro bono roster to formalise student public interest volunteer work at community legal centres, community organisations, the courts and other legal settings.

The School now runs eleven separate domestic clinics in partnership with seven community legal centres in Brisbane. The School offers two international clinics with partners in Thailand and Borneo. There are 115 places for students in clinics each year.

Each domestic clinic runs for a full academic semester. They each require a time commitment of one day's work per week for 12 weeks. Students are assessed on a pass/fail basis, however in order to achieve a 'pass' grade, they are expected to have reached certain levels of competency and must also have completed two reflective journals based on their clinical experience. The nature of the assessable tasks varies from clinic to clinic, but generally students will engage in case work (including client interviewing, letters of advice and telephone advice) and some legal research (such as the completion of a fact sheet, submission or advice sheet).

The two international clinics are graded courses, focused on research rather than direct client work, and have additional assessment requirements including a research paper. They are funded by the New Colombo Plan. Both are run on an intensive basis; students spend six weeks in the host organisation in either Summer Semester (Borneo) or over the winter recess (Thailand). There is no seminar program for these courses and course credit for each is 2 units.

COURSE 1: Consumer Law Advice Clinic (CLAC)

Description

CLAC is an exclusively casework clinic that operates at Caxton Legal Centre in South Brisbane. Students undertake one week of orientation, receive intensive training in consumer law for two weeks, and then undertake advice and casework for nine weeks for one day per week under the guidance of lawyers who practice in consumer law from a human rights perspective. Assessment is on a pass/fail basis. The clinic runs every semester (twice per year) and accommodates four students per clinic.

COURSE 2: Homeless Persons' Legal Clinic (HPLC)

Description

HPLC is a combined casework and policy clinic that operates at LawRight. Students spend half of their clinic time at LawRight undertaking research, law reform and policy work in support of the HPLC. The other half of the semester is spent working inside a private law firm, accompanying lawyers who volunteer for the HPLC to outreach legal clinics where they provide pro bono legal advice to clients experiencing homelessness. Students attend and assist at the outreach clinic, and then return to the law firm with the lawyers to undertake follow-up legal work. Assessment is on a pass/fail basis. The clinic runs every semester (twice per year) and accommodates six students per clinic.

COURSE 3: Access to Justice (A2J) and Innovation Clinic

Description

A2J and Innovation Clinic solves legal practice problems with tech solutions – in particularly by developing interactive, client focused products and services (such as a guided interview) to facilitate improved access to justice. It is a non-casework clinic. Students spend twelve weeks undertaking consultation, problem solving and coding with LawRight. Assessment is on a pass/fail basis. The clinic runs every semester (twice per year) and accommodates six students per clinic.

COURSE 4: Prison Law Clinic (PLC)

Description

PLC is primarily a casework clinic, held at the Prisoners' Legal Service in South Brisbane. Students undertake case work and law reform/policy work relating to prison law, in particular assisting clients with applications for parole. Assessment is on a pass/fail basis. Students visit prisons as part of this clinical placement and must therefore complete a criminal history check. The clinic runs every semester (twice per year) and accommodates three students per clinic.

COURSE 5: Mental Health Law Clinic (MHLC)

Description

MHLC is a combined casework and policy clinic that operates at LawRight. It combines casework and law reform, policy and research regarding mental health law. As part of this clinic, students are sometimes able to attend the mental health inpatient unit at a major public hospital to provide advice and assistance to clients on Involuntary Treatment Orders. Assessment is on a pass/fail basis. The clinic runs every semester (twice per year) and accommodates six students per clinic.

COURSE 6: Environmental Law Clinic (ELC)

Description

ELC is a combined casework and policy clinic that operates at the Environmental Defenders Office in West End. Students undertake casework, environmental law reform and policy work. Preference is given to students who have completed courses in environmental and/or planning law and who have a demonstrated commitment to environmental issues. Assessment is on a pass/fail basis. The clinic runs every semester (twice per year) and accommodates three students per clinic.

COURSE 7: Disability Law Clinic (DLC)

Description

DLC is a combined casework and policy clinic that operates at Queensland Advocacy Inc. in South Brisbane. Students undertake casework on areas of law relating to disability and impairment in a human rights context. Preference is given to students who have studied human rights law or who have a demonstrated interest in the rights of persons with disabilities. Assessment is on a pass/fail basis. This clinic runs every semester (twice per year) and accommodates two students per clinic.

COURSE 8: Refugee and Immigration Law Clinic (RILC)

Description

RILC is primarily a casework clinic that operates at the Refugee and Immigration Legal Service in West End. Students undertake casework relating to protection visa applications and associated immigration law matters. Preference is given to students who have studied Immigration & Refugee Law, or who have a demonstrated interest in this area. Assessment is on a pass/fail basis. This clinic runs every semester (twice per year) and accommodates 12 students.

COURSE 9: Tenancy Law Clinic (TLC)

Description

TLC is primarily a casework and advice clinic that operates at Tenants Queensland in Spring Hill. Students receive six weeks of intensive training in residential tenancy law and advocacy including observation, and then undertake casework for six weeks under the guidance of a residential tenancy lawyer and/or advocate. Common areas of advice include maintenance and repairs, break leases, bond disputes and rental arrears. Assessment is on a pass/fail basis. The clinic runs every semester (twice per year) and accommodates six students per clinic.

COURSE 10: Health Advocacy Legal Clinic (HALC)

Description

HALC is a multidisciplinary casework clinic run by LawRight that operates at the Mater hospital (and sometimes other locations). Students work in a multidisciplinary team alongside social work and medicine or nursing students to provide advice and assistance to hospital patients in areas of law including guardianship and administration, mental health, estate planning and anti-discrimination. Assessment is on a pass/fail basis. The clinic runs every semester (twice per year) and accommodates four students.

COURSE 11: Social Security Law Clinic (SSLC)

Description

SSLC is an advice and policy clinic run by Basic Rights Queensland. Students develop a very good understanding of social security law and the application of administrative law to the social welfare system and have substantial client contact. Assessment is on a pass/fail basis. The clinic runs every semester (twice per year) and accommodates two students.



COURSE 12: Transnational Perspectives in the Law; Environmental Sustainability and the Law – with Future LAW, SABAH, BORNEO (BORNEO)

Description

The Borneo clinic places students for six weeks in a Not for Profit legal practice, Future Law Sabah. Students attend workshops about environmental law delivered by Future Law staff, visit the communities who benefit from their work, and undertake research for Future Law about environmental law and access to justice. They keep a reflective journal and produce an environmental law research paper, both of which are graded. The Borneo clinic runs annually in the Summer Semester with a January departure, and can accommodate up to four students.

COURSE 13: Transnational Perspectives in the Law; Law ACROSS CULTURES: Social Justice and Pro Bono LAWYERING IN THAILAND (THAILAND)

Description

In this clinic, students are placed with Bridges Across Borders South-East Asia Community Legal Education (BABSEACLE) as part of its Clinical Legal Education (CLE) international externship program in Chiang Mai, Thailand. Students work alongside BABSEACLE staff to support various access to justice initiatives throughout South-East Asia. Students keep a reflective journal and produce a research paper, both of which are graded. The Thailand clinic runs annually with a June departure, and can accommodate up to six students.

