

FIRST

Sydney University
Law Society.

2022

YEAR

CONTEST

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We acknowledge the traditional owners of the land that the University of Sydney is built upon, the Gadigal People of the Eora Nation. We acknowledge that this was and always will be Aboriginal Land and are proud to be on the lands of one of the oldest surviving cultures in existence. We respect the knowledge that traditional elders and Aboriginal people hold and pass on from generation to generation, and acknowledge the continuous fight for constitutional reform and treaty recognition to this day. We regret that white supremacy has been used to justify Indigenous dispossession, colonial rule and violence in the past, and in particular, a legal and political system that still to this date doesn't provide Aboriginal people with justice.

Many thanks to all those who made possible the production and publication of the First Year Guide. We would like to thank Sydney Law School and the University of Sydney Union for their continuing support of SULS and its publications.

Editors

Ariana Haghighi
Clara Suki
Kira Trahana
Veera Singh
Veronica Lenard (Editor-in-Chief)

Design

Justine Hu

Printing

Megacolour

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President's Welcome

Congratulations and welcome to the beginning of your Sydney Law School journey!

Whether you are a fresh-faced High School graduate, an excited postgraduate student searching for your next challenge, a determined transfer student, or anything in between, the beginning of your Sydney Law journey can seem daunting. Unsure if the feeling that fills you as you enter your first foundies lecture is nervousness or anticipation? You're not alone (and hint: it's probably both!). But rest assured, no matter who you are or how you think you feel, as the largest, most active, and oldest society at our University, the Sydney University Law Society (SULS) is here to support you. If there is one thing you do first after reading this guide, make sure it is signing up for SULS (<https://www.suls.org.au/register>) to join over 2500 members and take advantage of all we have to offer!

It will reassure you to know that never has there been a student at Sydney Law that didn't make mistakes. Not only is it almost unavoidable over such a long and complex degree, but to some extent is in itself an important learning opportunity. That said, there are some mistakes that you are lucky enough to have had others make for you! This guide is written by those that have already taken the well-trodden path you find before yourself, and contains the wisdom that will help you to avoid common, and not-so-common, errors we have all made before. The information inside will be invaluable for you, both during but also after your first year here. Information on planning your degree progression, academic tips and tricks, the services available to support you when you need it, and the secrets to making Law School the best and most fun years of your life are only pages away.

University is so much more than the classroom. After a few false starts, we hope that this year we will finally begin to transition back to some semblance of a pre-pandemic university experience (fingers-crossed!). If there is one regret that I often hear from older students, it is not getting involved outside their academic studies, both in SULS and elsewhere. Once you leave this place, there are so many opportunities that you likely won't see again, so make sure to truly throw yourself into the experience and get as involved as you possibly can. SULS aims to help you do just that. For all our LLB, JD, and Postgraduate members our organisation offers so many opportunities, and above all, a community. Competitions, social events, publications, sports, and many more are just the tip of the iceberg, but you have to be willing to dive in!

In 2022 we have a number of specific initiatives that target first year students such as yourself. We hope to have the return of our annual LLB I Law Camp this year, alongside a number of introductory social events for JD I students such as the JD I drinks. We also have the ever-popular Welcome Party, where lasting friendships are always created for our new students. Finally, make sure to check out our Law School Basics series and other informational publications, where we hope we are able to answer as many of your questions as possible!

This year, COVID permitting, we will be available in the SULS office (Room 103 of the New Law Building, just down the first set of stairs and to the left) during Office Hours (10am-2pm Monday-Thursday, with extended hours to allow for part-time JD and LLM students who otherwise may not be able to attend until 6pm on Tuesday). If for any reason you are unable to return to campus, know that these hours will be hybridised, with zoom and WeChat options available at the same times all year round. Outside of these hours (or during them, if you feel more comfortable) we are also always available on any of our social media channels, so feel free to send us a Facebook message or an email if you'd prefer!

On a final personal point, I hope that you take a moment to appreciate where you are as you read this. The length of your degree may seem extensive, but it will fly by before you know it. These years can truly be amazing, so make sure to treasure every moment (yes, every moment).

I wish you all the best as you begin on your Sydney Law journey, I have every faith in each and every one of you!

Hoping to see you around this year!



Ben Hines

President, Sydney University Law Society

Editor-in-Chief Foreword

Congratulations! You've made it to your first year of law school. On behalf of the editors, I'd like to welcome you here. You have so many firsts ahead as you start this new challenging journey. But try not to panic because with each first comes a second, a third and so on, and with each time you will become better prepared.

To help you get there, we've collected what you may need during your first year and beyond, but it's just a starting point. Each section is filled with our key pieces of advice, information and guidance for where you can find more so that you always know where to look next.

If in doubt about where to start, try the advice from the editing team on page 8 or the Frequently Asked Questions on page 55. We want this guide to be the most useful it can be for you specifically, so use it in the way that you see fit. Grab some sticky notes or a highlighter and make these pages your go-to for the coming year.

This guide was created by a hardworking editorial team and for that I thank Clara, Kira and Veera for their effort and passion throughout creation of this guide. In an already challenging time, your consistent effort is even more appreciated.

Special thanks is owed to Ariana, the SULLS Publications Director, for her support and guidance throughout the creation of this guide and to the past editorial committees for their work over the years.

To you, the reader, from wherever you are starting, I wish you the best of luck for your first year of law school (and beyond).

Take it one day at a time,

Veronia Lenard

Editor-in-Chief, 2022 SULLS First Year Guide

Publication's Director Foreword

There are a lot of expectations surrounding one's 'First Year'.

Will you meet your friends destined to be bridesmaids and groomsmen at your wedding? Will you be recognised for your genius instantly, and be accelerated to 4th year? Will you meet - the one - through side glances in an oft-packed Law Library? Will you be handpicked as SALS President?

My first-year was exciting, rewarding and challenging - and for the latter half of it, I was thrust online. Beyond feeling isolated from my peers, I felt shortchanged that we weren't receiving the 'first year experience' I felt we deserved.

Truth be told, 'first year' is no different to other years. Although this is the year where you may stumble the most as you slowly find your footing, this year is a taster of what the next 3, 5 or however many years have in store for you.

Everyone's law school experience will be wildly different - and that's what makes it so special (or so I've been told, I'm only a fifth of the way there). Look to mentors for guidance, but don't look to emulate the journeys of others - carve out your own path.

Okay, enough with the aphoristic advice- How does one 'carve out their own path'?

Don't discount your chances at anything, be bold and ask questions, and interrogate yourself about what you want from your first year, and your time at law school more broadly. Most importantly, take your time - that is the one thing you have lots of.

An enormous thanks to everyone who helped put this guide together. I really hope you treasure it as a source of advice and inspiration, not just as the year begins, but throughout. Whenever you feel lost or adrift, we hope you can return to the Guide as a map to steer you on course- and remember that there are plenty of support services ready and available as a compass.

Ariana Haghighi (LLBII)
Publications Director 2022

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Key Dates

- Semester 1
21 February - 18 June
- Semester 1 Census
31 March
- Mid-semester Break
18 April - 24 April
- STUVAC
30 May - 3 June
- Exams
6 June - 18 June
- Semester 2
1 August - 26 November
- Semester 2 Census
31 August
- Mid-semester Break
26 September
- STUVAC
7 November - 11 November
- Exams
14 November - 26 November

Welcome



Welcome to your first year of law school and congratulations on getting here, in whatever way that may have been. As we recognise the different paths that you've travelled to get to today, we want to acknowledge the different ways that you may start as a first year student. No matter how you got here, you all are starting out on a new journey together.

LLB Student



Welcome to your first year of university and most importantly - Sydney University Law School! We know you worked really hard in the last year to get here and while we can't promise you won't also work really hard here, we want to help you get the most out of this new chapter in your life. There are a lot of firsts ahead for you, but try not to panic and take it one step at a time. You may find that it takes a little time to get used to the pace, independence, or rigour of university but you are not alone in this transition. The best part about the first year of university is you're on the same boat as so many other students, so get excited to embark on this new chapter of your life with the rest of your cohort.

Juris Doctor

Maybe you've just completed a Bachelor's degree, or maybe you're returning to university to pursue a newfound interest in the law or to complement your professional career. The Sydney Law School JD cohort is extremely diverse - whether you already have a degree (or multiple) in a different field, are domestic or international, in your 20-30s or mature-aged, we warmly welcome you! As a first year JD student, you will embark on your legal journey and learn from the world's leading law academics here at Sydney Law, whilst developing your skills of analysis, research, writing and advocacy.


Transfer Student



As a transfer student, even though you've experienced university before, entering Sydney Law School is definitely worth celebrating. This is your chance to use what you've learnt so far about university whilst dealing with new challenges. The structure of the transfer program means you are going through this with others in the same position, so you are not facing this journey alone. The altered degree progression for transfer LLB students means you will be doing a mix of first, second and third year units in your first year of law school, which, ostensibly, can be quite challenging. When in doubt, slow down and take it day by day. We know you can do it.

International Student

Welcome to the University of Sydney and Australia! We understand how much of a change it must be to be studying in a different country for university. Whether you are still in your home country or have lived here for a while, the international student experience is extremely unique. This gives you the opportunity to experience a new culture and lifestyle for the next three or five years. There is further support and guidance for international students in the SULTS International Student Guide available on suls.org.au [shorturl.at/dAOT9].



Quick Tips from the Editing Team

Ariana Haghghi, LLBII

"Don't be afraid to lean on mentors for help and advice, whether they are official or unofficial. Don't expect to know it all or get everything right the first time- and it's definitely normal to make mistakes."

Clara Suki, LLBII

"My first year of Law School definitely took me by surprise. It was lovely to not only deepen my learning, but also meet new people and experience the uni life! My tip would be to try to remember that university is so much more than academics and to enjoy yourself!"

Kira Trahana, LLBII

"You're going to spend a lot (a lot!) of time at law school. As tempting as it is in first year, don't feel pressured to get involved in every activity right away. Do what's realistic for you and find your niche. Everybody has a different path and it's okay to tread your own."

Veera Singh, JDII

"Spoiler Alert: The first year of Law School is one crazy rollercoaster! It will have you working hard and making good friends while you are at it. Most importantly, while it is easy to get carried away by the competitive aspect of law school, just do your best and remember to kick back and relax too. *Que sera sera*, people!"

Veronica Lenard, LLBIV

"Life is complicated and it's hard to find balance with an ever growing to-do list, so try to find the amount of time that you can handle thinking about and plan based on that. Focus on the next year, semester, month, week or even take it a few days at a time. If you can keep it simple and keep going, you'll get through and with any luck, have some fun along the way."

Academics

Studying Law at the University of Sydney is a challenging journey. But with the right help and attitude, you'll make it through- and we are here to help! This section covers the essential information about academics including degree progression, the first few subjects that you'll study in Law School and tips for how to approach your studies. The structure of your degree will differ depending on whether you are studying a combined Bachelor of Laws or a Juris Doctor, so pay attention to the relevant section for your degree.

With the COVID-19 pandemic keeping everything in flux, some of this information may change by the time you read this, so make sure to check your degree handbooks at Sydney University Handbooks 2022 and the unit of study outlines for the most up-to-date advice.

Note: Unit of Study outlines are normally released in the two weeks before the first day of teaching for the unit and provide you with the key details including the structure of assessments (including the type, due date and weighting), weekly schedules and the contact details for teaching staff.

Bachelor of Laws Combined Degree

As an LLB student, your degree is structured so that you will study one to two law subjects per semester for the first three years. The rest of your subjects for each semester will be from your other degree in Arts, Commerce, Engineering or Science. Balancing your other degree and law subjects may affect the flexibility of your degree progression, so planning ahead can be useful to stay on top of what is required in your degree.

What is a credit point?

A credit point is the measurement of the study load of a unit. Most units are typically 6 credit points (however, most Open Learning Environment units (OLE) are 2 credit points). Typically 1.5-2 hours of study (outside of class time) per credit point is expected (often this is a minimum so take time to find what works best for you). A full-time load is normally four units of study and 24 credit points.

What is a Major/Minor?

Majors and minors are the specialised areas of study in your non-law degree. They are groups of units which allow you to focus on specific disciplines. A **Major** is made of a required number of credit points often made up of specific units of study of different levels. The handbook for your degree will contain the specific requirements for your major. **Minors** normally require less credit points and allow you to specialise in a second area of focus. For more information on Majors and Minors, check out the Sydney University Interdisciplinary Studies Handbook 2022 - About Majors and Minors.

Bachelor of Laws Combined Degree Progression

To help with degree-planning, we've included sample degree progression guides for **Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Laws**, **Bachelor of Commerce/Bachelor of Laws** and **Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Laws** students in the **Appendix**. When planning out your degree, make sure to include:

Compulsory core units (e.g. BUSS1000 and BUSS2000 for Bachelor of Commerce; or minimum mathematics and junior units for Bachelor of Science)

Your Major's Introductory units (usually 1000-level units) - usually completed in your first year

Your Major's other units (usually 2000- or 3000- level units) OLEs (from Table O)

If you are in the stream, Dalyell Scholars units (from Table D)

NOTE: Your non-Law degree may have requirements for core units or levels of units (especially for intermediate and senior units which are normally 2000 or 3000 level units) so it is important to ensure that you study these in the correct order. When in doubt, check your handbook as it will have a table of the requirements of your major.

TIP: If you're planning to go on exchange, be sure to double check the necessary requirements for degree progression as this can be impacted.

For more information on credit points and degree progression, check the **SULS Education Guide** on suls.org.au.

Juris Doctor

As a JD student, your degree is structured around full-time law study, so you'll be immersed in it from the outset. The Sydney JD program develops your analytical, research, writing and advocacy skills through a focus on international, comparative and transnational aspects of law. For more information on the course, please see Juris Doctor.

Juris Doctor Degree Progression

The JD consists of 144 credit points made up of 24 units of study with each unit being worth 6 credit points. The handbook contains the requirements for which units to study when and your options for elective units. For degree planning, the appendix includes an empty full-time JD degree planner.

NOTE:

- You may select Master's units of study as electives, but they must not exceed a total of 24 credit points (i.e. 4 subjects)
- From Year 2 Semester 2 (full-time) or Year 4 Semester 2 (part-time), you may be able to swap one core unit for an elective, and choose to complete the core subject later on in your degree.

JD Progression (Full-time)

All full-time JD students complete Foundations of Law (LAWS5000) on an intensive two-week basis prior to your first semester at Sydney Law School. You are required to complete the zero credit point Legal Research unit in your first year in order to complete your degree. Below is an example of a typical degree progression for a full time JD student, undertaking a total of 48 credit points per year.

COVID-19 update: You may be able to undertake 3 units of study per semester, but remain on a full-time load. Contact the Law School academic advisor to discuss your study options.

NOTE: It is quite common for even the most diligent full-time JD student (and LLB IV/V student) to find 4 units/semester-load to be overwhelming. Many students find it helpful to drop down to 3 units/semester or even to a part-time load. You can catch up during Summer & Winter School or extend your degree.

Year 1

Sem 1	Foundations of Law	Torts	Contracts	Civi & Criminal Procedure	Legal Research
Sem 2	Criminal Law	Public International Law	Torts & Contracts II	Public Law	

Year 2

Sem 1	Administrative Law	Federal Constitutional Law	Introduction to Property & Commercial Law	The Legal Profession
Sem 2	Corporations Law	Equity	Evidence	Real Property

Year 3

Sem 1	Private International Law A	Law Elective	Law Elective	Law Elective
Sem 2	Law Elective	Law Elective	Law Elective	Law Elective

*1 x Elective must be a Jurisprudence elective.

JD Progression (Part-time)

Part-time JD students will study Foundations of Law (LAWS5000) for the entirety of Semester 1. Below is a typical example of a degree progression for a part-time JD student undertaking 4 units of study per year.

NOTE: Before progressing to Year 3, you must pass all Year 1 and 2 core units of study before proceeding to Year 3. In Year 4, you may not enrol in more than two electives.

