

JD GUIDE

2021

MONASH

LAW

STUDENTS'

SOCIETY



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WELCOME FROM THE JD LSS DIRECTOR

It is my pleasure to present the 2021 JD Guide. On behalf of the Monash Law Students' Society and the greater student body, I would like to thank and congratulate Natalia Zivcic and Alisa Gattini for their amazing efforts in putting together this year's Guide.



To all those who are beginning their JD journey with us, I congratulate you on your acceptance into the JD and for taking a leap towards a challenging and rewarding degree. The Guide is here for your assistance as you navigate your way through your first year of law school. So is the Monash LSS, which provides a number of offerings, exclusively for its members, to support and enrich your experience at law school.

Our Careers Portfolio works tirelessly to provide initiatives such as our Professional Mentoring Program, Expert Panel Discussions and Clerkship Guide Launch. Harnessing our long-term relationships with corporate sponsors and Monash Law alumni, our Careers events facilitate networking opportunities to provide insights into the variety of career options open to law students.

The Monash LSS also encourages students to engage in applying legal theory to practical experiences through LSS run competitions such as client interview, negotiations and mooting. These competitions are judged by legal professionals who provide invaluable feedback. Success in these competitions has seen students represent Monash in competitions at both the national and international levels.

Your first point of contact for all concerns regarding wellbeing and education issues is our Education & Equity Portfolio. Aiming to assist a smooth transition into law school, the Portfolio plays an essential role in providing services such as our exam revision and assignment tutorials, visits from our therapy dogs and various wellness events.

Fortunately, the JD is not all work and no play. Our Activities Portfolio organises a variety of sell-out social events such as the JD Cocktail Night and End of Trimester Drinks to help students enjoy the law school experience and build relationships in less formal settings.

Finally, on a personal note, my law school journey would not have been the same without the life-long friends that I have made along the way. I encourage you to form strong friendships, rely on each other for support and always make time to catchup outside of the confines of Chambers!

I invite you to explore the Guide and reach out to us if you have any questions.

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MEET THE JD LSS EXECUTIVE TEAM

Welcome to the JD and congratulations on surviving 2020! Problem: you are starting postgrad law but you don't know how to study law and you are already stressed. Solution? The JD Education and Equity Portfolio. Issues of mental health are particularly pertinent to law students (red flag), but even more so now after the year we've just had. The Education and Equity Portfolio will be running wellbeing events to help students destress, unwind and most importantly reconnect on a personal level. Our Portfolio will also run revision tutorials before exams and assignments to help you prepare for assessments and perform to the best of your ability. I am also delighted to announce the addition of the role of Academic Advocacy Officer to our portfolio. Evan Lianos (jd.academicadvocacy@monashlss.com) acts as a student body representative and will advocate for students' academic issues. Further to that, keep your eyes peeled for Non Sequitur, our very own Monash postgraduate law publication, which has created an exciting space for students to express themselves creatively. There's certainly a lot going on, so please don't be shy to reach out and introduce yourself!

I am very proud to be your Careers Director for 2021, along with my co-director, Alicia Wise. As a careers team, our aim is to present students with all career options that are available to them, whether they be commercial, criminal, public, or in a non-practicing area. It's important that students consider their career at all stages of their degrees, not just in their penultimate or final year. As such, Alicia and I, as well as our team, are excited to welcome new students and interact with you through our various career events. We would definitely recommend following the LSS on both Instagram and Facebook in order to ensure you never miss an event. We'll see you at our next networking night!



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Erin Grierson
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My name is Ariana and I am excited to commence my role as the JD Competitions Director. As someone who has competed throughout my law degree, I value the skills that I have gained through my participation in the LSS competitions and therefore look forward to giving JD students the opportunity to partake in these events. My goal is to expand the JD Competitions Portfolio by the introduction of two new competitions focusing on innovation and advocacy skills. I also aim to combine forces with the LLB Portfolio to make LLB Competitions more accessible to JD students.



Ariana Saropoulou
Director (JD Competitions)
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My name is Shannon and I am the JD Activities Director for 2021, it is lovely to meet you! I am a third year JD student, originally hailing from the Northern Territory. Our portfolio will be hosting a bunch of exciting events in 2021 to give everyone a chance to get their minds off study, have a giggle and get to know their cohort. We deserve it after 2020! Within our portfolio, we also facilitate the Peer Mentor Program where students are able to sign-up as mentees or mentors. This is a great way to support incoming students, make new friends and network. I look forward to seeing you at some of our events, be sure to come and say hello to myself and the team!



Shannon Hubert
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COURSE PROGRESSION

The JD program is structured to ease students into a challenging and rewarding degree. The JD is a three year full-time, or four to six-year part-time degree, with the flexibility to alter the student's study load at any point throughout the course. The program is run in tri-mesters and students typically take two or three units per trimester. The JD program has some course rules and dates to keep in mind when course planning. This includes adding, changing or discontinuing units. The Monash Handbook for 2021 is your best resource to ensure you have the most accurate and current information. Alternatively, specific questions can be directed to the Law Faculty.

Sequencing

In the first two years of the JD, students will cover what are known as the 'Priestley Eleven' core units. The JD offers both day and night classes for core units which allow for a flexible study arrangement. The 2021 progression map provide advice on the suitable sequencing of units and guidance on how to plan unit enrolment for each trimester of study. Students may choose a full-time or part-time course load or move between the two course loads throughout their degree. Students are advised that this is the Faculty recommended course structure and does not prohibit students from taking units in an alternate order. Students are able to manage their enrolment and course planning through the Web Enrolment System (WES) on my.monash.

Co-requisites and pre-requisites

Students should be advised of unit pre-requisite and co-requisite requirements when taking an alternative course structure. A list of pre-requisite and co-requisites is available on the Monash Faculty of Law website: <https://www.monash.edu/law/current-students/jd/pre-and-co-requisites>. Students should also check the Handbook entry for the Juris Doctor for 2021 for each unit: <https://handbook.monash.edu/2021/courses/L6005>. Electives may also have pre-requisites and co-requisites.

Unit discontinuation and penalties

JD students have different teaching periods, unit discontinuation and penalty dates from the rest of Monash University. The relevant dates for JD subjects and potential penalties for 2021 can be found at: <https://www.monash.edu/law/current-students/postgraduate/pg-jd-discontinuation-dates>. The penalties may be academic, financial, or both, depending on the date listed.

Elective units

Based on a full-time progression, students will begin elective units at the end of their second year. Elective units are designed to align with career goals, strengths and interests. Elective units are run in either trimester long, semi-intensive and intensive formats. The elective timetable varies each year and can be found at: <https://www.monash.edu/law/current-students/resources/course-unit-information/timetables/postgraduate>. Students may only enrol into elective units once they have passed at least 72 credit points of the course.

Full-time progression

Year 1 Trimester 1	LAW5000 Australian legal reasoning and methods	LAW5001 Principles of criminal law and procedure	
Year 1 Trimester 2	LAW5002 Principles of contract law A	LAW5004 Principles of public law and statutory interpretation	
Year 1 Trimester 3	LAW5003 Principles of torts	LAW5005 Principles of contract law B	LAW5006 Principles of property law
Year 2 Trimester 1	LAW5007 Principles of constitutional law	LAW5008 Principles of equity	LAW5018 Advanced property
Year 2 Trimester 2	LAW5010 Principles of trusts	LAW5011 Principles of company law	LAW5012 Principles of evidence
Year 2 Trimester 3	LAW5013 Principles of litigation and dispute resolution	LAW5014 Principles of administrative law	Commercial law elective
Year 3 Trimester 1	LAW5015 Ethics in legal practice	Law elective unit	Law elective unit
Year 3 Trimester 2	Law elective unit	Law elective unit	Law elective unit
Year 3 Trimester 3	Law elective unit	Professional elective	

Part-time progression

Year 1 Trimester 1	LAW5000 Australian legal reasoning and methods	LAW5001 Principles of criminal law and procedure
Year 1 Trimester 2	LAW5002 Principles of contract law A	LAW5004 Principles of public law and statutory interpretation
Year 1 Trimester 3	LAW5003 Principles of torts	LAW5005 Principles of contract law B
Year 2 Trimester 1	LAW5006 Principles of property law	LAW5007 Principles of constitutional law
Year 2 Trimester 2	LAW5008 Principles of equity	LAW5018 Advanced property
Year 2 Trimester 3	LAW5010 Principles of trusts	LAW5011 Principles of company law
Year 3 Trimester 1	LAW5012 Principles of evidence	LAW5013 Principles of litigation and dispute resolution
Year 3 Trimester 2	LAW5014 Principles of administrative law	Commercial law elective
Year 3 Trimester 3	LAW5015 Ethics in legal practice	Law elective unit
Year 4 Trimester 1	Law elective unit	Law elective unit
Year 4 Trimester 2	Law elective unit	Law elective unit
Year 4 Trimester 3	Law elective unit	Professional elective

PAYING FOR THE JD

The costs associated with paying for the JD depend on the type of place and whether a student is a domestic or international student. There are various financial support options available to all students, subject to eligibility requirements.