University of South Australia

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COURSE 1: Legal Advice Clinic

Description

Thirty-six students (and twenty during the truncated teaching trimester) can enrol in the Legal Advice Clinic course. The Legal Advice Clinic has 3 placement sites: on-campus at UniSA City-West, Port Adelaide Magistrates Court and Elizabeth Magistrates Court. Students work on a range of matters including family law, criminal law, civil and consumer law and a variety of other matters under the close supervision of a legal practitioner. All students undertake 10 placement days at the Legal Advice Clinic, which includes a training day at the beginning of the term.

The Legal Advice Clinic placement builds on the practical skills and experiential learning developed by the Law School curriculum. It provides a meaningful context for the implementation of skills which otherwise will be learned and practiced only in simulated settings, thus adding value to existing teaching practices and learning outcomes. Students gain first-hand experience in interviewing clients in circumstances where detailed instructions have to be obtained. Students will then have to practice their legal drafting skills by converting those instructions into legal documents. Students learn about client-centred practice including communication, active listening skills, and empathy. Students are required to communicate their legal knowledge in a way that is useful and meaningful to the clients.

In addition to placement at the Legal Advice Clinic, there is also a 10 week seminar program (1 x 2 hour seminar each week). The program includes: placement preparation; reflective practice and writing, legal skills and client centred practice including interviewing, file management, and letter writing; access to justice; and, wellbeing with a focus on self-awareness and emotional intelligence. The overall focus is on reflective practice and preparing students for a sustainable future in the legal profession. Student assessment comprises a series of online reflective blog entries accessible to all enrolled in the course, a workbook highlighting students' file management, legal document drafting, and teamwork skills, and a reflective portfolio. Course credit is 9 units.

COURSE 2: Law Professional Placement

Description

Thirty-six students can enrol in the Law Professional Placement course. The course involves a student work placement at a legal or justice related organisation including the Crown Solicitor's Office, a Community Legal Centre, the Office of the Ombudsman, the South Australian Civil and Administrative Tribunal, a range of private law firms and barristers' chambers. Students attend their host organisation for 15 days during the teaching term.

Law Professional Placement aims to develop students' professional skills and values, including UniSA graduate qualities, with a structured analysis of, and reflection on, experience gained during the work placement. Students apply their knowledge of the law gained throughout their studies to work through related tasks and gain valuable experience related to their future careers. Host organisation supervisors provide students with appropriate tasks and also provide students with constructive feedback.

In addition to the work placement, there is a 5 week seminar program (1 x 2 hour seminar each alternate week). The seminar program includes: placement preparation; reflective practice and writing; professional skills, lawyers' values and ethics; feedback; and, wellbeing with a focus on self-awareness and emotional intelligence. Similar to the Legal Advice Clinic, reflective practice and preparing students for a sustainable future in professional life is an important focus for this course. Student assessment comprises a series of online reflective blog entries accessible to all enrolled in the course, a work portfolio (a job application to the host organisation that is assessed by the supervisor), and a reflective portfolio. Course credit is 9 units.



University of Sydney

University: University of Sydney Law School

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Brief Overview

The University of Sydney Law School offers a variety of clinical and experiential offerings in its undergraduate and postgraduate programs, ranging from clinical placements within long-established social justice and public interest LLB and JD units of study and internships in a postgraduate criminal justice unit of study to more recently introduced interdisciplinary and/or industry and community project units.

The former group have been available as electives for 10 years or longer, whereas the latter are partly the result of an increased focus in the University's Strategic Plan on the need for interdisciplinary and/or real-world experiences as an integral part of a student's course.

All units of study, which are available as electives, are discussed in greater detail below.

COURSE 1: Public Interest Law Clinic (offered annually in Semester 1) LAWS3461/5161

Description

Through one-day-a-week placements in public and community agencies, students are exposed to real world cases, and participate in a structured seminar program on campus dealing with social justice issues and aspects of public interest law.

Organisations which have participated as placement sites for the unit include Redfern Legal Centre (RLC), the Public Interest Advocacy Centre, Justice Connect, Amnesty International Australia, NSW Public Defenders' Office, the Arts Law Centre, the Aboriginal Legal Centre, Immigration Advice and Rights Centre, Diversity Services (NSW Dept Justice), HIV/AIDS Legal Centre, and the Environmental Defender's Office.

Students attend weekly seminars which provide students with the basic knowledge and skills required to participate in a working legal organisation, and cover legal issues specific to the placement sites. The seminars encourage discussion and reflection on the range of issues that may arise during the course of the placement.

In addition to the option of one-day-a-week placements, students can attend a clinical placement at Redfern Legal Centre for two days a week over 6 weeks in January and February. They then complete the academic component of their studies by attending the weekly seminars during first semester.

At the end of the unit of study students will have:

- i. enhanced their ethical, social and professional understanding of the practice of law;
- ii. improved their ability to recognise, define and analyse legal problems flowing from real case files, and to identify and create processes to solve them;
- iii. observed and practised communication and inter-personal skills involved in the practice of law;
- iv. been introduced to aspects of legal practice such as legal writing, research, client interaction and time management;
- v. had the opportunity to work both independently and collaboratively, in a way that is informed by openness, curiosity and a desire to meet new challenges.



Semester 1: 1x2hr seminar/week and the equivalent of one day per week for the semester at a pre-selected placement site. The assessment is Unit of Study participation and presentation (P/F); 5000wd essay (100%); placement site performance (P/F). Up to 40 places are offered annually.

The unit is taught by Professor Peter Cashman, Professor of Law (Social Justice), Sydney Law School

COURSE 2: Law and Social Justice Clinic (offered annually in Semester 2) LAWS3431/5131

Description This unit develops students' understanding of issues that relate to lawyering for social justice: practical, personal, political, policy, ethical and theoretical. It is an experiential learning unit of study, with an emphasis on supported and guided student-centred learning that enables students to learn through participation, reflection and analysis. The social justice focus of the unit of study is reflected in the selection of placement sites.

Students work one day a week during the semester in a non-profit (community or public) legal practice under the supervision of a qualified legal practitioner.

In weekly two-hour seminars held throughout semester students discuss and reflect on issues that arise during their placement, in light of prescribed materials on the intersection between law and social justice.

On successful completion of the unit of study a student will have:

1. an appreciation of the theoretical underpinnings, and political dimensions, of issues of law and social justice in society
2. a more informed and nuanced understanding of practising law for social justice
3. a greater ability to engage in analysis of legal practice and doctrine from a range of critical perspectives
4. an enhanced ability to identify and respond to legal ethical issues
5. better developed skills in communication collaboration, and group work
6. an improved capacity for reflective practice, and
7. new personal insights into personal and professional direction and development.