Year 1

Sem 1	Foundations of Law	Torts	Legal Research
Sem 2	Public Law	Public International Law	

Year 2

Sem 1	Civil & Criminal Procedure	Contracts
Sem 2	Criminal Law	Torts & Contracts II

Year 3

Sem 1	Administrative Law	Federal Constitutional Law
Sem 2	Corporations Law	Evidence

Year 4

Sem 1	Introduction to Property & Commercial Law	The Legal Profession
Sem 2	Equity	Real Property

Year 5

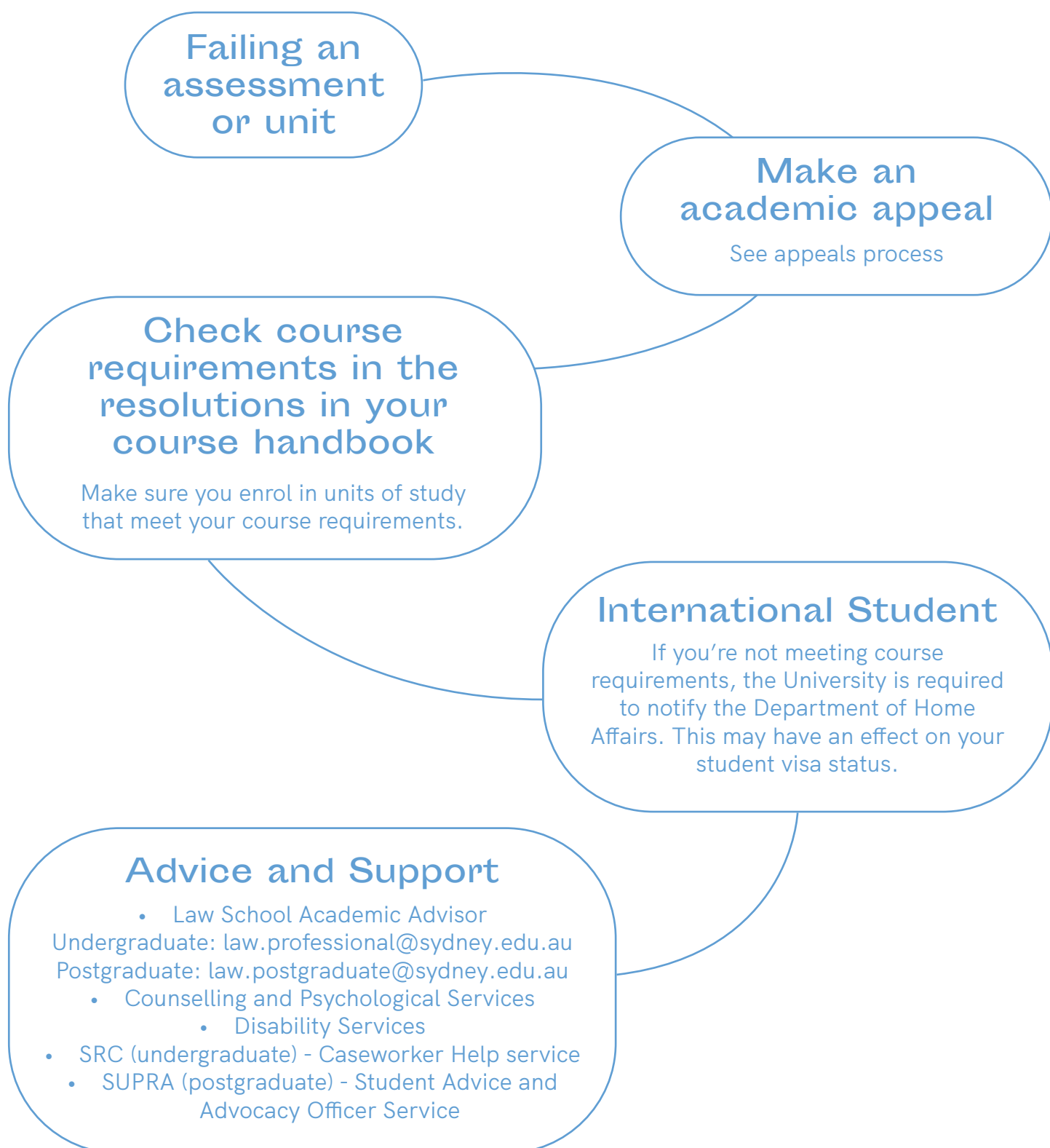
Sem 1	Private International Law A	Elective Unit
Sem 2	Elective Unit	Elective Unit

Year 6

Sem 1	Elective Unit	Elective Unit
Sem 2	Elective Unit	Elective Unit

What happens if I fail a unit?

For more information, please visit [Staying on Track with your studies](#).



What can I do if I fail a unit?

You should always consult the Law School after failing a unit for advice on the best course of action to minimise any disruption to your degree progression. You may be able to repeat the unit in an intensive format during Summer or Winter School to avoid extending your degree. Note that you will have to pay for both times that you've studied the unit.

NOTE: There may be changes to availability of Summer/Winter School in the future, so be sure to check for updates with Law School.

What happens if I make Unsatisfactory Academic Progress?

Unsatisfactory Academic Progress

You are not meeting academic progression requirements if:

- Semester average mark is <50%
- Failing to the same unit twice
- Failing a compulsory/core unit
- Receive a Fail, Discontinue-fail or Absent fail grade more than 50% of the credit point you're enrolled in for the semester.

Consequences

Receive a Faculty email, notifying you that you've been placed on the academic register, where you progress will be monitored and provided support through the Staying on Track programs.

Staying on Track Program

- Stage 1
- Stage 2
- Stage 3

If you don't think you'll meet the academic progression requirements during the semester, consider:

- Withdrawing from a unit before census date
- Withdrawing before the Discontinue not to count as a failure date (DC) which does not affect your academic progression
 - Reducing your course load to part-time study
 - Connecting with Learning Centre or CAPS
- If you're an international student, withdrawing might not be an option due to visa requirements. Contact your faculty to discuss your study options.

Tips and Advice

This section contains some information and tips on the core Law units that you will study at the start of your degree. The order that you study them may change based on your degree structure or if you transferred into the law degree. More tips and advice can be found in the SULLS Education Guide on suls.org.au.

LAWS1006/LAWS5000 - Foundations of Law

This unit (often nicknamed 'Foundies') provides an overview of the history of the Australian legal system and the influences of British Colonialism, Aboriginal customary law, the Constitution and international human rights.

TIPS:

- Be committed to the unit and make sure you go to the lectures and tutorials, this will help you adapt to the study load of law school.
- Use sticky notes and highlighters as you read the textbook and reading guide because those quotes and sources can be very helpful for assignments.
- Practice the skills taught in this unit including identifying the ratio decidendi in case law judgments and interpreting statutes.
- Participation is normally marked throughout the semester so staying on top of the reading guide will help make this less scary as you learn how to balance the load.

LAWS1012/LAWS5001 - Torts

Torts introduces liability for civil wrongs. This includes the elements of intentional torts, action on the case, the tort of negligence, compensation to third parties and vicarious, joint and several liabilities.

TIPS:

- When making your notes, you can try making tables of the key facts and ratio decidendi in every case, create mind maps of the topics or scaffolds of different issues.
- Assessments are normally based on answering problem questions which involve applying the legal principles that you learn to often complex factual scenarios.
- In problem questions, the complexity of facts can make it easy to get confused so try drawing out flow charts or diagrams of the parties and what is happening to whom.
- Studying Torts involves a lot of cases, so try to revise throughout the semester. This will help you understand how the cases and topics connect together.

LAWS1015/LAWS5002 - Contracts

Contracts covers the elements of creating, performing and ending legally binding agreements. This unit provides the legal background in the creation, terms, performance, breach and discharge of a contract.

TIPS:

- There are many differences in opinion on rules of law according to different judges or courts, so pay attention to majority and dissenting judgements.
- You can distinguish yourself in your written answers by showcasing the diversity of opinion, but make sure to choose one stance and justify why you've chosen it.
- Pay attention to the commentary your teacher provides. This may be useful in understanding what issues should be prioritised in your answers.

NOTE: If you transferred into Law, you will take this unit before Torts (where you learn how to answer problem questions) so make sure to check the resources provided by the Law School

LAWS1014/LAWS5003 - Civil and Criminal Procedure

CCP explains how to start civil and criminal actions, case management and rules of privileges, evidence, police powers, bail and sentencing.

TIPS:

- This unit features an open book final exam which means you should try to have well-ordered and concise notes.
- The Civil and Criminal parts of the unit are quite different, so it's worth assembling a separate folder for each and keep these separate in your notes.
- For Civil, summarise the contents of the various Acts and the circumstances in which appeals are possible (preferably in a table form).
- Make sure that your notes include section numbers and case names- this will help when answering assignments.

General Assessment Advice

Assessments in the Law School are generally in the form of take-home assignments or exams. Sometimes you will have other forms of assessment including presentations or marked participation. Marked participation may be monitored over the full semester or during a specific 'on-call' class where you will prepare and then answer questions or problems posed by the tutor.

Know your due dates

Generally, there is a mid-semester block of assessments, and then the final examination period. Having these dates on a wall planner or in your calendar will help you visualise your workload through the semester.

Never too early to start

Be careful not to wait until you "learn more content" to start mid-semester assignments. You can read ahead to gain more knowledge, and the more work that you do early, the less work you have to do later.

Practice makes perfect

Learning how to apply the law in an assessment can be difficult. The most effective way to develop this skill is to practice. You can do this through answering provided weekly problem questions or trying competitions such as mooting as a different, interactive way of developing these skills beyond past exams and practice problem questions. You can also register for PASS sessions which allow you to practice your skills with peers each week whilst revising the content with facilitators who have previously studied the unit.

Review, review, review

Editing is a crucial part of legal writing and going over your work (whether with your own eyes or asking a friend) will give you a better idea of whether you have effectively structured and expressed your knowledge. You don't want to lose marks on small things like punctuation, grammar and referencing.

NOTE: Be aware of the University's policy on Academic Honesty when discussing assessment work with a friend. For more information, please see Academic dishonesty and plagiarism.

Word Count

Take careful note of word count requirements and do not go over. The Law School will not read your assignments beyond the specified word limit. You may also be penalised for going over the specified word limit e.g. 10% penalisation for every 100 words over.

Deadline

Unless you obtain an extension, the Law School will generally enforce a 10% penalty (or 20% penalty depending on the assessment) for each day that your submission is late. Even submitting an assignment at 12:00, when it is due at 11:59 may incur a deduction.

Essays

Essays involve crafting a sophisticated argument to answer a set question often based on an ambiguous area of law. You will normally be given preparation time, so the expectation for research includes reading, citing and even quoting from cases and journals. Writing a legal essay will likely involve moving between researching, planning and writing repeatedly as you learn more about a topic. A good first step is to analyse the question by finding the keywords that hint at the issues that you should cover.

Take-home essays often involve research in areas that may not be covered in class so considerable research is necessary to demonstrate comprehensive knowledge on the topic. As you conduct your research and familiarise yourself with the major cases and their judgments (including dissenting judgments), consider the arguments that you want to pursue and prioritise them by strength.

Your essay should be structured to include:

- **Introduction** (addressing the specific question with an overarching thesis and providing an overview for your essay)
- **Body** (laying out your arguments - any claim that you make must be backed up with references to the relevant cases, legislation and readings for the principle and link them back to your thesis statement).
- **Conclusion** (restate your thesis and succinctly summarise your arguments)

TIP: Try to reference as you go so that you can add pinpoints, and make sure to use the latest version of the AGLC (see the section on Referencing in this guide for more).

Problem Questions

Problem questions require you to apply the law to a set of facts. To start, try reading the problem several times and picking out key facts that seem to link to certain principles of law. Remember to identify the material facts as most facts in problem questions are not put there without a reason. For take home problem questions, ensure that you read the relevant cases as thoroughly as possible and consider the reasoning of both the majority and dissenting judgments when applying them to the given scenario.

What is IRAC?

A commonly recommended structure for legal writing is IRAC, which stands for Issue, Rule, Application and Conclusion. You should repeat this structure for each legal issue that you deal with in a response. In the rule section, make sure to include the authority, which usually is an important case which considers the principle or legislation.

TIPS:

Use sub-headings and clearly identify the parties involved (eg Smith v Blue) - note headings should comply with AGLC page 34, r [1.12].

Do not make assumptions, invent facts or repeat them unnecessarily in your analysis. Raise all the issues but allocate your word count based on their importance and contention. A simple and non-contentious issue should not take up a lot of your word count.

Note dissenting judgments with 'Cf' or 'Contra' because this demonstrates an in-depth understanding (but do not do this too often as your word count is limited) - see AGLC page 7, r [1.2].

Briefly note the consequences if you reach a different conclusion (e.g. "if this is not the case and causation is satisfied, then...")

Case Notes

Writing a case note involves summarising or analysing a court's judgment. These assessments test your ability to understand legal material and pick out the most important elements.

Make sure you understand the difference between ratio decidendi and obiter dictum, and summarise the judicial officer's reasons.

It is important to be able to summarise the court's judgement in your own words. Other things to consider in a case note include:

- The procedural history of the case (e.g. the judgements of lower courts),
- Policy considerations,
- The social context of the time.

Exams

Law exams can be very intense as you are expected to do a lot in a very limited period of time. You'll need to write to the required structure (normally essay or problem question) by using the question or facts given and applying the relevant law, all under tight time conditions. For more information on exams, check out the SULLS Education Guide at suls.org.au and the Sydney University's website on Exams.

Here is some general advice for law examinations:

TIP: Review your feedback from past assessment tasks. If it is an assignment or online exam, you will be notified on Canvas when your assignment mark and feedback is released. If it is an in-person examination, you need to submit an Exam Script Request at <https://bit.ly/2HprZbo> after your mark has been released

1. More pain during semester, more gain during exams

The more conscious time that you spend with legal content, especially during the semester, the better you will be able to perform. Having more time to review your notes and study material ensures that they are accurate and useful.

2. Use reading & writing time effectively

Exams generally allow for a short period of reading time (where you will probably be allowed to plan out your responses on the examination paper/your own paper), followed by a longer period of writing time.

- Make sure to carefully read the paper and its questions carefully. Marks are easily lost through mundane carelessness such as getting the name of a party wrong on the facts.
- The type of task will change how your response needs to be structured so make sure to know whether it is a problem question or an essay.
- Allocate writing time to each question/section of the exam according to how many marks they are worth, instead of how you expect it to take you.
- Plan the structure of your long responses in reading time so that you may keep yourself on track during writing time.

3. Closed-book Exams

"Closed-book" exams heavily rely on content memorisation. Lecturers may provide a case list and/or statutes within the exam itself, and this may be made known to students beforehand. If provided, take the opportunity to use that list as the outer limits of the subject that you will need to familiarise yourself with. Doing practice papers and problem questions in exam conditions repeatedly will help you recall important issues and cases under time pressure.

4. Open-book Exams (Online/In-person)

Generally, you will be able to use your own materials during the exam (subject to conditions depending upon the unit of study), whether you're sitting for it online or in-person. First year law students may get lulled into a false sense of security and rely upon their notes too much, rather than committing the subject content to memory. Make sure your exam notes are concise and well-structured, and that you know where information is placed within your notes when you spot issues/questions within the exam. Considering the limited tablespace during the actual physical exam, make your notes as accessible and convenient as possible. When in doubt, you don't want to waste time looking through your notes so learn as much as you can and keep your notes as clear as possible.

In the online learning environment, **online open-book exams** usually run as follows:

- Exams are typically released on Canvas at the specified release time (NOTE: check unit of study exam cover sheet released prior to the exam date).
- You then can download the pdf of the exam.
- Complete the assessment within the specific time-limit in a word document (NOTE: You need to submit before the deadline to not be listed as LATE by Canvas i.e. If the deadline is at 12:00pm, you should submit by 11:59:59 am).
- Upload your exam answer in .doc or .docx format (unless otherwise specified) onto the specified Canvas exam assignment page.

5. Take-home Exams

These are exams where you are given a certain period (generally between a few days to a week) to complete the exam "at home", rather than in a formal setting. You should prepare for these exams as you would for other exams, as there will be no time to revise content during the "writing" period. Read the details of the examination carefully, as they may also incorporate elements of research alongside a problem question, and will most likely need to be referenced with AGLC, unlike formal exams.

TIPS for online open-book/take home exams:

Conduct a final check of your exam set-up i.e. equipment is set up correctly, restart your computer and close all unnecessary programs before the exam is released.

Find a quiet space to sit the online exam.

Remind your housemates, friends, family to not interrupt you during the exam and to stay off the internet. If something happens and you're unable to complete your exam, you will be able to apply for Special consideration.

Referencing

At university, each faculty will likely have a different preferred referencing style. For your law subjects, you are expected to use the Australian Guide to Legal Citation (AGLC) 4th Edition. The rules for how to reference using AGLC 4 can be accessed from the University Library website. We've included a table of some useful rules but you can normally find what you need by using Ctrl+F or Cmd+F and looking up the type of source.

