

2017 Murdoch Student Law Society

CAREERS GUIDE



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Contents Page

Dean's Address	7
Editor's Address	8
2017 Legal Trends	9
Applications	11
The Curriculum Vitae	12
Cover Letters	16
Interviews	20
Personal Branding	27
Email Etiquette	29
Professional Networking	30
Commercial Awareness	32
Careers In Law	33
Private Sector	34
Public Sector	37
Paralegal at WA Police	42
Associateships	43
High Court of Australia	45
Federal Court of Australia	45
Magistrates Court	46
State Administrative Tribunal	46
Family Court	46
Supreme Court of Western Australia	47
District Court of Western Australia	49
Associateship Experience	50
Graduate Experience Articles	51
Graduate at Ashurst	52
Graduate at O'Sullivan Davies	53
Graduate at Allen & Overy	54
Graduate at Solomon Brothers	55
Practice Areas	57
Banking and Finance	58
Competition and Trade	59
Construction and Infrastructure	60
Criminal Law	62
Family Law	63
Projects	64
Corporate	65

Employment.....	66
Intellectual Property.....	68
Litigation & Dispute Resolution.....	69
Property & Real Estate.....	70
Taxation.....	71
Corporate Advisory.....	73
EY.....	73
PwC.....	76
KMPG.....	77
Deloitte.....	78
Vacationer at PwC.....	79
Careers Beyond Law.....	80
Journalism.....	81
Publishing.....	81
Finance.....	82
International Humanitarianism.....	83
Other Non-Governmental Organisations.....	83
Practical Legal Training.....	84
Guide To Becoming A Lawyer.....	85
Practical Legal Training.....	86
The College of Law.....	86
Leo Cussen Centre for Law.....	88
NU Legal Workshop.....	89
The Piddington Justice Project.....	90
Australian Admission Requirements.....	91
PLT Experience.....	92
International Admission Requirements.....	94
Careers In Criminology.....	96
Jobs Using Your Criminology Degree.....	98
Officer in Community Corrections.....	99
Department for Child Protection and Family Support.....	100
Doctor of Philosophy.....	101
Honours Project Officer.....	102
Volunteering.....	103
Employment Law Centre.....	104
The Humanitarian Group.....	105
Mental Health Law Centre.....	106
Citizen's Advice Bureau.....	107
Fremantle CLC.....	108

Consumer Credit Legal Services (WA).....	109
SCALES.....	110
Legal Aid WA.....	111
CLC Directory.....	113
Education.....	114
Honours in the Murdoch School of Law.....	115
Post-Graduate Studies.....	116
Internships.....	119
Legal Internship (LLB301).....	120
Aurora Internship.....	120
Central Desert Native Title Service.....	121
Exchange Programs.....	122
European Summer Law Program.....	123
International Human Rights Program in Geneva.....	123
Study in India.....	123
Study in Germany.....	124
Study in Indonesia.....	124

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The Murdoch Student Law Society would like to thank the following students and alumni for their contributions to the 2017 Clerkship Guide and ensuring its successful completion.

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Dean's Address



This Career's Guide is yet another example how our students here at the Law School pull together and work for the benefit of all of us. I think this really deserves a great 'THANK YOU' and a well done. We need this engagement by our students to make this Law School the best that it can be and I would encourage all students to contribute to this joint effort. Joining the MSLS could be a good first start.

There has been a lot of talk this past year on employability of Law graduates. Some of it seemed like a ghost debate to me. Who could argue with the fact that the employment market in Australia in general and in WA in particular has gotten tougher. Of course it has. There is a lot of competition out there. But having said that the times, if they ever existed, when admission to a University and specifically to a law degree meant that all professional worries had stopped before they ever started, do not exist anymore. This mystical paradise has been

gone for a long time. Not every law graduate will be a practicing solicitor but not every law graduate became a practicing solicitor in the past either. In fact the going number for the past decade has been that about 50% end up in practice. Quite a few drop out of practice again after a few years, too. There are not many degrees out there that will give you a better shot at a career. Think about it.

The law degree opens many doors in government and business and beyond working with the law in the narrow sense. Those doors open for those who stretch themselves and work hard and do more than just aiming to get through. Networking is important, in its broadest sense. Knowing what is going on. Knowing that "the Terrace" is not the be all and end all of a law degree. Knowing that the number of clerkships and graduate hires on "the Terrace" is not necessarily indicative of the job market overall. Knowing that most legal work is not done within the walls of the very big firms. It is done in small firms, boutique firms, specialised firms, medium sized firms, it is done in government offices and departments, in businesses of all sizes. Knowing that you need to be present with more than just your degree. For example, with decent or good grades ("HDs required" is a myth) that show that you have put in the work. For example, with having held a job, which is something employers have told me over and over that they look for. For example, with enhancing your skills and personality by moving outside your comfort zone, e.g. by seeking opportunities to broaden your education, engaging with the MSLS, entering mooted competitions and similar things. Yes, indeed, by knowing about the world out there, the political, the business and all the other worlds. Our clinical offerings can be a real eye opener in that regard.

So don't just do your units. Do more. Make the best of your time while you are with us. Be engaged, here at the Law School or for other causes. Take on responsibilities. Contribute where you can and you will personally gain from your contribution. Do not be complacent and do not think somebody else is going to walk the walk for you. What you will find when you do this in your personal fashion, suiting your interests and fitting into your time constraints is almost counter-intuitive – you will find lots of fun. You will find people you will learn from. You will build networks. So I am not writing this to create an impression of constant activism 24/7/365. Not at all. Just an appeal to do something meaningful beyond your studies. Just an appeal for you to open your eyes to the world. Just an appeal to you to be concerned with your future but not to worry about your future. You will get your fair go – after all, we are in Australia, are we not?

Professor Dr Jurgen Brohmer,

Dean of Murdoch Law School

Editor's Address



Welcome to the 2017 Murdoch Student Law Society's Careers Guide!

I have had the pleasure of working with the Education and Careers team to create a practical guide on the various pathways a Murdoch law degree can take you. Careers choices can be daunting and confusing, especially in the competitive legal market for graduates. However, do not be discouraged. It is an exciting time to be a law graduate! In the ever increasing interconnected world we live in, a law degree presents opportunities across different industries all over the globe.

The truth is, the law is a vital component to protecting the rights of children, employees, families, businesses and corporations. As law students, we have the privilege of understanding the complexities of the rules that govern all aspects of our society. Thus, do not fear! A law degree is extremely valuable, and will allow you to enter a profession that serves both your skills and interests.

The intention for this year's guide was to ensure students feel well-informed and prepared about the opportunities and careers that are out there. The guide walks you through the application process for legal positions, admission requirements, volunteering opportunities and the various, private sector, public sector and non-legal career pathways available to you. We also have numerous alumni profiles that provide valuable insight to the legal profession and tips for future graduates.

I encourage all students to make great use of the guide and the information provided. Make note of the opportunities that are available to you as a penultimate student, graduate or otherwise, and seize them. As the saying goes...the world is your oyster!

I would like to sincerely thank the Education and Careers Team; Adriana Costanzo (Education & Careers Vice President) and Chelsea White (Educations Officer) for their assistance in putting the guide together.

I would also like to thank all contributors to the guide who have dedicated their time in writing pieces, as well as our sponsors who have provided us with their support. The guide is a valuable resource and would not be available without your assistance.

To all students and readers of this guide, I hope you feel encouraged and excited about your future career. If you would like to provide any feedback, please feel free to get in contact with me via my details on the MSLS website.

Good Luck!

Kashmirra Thevar

2017 Careers Officer

2017 Legal Trends

Brexit

Britain's decision to leave the European may mean slowed economic growth in the UK and Europe. This may lead to slower growth in Australia, having a negative impact on commercial activity.

Technology

There have been rapid changes in information technology and telecommunications. Most notably, block chain – the emerging technology that promises a trusted way to track asset ownership while eliminating the need for intermediaries. This has become increasingly relevant in the practice of Intellectual property and identity verification. Further there has been greater use of virtual law firms and cloud computing

Growth of boutique, specialist and focus firms

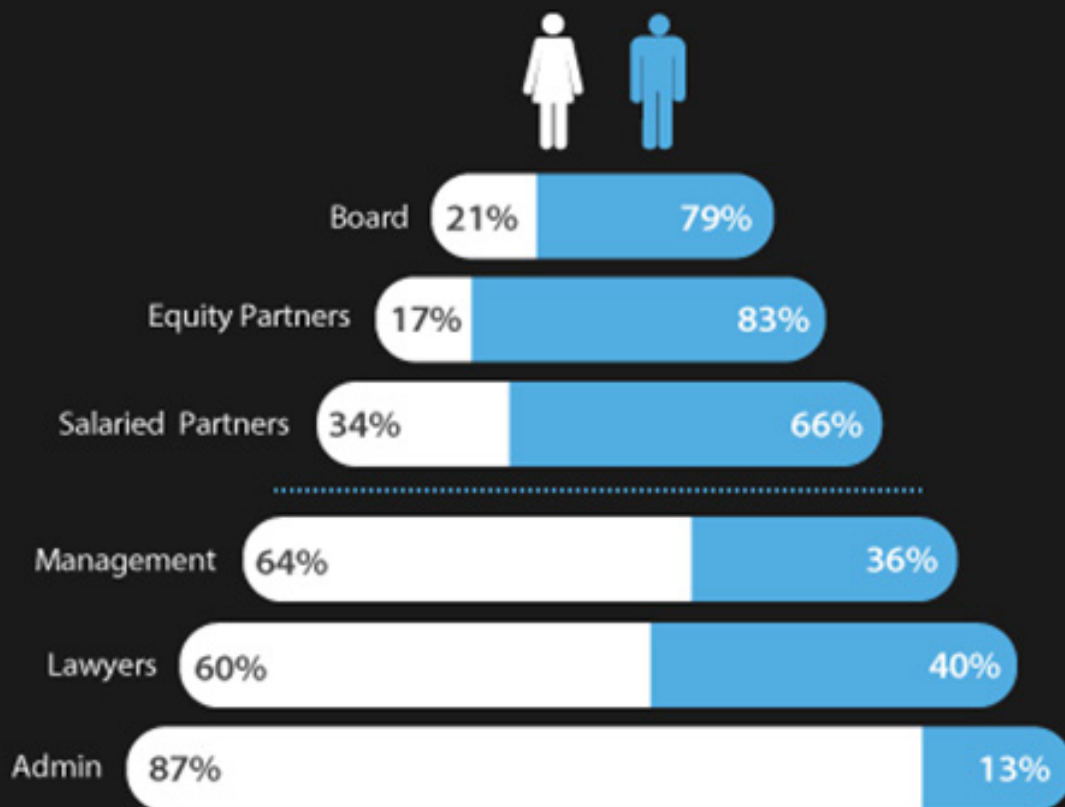
The *2016 Australia: State of the Legal Market* report by Melbourne Law School and Thomson Reuters Peer Monitor®, have noted the growth of specialist firms and boutique firms that focus on niche areas of law and offer tailored legal advice. The focus has grown on concentrating on a particular client types or industries.

Emergence of Multidisciplinary practices

Traditional auditing firms have expanded to grow their legal departments. They provide legal services – predominantly in tax but are also expanding to other range of legal services. PwC, KPMG, EY and Deloitte have all expanded the legal capabilities worldwide across jurisdictions meet the multi-purpose needs of the clients, offering a holistic and integrated service. This opens new opportunities for law graduates and prospective consultants

Gender balance by role at Australian law firms

"Women dominate the Australian legal profession but continue to be under-represented in partner ranks and in law firm board rooms." Emma Elliott, ALPMA Director



Research Partner:



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Australasian Legal Practice
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Results of the 2016 ALPMA/Empire Group
Australasian Legal Industry Salary & HR Issues Survey
For more information & to purchase the full report
visit www.alpma.com.au/Research/salary-survey

Applications



The Curriculum Vitae

The aim of your CV is to ensure you gain an interview. It should present your relevant achievements, skills and experience in a way that is clear and easy to read. Typically, the first part of your interview with a firm will be questions relating to information from your CV. Thus, be truthful and ensure you are able to go into further details during an interview. Here are some tips to remember when preparing your CV.

- Carefully review your CV for spelling mistakes
- Be concise and specific. Assume no one will read your CV word to word
- Ensure it is easy to read. Use headings such as: Personal Details; Education; Employment History; Achievements/Awards; Community Service; Qualifications & Interests; References
- Use a sensible font and font size e.g. "size 10- 12 Times New Roman or Arial"
- Keep your CV to two to three pages. If yours is any longer, try to cut down by focusing on the achievements and experiences that will distinguish you from other candidates
- Use the active voice and begin bullet points with a verb
- Put your name and page number in the footer of each page
- Tailor your CV to ensure that there is a connection between your experience and the position you are applying for
- Focus on achievements and experiences that will distinguish you from other candidates.
- Keep a master CV that details all of your work experience, achievements and skills. This way, you can tailor your CV to each specific application.

What To Include

Title and Personal details

- Include your name, address, contact phone number and email address at the top of the page
- Make sure you use a professional email account (name and the provider). Outlook and gmail is preferred over hotmail

Professional Summary

- This is a summary of your career objective
- It should state the type of position and the company you are seeking
- Ensure that your summary is not too generic

Education

- Include your educational history – including the years you were enrolled in that institution
- List your most recent education first
- Include any academic achievements, thesis topics and WACE/TER Score
- You may also choose to include non-university educational qualifications here, such as online courses, TAFE or other

Work Experience

- Include all work experience
- If you have legal work experience that's great, but if not, there is nothing to worry about
- Include whatever work experience you do have and include the tasks and skills that were required that would be useful in a clerkship candidate (e.g. roles of responsibility, leadership and team work, client service, time management skills)
- For each role, describe your role, achievements, skills, projects undertaken, hours worked and the period in which you were in the position

Achievements

- Scholarships, MSLS competition awards, academic awards
- Ensure to include activities from the past five year. If something is important to you outside that time period you can still include it, but within reason. It's probably unnecessary to include your year six merit award, as special as it is

Community Service / Extra – curricular activities

- Employers want well-rounded people. Include information from all areas of your life eg sporting achievements, exchange programs, club/societies, volunteer work, certificate training etc

Interests

- Briefly include your personal interests and hobbies
- Make it interesting but ensure it is appropriate at the same time
- Some HR representatives take great note of this section – and may ask you about it in a one-one interview. Thus ensure it is truthful

Sample CV¹

Rebecca Stone

1 South St Murdoch W.A. 6150 | Mob: 0457 457 356 | Email: name@server.com.au | LinkedIn Profile

Third year Law student with previous experience as a Volunteer Paralegal at the Mental Health Law Centre and current Aurora Law Intern at the South West Aboriginal Justice Service. Strong written and verbal communication skills with the ability to effectively convey legal jargon to a wider audience. Also participated in national student competitions demonstrating an additional strength in both discipline and multidiscipline team work. (NOTE: tailor this summary to the job vacancy advertised / employer – using their language)

Education & Academic Qualifications

Bachelor of Laws

(Graduating with Honours end of 2019)

Murdoch University

Key Achievements

2017 Member of the International Maritime Law Arbitration Moot Team (second place)

2016 Participant in the Big Issue (social enterprise), “Big Idea” multi-discipline national university team competition

Skills

Communication / Team Skills

- High standard of verbal communication and collaborative team skills evidenced by recent mooting experience and involvement in the Big Idea national student team competition (third place Perth based team)
- Strong written skills including business writing and writing for the web, though previous Paralegal role with a local Community Legal Centre and South West Aboriginal Justice Service internship

Research

- Evidenced through Distinction results for ? and ? unit and relevant experience supporting South West Aboriginal Justice Service legal representatives in their preparation for court hearings.
(Add more skills relevant to the job vacancy advertised / employer and include an example/s)

¹Provided by the Careers and Employment Centre

Relevant Experience

Current Law Intern (6 weeks)

Aurora Project – placement with South West Aboriginal Justice Service

Responsibilities

- Drafting of court documents
- Attending court with the South West Aboriginal Justice Service legal representative
- Assisting in the preparation of submissions to Government funding sources

Achievement: Rated by immediate supervising Lawyer as having high level research skills and being a collaborative team member with initiative and enthusiasm

2016 Volunteer Paralegal

Mental Health Law Centre (WA)

(Perth based community legal centre funded to provide a free specialist legal service throughout Western Australia to people with a mental illness that is causally related to their legal issue).

Responsibilities

- Acting as an initial contact point for inquiries
- Researching and uploading information on the centre website
- Drafting legal correspondence

Other Experience

Current Part-time Team Leader

McDonalds Australia (Melville)

Responsibilities

- Working in a fast paced environment, supervising a team of 15 and ensuring the smooth running of operations together with ensuring quality customer service.

Achievements

- Promoted to Team Leader role within four months and awarded “Team leader of the month” three times over the past two years. in a fast paced environment, supervising a team of 15 and ensuring the smooth running of operations together with ensuring quality customer service.

Professional Affiliations & Memberships

2014 – Current Student Member of the WA Legal Theory Association

2015 Committee Member of Murdoch Student Law Society (MSLS)

Cover Letters

Purpose

Most firms will require a cover letter as part of your application for a clerkship or graduate role. A cover letter addresses the reasons why you are the best candidate for the position and your desire for a role at the specific firm. As hundreds of students apply for vacation clerkship positions every year, it is important your cover letter stands out. It should make the reader want to learn more about you and want to give you an interview. Generally speaking, all organisations are looking students with a strong academic record, sound research skills, and experience in leadership and teamwork.

General Tips

- Ensure your cover letter is individually tailored to the role and the firm. Before you start writing a cover letter, ensure that you thoroughly research the firm. This will consist of reading the firm's website as well as any recent press coverage they have had. Pay attention to details about the firm's culture, practice areas and other factors that may make the firm 'unique'
- Address the selection criteria of the role by demonstrating you have the abilities, knowledge, skills and experience
- Show how you share the organisation's goals and values. It is important that you fit in with the firm's culture
- Include your interest in the work and why the organisation appeals to you (e.g global opportunities, specialisations, clerkship program)
- Your cover page should be one page in length and no smaller than 11 point font. Times and Arial are acceptable. Make sure you justify your paragraphs
- Note that your resume is "enclosed" not attached (which means stapled or clipped)
- Proof-read your cover letter several times. Use [grammarly.com](https://www.grammarly.com) to look for mistakes that aren't ordinarily identified by Microsoft Word
- Makes sure to mention why you would be an asset for the firm

Cover Letter Format

Header

- Include your best contact number and email address at the top right hand corner of the page
- Ensure you have a professional email address
- The header is part of your 'personal brand' so be wary of how it is formatted
- Insert the name of the contact person, their position and the name of the organisation on the left hand side (look at sample below)

Contact Name

- Try to avoid "Dear Sir/Madam"
- It should be addressed to the relevant person (it will usually be the human resources manager or someone similar). You can find out who you need to address the letter to from the clerkship advertisement, or the firm's website.
- If you do not have the name of an individual, ring the firm and politely ask to whom you should address your cover letter to
- At last resort, the salutation should be "Dear Sir or Madam" (not "To Whom It May Concern")
- In the heading, state the name of the position you are applying for and the job reference number

First Paragraph

- The goals of this paragraph is to give the reader a reason to want to finish reading the letter
- Begin your letter with a strong statement of who you are and why you are writing
- Introduce yourself as a law student (including the year you are in) or a graduate of Murdoch Law and specify what it is you are seeking: a vacation clerkship, a graduate position, part-time work during the year, etc.
- If you don't have a personal connection to cite, try to establish a nexus between yourself and the employer, such as knowledge of their practice, an established commitment to or interest in their work, or something else which conveys that you are not just writing to them as part of a mass mailing for any job in any location. (If that in fact is what you are doing, try not to be too obvious about it. An employer wants to think that you sought him or her out purposely rather than randomly.)

Body Paragraph

- The goal of this section is to convince the person reading your cover letter that you have the experience and skills necessary for this role
- It should cover two main aspects of you: your skills/ experience & your interest in the firm
- When writing about activities or projects that you have participated, ensure that you elaborate on "been involved"- did you enjoy the competitions? Has it sparked some interest in a particular area of law
- Try to show how your experiences will translate into skills which will be useful to this particular employer. Also highlight qualifications which are relevant to the organisation or to the issues they work on
- If you have general legal skills such as negotiation, litigation, client counselling, interviewing, trial advocacy, mooting, etc. you may want to include them
- Call attention to something that substantiates your interest in the employer. It could be coursework in their specialty, the recommendation of a lecturer in their area of practice, or any other indication of your interest
- As much as possible, try to convey understanding of, and enthusiasm for, the aims of the organisation

Final Paragraph

- In your last paragraph, thank them for their consideration, and say you hope to hear from them soon.
- For out-of-town employers, indicate when you plan to be in their geographic area and state your availability for an interview. Be sure to include your phone number and email in this paragraph unless you use a letterhead style that includes them at the top of the page.
- If you are bringing a cover letter to an interview (which is always good to do, just in case), the content will be a bit different. You do not need to introduce yourself, as you will be there in person, and you will not request an interview at the closing. But you can thank the employer for interviewing you and say that you welcome the opportunity to learn more about the employer and to discuss the possibility of working for them. The important thing is to show why you are interested in this particular employer, and how you think your background makes you a good match for them.

What Not To Include In A Cover Letter

- Do not include generic cover letters. Your cover letter should reflect sound research into the firm's practice areas, opportunities and culture
- Avoid abbreviations, contractions and shortcuts (such as apostrophes, forward slashes etc)
- Do not restate your resume. Don't waste space with facts that are readily gleaned from your resume! Instead, you could write (briefly) how your work experience led you to pursue a legal career in an area practiced by the employer
- Do not focus too much on what you stand to gain from the job. Remember, employers only grant interviews to candidates who offer something of potential use to the employer. Try to say how your skills and enthusiasm will help the employer serve its clients, or otherwise further its aims
- Do not be too informal
- Enthusiasm is good, but it must be presented professionally. Also be weary of being defensive or apologetic; appearing arrogant or entitled; and being too long and wordy
- Do not exaggerate or be too vague with your skills and experiences
- Generic reasons for your interest in the employer (e.g. their 'excellent reputation') tend to demonstrate your lack of specific knowledge
- Typos and inaccuracies (e.g. misspelled names or stating interest in an area that the firm or organisation doesn't practice in) will dampen your application.

Skills

It is important to demonstrate that you have developed skills through your participation in law competitions, work experience and extra-curricular activities. Listed below are a range of skills students may have acquired as a law student. It is important to highlight the skills relevant to you and ensure they are consistent with the selection criteria advertised by the firm.

Functional/ Practical – These are skills needed to perform a task	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Persuasive Writing • Organisational • Analytical • Decision Making • Delegation • Critical Thinking • Team work • Leadership
Personal Traits/Attitudes- characteristics that contribute to performing work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Results-oriented • Diplomatic • Empathetic • Entrepreneurial
Knowledge-based – specialised expertise needed to perform a task	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal research • Legal writing • Conflict Resolution • Commercial awareness • Customer service • Public speaking

Sample Cover Letter

Leedman Solicitors

[Be sure to spell the name of the firm correctly]

Katrina Hope

Human Resources

Leedman Solicitors

50 St Georges Terrace

Perth WA 6000

[Be sure to address the correct person]

27 March 2017

Dear Mr/Ms (Be sure to include the name of the person you are applying to)

RE: Graduate Programme Application For Summer 2015/Winter 2016

Please consider my application for the Leedman Solicitors graduate program. I am currently completing my last year of a combined Law/Arts degree at the University of Springfield. I have performed consistently throughout my time at university, with a strong average of 76 percent. [This first paragraph should explain why you are writing to them and make a good first impression]

I maintain a balanced lifestyle, and I participate in a wide range of activities outside of my university studies. I am able to balance these activities with strong time management skills. I am a member of a mixed soccer team and the Murdoch Student Law Society, both of which have developed my team working skills. My communication skills were greatly improved through my participation in the Springfield University client-interview competition last year, where my team made it through to the semi-finals. My participation in the negotiation competition held at Murdoch University has also increased my negotiation skills, which are a valuable for a firm like Leedman Solicitors, who highly value securing the best outcomes for their clients.

I am particularly interested in the areas of intellectual property competition and environmental law, all of which are areas of service offered at Leedman Solicitors. I have one year of work experience in a small family law firm, which I believe has developed my research and other basic skills to a level that make me a prime candidate for a clerkship and will allow me to really get the most out my time with.

I am attracted to Leedman Solicitors because of their reputation for outstanding client service, which has seen them receive numerous law awards. I also value this client-focused approach and feel I would be a good fit for the environment at Leedman Solicitors. Leedman Solicitors is an EOWA Employer of Choice for Women, and this is another strong attraction to me.

I look forward to hearing from you in relation to my application.

Yours sincerely

Lisa Graham

Interviews

Congratulations! If you have been offered an interview, the firm was impressed with your resume and cover letter and would now like to get to know you a little better. Every firm will have a slightly different interview process so it is important to understand and be prepared for the different types of interviews you may encounter.

Types of interviews

Phone interviews

After you have submitted your applications you can expect phone calls from the firms you have applied to at any time. They may call to enquire about part of your application or confirm your year of graduation. You may also receive a call to set up another type of interview. For this reason it is important to answer the phone professionally during this time, and also to make sure your voice mail message is appropriate.

You may be invited to participate in a phone interview. It is unlikely that this will be unplanned; usually the firm will book a time with you earlier. However, if the call does catch you off guard at a bad time, politely ask if you could re-schedule the interview for a more suitable time.