Commonwealth Supported Place

Students who receive a CSP offer will be entitled to a subsidy that covers the majority of the course fee. The subsidy does not cover the entirety of the course fee and students must pay the student contribution amount. The course contribution can be deferred through the HECS-HELP loan scheme.

Full-fee Place

A student in a full-fee place may be eligible for the government FEE-HELP loan scheme. The HELP loan limit in 2020 was \$106,319. This means there is a gap which is uncovered. Students will have to pay the gap out-of-pocket to Monash University in their final year of the JD. Students are advised to make plans for the gap payment.

Income support for masters courses (domestic students)

The JD is an approved masters by coursework program and students may be eligible to receive income support while completing their studies, such as Youth Allowance, Austudy or a Pensioner Education Supplement. The Services Australia website provides detailed information about eligibility and the application process for government payments which students may be eligible for: <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/>.

Scholarships

Monash provides a number of scholarships which JD students may be eligible for. These are awarded on either an academic merit or equity basis. If you visit Monash's scholarship website, there is a search function which allows you to search for law scholarships or non-faculty specific scholarships based on various eligibility criteria. There are various scholarships which JD students may be eligible for, both domestic and international: <https://www.monash.edu/study/fees-scholarships/scholarships>.

TIMETABLES

JD key dates

To find out dates for university recognised holidays, the Swot Vac, examination periods, result publication and deferred exams, visit: <https://www.monash.edu/law/current-students/resources/course-unit-information/timetables/jd4/jd-trimester-and-holiday-dates>. The university does not close for all public holidays. Some key dates are also listed at the end of this guide.

Class timetable

Timetabling for Monash University is managed through the central timetabling platform called Allocate+, with students able to allocate themselves into different streams for JD core units. Allocate+ can be accessed through my.monash portal. Part-time JD students are prioritised for allocation into evening classes, but are still required to submit their preferences, as being allocated into an evening class is not an automatic process. Allocate+ user guides can be found at: <https://www.monash.edu/timetables/allocate/how-to-use>.

Examination timetable

The Monash Juris Doctor examination timetable is released 6 weeks before the examination period and an email will be usually sent to you to advise of its release.

UNITS

To successfully complete the JD, students must complete twenty-four units including sixteen core units, one commercial law elective, one professional elective, and six electives. Each year the Law Faculty offers a range of electives designed to enhance your interests, skills, and career aspirations.

CORE UNITS

LAW5000 – Australian Legal Reasoning and Methods (also known as ALRM)

This unit is a foundational unit that provides an understanding of the Australian legal system and its underlying principles. The unit introduces students to legal research, interpreting legislation and judicial decisions, analysis of factual and policy issues and demonstration of professional judgment and scholarship to legal problems.

LAW5001 – Principles of Criminal Law and Procedure

This unit examines the principles and aims of criminal law and criminal procedure. Students study the definition and elements of crimes in the context of fatal and non-fatal offences against the person, the major sexual offences, property offences, relevant defences, the role of agencies in the criminal justice system and central elements of the criminal process and sentencing.

LAW5002 – Principles of Contract Law A

Contract law addresses the concepts, principles and rules used to determine the existence and content of binding promises and their enforcement or defeasibility in a market economy. Contract law is taught in two units: Principles of Contract Law A and B. Principles of Contract Law A covers the introduction to contract law, the formation of contracts (including capacity and formalities), privity of contract, and the incorporation, construction and validity of contractual terms.

LAW5004 – Principles of Public Law and Statutory Interpretation

This unit will introduce the basic principles of public law, government and statutory interpretation in Australian law. The unit will introduce key ideas pertaining to public legal entities, including the Crown. The unit will consider fundamental constitutional relationships between the Parliament, the executive and the judiciary. The unit will also deal with statutory interpretation and the interaction between parliament and judiciary.

LAW5003 – Principle of Torts

This unit introduces students to the law of civil wrongs (torts), including the role and purposes of tort law, the interests which it protects and its relationship to statutory schemes which provide compensation for injury or loss. Students will study intentional torts (trespass to the person, assault and battery, false imprisonment, trespass to land) and the strict liability tort of private nuisance, including elements and defences. Additionally, students will study the tort of negligence and the impact of statutory law reform.

LAW5005 – Principles of Contract Law B

This unit complements Principles of Contract Law A and examines the performance of contracts, the discharge of contracts by termination or frustration, legal and equitable remedies for breach of contract and vitiating factors under the unwritten law and statute.

LAW5006 – Principles of Property Law

This unit examines the concept and categories of real and personal property. This includes the interaction between contractual and property rights, types of property, creating and transferring property rights in law and equity, possession as a source of title, and types of property rights such as mortgages, easements, restrictive covenants and profits à prendre.

LAW5007 – Principles of Constitutional Law

This unit examines the Victorian and Australian Constitutions, the separation of judicial powers at State and Commonwealth levels, Australian federalism and inter-governmental relations, Commonwealth legislative powers and critical analysis of techniques and principles of constitutional interpretation.

LAW5008 – Principles of Equity

The unit introduces students to the nature and function of equity in the modern Australian legal system. Students learn about the relationship between equity and the common law and study the key doctrines of equity. These include equitable assignments, breach of confidence, fiduciary relationships and breach of fiduciary duty, third party liability, tracing, personal and proprietary remedies in equity and equitable defences.

LAW5018 – Advanced Property

This unit builds upon the Principles of Property Law course in relation to Land Law, set within the context of priority disputes. The unit examines indefeasibility of title, concurrent ownership, resulting trusts and constructive trusts in relation to land, the caveat system and the priority rules for registered and unregistered interests.

LAW5010 – Principles of Trusts

This unit introduces students to the nature and function of trusts in the modern Australian legal system. Students learn how trusts are used and learn the rules governing their existence. In particular, the rules governing the creation and administration of trusts, and the rights and obligations of parties to trusts.

LAW5011 – Principles of Company Law

The unit introduces the basic principles of Australian corporations law. The unit examines the corporation as a separate legal entity and those situations where the law ignores the separateness of the corporation. Additionally, students will study corporate governance, third party contracts, the role and duties of directors and insolvency.

LAW5012 – Principles of Evidence

This unit examines the principles and concepts underlying the law of evidence, at both State and Commonwealth levels, together with an appreciation of the relationship between the law of evidence and the nature of a civil or criminal trial in the Australian legal system. Students will examine key concepts of the law of evidence in the context of the purposes of exclusionary rules. The unit will examine the role of technology in the trial court and the issues raised by its use for litigants and the court itself.

LAW5013 – Principles of Litigation and Dispute Resolution

This unit gives students a thorough understanding of the principles of civil procedure as exemplified in the rules of the courts and associated case law. Students study the major procedural steps that are taken in the event that common law and commercial disputes become the subject of civil litigation.

LAW5014 – Principles of Administrative Law

Administrative law is the branch of public law that regulates the exercise of power by the executive arm of government. This unit introduces students to the structure of government administration, the sources of administrative discretion and the systems that have been developed to permit the review of the exercise of administrative discretion by administrative decision-makers. The unit compares review of the 'merits' of administrative actions, by administrative decision-makers, with review of their 'legality', by courts, pursuant to judicial review.

LAW5015 – Ethics in Legal Practice

This unit provides a practical and critical introduction to ethical decision-making and the law and codes of professional responsibility in lawyering. It introduces different moral approaches to legal practice, focusing on the justifications for and criticisms of the traditional adversarial advocate approach and its alternatives in the context of different areas of practice.

COMMERCIAL LAW ELECTIVES

LAW5055 – Vis Arbitration Moot

This unit covers examination of UN Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration, Vienna Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods and cases from around the world. The focus is on oral advocacy, research skills, strategic thinking and teamwork. The unit culminates in an international arbitration moot competition and some students will be selected to represent Monash (in Vienna or Hong Kong).

LAW5301 – Copyright

This unit covers copyright, the branch of intellectual property law concerned with protecting various forms of creative and informational expression. Students will study the rationales for granting protection, the international treaty framework, the legal principles governing subsistence, infringement, ownership and licensing, related rights (including moral rights and the resale royalty) and proposals for law reform.

LAW5312 – Competition Law

This unit examines the competition provisions of the Australian Competition and Consumer legislation. Topics to be discussed include the rationale and objectives of competition law, mergers, misuse of market power, anti-competitive agreements, exclusive dealing, resale price maintenance, penalties and remedies, authorisation and notification.

LAW5315 – Commercial Alternative Dispute Resolution

Commercial alternative dispute resolution methods and the process of mediation. The uses, benefits and limitations of various ADR processes are critically examined. The impact of ADR on the legal system and the development of law are considered. Including participation in simulation exercises, the unit offers knowledge to assist in maximising the value of a range of ADR processes.

