



*Monash LSS
JD Guide 2020*

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Welcome

It is my pleasure to present the 2020 JD Guide. On behalf of the Monash Law Students' Society and the greater student body, I would like to thank and congratulate Sonia Mackie and Maxwell Davie for their amazing efforts in putting together this year's Guide.

To all those commencing the JD this year, I congratulate you on your acceptance into the JD and for taking a big leap towards a challenging and rewarding degree. The opportunities available to you during your degree and the doors that will open for you upon its completion are truly unfathomable.

Whether the path ahead is clear or you are yet to fully realise where the JD will take you, the Monash LSS will be fundamental in enriching your law school experience. We aim to support your journey through our publications, career events, competitions and activities. An LSS membership is the key to accessing our wide variety of offerings and will ensure you can truly engage with all that the legal industry has to offer.

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 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.

Throughout your JD, there will be no shortage of opportunities for you to establish an inspired and fulfilling career. I urge you all to adopt a 'yes' policy, step outside your comfort zone and immerse yourself in all of the experiences that the Monash LSS has to offer. I wish you all the very best with this exciting journey ahead.

Jessica Baker
Director of the JD LSS

JD LSS Directory

Welcoming your 2020 Monash JD LSS Committee. Students are encouraged to email any of the relevant JD LSS committee with any questions, concerns, or suggestions you may have about the JD. If you are unsure of the relevant portfolio to contact, you can visit the JD LSS office located on level 1 of the Monash Law Chambers next to Seminar Room 2. Alternatively, you can contact our Director, Jessica Baker, who will be able to assist you further.

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About

The Monash University Juris Doctor program is a postgraduate professional entry masters law degree. The JD is a three year full-time, or four to six year part-time degree, with the flexibility to alter the study load at any point throughout the course. Students are required to complete sixteen core units, one commercial elective, one professional elective, and six electives. Upon successful completion of the degree, students will meet the requirements for admission to practice as an Australian lawyer.

The JD is taught at Monash Law Chambers, 555 Lonsdale Street Melbourne, in the heart of the legal precinct. The location of the Chambers gives students a unique and valuable opportunity to involve themselves in the broader legal community. The JD develops professional skills that assist students in becoming resourceful, collaborative, ethically aware and critical thinking lawyers.

The JD program is structured to ease students into an academically challenging and rewarding degree. The program is run in trimesters and students typically take two or three units per trimester. In the first two years of the JD, students will cover the 'Priestley Eleven' core units. The JD offers both day and night classes for core units which enables a flexible study arrangement. Seminars are not recorded and while attendance is not mandatory, it is highly recommended that students attend their enrolled seminar streams.

Towards the end of second year students will begin elective units which are designed to align with their career goals, strengths, and interests. Elective units are run in trimester long, semi-intensive, and intensive formats. The elective timetable varies each year and can be found by visiting the timetable tab on <https://www.monash.edu/law/current-students/jd>. All timetabling for Monash University is managed through the central timetabling platform called Allocate+. Allocate+ can be accessed through the my.monash portal.

The Chambers provides a number of academic and support services to assist students throughout their degree. Level 1 of the Chambers contains a library-node where students can find resources to assist their studies. Level 2 of the building has both formal and informal learning study spaces with computer facilities. The Chambers has access to free counselling services with a clinical psychologist, more details are found under the support section of this Guide. The Monash JD LSS are here to support and represent the student-body throughout the JD. The Monash JD LSS offer academic, wellbeing, and social events that run throughout the year. Students are encouraged to become active members of the JD. Students can contact the JD LSS using the LSS Directory or visit us at the LSS Office located on Level 1 of the Chambers next to seminar room 2.

Payment

Commonwealth Supported Offer (CSP)

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.

FEE-HELP

Students who have been offered a full fee place may be eligible for the Government loan scheme, FEE-HELP. Monash University is a FEE-HELP approved institution and students who meet the eligibility requirements are entitled to the loan scheme. Currently, FEE-HELP covers a maximum of \$104,440. 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 when undertaking this degree.

Scholarships

Monash University offers a number of postgraduate law scholarships which students may be eligible for. The Faculty of Law offers both academic and equity scholarships to assist students in their studies at Monash. Students are encouraged to visit the Faculty of Law scholarships tab on the Monash Law website for more information.

Course Structure

This progression map provides 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. However, students should be advised of unit pre-requisites and co-requisites requirements when taking an alternative course structure. A list of pre and co-requisites is available on the Postgraduate and Juris Doctor Timetable page located on the Monash Faculty of Law website. Students are able to manage their enrolment and course planning through the Web Enrolment System (WES) on my.monash.

Year 1 Trimester 1	LAW5000 Australian legal reasoning and methods	LAW5001 Principles of criminal law and procedure	Full-time
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

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

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 of your choosing. Each year the Faculty offers a range of electives that are designed to enhance your interests, skills, and career aspirations. Electives are offered in an intensive, semi-intensive, and trimester long format. The elective timetable can be found by visiting: <https://www.monash.edu/law/current-students/resources/course-unit-information/timetables/postgraduate>.

Core Units

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

The 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, demonstrate professional judgment and scholarship to legal problems.

LAW5001 – Principles of Criminal Law and Procedure

The 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

The 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. Additionally, the unit will also deal with statutory interpretation and the interaction between parliament and judiciary.

LAW5003 – Principle of Torts

The 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

The 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

The 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 a prendre.