Assuming the phone interview is scheduled you will have plenty of time to be organised in advance. Make sure you have somewhere quiet to sit during the interview and be sure to let other members of your house know that you are expecting the call so that the phone is free.

Whilst a phone conversation can feel more awkward than a face-to-face conversation there are some advantages to a phone interview. For example, you will be able to have some notes in front of you to guide your answers to questions. However, these notes should be short and used only as cues, as it will be apparent to the interviewer if you attempt to read out prepared answers or take too long to answer while searching for information in front of you. It is also handy to have a copy of your application. This includes your resume, cover letter, academic transcript and any other details you provided with your online application. The interviewer will often use your application as a prompt to ask you questions and to learn a little more about your experience. Also have your diary and some paper with you to note down any important dates.

5 important things

1. Ensure you are somewhere quiet, with your phone fully charged
2. Have a pen and paper with you
3. Sound confident and friendly – this is their first impression of you
4. Ensure you are in a room, free of interruptions and good reception. Do not take the phone call outside or near an open window as rain and wind may affect the sound quality
5. Do not be afraid to ask them to repeat the question. It is better to clarify a question than answer one you think they asked

Interviews in Person

In a one-on-one interview you will meet with a member of the firm or someone from the human resources team. You will be asked a series of questions and often have the chance to ask the interviewer any questions you may have about the firm as well. The interviewer will set the tone of the interview. For consistency, some firms will provide interviewers with a set list of questions to ask each applicant, so don't panic if the interview seems a little rigid because it is just an attempt by the firm to make sure each applicant has the same opportunity to demonstrate their suitability for the position. Some firms may take a different approach and the interview will feel more conversational and relaxed, or there may be a mix of this and some set questions as well.

Interview Panel

This is the most common type of interview. The format is the same as the face to face interview with multiple interviewers. Usually the firm will select interviewers with different backgrounds and perspectives, for example, a partner and senior associate or a partner and a member of the human resources team. It is not uncommon for only one of the interviewers to ask the majority of the questions and the other to take notes. If this is the case avoid appearing to ignore the note-taking interviewer by keeping up eye contact when responding to questions. This will demonstrate that you are able to hold a conversation with multiple listeners.

Social Gathering

Social gatherings are becoming very common in the large firms as part of the interview process. They may take the form of a breakfast, morning tea or cocktail function with staff members from the firm. This type of interview can be intimidating but try to remember that the firm is just trying to see how you act in a relaxed group situation and get to know all of the applicants. Whilst your aim is to make a good impression it is important to try to find a balance between appearing rude by showing off and not giving anyone else the chance to speak and being too shy or quiet. The best plan for this type of interview is to relax, be yourself and be genuine. The more of these you do the easier they will become.

Group Interview/ Focus Groups

You may be asked to complete a task with a group of fellow applicants. The aim of this activity is to see how you work in a team. You may also be asked to complete an individual task at the same time as other applicants, such as completing a case note or summarising a reading. You will need to be able to demonstrate that you are able to listen to others and communicate your ideas effectively. Ensure you make valuable contributions and be assertive, not aggressive. To prepare, ask yourself if you are a naturally shy person or overbearing in groups. Do your best to accommodate for this during the assessment. Be diplomatic and aware of others in the group – ensure everyone gets a chance to share their thoughts and be willing to compromise with others. Also, keep an eye on the time and stay focused on the overall objective.

ALLEN & OVERY

Get connected to the rest of the world

Be part of something exciting

Allen & Overy was the first global elite law firm to commence operations in Australia. Our practice comprises hand-selected, top-tier partners and lawyers, each leaders and experts in their field.

Allen & Overy offers comprehensive legal services in Australian and international markets.

Our culture and the values we share inspire the way we work and behave: excellence in everyone and everything, dedication to our clients, helping our people to achieve their potential, respecting and including every individual, working together as one firm, and entrepreneurial spirit and energy.



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Interview Tips

The interview is an opportunity to demonstrate that you are a good fit for the firm. Everyone is nervous before an interview so some preparation can help you to feel in control and put you in a good stead.

Before the Interview

- Know where you are going! Check the name of the building and the level the interview is on
- Double check the time of the interview and plan ahead by arranging a lift or checking bus/train timetables so there are no hiccups on the day
- Plan your clothing. Appear professional by wearing business attire
- Make sure you have everything you are required to bring to the interview. This may include a passport photo and copies of your CV, cover letter and academic transcript
- Read through your application. You will be asked questions drawn from your resume and cover letter so you should refresh your memory by looking through them. Be prepared to discuss anything that is on your resume
- Go through practice questions. Think about the sorts of things you will be asked (see Practice Questions below) and consider how you would answer them
- If you are told the name of your interviewers beforehand, do some research and find out what their position is and what practice group they work in. This information is especially helpful if you have the opportunity to ask the interviewers questions
- Learn about the firm. For example, the firm may have recently merged with another firm or may be undertaking a case that is particularly interesting to you. The firm's website is a great place to start. Make note of the organisational structure, the number of partners/lawyers
- Taking the time to go through questions will help to avoid mental blanks due to nervousness in the interview. If you can it is good to practice with someone, because practicing out loud is a good way to get used to expressing yourself and structuring your answers
- Avoid memorising answers, this can make you seem insincere

Practice questions

There are endless questions that you may be asked during an interview. It is useful to prepare yourself by considering the kind of interview questions that commonly arise. Practicing interview questions is not so much about preparing the perfect answer, rather practicing how to communicate your experiences and demonstrating how they will help you in your future employment. The following practice questions will give you an idea of the kinds of questions you can expect.

Questions about the firm

- What interests you in working with us?
- What practice areas interest you?
- What do you know about the firm? What interests you about a boutique/medium/large firm?
- Why do you want to become a corporate lawyer?
- Why do you want to work for the government?
- Which of our practice areas appeal to you most?
- Which of our offices (location wise) would you like to work in and why?
- What is your current understating of the legal climate and how do you think it would affect us?
- What are the three most important factors when choosing the right firm for you?
- How do your own goals and interests fit into the firm structure?
- What practice areas does the firm focus on?
- Who are their key clients? Are they businesses, or "ordinary people"?
- What's going on in the market sector?
- Are there legal or regulatory changes on the way, or does the economic situation have a larger-than-usual impact?
- How would a domestic, international or global firm leverage a new client?

Questions about you

- Tell us about yourself
- Can you name three of your strengths?
- Name three of your weaknesses?
- Why did you choose to study law?
- What are your career goals?
- How do you manage to set aside time for relaxation?
- Do you enjoy working in a team?
- How do you manage work and extracurricular activities?
- What units have you enjoyed most at university and why?
- What units have you not enjoyed and why?
- What motivates you?
- What values are most important to you?
- What attributes do you have that would make you suitable for the position?
- Why did you choose to study law?
- What factors are important to you in choosing a potential employer?
- As a graduate what can you bring that the firm needs to achieve its goals?
- Name a way you have given back to the community?
- How would you deal with a person in a vulnerable/emotional situation?
- If we called your referees what would they say about you?

Questions about past experience

- Can you give an example of a time when you have displayed leadership?
- Have you worked in a team situation before?
- How did you deal with a team member who did not pull their weight?
- How did you deal with group disagreements?
- How did you manage the workload between the group members?
- Did you take on a leadership role within the team?
- When did you last collaborate with someone?
- Give an example of a time you have displayed initiative?
- Give an example of a time you have overcome a significant setback?
- Can you give an example of a time you have overcome failure.

Questions about past employment

- Where do you currently work?
- What skills have you developed from working in that environment?
- How have you ever dealt with a difficult client/customer?

Answering Questions

- If you are asked behavioural questions, (eg. Tell me about a time where you had implement constructive criticism), use the STAR model:
- **Situation** – Describe the situation you were in
- **Task** – What did you have to accomplish/ do?
- **Action** – What did you do to resolve the situation?
- **Result** – What was the outcome?

Sample Answer:

Situation:

During my fourth year of law school, I was elected as Vice President for our Social Enterprise Program for my student association. In my role, I was expected to secure room bookings, speak with faculty members, professionals and advertise our projects to the campus community.

Task:

Attendance at meetings had decreased substantially as our long-term projects required the time of which most students could not afford to give. Further, the executive members were deciding the projects we would take on and these were not consistent with members' development goals or interests. In my capacity, I set a goal of taking on a maximum 3 projects for the year of which were to be decided by members or the association. I also set a target of marketing our program to gain greater membership and students from different disciplines to provide new and refreshing perspectives.

Action:

I assembled a marketing team to assist with reaching out to relevant university communications contacts and to assist with creating our public profile and personal brand. I created the content shared with the public and oversaw our marketing team. I also developed a survey to determine the member's professional interests and ideas for possible partners and projects.

Result:

Because of the information we gathered from the surveys, we selected projects for the entire year, produced posters, project progression reports, describing each program and the featured partner. Under my leadership, attendance increased 150% over the previous year.

Questions to ask firm representatives

- At the end of an interview, the firm representative will ask you if you have any questions for them
- You should prepare questions about the position, your boss or the organisation. This will not only help you determine if the firm is right for you, it will ensure that you seem interested in the role.
- Ensure that you prepare at least two questions. Do not make them close-ended, it is best if the questions allow for a conversation
- Some sample questions are:
 1. What do you think are the most important qualities for someone to excel in this role?
 2. What is the typical career path for someone in this role?
 3. What are the professional development opportunities for a graduate/clerk?

Interview Day

- Bring
 - A copy of your CV, cover letter and academic transcript
 - A pen and a piece of paper
 - A copy of the email that outlines the date and time of your interview
- Wear
 - Corporate clothes or business attire
 - Choose colours that aren't distracting
 - Ensure your clothes fit well and are ironed
 - Less is best for jewellery, scarves and any other accessories. Keep earrings simple (no bulky or long pieces)
 - Ensure you have no chipped nail polish, tie back any loose hair
 - Make sure any cologne/ perfume you wear is not overbearing
- Electronics
 - Keep your phone on silent
 - Turn off all alarms – including watch alarms
- Presentation
 - If you have to bring any paper work with you, ensure it is in a neat file
 - Create a positive impression by being friendly and courteous
 - Consider your body language the minute you walk into the firm. Everyone from the receptionist to senior associates are able to provide feedback on you
- Preparation
 - Give yourself plenty of time to get to the interview
 - Arrive 15 mins early to calm your nerves and bring a bottle of water with you

Personal Branding

Personal branding is about managing your name — even if you don't own a business — in a world of misinformation, disinformation, and semi-permanent Google records. Going on a date? Chances are that your “blind” date has Googled your name. Going to a job interview? Ditto.

– Tim Ferriss

Have you ever stopped to think about what people might say about you when you are not in the room and, moreover, how you would like to be known? This is your personal brand.

A personal brand is something that is distinct and unique to you. It is essentially your reputation, personality and the way people remember you. It is your way of standing out in the crowd. As prospective professionals, your brand starts in law school. Most firms, before meeting you, will look to your online presence to determine if you are a good fit for their organisation.

Your online presence will include your facebook, linkedin profile, publications, websites etc If you do not have a linkedin profile, it is a good idea to have one.

LinkedIn

LinkedIn is the most popular online networking platform with over 400 million users across the world. The website enables you to create a professional profile online, keep up to date with the industry and stay informed about employment opportunities.

Here are some tips on getting started on LinkedIn

1. Create a Profile and make sure it is 100% complete

- Use an email address that sounds professional and is easy to remember. Your university account may not be suitable if you intend on retaining your profile after graduation.
- Upload a photo of yourself for your profile. Select a clear photo for your face and keep it professional
- Every sentence on your LinkedIn profile is an opportunity for Search Engine Optimisation (SEO). Using common keywords, legal industry terms and active language makes LinkedIn and Google searchers more likely to find you.

2. Build A Network

- Start to connect with contacts by sending them a connection request. Remember that building professional networks is about quality not quantity, so don't send requests to professionals you have not met yet
- Connect with fellow law students, employers and other professionals you have met

3. Be Active

- LinkedIn allows you to follow companies and person of interest. As most companies regularly update their news feeds, choosing to follow them will give you an idea of their major projects, direction and any recruitment opportunities.
- Post updates regularly. This can include articles, stories, headlines, links or interesting ideas that reflect your interests.
- Ensure that your current CV is up-to-date and best reflects your current achievements, qualifications and experience

Here are some DO's and DON'T's to the use of LinkedIn

Do	Don't
<p>1. Do send personalised contact requests. This would be best especially if it is someone you have just met. Let them know who you are, and which even you met them at</p> <p>2. Do have some personal info: Social media connections are built on personal relationships. This may include social causes you are interested in, any hobbies you have and interests. Remember LinkedIn is a professional network though, so avoid posting about what you did on the weekend.</p> <p>3. Join a LinkedIn group. Groups help people that are interested in a particular topic, entity or event to find each other. Some common ones are Australia's Student Law Association, LinkedIn Lawyers Australia and Beyond Law</p> <p>4. Comment on the updates or posts that your connections share. This will allow you to share your opinion and allow others to gain insight on you as a person.</p>	<p>1. Don't list every job you've ever had. Be strategic and include a reasonable level of detail about your law-school experience. If you don't have an legal experience, don't stress. When listing your work experience, list the skills you have attained in that role</p> <p>2. Don't use formal and dry language. Inject a little personality to let people know more about you. Reflect on what potential employers want to learn about you. Remember, they want someone with good grades – but more importantly someone well rounded and great to work with</p> <p>3. Don't accept a connection from people you don't like or respect. It is not about the likes you have</p>

Email Etiquette

Emails are a primary means of communication with colleagues, lawyers and other professionals. Therefore, good email etiquette is expected of you. Using email effectively can help you cultivate a reputation for strong communication skills, professionalism and attention to detail. This is why it is important to adopt good email habits as a student.

At the outset, it is best to consider whether email is the appropriate form of communication. When dealing with sensitive subject matter or seeking significant amounts of information, it is time to abandon email in favour of face-to-face conversations or other strategies. Further, there are no secrets on email. Email is inherently an insecure medium, so refrain from discussing confidential matters or using it for personal use.

Getting Started

First impressions count! Ensure your email address is professional and clearly identifies you. Try using a simple formulation that incorporates your first name and last name. It is also recommended to use an outlook or gmail account. E.g: Andrew.Baxter@outlook.com. You might also like to create a separate email account solely for the purpose of clerkship and graduate applications. This will ensure that emails aren't lost amongst other things.

Creating a signature

When creating a signature block to be used at the end of your emails, ensure it is simple and appealing to look at. Include your email, phone number and name at the very least. You may choose to include the specifics of your degree.

Include a subject

The subject line of your email should be a good summation of what your email is about. Ensure it is descriptive and to the point. E.g "Application for 2016 Summer Clerkship". This allows the recipient to easily identify what the email and its content.

Style

Be professional, especially when emailing employees. Do not use acronyms, abbreviations or emoticons. Ensure that your messages are short and to the point. Use blank lines between paragraphs to improve readability. Use bullet points for more concise messages and where appropriate. If you are asking someone to do something, ensure you say 'please', and show your appreciation when someone provides you with an attachment, offers you an interview, or provides feedback.

Attachments

When attaching your resume and other application materials, convert them to PDFs to preserve your formatting and ensure that no one is able to edit it. Ensure that all your attachments are labelled appropriately.

Professional Networking

Networking is the process of cultivating long-term relationships with other professionals to gain exposure and learn about job opportunities. Networking is an important tool for students during the application process, during a clerkship as well as other events such as seminars and careers fairs.

If you have not had much exposure to the legal practice, you may not know what area of law you would like to pursue or whether becoming a lawyer is your calling. Speaking to lawyers and other professionals with a legal background will help you narrow down your options and assist with deciding which firms you would like to intern or clerk at.

However, speaking to representatives requires some skill and practice. Listed below are some tips to get you through networking events.

1. Maintain your expectations

Do not approach a networking event with the expectation of getting an offer as a paralegal or graduate. Getting a role or making an impression should not be your immediate goal. Instead, approach networking with the intention of meeting representatives that can offer you advice, answer any of your questions and provide with you with contacts of people who can further assist with your queries.

2. Dress well

First impressions are key with networking. HR representatives and lawyers will judge you base on your appearance. This does not mean you need to buy the latest, most fashionable gear. Just ensure your appearance is clean and tidy. If you are attending a non-formal, on-campus event, wear smart casual attire. If you are attending an evening event, or a function off campus, you might want to wear corporate attire.

Whatever you choose, ensure you are comfortable. You may be standing for most of the evening so wear comfortable shoes. Also best to stick to neutral colours and minimal jewellery.

3. Show a genuine interest

Have a genuine conversation with law firm representatives. Do not strike a conversation just for the sake of having a conversation. Ensure you ask questions about the firm, work culture, the representatives themselves and student opportunities. Let them do most of the talking.

At pre-clerkship and pre-graduate events, many firm representatives make a note of the candidates to look out for during the application process. While wanting to know of your experience, they are also looking to see if your personality fits well with their firm culture. So use networking time effectively – save the talk of your academic grades for the cover letter.

4. Do your research

Learn the practice areas, how old the firm is, any recent mergers? Size of the firm, graduate programs, clerkship programs are all things you should note. The more you know about the firm, the more insightful your questions will be. It is not a good look to ask questions that could easily be answered by a quick google search. Your aim is to show a genuine interest. Thus do your research and ask specific questions.

5. Respect their time

Be considerate of other students wanting to speak to representatives. Your chances of a successful application does not increase with the amount of time you spend talking to the representatives. They would also like to have the opportunity to speak to other students. Wrap things up in the appropriate amount of time

6. Don't worry about the competition

Do not feel threatened by other law students at networking events. Yes you are all competing for the same opportunities, but the situation presents an opportunity. If other student join in the conversation, include them in the discussion. Representatives tend to be impressed with students who demonstrate they are able to get along with others.

7. Coffee is key

Use coffee strategically. This goes for networking during the application process and during your clerkship. Coffee is a great way to initiate conversation with partners and other lawyers who you would like to know more of. For example, if you are a seasonal clerk in a firm's employment team, but want to find out more about the work done in the finance team, approach a finance partner and ask them out for coffee. Or stay connected with your supervisor or graduate buddy after your clerkship with coffee. However don't get coffee with all the partners because you want to increase your chances of getting a grad job. This won't do you any favours. Be smart about it. If you are genuinely interested, do not be afraid to network.

8. Cocktail Nights

Most firms will host a cocktail evening or information session as part of the application process. It may be hard politely entering a conversation, dealing with food and drinks in your hand, as well as ensuring that you speak to as many partners as you can.

Entering a conversation: Begin by introducing yourself, making eye contact and shaking hands. (Pro tip- keep your drink in your left hand). In group conversations, ask politely if you can join in the conversation.

Exiting a conversation: Wait for a dip in the conversation and excuse yourself. Try "it was lovely meeting you, (Name). I hope you enjoy the rest of your evening". As you leave for the night, it is always a good idea to thank the HR representative for the evening.

9. Follow up

If you met someone that helped you and made an impression, send an email and thank them for their time. If you do not have the contact details of that person, email the HR representative of that firm to either provide those details or pass your message. Be sure to keep your note brief and friendly.

Questions To Ask When Networking

Listed below are some helpful questions to keep in mind when networking. Please note these are just suggestions and it is recommended you ask questions formulated based on your own research and experiences.

1. What are your primary job responsibilities?
2. What attracted you to the work?
3. How much variety is there in your work?
4. What is the size and makeup of your organisation/ firm?
5. What are the qualities of a well-performing clerk/graduate?
6. How much client contact do you have?
7. How is the clerkship/graduate program structured?
8. Do you recommend I enrol in any particular classes?
9. What opportunities for advancement are there in this organisation or in the field?
10. What do you see as the major issues/ trends in the field today?
11. How much training/ supervision do or did you receive?
12. Which professional associations should I join?
13. What other people do you recommend I talk with? May I tell them that you referred them to me?

Commercial Awareness

Commercial awareness could be summed up as an interest in business and an understanding of the wider environment in which an organisation operates. Generally it includes awareness of the need for efficiency, cost-effectiveness, customer care and a knowledge of the market place in which the company operates. Commercial awareness requires industry knowledge and analytical skills to identify a problem that a business might encounter and the best or worst case scenarios to a commercial issue.

Commercial awareness is an important factor in selecting candidates. Employers (especially commercial firms that deal with small businesses to large corporations) feel that a detailed understanding of their company, the issues facing the industry in which they operate, professional qualifications offered and job roles within in the company are important is as it shows; commitment to the job you are applying for.

Having commercial awareness benefits you during the selection process by giving you more to discuss in an interview, improves your knowledge of the industry you're passionate about and may allow you to spot career opportunities you hadn't previously considered.

You can improve your commercial awareness by;

- Checking the organisation's website in sections such as; 'careers', 'our clients' or 'our potential clients'
- Find out who the organisation's competitors are, the size of their workforce, the turnover and profits of the company and their key activities.
- Find out latest industry trends within the legal world, economics, banking and finance and technology
- Read publications, such as the
 - Australian Financial Review.
 - Australasian Lawyer
 - The Economist
 - Lawyers Weekly
 - Various law journals

Careers In Law



Private Sector

The private sector encompasses settings in large law firms with many practice areas, to small boutique firms to in-house legal teams. The common thread with these organisations is that they provide legal advice on commercial matters.

Commercial law – broadly speaking refers to any part of law that involves companies and the regulation of their activities. This includes areas such as consumer protection, competition law, intellectual property law, labour law and corporate law.

In-house legal

An in-house lawyer is employed by a corporation. In Australia, corporations such as Wesfarmers, David Jones, Virgin Australia, Nine Entertainment and Woolworths have in house legal counsel teams. Lawyers within these teams have one client – the business. The role of an in-house lawyer is to assist the business in attaining its objectives while advising on the legal constraints of their transactions. They advise on employment matters, litigation, regulatory standards and assist with the management of legal risks of the company's prospective goals. The nature of the work will depend on the nature of the industry (eg retail, services) and the size of the legal team. This means that in-house lawyers will have specialised knowledge of the particular industry and will have to keep up-to date with regulations relevant to that industry.

Organisations often have in-house legal teams to save on external legal expenses. However with transactions that require engagement with external lawyers, in-house legal teams determine the work that should go to external lawyers and also ensure that the instructions provided to external lawyers are clear and client – focused.

Skills/ Experience you need:

- Specialised knowledge about the industry
- Knowledge of regulatory practices, the organisations' goals and competitors
- Commercial acumen
- Personable – you will be working extensively with both non-lawyers and lawyers
- Ability to communicate complex legal matters in plain English
- Strategic – you need to be able to critically think on the ways to execute an organisation's objectives within a legal framework

Law firms

Law firms are generally categorised as top-tier, mid-tier or boutique. There are several characteristics that contribute to a firm's status of 'tier'. These include the number of employees, number of offices, the range of services and the size and profile of clients. Generally speaking, top-tier firms rank the highest in revenue due to their geographical reach and services.

Lawyer in a top-tier firm

Top-tier firms commonly operation on a global or national basis. These firms are well-established and are mostly commercially oriented. Applications for clerkship and graduate programs at these firms are highly competitive.

Benefits of a top-tier firm:

- Opportunity to advise the some of the most-well-known companies
- Develop knowledge of particular industries as well as the global economic landscape
- Global opportunities – some firms may offer you to spend 6 months abroad on a secondment
- Professional development – most firms offer great training and support for their clerks and graduates
- Challenging work – most complex litigation matters are dealt with large law firms
- Diverse client base
- Pro-bono initiatives

Lawyer in a mid-tier firm

Mid-tier firms usually operate on a state or local level. They usually practice in a range of areas which offers varied work to clerks or graduates. Mid-tier firms in Western Australia, include, but are not limited to firms such as Solomon Brothers, Lavan Legal and Clyde & Co.

Benefits of a mid-tier firm:

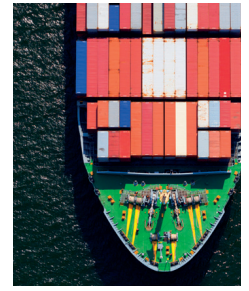
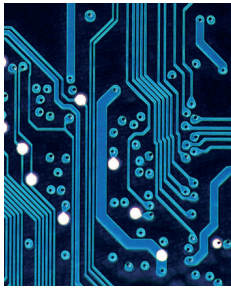
- Range of practice areas
- Hands-on practical experience
- High exposure to senior associates and partners
- Specialised knowledge in issues pertaining to a local industry

Lawyer in a boutique firm

A boutique law firm is one with a small team of solicitors who often specialise in a niche or specific area of law. Boutique firms usually engage with individuals and small businesses.

Benefits of a boutique firm:

- Specialised expertise- lawyers in boutique firms work on matters within one practice areas, allowing greater exposure and experience in that particular field
- Greater autonomy – lawyers often operate more autonomously allowing for greater client-contact
- Some small firms offer a relaxed, more informal environment
- Faster partnership track – the road to partnership might be shorter due to less competition
- Better interaction with senior lawyers



LIVE YOUR AMBITION

ABOUT US

If you want to make the most of your career in law, our global network is the perfect place to start. Our worldwide capabilities give us access to the most interesting markets, the most exciting clients and the most significant and complex transactions. For you, this means the chance to work on market-leading deals with some of the most experienced and talented lawyers in our industry, together with access to international secondment opportunities from early in your career.

WHAT MAKES US DIFFERENT?

It begins with our people

It's our people who make us great. It is our priority to ensure they are constantly challenged, recognised, rewarded and empowered throughout their careers.

Our unique way of working

We adopt a flexible approach to the way we work, which builds strong and diverse teams, and is one of the reasons our lawyers tell us a career here is so rewarding. You won't be limited to working with a particular partner or group. Instead, you will have the opportunity to drive your career by working with a range of lawyers and partners.