LAW5316 – Trade Marks and Commercial Designations

This unit examines the statutory protection offered by the registered trade marks system, and the common law accorded through the actions of passing off and related torts. The unit will examine misleading or deceptive conduct provisions of the Australian Consumer Law and the impact of the internet on these areas of law on issues such as use of domain names and keyword advertising.

LAW5319 - Law of employee relations

This unit focuses on the law of employee relations. There is a focus on issues such as the contract of employment; the rights and obligations of employers and employees; rights in respect of unfair dismissal and redundancy, and remedies for breach; collective (enterprise) agreements under the Commonwealth Fair Work Act 2009; the process of negotiation, the legal status of such agreements, and procedures for enforcement; the role of unions and the Fair Work Commission in these processes and procedures; modern awards and the legislative prescription of minimum entitlements in the National Employment Standards.

LAW5321 - Protecting commercial innovation: Patents and trade secrets

This unit is important for any student who practises or seeks to practise in the area of intellectual property law or who works in an innovative commercial environment where research results in new products and processes. The unit teaches the fundamental principles of patent law and the laws that protect trade secrets and with recourse to both legal and practical materials that aid understanding and appreciation of the underlying concepts and policy issues.

LAW5340 – Intellectual Property

This unit introduces the concept and categories of intellectual property law and the interface between them within a national and global context using case studies and develops awareness of the role of the law in facilitating commercial transactions. Students will evaluate the rationales for and the nature and objectives of a broad range of intellectual property rights including copyright, trademarks, passing off, geographical indications, industrial designs, patents, protection of confidential information (trade secrets), plant breeder's rights and circuit layouts. Major international intellectual property treaties and the relationship of intellectual and industrial property with consumer protection legislation and restrictive trade practices legislation are also examined.

LAW5350 – Principles of Taxation

This unit examines key aspects of the Commonwealth tax system. It introduces taxation theory and policy and the constitutional and administrative framework within which the federal tax system operates. The unit examines goods and services tax, income tax and deductions, capital gains tax, corporate and shareholder taxation, and the taxation of superannuation contributions and investments. The unit focuses on the practical application of the taxation law to common commercial transactions.

LAW5352 - Digital Workplace Law

This unit analyses the contemporary employment and labour law issues relating to the modern workplace in the electronic era. Topics include the impacts of technology on the nature of work, the worker and work arrangements, and how social media and other internet sites are used in the recruitment and disciplining of employees. Topics also include the rights, responsibilities and duties of employers and employees, given technology and the law, regarding flexible and at-home work arrangements, as well as contractual arrangements, including redundancy. The unit also analyses technology and the law's impact on issues relating to employment practices; policy regarding email and internet use; and issues around privacy, surveillance, harassment and occupational health and safety.

LAW5357 - Corporate governance and directors' duties

This unit explores recent trends and issues in corporate governance from an international perspective. The unit focuses on the link between corporate scandals and corporate law reform, comparative corporate governance, institutional investor activism and shareholder stewardship, takeovers and the regulation of executive pay. The unit will also examine the fundamental role occupied by the board of directors in modern corporate governance, including the rise of independent directors and the duties of directors and officers in Australia and elsewhere. It will also consider recent Australian corporate governance developments, such as the 2019 Banking Royal Commission (Hayne Commission).

LAW5372 - Contemporary perspectives on construction law

This unit provides students with a critical analysis of the different types of contracts and project delivery methods used by the Australian construction industry, ranging from traditional to alternative. Students will explore the problem areas that can lead to conflicts during the course of construction projects. Students will also critique traditional and emerging forms of dispute avoidance, management, and resolution. Practices used in other jurisdictions will be analysed.

LAW5375 - Arbitration of international commercial disputes

This unit analyses international commercial arbitration from an advanced practical and theoretical perspective, its sources of law and the ways in which it is integrated with domestic legal systems. Attention is given to the conduct of arbitrations, the elements of the Award, court supervision and enforcement. Specific attention is given to contractual disputes and also the emerging area of international investment disputes.

LAW5384 – International Investment Law

This unit studies the international legal framework for international investments. It provides an understanding of the development of the law, and the economic, political and institutional factors that have shaped the law to its current state. Students will examine the interrelation between various international and domestic law and their application to foreign investments.

LAW5452 – Private Investment Law

This unit discusses the nature and operation of private investment law in Australia. It examines how the venture capital and private equity industries operate in Australia and around the world and how private investments funds are structured. It focuses on the taxation treatment that applies to such investment and discusses relevant regulatory matters, the Australian superannuation system, and compares international aspects of private investment law.

PROFESSIONAL AND OTHER LAW ELECTIVES

LAW4803 & LAW4811 – Clinical Placement and In-House Clinical Placement

Students will engage in a legal placement hosted by either an external organisation, or at Monash Law Clinics. Under professional supervision, students will undertake a range of activities involving work for end clients/beneficiaries of the host organisation. These activities may include legal research and writing, and research on ethical, professional and strategic considerations in the practice and application of the law.

LAW5050 – Professional Practice (JD)

Students undertake a practical placement at a community legal centre which endeavours to meet the needs of its community. Under supervision by qualified solicitors, students provide legal advice to clients, undertake ongoing casework, brief Counsel, and in appropriate cases, represent clients in Court.

LAW5052 – Professional Project

In this unit, students apply research, thinking and communication skills and specialist discipline knowledge to complete an independent research project. Students will receive a six-hour introduction on research skills at the start of the project and three-hours mid-way. The emphasis is upon independent study with the use of library online information regarding study skills.

LAW5055 – Vis Arbitration Moot – see Commercial Electives

LAW5056 – Jessup Moot Competition

The unit examines current issues in Public International Law, with the scenario usually based, in part, upon a contemporary issue or problem in global governance. The focus is on oral advocacy, research skills, strategic thinking and teamwork. The subject culminates in a national mooting competition in Canberra, with the two finalist teams advancing to the international competition in Washington, D.C.

LAW5057 – Work Integrated Learning Project

This project-based unit will require students to apply their theoretical classroom knowledge and creative problem solving to practical, workplace related issues and demonstrate the ability to link legal doctrine with 'real world' problems. Students will work, individually or as a team, with an industry partner on a defined piece of work with a specific 'real world' deliverable.

LAW5082 - Masters research

Masters coursework students take this unit in their penultimate or final semester. Students in LAW5082 are attached to a nominated masters unit (in their specialisation area, if any) in which they participate as any other student. However, instead of completing the attached unit's ordinary assessment, they complete research-focused assessment based around the subject area. Thus, in addition to learning the substantive aspects of law studied in their class, they apply research, thinking and communication skills and specialist discipline knowledge to independently complete a substantial research project.

LAW5083 – Extended Research

This unit involves completion of a 12,000-15,000 words (maximum) thesis. The topic is designed by the student in conjunction with a staff member and approved by the Postgraduate Board of Examiners. Students work under supervision but with considerable independence. The unit is suitable for students seeking a pathway to doctoral studies.

LAW5355 – Advocacy

This unit will develop a deeper theoretical understanding of the essential role of advocacy in the adversary system. It will enable students to better appreciate the way in which cases evolve through the courts and how the factual and evidentiary foundation relates to the legal results. Students will better understand the nature of the skills which are required of advocates, their ethical obligations and the importance of the advocate's role in the courts' decision-making process. Theory and skills covered include case analysis, written case theory, development of strategy, trial preparation and practice, presentation skills, ethics, evidence, legal argument, and communication skills in accordance with criteria established by the Australian Advocacy Institute. The unit will be of benefit not only to students who are contemplating practice at the Bar, or as solicitor advocates, but also to those who will work in litigation and other dispute resolution.

Other Law Electives

There are range of additional law electives, which extend beyond the suite of commercial and professional electives offered above. Not all electives are offered each year and the student must consult the elective timetable for the year they intend to study the elective. The elective timetable for 2021 can be found at: <https://www.monash.edu/law/current-students/resources/course-unit-information/timetables/postgraduate>.

STUDY ELECTIVES ABROAD

Study abroad programs offered by the Faculty of Law are an amazing opportunity to gain an international legal perspective. Each year, Monash Law students have the opportunity to study at the Monash Prato Centre in Italy and the Monash Malaysia campus in Kuala Lumpur. There are also study opportunities at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in Israel. All programs offer a selection of elective units with an international and comparative law focus. Students are taught by distinguished academics from Australia and around the world.

Monash Law Prato Program

The program is held in Tuscany, Italy, where students can study law at the 18th century palace, Palazzo Vaj, an international centre of Monash University. The program is offered in the European spring each year, with all units taught intensively and in English. The program is held from April to July each year across three teaching blocks. Students can study one, two, three or four units during this period and the start and end date of each unit varies. Further information can be found at: <https://www.monash.edu/law/current-students/study-opportunities/overseas-study/prato>.