Quick Guide to AGLC4

Rules about...	Found at...
Footnotes	Page 1, r [1.1]
Citing subsequent references	Page 9, r [1.4]
Quoting passages	Page 15, r [1.5]
Headings and titles	Page 34, r [1.12]
Bibliographies	Page 35, r [1.13]
Cases (General)	Page 39, r [2]
Cases (Pinpoint referencing)	Page 52, r [2.2.5]
Cases (Identifying judicial officers)	Page 58, r [2.4]
Legislation	Page 67, r [3.1]
Journal articles	Page 91, r [5]
Books	Page 98, r [6]
Speeches	Page 113, r [7.3]
Internet materials	Page 130, r [7.15]
Treaties	Page 133, r [8]
UK Cases	Page 251, r [24.1]

Online Learning

With changing restrictions and some students not being able to return to campus, online learning is likely to remain part of university study. You may already be familiar with these platforms or using them for the first time, but either way you will likely become used to a hybrid of online and offline components as you move through your degree.

Canvas

Canvas is the University of Sydney's learning management system. It gives you access to the content for all of your courses. Each subject will appear as a Canvas course tile on your dashboard. In a course, you will be able to find weekly materials, the reading guide, unit of study outline, discussion boards and recorded lectures. It is accessible at <https://canvas.sydney.edu.au/> or through the app 'Student' (to set this up, download from an app store and then search for 'University of Sydney' and log in with your unikey).



Zoom

Zoom is the main video conferencing platform used for online classes and live lectures. To join an online class, first download and install Zoom from the links provided [here](#). Then login using the 'Sign in with SSO' option and type in your USYD student email address (unikey@uni.sydney.edu.au). Some online classes will prevent access from private accounts so make sure to be on your University account when trying to join. The link to join the meeting is usually provided in the Zoom tab of your Canvas course or by your course coordinator/tutor.



Class Structure

Lectures

Due to the ongoing impacts of the pandemic, the Sydney Law School will most likely be offering all lectures online via recordings or live meetings. You can access your weekly lecture recordings on Canvas and will be expected to have watched them before your tutorial/seminar. Be sure to check your unit of study outline to ensure you are watching the lectures corresponding to the week its content is covered in class.

Tutorials/Seminars

Online tutorials are generally held over Zoom with the links put in Canvas shared with the information about time, date and tutor. The Sydney Law School offers online classes to those affected by international time variances and people with health or accessibility issues. You are expected to participate as if in an offline class, albeit with a digital hand raise or unmuting yourself to speak. In Zoom tutorials, you may be able to use the chat function to share questions or files, or be put in a breakout room to work with other students on assigned questions or tasks.

Class Preparation and Lecture Notes

Preparation

In Law School, you will be expected to do a lot of reading. The reading lists in law can be substantially longer than what you are expected to read in your other units. Whilst it may be challenging, it is a good idea to at least try reading a week ahead so that the material is not completely unfamiliar when you try to learn it in class. Some units will give you reading weeks to catch up but it is important to try not to fall behind from the start.

There are always *starred or bolded cases/legislation on your reading lists - this generally means that they are required to understand the fundamental concepts of the course. You should focus on reading these materials first and then if you are interested after class or think it may be relevant for an assessment, you can explore the "further reading" section. Further reading would definitely enrich your Law School learning, but be judicious so that you don't become overwhelmed.

There are two main ways that you can do this: either doing the reading before or after the lecture. It is worth trying out both ways to figure out which works best for you. Both methods should allow you to arrive prepared for the tutorial, which is the goal of your participation. When you have a tutorial, try preparing responses to problem questions so you can make the most of the class and contribute to earn your class participation marks. Even if you aren't on-call, answering these problems will help you learn the skills required to spot the issues and allocate space in your answers.

Attendance

Missing even one class means that you lose guidance on substantial amounts of content. Lecture recordings may be provided but it is always better to put in the hard yards as you go rather than trying to learn enormous volumes of content in one hit. Check the attendance requirements for each law subject as failing to meet these for any subject may result in an Absent Fail. If you are unable to attend a class, make sure to email your teacher in advance, because you may be able to attend a differ class at a different time or at least not have the absence be unexplained.

When in class, you will likely learn the most when you actively listen and participate. This may be in the form of asking questions about topics that are confusing you or contributing to class discussion. It might feel incredibly intimidating to put your hand up in class to answer a question, but know that your tutors, lecturers and friends are always there to guide and support you. Don't feel nervous about giving a wrong answer, because you'll get to the right one eventually and it is better to know whether your understanding is correct sooner rather than later.

Making Notes

You should try to make your own notes. This will be time consuming but worth it when it comes to using them. It is perfectly acceptable to view others' notes as guidance, but your understanding will not develop well enough if you do not work to grasp the actual concepts and knowledge contained. Additionally, the law changes faster than you'd think, rendering notes produced in previous years erroneous. Be careful to always include any recent cases and the most up to date versions of legislation.

As we are studying common law, most of your reading will comprise of cases. Learning how to effectively write a case note will help you bring structure to your notes, and understand key legal principles and concepts. For more details on effective note-taking, please see the section above, or consult SULLS Education Guide at www.suls.org.au/education-guide/ or follow the QR code):



Practice

Assessments at Law School are largely problem-based, so doing practice questions and past exams will give a very good indication of your capacity to apply the law. Some tutors will also offer to mark problem question responses, which provides a good indicator of your learning progress. This is not a standard though but you can learn how to self-assess your work or form study groups to compare answers to practice questions.

Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS) are also a great way to review knowledge gained in class with fellow students. See more about it on page ____.

SULLS runs a "**Law School Basics**" series throughout Semester 1, a Q&A panel aimed at covering the fundamental skills required of first year students. They involve lecturers and outstanding students who cover a range of topics from study technique, to essay writing, to exam technique. These sessions come highly recommended and have received excellent feedback from students in the past. If you cannot physically attend, past workshops are also recorded and available on the [SULLS website \(See QR Code\)](#).

SULLS also provides **Soft Skills Workshops** which supplement the Law School Basics series. These deliver a stronger focus on personal development and student wellbeing and aim to equip first year students with the necessary confidence to succeed within and beyond Law School.

Outside of these programs, you will likely find it helpful to work through materials with others, rather than individually. You would be surprised how much you might develop your legal knowledge through a 15 minute conversation with your friends, especially when one of you might understand a topic more than the others.



Academic Honesty

The University of Sydney has strict views and policies about academic honesty. As the basis for academic excellence, you must ensure that your work is original and reflective of your own efforts. The University defines academic dishonesty as “any dishonest or unfair action that you take to gain academic advantage”, including assisting others to do so. Depending on the severity of the misconduct, the University can apply sanctions such as recording a lower mark or a fail for that subject, or exclusion from your course.

You will be required by the University to complete an “Academic Honesty” module online on the University’s learning platform, Canvas. This is generally due within the first half of the first semester of your degree, but please check your Canvas account for exact information. You must complete this module in order to receive your results and fulfil the requirements of your degree. If you are ever confused, you can return to this information on Canvas whenever you need to.



As law students, not only are there academic penalties for misconduct, but also professional consequences. You will hear of graduates who are barred from admission to their respective legal boards due to academic dishonesty during the course of their degree. For more information on these forms of academic dishonesty, please see bit.ly/2D0WYie (QR code).



If you are notified that you have been found liable for academic misconduct, you may seek free assistance from legal caseworkers working with the Students’ Representative Council (SRC) (for Combined LLB students), or the Sydney University Postgraduate Representative Association (SUPRA) (for Juris Doctor students). If your matter relates to misconduct and you wish to appeal such a decision, see bit.ly/2t9UCj3. If your matter is being dealt with as an academic decision, there is guidance over the page.

Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS)

PASS is a program that aims to facilitate learning and discussion of certain units amongst fellow students. By providing a more informal environment of your peers and an experienced student mentor, PASS is an excellent way to practice and develop your skills. With smaller classes than seminars and tutorials, PASS gives law students opportunities to participate, ask questions and discuss content that may not be as accessible in formal classes. Each week's session generally covers and revises the content covered in class the previous week.



PASS runs for one hour each week and will likely be provided online. It is offered for most core law units. If you are completing an eligible course, at the beginning of the semester you will receive an email inviting you to register for a session. However, as spots do fill up fast, it is best to register as soon as you can at (QR code). If you miss out, you can join the waitlist for the class and if anything changes, you may get a spot.

For more details on the PASS program, including registration and subject details, please visit <https://sydney.edu.au/students/pass.html>.

Tip: While JD students are encouraged to join PASS for the units they are enrolled in, there may be mismatch in the content being taught each week due to the variance in teaching speed of a JD compared to an LLB.

Appeals

You have the right to fair academic decision-making (this includes marks, grades, special consideration decisions, being excluded from an award course etc) in your studies, but at times it may not feel that way. If you feel that this has been the case, you can appeal that decision. When you are considering appealing, note:

- There is a common formal policy and framework across the University (this is the University of Sydney (Student Appeals Against Academic Decisions) Rule 2006) but each faculty may have different processes for the first and second levels.
- Deadlines are generally very strict and extensions to appeals may not be given.
- If you are successful, your mark may be changed and it can be higher or lower than your original mark.

See the flowchart over the page for the process of applying for appeals.

Tips:

- You need to submit all relevant documentation as soon as possible and before the due dates as further evidence may not be accepted in later stages.
- You should utilise free advice from the SRC (for undergraduate students) or SUPRA (for postgraduate students). If you appeal to the Student Appeals Body, there will be a hearing and you are permitted to bring a representative from these student organisations or your own support person (such as a parent, or friend) to the hearing.

Stage 1: Resolution with original decision maker.

Within 15 working days from when the academic decision was made, you must raise your concerns to the relevant decision-maker.

Appealing Mark/Grade (LAW)

Email the staff member responsible for the academic decision, raising your concerns. The relevant staff member will review your concerns and their application of the marking criteria and hopefully resolve the appeal.

Appealing Special Considerations/Arrangements

Submit an informal resolution request online at



Appealing Credit/RVL Applications

Submit an informal resolution request online at



If you would still like to appeal, proceed to stage 2.

Stage 2: Formal Appeal to the Faculty or Academic Panel.

This must be submitted within 20 working days of the most recent decision (e.g. resolution from Stage 1) made on the disputed academic decision. You must prepare supporting documents which could include an appeal letter outlining the details of decision, details of attempted resolution in stage 1, and the original assessment.

Appealing Mark/Grade (LAW)

Complete the online Appeal Against an Academic Decision/Exclusion Application form at



Appealing Special Considerations/Arrangements or Credit/RVL Applications

Submit a formal academic appeal to the Academic Panel online at



Note

You may be able to submit a late appeal with approval from the Academic Panel or the Law School Dean. You must explain and provide evidence for why your appeal was not lodged by the 20 day deadline.

If you would still like to appeal, proceed to stage 3.

Stage 3: Appeal to the Student Appeals Body (SAB).

You must submit your appeal within 15 working days of receiving the outcome of your formal appeal. You must be able to prove that due academic process was breached at either Stage 1 or 2.

Prepare a letter of appeal addressing how the faculty/school/Academic Panel did not follow academic procedure or policy, actions they did not consider and any information you believe was not given proper consideration. Prepare documents supporting your claim.

Submit your online appeal against an academic decision/exclusion academic form at



The Registrar or his/her nominee will assess if your appeal will move to the hearing stage.

Your appeal moves to a hearing.

You will appear before an SAB panel of two staff and one student. You will be provided opportunity to answer questions and/or provide oral submissions. An SAB decisions report will be provided to you 10-15 working days after the hearing. The SAB decision is final.

Your appeal does not move to a hearing.

You will be advised of the next step external to the University that you may take.

Marking

Marking at university is very different from high school, and this can come as a shock to many students. It is important to keep in mind that the law school has a very competitive cohort and that everyone is learning new content. As such, you should try to measure your progress against your own improvement, not the performance of your peers.

WAM:

Your Weighted Average Mark (WAM) is calculated based upon the credit point value and academic level (e.g. 1000-level, 2000-level units etc.) of your units. The weighting of units is determined by the relevant faculty.

Marking:

To reduce bias, assessments are normally marked anonymously (with the exception of class participation), and may even be double marked. As such, you should ensure that you don't put your name on any tasks and only include your student number (unless otherwise instructed).

When you receive university marks, it may be difficult to understand what they mean. We've included a table below with common mark ranges. If you discontinue a unit or take a pass/fail subject, you may see different abbreviations on your results so check the University website for more information.

Requirements for taking Honours:

If you want to undertake Honours in your fifth year of Law, it is important to know the minimum academic marks required. Admission requires a minimum WAM of 75 in core law units completed up to that point in time (excluding Foundations of Law). Results in any elective units will not be taken into account. Places in the Honours program are always limited, so entry is competitive. To read more about these requirements please visit the Sydney Law Handbook.

HD	High Distinction	85-100
DI	Distinction	75-84
CR	Credit	65-74
PS	Pass	50-64
FA	Fail	0-49

Navigating Uni Administration

Sydney Student

Sydney Student (sydneystudent.sydney.edu.au) is an online portal for all administration tasks. To briefly break down the portal:

Under 'My Details', you can:

- Update your personal details (such as when you change your address or phone number)

Under 'My Studies', you can:

- Change the units you want to enroll in
- Apply for credit from previous study/reduced volume of learning (RVL)
- Discontinue your course, suspend your studies or transfer courses
- See your academic transcript and final assessment marks at the end of semester

Under 'My Finances', you can:

- See your fees and find out how to pay your fees
- Update your bank details to receive scholarships and payments

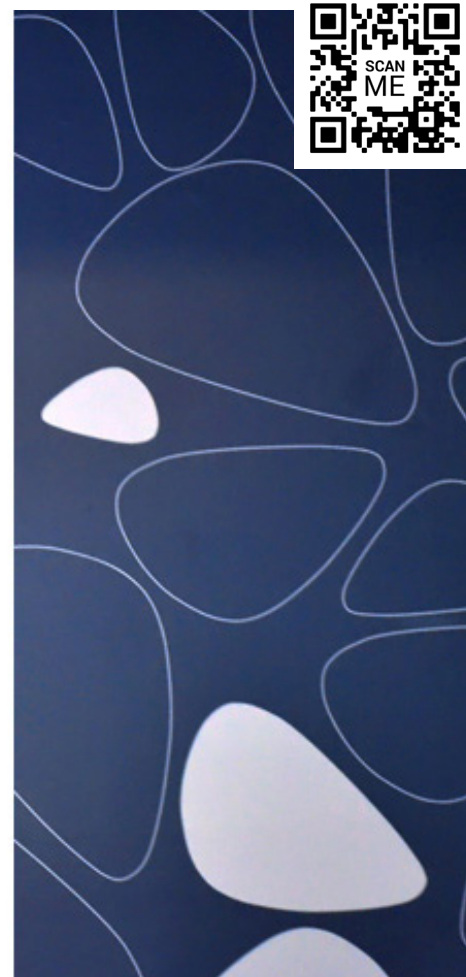
The Student Centre

The Student Centre is located in the Jane Foss Russell Building, near the Wentworth Building and City Road. They can assist with:

- Enrolment, student cards, class timetables, examination inquiries
- HECS and student fees
- Calculator and dictionary certification for exams

However, due to COVID-19, the Student Centre is currently closed for in-person enquiries. Alternatively, you can contact them by:

- Calling 1800 SYD UNI (1800 793 864) or +61 2 8627 1444 (outside Australia), Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm.
- Making an enquiry online.



Enrolling

You should have received an email in your uni email asking you to confirm your place and enrol, so follow the link and enrol as soon as possible so that you have time to ask if there is anything you're unsure about. Enrolment should be relatively straightforward since you just follow the prompts online, but it can take up to an hour. During this process, you will come across your:

UniKey - First, you retrieve your UniKey - this will be used to log in to Sydney Student and the University Wifi, so write it down or memorise it.

Degree progression - You will then be prompted to answer questions, some of which involve degree progression. We recommend you check out our degree progression advice on pages 12 to 14. If you need to make changes, don't worry. You can also change your units at any time before the census date.

For Transfer Students: Transferring Credit - If you are transferring into the law school from a different degree/university, you will need to apply for credit for previous study, especially if you are choosing to continue studying a previous degree alongside law. This ensures you don't have to repeat similar units. To apply, log into Sydney Student, go to My Studies > Course Details > then Application for credit and/or reduced volume of learning (RVL). You can track the progress of this application in the 'My Requests' tab of Sydney Student.