Semester 2: 1x2hr seminar/week and the equivalent of one day per week for the semester at a pre-selected placement site. The assessment is Unit of Study participation (20%); 3000wd essay (50%); 3 x reflective journal entries (30%); placement site performance (P/F). Up to 40 places are offered annually.

The unit is taught by Ms Irene Baghoomians, Senior Lecturer, Sydney Law School; Professor Simon Rice, Sydney Law School

COURSE 3: Criminal Justice Internship (PG only) LAWS6986

Description The Criminal Justice Internship unit of study is offered to students enrolled in the MCrim and GradDipCrim only. It provides an opportunity to experience the working environment of criminal justice agencies. Experience gained through placement with a relevant agency is complemented by attendance at intensive seminars which provide opportunities to reflect on the role of the host agency, the policy context within which the host agency operates, the ethical challenges associated with the work of the agency and the specific skills and knowledge gained through the internship.

The principal focus of the unit is on experiential and student-centred learning, through observation and reflection. Gaining a first-hand understanding of issues associated with criminal justice work brings to life many of the issues arising in other Criminology units. Theoretical insights developed in other units are augmented through practical experiences enjoyed in the internship.

Students spend 15 days at the placement sites across the semester, and attend two Intensive seminars at the Sydney Law School. The seminars promote discussion and reflection on a range of issues that may arise during the course of the placement – for example criminological, professional, ethical and personal issues.

At the end of this unit of study students will:

- have acquired a better sense of the professional and personal responsibilities associated with criminal justice/criminological practice;
- have developed an appreciation for the diverse roles associated with criminal justice and criminology;
- have critically observed and participated in diverse tasks relevant to this field;
- be able to demonstrate an understanding of the basic inter-personal skills involved in criminal justice/criminology practice;
- be able to demonstrate writing and research, advocacy and time-management skill requirements;
- have developed the character and habits of a reflective practitioner.

The assessment is Organisational task presentation (40%); Organisational analysis (30%); Reflective journal (30%). placement site performance (40%). Up to 8 places are offered annually.

The unit is taught by Dr Garner Clancey, Senior Lecturer, Criminology, Sydney Law School

COURSE 4: Interdisciplinary project LAWS3508/5208

Description The Law School enrolls students in interdisciplinary experiential units of study that are offered across campus, working on projects proposed by a range of industry and community partners. Partners have included AGL, NSW Parliament, NSW Public Defenders, PWC and Telstra, and projects have ranged from investigating the future of milk to the regulation of drones. Learning outcomes address graduate qualities of disciplinary depth; broader skills; cultural competence; interdisciplinary effectiveness; integrated professional; ethical and personal identity; and Influence.

Assessment is an Individual Statement (20%) Group Plan (10%) Group Project Report (50%) and Group Presentation (20%).

The unit is coordinated by Professor Simon Rice, Sydney Law School.

COURSE 5: Industry and Community Projects LAWS3510/5210

Description This unit enables later year LLB and JD students to study topics at an advanced level, working with industry and community partners. The design and assessment of the unit will vary from time to time according to the teacher, the topic and the partners. In semester 1 of 2019, for example, students will work in teams, with the NSW Public Defenders Office and NSW Police, to prepare, run and reflect on a criminal trial relying in expert evidence, working with Psychology students who will be studying the role of expert witnesses. In Semester 2 students will work in teams, with a range of NGOs, to examine the process and practice of law reform, and then research and draft appropriately targeted law reform campaigns to achieve a desired social change goal.

In 2019 the unit will be taught by Professor Simon Rice, Sydney Law School



University of Technology Sydney

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Brief Overview

The University of Technology, Sydney (UTS) offers the subject Law and Justice Studies/Experiential Law and Practice as an elective in the Bachelor of Laws/ Juris Doctor.

COURSE I: Law and Justice Studies

Description

Law and Justice Studies is taught within the Faculty of Law and introduces students to the dynamics of law reform and community engagement. This subject fosters an understanding of the practice of public or community-based law by giving students experience in, and direct knowledge of, the law in practice. The subject is intended to foster vital legal skills. Enrolment is open to Bachelor of Laws and Juris Doctor students as an elective. Course credit for this program is 6 units.

The subject commences with talks by representatives from each of the social justice agencies offering students a place to undertake their practice based learning. Students are required to review selected contemporary materials on the practice of public law within a social justice and community context and peruse information about participating agencies in preparation for the subject. Key areas covered by agency representatives include the ethics of practice, identification of areas of legal need in the community, and access to justice. From the third week of session participants will have an opportunity to engage in practice based learning with one of the participating social justice agencies.

Practice based learning options include the following

A. Research on behalf of a community group

Community agencies such as community legal centres frequently participate in legal research associated with social justice issues. The capacity of such organisations is boosted by research prepared by students, and students have the opportunity to gain valuable insights into the operation of community organisations.

Students may elect to prepare community legal education for community groups by researching, developing and delivering plain language presentations or short courses about legal issues for communities such as consumer protection, tenancy, domestic violence, dispute resolution, apprehended violence orders, other areas. Option A is generally a major component of the work undertaken as part of option B.



B. External placement in public law or community justice environment

Students will be offered the possibility of undertaking practice based learning with various public law or community justice organisations. Participating organisations include Anti-Slavery Australia at UTS, Legal Aid NSW, the NSW Ombudsman, and also pro bono projects of firms, such as Shopfront Youth Law Centre (Kings Cross), and the Homeless Persons Legal Service operated by the Public Interest Advocacy Centre.

C. Research publication

Students may complete a research publication such as a law reform submission or submission to a parliamentary committee. Research is generally undertaken as one of the tasks completed during practice based learning with a specific community or government organisation, although this could be undertaken independently under the guidance of the lecturer. Where the work has been undertaken as part of practice based learning with a social justice organisation, publication of student work is at the discretion of the organisation.

University of Wollongong

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Brief Overview

A period of professional experience has always been a compulsory part of the LLB curriculum at the University of Wollongong (UOW). This mandatory clinical component takes the form of a discrete subject, LLB 397 Legal Internship. UOW law also offers other clinical legal experience options through elective subjects and volunteer programs.

COURSE I: The UOW Legal Internship

Description

The internship is a professional experience placement of 20 days duration in a legal workplace environment such as a firm of solicitors, barristers' chambers, an in-house corporate legal team, Legal Aid Commission, Public Defender, DPP, in a court registry or with a judge, a Tribunal or Commission, in a government department or law reform commission, a community legal centre, or other approved organization able to provide the student with experience of the law in practice and appropriate supervision.

These placements are organised by the Law School (with students nominating when they wish to do their internship and also nominating areas of interest), although students may register prospectively existing employment or a summer clerkship which meets the internship guidelines for the purposes of the internship.





The objectives of the internship are:

- to expose students to the application of the law in practice, and to perceive how the learning they acquire in law studies is applied in practice, in ways that cannot be learned from reading or hearing about it;
- to enable students to relate different areas of practice to the importance of developing skills of legal research, communication, drafting, practice management and problem solving;
- to enable students to observe and reflect upon the values, ethical standards and conduct of the legal profession in practice, and to develop their own attitudes of professional responsibility.