Core Units

LAW5007 – Principles of Constitutional Law

The 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 and tracing, personal and proprietary remedies in equity and equitable defences.

LAW5018 – Advanced Property

This course 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

The 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, student will study corporate governance, third party contracts, the role and duties of directors, and insolvency.

LAW5012 – Principles of Evidence

The 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 alternatives to it in the context of different areas of practice.

Commercial Law Electives

LAW5055 – Vis Arbitration Moot

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. Focus is on oral advocacy, research skills, strategic thinking and team work. 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

The 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

The 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

The 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.

LAW5340 – Intellectual Property

The 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.

LAW5350 – Principles of Taxation

The 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.

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 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

Examination of 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 team work. 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

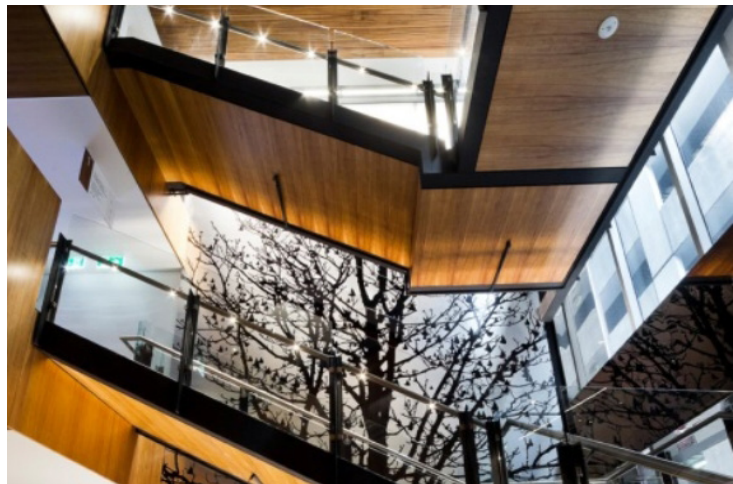
This project-based unit will require students to apply their theoretical classroom knowledge and creative problem solving to practical, workplace related issues and demonstrate the ability to link legal doctrine with 'real world' problems. Students will work, individually or as a team, with an industry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

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. This 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.



Study

Whether you're coming straight from an undergraduate degree, you've been working full-time for a while, or you've taken some time off in between studying, the beginning of the JD provides an opportunity to level the playing field. While there may be some who have prior knowledge of the law, it is likely that all will experience a period of adjustment. Cultivating successful study techniques are key to success in the JD. Below are seven study tips to help with the transition.

1. Work out a study style that works for you

Everyone has different ways of learning information. Some people are auditory learners, some visual, others learn by doing. Whatever learning style is best suited to you, find a way to adapt it to the JD. There is no 'one way' of learning law and there will be times when you may have to use a combination of learning styles. Be patient with yourself, and give yourself time to adjust to learning the law. This advice goes for selecting classes too. If you are not a morning person and prefer to study in the evening don't force yourself to go to morning seminars. Work out how you best learn and do it your way.

2. Organisation

Even if you have never been the kind of person to be overly organised, in some sense the JD will force you to be. The nature of the JD requires students to be doing multiple tasks at once. Keeping on top of assignments, notes, practice problems, readings, seminars, exams, and your life outside of law requires organisation. One of the best things you can do is to plan. Start early and make sure you know your key dates. Be aware of what you have going on, what is coming up, and plan accordingly. Doing so will help you not only manage the course but also your health and wellbeing.

3. Connect

Build a community around you. One of the great things about the Monash JD is the smaller cohort size. This enables you to get to know people more easily and form strong connections which will endure beyond law school. Not only are these networks great for forming study groups and discussing law-related topics, these networks naturally lead to enduring friendships. It is likely that there will be times in the JD where the course gets challenging. Arming yourself with a good group of people around you who are facing similar challenges, will hold you in good stead. If you're unsure where to start, get involved in the events and activities the LSS have on offer.





4. Do the practice problems

A large component of the law is advising a client on a legal issue. Every unit will have problem based scenarios to test your understanding of key concepts and enable you to become a proficient lawyer. The majority, if not all exams, will involve problem based testing. There is a lot to do throughout the trimester but it is important to attempt the practice problems assigned in class and check your understanding along the way. The sooner you get on top of areas where you may require clarification, the better your understanding will be when exams are fast approaching.

5. Library Resources

The Monash University library has an online law library guide which is a great starting point for legal research and writing. The law library guide covers information such as how to research Australian and international cases and legislation, a list of law databases, research and writing skills, information on citing and referencing, and resources to learn about mooting. Students can also request books to be transferred from other Monash campuses to the Chambers. This service can be accessed through the Monash Library website.

6. Academic support

There are extensive academic support networks put in place to assist students throughout their studies. If you find you are struggling in a particular area or just want to check your understanding, the academic and library staff should be your first port of call. If you find that you don't understand something or you are making consistent mistakes in legal research and writing, make an appointment to see your lecturer or the library staff. Getting on top of issues early will assist in your success throughout the degree. The LSS also offer revision tutorials in SWOT Vac to assist with revising content and strategies to answer exam problems.

7. Look after yourself!

We are all running our own race in the JD. Ensure you take the time to engage with friends and activities outside the JD. Whichever way you choose to do the JD, make sure you give yourself time to do things you enjoy. Not only will this help with your mental and physical health, but will also make you a better law student and equip you with habits going forward in your career.

Study 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, the Monash Malaysia campus in Kuala Lumpur, and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. 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.