We make the complex simple

We are known for the quality of our legal minds. That's why we attract some of the most complex legal work, and why our lawyers are recognised as the best in the profession.

Life-long learning

As a graduate, we're committed to giving you the best professional and personal development opportunities. Our training programs provide graduates with practical legal education of the highest professional standard. You'll build your knowledge of the law and business and find an area of law that inspires you. We will support you with leading learning and development programs to round out your skills and put you on the path to becoming a market-leading lawyer.

CLERKSHIP PROGRAM

Come and explore a career with us by applying for one of our clerkships. Our clerkships offer ambitious penultimate-year law students an insight into the workings of a large corporate law firm, and offer an exceptional opportunity to experience our work, people and culture.

Anything is possible with us – provided you are willing to work hard and are committed to achieve whatever you put your mind to.

WHAT WE LOOK FOR

Initiative

A curious mind is vital, as is plenty of initiative. The more adaptable you're prepared to be and the more energy you bring, the more you'll get out of your career here. You'll be able to steer a path that turns possibilities into realities.

Excellence

Excellence is essential; it's a guarantee we give our clients. Intellectually rigorous, driven and eager to learn, you'll set the highest standards for yourself and strive to be the best you can be.

Commerciality

Successful lawyers understand that law is more than an academic pursuit. It's about understanding the client – their objectives and the challenges they face – as well as the wider commercial environment in which we operate.

Resilience

Positive people thrive in our environment. We look for people who can build sustainable careers with us; people who successfully juggle a busy life and varying commitments while maintaining their wellbeing. Like us, you'll believe that leading a full, active life outside the law can make you a better person to work with.

Well-rounded

Our clients often tell us we have 'great people'. And it's true. We look for diversity – people who bring a fresh perspective and energy to everything they do, with the ability to create strong relationships with each other and with clients.

Teamwork

The ability to work collaboratively and efficiently with others is of fundamental importance to working successfully at a commercial law firm. Negotiations involve work with multi-disciplinary teams across borders and successful lawyers work to reach the best possible outcome in transactions, mediations and arbitrations.

Attention to detail

Lawyers are expected to have an accurate and meticulous approach to their work. You need a good eye for detail to be able to communicate effectively on paper with both colleagues and clients. Attention to detail is part of providing a quality service to our clients.

HOW TO APPLY

www.allens.com.au/careers

www.linklaters.com/ukgrads

www.linklaters.com/hkcareers

Public Sector

Unions

Unions exist to help support and come alongside workers who desire to be in a workplace where there is fairness and equality. As a law student/graduate, working for a union generally means that you are most likely to be positioned as an Industrial Officer or an Organiser. Most law graduates who are found in Unions end up as Industrial Officers.

Although a law degree is not essential, many have found that an understanding of and a sound background in law is both helpful and useful when dealing with issues that arise. Industrial Officers in Unions take up individual cases (such as unfair dismissals and prosecutions) and aim to draw up or negotiate agreements between the parties in dispute, and the kinds of negotiations and agreements that take place depend a lot on the various types of Unions.

Another possible position is to be an Organiser, where the ability to relate and communicate with people is paramount because it is your duty to uphold the interests of the Union members. The requirements of this role vary greatly according to different Unions. In most Unions, Organisers generally recruit new members, train and assist Union delegates, facilitate industrial and political campaigns and aim to encourage members in taking a stand in their workplaces, industries and communities.

Law graduates who are interested in more information about Unions and job opportunities, can check the following websites:

- The Australian Council of Trade Unions: www.actu.org.au
- Unions WA: www.tlcwa.org.au

Government

The public sector encompasses agencies linked to the State and Federal Government such as the Australian Law Reform Commission, the State Solicitors Office and the Australian Tax Commission. These agencies offer fantastic career opportunities to people with a passion for community welfare and effective delivery of government services. Your role will be to advise the respective government on an impartial basis. You will advise the government with respect to decisions being made with respect to your department's specialised field or area of work

Working in the Public Sector encompasses many facets of the legal industry including; law reform, formation of policy, drafting legislation, legal aid, protection of human rights, tax law and criminal prosecution

Federal

On a federal level, expertise in the practice of law is usually required in departments such as the Law Reform Commission, which investigates into current legal issues concerning the nation and also to advise about viable solutions through the provision of recommendations. On a Federal level, you are also required to provide a high and knowledgeable level of policy advice, dealing with international affairs and relations, especially in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Also, you may also be required to work closely with the Prime Minister and the Cabinet in advising about new decisions and policies that the government may decide to work towards.

Generally, for law students who are interested in career opportunities arising in public sectors or at a federal government level, most governmental departments in Canberra offer competitive graduate program. Most of these departments offer a specialised legal stream that tends to attract mainly law graduates who have the necessary writing and research skills that are required to draft memos, policy and proposed legislation to the relevant Ministers.

Links

Australian Public Service Jobs

<https://www.apsjobs.gov.au/>

Australian Government Jobs

<http://www.australia.gov.au/information-and-services/jobs-and-workplace/australian-government-jobs>

Australian Law Reform Commission

The Australian Law Reform Commission is a federal agency that reviews Australia's laws to ensure they provide improved access to justice for all Australians by making laws and related processes more equitable, modern, fair and efficient. The ALRC conducts inquiries into areas of law at the request of the Attorney-General of Australia. Based on its research and consultations throughout an inquiry, the ALRC makes recommendations to government so that government can make informed decisions about law reform. The ALRC is part of the Attorney-General's portfolio, however it is independent of government and is able to undertake research, consultations and legal policy development, and to make recommendations to the Parliament.

Internship Program

The Australian Law Reform Commission provides opportunities for current law students to work alongside Commission members and legal staff as legal interns. Internships provide an opportunity for students to increase their awareness of law reform issues while also allowing the ALRC to benefit from students' research and writing skills. Intern work is credited in ALRC publications. Interns are supervised by a staff member, and undertake research work determined by the needs of the ALRC.

2017 Calendar

Semester	Intern Period	Closing Dates
Semester 1 (part time)	13 March – 2 June (1 day a week)	6 Feb – Already closed for 2017
Semester 2 (part time)	7 August – 20 October 2017 (1 day a week)	3 July 2017
Summer 2018 (full time)	8 Jan – 26 Jan / 29 Jan – 16 Feb 2018 (5 days for 3 weeks)	23 October 2017

Australian Administrative Tribunal

The Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT) conducts independent merits review of administrative decisions made under Commonwealth laws. They review decisions made by Australian Government ministers, departments and agencies and, in limited circumstances, decisions made by state government and non-government bodies.

The tribunal uses a web-based e-recruitment system for lodgment of job applications. When applying online via the e-recruitment system for the first time you will need to register and provide a valid email address. This will then generate an automatic email that will be sent to your nominated email address and contains a password that allows you to resume or review your job application. When submitting an online application, you will be required to provide a written statement of claims against selection criteria. Your statement against each criterion should be clear, concise, relevant and generally no longer than half a page (approximately 400 words).

Australian Competition and Consumer Commission

The ACCC promotes competition and fair trade in markets to benefit consumers, businesses, and the community. They also regulate national infrastructure services. Our primary responsibility is to ensure that individuals and businesses comply with Australian competition, fair trading, and consumer protection laws - in particular the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010*.

Summer Internships

Our placements provide interns with the opportunity to apply and develop the skills and knowledge they acquire at university in a professional workplace. ACCC interns gain exposure to a Commonwealth Government agency with work that has far-reaching consumer, economic, industry and legal implications.

2017 Calendar

Details on how to apply are available on the ACCC's 'current vacancies page'

Timeline	Dates
Applications open	September 2017
Interviews	October 2017
Offers made	October 2017
Internships commence	January 2018

Graduate Programs

ACCC graduates enjoy applying and expanding their existing skills and knowledge to their work with us. They form an important part of a small, high-performing agency that is committed to promoting competition and consumer protection and fair trading in the Australian marketplace.

2017 Calendar

Timeline	Dates
Applications close	March 2017
Assessment Centres	April – May 2017
Formal offers made	June – July 2017
Graduates commence	5 February 2018

Australian Human Rights Commission

The Australian Human Rights Commission works to resolve complaints of discrimination or breaches of human rights under federal laws. They do this by; holding public inquiries into human rights issues of national importance and providing independent legal advice to assist courts in cases that involve human rights principles. They also develop human rights education programs and resources for schools, workplaces and the community and providing advice and submissions to parliaments and governments to develop laws, policies and programs.

University students wishing to undertake an internship at the Commission should make their request through the Commission's annual intake process.

Australian Taxation Office

The Australian Taxation Office (ATO) is the principal revenue collection agency of the Australian government. Their role is to effectively manage and shape the tax and superannuation systems that support and fund services for Australians, including: collecting revenue, administering the goods and services tax and administering the major aspects of Australia's superannuation system.

Graduate Programs

The Graduate Program offered by the ATO is an intensive 12-month program which includes challenging work rotations to develop your skills and explore different areas of interest. You will report to a program manager who will support you professionally and personally throughout the year. The program offers flexible working arrangements, an excellent social and networking base with fellow graduates and advancement upon successful completion. Graduate program applications occur once a year, the next round opens 1 March 2017 and closes 12 April 2017.

Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions

The Office of the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions is an independent prosecution service established by Parliament to prosecute alleged offences against Commonwealth law. We aim to provide an effective, ethical, high quality and independent criminal prosecution service for Australia. The CDPP provides an effective and efficient independent prosecution service that contributes to a fair, safe and just Australia where Commonwealth laws are respected, offenders are brought to justice and potential offenders are deterred.

Commonwealth Ombudsman

The Commonwealth Ombudsman considers and investigates complaints from people who believe they have been treated unfairly or unreasonably by an Australian Government department / agency or *prescribed* private sector organisation, including Australia Post, Centrelink, Child Support (DHS), and Department of Immigration and Border Protection. Their aim is to resolve complaints impartially, informally and as quickly as reasonably practicable. If we cannot assist with a particular complaint, we will explain why, and suggest other avenues for resolving the matter.

State Government

At a state level, opportunities arise for law graduates within the public sector, especially with regards to the primary industries of the state. For example, in Western Australia, the state government offers career pathways in departments with graduate programs dealing with policy and reform issues surrounding the steady development of the WA's mining industry.

Generally, a law degree is not required, or that a department has a specialised legal stream, however a legal background will assist you in the competition for these highly sought after positions. The majority of your work as a law graduate in the public sector will be the formulation and drafting of effective policies, interaction with the private sectors that are related to your department and also working with the respective Ministers who are concerned with the implementation of these policies. The type of work generally leads to more specialised roles within the Department as your own set of transferable skills and experience grows, and may also bring you across to other government departments.

Graduate roles in the public sector are good pathways into more senior roles such as bureaucracy, providing networking opportunities and also using the legal skills you developed in law school in a place with the power to implement actual legislative changes.

Links

Jobs WA

<https://jobs.wa.gov.au>

Legal Aid WA

Legal Aid WA provides information and resources to assist the community with their legal concerns and offers a range of services aimed at target groups or individuals with particular legal problems. Assistance is designed to help people resolve their problems at the earliest opportunity, to improve their access to the law, to avoid unnecessary litigation, and to ensure that legal representation is in keeping with community expectations for fairness.

(grad program and volunteer programs are currently on hold)

State Solicitors Officer

The State Solicitor's Office is responsible for the provision of broad based, high quality legal services to the Government of Western Australia and to a wide range of state government client departments and agencies.

Members of the SSO also represent the State of WA and government clients in a wide range of civil litigation matters and conducts prosecutions for client agencies with prosecutorial powers, they also regularly appears as counsel on behalf of State and clients in a wide range of State and Federal courts and tribunals. The SSO is also responsible for drafting legal documents for the Government and government clients and providing commercial, conveyancing and other property related services.

Application dates for 2017 Graduate programs have closed.

Officer of the Director of Public Prosecution

The Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) is the independent prosecuting authority for the State of Western Australia, responsible for the prosecution of all serious offences committed against State criminal law.

To deliver these prosecution services, the ODPP operates a number of legal practice teams each headed by a Practice Manager and comprising of: Legal Officers (State Prosecutors and Confiscations Lawyers); Managing Paralegals, Paralegals and Law Clerks; and Legal Assistants.

Graduate Program

The ODPP employs up to 4 graduates each year on fixed term contract of two and a half years, incorporating periods of the articles of clerkship (12 months) and post admission, restricted practice (18 months). Application dates will be released later this year.

State Ombudsman

The Ombudsman is an independent officer of Parliament with responsibility to investigate the actions of public authorities including State Government departments, prisons, hospitals, schools and technical colleges, local governments and public universities. It receives, investigates and resolves complaints about the administrative decision making and practices of the public sector, local government and universities as well as improves public administration for the benefit of all Western Australians through own motion investigations and education and liaison programs with agencies. The organisation also reviews certain child deaths and family and domestic violence fatalities.

The WA Ombudsman does not operate a graduate recruitment program but we encourage university graduates to apply for advertised vacancies

Paralegal with WA Police



Law and policing go hand in hand, and you'd be hard pressed to find an area that reflects this more than the Perth Prosecuting Unit of WA Police. As a paralegal with the department, I never go a day without learning something new about criminal law.

Police prosecutors deal with criminal matters in the Magistrates Courts throughout the state. The type of offences vary greatly, from a minor drug possession to very serious assault charges and everything in between. My job as a paralegal is to assist the prosecutors in preparing for court appearances and criminal trials, and to liaise with defence lawyers seeking to get their clients' charges reduced or withdrawn.

A typical day as a paralegal is spent combing through criminal briefs and making sure they contain everything that the prosecutor will need to go to trial. The sheer volume of matters that go through Perth Prosecuting means that it is up to the paralegal to ensure each trial brief is complete with witness statements, evidence, and police interviews among other things. If any one component is missing, it could be the difference between a successful conviction and a dismissal, so it is vital that the paralegal is on the ball. Sometimes the descriptions of crimes or a pictures of injuries contained within a brief can be quite confronting. Criminal law is definitely not for the faint-hearted.

Another element of the job is liaising with a wide variety of people, including defendants, victims, witnesses, police officers, defence lawyers, and even the odd magistrate! Every day I am afforded opportunities to pick the brains of legal professionals with whom I've developed relationships (and even friendships in some cases!). Networking is an aspect of the job - in the same way that you may need to pick a lawyer's brain, at some stage they may need to pick yours. The symbiosis between lawyers and WA Police is extremely important, and often facilitates smoother running of the courts and justice system. Having exposure and access to such a wide range of legal and law and order professionals is a definite perk of the job.

Rarely a day passes when I don't make at least a few trips to the Magistrates Court to drop off documents, pass on information to a prosecutor, or assist them in court. Every day I have dealings with people facing all sorts of criminal charges. Working around the courts has confirmed to me that the world is a diverse place, with all sorts of people who have got themselves into a myriad sticky situations for a wide variety of reasons. You learn very quickly not to judge, because you simply don't know the path that brought them to court. Compassion and understanding is a key element of the job - a paralegal is there to help facilitate justice, not to administer it.

I have learnt an unimaginable amount in my time as a paralegal at Perth Prosecuting. The things you learn on a job like this can't be taught in a classroom. It's actually being in court, it's having that conversation with a witness who is afraid to testify, it's clarifying an area of law with a seasoned prosecutor. These practical experiences have made me a more rounded, well-informed, and confident future-lawyer, and has set me on the path for a career in criminal law and order.

Katrin Long

Paralegal – Perth Prosecuting Unit, WA Police

Associateships



Associateships

What is an Associate?

The position of a Judge's Associate (or Tipstaff, in NSW) is one, which at the same time is similar, and impossible to define across Courts. Generally, an Associate acts as some combination of the personal assistant, research assistant and/or Court assistant to a specific Judge. However, the specific work and activities that each individual undertakes is largely at the discretion of their appointing Judges. It's often said that every Associate's year is different – for that precise reason.

These positions are incredibly competitive, incredibly prestigious and incredibly rewarding. Judge's Associates are exposed to a wide range of work, both inside and out of Court, and in doing so, become intimately familiar with court documents, proceedings, processes and procedures. They also often get to observe and work alongside some of the leading barristers, solicitors and other practitioners – not to mention Judges – in their respective jurisdiction.

Highly regarded by future employers, Judge's Associates go on to do many different things after completing their term with their Judge. They often find that the skills, knowledge, networking and confidence gained from working as an Associate assisted their transition into private practice, upon being called to the bar, or pursuing an academic career.

Common duties:

- Arranging listings and court sittings, including circuit sittings
- Maintaining court records, arraigning accused, empanelling juries, administering oaths and managing exhibits
- Operating a variety of court systems and equipment
- Liaising with the judiciary, legal profession, litigants, witnesses and other court users to ensure efficient court hearings
- Legal and research services.
- Maintaining the Judge's Chambers, frequently including maintenance of the Chamber's Library, and the Judge's judicial apparel

Critical Tips for Prospective Associates

- Always consider why you're applying to work with a particular Judge. Ensure that your application reflects this.
- Try and get to know everything about your prospective Judge – consider their biographies, news articles, prominent decisions
- Apply well in advance, unless a particular time-frame is specified.
- Don't send an application by email unless specifically asked.
- A quick call to the Judge's current Associate to ask whether the Judge has hired for the year you are seeking a position will potentially save you hours of effort.

Addressing Judges

Unless otherwise requested or explained in the Court's website the following are useful Guidelines to follow:

- When addressing a Judge, generally Dear Judge/Chief Justice should head your letter, and your salutation should be Yours Sincerely CJs)/Yours Faithfully (others).
- If you are invited to an interview, always refer to the Judge by Judge/Chief Justice. E.g. —Thank you for taking time to interview me, Judge.

High Court of Australia

To apply for an Associateship with a particular Justice, you should write directly to the Justice with whom you would like to work. Alternatively, if you are interested in working for any one of the Justices without any preference then you should write to the Chief Executive and Principal Registrar, Mr Andrew Phelan, and he will raise your interest at a meeting with the Justices. You should include a current CV and an academic transcript with your letter.

Generally, there are no specific closing dates for applications but it is common for the Justices to appoint their Associates two to three years in advance. An application should indicate the years you would be available for employment.

Competition for appointment is very strong and there are sometimes upwards of 200 applications for potential vacancies. The normal expectation is that a person appointed as an Associate will have:

- Graduated with first class honours;
- Preferably have research experience; and
- Often experience working for a law firm or university or another court

Candidates with postgraduate qualifications in law and prior experience as a judge's associate will generally be preferred.

In addition to associateships the Court also engages a Legal Research Officer each year for a 12 month period (a similar period to that for which associates are employed).

If you are interested in applying for this position, you should contact Mr John Botherway, Court Librarian, by mail at the above address or by email to

john.botherway@hcourt.gov.au

Federal Court of Australia

The Federal Court offers a number of Associate positions each year.

Associates are employed as part of the personal chambers staff of a particular Judge. They provide legal research, incourt duties and other ad hoc support for that Judge.

Associate positions are generally not advertised and the selection of Associates is conducted directly by the Judge(s). Generally, Associates are employed at the Federal Court Staff 5 level on a non ongoing, contract basis for up to 12 months, usually commencing early in the law term, but may also be engaged at other times throughout the year.

Conditions of service are generally as that for other Court staff, and these are available from the Court in its Information Package for

Prospective Applicants:

<http://www.fedcourt.gov.au/about/employment/information-package>

Applications

To apply for a position you need to:

- Decide in which Court registry you would like to be considered for work;
- Prepare a CV, an academic transcript and a general application. You should also indicate if there are particular availability periods when you wish to be considered for employment;
- Forward your application directly to the Judge or to the District Registrar in the appropriate registry. Address details are available at the 'contact the Court' page of the Court's website, or through the Australian Government Directory (<http://tinyurl.com/AGD-ALSA>)
- Applicants must include:
- Personal information including an address for correspondence, contact number as well as current employer and job classification;
- The names and contact numbers of at least two referees, including your current boss

- Any education/qualifications/work experience or training you have undertaken that would be beneficial to the role you are applying for
- A statement against every criteria provided for the position, particularly if these are listed as formal selection criteria.
- Ideally, the criteria must be used as a heading, with a description of how your qualifications and work experience have enabled you to satisfy each criteria.

If you are selected for an interview, you will be contacted by the Judge or registry concerned.

Magistrates Court

The Federal Magistrates Court is an independent federal court under the Australian Constitution. The Court is constituted by the Chief Federal Magistrate and appointed federal magistrates.

The Court aims to provide an alternative to litigation in both the Federal Court of Australia and the Family Court of Australia, thereby reducing the workload of the other Courts. Through its use of informal and streamlined procedures, the people are encouraged to engage more in various dispute resolution processes. Federal magistrates of the Court travel regularly to various regional areas to relieve regional litigants of the burden to travel to major cities in order for their matters to be dealt with. The Court is committed to providing access to justice for all Australians, and to finalise matters promptly and efficiently.

The growing jurisdiction of the Court currently includes family law and child support, administrative law, admiralty law, bankruptcy, copyright, human rights, industrial law, migration, privacy and trade practices. This is shared with the Family Court of Australia and the Federal Court of Australia.

The Court is based in the same premises as other federal courts. Its primary locations include Melbourne, Dandenong, Sydney, Adelaide, Brisbane, Cairns, Canberra, Darwin, Launceston, Hobart, Newcastle, Parramatta, Perth and Townsville.

In addition to these locations, the court continues to conduct regular sittings in other regional and metropolitan settings.

Applicants interested in Associateship positions in the Federal Magistrates Court are advised to check the list of employment opportunities at the website below for available positions. For more information including eligibility criteria and the contact details for various registries, visit the Federal Magistrates Court website at www.fmc.gov.au.

State Administrative Tribunal

The State Administrative Tribunal in WA deals with various administrative, commercial and personal matters. A Supreme Court judge sits as the president of the SAT and the Tribunal falls under the portfolio of the State Attorney General. These include matters dealing with human rights, vocational regulation, commercial and civil disputes, and development and resources issues. Current vacancies in the SAT are advertised and updated on the Department of the Attorney General website:

www.careercompass.dotag.wa.gov.au

Family Court

The Family Court of Australia aims to provide excellent service in the best interests of children, families and parties through the use of both judicial and non-judicial processes. It also aims to provide both high quality and timely judgments while also respecting the needs and issues that arise in separating families.

The Family Court of Australia serves both an administrative and a judicial purpose. For its judicial purpose, the Court functions as a superior court of record and holds personal information for the purposes of working out a person's identity. The Court then uses this information to help resolve and also, if necessary, determine the outcome of family disputes brought before the Court. For the administrative purpose of the Court, the Court also holds records of its staff and its suppliers of goods and services and security matters.

As a judicial Associate in the Family Court of Australia, you will assist the judge in the following duties:

- Attend to a judge during Court sittings (to the extent required by the judge), including hearings and duty list courts at any location including circuit locations;

- Capture, engross and issue orders and directions from defended hearings and the duty list, enter outcomes in the computer and advise agencies of certain orders in respect of those hearings;
- Type reasons for judgments and, on request, engross draft judgments from the duty list court;
- Arrange travel, including circuit arrangements;
- Operate court equipment, including recording (reporting) equipment;
- Assist with the maintenance of the chambers' library; and
- Provide general administrative assistance in the registry.

To apply for a position as a judicial Associate, it is first important to be continually updated on the current vacancies available in the Family Court through its website (see below). You must include in your application: a coversheet (found on the website), a comprehensive statement of claims against the selection criteria, a CV including your skills, and work history up to date and certified copies of relevant qualifications. You will be further directed on the job vacancy page on where to send your application, depending on the details of the vacancy.

More information on Family Court of Australia vacancies are available through the APS Jobs website, through other media, related websites and recruitment agencies. A temporary employment register of people interested in non-ongoing employment is retained, but these are generally used to fill short-term positions.

For more information on current vacancies, application processes, or about the Family Court of Australia, visit the Family Court of Australia website at: www.familycourt.gov.au

Supreme Court of Western Australia

The Supreme Court of Western Australia appoints a number of Associate and Research Associates.

Generally, the length of tenure for each position is 12 months (January-January). However, the precise arrangements for each individual position will depend upon the Judge or Judges in question. For example, Associates to the Chief Justice serve a period of 24 months, the first year as an Associate and the second year as the Principal Associate to the Chief Justice.

Prospective applicants should possess the following attributes:

A law degree, or nearly completed law degree (a number of roles are available to final-year law students);

- A high level of academic achievement (Honours or equivalent is desirable but not essential);
- Outstanding research and analytical skills;
- Excellent verbal, interpersonal and written communication skills; and
- Editorial skills are an advantage.

Successful applicants must be available to attend the Associates 'Induction Programme in January of the year of commencement. Applicants are encouraged to apply to more than one Judge.

If you wish to apply, your application/s should include a covering letter, curriculum vitae and your current academic transcript (or a certified copy). If your application is sent by email, please scan your academic transcript (or a certified copy). You may then be required to bring the original if you are invited to attend an interview.

Recruitment dates for the upcoming recruitment period are not yet finalised and it is important for prospective applicants to regularly check the Supreme Court website. However, applications will likely open in approximately mid-April and close in mid-May, with interviews and offers following in late May/early June.

All documents should be sent through to the Court addressed to:

Stirling Gardens Barrack Street PERTH WA 6000

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District Court of Western Australia

The District Court of Western Australia functions as an intermediate trial court, placing its jurisdiction between the Magistrate's Court and the Supreme Court of Western Australia. The Court deals with serious criminal offences, but cannot hear cases where the possible sentence is life imprisonment. It also deals with civil matters up to an amount of \$750,000 and has unlimited jurisdiction over claims of personal injury.