Students and supervisors receive handbooks and guidelines explaining the program and its educational objectives. Students are required to negotiate specific internship objectives with their supervisors and submit them to the Law School early in the internship. The subject coordinator liaises with the student and internship provider.

During the internship, students maintain a reflective journal and must submit for assessment, at least 4 entries from that journal dealing with the professional activities in which they have participated and their observations and reflections on that experience, plus a final piece in which they reflect on the achievement of their placement objectives and the connections and gaps between the law in theory and the law in practice. Student and supervisor also submit an evaluation of the internship. There is no seminar program for this course. Course credit is 2 points

UOW Law School has continued to nurture internship opportunities for students with public interest and social justice aligned organisations including community legal centres, RACS, IARC, Mission Australia and the ALS.

Since 2015, the Local Court, Coroner's Court, Drug Court and the District Court of NSW have also taken students on 20 day internships during the Summer and Winter breaks in a variety of locations across NSW, giving students an exciting and unique experience while completing their mandatory internship requirements.

COURSE 2: COSL Program and Public Interest Law elective

Description

In 2009 the UOW Faculty of Law launched its Community Outreach and Service Learning (COSL) program.

COSL provides a framework in which law students can be matched with not-for-profit community organizations to work on projects that will benefit from the students' legal skills. The Faculty of Law will work with Wollongong City Council's Volunteering Illawarra, the Illawarra Legal Centre and other public interest organisations to identify high priority community issues on which the students will work under the auspices of COSL. Participating students have the opportunity to complement the learning they do at university with learning in the community.

A central component of the COSL Program is the subject LLB 324 Public Interest Law (an upper year elective), which provides students with an opportunity to apply and extend the knowledge, skills and attributes they have developed in their previous law studies.

Students enrolled in Public Interest Law experience a combination of intensive training and short-term clinical placement, facilitated by the Public Interest Advocacy Centre (PIAC) and the Public Interest Law Clearing House (PILCH) in Sydney. They are then linked with a community or other similar organisation (facilitated by the subject coordinator if the student is not already involved with such an organisation) and assist that organisation with a public interest law project under the supervision of a person from that organisation and the subject coordinator. Reports on these components form part of the subject's assessment regime.

Under COSL the School of law is also able to provide an ongoing roster of students to assist the Illawarra Legal Centre in both its day to day work (including work with the Tenancy Advice Service) and special projects. There is no seminar program for this course. Course credit is 2 points

COURSE 3: UOW Law Judges Program

Description

Since 2013, a select number of UOW Law students spend a day with each of the Judges (and sometimes magistrates) participating in the UOW Law Judges Program. The program is designed to give students an insight into the work of Judicial Officers and their Associates and to students to pursue Associateships. No credit points for this program, students are issued a Certificate of Participation.

UNSW Sydney

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Brief Overview

UNSW Australia (The University of New South Wales) Law Faculty offers 16 clinical courses, or courses containing a formal clinical component.

Each of the clinical courses aims to provide students with opportunities to learn about law, the legal system and the role of lawyers within the legal system through working with disadvantaged clients and other clients and groups. Students are encouraged to think critically about the law and the legal system through interviewing clients, working on client cases and/or policy and law reform and community education projects.

The courses are:

Clinical components:

1. Lawyers, Ethics and Justice
2. Legal Aid and Global Justice lawyering – Issues in Practice

Clinical courses:

1. KLC Community Law Clinic (Intensive 2 days)
2. KLC Community Law Clinic (Non Intensive 1 day)
3. KLC Employment Law Clinic
4. KLC Family Law Community Education Clinic
5. Indigenous First Year Program
6. Human Rights Clinic (Intensive and non-Intensive)
7. Land and Environment Law Clinic
8. Police Powers Clinic
9. Social Impact Hub (Intensive and non-Intensive)
10. Designing Technology Solutions for Access to Justice

There are also 5 Clinical internship programs run at UNSW:

1. Postgraduate Externally Hosted Internships
2. Postgraduate Human Rights Internships
3. UNSW Law Externally Hosted Internships (Undergraduate and Juris Doctor)
4. UNSW Law On Site Internships (Undergraduate and Juris Doctor)

Clinical Components

COMPONENT 1: Lawyers, Ethics and Justice

Description

This course teaches legal ethics and the sociology of legal practice to UNSW Australia law students. Including a clinical component for all students early in their degrees is a unique opportunity for students to meet and interview real clients and reflect on the way law interacts with disadvantaged clients' lives.

Students are trained in interviewing clients and then participate in a legal advice session at Kingsford Legal Centre interviewing clients, under the supervision of volunteer lawyers and clinical supervisors. Through this, they gain an understanding of the work of community legal centres and some experience in the sorts of legal issues which disadvantaged members of the community experience. Over 500 students per year participate in this experience. Students submit a written report reflecting on their experience of interviewing and their understanding of the work of community legal centres.

Convenor

Anna Cody (acody@unsw.edu.au)

COMPONENT 2: Course Legal Aid and Global Justice Lawyering – Issues in Practice

Description

Over summer, students can learn about Australian and international models of legal aid provision. This course involves an examination of the fundamental approaches to justice lawyering through the medium of contemporary issues in legal aid and legal service provision for disadvantaged individuals and communities and an opportunity for students to develop advanced skills in interviewing and legal problem solving. It familiarizes students with practical mechanisms for making strategic legal responses to problems for communities, NGOs and individuals. The course also provides an international comparative approach to legal aid provision as well as domestic legal systems.



It is an intensive course offered over 2 weeks one of the trimesters. The course contains an advanced interviewing clinical component, which allows students to interview clients and work with lawyers in providing assistance at Kingsford Legal Centre. The course incorporates a range of theoretical frameworks around service provision to disadvantaged communities as well specific models for providing legal service. Access to justice issues are addressed through discussion of legal aid service provision and the range of ways in which legal need is met. The course develops students' ability to adopt a problem solving approach to complex legal issues through intensive case study work.

Clinical Courses

COURSE 1 & 2: KLC Community Law Clinic (Intensive and non-intensive)

Description

The UNSW Law Faculty runs a community legal centre – Kingsford Legal Centre – which assists over 3,000 people a year. Seventy-five students each year undertake the community law clinical program at the Centre. Students attend the Centre either 1 or 2 days a week.

The objectives of the course are:

- to develop students' critical appreciation of the law and legal system in Australia through participation in a legal practice working for clients who are financially or otherwise disadvantaged;
- to enhance students' contextual understanding of the law and legal process by exposing them to real clients with legal problems;
- to provide students with a detailed understanding of the legal aid system and develop students' understanding of issues of access to the legal system for the Australian community;
- to develop students' awareness of the role of lawyers in practice in the legal system;
- to develop students' understanding of ethics and responsibility in a workplace setting;
- to introduce students to the importance of developing basic lawyering skills to a high level of proficiency including communication, interviewing, drafting and negotiation; and
- to develop students' ability to see beyond a casework approach to legal problems by providing opportunities to participate in campaign and education work and to encourage students to see the law as a vehicle which can be used to protect and develop human rights.