Prato

Students are eligible to participate in the Prato Program between April-June each year. The Prato Program is taught across three teaching blocks and students are able to study one to four units during this period. The commencement and end date of each unit varies. Students can find out more information about the timetable offered for each year by visiting the Monash Law International Study Programs tab on the Faculty of Law website.

Malaysia

Students are eligible to participate in the Malaysia Program between June-August each year. The Malaysia program is taught across two teaching blocks. Similarly, the commencement and end date of each unit varies. Students can find out more information about the timetable offered for each year by visiting the Monash Law International Study Programs tab on the Faculty of Law website.

Eligibility – Prato and Malaysia

Currently, to be eligible for the Prato and Malaysia Program, 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.

Hebrew University of Jerusalem

The Mishpatim Seminar is an Israeli and International Law program offered by the Rothberg International School which is part of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. The program consists of one unit, Israeli and International Law, and is taught intensively during January. The assessment is a choice of either a research paper (7,500 – 10,000 words) or a sit down exam in Israel.

To be eligible students must have a minimum credit average (60%). Students must complete the MAP Application, and once approved by the Faculty apply for the program directly.



Support

Wellbeing

The JD is a rigorous and intellectually demanding degree. It is likely that the workload, skills, and learning style required by law school is different to what you have encountered before. Throughout the JD, it is important to pay attention to your health and wellbeing, and seek help and support when you need it. It's essential to be patient with yourself when learning how to 'do law', to manage your time, and wellbeing. Maintaining a positive wellbeing is essential to successful and rewarding studies. There are a range of free support and advocacy services available to students. Additionally, the LSS run multiple wellbeing and equity events, including yoga, mindfulness, youth allowance and financial planning seminars and celebrating RUOK day and Harmony Day – stay tuned to get involved in these events.

Wellbeing During The JD

Tip #1: Reach out to your classmates

One of the best resources you have in this degree is the people around you. Whether it's a study group or just a chat with someone about something you're struggling with, it's likely you'll find a lot of students are or have been in the same boat as you. The JD cohort are a very open and friendly group, and you'll find people are willing to help out where they can. The best place to start is just to have conversations with people. You're welcome to reach out to the LSS Equity and Wellbeing Officer and Director of Education and Equity if you're unsure how to get help.

Tip #2: Eat, sleep, drink water, move and repeat

Our basic needs are what keep us going. There will be times throughout trimester where managing law school can be challenging. The best thing you can do for your body and mind is to make sure you're looking after your basic needs. Make sure you're not skimping on sleep, eat food that will fuel your body, get up out of that chair and move your body, and drinking water not only for your health but to counteract the copious amounts of caffeine law students tend to consume. Take advantage of the LSS snacks during SWOT Vac and events to refuel.

Tip #3: Keep active

Exercise is a great outlet to relieve stress that law school instils. Move in a way that works for you; go running, for a walk outside, to the gym, or attend one of our LSS Yoga sessions run throughout the trimesters.

Tip #4: Do you

The best thing you can do for yourself is do this degree in a way that works for you. It can be easy to get bogged down in what everyone else is doing. Remember to do you and NEVER compare yourself to anyone else. The JD cohort is so unique with students from vastly different backgrounds; enjoy the diversity and do the best you can do. Make sure you allow yourself some well deserved 'me time', go have fun, and do the things you enjoy. Spend time with your non-law friends and law friends alike and make sure you make your time at law school an enjoyable experience.

LSS Revision Tutorials

Stressed during SWOT Vac? Unsure how to structure exam answers? Looking for inspiration when compiling notes?

Answering 'YES!' to one of the above questions, doesn't mean that you've fallen behind the rest of your cohort. We're all in the same boat sometimes and need to remember that we're doing a difficult degree at one of the top universities in the world - so it should be a bit difficult! The beauty about the Monash JD is the comradery between students of all different cohorts. This manifests in the student run LSS Revision Tutorials which run in SWOT Vac every trimester.

High achieving students prepare and present a 2-hour class which includes an overview of the course content, tips and suggestions for the exam, highlight common mistakes students often miss out on and cover a past paper. The tutorials are student facilitated and run, allowing tutors to exercise their creativity and outline the areas they believe are more important. These tutorials are held after hours, perfectly placed for working students, and provide a great opportunity to discuss with your peers the trickier aspects of the course, and offering each other advice and encouragement before exams.

After the tutorials, students have access to the presentation as well as the relevant tutors notes, providing them a strong foundation to compile their own notes and ace their exams. Many students have said that the LSS Revision Tutorials have assisted them when preparing notes, dealing with practice exam questions, and provide the perfect break from studying at your desk on their own. For those interested in becoming a tutor, it's 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.

All the information surrounding the Tutorials, their location and timing will be posted to the Monash JD LSS Facebook page around Week 10 each Trimester. Alternatively you can email, jd.tutorials@monashlss.com with any questions or queries.

Peer Mentoring Program

We all know the feeling of starting law school, knowing no-one and feeling a little lost. The Peer Mentor Program is an amazing opportunity to socialise and develop friendships in your law degree. It's tailored towards helping first-year JD students transition smoothly and meet new people. Every trimester the LSS hold a Peer Mentor Drinks event where Mentees are able to meet their Mentors and socialise with others in their cohort, other students and Mentors across the JD.