The Court hears appeals on matters from the Magistrate's Court and from the Criminal Injuries Compensation Assessors. The Supreme Court of Western Australia hears appeals from this Court. There are 23 judges of the Court that are based in Perth, however the Court regularly travels on circuit to regional areas. The judges delegate some of their responsibilities to five registrars that are appointed under the District Court of Western Australia Act 1969.

The Court welcomes written expressions of interest from persons who wish to be considered for positions of either an Associate or an usher to the judge. Ushers assist their respective judge and Associate by undertaking various clerical duties and making sure that the court sittings run smoothly. The duties of an Associate include a range of clerical, administrative and other assistance to judges, including:

- Arranging listings and court sittings, including circuit sittings;
- Maintaining court records, arraigning accused, empanelling juries, administering oaths and managing exhibits;
- Operating a variety of court systems and equipment;
- Liaising with the judiciary, legal profession, litigants, witnesses and other court users to ensure efficient court hearings; and
- Legal and research services

Applications require a letter of application and an up to date CV that includes personal details, work history, current skills, academic achievements and references/referees. Law graduates require the approval of the Legal Practice Board of WA before employment, as an Associate will count towards the requirements of Articled Clerkship. Any queries relating to this should be addressed to the Board.

For more information on application procedures and other positions available in the District Court, visit the District Court of Western Australia website at: www.districtcourt.wa.gov.au

Associateship Experience

Judge's Associate at the District Court of Western Australia



I graduated from Murdoch University with a Bachelor of Laws with Honours in 2016. For the last two years, I have had the opportunity to serve as a Judge's Associate to his Honour Judge Eaton in the District Court of Western Australia.

The time I have spent as an associate is a highlight of my career to date. The experience, from personal, professional and educative aspects, is invaluable. The most relevant example is this: as I am a graduate who is looking to pursue a career in which I will regularly engage in courtroom advocacy, the role as an associate allows me to not only observe this, but also actively participate.

As an associate, there is a mixture of in-court and out-of-court work. Broadly speaking, an associate's in-court responsibilities ensure efficient conduct of the hearing before the court. If, for example, the court is sitting in the criminal jurisdiction, responsibilities include arraigning an accused person, swearing in witnesses, managing the tender of exhibits and in-court recording. Out of court, an associate's responsibilities include liaising with counsel, research, judgment proofing, file-management and judge-management. By judge-management I mean that, as an associate, you are largely responsible for your judge's diary and allocations; making sure there is enough time to hear matters, be available for duty-judge assignments and write judgments.

One of the most useful things that I have learned is the importance of procedure. The District Court's criminal jurisdiction is known as the State's criminal 'engine room' and it would not operate as it does without firmly implemented procedures that govern committal, disclosure, representation, and the trial process(es) more generally. The procedural mechanics of these processes include the filing of a lot of forms; for example: a form notifying the court of your intention to act in a matter; a form notifying the court that from your clients perspective (on your advice to them), the matter is ready to proceed to trial and applications directions hearings, applications for bail and sentence mention list matters. As a young practitioner in practice, any court work that you do will be around these types of matters in an effort to build your advocacy skills, courtroom presence and confidence. Knowledge of the procedure surrounding the courts that you frequent will go a long way to being recognized as a good advocate and lawyer.

By far, my favorite part of being an associate is being in court. The courtroom is exciting, challenging and for me, what law is all about. The education you get from immersing yourself in the courtroom and watching practitioners is invaluable.

I would encourage anyone to apply for an associateship. You will not regret it.

Michael Olds

Judge's Associate at the District Court

Graduate Experience Articles



A DAY IN THE LIFE OF...

Jon, Graduate

Studied: Bachelor of Laws (Hons) / Bachelor of Arts
(Politics & International Studies), Murdoch University



My story with Ashurst began as a clerk in December 2012. At the time, I was in the penultimate year of my law/arts double degree. I have just settled in Dispute Resolution (DR) following my Graduate Programme.

After graduating in 2013 I was fortunate enough to secure a position at the Supreme Court of Western Australia, first as the Research Associate to the Hon. Justice Simmonds & the Hon. Justice Beech and second, in 2015, as Associate to the Hon. Justice Beech. I found the experience invaluable and would strongly recommend it.

In 2016 I joined the Ashurst Graduate Programme, where I spent my first couple of days in Sydney for the National Graduate Induction.

My first rotation was in DR which primarily involved legal research and writing memoranda. I was involved in a variety of matters, mostly involving contract law or equity. The first rotation went past very quickly.

For my second rotation, I was in the Land Access/Native Title team. At the time, native title was an area with which I was entirely unfamiliar. Over the rotation I came to gain, at least, a conception of the area. Learning about new areas of law was a theme of my second rotation. I learnt about oil and gas projects, the practical aspects of property law, infrastructure projects and how to do a due diligence.

My last rotation was in Employment. I had limited knowledge of employment law but it saw me return to research, with a strong emphasis on drafting. I learnt how the Fair Work Commission and Federal Circuit Court function, have run my own matters and even appeared in court.

Ashurst has a strong commitment to providing pro bono services. In addition to my rotations I was seconded for a period of time at Street Law Centre Inc, a community legal service which assists the homeless or those at risk of homelessness. This was a rewarding experience and has exposed me to areas of law I would otherwise have been unlikely to come across.

My tips:

From my time at the court and my experiences during the Ashurst Graduate Programme, I offer the following advice:

- Be willing and open to tackling a new area of law.
- Talk to everyone, especially people outside of your team.
- You are trying out the firm as much as the firm is trying out you. This is easier if you engage as much as you can.

Graduate at O'Sullivan Davies



From the day I decided to go to law school, I've known I wanted to practice family law. Fortunately, after completing my degree, I secured a vacation clerkship at O'Sullivan Davies (OSD), a premier family law practice in Perth's CBD. It was an incredible learning experience and a great environment for anyone who wants to get a feel for how family law works. Shortly after completing the clerkship, I was offered a Graduate position which I graciously accepted.

One of the great things about working as a grad at OSD was the exposure to and interaction with clients. From the very first day, I was assigned to files, invited to attend client appointments and accompanied lawyers to court appearances.

During the course of my employment as a graduate, I had daily contact with senior and junior practitioners, alike. I also worked closely with the paralegals who proved to be an invaluable source of information and support, and Law Clerks who help to keep files running smoothly.

Much of the work I completed involved drafting letters and court documents. This ranged from letters of initial advice to clients, to letters of offer to the other party and from drafting initial applications to the Family Court, to affidavits and eventually working on submissions. Sometimes there were precedents available to help steer me in the right direction. Others, I would need to do a bit of research and ask questions before I felt ready for the task. As time went on, the quality of my work and the speed with which I completed it improved. The important thing for me was that there was always someone on hand and ready to answer my questions and give me feedback.

One of the most confronting aspects about family law is that you're dealing with people's conflict at an extremely personal level. Whether its property settlement, divorce or parenting matters, the litigants are driven at least in part by their emotions. Some client's manage this better than others and some don't manage well at all. As a practitioner, you need to learn to meet the client's where they're at in terms of coping, and tailor your service to their individual needs. Sometimes this means more than just providing legal advice. It can mean making referrals to counselling services or considering whether a client lacks capacity to give you instructions and suggest appointing a case guardian.

I've learned that family law practitioners need to find the balance between remaining detached and being empathetic. You need to be able to take a step back and understand why a client is acting in a way that may seem irrational but also be able to go home and let go of what happened at work. It's a skill I will need to continue to work at throughout my career.

My advice to future grads is to take full advantage of any learning experience that comes your way. If you're lucky (like I was) there won't be unrealistic billing expectations. This means that you will have the time to work on tasks that you can't bill for but will increase your knowledge base (yes, I'm referring to research!). I also highly recommend you seek out learning experiences. I found that the Law Clerks were very helpful in this respect. They can tell you who is doing what and when so that you can ask to tag along.

The most important thing to remember is that your graduate year is the time for you to learn and grow. This is when you are expected to make mistakes and take longer to complete a task that is second nature to seasoned practitioners. So take your time, soak it all in and gradually step into the role of the practitioner, your admission day will come up faster than you think!

Jaime Lee Richardson

Solicitor

O'Sullivan Davies

Graduate at Allen & Overy

THE FIRST YEAR AT A MAGIC CIRCLE LAW FIRM



I joined Allen & Overy in March 2016 with two other graduates, all of us having clerked at the firm in late-2014. Our first two weeks comprised of graduate training in the Sydney office, which doubled as a fantastic opportunity to meet some colleagues from around the network. Everyone was extremely welcoming and the numerous functions that we attended, including a networking event overlooking Sydney Harbour, allowed for an easy introduction to life at Allen & Overy.

My first rotation was in our litigation team and involved a pretty steep learning curve given that I was fresh out of university and a few months' travel. The team was busy on two major matters that required a substantial work commitment day-to-day, as well as an array of smaller disputes. I had the opportunity to work on a \$150m international arbitration relating to the construction of a significant LNG project, an insolvency dispute, and a raft of general commercial matters relating principally to actions for breach of contract and misleading or deceptive conduct, among various others. I worked closely with the team in Perth, as well as with members of the Sydney and Singapore offices. One of the things that

drew me to Allen & Overy was the unique combination of the relatively small office here in Perth that allows for a tight-knit, collegiate feel in the office, with the scope to work on large cross-border matters with colleagues from around the globe.

We finished our first rotation in September and I moved into our corporate team. Another graduate took advantage of the firm's graduate secondment program and filled a seat in our arbitration team in Hong Kong for six months. Of the last eight graduates to start at the firm, five have been on secondment to overseas offices in Singapore, Bangkok and Hong Kong. Numerous others have taken up positions in London, either on a permanent or temporary basis and in a variety of practice groups. The chance to work internationally was one of the reasons I decided to join Allen & Overy and the opportunities are definitely there for those who are keen to explore their options internationally.

The transactional nature of corporate work was a big change from the matters I was on while in our litigation practice group. The work tends to ebb and flow – when there is a deal on it is all systems go (which sometimes involves some pretty late nights), but when things are a bit quieter there is absolutely no pressure to hang around in the office and 'look busy'. I have managed to get involved in a broad array of work, including in relation to pure M&A deals such as IPOs and asset sales, general ASIC and ASX compliance, project financing, gas supply matters, and environmental regulation and licencing.

My fellow graduates who have worked in the banking and projects group have also enjoyed working on a range of financing transactions, including ship financings in the Asia Pacific region, funding of projects in Western Australia and working with other offices on financing of projects in Africa and elsewhere around the globe. They have found the learning about financing and security structures both challenging and stimulating.

My first year at Allen & Overy has been a significant learning experience. While my knowledge of the law has improved markedly from both a procedural and substantive perspective (you will be amazed how much you can learn when you are involved full time, rather than for 15 contact hours a week), perhaps more significant has been the development of the softer skills around my integration into the legal fraternity. Under the lean model that Allen & Overy utilises, juniors are often afforded the opportunity to work directly with partners. While this was daunting at first, it has been incredibly insightful and has no doubt accelerated my development. The firm puts significant resources into training and development, and is able to draw on its depth of global know-how. This includes in future years the possibility of attending off-shore courses such as the firm's corporate or banking "university" courses in London. There is no shortage of more informal support from individuals throughout the office and from the broader global network. I chose to work at Allen & Overy because of its international approach, the standard of work and its integrated model. After one year in the job I am glad to say that I am very happy with my choice.

Emerson Walker

Lawyer at Allen & Overy

Graduate at Solomon Brothers



I graduated from Murdoch University mid-year in 2016 and commenced as a graduate at Solomon Brothers in October 2016. Solomon Brothers is a commercial and commercial litigation practice with an excellent reputation for delivering quality legal services in a wide variety of practice areas.

The work of a graduate at Solomon Brothers is challenging, exciting and varied. There are no defined practice areas for clerks and graduates and so you have the opportunity to be exposed to a range of front-end commercial and litigation work.

You can expect to conduct legal research as well as assist in preparing for commercial disputes. You will potentially be involved in the entire litigation process from drafting letters of demand, conferring with opposing lawyers, drafting statements of claim, attending pre-trial conferences and preparing discovery.

These matters often relate to corporate, contractual, property, trade practices, mining and construction disputes in all State and Federal Courts.

In the commercial section of practice, there is the negotiation of leases and mortgages, the sale of commercial property and share sales. Here, you will potentially be involved in the negotiation of key contractual clauses on behalf of clients.

Solomon Brothers distinguishes itself from other firms by offering a generalist legal training, early client exposure and the opportunity to work directly under Partners. In addition to this, many of the Partners appear as counsel in State and Federal Courts which is a bonus if you are enthusiastic about Court work.

There are a number of criteria you could use to choose a firm. For me, the culture of any firm should always be the paramount consideration. And so, be mindful of the culture of the firm as a clerk and whether it is something you could see yourself being a part of long-term.

The learning curve as a clerk and a graduate at a law firm can be quite steep. Even though you may have performed well academically at university the transition to practice can be daunting. To be successful, it is important to adopt a growth mindset as you will always be learning. The ability to adapt, learn and be resilient is a key skill.

The other tip I would give to potential clerks and graduates is to build healthy and strong relationships with lawyers in the firm. Your ability to communicate openly with team-members and to contribute to a fun and productive work environment is essential.

Zubayr Abrahams

Law Graduate at Solomon Brothers



RACHEL LEE - LIFE AT A GLOBAL LAW FIRM



RACHEL LEE
GRADUATE

My first two years at Herbert Smith Freehills have offered great training and mentoring, opportunities, and have challenged me as a person - I would recommend this career option to any law graduate in a minute!

RACHEL LEE

HOW DID I GET HERE?

I started at Herbert Smith Freehills in March 2015 after completing a vacation clerkship in January 2014. Prior to clerking I was uncertain whether I wanted to work in government, criminal law, commercial law, community law or perhaps something entirely different.

The reason I chose to work at a large commercial law firm is predominantly for the opportunity to work with smart, dedicated people who challenge you to become the best lawyer possible. I have met great mentors here who have helped me shape my career direction and discover new interest areas. I have also had the opportunity to balance my passions for working on challenging, large "front page" commercial matters and pro bono human rights matters.

LIFE AS A GRADUATE

As a graduate lawyer at Herbert Smith Freehills you complete three six month rotations around teams within the firm. I worked in Employment, Pensions & Incentives, Disputes and Mergers and Acquisitions.

As a graduate I always felt like a valued part of the teams I worked with. In these roles I attended Court, drafted transaction documents, attended General Meetings, prepared research notes and assisted with writing legal advice. A big highlight of the experience was the opportunity to do work with so many offices on deals and disputes happening in various parts of the world from Singapore to Paris to - the most glam of all - Brisbane.

The lawyers I worked with were great at giving me the opportunity to attend client calls and meetings regarding work that I assisted with.

A key difference from law school is that you have people sitting in front of you with a real problem - often involving millions of dollars and lots of non-legal commercial risks and pressures to factor in - and no clear answer. This can be scary, but it is also what motivates you to do the best work possible and give a clear, commercial answer to help the business you are working with.

I have also been involved in the firm's community initiatives. This has included a mentoring program for girls at Clontarf Aboriginal College, cooking Christmas dinner for the kids at Ronald McDonald House and meeting with the firm's Big Issue vendor, Eve, fortnightly.

WORKING IN LONDON

I am currently on a six month secondment in our London office. Graduates have the opportunity to apply for a secondment to our London office or one of our Asian offices during their first two years.

Working at the London office has been the opportunity of a lifetime. People here call us "Herbies", which is a cute alternative to the nickname Herbert Smith Freehills had while I was at UWA of "Freemeals".

The clients that I work with are predominantly in the consumer products sector including pharmaceutical manufacturers, alcoholic beverages companies, food and soft drink companies and self driving cars (sadly yet to be offered a test drive, but we did get toy cars from one client!). I have had the opportunity to meet with top QCs, have assisted with a Court of Appeal hearing on issues of international intellectual property law and have worked on market leading advice for emerging consumer products (including an analysis of Twitter Tweets for one matter!).

In addition to client work, I have also worked on pro bono EU migration law advice to vulnerable people such as trafficking victims, human rights law position papers on issues such the rights of the children of prisoners and (for the Serial podcast fans) I have been involved in an innocence-project style appeal of a murder case from the Caribbean to the Privy Council.

It has not been all work and no play - two of my favourite social events have been the Herbert Smith Freehills Christmas party inside Tower Bridge overlooking the Thames and a comedy night with performers from Edinburgh Fringe for multi-cultural week.

Practice Areas



As a clerk, you will have the opportunity to experience first-hand the work done in specific practice areas at a firm. Each practice area is unique – and has its own demands relating to knowledge, working hours and working practices. This section aims to broaden your understanding of each practice area. The information here provides you with the basic understanding of the work done in each practice group. This will come handy when meeting a partner from a certain practice area to also choosing the type of firm that serves you interests and career ambitions.

Banking and Finance

Work in banking law centres on commercial loan agreements- the documentation of lending money and arranging its signing and completion. Working in capital markets involves the issue of 'debt' or 'equity' securities. 'Debt' relates to publicly tradable financial instruments, which are listed on a stock exchange, but traded off the exchange by bond traders. 'Equity' involves public offerings (including IPOS) of shares and company flotation.

Both debt and equity transactions involve a company presenting itself to investors by way of documents recording the issue of security for cash. A typical capital market transaction might involve a company raising several million dollars via the issue of bonds sold into the market or a public offering of shares. The proceeds might then be used for the purposes of the business or to acquire another company. Lawyers will assist with the structuring of the deal and ensure compliance with securities law

Type of Work

Top-level banking and capital market work is concentrated in the Australian financial centres - Sydney and Melbourne. The most complex transactions are handled but the biggest firms, whose clients tend to be large lending institutions. Lawyers in this practice will meet with clients, establish their specific requirements and the commercial context of a transaction. The demands on lawyers are intensive because of the cyclical nature of transactional work. A normal 50-hour week can rise to 75 or 100 hours as a deal nears completion.

Skills Needed:

- Interests in business and international finance
- Accuracy and care
- Negotiation skills, lawyers will have to negotiation more favourable terms for their clients but must also know when to compromise
- Capacity to do routine work in the early days

Career Options

At the largest firms, lawyers specialise to a high degree. In smaller practices, lawyers are broader-based and enjoy a variety of deals, albeit lower profile. Some solicitors view banking law as an ideal platform for a subsequent career in finance and can give you a taste of things to come. Moves in-house at banks are common, especially in capital markets. There's a less drafting and a lot of ad hoc queries from different parts of the bank.

Financial services regulation now employs ever-greater numbers of compliance lawyers. As credit risk departments and capital adequacy requirements become increasingly important, so does the advisory role of the lawyers involved.

Competition & Trade Practice

The basic aim of competition law, and of the Australian regulatory authority (the ACCC), is to ensure that markets function effectively on the basis of fair and open competition. The main piece of legislation is the Trade Practices Act 1974 (Cth), which addresses anti-competitive agreements (such as price-fixing cartels) and the behaviour of individual companies- particularly those who dominate their market.

Type of Work

Non-litigious competition work commonly takes the form of merger control advice and clearance for Mergers and Acquisition deals, or structuring commercial agreements. Litigious work refers to disputes, which has a competition element, while work defending companies against regulatory investigations (such as cartel investigations, abuse of market dominance cases, or industry investigations) falls somewhere in between.

Competition lawyers traditionally specialise in either litigious or non-litigious work. However, these days, they have to be expert in both in order to be fully effective. Competition law requires the lawyer to gain a thorough understanding of how industries and their markets operate. The ACCC has broad powers under the TPA to root out anticompetitive behaviour.

Skills Needed

- Clear analytical mind
- Good mediation and lobbying skills
- Diplomacy
- Desire to understand business are prerequisite traits

Work includes web research, 'market' research, talking to clients about their business, honing drafting skills and developing gut instinct are plenty to be getting on with. The work involves the exercise of advocacy skills, both written and oral. If you enjoy constructing an argument for an essay and then expressing it clearly, backing up your points with the necessary evidence, you're already on the right road. Academically gifted and skill-rich lawyers populate the area.

Career Options

Competition law is not available at every corporate law firm, and the type of firm will determine the nature of the work available. For example, heavy-duty matters (especially merger work) are usually handled by the largest city firms. Few competition lawyers leave private practice, although some do go overseas. Usually only global giants like Coca-Cola, Microsoft and Vodafone can support a specialist team in house. Some lawyers might turn gamekeepers and join the ACCC.

Construction & Infrastructure

Construction lawyers traditionally draft contracts for developers and construction companies to begin projects or assist in contractual disputes. Clients include architects and subcontractors, engineers, architects and surveyors.

Type of Work

The main aspect of construction law is developing the contractual arrangements prior to building work. You also engage in front-end work and dispute resolution when it all goes wrong. However, in construction these days, parties try to achieve a common goal rather than sue each other. It seems to have had an effect, with parties increasingly working with each other when things go wrong. For example, most contracts now contain a mandatory arbitration procedure to be adopted in case of disputes.

Skills Needed

- Legal writing
- Good judgment
- Comfortable with technical information
- Industry knowledge
- Good interpersonal skills

Many seminal legal decisions have arisen out of construction disputes- they deal with complex relationships between parties, which define the boundaries of contract and tort. You need to have an affinity with case law and be prepared to keep up to date with the reports as well as industry trends and thinking. You need to combine legal knowhow with practical advice and real imagination. It's important that you get on with all sorts of people. Some lawyers make a name for themselves based partly on their social skills. This is not belittling their legal talents. But generally speaking, construction industry clients like to bond with their advisors

CLERKSHIP PROGRAM

If you're a law student in your penultimate year, our Clerkship Programs will expose you to the fast pace of a full-service commercial law firm and show you the law in action. You'll be working under the guidance of some of the sharpest legal minds in Australia, on challenging, complex and high-profile transactions and matters. You'll be mentored by partners and lawyers who are leaders in their fields, in a firm where individuality is embraced and innovation actively encouraged.

GRADUATE PROGRAM

It's not just about wearing a suit.

There's always a gap between theory and practice, and post-university prospects can be daunting. How do you make the leap to working in the industry?

That's where we come in.

Once you've completed your studies, our national Graduate Program gives you the perfect foundation for your legal career. Our 2.5 week orientation program is designed to ensure that you'll hit the ground running. It consists of PLT+, local training and a national orientation week in Sydney.

Our rotations will help you discover different areas and find the right fit. From day one you'll be working on complex and sophisticated legal issues, and with our innovative learning and development approach, you'll get the support to become the best you can be.

You'll get...

- Three rotations of six months in our national practice groups
- mentoring from some of the best lawyers in the country
- a buddy who'll give you the inside information
- meaningful performance feedback so you know you're on the right track
- continuing legal education programs and professional development support
- the chance to participate in our Community Connect and Pro Bono programs and really give back
- social and sporting activities, because we know it's not all work and no play.

We hire most of our Graduates from our Clerkship Programs. Occasionally, additional opportunities may arise. These opportunities will be listed on our website.



Criminal Law

Criminal lawyers, also known as criminal defence lawyers and public defenders, defend individuals, organizations and entities that have been charged with a crime. Criminal lawyers handle a diverse spectrum of criminal cases, ranging from domestic violence crimes, sex crimes, violent crimes and drug crimes to driving 75 under the influence (DUI), theft, embezzlement and fraud.

Type of Work

As a defence lawyer you will provide advice to clients, based on a careful analysis of the evidence relied upon by the prosecution and the client's instructions, and then to represent them in court. Contrary to popular belief, most cases resolve with pleas of guilty. A defence lawyers roles is then to negotiate with the prosecution about which charges are to proceed and drawing to the court's attention to the sentencing principles applicable to the client. Defence lawyers prepare and appear at mention hearings, bail applications and plea hearings.

The day-to-day work of a solicitor at the Department of Public Prosecutions varies enormously, and often changes at very short notice. Each solicitor is allocated cases to work on, encompassing a range of offences and varying levels of complexity. The sheer number of cases which are prosecuted by the office mean that the work is fast-paced, with time management and multi-tasking skills quickly honed.

Typical work of a prosecutor includes:

- Determining appropriate charges to file before court;
- Preparing cases for court hearings;
- Appearing in court to prosecute matters;
- Preparing advice to the Department of Public Prosecutions; and x Participating in policy development and law reform

A key task for every prosecutor is to consider, with respect to each charge, whether there is sufficient evidence to warrant prosecution and whether it is in the public interest to proceed. This requires an assessment of the material gathered during the police investigation, and is a responsibility which remains with the solicitor throughout the entire court process of the case. Given the multitude of court hearings prior to a criminal trial, the strength of the evidence can change markedly. A solicitor of the Department of Public Prosecutions must be attentive to the effect of those changes, and act accordingly.

Skills Needed

- Excellent communication skills
- An interest in social justice
- Negotiation skills
- Public Speaking

Career Options

There are many career options for criminal lawyers and the options vary to the path that students wish to take. Students may wish to become barristers in criminal law. There are opportunities to work for the Department of Public Prosecutions as well as many private firms that have practice areas that specialise in criminal defence. People with a passion for criminal law can also work in law review as well as academia.

Family Law

Family law practitioners protect the rights of people who are related to each other by counselling and representing them in situations such as divorce, adoption, and spousal and child support matters. Divorce lawyers are the most numerous of family lawyers. Family lawyers must meet various educational and skills requirements to enter and succeed in this field.

Type of Work

Family lawyers advise their clients about their legal rights and suggest the most judicious course of action in a given situation. These lawyers might help people in handling matters of custody, visitation, neglect, domestic violence, paternity, surrogate parenting and prenuptial agreements.