Students are responsible for running between 2 and 3 legal files supervised by a clinical supervisor.

Students do legal research, interview clients, attend court with solicitors and counsel, and draft letters, affidavits, statutory declarations, court documents, and letters of advice. Students respond to public enquiries for assistance and make referrals to other sources of legal and non-legal assistance.

Students also participate in community legal education and law reform projects such as preparing presentations around human rights or submissions on problems with anti-discrimination law. Students may be able to participate in a student advocacy program. In this program they present guilty pleas for clients charged with minor offences at the Local Court.

Students also:

- attend a midday tutorial of one hour on their rostered days,
- help to coordinate evening advice sessions from 6pm to 9pm and
- participate in weekly 2 hour seminars.

The weekly seminars cover substantive law such as domestic violence and discrimination, as well as key legal skills such as interviewing, reflection, cultural competency, drafting and negotiation. The students also learn about the legal aid system and law reform processes. Students also teach a tutorial with the Lawyers Ethics & Justice students discussing issues about interviewing in preparation for evening advice sessions.

The courses are taught by an Associate Professor in the Faculty located at the Centre together with six solicitor/clinical supervisors and other staff with a range of skills. Students gain either 6 or 12 credit points for their participation in the course.

Convenor

Anna Cody (acody@unsw.edu.au)

COURSE 3: KLC Employment Law Clinic

Description

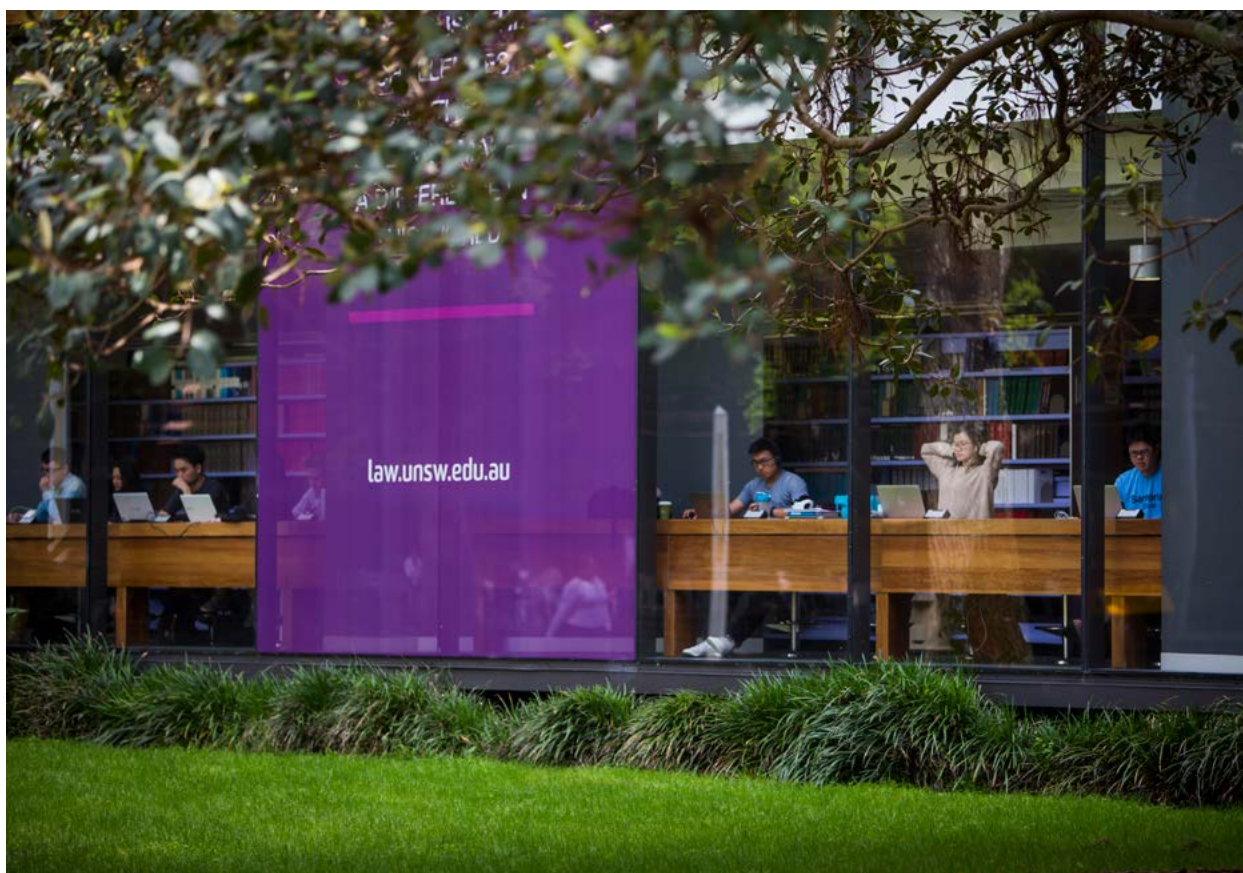
The Centre also runs a clinical program in Employment Law. The objectives of the course are similar to those of KLC Community Law Clinic (see above) however the students' cases, law reform work and community legal education focus on employment issues. The assessment process is the same as the Community Law Course.

This course has 6 students each session attending the Centre 2 days per week. Students gain specialist expertise in a high demand area of the law. In many cases students appear at Fair Work Australia and the Chief Industrial Magistrate's Court in conciliation proceedings or other mentions or hearings. Students also visit the Chief Industrial Magistrate's Court in order to learn more about how it works. Students gain 12 credit points (2 electives) for their participation in the course.

A number of private law firms provide solicitors on a rostered basis to provide employment advice at the Centre. This allows students to work with a variety of lawyers as well as providing more assistance to clients.

Convenor

Anna Cody (acody@unsw.edu.au)



COURSE 4: KLC Family Law Community Education

Description

Six students attend the Centre one full day a week and participate in weekly 2 hour seminars. Students in this clinic develop and present a range of training modules for various community groups and community members focusing on family law and the cross over with domestic violence, particularly focusing on children and the importance of their interests. There is also a seminar program through which students learn about teaching methodology and substantive law. Students participate in the normal running of the Centre including answering phone enquiries from members of the community, advice nights and making appropriate referrals. They attend the Family Court in order to gain a deeper knowledge of family law and its practice. Students gain 6 credit points for their completion of the course.

