Understand society from a legal perspective

What impact does law have on our lives? To what extent does law either control what we do or allow us to achieve what we want? Is the law the same thing as justice? Can the law make the world a better place?

The Law and Society major, offered by the Faculty of Law, examines broad theoretical issues about the nature of law and society as well as how the relationship plays out in particular fields of legal and social policy at both domestic and international levels.

The fields you may study include human rights, decisions about birth and death, crime and justice, Indigenous rights, freedom of expression and religion. Studying Law and Society will help you develop important skills in research, analysis, teamwork and communication. The fields of study covered can also be taken as option units in first or second year outside this major.

Graduating with a Major in Law and Society from UWA, you will have the skills, knowledge and practical experience to apply for a wide range of jobs in the public, private and not-for-profit sectors.

These include: law-related policy and research roles in law reform and justice agencies; various positions in those sectors that draw on an appropriate level of knowledge of law, such as human resources, industrial relations, and work with a range of government and non-government organisations involved in areas such as human rights, equal opportunity and legal assistance.

You are also well positioned to choose to continue your studies with the UWA’s professional practice law qualification, the Juris Doctor.

If you choose to go on and pursue a career in Law by undertaking the Juris Doctor programme, the Law and Society major is a useful ‘pre-law’ grounding in the principles underpinning legal systems.

For students not considering legal practice, it will greatly assist their understanding of how society is affected by, uses and develops law.
Chosing your majors

UWA’s flexible undergraduate course structure allows you to take two majors within your course.

Studying two majors can increase your employability and allow you to choose from a wider range of career paths.

**Studying a degree in Arts?**

If you are enrolled in a Bachelor of Arts (BA), you can choose to increase your knowledge in business by selecting a second major from within the BA. Alternatively, you can widen your skill base and take a second major from fields within commerce, science or design. Your choice of major(s) can prepare you for further studies, including a professional postgraduate degree such as the Juris Doctor.

**Bachelor of Arts students**

Law and Society + another major from another degree

You can choose to combine the Law and Society major with a major from another undergraduate degree:

- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Design

The following are a selection of popular majors to take with Law and Society:

- Anthropology and Sociology
- Business Law
- Human Geography and Planning
- Human Resource Management
- Management
- Philosophy
- Political Science and International Relations
- Population Health
- Social and Applied Psychology
- Work and Employment Relations

If you choose to study a BCom, BDes or BSc you can select Law and Society or Business Law as your second major.

As a student enrolled in the BPhil (Hons) you can nominate Business Law or Law and Society as either your degree specific major or as a second major.

**Unit sequence**

**LEVEL 1 core units**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LAWS1110</td>
<td>Crime and Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAWS1111</td>
<td>Law, Conflict and Change</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LEVEL 2 core units**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LAWS2227</td>
<td>Law in Action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plus two of the following:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAWS2223</td>
<td>Criminal Justice System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAWS2224</td>
<td>Evolution of Human Rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAWS2228</td>
<td>Psychology and the Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAWS2226</td>
<td>International Legal Institutions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAWS2221</td>
<td>Creative Expression and the Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAWS2225</td>
<td>Indigenous Peoples and the Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAWS2220</td>
<td>Birth, Life, Death and the Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAWS2309</td>
<td>Work and the Law</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LEVEL 3 core units**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LAWS3341</td>
<td>Investigating Law and Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plus two of the following:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAWS3334</td>
<td>Law and Religion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAWS3374</td>
<td>Crime, Justice and Public Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAWS3394</td>
<td>Law and Contemporary Social Issues</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Not all units are available every year.

“If you choose to study Law and Society at UWA, you will leave with significant insight into how legal systems work, an appreciation of the social context in which the law operates, and the ability to contribute to the development of ‘the law’.

The quality of education at UWA means that our graduates have a long and proud history of achievement, whether in law or in other fields of endeavour.”