Monash Law Malaysia Program

The program is held at the Monash University Malaysia campus in Kuala Lumpur. Students will be taught in intensive or semi-intensive mode. The program is held from June/July to August each year across two teaching blocks. Students can study one, two or three units during this period and the start and end date of each unit varies. Further information can be found at: <https://www.monash.edu/law/current-students/study-opportunities/overseas-study/malaysia>.

Eligibility – Prato and Malaysia

Currently, to be eligible for the Prato and Malaysia Programs, students must have completed 72 credit points (12 units) of core units prior to their study in the program and a WAM of at least 55%. All applications are submitted through the Monash Abroad Portal: <https://study.abroad.monash.edu/>.



SURVIVING FIRST YEAR ASSESSMENTS

Perhaps 'surviving' is a strong word! When new to the JD however, wading through those first assignments and preparing for final exams can seem somewhat daunting. That said, there are many resources which are at your disposal and there are certain study habits to put in place which can greatly assist with meeting these new demands. It is also worth being aware of advocacy support options for students who encounter academic issues relating to the running of the JD course, which might affect them.

Develop good study habits

Studying law successfully really comes down to consistent study habits. The importance of attending class is quite important. Seminars are not recorded (for on-campus learning) and while attendance is not mandatory, it is highly recommended that students attend their enrolled seminar streams. Completing your weekly readings before class is one of the most important habits to build – without doing this, a student cannot derive the maximum benefit from the class. Learning how to read cases is critical skill to develop and it will serve you well in the long-term. Doing practice problem questions as the trimester progresses is also one of the most effective ways to cement your knowledge. Working through practice problems in a study group can also be beneficial. This is likewise the case with preparing your own exam notes as the unit progresses. If you do this weekly, you are revising and actually leaving time in Swot Vac for revision. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, maintain a balance. Whatever exercise routine/hobbies/interests you have – keep them up! Law is a marathon, not a sprint. Taking care of yourself is crucial to crossing the finish line.

Build your law student skills

The Monash Law Library provides a number of resources on its website which can assist students to start to build the core skills that a new law student requires: <https://guides.lib.monash.edu/law-research-writing>. These skills range from a systematic approach to law assignments, to legal research skills, to understanding how to prepare certain pieces of legal writing, right through to exam preparation techniques. Investing the time in building these competencies will be of great assistance to you as your studies progress.

Speak to a Learning Skills Advisor

The JD provides students access to a dedicated Learning Skills Advisor through the Monash Library. Students may consult the Learning Skills Advisor regarding improving their academic performance. A Learning Skills Advisor is able to provide advice about how to improve written and oral communication skills, study methods, exam preparation, reading and note-taking, as well as problem-solving and critical thinking. Consultations are available for up to 20 minutes and can be booked online: <http://bit.ly/LSAconsultations>. Seminars are also run throughout the year on the above topics, which students can register into via the Library Class Booking System.



Use the resources offered at Chambers

Monash Chambers provides a number of academic and support services to assist students throughout their degree. Level 1 of Chambers contains a library-node where students can find resources to assist their studies and collect resources from other Monash libraries. Level 2 of the building has both formal and informal learning study spaces with computer facilities. Also, the Monash JD LSS are here to support and represent the student-body throughout the JD. The Monash JD LSS offers academic, wellbeing and social events that run throughout the year. Students can contact the JD LSS using the LSS Directory provided in this guide or visit us at the LSS Office located on Level 2 of Chambers.



Use the resources offered by the LSS

The Monash LSS provides various resources to assist students with their studies. The LSS provides the popular student-run revision tutorials for all core subjects during Swot Vac each trimester. Members are provided access to Sketchnotes, which provide students an outline of course content for various units. There are also various other seminars run throughout the academic year to assist students by the LSS. For a full list of academic and wellbeing support provided, visit the Education and Equity Portfolio page on the LSS website: <https://www.monashlss.com/education-and-equity>.

Understand your academic integrity requirements

This importance of this will be reiterated by the Law Faculty many times in your first year, as well as the potential consequences of failing to meet these. It is important to be clear about matters such as how and when to cite, how and when you can collaborate with others and what constitutes academic misconduct. The Australian Guide to Legal Citation 4th Edition (AGLC4) is the referencing system you will be expected to use. It is advised that students become familiar with the AGLC4 as early as possible in their first trimester. It is an extensive referencing system that is likely to be new to most students. Devoting some time to reading the AGLC4 and referencing early in your preparation of your first assignments is strongly recommended.

Be aware of LSS academic advocacy support

The Academic Advocacy Officer role is a new addition to the JD LSS Committee in 2021, a response to the unique and emerging challenges posed by 2020 for JD students. The JD Academic Advocacy Officer acts as a representative for students about academic issues arising in connection with the JD. Academic issues include the administration, curriculum and delivery of the JD. Students might, for example, have an issue about the administration of exams or assignments, course content or the type and variety of units offered in a given trimester. The Academic Advocacy Officer can be contacted about any academic issue. The LSS is here to support students and encourages students to raise issues with the Academic Advocacy Officer at the earliest opportunity. Please contact the Academic Advocacy Officer via email on jd.academicadvocacy@monashlss.com for any of your academic concerns.

LSS PEER MENTORING

The Peer Mentor Program is run by the Monash LSS and through the program, students are paired with later-year and experienced JD students to ensure that their transition to law school is smooth and supported. Each trimester, the LSS holds a Peer Mentor event where mentees are able to meet their mentors and socialise with others in their cohort, other students and mentors across the JD. To become involved in the Peer Mentoring Program students should look out for the link on the JD LSS Facebook Page at the start of each trimester to sign up. If you miss out on the deadline for signing up, please contact the Peer Mentor Coordinator, Alesia Di Paolo, at jd.mentoring@monashlss.com, to be allocated a mentor or mentee.

Mentees

First-year students are paired with a student Mentor who has completed at least their first year of the JD. The Peer Mentoring Program is a great opportunity to meet other students who have been in your position and can provide advice and words of wisdom in navigating your first year. The mentoring relationship is ultimately what you make of it. Mentors are there to assist in navigating the course, provide general advice about approaching assessments and preparation for exams and to have someone to talk to about their experiences in the JD and the broader law community.

Mentors

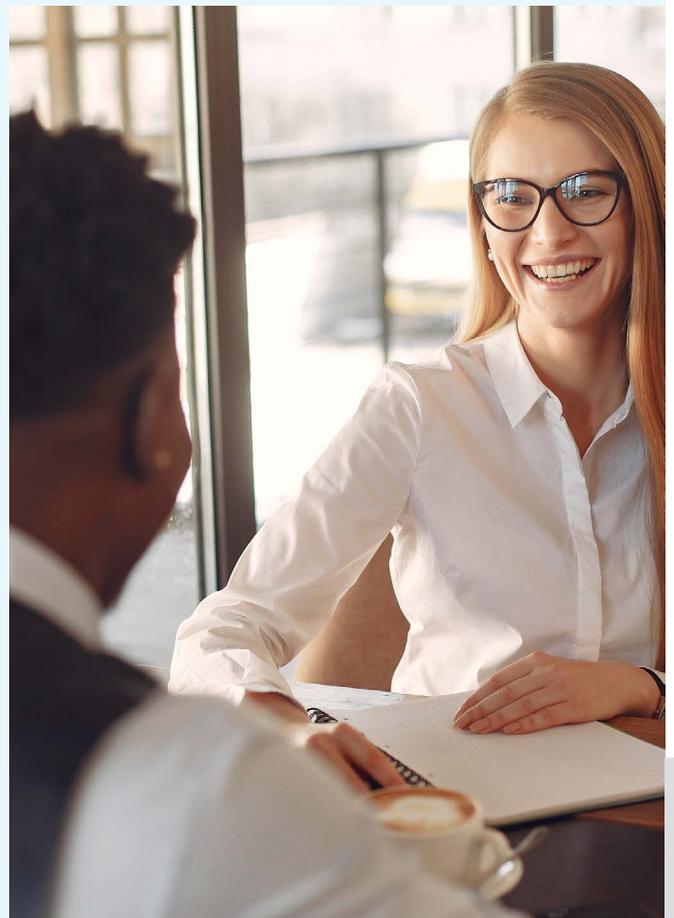
To become a mentor, students must have completed their first year of the JD and be able to commit to being in contact with their mentee a minimum of three times throughout trimester. You may like to share your own experiences and be a friendly face around Chambers for new students at the end of your first year. Students may sign up to be a mentor via the JD LSS Facebook page at the start of each trimester.

Peer Mentoring Events

These events are designed to welcome new students to the JD through the LSS Peer Mentor Program with some casual food and drinks. They also provide the opportunity to welcome back the wider JD cohort, providing a means of socialising and re-connecting after a challenging 2020. Detailed information will be provided via the Monash Postgraduate LSS Facebook page close to the event dates, otherwise please contact Director (JD Activities), Shannon Hubert, at jd.activities@monashlss.com, if you have any other queries. We look forward to meeting you all and catching up at a Peer Mentor event in 2021!