Student card - This card is a form of ID and is essential for you to attend exams, borrow books and access buildings. If you use a concession Opal card, you will also need to carry your student card around so that you can prove you are a student if a Transport Officer asks. Keep it safe, but if you lose it, you can replace it for \$25 at the Student Centre. This year, due to COVID restrictions, your student card should be posted to you, and you must have it on you on campus to access buildings.

Timetables - Every January and June, you are able to put in your preferences for timetabling. Make sure you block out the times you wish to keep clear and choose the class times you prefer. This selection is not guaranteed, and once you are allocated a class, you are only able to swap classes to those that have free spots until the end of Week 2. If you don't end up in the class that you want, you may be able to join a waitlist and if a spot opens up, you will be moved automatically. After this point, you often cannot deviate from that selection unless you have permission from the Unit of Study Coordinator to informally do so, or unless you demonstrate special circumstances to the Student Centre: see bit.ly/2Fv7nN3 (QR code).



Your timetable must be finalised by March 6th for Semester 1 and August 14th for Semester 2.

HECS (domestic students) - You will be prompted to pay for your enrolled units. Regardless of whether you want to apply for HECS-HELP, pay the fees upfront or are funded by another scheme (such as a scholarship), you should deal with your financial liability as soon as possible. Similar schemes also operate for the Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF) with SA-HELP.

Concession Opal - If you are eligible for a concession Opal card (Australian citizen/permanent resident and full-time student), you can apply for one on Sydney Student. This is a quick online process, usually at the end of the enrolment form - make sure to tick the box asking whether you give permission for the University to release your details to Transport for NSW.

Note: If you are a postgraduate research student, a bulk of your course administration will be conducted through the Higher Degree by Research Administration Centre (HDRAC). Your relevant research periods will also affect how you conduct your enrolment. For enquiries, please email the HDRAC at: hrdac.2@sydney.edu.au.

Census Date

Census Date is the last day you can withdraw from a subject without incurring financial liability and academic penalty. If you withdraw after the census date, you cannot get a refund for the course even if you don't finish it, and you will get either a Discontinued Not to Count as a Failure (DC) or a Discontinue Fail (DF) recorded on your transcript for the unit you withdrew from.

University Fees

There are a number of ways that you can pay for your university degree, however the processes available to you will be different depending on whether you are a domestic or international student. On top of the fees that you pay for your subjects, you will be charged a Student Services and Amenities Fee (the amount depends on whether you are a part-time or full-time student). Make sure to pay this fee on time or you may not be able to receive your results at the same time as your peers.

- For domestic students (Australian citizens): the Commonwealth Government funds a large proportion of course fees, so that you only need to pay for the remaining 'student contribution fee'. Whilst you can choose to pay these course fees upfront, most students prefer to defer payment through the HECS-HELP loan scheme so that they don't have to pay until their income exceeds the threshold, which is \$46,620 (from 1 July 2020) and is indexed every year according to inflation.
- For international students: upon receiving your offer, you will be required to pay a deposit equivalent to the course fees of your first semester. Moving forward, before each semester, you will receive a financial statement which requires you to pay the tuition for the upcoming semester by a payment date to avoid sanctions. The payment date for semester 1 is March 1st and for semester 2, August 1st.
- If you are not an Australian citizen, or international student (New Zealand citizen, Permanent residents, etc) scan the QR code for more information about your uni finances.



Make sure your finances are sorted before the Census Date, which is March 31st for Semester 1 and Monday 6th September for August 31st.

Applying for HECS

1. Check your eligibility - HECS is available to all students with a Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP). If you're unsure that you meet these requirements, you can check your eligibility at bit.ly/2DiMCUc.
2. Apply for a Tax File Number (TFN) if you don't already have one - your enrolment will be cancelled without it (if you do not pay your contribution upfront) and your application for HECS will ask for it.
3. Fill out a Request for Commonwealth Support form and submit it before the census date. This form is provided to you during online enrolment.



You can always access this form later by logging on to Sydney Student then going to My Finance > Your Finances > Government forms.

If you need to borrow money for your Student Services and Amenities Fee, you will go through a similar process by filling out a Request for SA-HELP assistance.

For JDs: Only a limited number of CSPs are available to JDs, and you must apply for this place through UAC (UAC Code: 980200). Your application will be assessed by merit, and accepting the Domestic Full fee place (UAC Code: 980205) will not prevent you from being offered a CSP place. If you accept a Full fee place, and you are a domestic student, you may apply for FEE-HELP. The process is similar to applying for HECS-HELP.

Paying Upfront

You can pay for your fees upfront through Sydney Student by going to My Finance > Your Finances. If you do not pay upfront before the relevant census date, your fees will automatically be deferred as a HECS-HELP loan, provided that you have given the University your TFN.

Getting Special Consideration

Despite your best efforts, unexpected events may interfere with your academic studies. If your ability to complete assessments or examinations has been affected by illness, injury or misadventure, you should try applying for Special Consideration (see following flowchart). A successful application will provide you an adjustment to ensure fair academic treatment. However, if possible, it is best to still complete the exam/assessment to the best of your ability just in case your application is rejected.

You must apply for Special Consideration no more than 3 working days after the assessment for which you were affected, and try to document your reasons as thoroughly as possible. If you are applying for medical reasons, the University has a particular "Professional Practitioners' Certificate" that is required, which may be accessed at bit.ly/2QQDg3P (QR code).



Some applicable circumstances include:

- Short term illness or injury
- Personal misadventure of a family member or close friend
- Death of a family member or close friend
- Unexpected primary carer responsibilities
- Attendance at a funeral of a family member or close friend
- Natural disaster
- Limited COVID-19 impacts (e.g. eviction, loss of job, family member death)
 - Must be out of your control and;
 - Seriously impacted your ability to complete the assessment/exam

Circumstances considered reasonably within your control will not be considered sufficient to apply (e.g. public transport delays, personal events, minor illnesses where you are still capable of completing assessments).

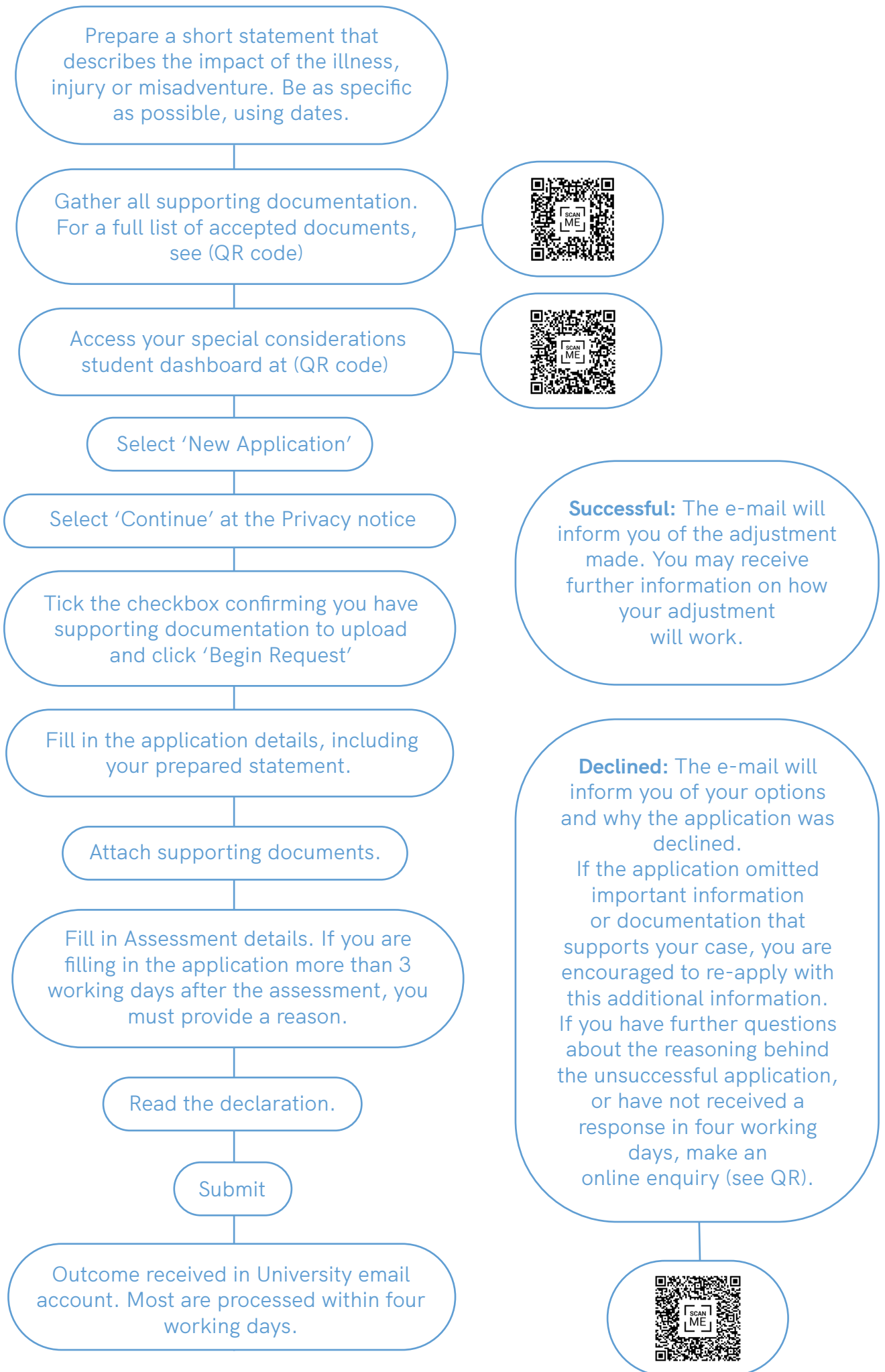
NOTE: If you have an ongoing condition or illness that affects your ability to study, you should instead register with Disability Services in order to receive adjustments from the University. For more information and how to get in contact, please see bit.ly/2swzRxn (QR code).



TIP: A simple extension of up to two days can be provided at the discretion of the Unit of Study Coordinator. The Law Faculty generally doesn't provide these, so it can be worth applying for special consideration regardless of how minor the circumstance. Your other degree, however, may offer simple extensions. You may apply for a simple extension by approaching your Unit of Study coordinator by email. More information on simple extensions can be found at bit.ly/2QOPHgJ (QR code).



How to Apply for Special Consideration



Discontinuing a Unit

You may, at some stage, find that you no longer want to study a unit you have chosen or that you would be better off studying it later in your degree. If that is the case, try to withdraw (discontinue) the subject prior to the census date to avoid academic or financial penalties. You can withdraw from a Unit of Study through the Sydney Student portal, by going to “Units of Study” under the “My Studies” tab.

If you want to drop out of the unit **after** the census date, you will need to apply for a “Discontinuation - Not to Count as Fail” up to seven weeks into the semester. This will appear on your transcript as “DC”, and won’t affect your Weighted Average Mark (WAM). However, you may still be liable for tuition fees. For further details, see bit.ly/2FEyS6g (QR code).

After this deadline, if you are affected by unforeseeable circumstances which impact your ability to continue a unit, you will need to apply to discontinue directly to the Law Faculty. You will need to show that these were ongoing circumstances that were beyond your control and that you had reasonable prospects of passing the subject, for example if you had received a pass grade in a mid-semester assessment or assignment. If successful, you may be eligible for a fee refund.



Suspending Your Studies

Being a student does not mean you are bound to study non-stop for the duration of your degree - by suspending your studies for a semester or more, you can take a break and return to studying later. You must be sure to apply for suspension and enrol before the census date, as your candidature will lapse and you will be unable to re-apply for the combined degree.

NOTE: There is a one year limit on suspensions, subject to other conditions. For more information, refer to the University Coursework Policy: bit.ly/38ZUJkP (QR code).

JDs: If you are a JD student, you are unable to suspend in the first year of your full-time study, or the first two years of part-time study. However, you are able to suspend for an aggregate of two calendar years in total.

There are additional requirements that you will need to be aware of when suspending a degree in Law. Applications for suspensions are completed through Sydney Student, and it is recommended that this is done prior to the census date so that you are not liable for any penalties. For more details, please see bit.ly/2SX5rzX (QR code).



Discontinuing Your Course

This is effectively dropping out of the entire degree you are currently studying, ending your current enrolment. You may need to do this if you wish to transfer into another course (For example, discontinuing Commerce/Law to study Science/Law), or decide to withdraw from tertiary study completely.

TIP: If you are transferring courses, you can request a course transfer in Sydney Student, under My Studies > Course details > then Request Course Transfer. See more information about this at bit.ly/2VXz8mE (QR code).

Before deciding to withdraw from your degree completely, you should discuss this with a course advisor in case you might be able to get extra support or change something to help manage your unit load. You could also consider suspending your studies instead. If you discontinue after the relevant census date, academic and financial penalties may apply. All applications to discontinue are made through Sydney Student. For more information, please see bit.ly/2CpukgU (QR code).



Co-curricular Opportunities

Studying a law degree at the University of Sydney offers you a variety of opportunities beyond the classroom. From attending social events to trying out an extracurricular, you can make friends and develop your skills at the same time. Look out for SULLS' Facebook and Instagram posts as well as the SULLS Weekly to see what is on offer throughout the year.

Join SULLS

All law students can become a SULLS member for free. By joining, you can connect with your law school community and participate in activities and competitions, from socials to Law Ball and everything in between. <https://www.sulls.org.au/register>

Social Events

Throughout the year, look out for social events held by SULLS including LLB Law Camp, JD I Drinks and Law Ball. Information for tickets to these events is generally shared on Subject to COVID-19 restrictions, the LLB Law Camp runs early in Semester 1 and is a weekend of socialising, bonding, and games. In the first weeks of Semester 1, JD I drinks is one of the first informal social opportunities to interact with fellow students outside of an intense first few weeks of Foundations. The Law Ball is the biggest event of the SULLS social calendar, generally held towards the end of September. Featuring a sit-down meal, bar tab and a dance floor, tickets for Law Ball are generally available early in Semester 2.

SULLS sport

Everyone is welcome to enter interfaculty sport with SULLS every Wednesday, with a different sport featured each week. Activities like Fitness Club and intervarsity competitions offer something new for students of all sporting abilities. Information about SULLS sport tends to be shared on Facebook, Instagram and in the SULLS Weekly.

Law Revue

Law Revue is the annual showcase of our law students talented in performing arts, featuring satirical comedy sketches, song and dance in a stage performance. Auditions and rehearsals for revue will generally occur during Semester 1. Participating in a revue can be a time intensive process, so make sure to factor this into your planning. "Revue season", when each revue per faculty/collective is performed, starts towards the end of Semester 1, and into Semester 2. For more information, visit the Law Revue Facebook page at www.facebook.com/sydneylawrevue/.

Clubs and Societies

SULLS is only one of 200+ societies on campus, all supported by the University of Sydney Union (USU). Clubs and societies run events such as camps, competitions and barbecues. During Welcome Fest, most clubs and societies set up stands around Eastern Avenue and the Quadrangle. You can sign up, link up on social media, collect freebies and find out about upcoming events and activities. For a comprehensive list, please see bit.ly/2ShcbvH (QR code).

TIP: USU membership (which is required for sign ups for clubs and societies) is free to join (QR code). You can choose to opt into USU ACCESS Rewards for \$45 for the year, which gives you 10% off USU food and retail outlets and other assorted discounts.



Develop your skills and gain experience

Some societies collaborate with sponsoring firms to run specific professional skill workshops or networking events with their firms. Taking on responsibility in any society by becoming an executive member will help you demonstrate your leadership and management skills to employers. Most societies have at least a President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. If you are thinking about becoming an executive, make sure to attend society events and get to know the current executive members, who can tell you more about how they got the position.

Many societies also have a humanitarian, charitable or community focus. These societies are a great opportunity to gain volunteer experience and contribute to community services. For a comprehensive list, please visit (QR code).

Careers Basics Seminar

The VP (Careers) at SULLS organises Careers Basics seminars throughout the year. Though these are aimed at JD II/LLB IV students, these are great opportunities to meet and ask questions to potential future employers, and find out when you can apply for their programs.

Join a SULLS Committee

SULLS runs a number of committees under their various portfolios, which you can participate in to give back to the society and develop useful skills. For more information, see the Intro to SULLS Handbook.