*Hayden Teo | Arts and Law*
## Combine your interests – Choose two majors

**Degree:** Bachelor of Arts  
**Degree-specific major:** Law and Society

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year (Yr)</th>
<th>Semester (SEM)</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yr1</td>
<td>SEM1</td>
<td>LAWS1110</td>
<td>Crime and Society</td>
<td>Elective Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr1</td>
<td>SEM2</td>
<td>LAWS1111</td>
<td>Law Conflict and Change</td>
<td>Broadening Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr2</td>
<td>SEM1</td>
<td>LAWS2227</td>
<td>Law in Action</td>
<td>Elective Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr2</td>
<td>SEM2</td>
<td>DEGREE-SPECIFIC MAJOR OPTION UNIT</td>
<td>Second Major Unit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr3</td>
<td>SEM1</td>
<td>LAWS3341</td>
<td>Investigating Law and Society</td>
<td>Elective Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr3</td>
<td>SEM2</td>
<td>DEGREE-SPECIFIC MAJOR OPTION UNIT</td>
<td>Second Major Unit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

### Broadening Units

This feature of UWA undergraduate studies gives you the opportunity to broaden your perspective.

These are a requirement of all five bachelor's degrees and will provide you with knowledge beyond the fields in which you choose to specialise. You will be required to take four broadening units from outside your degree area, including at least one with a global or cultural focus (Category A).

For more information visit: studyat.uwa.edu.au/broadeningunits

#### Category A broadening units offered by the Faculty of Law
- Law, Conflict and Change

#### Category B broadening units offered by the Faculty of Law
Nearly all units offered at a Level 1 undergraduate level can be selected as Category B broadening units, giving you hundreds of choices.

#### Units offered by the Faculty of Law:
- Australian Legal Principles and Institutions
- Crime and Society
- Introduction to Law

Units offered at Level 2 undergraduate level by the Faculty of Law also count as Category B, however you may need to have completed some pre-requisite units at Level 1 in order to enrol.

law.uwa.edu.au
Get your career off to a flying start

Graduating with a Major in Law and Society from UWA, you will have the skills, knowledge and practical experience to apply for a wide range of jobs in the public, private and not-for-profit sectors.

These include: law-related policy and research roles in law reform and justice agencies; various positions in those sectors that draw on an appropriate level of knowledge of law, such as human resources, industrial relations, and work with a range of government and non-government organisations involved in areas such as human rights, equal opportunity and legal assistance.

Consider your further study options

After finishing your undergraduate degree course you have a number of options. You can choose to start your new career by directly entering the workforce, or you can undertake additional university studies. Further studies will increase your knowledge and skills in your field and increase your employability.

The UWA pathway to Law

If you want to pursue a career as a Lawyer the UWA Juris Doctor (JD) is your pathway to become the Lawyer you want to be and that the world needs.

As a student of the postgraduate Juris Doctor Program you will:

- Learn from the very best of the legal profession as well as academic staff recognised nationally for excellence in teaching
- Have opportunities to play to your individual strengths in mooting competitions, internship opportunities and Australia’s oldest University Law Review
- Study and build lifelong connections with a diverse and vibrant cohort of future leaders
- Enter the competitive graduate market with an edge, armed with both an undergraduate degree and the JD, a prestigious qualification offered by institutions such as Harvard, Yale and Columbia
- Join the ranks of nationally and internationally renowned UWA Law School graduates including: Rhodes Scholars; the highest ranks of the Judiciary and legal profession; as well as leaders at the very highest level of business and government

JD Course details

Intake: February only
Fee type: Commonwealth-supported (HECS available)
Number of places: approximately 350 places available for domestic and international applicants per year.

JD Course structure

The JD is a three year postgraduate coursework program (six years part-time) involving the completion of 24 units (eight per full-time year), including a combination of core and option units. More information can be found at: law.uwa.edu.au/courses/postgrad/jd

Pathway to Law

Undergraduate degree (3 years*):
Bachelor’s degree in any discipline

Law School Admissions Test (LSAT)**

Postgraduate degree (3 years): Juris Doctor***

* Students who undertake a Bachelor of Philosophy (Honours) will take four years to complete their undergraduate degree.
** The LSAT is only required by students who do not hold an assured pathway to the JD for more information visit law.uwa.edu.au/courses/juris-doctor-jd/about-the-lsat
*** Practical Legal Training is required before admission to practice.

Faculty of Law

The University of Western Australia
M253, Perth WA 6009 Australia
Tel: +61 8 6488 2945
law.uwa.edu.au
facebook.com/UWALawSchool
twitter.com/UWALawSchool

CRICOS Provider Code: 00126G