Trimester 1 Peer Mentor Program Welcome Drinks Week 2, 21st January 2021

The LSS will welcome new students to the JD with some casual food and drinks. This is a free event open to JD students involved in the Peer Mentoring Program.



Trimester 2 Peer Mentor Program Welcome Minigolf Week 2, Thursday 13th May 2021

This event is a little twist on the regular Peer Mentor Program Welcome event, as it involves a spot of minigolf! This event is open to all JD students, but prioritisation of subsidised tickets will be provided to LSS members involved in the Peer Mentoring Program.

Trimester 3 Peer Mentor Program Welcome Brunch Week 2, Thursday 2nd September 2021

Join us for a wonderful brunch event, as part of the Peer Mentoring Program Welcome for trimester 3. Stay tuned for more specific details to come! This is a free event open to JD students involved in the Peer Mentoring Program.

LSS REVISION TUTORIALS

If you would like some extra tips or are feeling unsure about how to approach your exam preparation, then look no further than the LSS Exam Revision Tutorials. These student-run tutorials are run each trimester during Swot Vac. High achieving students prepare and present a 2-hour tutorial which includes an overview of the course content, tips and suggestions for the exam. This includes highlighting the common mistakes students often miss out on in exams and covering a past paper. The tutorials are facilitated and run by students, allowing tutors to exercise their creativity and outline the areas they believe to be more important.

These tutorials are held after hours, perfectly timed for working students, and provide a great opportunity to discuss with your peers the more complicated aspects of the course and to offer each other advice and encouragement before exams. After the tutorials, students have access to the presentation as well as the relevant tutor's notes, providing them a strong foundation to compile their own notes and excel on their exams. Many students have said that the tutorials have assisted them when preparing notes, dealing with practice exam questions, and provide a welcome break from studying at their desk on their own. For those interested in becoming a tutor, it



is the perfect position to have on a CV, showing commitment to studies, intellectual brilliance, as well as the desire to teach and help other students. Information about the tutorials will be posted to the Monash JD LSS Facebook page, usually in Week 10 of the trimester. If you have any questions or queries, please contact the Tutorial Officer, Brent Daguman at jd.tutorials@monashlss.com.

LSS WELLBEING SUPPORT

Law school is an amazing experience, but the JD can be an intellectually demanding and rigorous degree. Throughout the degree you may come to realise that the learning styles and skills which you had perfected may not work as well - that is why it is important that you ask for help when you need it! The Education and Equity team is here to help you through it all. From wellbeing and stress management initiatives, to the peer mentor program, and revision tutorials that are held throughout the year, these services are here to make your transition into the JD, as well as your entire degree, more manageable and stress free. We also have the following programs throughout the year which have a wellbeing focus – we cannot wait to see you all there!

Wellness Picnics

Come make memories you will not forget and enjoy a beautiful sunny day in the park with a group of JD students – free food and laughter provided! Who knows, you might just meet a friend for life at one of these wellness picnics!

Therapy dogs & Massages

In the lead up to exams, there will be free massages provided to JD students by certified masseurs! There will also be cute therapy dogs (our beloved Boof and Kaz) to help get you through your day of studying and attending classes. We also provide snacks to get you through reading cases and doing practice exams at Chambers during Swot Vac.

Volunteer Seminar

A panel of community legal centres where you can find out what a legal volunteer does, how to get involved and some tips and tricks of the trade!

Mindfulness Seminar

Come and learn how to practice mindfulness in your everyday life as a law student. Mindfulness helps to reduce stress and anxiety, as well as strengthens your ability to focus – it also fosters social and emotional growth. These are tips that you can take with you through all of your life's endeavours, so make sure not to miss out!

Financial planning seminar

A seminar that focuses on financial stability and where you can go to get loans, advice and help.

The LSS Education and Equity portfolio is always available – from advocacy, wellbeing, and study support. Please feel free to contact Equity & Wellbeing Officer, Yerusalem Azage at jd.wellbeingequity@monashlss.com about any of these events. Always remember to reach out, get enough sleep, nutrients and movement and allow yourself to have hobbies and endeavours outside of law school – and good luck for 2021!



MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES

Monash University provides a number of free resources to all students that JD students may access. We strongly encourage any student who needs mental health assistance not to hesitate in seeking support. Nonetheless, you do not need to be experiencing an immediate mental health issue to be thinking about your mental health. There are many resources students can utilise to improve their mental health and wellbeing, such as working on mindfulness, or simply improving on general stress management.

Counselling

A student does not need to be experiencing a law-related issue in order to see a counsellor at the Monash University Law Chambers or at an alternative Monash campus. Nor does the magnitude of the issue matter: no issue is too big or too small. Counselling can help with issues around coping with study or university life, stress, anxiety and depression, loneliness, negative feelings or suicidal thoughts, relationships including friends and family and many other issues.

Currently, Monash counsellors are offering telehealth (video or phone) consultations. Counsellors are available on Thursdays, 9am–5pm, for students and staff of the Monash Law Chambers (city campus). It is important to note that Monash University students studying at the Chambers can also access the Counselling Service available at any other Monash campus. Your appointment will be free as a Monash student. To make a booking, please call (03) 9905 3020. There is also a free, confidential after-hours phone counselling service available for all Monash students accessible 24/7 by using the numbers listed below:

- Australia: 1300 788 336
- Malaysia: 1800 818 356 (toll free)
- Italy: 800 791 847 (toll free)
- Elsewhere outside Australia: +61 2 8295 2917

For more information about all counselling services, including appointments overseas, please visit: <https://www.monash.edu/health/counselling>.

For immediate help, please see the contact numbers provided below and a full list of emergency support options can be found at: <https://www.monash.edu/health/mental-health/resources/emergency-after-hours-contacts>.

- Lifeline: 13 11 14
- Suiceline: 1300 651 251
- Sexual Assault Crisis Line: 1800 806 292 or 9349 1799

Additional resources

Mindfulness

Monash provides numerous resources to develop the practice of mindfulness. Developing the practice of mindfulness is a useful tool to manage the demands of law school. For more information about the science behind, and benefits of mindfulness skills, as well as support resources, visit: <https://www.monash.edu/health/mindfulness>.

Stress management

We are all aware of the effects of stress on our lives to some degree or another. Stress is an aspect of law school, especially due to assignment and exam performance-related pressures. Despite this, stress is a manageable aspect of law school. Monash provides numerous resources to assist students to manage stress, including a Moodle module which students may like to complete: <https://www.monash.edu/health/mental-health/programs>.

LSS ACTIVITIES

The LSS provides JD students a variety of social events in order to connect with your peers and potential future colleagues. Whatever your interests, there is something for everyone. So now that 2020 is behind us, we very much look forward to seeing you at one (or hopefully more!) of these events in 2021!

Barefoot Bowls

Week 5, Saturday 13th February 2021

Barefoot Bowls debuted in 2020 and was a great success! Join us for delicious food, drinks, music and most importantly, a little competitive bowls at Melbourne's oldest and most iconic Bowling Club! Put any week 5 worries aside and enjoy a sunny day out! This is a ticketed event open to all JD students as well as non-JD friends.

Winter Cocktail Night

Week 5, Saturday 5th June 2021

Now let's talk Cocktail Night! 2020 was denied the best JD event of the year, but 2021 hopes to come back bigger and better than ever! The Winter Cocktail Night is the standout event of the JD social calendar and gives everyone a chance to dress up enjoy a night out. A bit of a lavish affair, tickets include a live DJ, delicious canapés, free flowing drinks and a photographer to capture all of the memories of the night. You definitely don't want to miss out on this one! This is a ticketed event open to all JD students as well as non-JD friends.

Escape Room

Week 7, Thursday 7th October 2021

Join us for some Escape Room fun! Put your problem-solving skills and patience to the test and make some new friends at the same time! This is a ticketed event open to all JD students, as well as non-JD friends.

End of Trimester Drinks/Scavenger Hunt

Week 12, Friday 12th November 2021

As the last event of the social calendar right before Swot Vac begins, this event is a chance for students to celebrate their hard work and the year that was! Food and drinks will be provided at the beginning of the evening, before continuing on with a law-themed scavenger hunt around the CBD. But don't worry, you will be rewarded for all of your hard work at each stop along the way! This is a ticketed event open to all JD students as well as non-JD friends.



CAREERS AFTER THE JD

Law graduates can be employed in various sectors after completing the JD. It can be difficult to determine the right career path as a student. Students are encouraged to be proactive throughout their degree; research and engage in areas of the law of interest and with the broader community. A great place to start is to attend in the LSS-run career events. As a student, you do not need to have it all figured out, and you might change your career direction multiple times throughout your degree and your career. The LSS hopes to support you along this journey of finding your passion in the law. Below is an insight into possible career paths.