**Thrishank
Chintamaneni JD III**

Vice President Careers

"Since entering law school, I have the privilege of being a part of SULLS and seeing the ways that it contributes to student welfare. I began my time at SULLS as a campus representative of my cohort of JD I students and the Vice-President (Careers) for the upcoming 2022 academic year. I initially sought out the opportunity to be a part of SULLS as a way of connecting with a group of passionate individuals that had a variety of interests in law. As a first-year student, to say that it's easy to feel awkward, out of place, or even overwhelmed is a bit of an understatement. Finding a way to navigate uncharted waters with COVID-learning becoming our new normal did not help things either. What I can say with absolute certainty, however, is that joining SULLS and being a part of one of its numerous and diverse portfolios has helped me tremendously. The connections, experiences, and friendships I have made not only formed the foundation of my university experience but also has made me evolve as a person. The resources that I was able to access from SULLS made my experience at law school that much more enriching. At the end of the day, what you get out of law school is what you can extract from the opportunities that are presented to you.

I strongly encourage everyone to get involved with the numerous activities and opportunities that the law school and law society provides"

Competitions

Competitions give you a taste of the “real world” law since the problems are often inspired from actual cases. These give you an opportunity to challenge your research, drafting, analytical and communication skills in a fun way.

Like Sarah says,

Sarah Purvis, B.Comm LLB V

Philip C Jessup Moot Court Competition 2021: World Champion, 20th Best Oralist (International Preliminary Rounds); King & Wood Mallesons UNSW Private Law Moot 2021: International Champion; Alfred Deakin International Commercial Arbitration Moot 2020: 5th Best Oralist; Moot of Origin 2019: Runner Up; Australian Law Students Association Client Interviewing Competition 2020: Semi-finalist; UNSW Skills Intervarsity Competition 2020: Winner; SALS King & Wood Mallesons Internal Competitions Witness Examination 2020: Semi-finalist SALS



“Being involved in competitions was the best part of my law school experience. At Sydney Law School, SALS offers a wide variety of competitions that students can be involved in. Different competitions have taught me many different things – mooting has honed my research skills and ability to speak confidently, client interviewing has shown me that empathy underscores the entire legal industry, negotiations has taught me teamwork and collaboration, and witness examination has helped me think fast on my feet. As a first year, I found it intimidating to dip my toes into the world of written submissions, memos, agendas and witness statements, but I soon found a supportive community of peers and older students that help mentor and guide the competitions programs. The law school is fortunate that we have such a rich tradition in competitions, which means that you make friends across all different cohorts while competing. I’ve often found the material in competitions to be a real life example of things learned in class – while in lectures you may learn about vicarious liability, it is an entirely different matter to be able to get up and defend an employer who may not have done anything wrong. Other than the academic benefits, competitions also grows your network beyond USYD students – I’ve formed strong connections with academics who have given up their time to judge and coach teams I’ve been in, barristers and solicitors who have come in to judge moots, as well as law students from other universities who I’ve competed against and become friendly with. I would highly recommend every first year to give each of the different competitions a go, whether that be in the first-year moot, junior negotiations, client interviewing or witness examination. It is really true that the law school experience is what you make of it – and while it may be overwhelming to start, I would encourage you to sign up! You never know what you might find you enjoy, and competitions have certainly been the place where I’ve found friends, mentors, and my community that have helped and supported me through law school.”

Below is a brief overview about the competitions, but for more details refer to the Competitions Handbook.



Mooting

In mooting, competitors are legal advocates arguing on a question of law in an appeals court. This competition develops your advocacy skills, particularly in a court context, and can help discover whether a career in practicing is for you. Even if you're not drawn to practicing however, mooting helps you hone skills such as thinking on your feet, solving legal problems questions, thorough preparation and formal presentation.

The **Introductory Mooting Program** is a short 5 week crash course held in Semester 1, teaching you the essential skills to get ready for the **First Year Moot**, which is a beginners moot only for LLB1s and JD1s based on preliminary areas of tort law. For a challenge, JD students may consider the **Torts Moot** (Semester 1) and intermediate-level **Herbert Smith Freehills Contracts Moot** (Semester 2).

For female-identifying students, the **Women's Mooting Program** (Semester 2) is a beginner friendly moot which caters to all experience levels. It provides workshops over a four week period and ends with a competition.

Negotiations

Negotiations tests competitors' teamwork and dispute resolution skills as they work in pairs to represent their client's interests and achieve a favourable outcome within two-party negotiations. Negotiations not only builds communication skills but fosters creative thinking and conflict resolution skills. Not only is it a highly valued skill in the workplace but also one practical for real life. The **Clayton Utz Negotiations Competition** runs in Semester 1, the winter break, and Semester 2, and is open to all cohorts.

Witness Examination

Competitors conduct witness examination-in-chief and cross-examination in this competition, being the most similar to Mock Trial. Quick thinking and adaptability is essential for this competition that focuses on asking the right questions and advancing a persuasive case theory. **King & Wood Malleons Witness Examination Competition** runs in Semester 1. Though it is recommended that competitors have completed the 4th year subject Evidence, many first years enter the competition!

Client Interviewing

In this competition, competitors act as a team of two lawyers interviewing a potential client consulting their firm for the first time. Useful for both legal and non-legal pathways, this competition calls for acute analytical and interpersonal skills in order to win over and extract essential information from the client. Running in Semester 2, the **Henry Davis York Client Interviewing Competition** is the perfect way to get started.



Volunteer Opportunities

If you would like to help out beyond the classroom or university, there are several initiatives to use your law skills for good. We've outlined some of the opportunities below.

Many societies that have a humanitarian, charitable or community focus. These societies are a great opportunity to gain volunteer experience and contribute to community services. For a comprehensive list, please visit (QR code).

Volunteer for the Community Legal Education Project

The Community Legal Education Project is a SULLS initiative that provides young people from a disadvantaged background with basic legal knowledge and understanding of their rights. Student volunteers will attend high schools to deliver modules on topics such as police powers, drug use and employment rights. Opportunities to attend sessions will be posted periodically, and a compulsory training session is provided for all volunteers.

Tutor for the Refugee Language Tutoring Program

The Refugee Language Tutoring Program (RLTP) was piloted in 2014, involving a group of 20-30 volunteers who work with refugees on campus to increase their English proficiency. The program operates throughout the year and involves a weekly commitment each Monday from 5-7pm. A compulsory training session is provided for all tutors. For more information, please visit the SULLS website.



Levi Zulman BA/LLB V

RLTP Volunteer

"Over the past two years, I have had the immense privilege of being involved in the Sydney University Law Society's Refugee Language Tutoring Program (SULLS RLTP). In August 2020, I first joined the SULLS RLTP as a tutor. In this capacity I tutored a refugee from Afghanistan, who had spent four years on Manus Island, for one hour each week. These weekly sessions significantly heightened my sensitivity to the experiences, vulnerabilities and cultural norms of others. I am grateful to have formed a genuine friendship with this tutee and aided in the development of her English skills. In April 2021, I was honoured to be elected as co-chair of the SULLS RLTP. Through forging new relationships with a range of community organisations, the SULLS RLTP has since tripled in size to offer one-on-one weekly English tutoring to over 35 refugees and asylum seekers from 19 countries. If you are interested in joining a community of like-minded law students and making a small but significant impact on the lives of others, I strongly implore you to become involved in the SULLS RLTP."



Mentor for the Juvenile Justice Mentoring Scheme (JJMS)

The JJMS provides opportunities for law students to mentor residents at the Cobham Juvenile Justice centre. Participants engage in recreational and educational programs, and the scheme runs throughout both semesters and during both Winter and Summer breaks. For more information, please visit the SULLS website.

Get involved with the SULLS Social Justice Committee

The SULLS Social Justice Committee consists of a group of passionate students who are responsible for the coordination of events within SULLS' social justice portfolio. It is suitable for students of all years looking to become more involved within the society and applications will open in Semester 1. For more information, see the Welcome to SULLS handbook.

Mentor for Australian Indigenous Mentoring Experience (AIME)

AIME is a nationwide program that offers support through tutor squads for high schools, in addition to running multiple program days a year. They have a significant presence of University of Sydney students, and in 2016 engaged over 6600 mentees. To get involved, please visit aimementoring.com/global/about.

Legal Jobs

Legal jobs are very competitive and you need to have attributes that employers look for (such as a high WAM or fast typing and analytical skills). In your first few years, you could focus on working part-time in a legal office or volunteering at various legal centres.

We stress that unpaid employment (excluding work experience, volunteering and some training) is almost always illegal and you deserve to be paid for the work you perform. For more information, check out SULLS' Employment and Workplace Rights FAQ bit.ly/2E8vIWp or go to the Fair Work Ombudsman website bit.ly/2Ru8YsQ.

For legal career opportunities, see:

- SULLS Jobs Board (www.sulls.org.au/jobs-board)
- Law Society of NSW Legal Vitae (www.legalvitae.com.au)

Job applications often request a CV and cover letter. For sample CVs, refer to bit.ly/2W0ww06. Helpful tips can be found at bit.ly/2SVzulk.

More details can be found in the SULLS Careers Guide on our website sulls.org.au.

Volunteer at Community Legal Centres (CLC)

Volunteering your time to a CLC is one of the most direct ways of contributing to your local community, whilst developing and building upon the skills that you will learn at Law School. There are CLCs in most regions of Sydney; law students from the University of Sydney tend to get involved with the Aboriginal Legal Service and the Redfern Legal Centre. However, as one of the only places offering free legal experience, be prepared for long wait times. For more information and the location of CLCs in your local area, please visit www.clcnsw.org.au/.

Exchange Programs

There are two types of exchange programs available for law students: general University-wide exchanges and law faculty-specific exchanges. Make sure you research and explore your options because the deadlines, criteria and available university vary for each type of exchange. Some useful starting points are bit.ly/2rZ4sWS (for general exchange) and bit.ly/2FM1167 (for Law exchange).

General exchanges are administered by Sydney Abroad, so apply to the Study Abroad office if you would like to study one of your non-law units of your degree overseas. You can move around your units to reduce the impact on your degree progression.

Law exchanges are administered by the Sydney Law School, and are only available for fourth or fifth year law elective units.

Swapping Units for Exchange


Imagine a hypothetical first year Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Laws student, who hasn't found out about the exchange yet. Their subject selection in second and third year most likely looks like this:

Year 2	Sem 1	Table A Major Senior Unit (1)	Table A Junior Unit OR Table A or B Senior Unit (1)	LAWS1014 Civil and Criminal Procedure	LAWS1015 Contracts
	Sem 2	Table A Major Senior Unit (2)	Table A Major Senior Unit (3)	Table A Junior Unit OR Table A or B Senior Unit (2)	LAWS1016 Criminal Law
Year 3	Sem 1	Table A Major Senior Unit (4)	Table A or B Senior Unit (3)	Table A or B Senior Unit (4)	LAWS1023 Public International Law
	Sem 2	Table A Major Senior Unit (5)	Table A Major Senior Unit (6)	LAWS1017 Torts and Contracts II	LAWS1021 Public Law

They discover the exchange program to Reykjavik University in Iceland and are instantly drawn to it. If their application is successful, they could swap Criminal Law with one of their Year 3 semester 2 units so that they don't have to prolong their degree:

Year 2	Sem 1	Table A Major Senior Unit (1)	Table A Junior Unit OR Table A or B Senior Unit (1)	LAWS1014 Civil and Criminal Procedure	LAWS1015 Contracts
	Sem 2 Exchange	Table A Major Senior Unit (2)	Table A Major Senior Unit (3)	Table A Major Senior Unit (4)	Table A Junior Unit OR Table A or B Senior Unit (2)
Year 3	Sem 1	Table A Major Senior Unit (5)	Table A or B Senior Unit (3)	Table A or B Senior Unit (4)	LAWS1023 Public International Law
	Sem 2	Table A Major Senior Unit (6)	LAWS1016 Criminal Law	LAWS1017 Torts and Contracts II	LAWS1021 Public Law

Make sure to consult the staff at Global Mobility and Faculty Services for assistance with exchange and degree progression. A list of useful contact details can be found in the Appendix.



Studying a degree at university can be challenging, let alone a law degree. As you progress through your degree, you may need some extra support so this section introduces you to some support services at the University, so you can easily find help whenever you need.

Services and Support

Faculty Support

The Law Faculty, along with the University, provides support in the form of [online resources](#) and [peer mentoring](#) programs, specifically designed to ease first year students into University life. For more information, please see [Sydney Law School - Student Support and Development](#).

Academic Support - Law School Advisers

If you are struggling with a particular unit of study, you should first communicate with your tutor or lecturer. There may also be discussion boards on Canvas available for the course where students can ask questions and have them answered by the teaching team. Even if you don't have any questions, you might find checking these helpful to see what other students are asking.

However, if you need more comprehensive advice on complex degree-related issues that the University's Student Centre has not addressed, including questions in relation to degree progression, you may book a telephone appointment with Law School Advisers. For more information, please see [Sydney Law Students - Enquiries](#).

The Learning Hub

Studying at Law School requires well-developed reading and writing skills. If you wish to further develop these skills, the Learning Hub provides free resources specially curated to develop specific skills for your academic, communication, learning and research needs, irrespective of whether you are an undergraduate or postgraduate, undertaking research or coursework, of an English or non-English speaking background. The Learning Hub also offers individual consultations and runs free academic workshops online via Zoom. Visit [The Learning Hub](#) page for more information.

SULS Equity

In addition to the challenges of law school, you may experience periods of financial hardship, illness or emotional distress. To help you with any of these difficult situations, SULS has the Equity Portfolio who are specifically dedicated to provide support and alleviate such pressures. For more information, use the **Student Support Services handbook** which covers a wide variety of services for students like obtaining financial assistance, seeking emotional support, seeking help for mental illnesses, maintaining overall well-being, ranging from dealing with self-worth issues to discrimination. The Equity Portfolio also runs the **Equity Textbook Loan Scheme (ETLS)** and the **Equity Financial Grants Scheme (EFGS)**. For more details, please see [SULS - Equity Schemes.](#)

The Equity Textbook Loan Scheme (ETLS)

ETLS assists students by providing textbooks for core subjects each semester. You will be asked to demonstrate financial hardship to access this scheme. If eligible, you will have access to textbooks for the entire semester, after providing a refundable deposit.

Equity Financial Grants Scheme (EFGS)

The EFGS provides monetary grants to eligible students to improve access to SULS events and co-curricular opportunities. This effort might make participation in competitions and events endorsed by the Law Faculty easier. Each EFGS grant is usually provided on a reimbursement basis and the maximum reimbursement value varies depending on the purpose of that grant e.g. up to the value of \$50 for textbooks (including non-core textbooks) and \$100 for major ticketed events.

The **Equity Officer** is always happy to chat and talk with you about how SULS may alleviate any financial or emotional hardships you are enduring. If you have any questions on the SULS Equity Schemes, do reach out to the Equity Officer for 2022, Yijun Cui (equity@suls.org.au).

Looking after yourself

When facing the challenges of law school, it can become tempting to keep going despite not feeling a hundred percent but it is important to know when to stop, take a break and seek help. The better you are feeling, the better you will be able to approach your studies and your life.

- If you require medical treatment for an injury, illness or health concern, you can book a GP appointment with the [University of Sydney Health services](#) (see the section on **Health Services** in this guide).
- If you are unwell or have personal extenuating circumstances which means you are unable to complete an assessment on time, consider applying for a special consideration (see the section on **Special Considerations** in this guide).

Common issues that law students face

1.

Manage your Stress and Anxiety

Occasional worry is normal, however constant stress or anxiety becomes a hurdle. It can manifest in your mind and body (like nausea, indigestion etc.), and affect your daily life. Some level of anxiety can be manageable but if you feel that it is negatively affecting your life, you should contact your general practitioner or use the resources shared in the next section to get professional support.

Whether it is for you or your friends, Beyond Blue Support Service lists some [Anxiety Management Strategies](#) to help yourself as well as equip you to help others. Some techniques are:

- **Control your breathing** - Deliberately slow down your breathing-pace if the anxiety attack has you breathing faster. If your thoughts dwell on negative feelings/events, try focusing on your present surroundings and bring yourself back to the present
- **Healthy lifestyle** - Eat well and spend time with family/friends. Go outdoors! Fresh air works best for a tired mind. It'll help you relax and allow you to return to study with a clearer mind.
- **Practice Mindfulness** - Mindfulness is a technique to deal with difficult emotions by observing your thoughts, emotions and sensations with a non-judgmental attitude and acceptance. Try a quick [10-minute mindfulness meditation practice](#) or [relaxation breathing exercise](#) to help reduce your feelings of stress and anxiety.
- **How about a quick workout** - A COVID-safe home workout is a great way to boost mood, helps you sleep better and also improves memory (definitely a plus for all law students). Thank you, endorphins!
- **Time-Management** - This is a crucial skill for all law students. When allocating time for your personal life, study and work and remember to set realistic limits and remind yourself that progress and honing skills takes time!

