Graduate Diploma in Legal Studies (LW70)

Year offered: 2010
Admissions: Yes
CRICOS code: 040318B
Course duration (full-time): 2 semesters
Course duration (part-time): 4 semesters
Domestic fees (indicative): 2010: Full fee tuition $8,500 (indicative) per semester
International Fees (indicative): 2010: $10,750 (indicative) per semester
Domestic Entry: February and July
International Entry: February and July
Total credit points: 96
Standard credit points per full-time semester: 48
Standard credit points per part-time semester: 24
Course coordinator: Director, Graduate Programs
Campus: Gardens Point and External

Overview
For non-law graduates or professionals working in the legal sector, the Graduate Diploma in Legal Studies will help develop your professional competencies, skills and knowledge. The course provides short, focused programs to upgrade qualifications. On completion of this course you should be able to contribute to your employer’s practical services, organisation and policy making.

Entry Requirements
An undergraduate degree in any discipline (other than Law) from a recognised tertiary institution granted with a grade point average (or equivalent) of at least 4.00 or professional experience that the Course Coordinator deems to be appropriate.

Advanced Standing
Students who have previously undertaken undergraduate law units (equivalent to units in LW70) at QUT may apply for a maximum of 48 credit points for these units towards the LW70 Graduate Diploma in Legal Studies.

Course Structure
Students must undertake 8 units (96 credit points). Of these, four elective units that carry a postgraduate unit code, are taken from the Bachelor of Laws course.

Full-time course structure

Year 1, Semester 1
LWB136 Contracts A
LWP142 Law Society and Justice
LWB145 Legal Foundations A
LWB147 Torts A

Year 1, Semester 2
LWB136 Contracts A
LWP144 Laws and Global Perspectives
LWB145 Legal Foundations A
LWB147 Torts A

Year 2, Semester 1
LWB136 Contracts A
LWP142 Law Society and Justice
LWP144 Laws and Global Perspectives
LWB148 Torts B

Course Structure
These course structures are based on Semester 1 entry to the course.

Part-time course structure

Year 1, Semester 1
LWB145 Legal Foundations A
LWB147 Torts A

Year 1, Semester 2
LWP148 Torts B
LWB146 Legal Foundations B

Year 2, Semester 1
LWB136 Contracts A
LWP142 Law Society and Justice

Year 2, Semester 2
LWP137 Contracts B
LWP144 Laws and Global Perspectives
LWB147 Torts A

Course Structure
This course structure is based on Semester 1 entry to the course.

Full-time course structure - commenced semester 2/09

Year 1, Semester 2 2009
LWB136 Contracts A
LWP144 Laws and Global Perspectives
LWB145 Legal Foundations A
LWB147 Torts A

Year 2, Semester 1 2010
LWP137 Contracts B
LWP148 Torts B
LWB146 Legal Foundations B
UNIT SYNOPSISES

LWB136 CONTRACTS A
This unit includes the following: formation of contracts; equitable estoppel; privity of contract; formalities; express and implied terms; an examination of promises which are legally binding; how contractual promises may be characterised and the significance of that characterisation.

Credit points: 12 Contact hours: 3 per week Campus: Gardens Point and External Teaching period: 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SEM-2

LWB145 LEGAL FOUNDATIONS A
The unit aims to provide foundational knowledge about law and legal concepts, the Australian legal system and constitution, sources of law (including their purpose and use) and the ethical underpinnings of the law and legal profession. The unit also aims to introduce, within real world contexts, the essential legal skills of case analysis, problem solving, legal writing, legal reasoning, legal research and statutory interpretation to enable students to progress in their study of law.

Credit points: 12 Contact hours: 3 per week Campus: Gardens Point and External Teaching period: 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SEM-2

LWB146 LEGAL FOUNDATIONS B
The aim of this unit is for you to further develop, within real world contexts, the skills in legal research, analysis, problem solving and writing that were introduced in LWB145 Legal Foundations A. This aim is directed towards ensuring that by the end of the first year of your law degree you are able to perform tasks required to progress your study of law and that you can reflect on the continued development of your legal research and writing skills to equip you with the skills required in legal practice.