Private Practice and Firms

Working for a firm can be intellectually stimulating, fast paced and involve long hours. Private practice is beneficial for those wanting to work on complex matters with a diverse range of clients. There are many different areas of private practice that range from commercial to family law and plaintiff work. Students interested in private practice should consider undertaking a clerkship in their penultimate year.

Barrister and Advocate

Barristers are independent lawyers with specialist skills in dispute resolution, litigation strategy and advice and advocacy before the court. It is uncommon for graduates to immediately become barristers. Most graduates work in commercial firms or private practice for a few years before becoming a barrister. To become a Victorian barrister, individuals must be an Australian lawyer, pass the Bar entrance examination, satisfactorily complete the Bar Readers' Course and work under an approved mentor at the Victorian Bar for a period of 9 months.

Judge's Associate

Graduates wishing to gain more understanding in court proceedings may apply for an associateship. Becoming an associate provides an unparalleled opportunity to work closely with judges of the highest level in Victoria. An associate works as part of a team that provides assistance in court to the judge, manages chambers and undertakes a variety of work, which may include high-level legal analysis and application. Associates are typically employed on a fixed term basis for 12-18 months.

Government and Policy

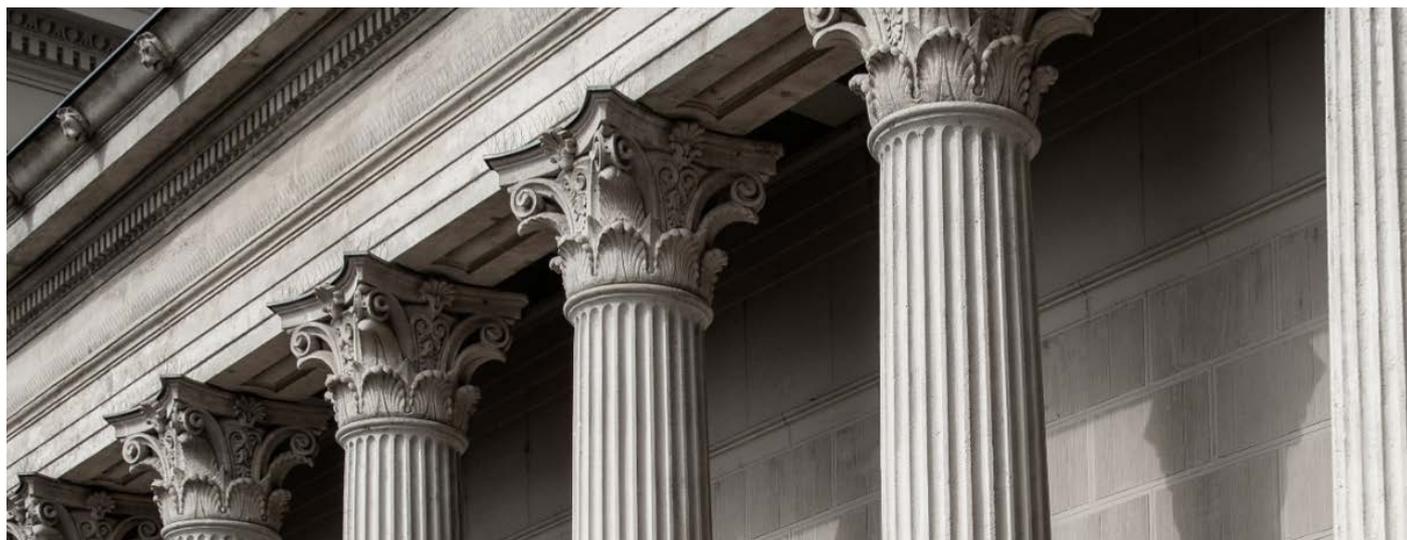
There are a number of different government departments that employ law graduates, including the Attorney-General's Department. Working for the government sector provides an opportunity to become an integral part of the policy and legal practice in Australia. Australian Government agencies typically advertise graduate employment opportunities between February and June each year. More information about graduate programs can be found by visiting the individual agency websites.

Community Sector

The community sector and Community Legal Centres (CLCs) assist disadvantaged clients in the community obtain legal advice and assistance. Students aspiring to become hands on in the community may be interested in employment in the community sector.

In-House Counsel

Becoming part of an in-house counsel is a unique opportunity to work within a company providing specialised commercial legal services and advice. Depending on the company, in-house counsel may have a team of lawyers or may be the sole practitioner. In-house counsel may also liaise with firms for more specialised legal services such as dispute resolution, intellectual or real property. An in-house counsel position is not available for law graduates, typically. Students wishing to progress to in-house counsel are encouraged to work within private practice and commercial firms prior to employment as an in-house lawyer.



LEGAL VOLUNTEERING

Legal volunteering provides students an opportunity to apply the skills they have learnt in the JD, while adding value to a worthwhile cause and contributing to the community. It also allows students to widen their professional network and build an impressive skill set, which makes them more desirable to future employers. Community Legal Centres (CLCs) provide one way that law students can volunteer. CLCs provide a range of services, including information, referral, advice and representation. CLCs are also involved in law and policy reform, community legal education and community legal development. There are over 50 different CLCs students can volunteer at. Monash students have the opportunity to participate in three CLCs run by Monash University, subject to eligibility requirements.

Monash run CLCs

Monash Law Clinics provide free advice and assistance in a wide range of areas of law to members of the community at Melbourne or Clayton. The aim of the Monash Law Clinics is to help people unable to afford private legal assistance and representation or to obtain access to the legal system due to some form of disadvantage. The Monash Law Clinics run family law and general advice only sessions. The clinics are supervised by experienced barristers and solicitors and deal with a range of matters, such as criminal matters, motor vehicle accidents, neighbour disputes, and family law matters. Students seeking to volunteer are required to submit an application form via the link on the Monash Clinical Legal Education website.

The Springvale Monash Legal Service (SMLS) aims to empower and support members of the community to use the law and legal system to protect and advance their rights. The SMLS supports the community in family violence, civil litigation, and general legal advice. It aims to develop the confidence, skills and ethics of law students through clinical legal education. Students wishing to participate in volunteering at the SMLS are required to complete the volunteer application form or contact the Volunteer Coordinator listed on the SMLS website.

Other CLCs

While most community centres provide general legal advice on a broad range of legal issues, there are many which focus on specific areas of law. This allows students to explore specialised areas outside of the criminal or commercial law areas. Students should be advised of the application requirements by visiting the relevant CLC website. All Victorian CLCs can be found by visiting: www.clcvolunteers.net.au.



SEASONAL CLERKSHIPS

A seasonal clerkship (pronounced ‘clarkship’) is a paid internship, typically lasting three or four weeks, completed at a law firm or government organisation. Clerkships are a great way to further your skills and to build your professional network. A clerkship is an important step for those wishing to secure a career in some law firms as a graduate lawyer. Clerkships ordinarily run over three periods: around December of your penultimate year; or in January or July of your final year. This enables students to be

ready to accept a graduate role once they have completed the JD. The Monash LSS Clerkship Guide, published annually, is an invaluable source of information for students who seek to embark upon the clerkship process.

Who should apply?

Students wishing to explore career options with law firms, particularly firms with a ‘commercial’ focus, professional service organisations and government departments, are encouraged to apply for clerkships.

How do you apply?

The clerkship application process begins in July of your penultimate year. Application dates are determined by the Law Institute of Victoria (LIV) for signatory firms. Information is published on participating firms’ websites and can also be found in the Monash LSS Clerkship Guide. Applications are typically open for one month between July and August. Applicants typically submit a cover letter, academic transcript and resume. Some firms ask for additional short answer questions or require applicants to complete psychometric testing.

Students wishing to apply are encouraged to start their research early and prepare cover letters and their resume

in advance. When applying for firms it is equally important to learn about the firm and the sector you wish to work in. Students should make themselves aware of the HR representative by name, as well as the firm’s values and strategic goals. During August and September, firms will review applications and may offer successful applicants an interview. Depending on the firm, there may be more than one round of interviews. Some firms also host cocktail evenings throughout this period to provide an opportunity for students to meet lawyers working for the firm.

Offers

Offers are made in October and there are strict requirements regarding accepting an offer. If you do not receive an offer, it is important to remember that a large number of students do not clerk. Many students also go on to have successful and fulfilling careers without ever having completed a clerkship during law school.



LINKEDIN FOR LAW STUDENTS

Creating a LinkedIn profile upon commencing law school is well worth your time. LinkedIn is a powerful tool to both build and communicate your personal brand as a future graduate. For those considering undertaking the clerkship process in their penultimate year, having a profile increases your visibility to recruiters and shows that you are already part of the legal community. You also have the opportunity to see what your peers and future colleagues are involved with professionally. This might lead to the discovery of new professional interests, or professional contacts whom you may want to connect with. If you are thinking of setting up your profile, below are some hints and tips which can assist you to stand out, even without any 'legal' work experience – yet!

