

Cyber Law LAWS8077 - Research Essay Topics

Topic of Essay: Students have two options for the essay topic: (1) They can choose from the list of topics below or (2) Students who wish to work on any other topic outside this list for their final research essay must consult the course convener by email and finalise their topic before 26 April 2022.

Delay in the selection and finalisation of the topic cannot be the basis for the student to apply for an extension. Students cannot work on any topic for their final research essay without the express permission of the convener.

Word Limit: 3,600 words exclusive of footnotes.

Please note that the footnotes should not be substantive in nature. Please use AGLC4 referencing style for the essay.

Due Date: Friday, 27 May 2022, at 5 pm via Turnitin. Students must submit the essay electronically via the Wattle and Turnitin dropboxes on the course Wattle site. Late submissions (without an extension) are permitted, although late penalties will apply.

Assessment Criteria:

- a) Understanding of the Issues
 - Addresses the research question and covers all the important points
 - Evidence of close consideration of the research question and the research materials drawn on
 - Issues raised by the topic are clearly and concisely identified
 - Material chosen relates clearly to the topic and is analysed not just summarised or quoted extensively
- b) Communication & Development of Argument
 - Clear theme or argument
 - Arguments logical and well-organised
 - Ideas/paragraphs linked coherently
- c) Argument/Analysis
 - Originality of ideas and critical analysis of the material
 - Complexity and insight in dealing with theory/ideas
 - Suggestions for change where appropriate
 - Interdisciplinary perspective, where appropriate
 - Addressing opposing arguments
 - Well-reasoned conclusions

d) Research

- Research covering primary and secondary materials
- Good organisation of sources and ability to synthesise all the research materials used
- Use of theoretical material where appropriate
- Range of research sources (note: research must expand beyond class materials)
- Integration of material from research resources into the essay

e) Presentation, style and referencing

- Good use of structure, section headings and paragraphs
- Clarity and conciseness of expression, interesting and engaging of reader
- Use of appropriate terminology and correct grammar, syntax and spelling
- Full and accurate footnotes together with a bibliography
- Style according to Australian Guide to Legal Citation
- Adherence to word limit

Essay topics:

- 1. Critically examine the existing information sharing obligations and assess the regulatory challenges associated with effective public-private information sharing in the protection of critical infrastructures.**
- 2. Critically examine the existing regulatory framework dealing with ransomware attacks with particular attention on the regulatory challenges posed by such attacks.**
- 3. Critically examine the impact of the security risks posed by consumer products designed for children and the role of existing regulatory frameworks in the mitigation of harm.**
- 4. Critically examine the application of article 2(4) of the UN Charter to cyber operations and explore the necessary factors for any such operation to be classed as an armed attack.**
- 5. Critically examine the role of cryptocurrencies in the financing of cyber-attacks and assess the practical challenges posed to effective regulatory intervention.**