2.

Overcoming Impostor Syndrome

Students often question whether they belong in the law school or doubt their capabilities and the worth of their successes. These feelings are often known as Impostor Syndrome and may hinder you from fulfilling your true potential. You could try overcoming such thoughts by:

- **Acknowledging them** - Observe those thoughts and critically question: "Do these thoughts help me or only hold me back?"
- **Reframe your thoughts** - Most Law students who don't feel like impostors are no more intelligent or capable than those who do. Consciously focus on your positive aspects. Always remember, practice makes perfect!
- **Sharing your feelings** - Talk to a trusted friend, peer, parent or mentor who can reassure you that what you are going through is normal, and knowing that others have been in your position can make it seem less intimidating.
- **Do not let it control you** - Moments of self-doubt are normal but the goal is to not let them overwhelm you in times of pressure, like while dealing with assessments, work or personal issues.
- **Seeking professional help** - When seeking to manage these feelings yourself stops working, you should speak to a professional.

Professional Mental Health Services

Reaching out for professional mental help might feel complicated or scary but it shouldn't, whether you're having a difficult time, worried about someone, or just need information and support, these are some places where you can get FREE professional mental health advice depending on the kind of support that you are seeking.

Crisis Support

Emergencies (Police, Fire, Ambulance): 000

If someone has attempted or is at immediate risk of attempting to harm themselves or someone else, call Triple Zero 000 immediately. You can also approach the emergency department at a hospital and they may refer you to a mental health service

The following resources provide 24-hour phone counselling:

Suicide Call Back Service: 1300 659 467

Call: 1300 659 467

Online or Video Chat: Suicide Call Back Service: [Mental health counselling & suicide prevention](#)

NSW Rape Crisis Service: 1800 424 017

Lifeline (FREE 24/7 Crisis Support): 13 11 14

Every 30 seconds, a person in Australia reaches out to Lifeline for help. If you're experiencing emotional distress, contact Lifeline for crisis support and suicide prevention services.

Call (24/7): 13 11 14

Text (online) (12pm-12am AEST): 0477 13 11 14

Chat (online) (7pm-12am AEST): [Lifeline Chat](#)

Online resources: lifecycle.org.au

On-Campus Resources

CAPS

Sydney University's Counselling and Psychological Services (CAPS) is a FREE confidential professional mental health service provided for students to gain advice on a wide range of personal, academic, social and psychological issues. You can make up to six individual appointments with a CAPS counsellor.

Call: (02) 8627 8433

Email: caps.admin@sydney.edu.au

Online booking request form: [CAPS Booking Request Form](#)

Website (W): bit.ly/2T01jPM

Address(A): Level 5, Jane Foss Russell Building G02, City Road (beside the Wentworth Building), Camperdown Campus

Sydney University Mental Wellbeing Support Line for Students (24/7)

If you need to speak to someone for immediate support, this FREE, confidential service managed by CAPS is available anytime, including University close-down periods and bank holidays.

Call (within Australia): 1300 474 065

Text (SMS chat option): 0488 884 429

Off-Campus Resources

Mental Health Line (NSW) (24/7)

If you or someone you know needs professional help and advice or a referral to local mental health services, reach out to this number to speak to mental health professionals. This is a FREE 24/7 service available to everyone in NSW.

Call: 1800 011 511

English is Your Second Language?

TIS National (Translating and Interpreting Service) is a FREE service available 24/7, where you can speak to a mental health professional at the Mental Health Line.

TIP: Call 131 450 (and ask them to ring the Mental Health Line on 1800 011 511).

Have Trouble Hearing and Speaking?

[NRS \(National Relay Service\)](#) for people who are deaf or have a hearing or speaking impairment to make and receive phone calls and access the Mental Health Line.

For more information, go to National Relay Service.

NRS Voice Relay: 1300 555 727

SMS relay: 0423 677 767

Other Resources

TalkCampus App (24/7)

You can access FREE, immediate and anonymous 24/7 support from the online peer to peer mental health and wellbeing network: [TalkCampus](#). Available in 25 languages including English, Mandarin, Hindi and Bengali.

Head to Health: [Welcome to Head to Health | Head to Health](#)

Reach out: [ReachOut Australia: Welcome to ReachOut.com](#)

For online resources specifically for young people on mental health, check out **Beyondblue** and **eheadspace**.

Beyond Blue

Beyond Blue provides information and support to help everyone in Australia achieve their best possible mental health, whatever their age and wherever they live. You can chat to trained counsellors at:

Call: 1300 22 4636

Online Chat (24/7): [Beyond Blue Online Chat](#)
W: [Beyond Blue: Anxiety, depression and suicide prevention support](#)

COVID-19 Mental Wellbeing Support Service: Call: 1800 512 348

W: [Beyond Blue COVID-19 Mental Wellbeing Support](#)

Headspace

FREE online and telephone advice, support and counselling services to young people on mental health, physical health (including sexual health) alcohol and other drug services, work and study.

1-on-1 Chat to a Clinician:

Call: 1800 650 890

Email: [ehheadspace Connect](#)

Online Chat: [ehheadspace Connect](#)

W: [headspace.org.au](#)

Camperdown headspace:

Call: (02) 9114 4100

Email: headspace.camperdown@sydney.edu.au

W: [headspace.org.au](#)

A: Level 2, 97 Church Street Camperdown

For more on mental health and student services, check out the **SULS Student Support Services Handbook** on [suls.org.au](#).

Fees and Financial Support from the University

In your first year of University, it is natural to feel like you are spending a lot more money even if you're not living away from home. Daily expenses like transportation, food on-campus and expensive textbooks may strain your budget. However, there is plenty of help available in the form of scholarships, bursaries, government payments and emergency loans.

Scholarships

Scholarships are funding awarded to domestic and international students at all levels, based on various factors including their chosen area of study, academic achievements, background or financial situation. Check out [Sydney Students - Scholarships](#) for more information on available scholarships, eligibility requirements, application process and key dates.

TIP: Check out the International Student Guide on suls.org.au for a run-down on scholarships available to international students.

Student Bursaries

[General Bursaries](#) and [Advertised Bursaries](#) are a type of scholarships awarded if you need financial assistance for essential living and studying expenses (apart from fees) as a full-time undergraduate or postgraduate student (min. 18 credit points per semester).

Special bursaries for first-year students, students with a disability, Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander students or some faculties are also [available](#).

NOTE: Most bursaries are only available to domestic students (Australian citizens or permanent residents), and generally require proof that you are making satisfactory academic progress.

Part-time students receiving the Disability Support Pension (DSP) may also be eligible. If you study part-time due to a disability and don't receive the DSP, you may still be eligible. You don't need to repay the University for bursaries, but you are encouraged to consider making a donation in the future to continue the scheme.

International Loan Schemes

You could apply for a specific international loan before you commence your studies or during your course. Check out the eligibility criteria and application process at [International Loan Schemes](#) or contact the International Loans Team at +61 2 8627 8336 or international.finaid@sydney.edu.au if you need assistance.

Urgent Financial Support

If you need urgent financial support and advice, please contact the Financial Support Service as soon as possible. You may be eligible for interest-free loans (up to \$1000 available throughout the year and available to international students) or an Emergency Cash Payment (up to \$500).

Contact Financial Support Service Team at +61 2 8627 4809 or student.financialsupport@sydney.edu.au if you need assistance with your application or appointment, between 9am to 4pm, Monday to Friday.

Financial support vouchers

If you are a domestic or international student currently enrolled with the University and facing financial hardships, this support scheme grants you vouchers worth \$250 for food or essential items. Details about the scheme are available [here](#).

How to apply for a Bursary or Loan

For further details about applying for the bursaries or interest free loan you can easily check out [Sydney University - Financial Support](#) for eligibility requirements, and follow instructions on how to submit an application along with the relevant supporting documentation.

Other Sources of Financial Support: Centrelink and Department of Human Services

The Australian Government provides several payments for students. Several of these require you to be a full-time student and meet other criteria. Many are listed below, but please note this information is only a guide as social services legislation is constantly under review and may change. You should always contact the Department of Human Services for the most updated and accurate information: humanservices.gov.au.

- Youth Allowance- a fortnightly payment of up to \$679.00 for full-time students aged 18 to 24 years, who are Australian residents living away from parent's home and currently residing in Australia. This payment varies depending on your parent's income and assets, personal circumstances and any employment income. Apply and find out more at [Services Australia - Youth Allowance](#).
- Austudy- a fortnightly payment up to \$633.30 for full-time students aged over 25 years, who are Australian residents currently residing in Australia. This payment varies depending on your personal income and assets and personal circumstances. Apply and find out more at [Services Australia - Austudy](#).
- ABSTUDY- Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Australian students who have not availed any other another payment scheme to study or train, may be eligible for a suite of payments, such Living Allowance, Incidentals Allowance, Rent Assistance, Pharmaceutical Allowance and Relocation Scholarship, depending on the degree you study and your personal circumstances. To apply and find out more please see [Services Australia - ABSTUDY](#).
- Student Start-up Loan-This voluntary tax-free loan of \$1,094 which is payable twice a year, is available if you receive a Youth Allowance, Austudy or ABSTUDY Living Allowance. You will need to

repay the loan once you reach the HELP repayment threshold. You can usually apply or opt-in to receive the Student Start-up Loan when you submit a claim for Youth Allowance, Austudy or ABSTUDY. For more information, go to [Services Australia - Student Start-up Loan](#).

- Education Entry Payment (EEP)- This is a once-a-year payment of \$208 if you received a Jobseeker Payment, Parenting Payment, Partner Allowance or Widow Allowance in the last 12 months. For more information, check out [Services Australia - EEP](#).
- Pensioner Education Supplement (PES)- This scheme grants you a fortnightly additional payment of \$62.40 (full-time) or \$31.20 (part-time) if you receive Youth Allowance as a single main carer or other payments from Centrelink or the Department of Veteran's Affairs. For more information, go to [Services Australia - PES](#).

If you moved to study, you may be eligible for:

- Fares Allowance - covers the least expensive and most available form of public transport for trips during your study. For more information, follow this [link](#).
- Relocation Scholarship - If you receive Youth Allowance or ABSTUDY and relocate from a family home in a regional or remote area to study at the University of Sydney. The payment is \$4,626 in your first year, \$2,314 per year in the second and third years, \$1,156 per year after that. For more information, follow this [link](#).
- Rent Assistance - This may be available to you if you receive certain payments from the Department of Human Services and your fortnightly rent exceeds a specific amount. The amount varies based on your circumstances and up to \$189.70 per fortnight. If you are already receiving a payment, you can apply by logging into your myGov account. For more information, follow this [link](#).
- Youth Disability Supplement - You will automatically receive this payment of up to \$131.90 per fortnight, if you're under the age of 21 and get the Disability Support Pension (DSP), or if you're under the age of 22 and receive Youth Allowance or ABSTUDY as a full-time student, following an Employment Services Assessment. For more information, follow this [link](#).
- Low Income Health Care Card (LIHCC)- If you receive Youth Allowance, ABSTUDY or Austudy, you are eligible for the LIHCC. This allows you to receive cheaper medicine under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, bulk-billed doctor visits and larger refunds for medical costs when you reach the Medicare Safety Net. Usually, you do not need to apply as it is automatically sent to you if you are eligible. For more information, follow this [link](#).

NOTE: To avail facilities under LIHCC, your income needs to be below the income test limit. You check your eligibility [here](#).

Undergraduate and Postgraduate Representative Student Associations

Student Representative Council (SRC) - Undergraduate Students

The SRC is a student-run body that represents undergraduate students and can help you get through University. It also provides services like:

- SRC Caseworker Help provides free, independent and confidential advice/support on a range of issues faced by students including academic rights and appeals, show cause, exclusion, misconduct/dishonesty allegations, special consideration, tenancy, Centrelink, financial issues, Tax Help etc. For more information on this service please see [SRC Caseworker Help](#).
- SRC Legal Service connects you with solicitors and registered migration agents for free legal advice, representation in court and a referral service. Such services can be availed with respect to police/court matters, traffic offences, immigration law, consumer rights, employment law, personal/domestic violence, witnessing/certifying documents, visa-related matters and more. For more information, please visit [SRC Legal Service](#).
- SRC Loans offers emergency loans of \$50 and also lends out university-approved calculators, lab coats and other science equipment. For more information, check out [SRC Loans](#).

COVID-19 Support Services:

The SRC website lists a number of resources regarding financial support, accommodation, wellbeing and covid testing or treatment. Visit the [SRC website](#) for more information, or contact them at help@src.usyd.edu.au or 02 9660 5222.

Sydney University Postgraduate Representative Association (SUPRA) - Postgraduate Students

SUPRA is the representative body run by and for postgraduate students for those completing a JD, Masters and research. It has a legal and caseworker service similar to the SRC, and typically holds free, confidential drop-in sessions for student advice and legal advice with a Solicitor/Registered Migration Agent at the SUPRA Office, Camperdown Campus. For full details of the types of assistance, please visit the SUPRA website at supra.net.au/. You may contact SUPRA if you're looking for advice, legal help or would like to make a complaint through their online form here: [SUPRA - Contact Form](#) or email at help@supra.usyd.edu.au.

Further Support Services

Campus Shuttle buses

Free shuttle buses on campus run from 4pm-10.30pm throughout the year (apart from weekends, public holidays and the Christmas shutdown period) between Fisher Library (Camperdown campus) and Redfern Train Station. For the bus timetable and more information, see [Getting to campus](#).

Student Affairs - Complaints

Bullying, intimidation, unlawful harassment and discrimination are not tolerated under any circumstances. This includes sexual assault, sexual harassment and verbal abuse. If you experience or witness this kind of behaviour, it is essential that you report it at your earliest opportunity. The University has developed new and strict policies against unwelcome behavior, particularly sexual assault and harassment.

You may contact the [Student Affairs Unit - Complaints](#) to lodge an academic (e.g., academic dishonesty or teaching quality) or non-academic complaint, who will assist you in resolving your complaint or conduct an investigation for serious matters.

Emergency Contacts

Emergency (Police, Fire or Ambulance): 000

In emergencies, call Triple Zero 000 or 112 (from a mobile).

Newtown Police Station: (02) 9550 8199

222 Australia Street, Newtown NSW 2042

Lifeline (24/7):

Mental Health Access Line (NSW) (24/7):

For an acute mental health crisis, please call Lifeline or Mental Health Access Line (NSW).

Campus Security (24/7): (02) 9351 3333

For minor emergencies or if you're feeling unsafe on campus, contact Campus Security.

Sydney University Crisis Line (24/7): 1800 SYD HLP (1800 793 457)

Call this number if you have safety concerns or in relation to an incident.

This is a confidential, non-emergency hotline that can direct you to the appropriate staff to handle your complaint.

Health Services

COVID-19 Testing Clinic

If you have symptoms of a fever, cough, cold, sore throat or shortness of breath or visited a confirmed COVID-19 location, you should get tested at the nearest COVID-19 testing clinic.

For more details check out

[COVID-19 testing clinics.](#)

National Coronavirus Health Information Line (COVID-19 information): 1800 020 080

Translating and Interpreting Service (24/7): 131 450

Off-Campus

National Home Doctor Service (After hours): 13 SICK (7425)

Book an after-hours, bulk billed, in-home doctor visit.

Monday to Friday: from 6pm
Saturday: from 12pm
Sunday & Public Holidays: All Day

W: [13SICK National Home Doctor \(After Hours Doctor\)](#)

University of Sydney Health services

Offers telephone and in-person consultations and services for treatment of illness, injury, and other physical problems, assistance with emotional difficulties, advice on contraception and sexually transmitted diseases and advice for students with examination difficulties.

L: Wentworth Clinic, Wentworth Building G01 on Butlin Avenue, Level 3; Holme Clinic, Holme Building A09 on Science Road, Entry Level

W: <https://bit.ly/2BfJ1mJ>

P: (02) 9351 3484

On-Campus

Community Health Services

Wide range of services including: child and family health, sexual health, youth health, interpreter service, counselling services.

P: (02) 9515 9560

W: [Community Health Services](#)

Camperdown Mental Health Centre

P: 1800 011 511

L: King George V Memorial Hospital, 117 Missenden Rd, Camperdown NSW 2050.

Redfern Community Health Centre

P: (02) 9395 0444

L: 103-105 Redfern St, Redfern NSW 2016

Youthblock Youth Health Services are free: [Community Health Services - Youthblock Youth Health Service - Referrals](#)

HealthDirect (24/7): 1800 022 222

Find a local GP, hospital, dentist, pharmacy, physiotherapy, COVID-19 service near you.

