Course Enrolment Guide 2008

Graduate Certificate in Education Law

Institute of Legal Studies
(Faculty of Arts & Sciences)

Melbourne Campus - Victoria

Contact Details:

All enquires should be directed to the Course Coordinator:

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Table of Contents

1. HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE .......................................................................................................................... 1
2. PROGRAM INFORMATION .......................................................................................................................... 2
   ENTRY TO THE COURSE .......................................................................................................................... 2
   COURSE STRUCTURE AND REQUIREMENTS .......................................................................................... 2
3. UNITS OFFERED IN 2008 .......................................................................................................................... 5
1. How to use this Guide

This Course Enrolment Guide 2008 provides you with information on the units you will require to complete your course; and when and where the units will be offered in 2008.

Steps to enrol in units for 2008

1. Read Section 2. ‘Program Information’ for information on course structure and unit sequence. Take note of any prerequisite or co-requisite requirements before selecting particular units.

2. Refer to the unit listings in Section 3. ‘Units Offered in 2008’ to select your units. Take note of the study period in which units are offered.

3. You must refer to ‘Enrolment Information 2008’ on the ACU intranet for information on how to complete your enrolment via Student Connect. ‘Enrolment Information 2007’ also provides information on study period definitions, modes of study, campus locations, dates for each study period and census dates.

   The ILS website www.ils.acu.edu.au has much useful information about the course.

4. Log on to Student Connect and enrol.

Contacting the Institute of Legal Studies

Michael Dean is the Course Coordinator for 2008, he will be available to assist new students with enrolment; successful applicants will be advised by email of the mode and day and times of consultation. Please provide the Institute of Legal Studies with an email address – you can email the Institute on ils@acu.edu.au.

It is strongly recommended that you do not enrol without first consulting the Course Coordinator, as an incorrect enrolment may not allow you to graduate. Please contact the Institute if you require further information.

IMPORTANT

This guide contains valuable information that will be useful throughout your course of study. It is advised that you:

- Download and print the complete guide
- Keep it in a safe place with other enrolment documents
- Read it carefully before enrolling, and if you subsequently need to make changes to your enrolment.
2. Program Information

Entry to the course

Applicants will require four-year trained teacher qualifications or equivalent, or a law degree. Graduates in other disciplines will be considered for entry on an individual basis: the applicant will be asked to demonstrate the Course Coordinator his/her capacity to undertake the course successfully. Applicants who consider that they have considerable relevant work experience may apply to the Course Coordinator for entry to the Course; the applicant will be asked to demonstrate to the Course Coordinator his/her capacity to undertake the course successfully.

COURSE STRUCTURE AND REQUIREMENTS

The course comprises four one-semester length units, all to be offered in 2008. Some units will be offered online, some will be offered face to face and some units may be offered in intensive mode. Some units may be offered on more than one campus.

Units offered in the Graduate Certificate in Education Law

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Graduate Certificate in Education Law</th>
<th>40 credit points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LEGL500 Introduction to Education law</td>
<td>(10 CP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEGL501 Governance in Catholic Schools</td>
<td>(10 CP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEGL517 Governance of State and Independent Schools</td>
<td>(10 CP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEGL502 Legal Obligations and Rights</td>
<td>(10 CP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEGL503 Managing Legal Issues</td>
<td>(10 CP)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Aims and major objectives of the course

This course will introduce students to the legal framework of school education. It introduces students to the Australian legal system, particularly as it relates to schools. By the end of the course students should have developed an understanding of the hierarchy of relationships responsible for the governance of Catholic schools. The course will introduce students to the various statutory, contractual and common law duties, particularly the duty to take reasonable care, which underpin the educational process and it will encourage students to examine critically the obligations and rights of parents and of students. Students will also be educated to identify potential legal problems in a school context. Students will examine in detail contemporary legal issues in the education sector such as family law, occupational health and safety, discrimination and privacy.

Students will be encouraged to bring their own experience to the course, and to share that experience with other students.
The Graduate Certificate in Education Law aims to:
- introduce students to the Australian legal system;
- provide students with an understanding of the legal context of education;
- explore the relationship between law, justice and ethical conduct.

At the conclusion of this course, students will be expected to:
- have a greater understanding of the major sources of law in Australia;
- be able to manage appropriately legal issues that arise in schools;
- have an understanding of the various governance arrangements that impact on the operation of schools;
- be better able to address legal issues arising in education;
- be confident in their ability to develop educational policy within a legal framework;
- be able to demonstrate leadership in managing legal issues in schools.

