

# JUST 2007 HUMAN RIGHTS, HUMAN SERVICES AND THE LAW (BLOCK MODE)

**Credit Points** 10

**Legacy Code** 101772

**Coordinator** Maggie Hall ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Maggie Hall/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Maggie%20Hall/))

**Description** This subject aims to provide knowledge of human rights issues and laws which are particularly relevant to social workers and community welfare workers. It provides an opportunity for students to reflect upon the powers, responsibilities and obligations in their professional roles and acquire skills to promote justice for disadvantaged individuals and groups through advocacy and law reform.

**School** Social Sciences

**Discipline** Social Work

**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/](https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/fees/)) page.

**Level** Undergraduate Level 2 subject

**Equivalent Subjects** LGYA 7655 - Human Rights Human Services and the Law (AREPMetro) WELF 2008 - Human Rights Human Services and the Law

## Restrictions

Students must be enrolled in 1689 Bachelor of Community and Social Development and must have successfully completed 60 credit points at Levels 1 and 2.

## Learning Outcomes

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

1. Apply a broad understanding of the Australian legal system with particular reference to NSW;
2. Describe how legal institutions and processes promote or undermine access to justice and law reform for disadvantaged groups in the community;
3. Identify areas of substantive law which are particularly relevant to social work, community welfare and youth work practice;
4. Employ advocacy skills using legal knowledge;
5. Demonstrate an understanding of international human rights instruments and process;
6. Write a professional report for legal purposes.

## Subject Content

An overview of the Australian legal system with particular reference to NSW

Human service work: legal framework for practice

Human service work for courts and tribunals; writing reports for legal purposes, evidence, disclosure of counselling records

Anti discrimination laws; guardianship laws, mental health laws

Criminal justice; victims of crime, disability, prisoners rights

Civil and administrative laws: housing, consumer protection, employment, social security, education  
 Australian and NSW law pertinent to children & families  
 Young people in the criminal justice system  
 Advocacy strategies using legal knowledge  
 The international legal framework ?Sources of international law, international courts and enforcement; examples of the development of human rights instruments  
 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders?f human rights in Australia: constitutional and common law cases

## 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.

Type	Length	Percent	Threshold	Individual/Group Task
Report about the Local Court	1,000 words	40	N	Individual
Online discussion and reflection	1,000 words	40	N	Individual
Case study Exam in class	1 hour	20	N	Individual

### Prescribed Texts

- Redfern Legal Centre 2020, The law handbook: your practical guide to law in New South Wales, 15th edn, Thomson Reuters, Pyrmont. <https://legalanswers.sl.nsw.gov.au/law-handbook-your-practical-guide-law-nsw>

### Teaching Periods