The objectives of the course are:

- to develop students' critical appreciation of the law and legal system in Australia through participation in a legal practice working for clients who are financially or otherwise disadvantaged;
- to enhance students' contextual understanding of the law and legal process by exposing them to real clients with legal problems;

- to provide students with a detailed understanding of the legal aid system and develop their understanding of issues of access to the legal system for the Australian community;
- to develop students' awareness of the role of lawyers in practice in the legal system and the importance of working in an interdisciplinary way with other community agencies;
- to develop students' ability to see beyond a casework approach to legal problems by providing opportunities to participate in community education work;
- to develop students' understanding of ethics and responsibility in a workplace setting;
- to introduce students to the importance of developing basic lawyering skills to a high level of proficiency including communication;
- to encourage students to see the law as a vehicle which can be used to protect and develop human rights.

Convenor

Anna Cody (acody@unsw.edu.au)

COURSE 5: Indigenous First Year Program, Foundations Enrichment 2 (For 1st year law students)

Description

UNSW Australia offers first year Indigenous Law students a clinical program in which they interview clients and gain an understanding of legal services in NSW in weekly seminars.

The objectives of the course are:

- to develop graduate attributes of oral and written communication;
- to encourage students to continue their legal studies;
- to develop students' understanding of the way law can be used to protect human rights;
- to develop students' contacts and connection with the Law School;
- to enhance the services of Kingsford Legal Centre by increasing Indigenous participation;
- to develop final year students' knowledge and understanding of Indigenous issues through the mentoring program;
- to allow students an understanding of the legal aid system in New South Wales;
- to allow students an opportunity to assist people in need; and
- to introduce students to practical lawyering skills.

Generally, 8-14 students enrol in this course and are taught interviewing skills. They also gain an overview of the legal aid system through a series of classes and visits to organisations and Courts.

Convener

Anna Cody (acody@unsw.edu.au)

COURSE 6: Human Rights Clinic (Intensive & Non-Intensive)

Description

The Human Rights Clinic provides students with practical experience in multifaceted approaches to human rights lawyering in both domestic and international settings. Attending the clinic on campus one or two days each week, students have significant responsibility as legal advisors, co-counsel, or advocacy partners with lawyers and human rights advocates in Australia and Asia, under a UNSW Sydney Senior Lecturer's supervision. Through work on specific litigation, advocacy and law reform projects and a weekly 2 hour seminar, the program aims to strengthen students' practical skills in research, writing, advocacy, problem solving, and independent judgment, while encouraging critical reflection on the role of law and lawyers in advancing human rights at home and in our region. Specific activities may include, for example, supporting local lawyers and organisations in Asia and Australia to bring or intervene in public interest litigation within national courts; drafting communications to UN

human rights bodies; undertaking fact-finding and documentation of systemic rights violations; drafting law reform submissions; briefing MPs in parliamentary question processes; or filing freedom of information requests. The 2 hour weekly seminar focuses on ethics and accountability in human rights work while developing students' lawyering skills in areas such as human rights report-writing; law reform submission-writing; advocacy and the media; and international and comparative legal research. Students gain either 6 or 12 credit points for the course.

Course objectives:

- to be able to identify and critically assess various legal and non-legal strategies that may be employed by human rights lawyers and advocates in different settings, and critically evaluate the role of law and lawyers in protecting and advancing human rights;
- to apply research, writing and problem-solving skills in formulating policy and legal responses to current human rights problems;
- to develop practical lawyering skills, including oral and written communication and drafting skills, while gaining experience in producing timely and professional written work-product that may be relied upon by other professionals;
- to enhance skills required to engage professionally with a variety of stakeholders in domestic and international contexts, demonstrating appropriate cultural sensitivity and an understanding of ethical, political and professional-accountability issues related to human rights work.

Convener

Bassina Farbenblum (b.farbenblum@unsw.edu.au)

COURSE 7: Land and Environment Court Clinic

Description

This clinic is run in conjunction with the Land and Environment Court of NSW, the world's first specialist environmental court established as a superior court of record. The Court has wide civil, criminal and administrative jurisdiction, and has been influential well beyond NSW in its efforts to increase access to justice and in its development of environmental law.

Between 4 and 8 students are accepted into the clinic, which runs for one trimester. Students begin the course with lectures at UNSW Australia, then spend one day each week at the court, gaining an understanding of the work of judges and commissioners in the court and in the field. Students also attend fortnightly seminars at UNSW Australia. The course is assessed on a pass/fail basis, and requires completion of a research project and a reflective journal, as well as satisfactory performance at the court. Students gain 6 credits points for their participation in the course.

Convener

Amelia Thorpe (a.thorpe@unsw.edu.au)

COURSE 8: Police Powers Clinic

Description

The Police Powers Clinic is an experiential learning clinic located within Redfern Legal Centre, an independent, non-profit community centre dedicated to promoting social justice and human rights. Redfern Legal Centre provides a state-wide specialist legal advice service on police powers. In this course students will put their legal skills and knowledge to use and gain practical experience of law and policing in action.

At the same time students critically analyse the effect of law and police practices on disadvantaged clients in a community legal centre setting. Students assist solicitors advise clients in making complaints against the police, as well as conducting work on research, policy and community legal education under the supervision of the Police Powers Clinic Convenor. Through client work, advocacy and law reform projects and a weekly seminar, the program aims to strengthen students' practical skills in research, writing, advocacy, problem solving, teamwork and independent judgment. Students spend 1 day (7 hours-9am to 5pm) at Redfern Legal Centre each week for 10 weeks. The weekly seminar is part of the clinical day. There is a half day induction program at the Centre which is compulsory for all students. Students gain 6 credit points for the participation in the course.

Course Objectives

- To develop knowledge of law, practice and procedure in relation to police powers and accountability;
- To apply research, writing and problem-solving skills in formulating policy and legal responses to the exercise of police powers;
- To develop practical lawyering skills, including drafting, interviewing and advocacy skills, while gaining experience in producing timely and professional written work that may be relied upon by other professionals;
- To enhance skills required to engage professionally with a variety of stakeholders, demonstrating an understanding of ethical, political and professional accountability issues related to policing;
- To develop knowledge and understanding about issues of access to justice for disadvantaged clients and about the legal aid system and the role of community legal centres; and
- To think critically about the role of law and policing in society, and the role of law, lawyers and civil society in reforming police powers.

Convenor

Vicki Sentas (v.sentas@unsw.edu.au)

COURSE 9: The Social Impact Hub (Intensive and Non- Intensive)

Description

In the Social Impact Hub Intensive and Non-Intensive clinic students put their legal and business skills and knowledge to use and gain practical experience in different areas of social impact, such as philanthropy, pro bono and volunteering, social entrepreneurship and other related fields. The course provides formal and informal training, as well as supervised practical experience, in planning and implementing a project in a field of social impact.

The clinic format gives students a unique opportunity to put into practice doctrinal knowledge and professional skills that will be expected of them as young professionals.

The aims of this course are:

1. To assist students develop an understanding of the variety of perspectives on social impact and appreciate how the social system could work more effectively towards improved social impact;
2. To help students think critically about their role as lawyers and possible ways to improve society, regardless of whether they intend to work for a commercial law firm, business, NGO, foundation or a community legal centre;
3. To consolidate students' skills related to their professional lives, including their ability to analyse, research, communicate clearly in written and oral forms, as well as develop their project planning and project management skills; and
4. To develop students' ability to engage professionally and work collaboratively with a variety of stakeholders, including a commitment to ethical practice and policy-making, while gaining experience in producing timely and professional written work-product that may be relied upon by other professionals.