Skills Needed

Family lawyers must have strong people skills, be committed to helping clients obtain just solutions to legal disputes, and be able to handle stressful situations. Employers also look for family lawyers who have multiple years of current civil, divorce and family litigation experience, are detail-oriented and possess strong oral and written communication skills.

Family lawyers should be skilled negotiators, have solid observation skills, and have a solid knowledge of both the legal system and state laws. They also should have a strong understanding of family financial matters because a lot of their work involves the settlement of property disputes.

Projects

Major projects are located worldwide and projects lawyers hail from every major jurisdiction. Whether it is a power station or a motorway, specialist construction lawyers work hand in hand with finance and corporate lawyers to enable projects to come to fruition.

Type of Work

Projects vary from oil pipelines in to Private Finance Initiative prisons in WA. The exact nature of the legal work depends on the type, size and location of the project and the firm's clients. Some consistently act for the project company- usually a special purpose company established to build, own and operate a power station, for example.

Often the project company is a joint venture between a numbers of sponsors who contribute equity to part-fund the project. Project sponsors could include the manufacturers of the gas turbines installed in a power station, the construction company that will erect the plant, and the power company that will buy the electricity. The company could also be partly owned by a government body or banks. Other firms act for the project promoter- the organization that commissions the project. It could be a trust that wants a new hospital or a foreign government that wants a privately financed motorway. Then there are the firms that act purely on the finance side for the banks, guarantors, export credit agencies, governments, and international funding agencies. Other categories of client include the contractors, operators and so on; each party requires its own legal representation. Lawyers advertising on any of these contracts must understand the big picture. They have to see how changing one contractual term will have a knock on effect throughout the entire transaction.

Skills Needed

- Prepared to travel
- Commercial awareness
- Tact and diplomacy
- Strong client skills
- Good on contract and tort
- Good drafting
- Comfortable with long, complex documents

If you enjoy the challenge of creating a scheme and figuring out all its possibilities and pitfalls, this may be the right area for you. The ability to work with a team of people, whether they are you own colleagues and clients or other lawyers and professionals, funders or subcontractors, is crucial. As projects can go on for years, you need to build relationships with those involved.

Corporate

Corporate transactions are the lifeblood of commercial firms and experienced corporate lawyers are amongst the highest paid in the profession.

Type of Work

The largest firms act for the companies listed on the ASX, while smaller firms tend to advise leading private companies and a handful of listed companies. Mergers and acquisitions (M&A) and corporate restructurings are the core business and are interlinked with finance (banking and capital market work).

There are three key phrases to the work: negotiating and drafting agreements, arranging financing, and carrying out 'due diligence'. Due diligence is a time consuming but necessary task to ensure the accuracy of information passed from the target to the bidder or from the company raising capital to the funder. Private companies have few shareholders (owners), whereas ASX-listed companies can have millions. This makes the latter vulnerable to hostile takeover bids from rival companies seeking a controlling stake.

There are a number of key differences in the work carried out at different types of firms. If you work for one of the largest firms, you might become specialised, for example in IPOS or public takeovers. If you work for a smaller firm, you must be able to handle all types of transactions. There are other key differences as well, most notable hours and the increased chances of a junior lawyer getting close to the front line action. The largest firms handle the biggest transactions so, naturally, a junior solicitor will not carry a huge amount of responsibility.

Skills Needed

- Handling demanding clients
- Good presentation
- Tact and clear communication
- Eye for detail

As a corporate lawyer you do have to be a jack-of all-trades. Merger control, IP/IT, employment, and tax all need to be understood and the basics communicated to the client. Even though the corporate lawyer will call upon the skills of specialists, they need to know when to do that.

You'll spend a lot of time in meetings, much of it thrashing out points of agreement, but also making small talk with your client. Those who excel in corporate work seem to thrive in pressure situations. Deadlines are almost always genuine, and sometimes this means there aren't enough hours in the day. If you are going to have a problem with the working pattern, you should choose another area of law.

Career Options

Larger firms allow qualified lawyers to be selected to be seconded to major clients; a sound grounding in corporate finance makes an excellent springboard for working in industry. Many lawyers move in-house to major companies, tempted by decent hours and salaries. Some lawyers join the banking world, either as an in house lawyer, corporate finance executive or analysts. Company secretarial positions suit lawyers with a taste for variety and responsibility, the best advice to budding corporate lawyers is to regularly read the Financial Review.

Employment

If you are fascinated by human nature, curious about the forces at play in employer/employee relations and eager to be involved in cases provoking legislative and social changes affecting everyone who has ever had a job, then employment law may be right for you.

Type of Work

The type of work an employment lawyers is a rich and varied mix of advisory, pre-emptive, contractual and litigious work. Litigious matters are heard in the Industrial Relations Commission (IRC) or the courts. In the IRC, employees may claim for redundancy pay, unfair dismissal, breach of contract, and sex, race or disability discrimination against their employer. Although the awards in most cases will be capped, the high value of some awards makes it easy to see why individuals are increasingly willing to bring claims against employers. Although acting for employees doesn't always put a lawyer on the side of the angels, those acting for trade unions and their members are often ideologically motivated. A lawyer may find himself or herself representing thousands of union members in their campaigns to change working practices or the law on, say, pension rights for part time workers. Employment law is, by its nature, highly politicised, regulating, as it does, the relationship between workers and employers. Employment lawyers see themselves as somewhat different from corporate lawyers even though they find themselves working closely with them on transactions, with employment advice increasingly becoming a vital ingredient in the deal. The hours are usually not as relentless as those experienced in the corporate.

Skills Needed

- Excellent communication and negotiation skills
- A talent for advocacy
- Practicality
- An ability to quickly assimilate changes in strategy and advice
- Detailed knowledge of relevant law

Career Options

Those hoping for a career as an employment lawyer face stiff competition, as most commercial firms have only a small, dedicated department. However, even the smallest firms have clients seeking employment advice. Like most litigation, the volume of work increases in times of recession. In times of recession you will get instructions on redundancies and terminations. In times of economic strength there's more corporate-led advice needed. Some employers have in-house employment lawyers, but more usually a more in-house would combine employment law with general commercial advice. Know-how lawyers are dedicated to keeping their colleagues up to date on changes in the law and draft client newsletters.



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University won't last forever. Soon, you'll be embarking on a legal career full of new and wonderful experiences as well as the occasional curve ball. You need to be prepared. So, visit our dedicated graduate website to see our top 10 tips designed to help you get the most out of your early years as a lawyer. To learn more, visit corrs.com.au/tips

Intellectual Property

Intellectual property law can be divided into patent work, which involves the protection of inventions and processes, and non-patent work, which involves trademarks, design rights, copyright, anti-counterfeiting and confidential information.

IP clients include manufacturers and suppliers of high-tech, engineering, pharmaceutical and agrochemical products, leading brand owners, universities, scientific institutions and media clients. IP work can be litigious or nonlitigious. Disputes usually revolve around arguments of infringement or the existence of one or more intangible property rights in an invention, a literary or artistic work, a trademark or a product, or whether any IP rights exist at all. Patent litigation, in particular, can be very complex, with cases running for years, usually with a lot at stake. In some respects, a general IP lawyer is a jack-of-all-trades. The work involves a multitude of things from advising on the results of basic. Trademark-related agreements, such as sponsorship, endorsement and merchandising contracts. These activities involve either working solo or with a small team of other IP specialists.

On the other hand, there are times when a general IP lawyer will be called upon to work as part of a multidisciplinary team on a large corporate transaction. The lawyer will have to advise on the IP warranties given or received by the parties to the transaction and perhaps check the title to the rights that are claimed. By contrast with a general IP lawyer, a patent lawyer can get caught up in mammoth cross agreements-patent and trademark licenses, research and development agreements, assignments of rights and material transfer agreements.

Skills Needed

- Patent law
- Aptitude for technical matters and concepts
- Precise drafting
- General IP
- Curiosity for all things creative, artistic and technological
- Interest in the Internet
- Up with consumer trends

With general IP, you'll need to have a good sense of commercial strategy and branding issues and be innovative in the way you think. Ideas and public perceptions, images and symbols will be your stock in trade. Maybe in another life you'd have worked in an advertising agency.

Career Options

IP knowledge is valued outside private practice. Manufacturing, pharmaceutical and research companies employ patent specialists and there are in house legal teams at all large pharmaceutical companies. Non-patent lawyers find their way into the media world - all major publishers and television companies have in house IP lawyers. Additionally, firms of trademark agents and patent attorneys are often keen to recruit those with legal training.

Litigation & Dispute Resolution

Unlike what is portrayed in the media, litigation is not about silver-tongued lawyers cross-examining thin-lipped corporate sharks. Most disputes never reach trials, and as a rule, clients are not interested in having their 'day in the court'. Every litigator knows that, almost without exception, the best approach is to reach a commercial settlement quickly and cheaply. Unless they can be settled by correspondence, disputes are concluded in one of three ways. The first is through litigation itself - the issue and pursuit of court proceedings, which can be expensive and time-consuming. For this reason, contracts often provide for disputes between the parties to be referred to the second method, namely binding arbitrations, which are usually conducted by an expert in the subject matter where it is particularly specialised.

Unlike court proceedings, arbitrations are confidential. They are particularly common in the insurance and construction industries. The third method is ADR. Although it can take various forms, the most common form of ADR is mediation. This involves structured negotiations between parties, which are overseen and directed by an independent mediator. The parties retain the right to litigate if they find it impossible to reach an agreement.

Type of Work

General commercial litigators handle a variety of business disputes, but most cases will be contractual, encompassing anything from a dispute over the sale of a multimillion dollar business to an argument over the meaning of a term in a tenancy agreement. Such so-called generalists might also deal with negligence claims by companies against their professional advisors. Some litigators might also deal with negligence claims by companies against their professional advisors.

Some litigators specialise in certain industry sectors, such as construction, insurance, property or media. Quite simply, litigation is a process. Once a case has commenced, it follows a predetermined course laid down by the rules of the court: statement of claim, disclosure of documents, witness statements, various procedural applications and, in a small number of cases, trial. In the major cases, this process can take several years. The mutual disclosure of relevant documents can be a particularly protracted and expensive affair. Managing this process is the litigator's primary role and this requires not only a mastery of the rules, but also a keen appreciation of tactics and detail.

Skills Needed

- Commercial awareness
- Be a tactician
- Natural toughness
- Enjoy formulating and articulating arguments
- Assimilate information quickly
- Think laterally
- Good negotiator

As well as being able to conceive of ideas and arguments, you also need to communicate them to your client, counsel or, for junior lawyers, to the partner supervising you. Corporate clients see litigation as part of business risk; they take your advice, pay your fees and can absorb whatever happens.

For private individuals the impact of litigation on their lives should not be underestimated - it can mean the difference between life going on and ruin. While this leads to important differences in handling the two types of client, both will be concerned with efficiency, good management and costs. It's important to develop good relationships with your clients so that they trust you to make decisions on their behalf.

Property & Real Estate

One of the main reasons why students are attracted to property law is that the work involves real projects - things you can actually touch, and real people, who you deal with right from the word go. There's another simple reason why some lawyers have a great experience with property- you get lots of client contact from an early stage, handle your own cases and make a real difference from the outset. It appeals to those with a sense of independence.

Type of Work

Work is divided between transactional matters and one off management advice. Most work is transactional and the best-informed property lawyers are those who keep themselves apprised of what's going on in the industry- the movers, the shakers and the deals. Most property lawyers act for a wide variety of clients: homeowner's small business tenants, landlords, investors and banks. They must see the property market from all angles and must be able to champion the cause of these different parties.

Arguably, the fundamental decision to be made is between being a litigator and a commercial lawyer. Having chosen the latter, becoming a property lawyer simply means that you chose a job where deals are centered on land and buildings instead of company shares, for example. The property lawyer's job will touch upon various other disputed - company law, finance, revenue law, trusts, liquor licensing, health and safety, telecommunications, environmental law, agricultural law, insolvency, project finance and planning.

Skills Needed

- Good negotiator
- Precision and care
- Lateral thinker
- Numeracy
- An interest in the property market
- Work well autonomously
- Flexibility

The amount of documentation to be considered and amended requires you to be well organised, calm and ready to embrace detail. Successful property lawyers combine the capacity for new ideas and clever strategy with a willingness to sit down and turn the ideas, word by word, into watertight agreements. Negotiation skills are very important. In addition to being able to argue a point well, you've got to know when to push, when to give in, in this respect, the pickiest lawyers do not make the best practitioners. It's also your job to uncover everything there is to know about a property so tenacity is important.

Your dealings with clients, other lawyers and property professional will be both on the phone and in meetings. You'll need to express yourself clearly and confidently. Generally, both sides have the same goal and so the real trick is to get the best deal for your client within the time frame that they set for you. The most successful and satisfied property lawyers actually get on very well with their opposite numbers. At times in the largest firms, a young lawyer will have scores of different cases on the go at any one time, so you have to be pretty adept at juggling them all. You learn early on how to priorities tasks.

Career Options

Just as the fortunes of the property market have been cyclical, the fortunes of the property lawyers rise and fall accordingly. Some in-house lawyers perform much the same function as those in private practice, while fund managers often have specialist property lawyers handling the fund's property deals in tandem with solicitors in private practice, jobs in the public sector are common as well.

Taxation

Taxation lawyer's primary role is to advise as to the most tax efficient means of structuring and running business. Tax work is highly client focused- a good deal of the work is for repeat clients who invariably want quick and commercial answers to complex questions.

Type of Work

The voluminous and ever evolving nature of tax law requires constant attention to black letter law. There is a wide variety of tax work on offer- transactional, litigious and general advisory- not to mention an increasingly international aspect to the transactional work in particular, where the relevant laws of a number of jurisdictions need to be considered.

Tax is a crucial component of every major deal undertaken by commercial firms. Whether the matter is corporate, finance or property-related, you can be sure that tax lawyers will be among the key advisors. There's a huge quantity of law relevant to the area and, then giving advice, practitioners need to take into account not only tax legislation and cases, but also other areas of law that might be relevant.

Tax law evolves at a far greater rate than the majority of other practice areas so you'll need to be constantly on the lookout for change. Tax law is not always as boring and monotonous as it is stereotyped to be. A typical day involves research law, advising on deals, and advising on how to structure business activities. A taxation lawyer's hours are usually fairly reasonable because the nature of the work allows it to be completed within normal working hours, which links in with the fact that tax lawyers are so in demand that firms generally treat them well.

Skills Needed

- Analytical mind
- Commercial awareness
- Technical excellence

Career Options

Many of the most successful tax solicitors become barristers, and part of the bar is known for its super high earnings. As for the alternatives to private practice, you can work in-house in the tax department of a large corporation or bank, or you can work for the government or the ATO.

Although the working pressures are less in the public sector, so are the financial rewards. Some solicitors move to accountancy firms in a tax consultancy role. Overall, the skills and knowledge gained through working in private practice are portable at all levels of qualification. There's certainly no shortage of positions in private practice for those who want them, provided they're capable. After a few years of bedding down in the area, junior lawyers become a very marketable commodity.

Corporate Advisory





Ernst & Young is a global professional service firm with services in assurance, tax, advisory and transactions. They use their global reach and scale to convene the conversation about the challenges facing economies and the capital markets.

Graduate Program

As a graduate with EY you'll be able to add value to your clients and shape your career as a professional. You'll begin to build your technical, leadership and communication skills, and be responsible for parts of projects right away, working in a business area of your choice.

You will work with a buddy and a counselor who will help you learn your way around the firm, set your goals and plan your development. You might also find yourself working interstate and overseas.

Vacation Program

Our summer or winter Vacationer Program provides client work, skills development, training and professional experiences. You'll be able to put into practice what you've been studying at university and head back to your studies confident that your career's already begun. So show us what you're capable of and you could be invited to join us after graduation.

Game Changer's Club

If you are graduating in 2019, you are eligible for the Game Changer's Club. As a member, you will be invited to attend various EY events throughout the year. You will network with business leaders and EY professionals who will share insights and stories that have influenced decisions they've made in their career.

Career Compass

For first, second or third year student that are due to graduate in mid or late 2019, this program is a two-day program that consists of structured learning sessions so you can learn more about EY and the skills required to help you grow from a student to a professional. For more information, visit the website.




Start making an impact on your future today



"I always knew I wanted to get into a role which allowed me to utilise both the legal and commercial aspects of my university learning, but it wasn't until I undertook vacationer work at EY in Perth that I recognised a role at EY would provide me with this opportunity. I work in tax controversy, which is a tax legal services team. In addition to providing advice on often contentious and complex tax issues, my team helps clients manage disputes with the tax authorities, and if necessary, provides representation in litigious proceedings.

In my role as a consultant and solicitor, I assist with all aspects of my team's engagements. I have the opportunity to work with large national and multi-national corporate clients. EY has a fantastic learning culture that is complimented with countless training opportunities that have allowed me to learn a lot."

Shea Lukey, Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Commerce



At EY, there is no one career path for everyone. You're encouraged to create a path that reflects your individual talents and aspirations. With EY you can influence the future of your career, the businesses you work with and even the world you live in. We'll work with you to help you succeed professionally and personally.

Using the knowledge you've gained from your law studies, you'll help all types of companies, from entrepreneurial start-ups to multinationals. We'll provide you with experiences that'll shape your career for years to come. Because when you grow, we do too.

One decision, life time of opportunities

Our **Vacationer Program** is a great way to experience the working world during your summer (or winter) holidays. Show us what you're capable of and you may be invited to join us after graduation in a full-time position.

Our **Graduate Program** will put your knowledge to the test. Build your technical skills. Join us full-time as a graduate and you'll get early responsibility, support and training.

We also offer our **Game Changers Club** and **Career Compass Program** to students who are due to graduate in 2019. Please see our website for more details.

Your journey starts here
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**Building a better
working world**

JOIN THOUSANDS OF SATISFIED LAW STUDENTS ACROSS AUSTRALIA

PLT Plus – today's most in-demand Practical Legal Training (PLT) program, delivered by The College of Law.

Now in its second year, our new and improved program puts you first. With a renewed focus on flexibility, convenience and practical relevant training, it's no wonder more students are choosing PLT Plus over any other program.

Now it's your turn to discover what the fuss is all about.

5 Reasons to choose PLT Plus



JUST 5 DAYS OF FACE-TO-FACE ATTENDANCE

With only 5 days of face-to-face attendance plus full-time, part-time and offsite study options, PLT Plus is truly flexible. We also offer more than 15 courses a year in Perth, allowing you to study at a time that suits you – not us.



LOWEST FEES IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Only The College of Law can offer you the best value PLT program. Included in your course fees are tuition costs, resource materials plus comprehensive Practice Papers to take with you into the workplace.



NO ASSESSABLE GROUP WORK

Our aim is to ensure that you are well-equipped as a practising lawyer from the get-go. So you can practise thinking on your feet – just like a lawyer – all PLT subjects are individually assessed orally via video or telephone conference.



PART OF THE WA PROFESSION FOR 10+ YEARS

Established in 2006, The College of Law Western Australia has delivered PLT to over 2000 lawyers. We have a trusted track-record for training 'practice ready' young lawyers who can contribute to their chosen workplace immediately.



YOU'LL BE MORE PRACTICE READY

PLT Plus places greater emphasis on task-based, hands-on learning. It's also the only program that offers a Legal Business Skills Series – equipping you with vital workplace skills such as time manage, leadership and communication.



For course dates or more information about our PLT Plus program visit The College of Law website www.collaw.edu.au/pltplus or contact our Student Services Team on 1300 856 111 or enrolments@collaw.edu.au

The College of Law is Australasia's largest provider of Practical Legal Training (PLT), with campuses in Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, and Perth. We also conduct programs in Adelaide, Canberra and regional Queensland, as well as onsite sessions in London. The College of Law's PLT program leads to the award of a Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice (GDLP) which makes you eligible to apply for direct admission to your state or territory.

PwC

PwC is one of Australia's leading professional services firms, bringing the power of our global network of firms to help Australian businesses, not-for-profit organisations and governments assess their performance and improve the way they work. PwC recruits from a diverse range of academic backgrounds, including arts, business, accounting, tax, economics, engineering, finance, health and law.

Graduate Program

As a graduate at PwC, you'll get the opportunity and support to develop your business and technical skills through a range of programs and professional qualifications. PwC encourages further tertiary study by providing subsidies, paid study leave and flexible working arrangements.

Summer Internship program

This program is open to penultimate year students in an undergraduate or postgraduate degree and runs over three to eight weeks (length will vary across our offices) and includes full time work experience during the university break, allowing you to get a head-start in your career before graduating. During the program, you'll participate in challenging and relevant work on client engagements, attend networking events, participate in a community service project or client challenge, and enhance your personal and professional development through coaching and mentoring. It's a great way to boost your employability, as well as giving you the chance to return to university with a full time job offer in hand!

Trainee Program

The PwC Trainee program is a unique 3 year program that allows you to incorporate real paid work experience whilst completing your degree. It is the most valuable way to complete your university studies to set you up for a successful and fulfilling career.

You'll start as a Trainee with us in either your second year of your single degree or your third year of your double degree, and work full time and study part time for two years. Once the work experience period is over, you return to finish your degree on a full time study basis. Many Trainees will be offered full time graduate positions to return the following year.

The program suits students from a range of degree backgrounds, including a combined Law/ Commerce or Business degree.

Application dates for the 2018 Trainee program will be released mid-2017.

KPMG

KPMG combines our multi-disciplinary approach with deep, practical industry knowledge to help clients meet challenges and respond to opportunities. We are a global network of professional firms providing Audit, Tax and Advisory services across a wide range of industries, Government and not for profit sectors. KPMG Enterprise provides a full range of services tailored to meet the unique needs of mid-sized, fast growing and family owned businesses. We operate in 152 countries and have more than 189,000 people working in member firms around the world.

Graduate Program

The Graduate Program supports you with ongoing training, structured development programs and a dedicated mentor. Their global network offers opportunities for overseas secondments and a career pathway that allows you to develop as fast as your ability allows. You'll be part of an outstanding team working across a diverse client list. You'll be dealing with complex issues that will stretch your thinking. And you'll have opportunities to learn and grow unlike anywhere else.

Summer Vacation Program

Our Vacation Program allows you to experience day-to-day-life at KPMG. You can feel what it's like to be part of the team, working directly alongside our people.

Offered to undergraduates in the penultimate year of their degree, this is your chance to discover what it's like to be part of the KPMG team first hand. You can explore the areas best suited to your skills and aspirations. As well as kick-starting your career, you'll participate in community activities and have plenty of opportunities to network.

Our vacation program is 4 weeks long in our Brisbane and Gold Coast offices, 6 weeks long in Adelaide and Perth and 8 weeks in all other locations.

Foundations Program

The Foundations Program is a 2-day development session (1-day in some locations) designed to provide an immersive learning experience and equip you with the knowledge to make the right choices. You'll get the chance to find out more about what we do, the different career choices available and application top tips.

Foundations is open to students from any degree discipline, in any year of study except penultimate or final year students.

Applications for the 2018 Foundations Program will open in August.

Deloitte

Deloitte has more than 244,400 professionals at member firms delivering services in audit, tax, consulting, financial advisory, risk advisory, and related services in more than 150 countries and territories.

Their legal sector advisers assist Multinational organisations with day-to-day activities as well as corporate life events across many jurisdictions. Deloitte member firms provide holistic guidance around strategic business decisions, offering cost-effective support for routine legal activities.

Graduate Program

Deloitte graduates take part in a graduate development program called D.Academy. D.Academy runs induction during the first week of the program specifically training grads in soft skill and technical training to get you prepared for life in professional services. The highlight event of the year is Breakthrough, an event not to be missed as all grads are brought together in two central locations across Australia to celebrate hitting the halfway mark. It allows graduates to meet with graduates from around the country and network with Partners from all business units.

Vacationer Program

The Summer Vacation Program offers client exposure, multiple networking opportunities, relevant professional training and feedback from your coach and buddy throughout your program.

You'll spend three to eight weeks in one of our business units whilst getting a taste for what it's really like to work in a leading professional services firm. At the end of the placement you will leave with the prospect of securing a graduate position, skipping the queue for a final year graduate placement.

Deloitte offers programs for students from all degree disciplines so if you are in your penultimate (second last) year at university, you are eligible to apply for our Summer Vacation Program.

Vacationer at PwC



In November and December of 2016 I was fortunate enough to participate in the Vacationer Program at PwC. I applied through the Tax & Legal stream and was subsequently placed in the Corporate Tax team. During my placement I was exposed to a large variety of tasks which provided an excellent snapshot into the type of work a solicitor in PwC's Corporate Tax team is engaged in.

Like many of you I was unsure of the type of work I would be involved in at PwC. There were a lot of question marks around the division between legal and other commercial work and what type of tasks a Law Graduate would complete. Broadly PwC's Corporate tax team works with clients across a range of industries to provide advice on transactions and regulatory obligations. This can range from formulating and implementing strategies for international investments and structuring capital market products through to due diligence and structuring for a M&A. This advice can be broken down into two key areas, financial and legal. The day to day task I was involved in largely revolved around writing legal advice on the taxation liabilities a company may face given their structure and the projects that they are involved in.

There is a conception surrounding a career in professional services that you need an accounting/commerce background to go into this area, however this is not the case. While I am a law/commerce student, several of the other vacationers had straight law or law/arts degrees. PwC acknowledges that as Vacationers and Graduates you do not know everything. PwC is committed to training and up skilling their staff. PwC supports formal training such as your PLT through College of Law and CPA while also providing their own internal training.