Mentees

Incoming students are paired with a student Mentor who has completed at least their first year of the JD. The Peer Mentoring Program is a fantastic opportunity to meet other students who have been in your position, can give you advice and words of wisdom, and be a friendly face around Chambers. The Mentoring relationship is ultimately what you make of it. Mentors are there to assist in navigating the course, assisting with general advice about tackling assessments and preparing for exams, and having someone to talk to about their experiences in the JD and broader law community.

To be 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, never fear, get in contact with our Peer Mentor Coordinator, Cjay Aksoyoglu, at jd.mentoring@monashlss.com and she will organise a Mentor for you.

Mentors

To become a Mentor, students must have completed their first year of the JD and are able to commit to being in contact with their Mentee a minimum of three times throughout trimester. If you would like to share your experiences and be a friendly face around the Chambers, sign up to be a Mentor via the JD LSS Facebook page.

We can't wait to meet you all and catch up at the Peer Mentor Drinks events!

Professional Support

In mid-2019 on-site counselling services for students was introduced for the first time at the Chambers. The demand for the service was very high and it will be continued and expanded in 2020.

You don't need to have a law related problem to come and see a counsellor. No issue is too big or too small. Counselling can help you with problems 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.

The counsellor is a registered psychologist and the service is free and confidential. Appointments are for one hour and the counsellor will ask you questions to help understand why you have sought support and how they may help you.

If you're hesitant to see a counsellor, we have found that the sooner you seek help, the easier it is and more effective we can be in providing the support that can help you.

The easiest way to make an appointment to see a counsellor at the Chambers is to visit the Counselling Service web page at <https://www.monash.edu/health/counselling/appointments>. Scroll down to the heading Law Chambers' City Campus.

Also important to note is that Monash University students studying at the Chambers, can also access the Counselling Service at any Monash campus, not just the city.

There is also a free, confidential after-hours phone counselling service available for all Monash students. The number is 1300 788 336.

For information about all the Counselling Service can offer you go to <https://www.monash.edu/health/counselling>.

For immediate help, please visit the following services and reach out immediately:

Lifeline: 13 11 14

Suiceline: 1300 651 251

Sexual Assault Crisis Line: 1800 806 292 or 9349 1799



Professional Mentoring

Part of the mission of the LSS is to provide its members with valuable opportunities that help to bridge the divide between learning the law and applying it. The Professional Mentoring Program is a vital component to this pursuit.



The Professional Mentoring Program pairs students with legal professionals and gives the students an opportunity to gain valuable insight into legal areas that they might want to pursue after graduation. We strive to find mentors in a variety of roles covering a wide range of specialisations, including practitioners in the courts, the government, commercial firms and human rights organisations among others. For the past few years, the LSS Careers portfolio has been steadily expanding the scope of the program, and we intend to take it even further in 2020.

Both penultimate and final year law students are encouraged to participate in the program, requiring an active LSS membership to be eligible. The program launches in May and runs through until the end of December of the same year. In March or April, the LSS will release details of the program and the application process via their Facebook page and invite interested candidates to sign up. The number of successful applicants is dependent on

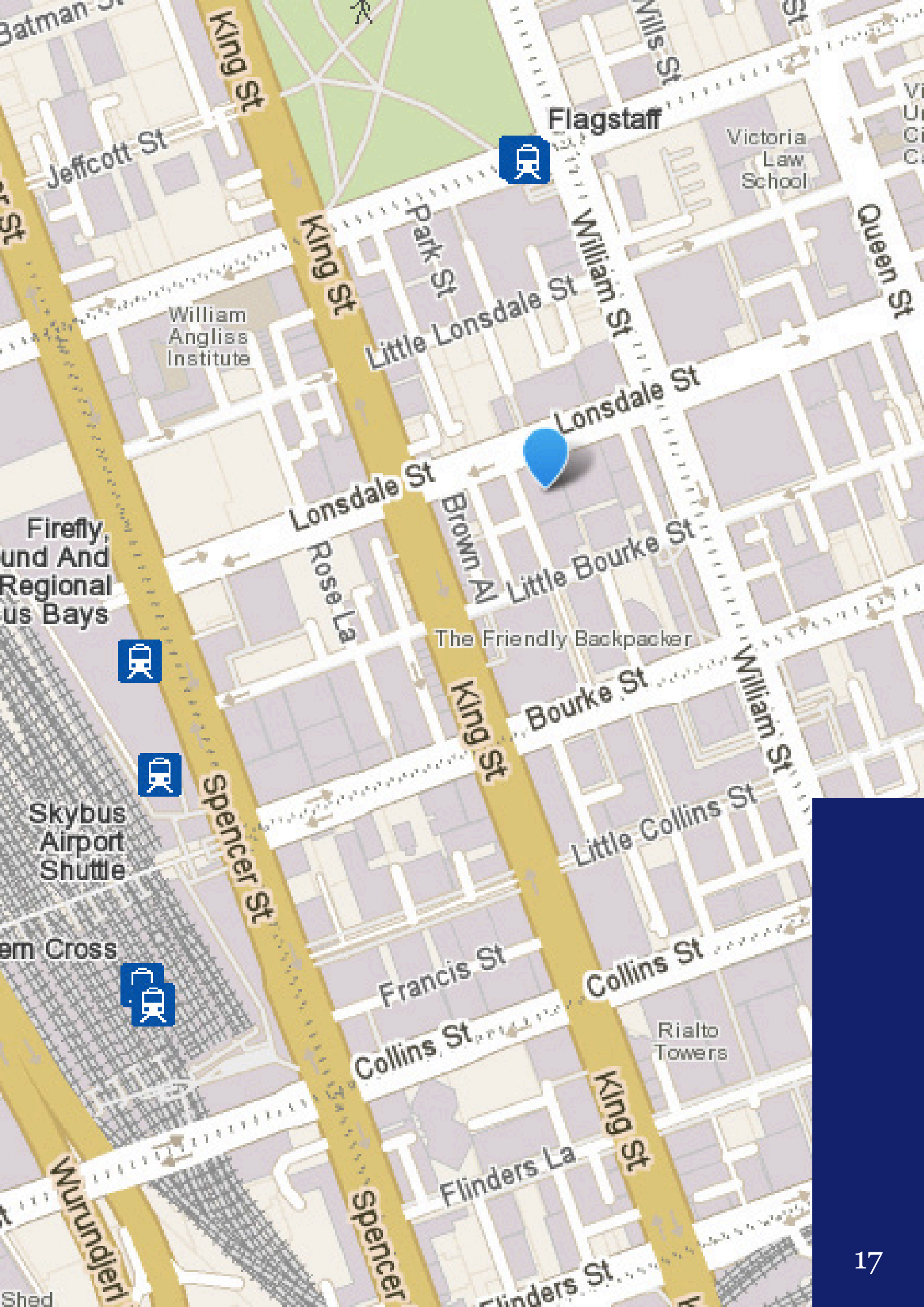
the number of participating professionals and as such varies from year to year. The form will ask the students to indicate the area of law they are most interested in pursuing as a career. The LSS careers team will then attempt to match the successful candidates with a professional mentor who can enrich their understanding of their preferred field. While we cannot guarantee that we will find a corresponding mentor for every student's preferred practice area, we aim to provide as close of a match as possible. Involvement in the program will be invaluable to growth as a legal professional.

