

Business and Legal Studies

These courses aim to develop the student's understanding and appreciation of the role of businesses, consumers and governments in the contemporary Australian economy. All courses aim to provide students with the opportunity to develop their analytical, oral and written communication skills. All students studying these courses will be encouraged to examine potential employment, self employment and further study opportunities.

Students who intend to continue the study of Accounting, Business, Legal Studies or related courses at a tertiary institution are strongly recommended to complete the final standard unit in their Major.

Accounting (T)

Accounting is an information system providing financial information about a business organisation. It provides the basis for effective and efficient decision-making in any business. This course will prepare students for a career in business, including particular vocations in the accounting area, and will form a basis for tertiary study. Students will be equipped to play a more effective part in their community, in business, and in sporting and social groups.

Although the first unit is not compulsory, the following three units must be studied in sequential order. It is strongly recommended however, that students do enrol in the introductory unit and that they complete the final standard unit if they intend to study Accounting at a tertiary institution.

LIST OF UNITS

The Accounting Environment

This unit looks at:

- Financial Markets in Australia functions, role of regulators – ASIC and APRA.
- Nature and functions of accounting.
- Users of accounting information and their needs
- Careers in accounting.
- Types of business entities who use accounting information.
- Types of accounting reports produced for internal and external users.

Recording Business Transactions

This unit looks at:

- The overview of the accounting process, ie original documents → journals → ledgers → financial reports
- Features of double-entry accounting, involving the accounting equation.
- The accounting process or cycle, reporting requirements of the GST and preparation of the BAS.
- Preparing financial statements (Balance Sheet and Income Statement) from the Trial Balance.

Measuring Business Profit

This unit looks at:

- Accrual accounting
- Balance day adjusting accounts
- Provision for depreciation and doubtful debts
- Preparation of fully classified financial statements
- Integrated computerised accounting exercises to produce all required financial reports

Accounting Controls

This unit looks at:

- Controls for Cash Transactions
- Bank Reconciliation Statements
- Cash Budgeting
- Sources of finance
- Controls for Credit Transactions
- Controls for Inventories
- Controls for Fixed Assets

Accounting (T) is available as a Minor, Major and some units may be combined with some units from Economics or Business Studies to form a Commerce Major.

Experience by the end of Year 10	Yr 11 Semester 1	Later Units
No previous study required	The Accounting Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recording Business Transaction • Measuring Business Profit • Accounting Controls

Business Studies (T/A)

A study of business enables students to appreciate and experience the wide range of occupations that are available in the business world. The course also encourages students to consider creating their own employment and to develop an entrepreneurial attitude to their future. Each of the four units provides an opportunity to study potential business opportunities in the Australian economy, the expanding opportunities for export in the global economy.

This course provides an excellent background for any business/commerce course at university or another tertiary institution, as well as preparing students for the workforce.

LIST OF UNITS

Business Nature & Planning

This unit gives students an introduction to the accounting, legal and economic background to business. After a discussion of the importance of business in Australia, business planning and regulation are introduced and students complete a Business Plan based on their own idea.

Business Management & Marketing

This unit examines the process of marketing from the conception of the idea to the sale of the final product. Students will investigate the various strategies that can be developed by profit and non-profit organisations to promote products, services or causes.

Employment & Industrial Relations

As well as current themes in managing both people and change in the workplaces, personnel and industrial relations issues will be examined in both a historical and contemporary context. Students can reflect upon their experiences of management/worker interaction and choose an independent study topic to be completed by research/workplace participation.

Financial Management & Global Business

The emphasis in this unit is about the external factors that impact on Australian businesses. Government policy, the Business Cycle, overseas trade, cultural difference and international conflict all must be considered in relation to potential opportunities and threats. Contemporary issues associated with financial management are also considered within the same context.

Business Studies (A) is available as a Minor, Major.

Experience by the end of Year 10	Year 11 Semester 1	Later Units
No previous study required	Business Nature & Planning	Marketing Employment & Industrial Relations Financial Management & Global Business

Economics (T)

The Economics course is primarily concerned with economic literacy, which involves understanding the economic forces which underly major political and social issues. By studying Economics, students will be better equipped to make considered judgments as workers, consumers, taxpayers and voters.

Emphasis is placed on developing a continuing interest in and an understanding of, the contemporary economic problems facing Australia and the world, eg inflation, high interest rates, unemployment, balance of payments, economic growth and development, environmental issues and globalisation.

LIST OF UNITS

Introduction to Economics

This introductory unit has a broad overview of basic economic principles and concepts. It explores concepts such as supply and demand, scarcity and the role of individuals, firms and government in the economy.

Australian Macro Economics

This unit explains various economic models looking at the influence of government, financial and foreign sectors. It looks at the business cycle, inflation, unemployment and their interrelationships.

Growth & Development

This unit examines the key features and models of economic growth and development, evaluating differing strategies, e.g. trade versus aid. It looks at the factors of economic development such as natural, human, physical, technological and institutional factors.