An appealing factor about PwC is that it is a very unique work place. They actively encourage individuality and collaboration. There is no formal dress policy at PwC. The reality of this is that you are left to make your own decisions about how you dress for the day. If I had any meetings or formal engagements I would wear my normal corporate attire. However, on the days when I knew that I was going to be in the office all day, it was more than appropriate to bring out the Jeans and Shirt.

PwC also implements an activity based working workspace (hot desking). This means that there are no formal desks and no formal offices. The benefit of this system for a Vacationer is that it massively increases the availability and approachability of senior members of staff. On any given day you could find yourself sitting next to a Partner or Director.

Beyond the work, the Vacationer Program is also a lot of fun. In December all the Vacationers are invited to the Christmas Party and are actively included in the day's festivities. We spent a day volunteering at UnitingCare West creating Christmas hampers and selecting presents for under privileged children. There was also the opportunity for us to be involved in social netball as well as a variety of other after work social functions.

My advice for anyone applying for clerkships this year is to consider a professional services placement alongside your other clerkships. Gaining experience in a different industry has proved invaluable in deciding where I would like to begin my career. Not only does it put your other clerkships into context but it gives you an insight into the commercial world that you may not have considered before.

It is important to note that PwC and other professional services firms open their applications long before the commercial law firms do. PwC's applications are now open and they close on 19 March 2017. The process is a little different to the commercial law firms so check out <http://www.pwc.com.au/student-careers/vacation.html> for further information before applying. Otherwise, good luck!

Edward Love

Final Year Law and Commerce Student, Murdoch University

Careers Beyond Law



Journalism

Journalism is part of the communications sector that has experienced rapid growth and expansion globally in recent times. There are many different fields of journalism starting from the basic television, print and radio journalism, extending to other newly developing fields including the internet and multimedia industries. Journalists are needed in both private and government departments such as publicity roles, as press secretaries for government ministers. They are also found in other fields which require persons with high levels of communication skills such as in freelance journalism, advertising, marketing and public relations.

Generally, there are no specific qualifications that are required to become a journalist however job prospects are highly improved by various factors including if you have previously completed a degree in journalism or another related area. For example, Arts students are advised to pursue a major in English or Communications which specifically develops communication skills.

Alternatively, law students are advised that the best pathway to take after completing law studies is a postgraduate degree or specialist program in journalism or media.

The journalism industry requires an excellent level of communication, including:

- Strong language skills;
- The ability to write quickly and concisely;
- The ability to meet tight deadlines while producing a high quality of work;
- Keeping up to date with daily news and events;
- A genuine interest in and understanding of areas of current public interest regarding political, social, economical, cultural and international issues

Work experience in the journalism industry is hard to come by. Generally, the traditional method of gaining experience is through a graduate cadetship, which is also open to law graduates. A cadetship generally runs for one year, and includes on-the-job training and classroom lectures by senior journalists. For example, at The West, it is required that cadets write 120 words a minute and are rostered on a rotational basis into various editorial groups in order to gain a wide scope of experience in different fields. After a year, cadets are often offered permanent positions.

Publishing

Like many other sectors of media and communications, publishing is a highly competitive field that sees more and more graduates trying for positions each year. As an industry, publishing is one of the largest creative industries, and employs more and more people from different fields each year. Publishing has been rapidly developing in recent times, as more sophisticated ways of delivering content to the wider community emerge with the use of technology. Where publishing used to be a business solely about printing books, modern publishing is now about delivering content through various multimedia formats.

The work of publishing requires long and demanding hours for staff, and for a proportionally small financial compensation. Generally, publishing requires a desire to offer one's best, over a love of books. It is also possible to eventually move from a junior post to one that requires a greater responsibility and entails a greater interest to the individual.

Interestingly, most people found within the publishing field did not study it in university. It is highly recommended that students interested in publishing pursue and apply for entry-level positions and unpaid work experience, such as internships in smaller publishing firms during their last year of studies. Smaller publishers are known to give trainees more hands-on experience in all aspects of publishing, while placements in larger publishing firms allow students to develop and specialise in skills related to specific areas.

Finance

Investment Banking

Investment banking is the department of the bank that deals with clients who require assistance when it comes to mergers, acquisitions, divestitures, takeover defences, demergers and the raising of capital. This is a separate division because it requires the holding of price sensitive information.

Generally, with a law degree, a role in investment banking will be an in-house position. With an investment banking position, you will be required to deal with specialist areas of finance such as securitisation and structured finance, capital markets, derivatives, leveraged and syndicated lending, as well as the usual project and asset finance.

Previously, such positions were seen as less attractive than a specific position in investment banking. However, with the changing nature of the global economy and therefore changing nature of corporate demands, people with legal backgrounds and experience find banking positions more interesting and becoming increasingly secure, given the transferable nature of their legal skills into investment banking.

Positions in investment banking tend to require an experience in areas of specific retail banking products, structured products, general lending or leveraged finance and FSA regulation. Interested graduates are encouraged to inform and familiarise themselves with banking laws and to keep up to date with the climate of the global economy in order to prepare themselves for legal jobs in banks.

Commercial Banking

Commercial banking is another separate division of the bank and it differs from other departments because it obtains deposits from both wholesale and retail markets. These deposits are in turn appropriated through loans and other products to interested customers of the bank. Things such as deposit accounts, cheques and fixed term deposits, as well as term loans, trade finance and lines of credit some of the services that commercial banking offers.

The role in commercial banking is to sell products that run to make a profit for the respective shareholders of the bank. It is distinguished from investment banking because it serves customers in the ordinary retail sectors. As a graduate, a position in commercial banking requires you to do the following duties:

- Processing payments through various means of technology, such as internet banking or telegraphic transfer;
- Issue bank drafts and cheques;
- Accept money on term deposits;
- Lend money through overdrafts, installment loans or other possible means;
- Be able to provide documentations and letters of credit, evidence of guarantees, performance bonds etc.
- Have a sound knowledge and application of currency exchange;
- Sale, distribution or brokerage of insurance, unit trusts, or other financial products.

The duties above may or may not require giving advice, so a sound knowledge of finance and commerce is preferred and will advantageous to you.

A position in commercial banking is generally very competitive, however it is not so much about the grades or experiences that you have accumulated. Employers of commercial banking sectors advise that it is more to your favour if you understand the nature of the various commercial banking companies and to be able to apply such knowledge to how you approach your application and your interviews.

International Humanitarianism

The area of international humanitarianism works towards seeking to improve and enforce international laws through giving high quality legal advice and working on major international treaties and reform policies. International Humanitarianism work involves the United Nations and many other specialised subsidiary groups that have offices based in Australia, the International Criminal Court and also the World Trade Organization. In addition to this, throughout the Asia-Pacific region, there are also a variety of specialized UN offices located in nations such as Fiji and Papua New Guinea.

Within all of these specialised offices and international organisations, there are many different areas of work that require a highly legal background and knowledge, and some organisations only employ lawyers. Work for these international organisations is highly competitive in nature, and requires relocation to the nation where the office is based.

General National

Humanitarian Bodies with respect to purely independent Australian-based humanitarian work, organisations in Australia tend to deal primarily with social justice within the local community and our close neighbours. The employment in one of these organisations allows you to live and work in Australia while dealing with both national and international humanitarian rights issues.

In Australia, some of the departments dealing with national and international humanitarian rights issues ranging from aid agencies such as ActionAid, the Australian Human Rights Commission to indigenous representative bodies such as the National Congress of Australia's First People. These groups target, support and lobby minority groups within Australia's national community, such as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, ethnic groups, immigrants, the elderly, children and women, the disabled and mentally ill, and also lobbying for aid and development in other nearby countries. Refer to the Careers Directory for a more extensive list of organisations.

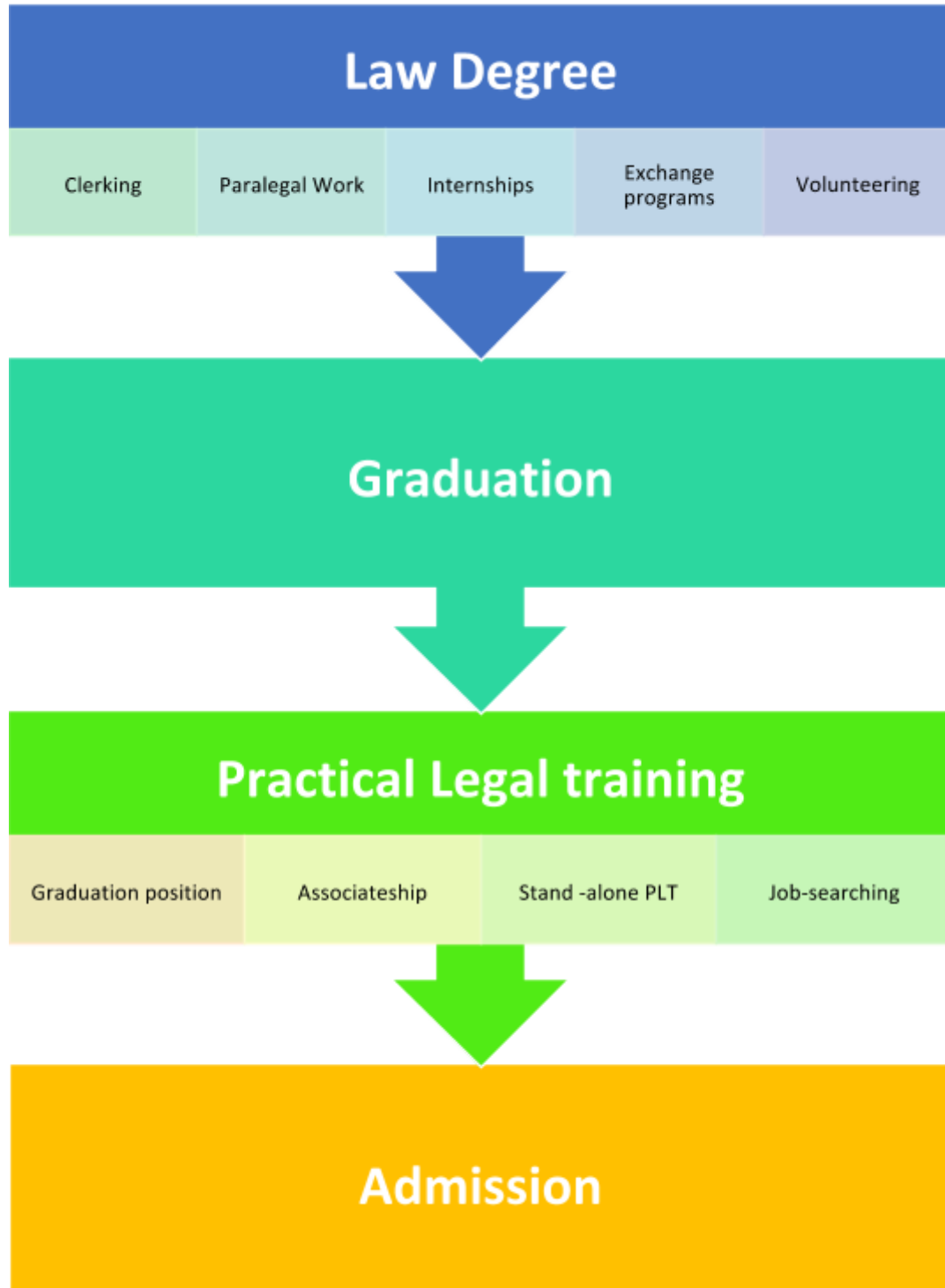
Other Non-Governmental Organisations

The term 'NGO' stands for Non- Governmental Organisations, which is the umbrella term for a variety of organisations that deal with every pressing humanitarian issue. Generally, their concerns tend to include upholding human rights, fighting and aiding global poverty and improving the development of nations such as children's rights, women's rights and environmental conservation. A few well known NGOs include Amnesty International, the Red Cross, World Vision and Oxfam. Working in an Australian NGO generally offers a small team environment and requires you to deal with a variety of social justice areas to work or specialise in, depending on the focus of that particular organisation. As a law student, career opportunities and work will generally include duties such as conducting research, promoting campaigns, advocacy, fundraising, and also policy drafting and revision. For more information on opportunities in International Humanitarianism, refer to the Careers Directory.

Practical Legal Training



Guide To Becoming A Lawyer



Practical Legal Training

All students must undertake practical legal training before they are admitted to practice law by the Legal Practice Board of Western Australia. If you choose to use your degree for a different field or purpose, then this training is not required.

The Legal Practice Board of WA requires fulfilment of certain academic qualifications before entry into practical legal training (namely, a law degree from a certified university). The following qualifications are recognised by the Legal Practice Board of WA:

Law degrees from certified universities in Western Australia are also acceptable in other states of Australia as a corresponding academic qualification. While undertaking practical legal training is essential before practicing law there are no restrictions or requirements on when you must commence your practical legal training.

To comply with the admission requirements of the Legal Practice Board of Western Australia, new graduates will need to complete one of the following approved practical legal training courses:

- The WA College of Law PLT Course;
- Articles PLT Program through the Leo Cussen Institute; or
- The ANU Legal Workshop.

Note: The Piddington Justice Project graduate program is conducted through the ANU legal workshop

PLT providers

Recognised PLT Providers Include:

- Australian National University Legal Workshop
- Bond University Post Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice
- College of Law
- Flinders University Practical Legal Training Program
- Griffith University Legal Practice Centre
- Leo Cussen
- Queensland University of Technology Legal Practice Course
- Law Society of South Australia Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice
- University of Tasmania, Centre for Legal Studies
- University of Technology Sydney PLT

The College of Law

The College of Law Practical Legal Training program is the primary choice of most WA employers. The College of Law is widely used throughout Australia as a national organisation for legal training. After completing PLT with the College of Law you will receive a Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice, which satisfies the Legal Practice Board of Western Australia's requirement for practical legal training. Most firms will require their graduates to complete the program during their first year and will often cover the cost of the course.

If you do not have a graduate position you can also complete the course as long as you have completed your degree. The College of Law is a popular option for recent graduates who have not received a graduate position and allows them to continue their studies while applying for other graduate positions or work experience.

There are three components in the program:

- Coursework Component;
- Work Experience Component; and
- Continuing Professional Education Component.

These three components must be completed within four years of commencing practical legal training.

Coursework Component

There are six compulsory units and two elective units that must be completed to satisfy this component. These units provide a link between the theoretical knowledge you gained at university and the practical legal skills required in the legal profession. The units cover various practice areas and professional skills development. A majority of this component can be completed online and allows for flexible learning in your own time.

Work Experience Component

To satisfy this component you must complete either:

- 75 days work experience; or
- 25 days work experience and a Clinical Experience Module.

This work experience can be paid or unpaid and for many graduates is taken from existing legal employment.

Continuing Professional Education Component

It is a requirement for admitted lawyers to continue their professional development and education. This component introduces graduates to this process and you are required to complete:

- 10 hours of seminars; and
- A journal in relation to the work experience component.

Reasons to Choose College of Law for Your PLT

Wondering where to do your Practical Legal Training? Here are 10 reasons to choose The College of Law Western Australia:

- We prepare you to practice law in Western Australia. We provide detailed 'how to' guides on Western Australian legal practice to help you through the course and into practice.
- We mentor you through the legal practice skills – we provide individual feedback to you and focus on developing your individual skills.
- We have trained in excess of 40,000 Australian Lawyers – you can be confident that teaching experience is brought to bear on how we teach you.
- We engage with you – during the two weeks of face-to-face training, through each part of the course and we are available in our Perth Offices anytime you want to see us.
- We understand you have a busy schedule - our learning program is flexible, our online format can be accessed any time and we offer you multiple start dates through the year to fit your personal commitments.
- Most of Australia's top international and national firms use the College to train their graduates knowing the training will be professional, consistent and of a high standard.
- You can choose between full-time and part-time. We do not have enrollment limits.
- The duration of the course is only 15 weeks full-time and 30 weeks part-time, with three weeks of on-site classes for the face-to-face workshops.
- Assessment is individually based – there are no group assessments.
- We offer two work experience options to suit your particular circumstances.
- Graduates of the College's PLT program automatically receive credit for two elective subjects in the College's Master of Applied Law programs.

For more information visit The College of Law website at: www.collaw.edu.au/plt

Leo Cussen Centre for Law

The Leo Cussen Centre for Law is a not-forprofit body that provides practical legal training and ongoing professional development for graduates and lawyers. Since January 2011, Leo Cussen has run the Articled Clerks Training Program in Western Australia.

If you choose to complete the Articled Clerks Training Program, you must register with the Legal Practice Board of Western Australia and book a place in the Leo Cussen Centre for

Law's Clerkship Training Program. It is a requirement that you must have completed your degree and are employed by a law firm or other organisation. To register with the Legal Practice Board contact Ms Deb MacDonald at (08) 6211 3600.

Leo Cussen Institute Articled Clerks Training Program (Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice)

The Articled Clerks Training Program operates out of the Law Society of WA's offices in Perth. The program functions in a face-to-face workshop format and cannot be completed online. Assessments are completed during attendance and there are no exams or ongoing assessments outside of the workshop. The workshops are fully catered and you will be provided with all relevant materials there. Experienced legal practitioners deliver the workshops themselves.

You will be required to complete the following compulsory units to gain competency in the National Competency Standards for Entry-

Level Lawyers: Lawyer's Skills; Ethics and Professional Responsibility; Risk Management and Civil Litigation; Civil

Litigation Practice; Commercial and Corporate Practice; Property Law Practice; Trust and Office Accounting; Problem Solving; and Work Management and Business Skills.

These topics will be completed in two periods, each taking two weeks to complete. You may also elect to complete the following elective units in: Administrative Law Practice Electives; and Employment and Industrial Relations Practice Electives.

The Compulsory Topics are completed within 4 weeks (delivered in 2 x 2 week blocks). The Elective Topics are completed within 1 week each. For more information visit:

http://www.leocussen.vic.edu.au/cb_page_s/traineeship_articles_wa.php.

Leo Cussen Institute Practical Training Course (Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice)

The Leo Cussen Centre for Law also offers a practical training course, which can be completed as an online course. Graduates can complete the course over 24 weeks, including a three-week work placement. Completion of this course will satisfy the requirements for admission in Victoria, then you may apply for reciprocal admission in WA.

For more information on the Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice please check:

http://www.leocussen.vic.edu.au/cb_page_s/ptc.php.

ANU Legal Workshop

The Australian National University offers a specialised university-based professional legal education, the Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice (GDLP).

This training can be undertaken whilst completing your degree. If you wish to begin the training before graduating from university, it is a requirement that you have completed at least two-thirds of your law degree.

There are four components required to complete the Graduate Diploma:

1. Becoming a Practitioner Intensive – This unit is a prerequisite to the training, and operates as a weeklong intensive. Attendance will be required for this component. It covers interviewing, writing, drafting, advocacy and team work.
2. Professional Practice Core - This is an 18 week module online simulation component.
3. Elective Coursework – Electives are required to complete this component however the number will depend on your practical placement; and
4. Legal Practice Experience - You will need to complete a:
 - 20-day placement (5 electives);
 - 40-day placement (4 electives);
 - 60-day placement (3 electives);
 - 80-day placement (2 electives).

As the unit operates online you may undertake study in Australia or abroad. However, you will not be able to enrol in the program if you are a foreign student on a student visa. If you have a different type of visa, are living overseas or are a full-time university student in Australia you will be eligible to enrol.

Payment for the program is required upfront upon enrolment. However, you may be eligible for postgraduate FEE-HELP. For more information visit the website at:

<http://law.anu.edu.au/legalworkshop/gdlp>

The Piddington Justice Project



Towards the end of my law degree, I was starting to think about how I wanted to begin my legal career. I had enjoyed the clerkships that I had done during my degree, but I wasn't sure that I was suited to a career in a commercial firm. I have always enjoyed 'hands-on law' in particular, with constant access to clients and advocacy, as opposed to big commercial law. Luckily for me, I stumbled across the Piddington Society and the Piddington Justice Project.

The Piddington Society is an association of lawyers in WA, which runs events year-round including the legendary Bali conference, the Rottnest advocacy weekend and the annual ball in the Government House Ballroom. The Society also runs a range of other events during the year that bring lawyers in touch with some amazing guest speakers and training.

In 2016, The Piddington Society launched its first cohort of the Piddington Justice Project, and I am proud to say that I was included in that group. The Project saw 19 new graduates complete the ANU Practical Legal Training course, alongside 80-day placements at Community Legal Centres across Perth.

My placement was with Tenancy WA, a community legal centre based in East Perth that offers legal advice to tenants. Together with several other Piddington Justice 'Fellows', I worked on a tenant advice line, assisting tenants with their bond disputes. I also had the opportunity to attend the Magistrates Court to assist Tenancy WA lawyers in delivering their weekly duty advocacy support. Over my 80 days, I spoke to and advised over 100 clients (all under close supervision from unrestricted practitioner), and was fortunate enough to see how efficient, friendly and professional legal advice can seriously affect a person's legal situation.

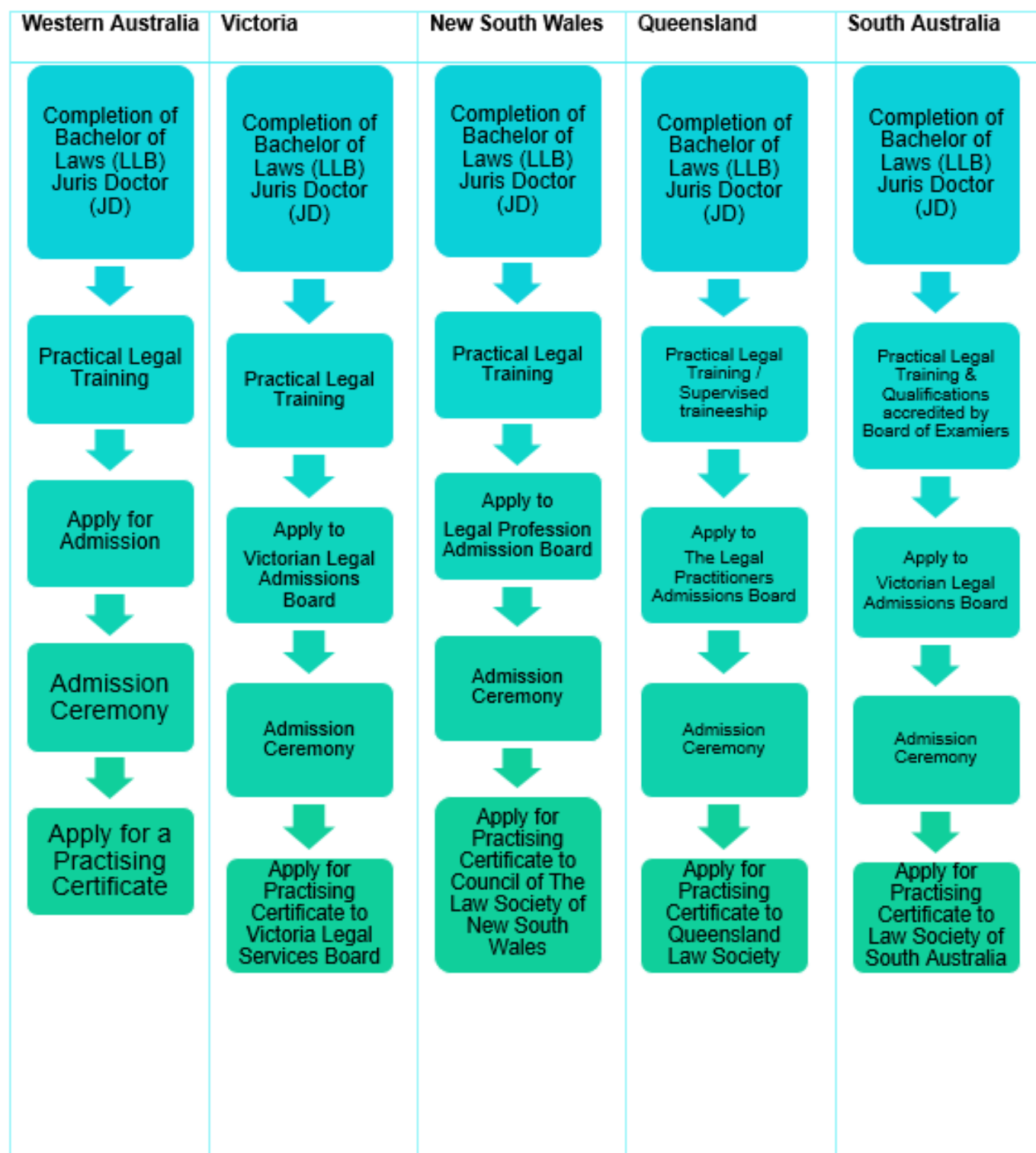
After completing the program, the majority of the Piddington Justice Fellows were admitted in a special ceremony at the Supreme Court. Of the 19 who originally enrolled, 18 became admitted solicitors and 16 of these are now in graduate roles.

The second cohort of Piddington Justice Fellows started in January this year, and they're each off to a great start. To follow their progress, or learn more about the Project in the lead up to your own graduation, please like us on Facebook or join our mailing list at www.piddingtonsociety.com.

Alex McVey

Lawyer at Australian Securities & Insurance Commission

Australian Admission Requirements



PLT Experience

The College of Law

So you finished your law degree.

Congratulations. But oh, don't go calling yourself a lawyer just yet. There is but one last challenge you must conquer before you earn that right.

College of Law is one of a few Practical Legal Training courses on offer in Western Australia, and by far the most popular one. You must complete one of these courses before you can be admitted to practice in Western Australia. You have the choice of a Part-Time course over about 6 months, or a Full-time course (which I did) over 3 months. If you plan on working as well as studying (or even have a social life), I would strongly recommend the 6-month course, which still contains the same course but spread out over more time.