The program will commence with a networking evening in May where students will be able to meet their assigned mentors for the first time, as well as network with other industry professionals. After this, students and their respective mentors are expected to meet throughout the duration of the program, although more regular interaction is encouraged. These meetings can be face-to-face or take place via telephone or email. It is essential that students take full advantage of this rare opportunity to connect with their mentor and benefit from their experiences by ensuring regular contact is maintained. The students will be expected to take initiative in fostering their relationship with their mentor, as this is a skill that is of great importance in the professional realm and one which the LSS seeks to foster.

The program has been highly successful since its inception, which is reflected by the consistent rise in the number of participating students and professionals, all of whom are keen to be involved in such an important educational experience. The program continually receives positive praise from all involved, which has helped us to connect students with highly respected industry professionals. In the past, students have expressed that this opportunity fostered their networking skills and encouraged them to consider professional avenues they had not previously considered. Students that apply to participate in the 2020 program can expect to gain similar benefits. Other than general and personalised guidance, students might also receive shadowing opportunities. Most importantly, they will gain access to insider knowledge which will help them plan for their futures more effectively.



The Careers Team and wider LSS take great pride in being able to offer this program to students, it is one that should be grabbed with both hands.



Activities & Involvement

LSS Events

The JD Activities portfolio will be hosting a plethora of events in 2020 to give everyone a chance to get their minds off study, have a laugh and get to know your cohort. We deserve it! There are so many reasons we encourage fellow students to take time out of their busy schedules and attend our events. Our events aim to appeal to a variety of interests with a good mix of 'party' and 'chill', so there is something for everyone. The Monash JD prides itself in having a diverse cohort in terms of age, life experience, and work experience. Our events are a great way to make all kinds of friends. We are a small cohort and our events aim to foster that tight-knit community vibe, because let's face it, getting through this degree is a lot easier with people by your side.

Each trimester will begin with a Welcome Drinks! So that's three times per year and they are all free to LSS members. This is a great opportunity to get to know other students (new and old) in a relaxed and fun environment and welcome the new trimester positively! This is also a chance for those who have signed up as a mentor or mentee in the Peer Mentoring Program to meet each other. This program matches new JD students to other experienced JD students to share their advice and knowledge about the course ahead.

Keep an eye out for our Barefoot Bowls event we will be holding in the first trimester, perfect for everyone! This is a new event and we are hoping to make a bit of a day out of it with food, drinks and music! Come along and bring a bit of competitive nature in a friendly and breezy environment! This is a ticketed event and more information will be released on the JD LSS Facebook page closer to the event.

Now let's talk Cocktail Night! This is THE JD event to attend, so don't miss out. The Cocktail Night will be a night to remember with a photographer, DJ, great food and drinks all night. This is a ticketed event and whilst the more expensive one of the year, the LSS would not be putting together anything that we didn't love the idea of and want to go to ourselves – so come along for a night to remember.

Do you fancy yourself a little general knowledge whiz? Be sure to keep an eye out throughout the year for Trivia Night! This will be a ticketed event, but we will have some awesome prizes!

Our final event for the year will be the End of Exam Drinks. This will be a great opportunity to wind down, celebrate the end of the year and welcome the holidays lightheartedly!

There are a variety of ways students can find out about events, the most prominent platform being the JD LSS Facebook page which will feature information about events as they are released. We will also advertise around the Chambers in the lead up to the bigger events. Information about buying tickets for our ticketed events will be posted on the JD LSS Facebook page along with the event.

If you have any feedback or ideas, or simply would like to be involved in the lead up to these events, please drop us a line - jd.activities@monashlss.com.

We look forward to seeing you at our events!

