

# LAWS 5007 CHILDREN'S RIGHTS: LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL

**Credit Points** 10

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

**Description** Children's Rights: Local and International provides students with the opportunity to critically analyse the rights of children at domestic and international level. Students will examine the rationale and the development of children's rights as well as the international and the Australian legal framework for their protection. Selected topics discussed in more detail are juvenile justice; families and child protection; First Nations children and the law; the exploitation of children; access to justice and governance (domestic and international) and the rights of children. The subject develops multidisciplinary approaches to socio-legal issues and provides opportunities to apply analytical and research skills to special interest projects involving international and comparative legal materials.

**School** Law

**Discipline** Law, Not Elsewhere Classified.

**Student Contribution Band** HECS Band 4 10cp

Check your fees via the Fees ([https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current\\_students/fees/](https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/fees/)) page.

**Level** Postgraduate Coursework Level 5 subject

**Pre-requisite(s)** LAWS 7048 Criminal Law AND LAWS 7057 Government and Public Law AND LAWS 7027 Legal Philosophy and Methodology AND

**Incompatible Subjects** LAWS 3089 Children's Rights Local and International

**Restrictions**

Students must be enrolled in program Juris Doctor (2826) to register in this subject.

## Learning Outcomes

1. Critically analyse the historical, moral and legal foundation of children's rights
2. Evaluate the domestic and international legal and institutional frameworks for the protection of the rights of children, including First Nations children
3. Critically review the multifaceted nature of law and policy relating to children's rights, their connections with other areas of professional legal practice and the importance of multidisciplinary for their protection
4. Apply legal analysis and research skills to international and comparative material on children's rights.

## Subject Content

1. Development and theoretical aspects in relation to children's rights
2. Introduction to the international framework for the protection of children's rights (UN, regional systems, non-Western approaches)

3. Introduction to children's rights protection in Australia (sources of children's rights, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Australian law; main children's rights challenges in Australia)
4. Children and criminal justice
5. Children, family and the state
6. The exploitation of children
7. Children and information technology
8. First Nations children and the law
9. Children and access to justice (domestic and international)
10. Governance (domestic and international) and the rights of children

## 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	Mandatory
Log/ Workbook	1500 words	30	N	Individual	N
Presentatio	15 minutes	25	N	Group	N
Essay	3000 words	45	N	Individual	N

Teaching Periods

## Autumn (2025)

**Parramatta - Victoria Rd**

**On-site**

**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/odd/timetable/?subject\\_code=LAWS5007\\_25-AUT\\_PS\\_1#subjects](https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=LAWS5007_25-AUT_PS_1#subjects))