Prerequisites: LWB141 or LWB145 Credit points: 12 Contact hours: 3 per week Campus: Gardens Point and External Teaching period: 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SEM-2

LWB147 TORTS A
The aims of this unit are for you to develop an understanding of the law of torts relating to trespass, negligence and workers’ compensation and the underlying principles and policies that influence the development of torts law. Further, this unit aims to demonstrate how the law of torts works in a real world context, with particular focus on legal problem solving and the teaching of legal interviewing skills. The unit will practise and develop the foundational legal skills introduced in LWB145 Legal Foundations A.

Corequisites: LWB145 Credit points: 12 Contact hours: 3 per week Campus: Gardens Point and External Teaching period: 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SEM-2

LWB242 CONSTITUTIONAL LAW
The aim of the unit is to provide knowledge and understanding of the constitutional arrangements effected by the Commonwealth Constitution and the State Constitutions, including the structure and institutions of the Constitutions, the division of power between Commonwealth and States, and relations between the different levels of government.

Credit points: 12 Contact hours: 3 per week Campus: Gardens Point and External Teaching period: 2010 SUM-2, 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SEM-2

LWP137 CONTRACTS B
Legally binding promises pervade society, from uncomplicated bargains like riding on a bus to complex multi-million dollar transactions. The law of contract provides an understanding of promises which are legally binding, how contractual promises may be characterised and the significance of that characterisation, and how contractual promises may be discharged or invalidated. This is the second of two associated units which examine the law of contract, the focus of this unit being on the discharge of contracts, remedies for breach and the invalidation of contracts. The two units together provide the foundation for several units encountered later in the course.

Credit points: 12 Contact hours: 3 hours per week Campus: Gardens Point and External Teaching period: 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SEM-2

LWP142 LAW SOCIETY AND JUSTICE
The practice of law requires an understanding and appreciation of the historical origins of the concepts of ‘rights’ and ‘justice’ and how such concepts continue to be influenced by changing values within our society. In order to become effective legal practitioners, law graduates need to understand that society is rapidly changing and the law is also evolving, although often at a much slower pace. As a consequence, some groups within our society may be disadvantaged in the legal system. These notions guide the development of the policies underlying the law, and inform...
changes to law through legislative and judicial action. The unit is placed at the outset of the course to commence your training in legal thought processes such as the ability to think critically about the law and to introduce you to various skills important to legal practice such as oral communication.

**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 3 hours per week  
**Campus:** Gardens Point  
**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1

### LWP144 LAWS AND GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES

Modern Australian lawyers need to have an understanding of the legal rules which apply in jurisdictions outside of their own and how these rules influence Australian law and legal practice. Following on from Law, Society and Justice, which gave you an appreciation of the societal context in which the Australian legal system operates, this unit takes the next step, situting the law and legal practice in Australia within the broader global context and explaining how international and overseas legal systems impact on our own. The unit will introduce and explain the fundamental structures and principles of three areas of law which are essential to an appreciation of the global context in which the Australian legal system operates – public international law, comparative law, and private international law – and examine their relevance to contemporary legal practice in Australia.

**Prerequisite(s):** Nil  
**Corequisite(s):** Nil  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 3 hours per week  
**Campus:** Gardens Point and External  
**Teaching period:** 2009 SEM-2

### LWP148 TORTS B

This unit aims to build upon the knowledge, understanding and skills developed in Torts A through a more in-depth examination of a wider range of torts and related issues. It also aims to equip you with a more detailed and sophisticated knowledge and understanding of how this area of the law is likely to develop in the 21st Century. Integral to this is the development of your skills, necessary for the practice of law and your further studies of law, in legal problem solving, research and written communication and an understanding of ethical issues related to the practice of law.

**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 3 hours  
**Campus:** Gardens Point and External  
**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SEM-2