Competitions



The JD Competitions Team for 2020 is excited to offer some fantastic competitions for law students to get involved in throughout the coming year. This year's competitions are Negotiation, the JD Moot, and Client Interview. Competitions offer an unparalleled extra-curricular learning experience for JD students and provide a chance to expand your law school experience beyond the classroom by engaging with the law in a hands-on way. The competitions 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. The workshops outline the structure of the competitions and any relevant background knowledge required to compete, and allows 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 provide insight into their approach and experience. Our team is always happy to have a chat about upcoming competitions and we welcome any questions that you may have throughout the year!

Negotiation Competition - Late January 2020

The ability to effectively negotiate is integral to dispute resolution. This competition gives students the opportunity to practice this valuable skill. Students compete in teams of two to conduct a 30-40 minute negotiation with another team. The aim of the negotiation is to settle a dispute on behalf of the respective clients, each trying to achieve the best possible outcome for the client they're representing. This competition is unique as no specific legal knowledge is required; instead, the focus is on interpersonal skills and ability on the day. Competitors will learn to critically analyse their client's interests, and be creative in exploring all options and proposals available to them.

JD Moot Competition - May 2020

The Monash JD Moot is a prestigious competition for students to practice both advocacy and legal research skills. The competition replicates the moot court experience, where teams present oral submissions in front of a presiding judge. The JD Moot is not only an opportunity for aspiring advocates and barristers; Senior and Junior Counsel can be supported by an instructing 'solicitor' proficient in legal research and problem-solving. The competition consists of two preliminary rounds and finals, requiring competitors to invest a substantial amount of time in both planning and execution. The additional time and effort is an investment in invaluable feedback from an experienced bench of judges, and exposure to advocacy and courtroom litigation. Competitors who reach the Grand Final round will also have the unique and exhilarating opportunity to present their arguments in the Federal Court. The Monash JD Moot promises to be one of your most formative experiences in Law School. Plan early and clear your schedule for May 2020!

Client Interview Competition - September 2020

The Client interview competition is the perfect opportunity for JD students, at any level of their law degree, to compete and practise interviewing a prospective client. This competition requires teams of two students to simulate a 30 minute initial consultation with a prospective client. The aim of the competition is to listen and communicate effectively with the client, and to work out if they have a potential legal claim. This competition is great for first year students wanting to get involved with competitions as it does not require extensive legal knowledge or preparation. All you need is confidence and an open mind!



Careers

LSS Careers Events

The best way to make sure you don't miss out on any event is to like 'Monash LSS Careers Information' and the 'Monash JD Law Student Society' page on Facebook. These pages will post out a form in where participants can register. Having an LSS membership for these events is crucial to attending.

FROM STUDENT TO PROFESSIONAL

Our launch event of the year - this is a panel discussion where speakers from a range of backgrounds share their journey from student to professional, with question and answer time allowed. In 2019, the panel consisted of a barrister, in-house counsel, a government solicitor and a corporate lawyer. Whether you're a first-year student trying to understand where a law degree can take you or a final year student looking to secure that graduate position, this is a great place to start!

EXPERT PANEL SERIES

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 potential topics ranging from Mergers & Acquisitions to Projects to Litigation and Dispute Resolution, 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.

CLERKSHIP GUIDE LAUNCH

The Clerkship Guide Launch and Networking Evening is the largest commercial law and networking event of the 2020 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 Guide contains important information on firms, contacts and clerkship dates. It is the key resource for Monash law students undertaking their clerkship applications.



CLERKSHIP 101 SEMINAR

The Clerkship 101 Seminar is an opportunity for penultimate year law students to hear from recent clerks about the ins-and-outs of the application process and the clerkship itself. Following the presentation, a panel of recent clerks will be there to answer all your questions on applications, interviews, cocktail evenings and all things clerkship.

CLERKSHIP Q&A

This is the final official clerkship event before applications open and is the last opportunity to hear representatives from firms explain their clerkship process. The panel will be made up 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.

MOCK INTERVIEWS

Mock Interviews are back for 2020! Students have the opportunity to participate in a simulated interview at one of our Platinum Sponsor firms. The mock interviews will provide students with feedback for improving their interview skills. The Mock Interviews require successful students to submit both a resume and cover letter to the firm.

SMALL & BOUTIQUE FIRM SEMINAR

Recognising that traditional employment in large commercial law firms is not for everyone, the Small & Boutique Firm Seminar put Monash law students in contact with graduate employers in the area. Open for all students to attend, the event is sure to change the way you understand graduate employment.

JOURNEY TO THE BAR

Considering a career at the Bar? Come and hear a panel of barristers explain their journey from graduation to successful careers at the Bar. Complete with a question and answer panel, students can find out how to enter a career advocating in court and fighting for their client on the front line.

CRIMINAL AND FAMILY LAW PANEL

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.



Careers after the JD

Law graduates can be employed in various sectors after completing the JD. While undertaking the JD, it can be difficult to determine the right career path for you. Students are encouraged to be proactive throughout their degree; research and engage in areas of the law and broader community that interest them. A great place to start is to attend in the LSS career events. It is important to remember that you don't need to have it all figured out, and you may 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, manage chambers and undertake various 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 CLCs assist disadvantaged clients in the community obtain legal advice and assistance. There are over 40 CLCs in Victoria which provide free legal aid in a broad range of practice areas. There are both generalist and specialist legal aid which provide different levels of legal services to the community. Students aspiring to be 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, IP or property. In-house counsel is not typically available for law graduates. 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.