College of Law is very difficult. However, the difficulty of College of Law is mostly not found in the coursework, but in the workload and time you have to complete it. For the 3-month course, you face a bombardment of up to 3 assignments a week and sometimes an exam in the same week. It is relentless; there are no breaks or study weeks. All the while, you have lectures to listen to and (incredibly lengthy) readings for other units that may have assignments due the week after.

Fortunately, College of Law is not like Uni. The assignments themselves are not as difficult as those given at Law School and rarely require much research, and if you had the sort of time you would be given at Law School it would be no problem. You also rarely have to attend at College of Law, because outside of a few exams there are only three weeks of actual classes over the entire course. The rest is solely online. There are no formal lectures to listen to, there are no slides, and no checking to see if you have done the readings. The entire course is contained in sets of click-through interactive lecture 'websites' consisting mainly of examples to work through. You are also able to defer pretty much any assignment or exam without the need for any significant reason. The staff are great and very friendly (especially Greg, who is amazing). They encourage that if you do not feel you can do well or are able to complete it by the deadline, to defer it. This is incredibly helpful, although you find yourself feeling guilty about it when your other classmates still have to do it.

The College of Law is unlike Uni, in that you don't have the time, nor do you have the need to do well. Unless you work for a major firm that is paying for your course, many firms do not care about your results. In fact, they are not even entitled to see your results. All they really care about is whether you have passed and can practice. Knowing this and the fact that most assignments are not assessed and exist only to show you have done the readings, the smartest thing to do from a time management perspective is just to have a go and not worry too much about achieving good marks. Once you accept that studying and doing assignments the night before is not just normal but practically necessary, College of Law becomes less of a burden.

After you finish the coursework (or in the case of Part-Time, concurrently) you have to complete 75 days of practical work experience for at least two days a week with a firm of your own choice. Alternatively, you can pay \$1000 or so and do a one week extra course, which reduces this down to 25 days. You may then apply for admission to practice.

Overall, completing College of Law is a necessary step in obtaining your Practicing Certificate. However, you have to consider how much time you want to allot to it. If you do the Part-Time course, it will be less stressful. If you want to power through it and get it done as quickly as possible and can give your entire attention to the course for three months, go for this option instead. You will invariably be able to perform better and will be less stressed in the Part-Time course

Mathew Govus

Murdoch University Graduate

Leo Cussen

I chose Leo Cussen for its reputation amongst the profession as a supportive and interactive environment where students can build upon and develop the skills necessary to make a successful transition from university student to professional, without the stresses of six minute time increments, demanding clients and long hours.

From the start, I was exposed to the day-to-day tasks of a legal practitioner. From establishing and maintaining my own trust and office accounts, to preparing and lodging applications with a working registry and making appearances in various courts and tribunals, I was given hands-on, practical experience and challenged to produce my best. Added to this was the opportunity to learn from and network with some of Melbourne's most respected legal professionals. The highlight of the course for me was an appearance in the Federal Magistrates' Court before the Honourable John Wilczek (former Justice of the Family Court of Australia)

The Current Matter program, designed to provide a simulated experience of handling your own files, also allowed me to develop the essential skills of letter writing, client interviewing, drafting and costing. For example, the Magistrates' Court Current Matter began with receiving initial instructions from a client, filing a complaint with the court, negotiating with a fellow trainee as my opposing party, drawing a deed of settlement, and finishing with a final letter and bill of costs. This work was supervised by a mentor, also a practising member of the legal profession, who was responsible for approving my work, providing feedback and monitoring my progress.

The 3 week placement component at the end of the course was a further opportunity to apply the skills I had learned. I quickly learned that my time at Leo Cussen had thoroughly equipped me for practice, as I was handed a civil enforcement file, and asked to advise on the appropriate course of action and draw up the necessary documents. As we had covered this topic not two weeks prior, I knew the appropriate course was to prepare a Summons for Oral Examination. The skills I had refined during the course eventually paid off, as about 4 weeks after my placement had finished I was called by the firm and offered a full-time position.

I recommend the PLT course to law graduates looking for a way to consolidate their skills and prepare for their first job in the legal profession in a supportive, hands-on and challenging learning environment.

Aaron Peppin

Lawyer, Kenna Teasdale Lawyers

International Admission Requirements

United States

Requirements differ from state to state however the general requirement is either a Juris Doctor (JD) or Master of Law (LLM). These are necessary in order to sit the relevant state bar examination. Some States, such as New York, allow Australian Graduates to sit state bar exams.

- Most states require particular study that can only be taken in that state.

For more information, visit: <http://www.americanbar.org/aba.html>

United Kingdom

Requires a Bachelor of Laws (LLB) or JD. The UK also requires graduates to have completed a Practical Legal Training Course. Lawyers that have been admitted to practice in Australia can practise in England and Wales as solicitors by transferring through Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) under the Qualified Lawyers Transfer Schemes (QLTS).

- You need to meet the eligibility criteria:
 - That you are a qualified lawyer in recognised jurisdiction
 - That you can satisfy relevant language requirements or have a degree undertaken in English and;
 - That you are of good character
- If you would like to practice as a Barrister, you will need to apply to the Bar Standards Board to have training assessed by the Qualifications Committee

For more information visit the <https://www.lawsociety.org.uk/>

Singapore

- Requires an LLM or JD from an approved university. Any person seeking to be admitted must first be twenty-one years of age and older.
- You'll need to pass a bar exam – but before that, you have to be: (1) a qualified person, and (2) a permanent resident.
- Being a qualified person means graduating in the top 70% of your class from one of the following ten approved Australian universities:
 - 1. Australian National University
 - 2. Flinders University
 - 3. Monash University
 - 4. Murdoch University
 - 5. University of Melbourne
 - 6. University of New South Wales
 - 7. University of Queensland
 - 8. University of Sydney
 - 9. University of Tasmania
 - 10. University of Western Australia

If you obtained your degree from another university, you will need to apply for an exemption to this rule. You will then need to undertake 6 months of legal experience. Once you pass the bar exam, you will need to undertake a 6 month training course in Singaporean law, and finally a 6-month training contract with a law firm. There is one notable exception to all of this: if you have over three years' of experience as a lawyer, you can just take the Foreign Practitioner Exam.

For more information visit: <https://www.mlaw.gov.sg/content/minlaw/en/practising-as-a-lawyer/AdmissionRequirements.html>

Hong Kong

Requires a person to be valid legal practitioner in their jurisdiction of admission to have been in practice in said jurisdiction for at least three years. Candidates will need to pass the Overseas Qualified Lawyers Examination. Once you pass, you'll need to enter a three-month residency agreement. You'll have a better chance if you already have 2 years' experience as a lawyer.

Alternatively, you can register as a Foreign Lawyer with Hong Kong's Law Society. As a registered foreign lawyer, you will not be able to practise Hong Kong law, but you will be entitled to work as a foreign legal consultant for a Hong Kong law firm.

For more information, visit: http://www.hklawsoc.org.hk/pub_e/default.asp

China

Lawyers from other countries are able to work for law firms in China but are not authorised to practice law. Chinese law heavily restricts a person's ability to give legal advice. Australian qualified lawyers should thoroughly discuss these restrictions with any prospective Chinese Law firm.

Europe

The majority of the European states require both an LLM and LLB. Obtaining a license or diploma in one state allows you to practice in another. Memberships of individual bar associations are sometimes required by states to use the title of 'lawyer', however you may still practice law.

Canada

You will need to have your qualifications evaluated by the National Committee on Accreditation in order to get a "certificate of qualification". The Committee may require you sit exams on Canadian law. You may even have to complete additional courses at a Canadian law school – which are usually J.D. programs. There are four exams, which cover subjects like constitutional, administrative and criminal law.

There are also additional requirements for each province, and you will have to undertake an articling program. You may need to do less time in this program if you have experience as a lawyer in Australia.

Careers In Criminology



Studying Criminology at Murdoch University presents students with vast opportunities for work experience during studies, as well as employment post-graduation.

This course gives students insight into criminal law, responses to crime, the criminal mind, sentencing, courts, police, corrections, penology, offender profiling and juvenile justice, amongst other topics. With such a wide variety of subjects covered, students graduate with extensive knowledge of the criminal justice system and can therefore be employed in a range of positions.

The career opportunities for someone who has studied Criminology are endless, with many students undertaking practical experience within the justice system whilst pursuing undergraduate studies. Internships are a fantastic way of learning more about a criminal justice service provider in real life situations. Examples of work experience undertaken by MSLS students have included;

Intern at the Western Australia Police's Evidence Based Policing Department.

This role (currently open to students studying Criminology and Law, Business and Society) sees students undertake an in-depth research project within the EBP Department on different topics including domestic violence, domestic burglary, crime harm index ranking, and body worn video cameras.

Intern at Aastha Parivaar, an NGO for sex workers in Mumbai, India.

This role saw a student working in the field undertaking case study interviews with sex workers across Mumbai for six weeks. The student compiled field notes and was able to provide an extensive report on the experience and lives of these women and men, learning much about the Indian justice system and nature of/ responses to sex work in the region.

Volunteer at Reading Legacies in San Diego, USA.

This role saw a student volunteering on a weekly basis at juvenile prisons and detention facilities across San Diego during her semester exchange program. The student helped the juveniles read and record stories to send home to their loved ones whilst incarcerated.

Intern at a criminal law firm in Perth.

This role saw a student undertake various roles at a criminal law firm in East Perth. The student was able to assist lawyers in duties including court matters, prison visits, and attaining the facts and materials of cases. From this experience the student was offered practical experience in the justice system of WA, and expanded her knowledge of criminal law in particular.

Intern at the Youth Corrective Bail Services.

This student shadowed Bail Officers at the Metropolitan Youth Bail Services and undertook various tasks including curfew checks, home visits for juveniles on bail, court proceedings, bailing juveniles out of detention facilities, report writing and informing parents/guardians of the juveniles' situations.

Furthermore, graduates have a diverse selection of careers available to them due to the unique combination of law, sociology and psychology that a criminology degree offers. Many students find work in rehabilitation, law enforcement, customs and border force, investigations, research and policy, juvenile justice, as well as a range of positions within the local/state/federal government. Some of the most common positions undertaken by Murdoch alumni and individuals studying Criminology (or a similar course) include;

Jobs Using Your Criminology Degree

State Police Officer:

As an officer with the Western Australia (or other state) Police you have the potential to work in a huge variety of roles, from the K-9 squad to major crime detectives. The police are on the frontline; they are the first responders, fighting crime in their communities and identifying new and innovative ways of preventing offending in the future.

Federal Police Officer:

The Australian Federal Police (AFP) is a multi-faceted body of law enforcement, responsible for maintaining Commonwealth law and protecting Australia's national security interests domestically and overseas. As an officer with the AFP, you have the potential to work on combatting transnational crime, terrorism, and people smuggling amongst other issues.

Corrections Officer/Prison Guard:

Corrections officers are responsible for maintaining general law and order within detention facilities. Individuals can expect to be tasked with anything from ensuring the safety of staff, visitors and inmates within jails in prisons, to inspecting cells and living conditions within the prison itself.

Parole Officer:

Parole officers are employed to monitor the behaviour and activities of recently released criminals, ensuring the offenders adhere to their parole conditions. Officers can expect to meet with the parolees, keeping detailed records on the progress of the individual(s) they have been assigned to.

Academic/Researcher:

As professional academic and/or researcher, you could find yourself working for a range of different institutions who require extensive knowledge on crime and justice. Criminologists are utilised by think tanks, universities, governments, courts and prisons globally.

Military Police Officer:

As a police officer with the Australian Defence Force (ADF), individuals are required to enforce the law in domestic and international operations alike. Providing police support, assisting in military operations, undertaking complex investigations and maintain order within the ADF are all potential career paths within the Military Police.

Border Force Officer:

As an officer with the Australian Border Force you will be offered a wide range of roles, centred on detecting and preventing the unlawful movement of goods and people across the Australian border. Functions can include surveillance and patrols, investigations, digital forensics, processing the movement of goods/people, searching aircraft/vessels, and engaging with clients and partner agencies.

Private Investigator:

Private Investigators can expect to use their knowledge of criminology and assist a range of parties including law enforcement agencies, corporate bodies and private clients. Most PIs perform duties regarding legal research, criminal investigations and identifying missing persons.

Restorative Justice Officer:

Officers working in restorative justice (RJ) can expect to bring resolution to both the victims and offenders of crimes, with the aim of increasing satisfaction and reducing the harm for both parties, as well as the general community. Duties may include meeting with and assessing individuals for suitability for RJ, conducting RJ sessions and reports, and undertaking research within the field of RJ.

Officer in Community Corrections Department of Corrective Services



Job Description:

As a Parole Officer, I am responsible for the supervision and monitoring of complex and high profile prisoners on parole who have been released from prison on parole by the Adult Parole Board (APB). My duties include (but are not limited to): interviewing, assessing, and producing quality reports on prisoners on parole to the Adult Parole Board. This is to assist them in the decision making process through submission of advice and recommendations. I also, assess and refer prisoners on parole to appropriate programs and specialised services (such as drug and alcohol assessment and treatment, employment or suitable programs). I direct prisoners on parole to attend various programs, which may include, educational, community work, assessment and treatment programs.

What I love about my job:

The part that I really enjoy about my current position as a Community Corrections Officer is doing risk assessment and developing management plans to prevent risk of harm and address any issues identified.

What knowledge from studying criminology has helped me in my career?

During my Criminology studies I completed units such as, Justice and Social Policy, Sentencing and penology, Australian Legal System, Criminal behaviour, Criminal law in Western Australia, Psychology and Law, Restorative of Justice, Juvenile Justice, Dispute resolution and Mediation and others. These Units gave me knowledge about Offenders' behaviour, interviewing techniques, report writing, risk identification and developing strategies to address those risks that have been identified.

Ezechiel Ntiranyibagira

Assistant in the Corporate Information Unit

Department for Child Protection and Family Support



Job Description:

I currently work for the Department for Child Protection and Family Support Corporate Information Unit. My current role is assisting in the coordination of case files requested for legal proceedings. It is my responsibility to locate the documents requested in the subpoena and read all third party and confidential information contained in the files. In addition to this, I will also be required to present, in court, any objections that the Department has to the release of information.

What I love about my job:

I enjoy reading the Departments documents and applying the relevant legislation to investigate whether information and people's identities need to be protected. No case file and subpoena is ever the same which makes every day at work interesting. I enjoy working closely and negotiating with external lawyers whilst also assisting in the implementation of new policies to benefit the release of information.

What knowledge from studying at Murdoch has helped me in my career?

Completing a Degree at Murdoch has provided me with an extensive skillset in understanding, interpreting and applying legislation to particular scenarios. I have a great interest in investigating and assessing compliance on the different policies and laws governing organisations. Being invited into the Honours Program has also provided me with the experience to conduct my own independent legal research, critically analyse current legal policies and make recommendations for new strategies.

I felt that during my degree the lecturers made time for me when it came to providing me with advice on different opportunities that I could explore with my degree. Guy Hall always had the time for me. I was provided with heaps of support, with the door always open for guidance and I didn't feel like a number.

Elise McKenna

Doctor of Philosophy

Senior Researcher



Job Description:

I am currently working as the senior researcher at the NSW Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network. JH&FMHN is the branch of the NSW health department which provides for the care of the state's incarcerated population (men, women, and juveniles). As the organisation's senior researcher I serve as principal researcher for the organisation's major research projects as well as advising and supervising other researchers accessing the custodial population.

What I love about my job:

As any student of criminology will know, prisoners present with complex and inter-related social and health profiles which set them apart from the rest of the population. It is incredibly rewarding to be able to drive a research agenda that seeks to uncover long-term solutions to these issues which will not only impact inmates during their incarceration, but will lead to better outcomes for them after their release back into the community. We are currently planning for a major investigation into aged care in prisons and this offers an important opportunity to develop a holistic, evidence-based model of care which, we hope, will set the standard for best-practice nationally.

What knowledge from studying criminology has helped me in my career?

I have some experience working in an epidemiological setting but more and more I'm convinced that the social aspects related to criminal behaviour are equally implicated in the poor health outcomes that inmates present with. In this context, a background in criminology is really invaluable in making informed choices about a) what to research, and b) how findings should be translated and implemented. So I guess it makes a more holistic researcher.

Courtney Field

Honours Project Officer



Job Description:

As a Project Officer for Community Safety, my primary goal is to action the City's Crime Prevention and Community Safety Plan. As part of this Plan I work with WA Police, local businesses and other key partners to develop projects and initiatives in line with this Plan. I also spend time reviewing and writing local government Policies so that they are in line with the relevant literature. Some of the key projects I have worked on recently include a Young People and Alcohol Plan, the Licensed Venues Radio Communication Project and a Graffiti Management Plan.

What I love about my job:

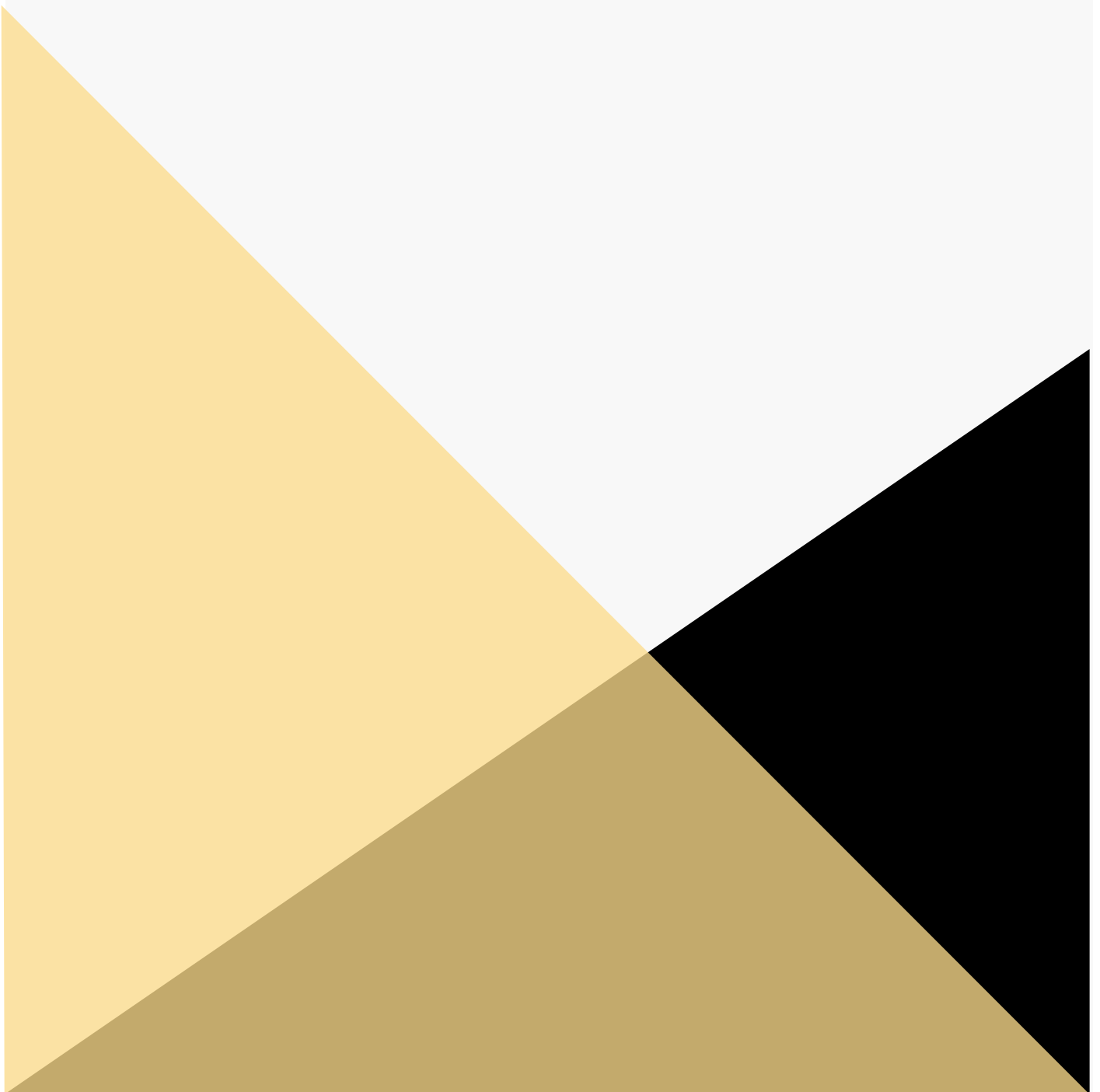
I love that I work in the community where I completed my Honours study. This means that I get to use the results from my thesis within local Policies and Projects. I love seeing the theoretical aspects come to life and knowing that my Honours Project has influenced the community in some way.

What knowledge from studying criminology has helped me in my career?

Throughout studying you spend a lot of time reviewing and integrating literature into your assignments. I use these skills whenever I am reviewing or writing any Policies, Project Plans or Reports. Specifically, I spend a lot of time trying to work with WA Police and other stakeholders to introduce and include CPTED principles in our community spaces. This influences the City's outlook on administering CCTV and the Graffiti Management Plan, and its included initiatives.

Jesika Miller

Volunteering



Employment Law Centre



What was your role and what did you do at the Employment Law Centre?

I volunteered as a Social Impact Researcher as part of the unit Social and Welfare Law. With four other law students from Murdoch, we developed a survey to assess the impact of the ELCWA's work on their clients. We then called clients to deliver the survey and later collated the data.

What did you enjoy most?

I enjoyed talking to the clients and hearing their stories. It was interesting to see how their lives had moved on since they accessed the ELCWA's services. It was really nice to see the work I had done transform into a completed project that the Centre could use to help improve their services and access funding.

Is there anything that surprised you or challenged you?

At that point, I didn't particularly like picking up the phone to chat to strangers, especially about an unpleasant period in their lives. That aspect of the job was challenging to begin with, but got easier over time. I found all the staff really friendly, informative, and willing to let you watch over their shoulder as they worked.

Tips for future students?

My role did not require any previous experience in employment law, so if you get the opportunity to apply, go for it! You'll need to bring your analytical mind to the job and perhaps step outside your comfort zone.

Emily Dutton

Final year Law/Criminology Student

The Humanitarian Group



I began volunteering at The Humanitarian Group (THG) in late 2014, after I had returned from Murdoch's Human Rights Study Program in Geneva with a passion for justice for asylum seekers. As a new volunteer, I began working at the front desk, taking phone calls from prospective or current clients and greeting clients as they arrived for appointments. This was a great way to get acquainted with the people that THG helped. I was thrown in the deep-end pretty early on and began taking client interviews and drafting statutory declarations about each client's financial situation within about 4 weeks of volunteering. I gained invaluable drafting and client interactions skills because of this. A few months later, I became involved in THG's Temporary Protection Visa clinic, where we assisted asylum seekers applying for

refugee status. This was perhaps the most rewarding experience, as I got to meet people who were truly vulnerable and in dire need of assistance. I was challenged by their stories of persecution and suffering, but felt privileged that they were sharing their most painful memories with me and trusted my capabilities in filling out their application. I most enjoyed supporting my clients through the application process and letting them know that I wanted to hear their story and help. I learnt how to deal with clients who suffer from severe trauma and how to manage the emotional pressure that this placed on me. I also learnt incredible time management skills that I've been able to apply in almost every aspect of my life. Along the way, I made great networks with other law students and lawyers who I am still in contact with. I would encourage students who have a keen interest in human rights and social justice, particularly relating to Culturally and Linguistically Diverse people, to volunteer at THG.

Haya Snobar

2016 Murdoch LLB Graduate

Mental Health Law Centre



1. What is your role and what do you do at the Mental Health Law Centre?

As a volunteer paralegal, I was responsible for legal and policy research, court visits, interviewing clients and preparing advices for solicitors.

2. What do you enjoy most?

The centre was great for the hands on experience in the night clinic. Being in front of a client requires a calm, professional approach and it was great to apply skills picked up in the Murdoch client interview competition.

Although it sounds like a cliché, you can help make a real difference to the clients that come through the door, or that you speak to over the phone and that is really satisfying.

3. Is there anything that surprised you or challenged you?

The variety in work that is available at community legal centres provides another layer of motivation and context that you won't find in the lecture theatres. I was surprised at how taking on a volunteer position outside of uni increased the enjoyment and fulfilment gained from what some might consider dry university readings. The practical experience helps take your view of a study of the law full circle.

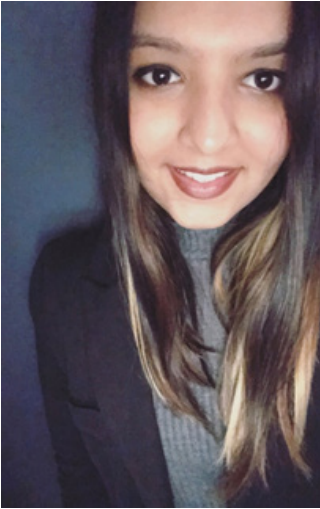
4. Tips for future students?

Say yes to any opportunity. You just don't know what might come of it, who you will meet and where it will take you

Nic Palmer

Current Murdoch Law Student

Citizen's Advice Bureau



1. What is your role and what do you do at CAB?

I volunteered for the Citizen's Advice Bureau, (**CAB**), from November 2015 to December 2016, as an administrative assistant in the Bureau's mediation department. As an administrative assistant, my role comprised predominantly of seeing through the administration of client mediations. This included: taking client queries and explaining the mediation process, conflict of interest policy and rules of confidentiality; preparing, updating and closing client files using legal software; and organising mediation and pre-mediation appointments.