Description of units: content areas:

LEGL500 Introduction to Education Law

Education in the 21st Century must occur in the context of the law. Principals, teachers, students and parents are increasingly aware of the importance of legal rights and responsibilities, although they do not always fully understand them. Government, unions, insurers and the media are also giving more attention to legal obligations in education. Consequently, educational administrators and teachers are expected to manage legal issues.

This unit provides an understanding of the way law is made and applied in Australia. It seeks to give students greater confidence with legal concepts and language and to introduce students to the legal framework which surrounds education.

LEGL501 Governance in Catholic Schools

Good governance is an essential component of quality education in the 21st Century. It is also a legal requirement. Clear lines of accountability and supervision are required to ensure compliance with all the legal obligations to which schools are subject. All educators must exercise proper diligence in the discharge of their responsibilities, particularly with regard to the formulation and implementation of policy.

This unit aims to give students an understanding of the hierarchy of relationships responsible for the governance of Catholic schools. In this context, students will examine the relationship between civil law and canon law as it impacts on the governance of schools, including the role of parish priests and other canonical administrators, school boards, the Catholic Education Office and the state. Students will also gain some expertise in the development of effective policies for school governance.

OR

LEGL517 Governance of Independent and State Schools

Good governance is an essential component of quality education in the 21st century. It is also a legal requirement. Clear lines of accountability and supervision are required to ensure compliance with all the legal obligations to which schools are subject. All educators must exercise proper diligence in the discharge of their responsibilities, particularly with regard to the formulation and implementation of policy.
This unit aims to give students an understanding of the hierarchy of relationships responsible for the governance of schools. In this context, students will examine the relationship between civil law and the governance of schools, including the role of various stakeholders and from all levels of government. Students will also gain some expertise in the development of effective policies for school governance.

**LEGL502 Legal Obligations and Rights**

The educational process is underpinned by a complex matrix of relationships, each giving rise to certain obligations and rights. Principals and teachers need to understand the various legal relationships that exist in the educational process, and the obligations and rights that flow from them.

This unit will examine the various statutes and contractual and common law duties, particularly the duty to take reasonable care, which underpin the educational process. It will also critically examine the obligations and rights of parents and of students.

**LEGL503 Managing Legal Issues**

This unit aims to equip teachers and educational administrators to manage legal issues effectively. Students will be educated to identify potential legal problems and how best to avoid them. Students will learn about various ways of settling disputes, including mediation and other primary dispute resolution strategies. They will gain an understanding of the language used in solicitors’ letters and threats of legal action and how to participate in court proceedings. The unit will also examine in detail contemporary legal issues in the education sector.
3. Units Offered in 2008

SEMESTER 1
February 18 – May 16, 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit Code</th>
<th>Unit Title</th>
<th>Location - Delivery Mode</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LEGL500</td>
<td>Introduction to Education Law</td>
<td>Melbourne – on Campus, Newcastle – special cohort</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEGL500</td>
<td>Introduction to Education Law</td>
<td>Online</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEGL501</td>
<td>Governance in Catholic Schools</td>
<td>Online</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEGL517</td>
<td>Governance of Independent and State Schools</td>
<td>Online</td>
</tr>
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</table>

OFFERED WINTER TERM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit Code</th>
<th>Unit Title</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>End Date</th>
<th>Location – Delivery Mode</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LEGL501</td>
<td>Governance in Catholic Schools</td>
<td>30 June</td>
<td>4 July</td>
<td>Melbourne – On Campus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SEMESTER 2
July 28 – October 24, 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit Code</th>
<th>Unit Title</th>
<th>Location - Delivery Mode</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LEGL502</td>
<td>Legal Obligations and Rights</td>
<td>Melbourne – On Campus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEGL502</td>
<td>Legal Obligations and Rights</td>
<td>Online</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEGL500</td>
<td>Introduction to Education Law</td>
<td>Online</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEGL503</td>
<td>Managing Legal Issues</td>
<td>Online</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OFFERED SPRING A TERM

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit Code</th>
<th>Unit Title</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>End Date</th>
<th>Location – Delivery Mode</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LEGL503</td>
<td>Managing Legal Issues</td>
<td>22 Sept</td>
<td>25 Sept</td>
<td>Melbourne on Campus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

# LEGL517 is being offered, subject to a minimum number of students enrolling.

Delivery Modes:
- **On Campus** - Offered face-to-face or with a WebCT component at any one of the six ACU National campuses.
- **On Site** - The unit is offered face-to-face at any location other than one of the six ACU National campuses.
- **Online** - The unit is offered wholly through ACU National Online.