Volunteering



Volunteering is one of the most easily accessible ways law students can apply the skills they have learnt in the JD, while adding value to a worthwhile cause. It allows students to widen their professional network and build an impressive skill set which makes them more desirable to future employers.

There are over 40 different Community Legal Centres (CLCs) where students can volunteer. Monash students are lucky enough to have the opportunity to participate in 3 CLCs run by Monash University.

Monash Law Clinics provide free advice and assistance in a wide range of areas of law to members of the community. The aim of the Monash Law Clinics is to help people who are unable to afford private legal assistance and representation or are unable to obtain access to the legal system because of language barriers or other 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 including criminal, motor vehicle accident, neighbourhood disputes, and family law matters. There are two intakes per year, April and September. Students wanting 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 SMLS are required to complete the volunteer application form or contact the Volunteer Coordinator listed on the SMLS website.

CLCs provide a range of services including information, referral, legal advice as well as caseworks which includes representation services. They are also involved in law and policy reform, community legal education and community legal development. 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 such as mental health law or youth law. This allows students to explore niche areas of law outside of the general criminal or commercial law areas.

Overall, volunteering at a CLC is a fantastic way for law students to gain practical work experience while also giving back to the community. Fortunately, it also has the added side benefit of being an impressive addition to CVs. Students should be advised of the application requirements by visiting the CLC websites. All Victorian CLCs can be found by visiting: www.clcvolunteers.net.au.



Pre-Clerkship Programs

There are numerous opportunities for pre-penultimate students to engage in legal work and programs with commercial and professional services firms. Not only is it valuable practical experience, but also give an insight into the firms themselves and their day-to-day work life. Below is a non-exhaustive list of some of the programs and offerings from commercial and professional services firms. Students should take the opportunity to do their own research and consider the vast opportunities available. Students should be advised of the application process, entry requirements, and key date with the firms themselves.

Allens Linklaters – Dive In

Dive In is a introductory program which aims to equip students with skills needed to apply for clerkships, paralegal positions and internships. The program will give students an insight 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 KWM work with.

InsideSherpa Programs

Many firms now have virtual experience programs through the platform InsideSherpa. The virtual experience programs aim to build job ready skill 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 team work. Below is a non-exhaustive list of the programs available on InsideSherpa.

- **Arnold Bloch Leibler** – Capital Markets, Corporate and M&A
- **King & Wood Mallesons** – Commercial Law and Introduction to Law
- **Minter Ellison**
- **Ashurst** – Commercial Law
- **Baker McKenzie**
- **Corrs Chambers Westgrath**
- **Pinsent Masons**
- **White & Case**
- **Leo Cussen** – Human Rights Law Virtual Internship
- **Latham & Watkins** – M&A and White Collar Defense & Investigations
- **Linklaters** – Commercial Law

Women at White & Case – Mentoring Program

The Women at White & Case Mentoring Program encourages students to engage in discussions about career aspirations, progressions 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 experiences.

EY – Career Compass Program

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

KPMG – Foundations Program

This 1-day program is designed to provide an immersive learning experience and equip students with the knowledge and skills that will empower their career choices. The program gives students the opportunity to network with peers and professionals, learn more about KPMG and participate in sessions that provide an insight into life at KPMG.

Deloitte – Insider Program

This 1-day workshop provides a behind-the-scenes look at Deloitte. Students who participate in the program may get fast tracked towards becoming a paid Summer Intern. The workshop also provides students an opportunity to shadow teams in areas such as digital, actuary, audit, cyber, forensics and economics. The program teaches valuable skills which are aimed at making students job-ready.

Clerkships

A clerkship (pronounced: clark-ship) 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, experience life at a law firm and build your network. A clerkship is an important step for those wishing to secure a career in some firms as a graduate lawyer. Clerkships ordinarily run over three periods: December of your penultimate year, and January or July of your final year. This enables students to be ready to accept a graduate role once completed the JD.

Who should apply?

Students wishing to explore career options with commercial firms, professional service organisations, plaintiff firms 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 Law Students' Society 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 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.

Throughout 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 time to entice applicants to work with them and to provide an opportunity to meet lawyers working for the firm.

Offers

Offers are made in October and there are strict rules to follow when accepting. It is important to remember that a large number of students do not clerk and it is not the end of your legal career if you do not participate. Many go on to successful and fulfilling careers without ever completing a clerkship.





Applications & Interviews

Try these tips to build your resume, prepare for your interview and get your foot in the door.

1. Extra-Curricular Activities

It's important to participate in both legal and non-legal extra-curricular activities while at law school to refine your skills and boost your resume. Consider participating in a range of activities offered by the Monash LSS, volunteer at a CLC, join committee and groups that interest you, and be involved in activities and/or sports.

2. Work experience

Legal and non-legal work experience are excellent opportunities to learn how to engage with people from all walks of life. Students can be employed in legal and non-legal jobs in a variety of legal sectors while studying. In the legal sector, students can be employed as legal assistants, paralegals, workroom clerks, and receptionists. Working in the legal sector while studying provides the opportunity for students to engage with the broader law community and be exposed to daily life in that area. However, non-legal work experience is just as valuable. Often skills such as effective written and verbal communication, leadership, teamwork, and dispute resolution are integral components of all workplaces.