Students are required to work for at least 20 days (Intensive) and at least 10 days (Non-Intensive) at the Social Impact Hub, generally two days a week for the Intensive and one day a week for the Non-Intensive, and attend scheduled team meetings and weekly seminars.

The Social Impact Hub is one of the elective subjects for law. Students receive 6 units of credit for the Non-Intensive Clinic and 12 units of credit for the Intensive Clinic.

Contact

Jessica Roth (jessica.roth@unsw.edu.au)



COURSE 10: Designing Technology Solutions for Access to Justice

Description

This course teaches students how to design and build an application using expert system software. Students learn how to use this software to generate legal documents, automate intake processes, and assist users to navigate solutions to legal problems. After learning the necessary skills, students work in small groups, in partnership with a not-for-profit centre or organisation, to design and build an application. In class, students are also exposed to a variety of examples of automation of legal tasks, and the various legal and practical issues associated with their use, including issues of professional regulation. This includes guest lectures on a variety of topics, both technical and procedural. Students also become familiar with theoretical approaches to legal information systems development, and the range of technologies and approaches that may contribute to applications development.

Used well, legal information systems can facilitate access to legal information and expertise, but always within the limits of their designer's foresight. Designing a good legal information system thus requires skills in legal analysis and

problem-solving, as well as the ability to think creatively and explore different approaches to a problem.

This course does not require students to have any pre-existing skills or experience in expert systems or computer programming - the course itself includes instruction on how to use expert system software. Students receive 6 units of credit.

Course Convenor – Lyria Bennett Moses

Clinical Internship Programs

COURSE 11: UNSW Law Postgraduate Externally Hosted Internships

Description

This subject allows students to undertake, for course credit, internships in selected organisations. Students work under the supervision of the host organisation. The range of projects in which the intern will be involved will be determined according to the project priorities of the partner organisation. However, in general it is expected that an intern's duties will consist of a combination of:

- advocacy,
- research,
- project administrative work,
- interviewing clients,
- preparing legal materials editing,
- preparing and writing background materials & briefing papers,
- event coordination,
- liaising with other organisations,

and doing relevant work of a substantive nature. Interns attend at the organisation for the equivalent of one day each week over 12 weeks. Some examples of organisations where interns work are the Cancer Council, CHOICE, Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, the Legal Services Council. The subject has regular small group classes where students, through readings and discussion, critically analyse the operation of the law, legal system and lawyering through their experiences. Most classes are taught by face to face classes and an online course has been developed for overseas and interstate students.

At the end of this course, students should:

- have developed an appreciation for the professional and personal responsibilities associated with the practice of law, legal policy and advocacy;
- have observed and participated in a high level of problem solving flowing from the development of policy or legal practice;
- have developed the skills to evaluate the impact of law on individuals, communities and the Australian society as a whole;
- communicate effectively, in speaking and in writing.

Convenor

Pearl Beaumont (p.beaumont@unsw.edu.au)

COURSE 12: Postgraduate Human Rights Internship Program

Description

This subject offers postgraduate students the opportunity to do an internship focussing on the protection and promotion of human rights. Under the supervision of a member of the Partner Organisation and the Law Faculty, students gain valuable experience in research, analysis, writing and advocacy on aspects of law, policy and practice relating to human rights. Interns undertake the equivalent of one full day each week (for 12 weeks) of work at their Partner Organisation during session and complete their project in close consultation with their Partner Organisation. Interns may also choose to do a block placement in summer or winter at an international or remote host organisation. Some examples of organisations where interns have been placed are: Reprieve Australia, the Australian Human Rights Centre, the Andrew and Renata Kaldor Centre for Refugee Law, Refugee Advice and Casework Service, Amnesty International.

Interns also attend seminars at which they discuss the subject of their internship.

A candidate who has successfully completed this course should have:

- worked on written research projects in which human rights law and principles have been applied to the work of a human rights organisation;
- acquired skills, knowledge and experience in the area of human rights law and policy;
- participated directly in policy debates and in human rights-related policy-making, applying human rights law, principles and concepts in a contemporary policy setting;
- contributed his/her skills and expertise in the human rights field to the broader community.

Convenor

Pearl Beaumont (p.beaumont@unsw.edu.au)

COURSE 13: UNSW Law Externally Hosted Internships (Undergraduate and Juris Doctor)

Description


This subject allows students to undertake, for course credit, internships in selected organisations. Students work under the supervision of the host organisation and obtain experience in advocacy, research, project administrative work, interviewing clients, preparing legal materials, editing, preparing and writing background materials & briefing papers, event coordination and liaising with other organisations. Many organisations are working in the sector. Some examples of internship sites are Amnesty International, the Football Federation of Australia, the Administrative Appeals Tribunal, National Australia Bank, CHOICE, Justice Action, and the Law Society of NSW. Interns attend the organisation for the equivalent of one day each week over 12 weeks. The subject has regular face-to-face classes where students, through readings and discussion, critically analyse the operation of the organisations, law, legal system and lawyering through their experiences.

At the end of this course, students should:

- have developed an appreciation for the professional and personal responsibilities associated with the practice of law, legal policy and advocacy;
- have observed and participated in a high level of problem solving flowing from the development of policy or legal practice;
- have developed the skills to evaluate the impact of law on individuals, communities and the Australian society as a whole;
- developed better communication skills and be able to communicate effectively, in speaking and in writing.

Convenor

Pearl Beaumont (p.beaumont@unsw.edu.au)



COURSE 14: UNSW Law On Site Internships (Undergraduate and Juris Doctor)

Description

This subject gives students the opportunity to work in one of the specialist Centres that are affiliated with UNSW Australia and based on the Kensington campus. Some examples of the Centres are: The Andrew and Renata Kaldor Centre for Refugee Law, the Diplomacy Training Program, the Cyberspace Law and Policy Centre, The Gilbert and Tobin Centre for Public Law. The principal goal of the subject is to provide students with training and practical experience in research, writing and advocacy on aspects of policy and practice relating to social justice.

Each intern is allocated to a particular host Centre. Interns attend at their host centre for the equivalent of one day each week over the session, and undertake additional work in libraries and elsewhere on a flexible basis. Interns also attend regular classes where they analyse and reflect on their experiences over the semester.

The objectives of the course are for students to:

- have developed an appreciation for the professional and personal responsibilities associated with the practice of law and social justice;
- have observed and participated in a high level of problem solving flowing from the development of policy or legal practice;
- have developed the skills to evaluate the impact of law and social justice issues on individuals, communities and the Australian society as a whole;
- communicate effectively, in speaking and in writing.