Put the effort into personalising your profile

Writing something meaningful about yourself in the 'About' section provides an ideal opportunity to communicate your personal brand. It allows you to communicate who you are, what you value, and most importantly, what value you could add to an organisation, without being bound by the conventions of a cover letter.

Set your profile to be visible to recruiters

LinkedIn is like your virtual CV and by making it available to recruiters, you are able to be contacted for potential employment or other opportunities you are not even aware of, or necessarily looking out for. It is also important to establish a strong online professional presence, as recruiters for positions you have applied for will likely refer to your profile to learn more about you. It is therefore important that your profile remains consistent with your CV, whilst maximising the opportunity to expand upon the information contained in your CV.

If possible, include a professional headshot

While providing a photo on your CV is less common, LinkedIn provides the opportunity to put your best face forward by uploading a profile photo. If possible, a professional headshot (or as close to one as you can recreate yourself!) is highly recommended. A well-done photo is a simple and effective way of enhancing your attractiveness to prospective employers.

Don't be reluctant about promoting yourself and all that you do

Your LinkedIn should include all of your 'relevant experience', which is broader than what you might think. Professional experience is not the only type of relevant experience. Non-professional experience which demonstrates a competency or quality that an employer may be seeking, is still valuable. Employers put a high value on interpersonal skills for instance. You could demonstrate that you have these skills in anything from working on a volunteer project to your involvement in coaching the local swim team. If you ever feel tentative about promoting yourself, take some inspiration from looking at how your peers discuss their achievements on LinkedIn. It will assist you to feel more confident in highlighting your strengths and achievements.

Start building pre-clerkship experience

With opportunities to gain legal experience being scarce, you could take up the opportunity to complete a virtual internship and include it on your LinkedIn. Virtual internships are open to all law students through Forage (formerly Inside Sherpa). Forage provides law students a range of virtual experiences that you can complete at your own pace with various law firms. There is also an offering of non-legal internships. These internships are structured into self-guided learning modules which provide students early exposure to the types of work tasks which one would undertake as a clerk. Select companies you are interested in working for to gain a clearer understanding of who they are. Whilst virtual internships require several hours of independent learning, the fact that you have taken the time to complete this work, demonstrates to recruiters that you are truly interested in working for their organisation.



LSS CAREERS EVENTS

The LSS provides a wide variety of careers events to assist students gaining opportunities to acquire valuable skills and knowledge, so they stand out in a competitive job marketplace. Whether you are in your first year or your final year, there will be an event suited to your career goals and needs. We encourage you to like the 'Monash LSS Careers Information' and the 'Monash JD Law Student Society' pages on Facebook, in order to ensure that you get the latest information and updates on LSS careers events. An LSS membership is essential to attending any Monash LSS hosted careers events. There are a number of careers events offered in 2021 and the list below is just a sample. For a complete list, please consult the 'LSS Event Dates' section of this guide and keep an eye out for any updates from the LSS. We very much look forward to seeing you at one of these informative events!

Small & Boutique Firms Seminar - 4 March

Recognising that traditional employment in large commercial law firms is not for everyone, the Small & Boutique Firm Seminar puts students in contact with graduate employers in this area. Students will be able to speak to representatives from smaller commercial firms to discover the benefits of that kind of work environment, in contrast with that in larger firms. It is open to all students to attend.

Live Podcast - 20 January

Students will be invited to participate live in one of our episodes of 'Careers Classified'. Students will be able to ask questions of our guest in person.

Careers Fair - 9 March

The fair will be held at the Monash Clayton campus. Students will be able to speak to industry professionals about their career progression and practice areas. Representatives from a wide range of fields will be there to represent the various areas students may find themselves working in.



Professional mentoring program/launch night - 16 March

Students who participate in the professional mentoring program will be paired with an industry professional from commercial law. Students will then be able to foster a relationship with that person and receive helpful career advice. There will be an official launch evening for the program, where students will meet their mentors for the first time.

Clerkship 101 Seminar - 25 March

The Clerkship 101 Seminar is an opportunity for penultimate year students to hear recent clerks explain the details of the clerkship application process and their clerkship experience. Following the presentation, a panel of recent clerks will be there to answer all your questions on applications, interviews, cocktail evenings and anything else clerkship-related.

Expert Panel Series - 27 April, 28 April & 4 May

Hear from partners from some of Australia's leading corporate firms share their experiences and thoughts on the practice areas in which they specialise. With topics ranging from Mergers & Acquisitions (27 April), to Projects (28 April), and Tax and Litigation (4 May), the Expert Panel Series is a great way to meet the experts at the top of their fields, gain insight into their work, and learn more about their firms. Preference will be given to penultimate and then final year students.

Clerkship Guide Launch - 6 May

The Clerkship Guide Launch and Networking Evening is the largest commercial law and networking event of the 2021 calendar. Graduates and HR representatives from all Gold and Platinum Sponsor firms will be in attendance to mingle and answer all clerkship-related questions. The annual Clerkship Guide is an invaluable resource for all students undertaking their clerkship applications. Partnering with our Platinum Sponsors, the Clerkship Guide contains important information on firms, contacts and clerkship dates. Preference will be given to penultimate year students.

Networkathon - 11–20 May

The Networkathon runs over the span of two weeks. Firms will have anywhere from one to four sessions over that time. Students will then be able to attend a firm's session and speak with representatives. This will be in a larger room of students, as well as a more personal breakout room, where there will be up to 10 students and a single firm representative, to allow for more detailed questions to be asked. This event is designed to be like in-person networking but is more accessible to more students due to its online platform. Firms have been given the option to hold their sessions either in person or online. Preference will be given to penultimate and final year students but generally there is space for all that apply.

Clerkship Q&A (Graduate) Panel - 25 May

This is the final official clerkship event before applications open and is the last opportunity to hear representatives from firms explain their clerkship experience. The panel will be comprised of graduates or junior lawyers who have recently gone through the process, and who can provide an overview of their experience clerking, as well as providing some insight into life as a graduate lawyer. There will also be time for questions and answers after the panel. Preference will be given to penultimate and final year students, but we expect that there to be places for all that apply. We encourage first year students to apply in order to gain an understanding of the clerkship process.

Resume/Cover Letter Workshop - 21 July

Resume writing and cover letter writing is often difficult and confusing. We will be running a workshop (which may be run in person or online) in order to provide students with some guidance and answer any questions.

Journey to the Bar - 31 August

Considering a career at the Bar? A panel of barristers will explain their journey from graduation to successful careers at the Bar. Complete with a question-and-answer panel, students can learn how to embark upon a career in advocacy, as well as its advantages and disadvantages, from the perspective of those at the Bar.

PLT Seminars - 22 September and 14 October

Completing the PLT is a requirement for any student wishing to practice as a lawyer. Choosing which PLT provider to select is therefore a very important choice. We would therefore recommend attending both sessions offered by Leo Cussen and College of Law respectively. These sessions will be run online.

Criminal and family law seminar - 9 September

Does advocacy interest you? Do you like dealing with people? Have you ever considered a career in family or criminal law? If so, the Criminal and Family Law Panel is for you. Students will hear from practitioners and barristers in these areas about the type of work undertaken, and the challenges and benefits of a career in criminal or family law.

PRE-CLERKSHIP PROGRAMS

There are many opportunities for first year students to engage in legal work and gain networking opportunities with commercial and professional services firms. Pre-clerkship programs provide valuable practical experience and insight into firms, including the nature of the work they do, their culture and organisational values. Below is a non-exhaustive list of some of the programs offered each year. We encourage you to explore your options and consider the vast opportunities available through your own research. Students should be advised of the application process, entry requirements and key dates for each individual firm in 2021, by consulting each firm's website.

Allens Linklaters – Dive In

The Dive In is an introductory program which aims to equip students with the skills needed to apply for clerkships, paralegal positions and internships. The program will give students an in-sight into commercial law at a top-tier firm. The program also provides an insight into different areas of practice and working within a large law firm.

King & Wood Mallesons – Insight Program

The Insight Program is aimed at law students not yet able to apply for clerkships. It gives students an insight into the structure of the firm, areas of law, staff experiences, and the types of clients King & Wood Mallesons work with.

Forage – Virtual Work Experience Programs

Many firms now have virtual experience programs provided through the platform Forage. The virtual experience programs aim to build job ready skills and help students gain insight into similar work completed at the firm by graduates and junior solicitors. Students might expect to complete task such as drafting documents, written and verbal communication with clients and other lawyers, understanding contracts, and teamwork.

Women at White & Case – Mentoring Program

The Women at White & Case Mentoring Program encourages students to engage in discussions about career aspirations, progression and challenges facing women in the legal profession. The program provides an opportunity to be paired with a mentor who will share their knowledge and advice, based on their own experience.