2. What did you enjoy most?

In my role, I thoroughly enjoyed learning more about the mediation process and how this could be used in substitution to litigation in many different legal scenarios. Furthermore, I also greatly appreciated being exposed to how the law functions in practice, as I often came across several legal terms such as "confidentiality", and legal documents like restraining orders and certificate of title documents. At law school, you merely refer to the theory of such terms and documents, however, being exposed to them and learning their practical impact on cases and the difficulty faced in implementing such terms, vastly helped me in understanding their significance.

3. Is there anything that surprised you or challenged you?

Working in the mediation department, it surprised me to learn the many areas of disputes, including family, civil, and corporate matters, can be settled through mediation. Furthermore, I was also astounded to experience first-hand how the legal atmosphere is drastically changing, whereby courts are increasingly encouraging parties to be more autonomous in resolving their disputes. Being law students, we are often limited by the depths and boundaries of the law. At first, it was challenging to fully understand the concept of mediation, as this method encouraged parties to be creative in coming to an agreement, especially when such agreements would rarely be upheld in adjudication.

4. Tips for future students?

My best advice to future students would be to seize any opportunity to volunteer for a community legal centre early on, as the experience gained is invaluable and certainly helps students in applying their theoretical understanding of the law in real cases. It is also essential for students to keep an open mind and listen carefully to their supervisors, who are well-experienced and highly knowledgeable in their respective fields. Volunteering for a community legal centre is a great way to kick-start your legal career and is an excellent way to learn and make invaluable connections with some of the most passionate and hard-working people in the legal field.

Nalin Behere

Current Murdoch Law Student

Fremantle CLC



What was your role and what did you do at the Fremantle CLC?

I undertook a 150 hour internship with Fremantle CLC through an internship unit in my law degree. The tasks I undertook during my time there included drafting court documents and correspondence, attending court (they run the duty lawyer service for VRO matters at Fremantle Magistrates Court), attending client interviews and conducting initial intake interviews for clients.

When I finished my internship, they asked me to stay on as a volunteer, performing the same tasks as I was during the internship. They then offered me a clerkship for the summer period which I was able to retrospectively use towards the placement days required for my Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice, which I am doing with the Piddington Justice Project. I accepted this position primarily because I would be given the opportunity to actually draft and give advice to clients, which was a

big step up from my previous tasks.

What did you enjoy most?

It's a draw between going to court and the process of giving advice. I love the thrill of court, but being able to draft and give advice to clients at this stage in my career is so valuable that it is hard to discount.

Was there anything that surprised you or challenged you?

One thing that surprised me about working at Fremantle CLC is the amount of clients that they are able to help out. The service that they provide is so efficient and effective. It is amazing.

A big challenge (though I prefer to call it an opportunity) for me was my first face-to-face interview with a client where I was the one giving the advice. Another challenge is dealing with emotional clients. It is important to make them feel understood and confident in the CLC's ability to help them.

Tips for future students?

If you are looking for experience, definitely consider volunteering at a CLC. I would say that in terms of the actual work done during my experience with Fremantle CLC, it has been more valuable than some of my experiences interning and clerking with private firms.

The majority of CLCs conduct their volunteer intake around late January/ early February, so enquire early! Also, try and obtain a recommendation from someone who worked there in the past. It can sometimes be the difference in getting a position.

Jonathan O'Connor

Currently completing GDLP as a clerk at Fremantle Community Legal Centre

Consumer Credit Legal Services (WA)



What was your role (as a volunteer) and what did you do at the CCLSWA?

I began my role at CCLSWA as part of my Practical Legal Training. My role initially involved working on the Telephone Advice Line, where I would take instructions from clients and draft legal advice. The advice was checked by a supervising solicitor and I then delivered that advice to the clients. As I gained more experience I went on to assist solicitors with more complex matters.

What did you enjoy most?

I thoroughly enjoyed the hands on experience I gained from speaking to real clients with real legal issues. Volunteering at CCLSWA not only helped me develop my legal skills, but also allowed me to develop my interviewing, drafting and analytical skills. It was an extremely rewarding experience and as a result I was offered a full time solicitor role with CCLSWA upon being admitted to practice. I strongly encourage students to consider applying to volunteer at a Community Legal Centre like CCLSWA.

Was there anything that surprised you or challenged you?

One of the challenges I experienced when I began volunteering at CCLSWA was learning how to change my approach from analysing and responding to legal issues as if I were answering a law school assignment to producing clear and practical advice for real clients. I was also surprised by the variety and the complexity of the work I was assigned, which was not only a great challenge but a valuable learning experience.

Tips for future students?

The more you put in, the more you will get out. Like any opportunity, this especially applies to a volunteer placement at CCLSWA. If you bring a positive work ethic, a desire to help vulnerable people, and strong legal skills, you will be rewarded with valuable legal experience, the opportunity to make professional contacts, and the knowledge that you are contributing to greater access to justice for the people of Western Australia.

Mitchell Coles

Solicitor at CCLSWA

SCALES



What is your role and what do you do at SCALES?

I took the SCALES unit when I was in third year. I was one of the students in the Family Law Clinic and I was assigned different cases that all had a family law aspect to them. I interviewed the clients in the morning and researched their cases in the afternoon. Depending on the client, I sometimes had to fill out their court documents for them, I had to interpret their court documents for them and in some cases I was required to contact the Respondent for them because they were not in a position to do so.

What do you enjoy most?

I enjoyed the fact that I got to help people especially given their circumstances. Some clients were in such a difficult position and just being able to provide them with helpful hints in attending court or just explaining in simple terms what their court documents meant just made me feel like I was providing some really helpful assistance in their time of need.

Is there anything that surprised you or challenged you?

SCALES itself is quite a challenging unit because it involves real clients who sometimes have quite serious problems and you're required to apply the things you've learnt to help them; and sometimes you have to go further to do things you've never attempted before. The most surprising thing was the amount of cases that involved domestic violence and hearing about the experiences of the clients just took me aback sometimes.

Tips for future students

If you can you should definitely take on this unit because it not only allows you to help other people but you really do learn some really useful things that you can use in your future career. Don't be too scared of the fact that you're engaging in actual cases because the lawyers there are really willing to help so if you ask there's no doubt that they'll be able to teach you something.

Alisha Sin

Full Time Student

Legal Aid WA

What is your role and what do you do at Legal Aid?

I work in the Criminal Appeals Team as a volunteer twice a week. My main duties include anything from basic administration duties to preparing legal memos, minutes and undertaking a variety of legal research tasks. The position has also included working on legal toolkits, attending court and shadowing some of the lawyers.

What do you enjoy most?

I enjoy the work experience and challenges of the position. Every day is different and has been invaluable to increasing my learning journey. It helps to develop a practical understanding of the theoretical work we undertake at University. Legal Aid promotes a positive learning environment and I have had the opportunity to experience a variety of unique learning experiences including attending Drug Court, Duty Lawyer service and District and Appeal Court cases.

Is there anything that surprised you or challenged you?

I was surprised by how varied the workload is within Legal Aid. I have found it very rewarding to work in a rapidly changing environment. I have also been fortunate to work with students and recent graduates on some cases, from diverse backgrounds which has been incredibly rewarding. It has been invaluable to work as part of a dynamic team and learn to look at problems from a variety of different perspectives.


Tips for future students?

Take a chance and apply for a volunteering position. There are a variety of different legal services which can offer challenging and rewarding practical experiences. It helps to think outside the box and not be restricted by standard clerkships. Community legal organisations provide essential and invaluable services which are often overworked and under-funded. Volunteering is equally as challenging as paid positions. However, the experience you gain is priceless and may lead to future opportunities.

Margaret Irvine

3rd Year Graduate Entry Mature Age Murdoch Law Student

Legal Aid Volunteer/ Information Officer



“It was surreal to work on real files, real client work and to be trusted with complex research tasks on a diverse range of legal issues.”

Stay in touch

-  Facebook Jackson McDonald Careers
-  LinkedIn Jackson McDonald
-  Twitter @jacmacwa
-  Web www.jacmac.com.au

CLC Directory

Aboriginal Legal Service http://www.afls.org.au/	Kimberley Community Legal Services Inc http://www.kcls.org.au/
Albany Community Legal Centre http://www.albanyclc.com.au/	Norther Suburbs Community Legal Centre – Mirra-booka http://nsclegal.org.au/
Citizens Advice Bureau http://www.cabwa.com.au/	Norther Suburbs Community Legal Centre – Joon-dalup http://nsclegal.org.au/
Consumer Credit Legal Services (WA) Inc http://cclswa.org.au/	Peel Community Legal Services Inc http://www.peelcls.com.au/
Employment Law Centre http://elcwa.org.au/	Pilbara Community Legal Service http://www.pcls.net.au/
Environmental Defenders Office (WA) http://www.edowa.org.au/	Scales Community Legal Centre http://www.murdoch.edu.au/School-of-Law/SCALES/
Fremantle Community Legal Centre http://www.fremantle.wa.gov.au/fclc	South West Community Legal Centre Inc http://www.bunburyclc.com.au/
Geraldton Resource Centre http://grc.asn.au/	Street Law Centre http://streetlawcentre.org.au/
Goldfields Community Legal Centre http://www.gclc.com.au/	Sussex Street Law Centre http://www.sscls.asn.au/
Gosnells Community Legal Centre http://gosclc.com.au/	Tenancy WA http://www.tenancywa.org.au/
Kimberley Community Legal Services Inc http://www.kcls.org.au/	The Humanitarian Group http://thehumanitariangroup.org.au/
Marninwarntikura Family Violence Prevention Legal Service https://www.mwrc.com.au/pages/family-violence-prevention	Welfare Rights & Advocacy http://www.wraswa.org.au/
Mental Health Law Centre (WA) https://www.mhlcwa.org.au/	Wheatbelt Community Legal Centre http://www.wheatbeltclc.com.au/
Midland Information, Debt & Legal Advocacy Service (MIDLAS) http://www.midlas.org.au/	Women's Law Centre http://www.wlcwa.org.au/
	Youth Legal Service http://youthlegalserviceinc.com.au/

Education



Honours in The Murdoch School of Law

An Honours degree is evidence of significant academic ability and research skills. It is the culmination of all the years of undergraduate study and stands its recipients apart from other graduates. An Honours degree, therefore, is viewed positively by employers and a First Class Honours degree is a stepping-stone for post-graduate research degrees.

The Law School offers an Honours Program in Law; in Criminology; in Law, Business and Society; and in Business Law. The specific entry requirements for each are different. As a guide, however, a Distinction average across the relevant units would meet the minimum requirements for entry into the Program.

One aspect of the Program that is common to all is the thesis. The benefit, and challenge, of Honours is the research that is needed to produce a 15,000+ word thesis (the thesis requirements vary across the disciplines). The research may be empirical or it may be desk-based. Either way, the work required will give you an in-depth understanding of the area of your choosing (limited only by the expertise of the available supervisors). This expansive knowledge will be very rewarding on a personal level, it will demonstrate specialisation to employers and, for some, it will show the potential and passion for research at a Masters or doctoral level.

For Criminology; Law, Business and Society; and Business Law, the Honours Program can only be entered into after the completion of the undergraduate degree. For Law, there are two pathways. The first is the “Embedded” Honours Program; this form is undertaken in the final year of the law degree (the Honours-specific requirements of the Embedded Program equate to 15 points of study). The second pathway is the “Non-Embedded” Honours Program – to be enrolled in after the completion of the LLB.

For enquiries around Criminology Honours, contact Joe Clare (J.Clare@murdoch.edu.au); for Law, Business and Society Honours, Sonia Walker (S.Walker@murdoch.edu.au); for Business Law Honours, Natalie van der Waarden (N.VanDerWaarden@murdoch.edu.au); and for Law, Chris Dent (C.Dent@murdoch.edu.au).

The successful completion of an Honours program is likely to be difficult. It can be the hardest academic year a person ever does. It is, however, an experience worth undertaking.

Chris Dent

Post-Graduate Studies

Graduate Certificates

Graduate Certificate in Australian Migration Law and Practice

The Australian Migration Law and Practice qualification is the entry level training course accredited by the Migration Agents Registration Authority (“MARA”). This course is offered locally at Murdoch University as a Graduate Certificate in Australian Migration Law and Practice. If you would like to make a difference to the challenges that migrants face in Australia, this course will help you to learn the practical, problem-solving and interpersonal skills you need to succeed. Most classes are scheduled outside of normal business hours to help you fit your studies around your work commitments.

Please note that migration agents must be Australian citizens or permanent residents according to the MARA. For further information on the requirements for migration agent registration contact the office of MARA: www.mara.gov.au. For further information on the course offered by Murdoch University search ‘Graduate Certificate in Australian Migration Law and Practice’ on the University Website.

Graduate Certificate in Legal Practice

This course is offered by Murdoch University and allows you to gain the practice experience necessary for admission to the legal profession. It will place you within the Clinical Legal Practice run in collaboration with SCALES Community Legal Centre.

You can gain experience in any or all of our practice areas such as human rights, family or generalist law. It gives you the opportunity to undertake varied legal work under the supervision of our solicitors, including interviewing clients, legal research, formulating and giving advice as well as law reform and policy work.

It is only available to students who have undertaken Clinical Legal Education units throughout their degree. For further information on this course search ‘Graduate Certificate in Legal Practice’ on the Murdoch University Website.

Graduate Certificate in Policy and Development

The Graduate Certificate in Policy and Development run by Murdoch University introduces students to the strategic, analytical and professional knowledge and skills necessary for policy careers in the government, non-profit and private sectors.

The six-month program is designed for recent graduates who may be exploring a new career direction. Students will learn what it means to analyse, design and implement policy in current institutional and regulatory environments. For further information on this course search ‘Graduate Certificate in Policy and Development’ on the Murdoch University Website.

Masters

Master of Business Administration

Across 8 units, the Murdoch MBA will provide you with expert skills in creating and managing global businesses, leadership, strategy, accounting and finance as well as specialisation in management, marketing or policy. The School of Business and Governance at Murdoch merges business, governance and sustainability, to provide a broad, multidisciplinary learning approach, and the skills required to advance your career. You'll get a range of practical insights and networking opportunities through a range of industry guest speakers and up-to-date project work in collaboration with external companies.

Out of all the things you have, time is probably your most precious commodity. At Murdoch University the MBA can be completed within one year of full-time study or can be taken over a longer period of time if preferred. You can study units online or in class, choose day or evening classes and there are even several intake periods each year.

Entry requirements for this course include; having completed a Bachelor's degree and have at least two years' relevant work experience. For further information on this course search 'Master of Business Administration' on the Murdoch University Website.

Master of Laws by Research

In this course, you'll have the opportunity to conduct research at an advanced level to build on your existing qualifications. You'll have the chance to achieve an in-depth understanding of major legal and policy issues of legal study beyond what is available at an undergraduate level. You'll develop your critical analysis skills, improve your writing and oral presentation skills, and learn new research practices. This course allows you to work closely with your teachers and fellow students to gain a broader understanding of legal studies, while enhancing your career opportunities and professional development.

You must have a Bachelor degree in Law to be eligible for this unit, you can be eligible after completing additional components in other disciplines. For further information on this course search 'Master of Laws by Research' on the Murdoch University Website.

Executive Master in Leadership Strategy and Innovation

This intensive 12month offering is tailored for aspiring leaders with a minimum of three years' supervisory experience from the private, public and not-for-profit sectors across the Asia Pacific. The program fuses practical, real-world industry driven demands with strong theoretical fundamentals. It also integrates the thematic areas of leadership, strategy and innovation with core disciplines of economics, finance, marketing and management.

For further information on this course search 'Executive Master in Leadership Strategy and Innovation' on the Murdoch University Website.

Master of Business Administration Professional Practice

The MBA Professional Practice is an advanced program offering leading-edge business administration knowledge and skills, as well as opportunities to acquire high level professional experience in applying this expertise within organisations.

Students complete Murdoch's innovative MBA program and then extend their professional practice, and their skills in project management and business research, by completing professional placements, consultancy projects or applied research with Australian or international businesses.

To qualify for this course, application should have a Bachelor's Degree or submit a portfolio. For further information on this course search 'Master of Business Administration Professional Practice' on the Murdoch University Website.

Master of International Affairs and Security

The Master of International Affairs and Security (MIAS) is a genuinely multi-disciplinary professional degree that explores the political, economic, strategic, cultural and legal forces that shape our region and world. Taking advantage of Murdoch's Indo-Pacific location, the degree equips students with the knowledge and skills for careers in a wide variety of sectors including government and foreign affairs, international organisations, national and international NGOs, and the private sector. Students will examine contemporary issues in political

This 2 year program is designed for recent graduation seeking a career in International affairs. Though previous tertiary qualifications combined with relevant professional experience may qualify students for advanced standing, meaning they could complete a Masters qualification in as little as 12 or 18 months. Admission into this course requires the completion of a Bachelor degree in any area. For further information on this course search 'Master of International Affairs and Security' on the Murdoch University Website. economy, global trade, resource management, the role of international institutions, international security and arms control, international law, human rights, conflict management, and regional architecture.

This 2 year program is designed for recent graduation seeking a career in International affairs. Though previous tertiary qualifications combined with relevant professional experience may qualify students for advanced standing, meaning they could complete a Masters qualification in as little as 12 or 18 months. Admission into this course requires the completion of a Bachelor degree in any area. For further information on this course search 'Master of International Affairs and Security' on the Murdoch University Website.

Internships



Internships

LLB301 – Legal Internship

Students who have completed Part I LLB core units and BJU 200 Researching Legal Remedies will be eligible to enrol in this unit. The unit is designed to encourage students to participate in work-integrated learning by gaining practical legal experience within a legal service provider.

It is the student's responsibility to find a placement and to notify the unit co-ordinator if they wish to undertake an internship. On average, the internship runs for approximately 130 hours and students are required to complete two pieces of assessment. The first being a reflective piece on their experience and second being a seminar presentation. There is no pay involved in the internship as students will receive unit credit for their work placement.

Contact details for the unit:

Unit Coordinator's contact details

Dr Joseph Indaimo

Lecturer in Law

Murdoch Campus

t: 9360 7629

e: J.Indaimo@murdoch.edu.au

o: 2.008, Economics, Commerce and Law

Aurora Internship

The Aurora Internship Program introduces law students and graduates to career opportunities in native title, land rights, policy development, research and social justice, all with an Indigenous focus. The Program aims to provide assistance to under-resourced Native Title Representative Bodies (NTRBs).

Legal applicants must be in their final year of study and be enrolled or have completed Property Law. Indigenous applicants in their 3rd year or above will be considered.

Internships are offered Australia-wide and we seek applicants who have a keen demonstrated interest in some or all of the above mentioned areas

Opportunities may be open to law students and graduates as well as to qualified solicitors, following on from an internship. Paid roles can start at two months and continue for up to one year. Duties, conditions and remuneration vary and employment opportunities need to be negotiated directly with the Host.

Hosts are located in:

Adelaide, Albany, Alice Springs, Armidale, Bendigo, Brisbane, Broome, Broken Hill, Cairns, Camooweal, Canberra, Cooktown, Darwin, Fitzroy Crossing, Geraldton, Horsham, Kalgoorlie, Karratha, Katherine, Kununurra, Lismore, Melbourne, Moree, Newcastle, Nhulunbuy, Perth, Port Hedland, Sydney, Thursday Island, Umuwa, Wadeye and Wollongong.

For more information please visit: <http://auroraproject.com.au/what-aurora-internship>

Central Desert Native Title Service



When I applied for Aurora I did not know what acceptance would entail, or even if I would enjoy the experience- I just knew that it was something I desperately wanted to try. I had a newly found passion for social justice and human rights. I did not know what area of law I wanted to practice, however I knew I wanted to practice in an area of law that would have a beneficial impact on those who often suffer at the hands of the legal system. Indigenous Australians are arguably the most unprivileged group in Australia, so I knew that any experience in this area would be invaluable. I was fortunate enough to be accepted and was shortly informed that I would be completing an internship with the Central Desert Native Title Service.

I cannot speak highly enough of the environment at Central Desert. They were supportive and I never felt scared to ask for help. They were happy to entertain me when I had general questions of Native Title and made me feel like I was a valuable part of their organization. On my first day they showed me around the office, gave me my own desk and gave me a set of documentaries to give me a better understanding of Native Title.

Over the five weeks I completed a number of diverse tasks. This includes, but is not limited to: detailed legal research and analysis, attending federal court for a hearing on a complex mining issues and interlocutory proceedings, completing letters of advice, documenting a table on complex tenure activities, preparation of court documents, recording minutes of group meetings and a variety of other tasks. This gave me valuable experience in a range of legal skills.

However, in my opinion the most valuable lesson I learnt was the value of Native Title in Australia. Native title is a special area of law that combines complex legal problems involving large companies and Aboriginal groups that have limited experience in the legal system. The lawyers that work for central desert are incredibly talented in their ability to be able to clearly communicate with both groups. The ability to communicate with these two groups should not be underestimated. This communication has allowed the social and economic growth of Indigenous people in Australia. I would consider myself very fortunate to develop these skills myself and one day work in Native Title.

Clare Duncanson,

Penultimate Law Student

Exchange Programs



Exchange Programs

European Summer Law Program

At the centre of Europe - historically, culturally and legally - Italy has strongly influenced the development of international law, via Roman Law. In recognition of an increasingly globalised world, Murdoch is offering a structured program at one of Europe's oldest universities in Macerata.

The program offers up to three units focused on Comparative Law, European Union Law and International Trade Law. With the unit points counting towards the participants degrees, this unique opportunity allows students to broaden their knowledge of the law beyond the domestic sphere.

The program is run intensively throughout the winter semester break and into the second semester. The face to face teaching component and exams of the program will be run for three weeks in the winter break at the historical campus of the Università di Macerata in Italy. Other course work such as assignments, readings, any other engagement with the course topics and a final exam will have to be completed before and/or after the intensive teaching period.

Application for the 2018 program open in December 2018

International Human Rights Program in Geneva

As part of Murdoch School of Law's global reach, you are given the opportunity to undertake our Human Rights Law program in Geneva, Switzerland. Geneva hosts humanitarian organisations such as; the United Nations, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Red Cross/Red Crescent, the International Labour Organisation, the International Commission of Jurists and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. It is often regarded as the world's Human Rights capital and a perfect student exchange location to further your Human Rights Law knowledge.

The program offers up to three units directly relevant to Human Rights in the 21st century. Run by experts in the field, students are exposed to Australia's obligations, international obligations and organisations associated with Human Rights, and the complexities surrounding it. For students interested in pursuing a career in the international legal and diplomatic sectors, the program location provides solid exposure to networking and opportunities available in Geneva.

The program is run intensively throughout the winter semester break and into the second semester. The face to face teaching component and exams of the program will be run for three weeks in the winter break at the Centre International Réformé John Knox, Geneva.

Application for the 2018 program open in December 2018

Study in India

Explore historical Delhi and the Taj Mahal whilst studying a unit in the Legal Landscape and Social Impact of Business in India at Op Jindal Global University O.P. Jindal Global University (JGU) is situated on an 60-acre-state-of the art and custom built academic and residential campus north of Delhi in the country side, with plenty of space and sporting facilities, all at world standard. JGU is a very young private non-profit University that has just recently been ranked as the best Private Law School in India by the prestigious Indian Careers360 Law School Ranking 2015.

For further information and enquiries, please contact:

Fiona Peters

School of Law

Murdoch University

Email: f.peters@murdoch.edu.au

Phone: +61893606820

Study in Germany

Study specialised units on foreign trade and customs law in Germany and then undertake an active work practicum in a large multinational corporation, such as Volkswagen, Airbus industries or Pricewaterhouse Coopers. The components are taught at the Ostfalia University of Applied Sciences based in Wolfenbüttel, a picturesque town in Northern Germany, located on the Oker River.

This program involves three parts and is all available for credit: (9 credit points). All parts must be completed.

Part 1 - (In May) study specialised intensive modules at the Brunswyck European Law School (BELS), for example: International Taxation and/or Export Control & Customs Law. (to equate to a minimum of 3 credit points to be converted from the ECTS (European Credit Transfer System))

Part 2 - (In July) study 1 unit at Macerata: International Trade (3 points) (*the other two units at Macerata can also be taken if you are looking for additional credit points))

Part 3 - (approx. Aug, Sept, and Oct) (WIL) International work placement in a special department of a multinational, multibillion dollar corporation (such as Pricewaterhouse Coopers (PwC), Ernst & Young, Airbus Industries, Volkswagen and others, subject to placement availability. (3 points)

For further information and enquiries, please contact:

Fiona Peters

School of Law

Murdoch University

Email: f.peters@murdoch.edu.au

Phone: +61893606820

Study in Indonesia

ACICIS' Indonesian Business Law and Society Program (IBLS) is a semester-long program hosted by the Indonesian Islamic University (UII), Yogyakarta. Taught in English, this program provides students with a comprehensive understanding of Indonesian business, law and society at regional and global levels, as seen from an Indonesian perspective.

The IBLS also offers students the option to undertake a 'professional placement', enabling students to put their studies into practice and gain a real-world experience outside the classroom. Students are placed with local commercial firms, community-based organisations, government bodies, and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and are given the opportunity to develop important skills in legal advocacy, public relations, administration, finance, research and reporting.

The IBLS has been designed for students with no existing Indonesian language skills; however, students with existing language skills are welcome to participate. This program also includes Indonesian language classes at a beginner, intermediate, or advanced level.

For more information: <http://www.acicis.edu.au/programs/semester/indonesian-business-law-society-ibls/>



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