Convenor

Pearl Beaumont (p.beaumont@unsw.edu.au)

Western Sydney University

Western Sydney University

Convenor Michael Brogan, Academic & Director of Engagement, School of Law

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Brief Overview

Western Sydney University's School of Law operates a Clinical Legal Education program in partnership with Western Sydney Community Legal Centre in the Peter Shergold Building, Parramatta City campus.

The 'Clinical Legal Placement' alternate (elective) unit provides law students with 10 credit points towards their LLB degree. The program's broad goals and objectives are to expose students to community legal practice and social justice, and teach them to reflect upon, and contribute to, a range of issues affecting the community legal sector and its clients. The School of Law offers a second elective unit 'Practising in the Public Interest'. This unit is delivered by the Public Interest Advocacy Centre, an independent, non-profit legal and policy centre. The unit introduces students to systems advocacy and public interest law and exposes them to organisations that are directly involved in public interest and pro bono litigation and activities. A third unit is the 'Judicial Internship' unit. This unit has a competitive entry and provides eligible, later year students with an opportunity to be mentored by judges, magistrates and tribunal members as part of a work-integrated learning unit of study. The unit provides an opportunity to understand the judicial system and professionalism from the unique perspective of the bench. In addition to reflecting on their experiences students also focus upon the ethics of legal practitioners. A fourth unit 'Revenue Law Placement' is delivered by the Australian Taxation Office. The unit introduces exposes students to the technical areas of the ATO and provides them with invaluable work experience in the area of Commonwealth Taxation. A fifth undergraduate unit specialises in Elder Law and exposes students to legal matters in placements with elder law practitioners. A postgraduate clinical unit, 'Advanced Clinical Placement', is available for Masters of Laws (International Governance) students. This unit is an intensive work-integrated learning unit providing students an opportunity to explore clinical practice in conjunction with their international governance research interests.

UNIT 1: Clinical Legal Placement (Western Sydney University)

Description

The Western Sydney University Clinical Legal Placement unit runs over five days and is in partnership with Western Sydney Community Legal Centre (WSCLC). Students work as part of a team supervised by WSCLC solicitors. Students also have an opportunity to visit the courts in the Parramatta Justice Precinct.

The PCJC provides legal advice and assistance to socially and economically disadvantaged clients in Western Sydney. The PCJC also auspices the Western Sydney University Student Legal Service, which is a legal advice and referral service for current students of Western Sydney University. The Student Legal Service is co-located at the Parramatta Community Justice Clinic. The service is provided through the Student Services and Amenities Fee fund.

The clinical legal placement unit allows students to work with a practicing solicitor while gaining valuable experience and fulfilling the University's mission for social justice and equality. Students will gain experience in interviewing clients about their legal problem, researching the law and legal process as it applies to the client's legal problem. They will also prepare file notes, correspondence and may prepare court and other documents. Students will also prepare plain English resources on an area of law in which the PCJC advises.

Students complete a reflective journal that requires them to critically consider her or his actions, experiences and responses in light of the objectives of the unit. Students do not attend additional classes on campus while they are completing the five-day placement.

The Unit Coordinator is Michael Brogan.

UNIT 2: Practising in the Public Interest (Western Sydney University)

Description

'Practising in the Public Interest' is delivered by the Public Interest Advocacy Centre, an independent, non-profit legal and policy centre. The unit introduces students to systems advocacy and public interest law and exposes them to organisations that are directly involved in public interest and pro bono litigation and activities.



Topics covered include: harm, disadvantage, community and discrimination, homelessness, imprisonment and detention, First Peoples and systems of justice, equality before the law, government accountability, consumer rights, public interest advocacy and campaigning, public interest litigation, parliamentary processes for campaigning, bureaucratic and political strategies, and intervening in the public interest. Enrolment into this unit is by invitation only. A minimum GPA for law units is required in order to enrol in this unit.

Students complete a reflective journal, a research assignment and attend intensive seminar sessions. Students must attend all seminars scheduled.

The Unit Coordinator is John Juriansz.

UNIT 3 JUDICIAL INTERNSHIP (WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY)

Description

The 'Judicial Internship' unit provides an internship opportunity within courts and tribunals for later year LLB students. Students will spend twelve days throughout the semester at selected courts and tribunals under the supervision of magistrates, judges or tribunal members. The unit will provide students with an opportunity to observe the courts and tribunals first hand, to be mentored by a judicial officer, to engage in practical assistance to the relevant court or tribunal, and to appreciate the professional responsibilities essential for a 21st Century legal practitioner and judicial officer. Entry is by invitation, competitive, and includes an application process and interview. A minimum GPA for law units is required in order to enrol in this unit. Students complete a research paper and reflective journal. Students must attend scheduled seminars in addition to their placement.

The Unit Coordinator is Michael Brogan.

UNIT 4 REVENUE LAW INDUSTRY PLACEMENT (WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY)

Description

The 'Revenue Law Industry Placement' alternate (elective) unit is convened externally by the Australian Tax Office (ATO). Students will be placed within technical areas of the ATO and supervised, where available, by an experienced team leader. Here students will examine the operation of taxation law in practical contexts and assist in solving taxation law problems for clients. Students will be engaged in the intensive placement program for a four week block period. Students are required to complete three items of assessment: pre-placement reflections (essay), a placement plan (report), and post-placement reflections (essay).

The Unit Coordinator is Professor Michael Blissenden.

UNIT 5 ELDER LAW INDUSTRY PLACEMENT (WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY)

Description

This elective work integrated learning unit builds on the knowledge base of 200632 Elder Law to provide work experience for later year Law students. Students who have successfully completed 200632 Elder Law will be eligible to apply for this industry experience. The placement consists of a full-time, ten day placement at selected industry workplaces with supervision by experienced legal practitioners. The unit will provide students with real-life work experiences in the legal issues associated with the practice of elder law and with an appreciation of the professional responsibilities essential for a 21st Century legal practitioner.

The Unit Coordinator is Sue Field.

UNIT 6 ADVANCED CLINICAL LEGAL PLACEMENT - POSTGRADUATE (WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY)

Description

Advanced Clinical Legal Placement is 40 credit point, postgraduate unit that consists of five weeks of clinical work within a legal practice environment. Students are mentored by experienced legal practitioners, apply and develop knowledge and skills in legal practice, and consider the practical application of law in international governance contexts. Students are supported in identifying their placements, which may be through the School of Law's existing relationship with the Parramatta Community Justice Centre, or at other legal services or practices chosen by the student and approved by the School of Law, which may relate to his or her areas of interest in international governance. Students are required to undertake self-directed study including tasks: completing a work related project, reflection, an e-portfolio and a Professional Performance Report from their workplace supervisor/mentor. 'Advanced Clinical Legal Placement' may be undertaken in any study period and may, by agreement, be organised in ways that suit the workplace supervisor/mentor and the student and as agreed with the Unit Coordinator. This may include, for example, undertaking the five week clinical work placement as a block or distributed over the session parallel to their program of study.

The Unit Coordinator is John Juriansz.



Clinical Legal Education Guide 2019/20

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