3. Refine your application skills

Many applications will require applicants to upload a resume, cover letter, and academic transcript. Having effectively written resumes and cover letters can make a big difference in getting an interview. Monash Career Connect has face-to-face and online workshops on writing resumes and cover letters, addressing key selection criteria, creating a LinkedIn profile, and interview skills. Applicants are encouraged to seek assistance compiling these documents to refine their application skills.

4. Answering legal questions

Legal applications often require answering questions that demonstrate an applicant's interest in the sector. Overleaf are two examples from successful students.



Who inspires you and why?

I was recently privileged to hear Mina, a software engineer, speak and am inspired by her for many reasons. She is a leader and innovator in a highly competitive and traditionally male dominated industry. Perhaps the most important thing I've learnt from listening to Mina is to always ask the question why. When trying to create change, many people first ask how, but Mina highlights the importance of understanding the problem before formulating a solution. She exemplifies this through her involvement in industries that are traditionally hierarchical and potentially inefficient. As a leader, she is not afraid to think differently and to work persistently to create a more effective solution. She is not afraid to take risks and is honest about her successes and failures. Her experience inspires me as I see the need for the application of similar skills in the legal industry and having her ambition is something I aspire to in my own career.

What is a recent legal issue and how would it affect our clients?

There will be significant changes to IP and consumer protection laws in the lead up to the Commonwealth Games. Stringent measures ensure that the use of images, references and factual statements – even those ordinarily allowed – may be in breach of

IP laws relating to the Games. The tech sector will be impacted by these laws, particularly clients who operate in media and advertising. Changes to IP laws will undoubtedly trip up even the most innocent advertisers. The firm's advice will need to be tailored to comply with the legislation to avoid any breaches whilst also assisting clients to capitalise on the atmosphere surrounding the Games in a way that is consistent with IP law. The firm will need to advise clients on new regulations and ensure compliance with IP laws as a priority for the clients.

5. Interview skills

Interview skills are crucial to securing the position and a chance to determine if the work environment is the right fit for you. Interviewers often ask behavioural questions such as 'tell me about a time you worked in a team?' or 'tell me about a time when you showed initiative?'. It is essential that applicants draw on personal experiences outlined in their resume and cover letter when answering these questions. It may be helpful to use the STAR method; start by describing the situation, task, action and result. If you can, relate this back to the values and objectives of the place of work. Lastly, applicants should be honest and genuine in the interview process and not change to 'fit-in' at a workplace.



6. Offers

If you haven't been successful in this instance keep persisting. Most people experience rejections when seeking employment. It is important to reflect on the experience and be persistent in applying for other jobs.

Key Dates

Academic Dates

Trimester 1

Teaching period	6 Jan - 27 Mar
Orientation	7 Jan
New intake teaching period	13 Jan - 27 Mar
Easter (University close down)	10 - 14 Apr
SWOT Vac	30 Mar - 3 Apr
LSS Revision Tutorials	30 Mar – 2 Apr
Examinations	6 - 17 Apr
Results published	1 May
Deferred exam period	29 Apr - 1 May

Trimester 2

Teaching period	4 May - 24 Jul
Orientation	28 Apr
SWOT Vac	27 - 31 Jul
LSS Revision Tutorials	27 – 30 Jul
Examinations	3 - 12 Aug
Results published	28 Aug
Deferred exam period	19 - 21 Aug

Trimester 3

Teaching period	24 Aug - 13 Nov
Orientation	18 Aug
SWOT Vac	16 - 20 Nov
LSS Revision Tutorials	16 – 19 Nov
Examinations	23 Nov - 2 Dec
Results published	18 Dec
Deferred exam period	9 - 11 Dec

LSS JD Competition Dates

Negotiations Introductory Workshop	14 Jan
Negotiations Competition Rounds	21 – 30 Jan
Negotiations GF	30 Jan
JD v LLB Moot	2 Mar
Moot Introductory Workshop	7 May
Moot Competition Rounds	11 May – 20 May
Moot GF	20 May
Client Interview Introductory Workshop	2 Sep
Client Interview Competition Rounds	7 Sep – 17 Sep
Client Interview Grand Final	17 Sept

LSS Activity Dates

JD T1 Mentor Program Welcome Drinks	16 Jan
JD Barefoot Bowls	1 Feb
Harmony Day Lunch	23 Mar
Boat Cruise	26 Mar
JD T2 Mentor Program Welcome Drinks	14 May
JD Cocktail Night	5 Jun
JD/LLB Trivia Night	6 Aug
Social Justice and Equity Keynote Address	26 Aug
RUOK Day Lunch	10 Sep
Law Ball	16 Sep
JD Trivia Night	22 Oct
JD End of Year Drinks	4 Dec

LSS Careers Events

Student to Professional Night (Chambers)	24 Feb
Clerkship 101 (Chambers)	4 Mar
Expert Panel (Projects) (Chambers)	7 Mar
Expert Panel (M&A)	25 Mar
Expert Panel (Litigation or tax)	28 Apr
Clerkship Guide Launch & Networking	6 May
Beyond Commercial Careers Fair (Clayton)	18 May
Professional Mentoring Launch	27 May
CV Workshop	3 Jun
Clerkship Q&A (graduate) Panel (Chambers)	25 Jun
Small & Boutique Firms Seminar (Chambers)	20 Jul
Practical Legal Training Seminar (Clayton)	5 Aug
In-House Seminar (Chambers)	24 Aug
Criminal & Family Law Seminar (Chambers)	15 Sep
Journey to the Bar (Chambers)	22 Sep
PLT Seminar (Chambers)	5 Oct

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