

LAWS 2004 CRIMINAL LAW

Credit Points 10

Legacy Code 200010

Coordinator Meda Couzens ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Meda Couzens/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Meda%20Couzens/))

Description This unit introduces students to the basic principles of criminal law and criminal responsibility and the criminal justice process as located in its broader social and political context, including the impact of the criminal justice system on Indigenous Australians. Students will engage in collaborative class learning with a particular focus on legal problem solving and participate in a mock bail application.

School Law

Discipline Criminal Law

Student Contribution Band HECS Band 4 10cp

Check your HECS Band contribution amount via the Fees (https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/fees/) page.

Level Undergraduate Level 2 subject

Co-requisite(s) LAWS 1006 OR LAWS 1003

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this subject, students should be able to:

1. Explain legislation, legal principles and policy relevant to Australian criminal law;
2. Analyse criminal law problems through application of statutory interpretation methods and relevant case law;
3. Develop clear, logical and persuasive legal arguments, orally and in writing;
4. Examine the impact of the criminal justice system on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Subject Content

1. Introduction to criminal justice
2. Principles of criminal responsibility ? capacity, actus reus and mens rea, temporal coincidence, burdens and standards of proof
3. Summary offences ? i.e. offensive language and conduct/anti-social behaviour
4. Murder/Manslaughter
5. Defences ? necessity, duress, self-defence, mental state of person
6. Assault
7. Property offences
8. Drug offences
9. Domestic Violence
10. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and the criminal justice system

Assessment

The following table summarises the standard assessment tasks for this subject. Please note this is a guide only. Assessment tasks are regularly updated, where there is a difference your Learning Guide takes precedence.

| Item | Length | Percent | Threshold | Individual/Group Task |
|-------------------|---------------------------|---------|-----------|-----------------------|
| Professional Task | 20 minutes and 1000 words | 30 | N | Individual |
| Practical | 5 minutes | 25 | N | Individual |
| Final Exam | 24 hours (2,000) words | 45 | N | Individual |

Prescribed Texts

- Howe, Sattler and Hood, Hayes and Eburn Criminal Law and Procedure in New South Wales 6th edition (LexisNexis, 6th edition, 2019)

Teaching Periods

Autumn Campbelltown Evening

Subject Contact Meda Couzens ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Meda Couzens/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Meda%20Couzens/))

View timetable (https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/even/timetable/?subject_code=LAWS2004_22-AUT_CA_E#subjects)

Day

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Parramatta City - Macquarie St

Day

Subject Contact Amira Aftab ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Amira Aftab/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Amira%20Aftab/))

View timetable (https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/even/timetable/?subject_code=LAWS2004_22-AUT_PC_D#subjects)

Parramatta - Victoria Rd

Day

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Evening

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