EY – Career Compass Program

The Career Compass Program is designed to give students a firsthand experience of EY. During the structured learning sessions, students will be guided through career options at EY and gain a better understanding about their business, people, and culture.

KPMG – Foundations Program

This program is designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills to assist them in making their career choices. It provides a series of sessions from students to select from, depending on their professional interests. These sessions give students the opportunity to network with peers and professionals, learn more about KPMG and gain insight into life at KPMG.

Deloitte – Insider Program

This 3-day program provides a behind-the-scenes look at Deloitte. Students who participate in the program may get fast tracked towards becoming a paid Summer Intern. It provides students an opportunity to hear from teams in areas such as digital, actuary, audit, cyber, forensics and economics. The program teaches valuable skills such as networking, presentation skills, case studies and commercial awareness.



LSS COMPETITION EVENTS

Competitions offer an excellent extra-curricular learning experience for students, as they provide the opportunity to expand your law school experience beyond classroom learning by engaging with the law in a hands-on way. The LSS hosts a variety of competitions, which are judged by legal professionals working in the private and public sector. This gives students a valuable opportunity to receive practical advice and creates networking opportunities. Prior to each competition, the JD Competitions Team run a 'how-to' workshop for all interested students' workshops outline the structure of the competitions and any relevant background knowledge required to compete and allow students to ask questions and seek advice. The workshops will feature guest speakers who competed in the previous year's competitions and legal professionals who can provide insight into their approach and experience. We encourage all JD students wishing to participate in more competitions to take part in the LLB Competitions which are open to the JD cohort.

Negotiations Competition

Workshop: 12 January 2021

Round 1: 19 January 2021

Round 2: 21 January 2021

Semi-Final: 25 January 2021

Grand-Final: 28 January 2021

This competition imitates a negotiation session between two teams of solicitors who are representing a hypothetical client with the aim of coming to an agreement that is viable for both parties. Competitors are encouraged to practice their advocacy skills, consider alternative solutions and identify the standards that apply to the scenario in question. As a result, participating in this competition will provide competitors with useful skills that lawyers use in their everyday practice. By competing at the Negotiations Competition, participants can network with fellow students and law firm representatives. The winners and runners-up will receive awards as a recognition of their work and performance in the competition. The competition is open to all JD students who have or are currently completing Principles of Criminal Law and Principles of litigation and dispute resolution.

JD v LLB Day

Competition Day: 3 March 2021

This competition brings LLB and JD students together to compete in three rounds of competitions ranging from the Negotiations to the Client Interview to the Witness Examination Competition. Competing in the JD v LLB Day will allow students to practice a wide range of skills that are essential in their career as lawyers. The winners and runners-up of every round will receive awards as a recognition of their work and performance. The competition is open to all JD and LLB students.

JD Moot Competition

Workshop: 10 May 2021

Round 1: 17 May 2021

Round 2: 19 May 2021

Semi-Final: 24 May 2021

Grand-Final: 26 May 2021

The JD Moot Competition is the perfect chance for students who wish to pursue a career at the Bar to practice their advocacy and legal research skills. This prestigious competition requires competitors to make both oral and written submissions to a panel of presiding judges on a hypothetical scenario. Participants are required to conduct research on a topic and present their client's case in front of a panel of judges which promotes students' exercising of their public speaking skills. Competitors are in teams of 2-3 therefore allowing participants to network with other JD students and law firm representatives. The winners and runners-up will receive awards as a recognition of their work and performance in the competition. The competition is open to all JD students who have or are currently completing Principles of Criminal Law and Principles of litigation and dispute resolution.

Legal Hackathon

Workshop: 12 May 2021

Presentation Day: 29 June 2021

This is a new competition which focuses on promoting students' innovative spirit and legal knowledge. Competing in the Legal Hackathon allows students to provide a desirable solution to an issue facing the legal sector by combining problem solving, critical thinking and technology. All teams will pitch their ideas to a panel of presiding judges and the winners will receive recognition of their work and performance in the competition. The competition is open to all JD and LLB students who have or are currently completing Principles of Criminal Law.

Women's Moot

Workshop: 18 August 2021

Round 1: 23 August 2021

Round 2: 25 August 2021

Semi-Final: 30 August 2021

Grand-Final: 1 September 2021

The Women's Moot is a new initiative which provides an opportunity for female identifying and non-binary students to practice their court room, advocacy and legal research skills. Similar to the JD Moot, this Competition requires written and oral submissions on a hypothetical scenario to a panel of presiding judges. Competitors will advocate for their client's interests through careful application of the law which will encourage students to practice their public speaking skills. Replicating a real-life court room, it encourages female identifying and non-binary students to put their advocacy and legal research skills to a test. It also promotes attention to detail and collaboration between teams. The winners and runners-up will receive awards as a recognition of their work and performance in the competition. The competition is open to all JD and LLB students who have or are currently completing Principles of Criminal Law.

JD Client Interview

Workshop: 27 August 2021

Round 1: 2 September 2021

Round 2: 8 September 2021

Semi-Final: 9 September 2021

Grand-Final: 13 September 2021

The JD Client Interview Competition requires little preparation and is a great opportunity for students to practice a wide range of skills. It encourages competitors to act quick on their feet when identifying the key legal issues concerning the matter in question. Competitors have to tease out the important facts from their clients and prepare adequate legal advice. This competition focuses on improving students' collaboration and people skills. The winners and runners-up will receive awards as a recognition of their work and performance in the competition. The competition is open to all JD students who have or are currently completing Principles of Criminal Law and Principles of litigation and dispute resolution.

KEY DATES

Academic dates

Trimester 1

Teaching period - 11 Jan - 26 Mar

Orientation - 6 Jan

New intake teaching period - 11 Jan - 26 Mar

Easter (University close down) - 2 - 6 Apr

Swot Vac - 7 - 13 Apr

Examinations - 14 -23 Apr

Results published - 3 May

Deferred exam period - 28 - 30 Apr

Trimester 2

Teaching period - 3 May - 23 Jul

Orientation - 27 Apr

Swot Vac - 26 - 30 Jul

Examinations - 2 - 11 Aug

Results published - 30 Aug

Deferred exam period - 18 - 20 Aug

Trimester 3

Teaching period - 23 Aug - 12 Nov

Orientation - 17 Aug

Swot Vac - 15 - 19 Nov

Examinations - 22 Nov - 1 Dec

Results published - 20 Dec

Deferred exam period - 8 - 10 Dec

LSS Event Dates

LSS Careers Events

Live Podcast - 20 January

Small & Boutique Firms Seminar - 4 March

Careers Fair - 9 March

Professional Mentoring Launch Night - 16 March

Clerkship 101 - 25 March

Expert Breakfast Panel (M&A) - 27 April

Expert Panel (Projects) - 28 April

Expert Panel (Tax/Litigation) - 4 May

Clerkship Guide Launch - 6 May

Networkathon - 10 May - 20 May

Clerkship Q&A (graduate) panel - 25 May

Resume/Cover Letter Workshop - 21 July

Journey to the Bar - 31 August

Criminal and family law seminar - 9 September

PLT Seminars - 22 September, 14 October

LSS JD Competition Dates

Negotiations Workshop -12 January

Negotiations R1 - 19 January

Negotiations R2 - 21 January

Negotiations Semi Final - 25 January

Negotiations Grand Final - 28 January

JD Moot Workshop - 10 May

Legal Hackathon Workshop - 12 May

JD Moot R1 - 17 May

JD Moot R2 - 19 May

JD Moot Semi Final - 24 May

JD Moot Grand Final - 26 May

Legal Hackathon - 29 June

JD Client Interview Workshop - 27 August

JD Client Interview R1 - 2 September

JD Client Interview R2 - 8 September

JD Client Interview Semi Final - 9 September

JD Client Interview Grand Final - 13 September

Legal Hackathon Workshop - 16 September

Legal Hackathon Comp Day - 1 October

LSS Activity Dates

JD T1 Peer Mentor Welcome Drinks - 21 January

Picnic/Barefoot Bowls - 13 February

JD T2 Peer Mentor Minigolf - 13 May

JD Cocktail Night - 5 June

Peer Mentor Welcome Drinks/Brunch - 2 September

Escape Room - 7 October

End of Trimester Drinks - 12 November

LSS Education & Equity Events

Finances Seminar - 13 January

T1 Yoga/Wellness Event - 18 January

Volunteer Seminar - 2 February

AGLC Crash Course - 4 February

Harmony Day - Cooking Class - 21 March

JD T1 Tutorials - 29 March–1 April

Plain legal writing seminar - 1 June

T2 Yoga/Wellness Event - 30 June

JD T2 Tutorials - 26 July–29 July

JD Keynote Speaker - 23 August

Non-Sequitur Launch - 26 August

R U OK Day Seminar - 9 September

T3 Yoga/Wellness Event - 19 October

JD T3 Tutorials - 15 November–18 November



MONASH LAW STUDENTS' SOCIETY

(Postgraduate)

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