W: [Service Finder: Find a health service](#)

Campus Life



Getting to Campus

The University of Sydney Law School is located in the New Law Building on Eastern Ave, which is the main path in the Camperdown/Darlington campus. There are a variety of ways to get to and from campus.

By train: 15 minute walk from Redfern Station or 20 minute walk from Central Station

By bus: services are frequently available from Railway Square to City Rd (closest stop to Law Building) Use the NSW Transport Trip Planner website or download the TripView app for timetable information

Car/Ride

Driving: virtual parking permits (Permits) can be obtained from the University. NOTE: the availability of these permits can be limited and costly.

Taxi/rideshare: drop-off areas are located around campus, with the closest being City Rd

Cycling

Bike parking is available around campus, including near the Law Building. You are advised to use a bike lock.

A self-service bike repair station is located outside the Chemistry Building on Eastern Avenue

For more information, see [here](#).

Finding your way around Campus

When you first start on-campus, finding out where to go for what can be a little confusing. From finding the best place to study or grab that perfect snack between your classes, this section offers you our tips.

The Law Library

The Law Library (Lawbry) is the study spot of choice for many students as it is open 24/7. During the semester, it can fill up as early as 10am and stay packed until 6pm. With limited access due to the pandemic, the Law Library is currently only accessible through the Fisher Library entrance with your student card. The Law Library offers a variety of services that may be useful for you during your studies.

1. Book-a-desk:

- If you don't want to risk not finding a desk, it's best to book a desk at least a day or two in advance at <http://usyd.libcal.com/booking/lawdesk>. Desks can be booked up to 48 hours in advance and can be booked for up to 3 hours at a time and maximum twice per day per site.

2. Study Rooms:

- You can book any of the study rooms on both levels of the library, but bookings fill quickly so try to get in a week in advance.

3. Printing & SydPay:

- You can either print from (a) university computers or (b) your own personal device.

To print from a uni computer - simply log in to any of the computers with your Unikey and print.

To print from your personal device, print through the follow-me printing function.

Make sure to check you have credit on your SydPay account and don't forget to collect your printing from the printers located near the law library reception or behind the Turnbull Reading Room (aka "the Cone").

- SydPay is our student card accessed tap-and-go payment system. It is used for printing and copying services at libraries, IT labs and learning hubs across University, DMAF (Architecture Design Modelling and Fabrication) Consumables and laundry services at a few student accommodations. When you receive your student card, your SydPay account is also activated!

Find out more about SydPay and top up your SydPay account [here](#).

- Print, Scan and Copy - You may print, scan and photocopy at USYD's libraries, learning hubs and computer access labs. Printing and photocopying costs differ depending on the size, type, and colour of your sheet. You may print from campus computers or on your personal devices/computers through the Follow-me printing function. Scanning is free at all venues and can be done directly through the printer.

2. To borrow - check out the textbooks on the right-hand side of reception. Even though many are not prescribed, they can offer insights or contain case extracts which are helpful for research assignments. You can borrow at the self-serve counter with your student card. For more details on the libraries on campus, visit [here](#).



Fisher Library

Located right next to the Law Library, connected via an underground tunnel on level 1. It has 9 levels worth of space for you to explore.

Pro: With more level, study spots are usually available, especially in the two hour section or higher in the building.

Con: Sometimes powerpoints may be harder to find.



Sci-Tech Library

Located a bit further from your law classes, this space is nice and fairly spacious with natural light with a view of some greenery.

Pro: Better ventilated and lit than some spaces in the Law Library.

Con: At peak times, the library still gets quite crowded.



Abercrombie Building Study Hubs

These hubs tend to be very popular, so don't expect to come here without bumping into some friends. Many places are available in all three hubs, and there is also hot water, a microwave and a printer in each hub.

Pro: Close access to microwave and ABS cafe.

Con: With many classes around, this may not be as quiet as other silent library spaces.



Carslaw Study Hubs

These study hubs are open all day with two areas with seating and PCs or Macs. Don't forget to bring your student card after 6pm. A decent amount of seating is available.

Pro: Close to where many law classes are held and not too hard to find a place to charge your devices.

Con: Can get a little noisy at times with shared study pods available.

New Law Building Level 3

Don't be put off by the fact you're sharing a floor with the Law academic office because this is definitely the study area with the best views.

Pro: Fantastic view of Victoria Park, the city and the law lawns with plenty of natural light.

Con: This space may not always be available but don't be afraid to try your luck.

Brennan McCallum Hub

Located opposite Manning Building, this is a bit further away from where most law students have class but this is located close to food outlets.

Pro: You can usually find a space to study with lots of powerpoints available.

Con: It can be a bit further away from your classes.

Social Sciences Building

With a fair amount of space for group study, this can be a bit of a walk from your classes but has hot water, microwaves, printers and computers available.

Pro: There are bookable group study areas available.

Con: This is a little further from most places and can get full during peak study times.



Food and Drink

This map shows you the most popular food options for students on and off campus! The places with an asterisk offer ACCESS rewards discount.

Note: COVID-19 Update: Opening hours are subject to change, please check for vendor's updates on their current opening times.

On Campus

***Abercrombie Business School (ABS) Café** - opens from 7.30am till late on Mondays-Fridays, and from 8am on Saturdays during the semester. It offers dinner options too, including the \$6 After 6pm menu. Food is a bit expensive but also a bit nicer. Recommended: the cakes, banh mi and ginger fish

***Carslaw Kitchen** - Greek and Lebanese style food and coffee that is more affordable than Taste. Recommended: the feta chips

***Courtyard Café** - a bright, pretty and spacious café which does fantastic cakes, pastas, salads and Reuben sandwiches. Recommended: the pizza and cakes

***Laneway Café** - easy to miss but does the best breakfasts on campus. Recommended: the dirty chai and breakfast bruschetta

Ralph's Café - probably the best burgers on campus. Large selection of Italian food, sandwiches, wraps and salads. There is another outlet on the Boardwalk near Cadigal Greens. Recommended: iced coffee, pasta and burgers

***Taste Baguette** - the go-to for most law students due to convenience, although it is on the expensive side. There is an eat-in area on the side. Recommended: the coffee and the lemongrass beef baguette

***Wentworth Food Court** - most people flock here for Unibros, the on-campus kebab shop. There is also Asian and Indian food available, with more options in the adjacent JFR Plaza. Most places take ACCESS. Recommended: the HSP or kebab from Unibros

USU website for *places: <http://staging.usu.edu.au/usueats.aspx>

Around Campus or Near Campus

Abercrombie Street - lots of cafes line this street. Great location to wander with friends and within good walking distance from campus.

Broadway - the food court in the Broadway Shopping Centre and the nearby streets have plenty of great options

Newtown - only a 10-minute walk away, or a short bus ride if you're trying to go deeper into Newtown. There's a Domino's Pizza and plenty of Thai restaurants, burgers and gelaterias. Recommended: Thai La Ong, El Jannah Express or Hakiki Turkish Icecream.

Glebe - just around the corner from Broadway is Glebe Point Road with plenty of nice cafes and restaurants. Recommendations include Planet Pizza, Thievery, and Dirty Red



Campus Life

On Campus Accommodation:

On campus accommodations are the perfect starting point for finding your first year community, especially if you're moving from overseas. With scholarships or grants that recognise and celebrate your successes and a range of unique social events within your own community, these accommodations will allow you to seamlessly make a home on university grounds.

Camperdown and Darlington Campus:

If you're looking to live on the main campus, you have the option to either live in a residential college, university residence, or University of Sydney's residences.

Residential Colleges:

The University of Sydney's residential colleges aim to support a well-rounded university experience. Though each is unique in culture, environment, and the student body, the colleges encourage the development of social, sporting, and academic skills inter-college and university wide. With three catered meals everyday, the college's support gives you flexibility to partake in their social events, compete in inter-college games, or lead in student-run committees. There are even postgraduate options for those who would like to live and learn in the heritage and tradition-rich environment.

University of Sydney's Residential Colleges:

- Mandelbaum House
- Sancta Sophia College (Women Only) and Graduate House (Co-Residential)
- St. Andrew's College
- St. John's College
- St. Paul's College (Men Only) and Graduate House (Co-Residential)
- Wesley College
- Women's College (Women Only)

University Residences:

This kind of accommodation allows for freedom in a self catered accommodation. They are perfect for the students that prefer more independence but still want to be on campus. Each accommodation has its own unique offerings including amenities such as gyms, common areas, theatres, or music rooms.

University of Sydney's Residences:

- Queen Mary Building
- Darlington House
- Abercrombie Student Accommodation
- The Regiment Student Accommodation
- Terraces

Off Campus Accommodation:

Finding a place to live on your own or with friends is a perfect option for those looking for more affordable housing options or prefer living off-campus. Although it can be a little daunting at first, suburbs surrounding the main Camperdown/Darlington campus such as Newtown, Redfern, and Glebe are all university student-friendly.

Here are six quick tips before you find off campus accommodation:

1. Finding what you can afford, then budget
2. Consider purpose-built student housing or student boarding houses options
 - Student apartments:
 - » Sydney University Village
 - » Urbanest
 - » Iglu
 - » Stucco Student Cooperative
 - » Scape
 - » Unilodge Broadway
 - » Castle Student Accommodation
 - Student Boarding Houses:
 - » Arundel House
 - » Epworth House
 - » Flor Harris Lodge
 - » St. Barnabas Terraces
 - » Xavier House
 - If you want to find your own accommodation try these websites!
 - » Domain
 - » Flatmates
 - » Gumtree
 - » Realestate.com.au
 - » Property.com.au
 - » Flatmates.com.au

Note: You can also use facebook groups or marketplace but be careful to verify anything you find.

3. Ask questions and know your rights
 - Questions: Is there parking? Does the rent cover utilities or the internet?
 - Check on inspection/your rental agreement as to whether utilities (water, gas, electricity) and the internet is included. Often times, you will be responsible for finding your own internet and utility provider if you're renting a place on your own

Law School Glossary

You will likely come across a variety of terms during your studies that you may initially be unfamiliar with but will quickly come to know. To give you a head start, we've included a few to start with here. It may be helpful to create your own glossary throughout the year as you encounter more ideas and terms.

LLB: LLB is the abbreviation for a Bachelor of Laws and comes from the latin term Legum Baccalaureus.

JD: Similarly to LLB, this is the shortened form of Juris Doctor.

X v Y: Many cases are structured as first party v second party, when reading aloud, this is normally said as "first party and second party".

R v X: In case titles, R is generally read as the Crown.

Clerkship: Pronounced "clarkship", these are paid employment experiences in law firms, generally held over the summer break for students in their penultimate year.

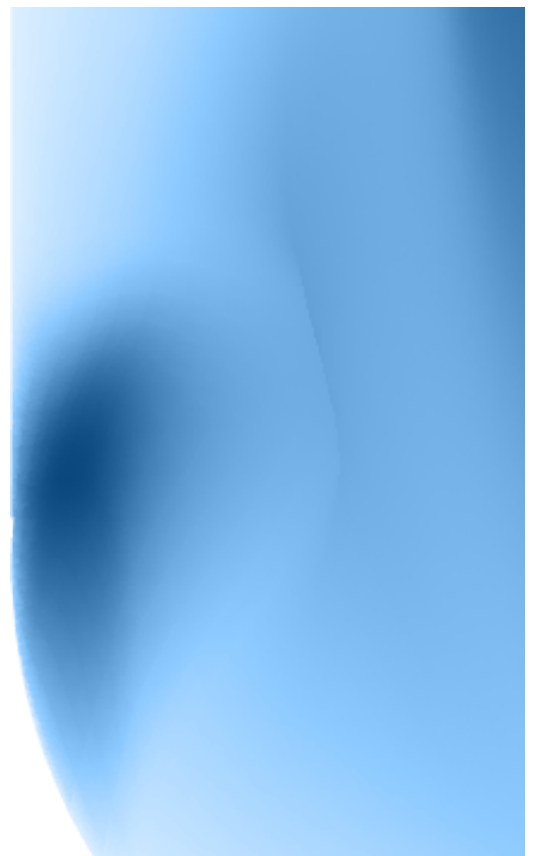
Solicitors: In NSW, there are two types of lawyers - solicitors and barristers. A solicitor is a legal professional that spends most of their time assisting clients in their everyday legal matters and affairs. Solicitors can from time to time represent clients in courts, particularly in the lower courts.

Barristers: Barristers spend most of their time in court, and are not involved as much in the daily legal activities of their clients. Most of a barrister's work is derived from briefs from an instructing solicitor. In NSW, they usually work as 'sole practitioners' (that is, they work alone) but share 'chambers' with other barristers.

Law Firms: A law firm is a group of lawyers that work together. They can specialise in specific areas of law or serve a specific geographic area. They can be categorised as a boutique (very small), mid-tier and top-tier. Often, people refer to the 'big six' as Herbert Smith Freehills, King & Wood Mallesons, Clayton Utz, Minter Ellison, Ashurst and Allens. Some legal professionals are known as 'in house' lawyers, who are assigned to a corporation and serve their legal work.

Not sure where to start?

If trying to figure out how to start or what you need to know is giving you information overload, try not to panic because you don't need to know it all right now. You just need to know enough to start and then you can return to this guide whenever you need to find out more. To help with this, we've collected some frequently asked questions below.



What do I need to do each week?

Each week you will likely have a series of lectures and tutorials. Lectures are often where you will learn the content and tutorials are where you apply and practice what you've learnt. On top of this, you will be expected to complete weekly readings made up of textbooks, cases and legislation. Find out more in the Academics section.

What is the workload like?

A full-time load is normally four units a semester. The general guideline for how much weekly preparation time is required is 1.5-2 hours of study per credit point. For a six credit point unit, this is 9-12 hours per week. This is only a guideline and you will only figure out what works for you after trying it out. Find out more in the Academics section on page 9.

What textbooks do I need?

The materials that you need will depend on the subject. Most subjects will include textbook or casebook requirements in the Unit of Study outline or on the Canvas Course. The reading list will normally include any required textbooks or casebooks as well as any recommended ones. Sometimes there will be copies in the library, otherwise they are often available for purchase in nearby bookstores or can be ordered online.

What kind of assessments should I expect?

The different kinds of assessment in the Law School include case notes, problem-questions, essays, participation and exams. Each of these assessments have different requirements so make sure to check what kind of task you've been set, so that you can best prepare. Find out more in the Academics section on page 48.

How do I find my way around the campus?

When you first come to campus, it may be difficult to find your way around. It can help to use the first week or during Welcome Week to find where your classes are held. The Lost on Campus map (from StudentVIP) of USYD may be helpful for this as you can find where different buildings are located and what rooms are on each level. If you are looking for places to study or eat, find out more in the Campus Life section on page 48.

What can I do outside the classroom?

There are numerous opportunities that are available for you as a law student. These include competitions like mooting, joining a society, volunteering and exchange. For up-to-date information on many of these opportunities, look out for the SULLS newsletter and socials. Find out more in the Co-Curricular Opportunities section on page 32.

Where can I get help?

There are a variety of different kinds of help available to you, including from the faculty, the University or SULLS. To find out what kinds of support is available, check the Services and Support section.

Where can I live on or around campus?

There are a variety of accommodation options on and around the campus. Depending on what you are looking for, there are Residential Colleges, University Residences, Student apartments, Student Boarding Houses and other off campus options. Find out more in the Finding Accommodation section on page 52.

Appendix

Sample Degree Progression Guides

Please note that these sample degree progression guides and examples are subject to change (notably due to COVID-19 circumstances), and you should make a degree progression that suits you. For assistance, contact Law Professional Programs (law.professional@sydney.edu.au), your Faculty Services department listed below or the relevant academic advisor listed here: bit.ly/2POdSPc.

Year 1

Sem 1	Partner Degree Unit of Study	Partner Degree Unit of Study	Partner Degree Unit of Study	Foundations of Law	Legal Research
Sem 2	Partner Degree Unit of Study	Partner Degree Unit of Study	Partner Degree Unit of Study	Torts	

Year 2

Sem 1	Partner Degree Unit of Study	Partner Degree Unit of Study	Civil & Criminal Procedure	Contracts
Sem 2	Partner Degree Unit of Study	Partner Degree Unit of Study	Partner Degree Unit of Study	Criminal Law

Year 3

Sem 1	Partner Degree Unit of Study	Partner Degree Unit of Study	Partner Degree Unit of Study	Public International Law
Sem 2	Partner Degree Unit of Study	Partner Degree Unit of Study	Torts & Contracts II	Public Law

Year 4

(or Year 5 Engineering Honours/Law)

Sem 1	Administrative Law	Federal Constitutional Law	Introduction to Property & Commercial Law	The Legal Profession
Sem 2	Corporations Law	Equity	Evidence	Real Property

Year 5

(or Year 6 Engineering Honours/Law)

Sem 1	Private International Law A	Law Elective	Law Elective	Law Elective
Sem 2	Law Elective	Law Elective	Law Elective	Law Elective

NOTE: You may choose, instead, to take a max. of 2 electives and complete the remaining compulsory units of study in Year 5 or Year 6 for Engineering Honours/Law.

Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Laws (Full Time)

A sample degree progression for a Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws student enrolled on a full-time basis, undertaking a total of 24 credit points per semester. Please see Sydney University Courses - Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Laws for more information on course details, majors and minors.

Year 1

Sem 1	Arts (Part A) Major Junior Unit	Arts (Part A or B) Major Junior Unit Choice	Arts (Part A or B) Major Junior Unit Choice	Foundations of Law	Legal Research
Sem 2	Arts (Part A) Major Junior Unit	Arts (Part A or B) Major Junior Unit Choice	Arts (Part A or B) Major Junior Unit Choice	Torts	

Year 2

Sem 1	Arts (Part A) Major Senior Unit	Arts (Part A or B) Major Senior Unit Choice	Civil & Criminal Procedure	Contracts
Sem 2	Arts (Part A) Major Senior Unit	Arts (Part A or B) Major Senior Unit Choice	Arts (Part A or B) Major Senior Unit Choice	Criminal Law

Year 3

Sem 1	Arts (Part A) Major Senior Unit	Arts (Part A or B) Major Senior Unit Choice	Arts (Part A or B) Major Senior Unit Choice	Public International Law	Legal Research II
Sem 2	Arts (Part A) Major Senior Unit	Arts (Part A or B) Major Senior Unit Choice	Torts & Contracts II	Public Law	

Year 4

Sem 1	Administrative Law	Federal Constitutional Law	Introduction to Property & Commercial Law	The Legal Profession
Sem 2	Corporations Law	Equity	Evidence	Real Property

Year 5

Sem 1	Private International Law A	Law Elective	Law Elective	Law Elective
Sem 2	Law Elective	Law Elective	Law Elective	Law Elective

NOTE: You may choose instead to take a maximum of two Law electives, and complete the remaining compulsory units in Year 5. One Law elective unit must be a Jurisprudence unit.

Legal Research I and Legal Research II are compulsory examinable units with 0 credit points that count towards the first degree in the Combined Law program.

*Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Advanced Studies students must complete 12 credit points of OLE units over the course of the degree.

Bachelor of Commerce/Bachelor of Laws (Full Time)

A sample degree progression for a Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Laws student enrolled on a full-time basis, undertaking a total of 24 credit points per semester. Please see Sydney University Courses - Bachelor of Commerce/Bachelor of Laws for more information on course details, majors and minors.

TIP: Check out the [Sydney Business School Undergraduate Handbook 2022 - Commerce and Laws](#) for more examples of degree progression guides

Year 1

Sem 1	BUSS1001 Future of Business	BUSS1030 Accounting, Business & Society	1000 Level for Major or Elective	Foundations of Law	
Sem 2	BUSS1020 Quantitative Business Analysis	Open Learning Environment (OLE)	1000 Level for Major or Elective	Torts	Legal Research

Year 2

Sem 1	BUSS2000 Leading & Influencing in Business	2000 Level for Major	Civil & Criminal Procedure	Contracts
Sem 2	Open Learning Environment (OLE)	2000 Level for Major	Elective	Criminal Law

Year 3

Sem 1	3000 Level for Major	3000 Level for Major	Elective	Public International Law	Legal Research II
Sem 2	3000 Level for Major	3000 Level for Major (capstone)	Torts & Contracts II	Public Law	

Year 4

Sem 1	Administrative Law	Federal Constitutional Law	Introduction to Property & Commercial Law	The Legal Profession
Sem 2	Corporations Law	Equity	Evidence	Real Property

Year 5

Sem 1	Private International Law A	Law Elective	Law Elective	Law Elective
Sem 2	Law Elective	Law Elective	Law Elective	Law Elective

Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Laws (Full Time)

A sample degree progression for a Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Laws student enrolled on a full-time basis, undertaking a total of 24 credit points per semester. Please see Sydney University Courses - Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Laws for more information on course details, majors and minors.

Year 1

Year 1-3: combination of Science and Law units of study up to 48 credit points in each year, complete a science major in the subject area of your choice, and also undertake 12 cp of mathematics degree core units and 12cp of OLE units.

Sem 1	Maths	Maths	Science Major	Foundations of Law	Legal Research
Sem 2	Science Elective	Science Elective	Science Major	Torts	

Year 2

Sem 1	Science Major	Science Major	Civil & Criminal Procedure	Contracts
Sem 2	Open Learning Environment (OLE)	Open Learning Environment (OLE)	Science Elective	Criminal Law

Year 3

Sem 1	Science Major	Science Major	Science Major	Public International Law	Legal Research II
Sem 2	Science Major	Science Major	Torts & Contracts II	Public Law	

Year 4-5: Upon completion of your Science degree, you will complete the remaining nine Law core units as well as seven electives which will allow you to specialise in a particular area of the law.

Year 4

Sem 1	Administrative Law	Federal Constitutional Law	Introduction to Property & Commercial Law	The Legal Profession
Sem 2	Corporations Law	Equity	Evidence	Real Property

Year 5

Sem 1	Private International Law A	Law Elective	Law Elective	Law Elective
Sem 2	Law Elective	Law Elective	Law Elective	Law Elective

Juris Doctor Degree Planner (Full Time)

Year 1

Sem 1	Foundations of Law	Torts	Contracts	Civi & Criminal Procedure	Legal Research
Sem 2	Criminal Law	Public International Law	Torts & Contracts II	Public Law	

Year 2

Sem 1	Administrative Law	Federal Constitutional Law	Introduction to Property & Commercial Law	The Legal Profession
Sem 2	Corporations Law	Equity	Evidence	Real Property

Year 3

Sem 1	Private International Law A	Law Elective	Law Elective	Law Elective
Sem 2	Law Elective	Law Elective	Law Elective	Law Elective

Juris Doctor Degree Planner (Part Time)

Year 1

Sem 1	Foundations of Law	Torts	Legal Research
Sem 2	Public Law	Public International Law	

Year 4

Sem 1	Introduction to Property & Commercial Law	The Legal Profession
Sem 2	Equity	Real Property

Year 2

Sem 1	Civil & Criminal Procedure	Contracts
Sem 2	Criminal Law	Torts & Contracts II

Year 5

Sem 1	Private International Law A	Elective Unit
Sem 2	Elective Unit	Elective Unit

Year 3

Sem 1	Administrative Law	Federal Constitutional Law
Sem 2	Corporations Law	Evidence

Year 6

Sem 1	Elective Unit	Elective Unit
Sem 2	Elective Unit	Elective Unit

Degree Progression Examples

Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Laws - Major in International Relations and Minor in History

Semester 1	HSTY1001 History Workshop	GOVT1641 Introduction to Politics	GOVT1621 Introduction to International Relations	LAWS1006 Foundations of Law	LAWS1013 Legal Research I	Year 1
Semester 2	HSTY1002 Age of Empires	Open Learning Environment (OLE)	GOVT2991 Political Analysis	LAWS1012 Torts		
Semester 1	History 2000 Level Unit	GOVT2921 Intermediate International Relations	LAWS1014 Civil & Criminal Procedure	LAWS1015 Contracts		Year 2
Semester 2	History 2000 Level Unit	International Relations 3000 Level Unit	Open Learning Environment (OLE)	LAWS1016 Criminal Law		
Semester 1	History 3000 Level Unit	International Relations 3000 Level Unit	International Relations 3000 Level Unit	LAWS1023 Public International Law	LAWS1019 Legal Research II	Year 3
Semester 2	History 3000 Level Unit	FASS3999 Interdisciplinary Impact	LAWS1021 Public Law	LAWS1017 Torts & Contracts II		
Semester 1	LAWS2010 Administrative Law	LAWS2011 Federal Constitutional Law	LAWS2012 Introduction to Property & Commercial Law	LAWS2013 The Legal Profession		Year 4
Semester 2	LAWS2014 Corporations Law	LAWS2015 Equity	LAWS2016 Evidence	LAWS2017 Real Property		
Semester 1	LAWS2018 Private International Law A	3000 Level Jurisprudence Elective	3000 Level Law Elective	3000 Level Law Elective		Year 5
Semester 2	3000 Level Law Elective	3000 Level Law Elective	3000 Level Law Elective	3000 Level Law Elective		

Bachelor of Commerce/Bachelor of Laws (Dalyell Stream) - Major in Finance

						Year 1
Semester 1	BUSS1000 Future of Business	BUSS1020 Quantitative Business Analysis	1000 Level Elective	LAWS1006 Foundations of Law		
Semester 2	BUSS1030 Accounting, Business & Society	Open Learning Environment (OLE)	BUSS1040 Economics for Business Decisionmaking	LAWS1012 Torts	LAWS1024 Legal Research I	
						Year 2
Semester 1	BUSS2000 Leading & Influencing in Business	FINC2011 Corporate Finance I	LAWS1014 Civil & Criminal Procedure	LAWS1015 Contracts		
Semester 2	FINC2012 Corporate Finance II	Open Elective	Dalyell Unit	LAWS1016 Criminal Law		
						Year 3
Semester 1	FINC3017 Investments & Portfolio Management	Finance 3000 Level Unit	Dalyell Unit	LAWS1023 Public International Law		
Semester 2	FINC3600 Finance in Practice	Finance 3000 Level Unit	LAWS1021 Public Law	LAWS1017 Torts & Contracts II		
						Year 4
Semester 1	LAWS2010 Administrative Law	LAWS2011 Federal Constitutional Law	LAWS2012 Introduction to Property & Commercial Law	LAWS2013 The Legal Profession		
Semester 2	LAWS2014 Corporations Law	LAWS2015 Equity	LAWS2016 Evidence	LAWS2017 Real Property		
						Year 5
Semester 1	LAWS2018 Private International Law A	3000 Level Jurisprudence Elective	3000 Level Law Elective	3000 Level Law Elective		
Semester 2	3000 Level Law Elective	3000 Level Law Elective	3000 Level Law Elective	3000 Level Law Elective		

TIP: Check out the Interdisciplinary Studies Handbook 2022 for more detailed information on the Dalyell Stream.

Bachelor of Commerce/Bachelor of Laws - Major in Business Information Systems

Semester 1	BUSS1000 Future of Business	BUSS1030 Accounting, Business & Society	Digital Business Innovation	LAWS1006 Foundations of Law	
Semester 2	BUSS1020 Quantitative Business Analysis	Open Learning Environment (OLE)	Digital Work Environment	LAWS1012 Torts	LAWS1024 Legal Research I

Year 1

Semester 1	BUSS2000 Leading & Influencing in Business	Digital Business Management	LAWS1014 Civil & Criminal Procedure	LAWS1015 Contracts
Semester 2	People, Information & Knowledge	Open Learning Environment (OLE)	Business Process Modelling & Development	LAWS1016 Criminal Law

Year 2

Semester 1	Business Information Systems Projects	Enterprise Systems & Integrated Business	Diet & Nutrition for Health & Sport	LAWS1023 Public International Law
Semester 2	Business Information for Managers	Business Information Systems in Practice	LAWS1021 Public Law	LAWS1017 Torts & Contracts II

Year 3

Semester 1	LAWS2010 Administrative Law	LAWS2011 Federal Constitutional Law	LAWS2012 Introduction to Property & Commercial Law	LAWS2013 The Legal Profession
Semester 2	LAWS2014 Corporations Law	LAWS2015 Equity	LAWS2016 Evidence	LAWS2017 Real Property

Year 4

Semester 1	LAWS2018 Private International Law A	3000 Level Jurisprudence Elective	3000 Level Law Elective	3000 Level Law Elective
Semester 2	3000 Level Law Elective	3000 Level Law Elective	3000 Level Law Elective	3000 Level Law Elective

Year 5

Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Laws - Major in Computer Science

Semester 1	INFO1100 Introduction to Programming	INFO1113 Object Oriented Programming	MATH1021 Calculus of One Variable (or MATH1921 or MATH1931) AND MATH1023 Multivariable Calculus & Modelling (or MATH1923) or MATH1933)	Elective Unit
Semester 2	COMP2022 Programming Language, Logic & Models (or COMP2922)	MATH1002 Linear Algebra (or MATH1902) AND MATH1004 Discrete Mathematics (or MATH1904)	Open Learning Environment (OLE)	Elective Unit

Year 1

Semester 1	COMP2123 Data Structure & Algorithms	COMP2017 Systems Programming	LAWS1006 Foundations of Law	LAWS1015 Contracts	LAWS1024 Legal Research I
Semester 2	COMP3888 Computer Science Project (or COMP3988)	Elective Unit	LAWS1012 Torts	LAWS1021 Public Law	

Year 2

Semester 1	COMP3027 Algorithm Design (or COMP3927)	Open Learning Environment (OLE)	LAWS1014 Civil & Criminal Procedure	LAWS1023 Public International Law
Semester 2	Computer Science 3000 Level Major Elective	Elective Unit	LAWS1016 Criminal Law	LAWS1017 Torts & Contracts II

Year 3

Semester 1	LAWS2010 Administrative Law	LAWS2011 Federal Constitutional Law	LAWS2012 Introduction to Property & Commercial Law	LAWS2013 The Legal Profession
Semester 2	LAWS2014 Corporations Law	LAWS2015 Equity	LAWS2016 Evidence	LAWS2017 Real Property

Year 4

Semester 1	LAWS2018 Private International Law A	3000 Level Jurisprudence Elective	3000 Level Law Elective	3000 Level Law Elective
Semester 2	3000 Level Law Elective	3000 Level Law Elective	3000 Level Law Elective	3000 Level Law Elective

Year 5

Faculty Services contacts

If you are studying a combined degree, please contact the Faculty Services contact for your non-law degree. If you have fulfilled the requirements of your other degree and are only studying law (generally 4th and 5th year LLB and JDs and Masters students), please contact Law School Faculty Services.

University of Sydney Law School: acl.facultyservices@sydney.edu.au

LLB/JD Students: law.professional@sydney.edu.au

Arts and Social Sciences: fass.facultyservices@sydney.edu.au

Engineering and Information Technology: feit.facultyservices@sydney.edu.au

Business School: business.facultyservices@sydney.edu.au

Science (including Agriculture, Environment and Veterinary Science): science.facultyservices@sydney.edu.au

SULS Executive

If you have any questions about our initiatives or need some help, please visit us at the SULS office in Level 1 of the New Law Annex or reach out to us using the contact details below. We'd love to hear from you! Also don't forget to check out our Welcome to SULS Handbook at suls.org.au or grab a hard copy from our office or come visit us at our stall during Welcome Week 2022.

President - Ben Hines - president@suls.org.au
Vice President (Education) - Irene Ma - education@suls.org.au
Vice President (Careers) - Thrishank Chintamaneni - careers@suls.org.au
Vice President (Social Justice) - Naz Sharifi - socialjustice@suls.org.au
Treasurer - Julia Tran - treasurer@suls.org.au
Secretary - Eden McSheffrey - secretary@suls.org.au
Sponsorship Director - Kelly Ma - sponsorship@suls.org.au
Competitions Director - Harriet Walker - competitions@suls.org.au
Competitions Director - Maja Vasic - competitions@suls.org.au
Social Director - Grace Wong - social@suls.org.au
Social Director - Vivienne Davies - social@suls.org.au
Campus Director - Onor Nottle - campus@suls.org.au
Sport Director - Adam Schaffer - sport@suls.org.au
Publications Director - Ariana Haghghi - publications@suls.org.au
International Officer - Michelle Chim - international@suls.org.au
Equity Officer - Yijun Cui - equity@suls.org.au
Women's Officer - Elizabeth Nutting - women@suls.org.au
Disabilities Officer - Grace Wallman - disabilities@suls.org.au
Queer Officer - Edward Ford - queer@suls.org.au
Ethnocultural Officer - Nishta Gupta - ethnocultural@suls.org.au
First Nations Officer - Ben Mcgrory - firstnations@suls.org.au
Marketing Director - Julia Lim - admin@suls.org.au
Design Director - Justine Hu - design@suls.org.au



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