Global Economics

This unit examines the key features of globalisation and the main components of the global economy - free trade, protection, effects of the environment, ecological and geographic phenomena, e.g. bird flu, SARS.

Economics (T) is available as a Minor or Major

Experience by the end of Year 10	Year 11 Semester 1	Later Units
No previous study required	Introduction to Economics	Australian Macro Economics Growth & Development Global Economics

Legal Studies (T/A)

These courses aim to give the student an understanding of law, legal institutions, legal processes and legal reasoning. The emphasis in the course is on rights, responsibilities and reasoning in the context of Australian society. The course aims to provide students with the opportunity to develop their analytical, oral and written communication skills.

LIST OF UNITS

Australian Legal Systems - An overview

This unit introduces students to Australia's legal institutions and processes. It considers the role and importance of the law in their lives and their roles in law-making processes. Students analyse the interrelationship between law, justice and society and the changing nature of law. Many fundamental legal concepts are introduced in this course and these are developed in later Legal Studies courses available at the College. These include: influences on law; the nature of law and of justice; parliament; the courts; and the Australian Constitution.

World Order

World Order explores international law and the issues associated with international law in practice. Students evaluate the effectiveness of domestic law in responding to global legal situations. In particular, students examine issues such as international conflict, international treaties and conventions, international trade agreements and the effectiveness of international law.

Torts

Torts law examines particular aspects of the law of negligence. Students critically examine the nature and purpose of civil law, and look closely at key issues in tort law, including defamation, trespass, nuisance, employer's liability and remedies. The balancing of social and economic pressures is also explored.

Criminal law

This unit explores law enforcement processes in Australia. Students analyse legislation, cases, media reports and opinions to review arguments for change of the law. Students examine the definition and classification of crime; elements of crime; defences; the trial; the jury; punishment; victims of crime; and criminal law reform issues, and the criminal justice system.

Cyber Crime

This unit looks at the effectiveness of the law in responding to technological change. Students explore the nature and meaning of cyber crime, including its security implications (for example hacking, fraud, viruses, 'cyber-stalking'), its effectiveness and issues of education and prevention in the area.

Consumer Law

Students in this unit explore the legal significance of everyday consumer transactions, with a particular focus on consumer rights and responsibilities and seeking redress. Specifically, students will look at the nature and types of consumer transactions, elements of a contract, consumer protection legislation, avenues for redress and insurance.

Property Law

This unit looks at the basic elements of property law. The concept and dimensions of property are explored, so too contracts of leasing, land transactions, personal property and succession. Students examine the different types of property and the differing legal status attached to each.

Family law

This unit examines the relationship between family institutions and the legal system. Students analyse the technicalities and social problems involved in family relations; marriage and divorce; and the courts' role in this aspect of law. Specific areas that may be explored include the nature of family structures, the Family Court, the variety and diversity of personal relationships, children in family law and dispute resolution.

Environmental Law

This unit explores the importance of environmental law in relation to the Australian legal system. Students analyse how environmental law affects human activities at the domestic, community, national and international levels. The nature and scope of environmental law, including national and international issues, is explored.

Human Rights Law

Students in this unit will look at fundamental human rights and liberties in Australian and international society. A particular focus of the unit is the tension between the protection of society and the rights and liberties of the individual. Particular areas of interest are individual rights and freedoms, discrimination and lawful deprivation of freedom.

Industrial Relations Law

Students explore the nature, history and development of employer and employee relationships in the Australian workplace, with particular emphasis on the social impact of employment law and the effectiveness of dispute resolution mechanism. Students analyse legislation, cases, media reports and opinions to review arguments for change and reform in the law.

Current Legal Issues

This unit is designed as a detailed study of significant and topical issues in Australian and international law. It involves the in depth study of at least two major legal issues. Students are provided with a range of possible issues to select from, or they may identify their own. Possible issues may include; access to justice; terrorism; indigenous people and Australian law; victims of crime; uranium; etc.

COURSE PATTERNS

- The units are not sequential. However, students are advised to study the Australian Legal Systems - an overview.
- Flexible entry and exit points are provided.
- Students who intend to continue the study of Law or related courses at a tertiary institution are strongly recommended to complete the final standard unit in their Major.
- Students may begin study in a T unit and, may continue in an A level to complete the Legal Studies A course.

Legal Studies T and A is available as a Minor or Major

Suggested Implementation Patterns

These suggestions apply for both Accredited and Tertiary Courses:

In Year 11 it is recommended that the following sequence of units is applied.	In Year 12 it is recommended that students choose from the following units.
Sem 1: Australian Legal Systems - an Overview/Torts Sem 2: Criminal Law	Family Law World Order Cyber Crime Consumer Law Property and Legal Agreements Environmental Law Human Rights Law Workplace Law Current Legal Issues Industrial Relations Law