



## UNSW Course Outline

# LAWS8845 Women and Gender Law ILS Pune - 2024

Published on the 17 Dec 2023

## General Course Information

Course Code : LAWS8845

Year : 2024

Term : Summer

Teaching Period : U1

Is a multi-term course? : No

Faculty : Faculty of Law and Justice

Academic Unit : School of Global and Public Law

Delivery Mode : In Person

Delivery Format : Standard

Delivery Location : India

Campus : Sydney

Study Level : Postgraduate

Units of Credit : 6

### Useful Links

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

## Course Details & Outcomes

### Course Description

This course considers the role of the law in creating and perpetuating gender inequalities.

Feminist legal theory challenges the practice and theory of law and this course explores its potential to effect social transformation in select areas of women's lives. The course will trace

the historical development of feminist legal theory in both India and in the West, and its modern developments, including key concepts including formal and substantive equality, the public/private divide, intersections between categories such as race, class, caste and gender and explore theories of universalism and cultural relativism. The course will also explore a range of substantive issues of particular relevance to Indian society including child marriage, dowry, and sex-selection, and a range of issues relevant to both Indian and Australian society including family relationships, sex work, economic empowerment of women and violence against women. The course aims to assist students to develop skills in critical thinking and it builds core skills that students need to examine gendered constructions of law and how those constructions lead to inequality and discrimination. The course will be taught using an active learning approach. Two field trips to local organisations in Pune, India will be included as part of the course.

## **Course Aims**

The course aims to introduce students to a range of feminist theories of law and to develop skills in utilising those theories to solve concrete issues of inequality faced by women in India and Australia. The course also aims to develop critical thinking and to develop written communication skills.

# Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Critically evaluate areas of law that have been subject to feminist critique and be able to identify feminist contributions to law reform (PLO 1(a), 3 and 4)
CLO2 : Express, debate and justify their interpretation of feminist theories of law and their application to concrete issue of gender inequality (PLO 1(b), 2(a), 2(b), 3(a), 4)
CLO3 : Conduct effective legal research by identifying and synthesising primary and secondary legal and interdisciplinary texts and resources in order to investigate feminist insights in theories of law (PLO 1(b), 2(a), 2(b), 3(a))
CLO4 : present a clear and persuasive written argument that demonstrates detailed understanding and knowledge of feminist approaches to law and to apply them to specific situations (PLO 1(b), 2(a), 2(b), 3(a), 4)

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Critically evaluate areas of law that have been subject to feminist critique and be able to identify feminist contributions to law reform (PLO 1(a), 3 and 4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research Essay (6000 words)</li> <li>• Class Participation</li> </ul>
CLO2 : Express, debate and justify their interpretation of feminist theories of law and their application to concrete issue of gender inequality (PLO 1(b), 2(a), 2(b), 3(a), 4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Class Participation</li> </ul>
CLO3 : Conduct effective legal research by identifying and synthesising primary and secondary legal and interdisciplinary texts and resources in order to investigate feminist insights in theories of law (PLO 1(b), 2(a), 2(b), 3(a))	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research Essay (6000 words)</li> </ul>
CLO4 : present a clear and persuasive written argument that demonstrates detailed understanding and knowledge of feminist approaches to law and to apply them to specific situations (PLO 1(b), 2(a), 2(b), 3(a), 4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research Essay (6000 words)</li> </ul>

## Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

# Assessments

## Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Research Essay (6000 words)	60%	
Essay Plan (1000 words)	10%	
Class Participation	30%	

## Assessment Details

### Research Essay (6000 words)

#### Assessment Overview

Students select their own topic (approved by lecturer) in the field of women, gender and law. Students are expected to rely on the course materials and to conduct their own independent research.

This assessment will enable students to present a clear and persuasive written argument that demonstrates detailed understanding and knowledge of feminist approaches to law and to apply them to specific situations.

At the end of this course students will be able to conduct effective legal research by identifying and synthesising primary and secondary legal and interdisciplinary texts and resources in order to investigate feminist insights in theories of law.

#### Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Critically evaluate areas of law that have been subject to feminist critique and be able to identify feminist contributions to law reform (PLO 1(a), 3 and 4)
- CL03 : Conduct effective legal research by identifying and synthesising primary and secondary legal and interdisciplinary texts and resources in order to investigate feminist insights in theories of law (PLO 1(b), 2(a), 2(b), 3(a))
- CL04 : present a clear and persuasive written argument that demonstrates detailed understanding and knowledge of feminist approaches to law and to apply them to specific situations (PLO 1(b), 2(a), 2(b), 3(a), 4)

### Essay Plan (1000 words)

#### Assessment Overview

Students are required to provide a short essay plan of 1000 words.

## **Class Participation**

### **Assessment Overview**

Preparation for class and active contribution to class discussion and engagement throughout the course.

This assessment will enable students to engage in debate and justify their interpretation of feminist theories of law and their application to concrete issues of gender inequality

This assessment will enable students to be able to critically evaluate areas of law that have been subject to feminist critique and to orally identify feminist contributions to law reform.

### **Course Learning Outcomes**

- CLO1 : Critically evaluate areas of law that have been subject to feminist critique and be able to identify feminist contributions to law reform (PLO 1(a), 3 and 4)
- CLO2 : Express, debate and justify their interpretation of feminist theories of law and their application to concrete issue of gender inequality (PLO 1(b), 2(a), 2(b), 3(a), 4)

## **General Assessment Information**

### **Grading Basis**

Standard

### **Requirements to pass course**

Both written assessments must be submitted.

## **Course Schedule**

### **Attendance Requirements**

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and review lecture recordings.

### **General Schedule Information**

This is a two week in country (India) course with classes each day from 2pm-5.30 pm and a full day field trip on Saturday.

## **Course Resources**

### **Prescribed Resources**

These are on Moodle.

## Recommended Resources

These are on Moodle.

## Additional Costs

This is an overseas elective and there is an additional fee to cover program costs and hotel accomodation

## Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
	Christine Foster					Yes	Yes

## Other Useful Information

### Academic Information

Upon your enrolment at UNSW, you share responsibility with us for maintaining a safe, harmonious and tolerant University environment.

You are required to:

- Comply with the University's conditions of enrolment.
- Act responsibly, ethically, safely and with integrity.
- Observe standards of equity and respect in dealing with every member of the UNSW community.
- Engage in lawful behaviour.
- Use and care for University resources in a responsible and appropriate manner.
- Maintain the University's reputation and good standing.

For more information, visit the [UNSW Student Code of Conduct Website](#).

### UNSW Law & Justice Assessment Policy

It is essential that all students undertaking this course read and abide by the [UNSW Law & Justice Assessment Policy & Student Information](#). This document includes information on Class Attendance, Late Work, Word Limits, Marking, Special Consideration, Workload, and Academic Misconduct & Plagiarism. More information can also be found at [Assessment & Exam Information](#).

Information regarding Course Outlines are subject to change and students are advised to check updates. If there is a discrepancy between the information posted here and the handbook or the UNSW Law & Justice website, please contact [Student Services via The Nucleus Hub](#) for advice. UNSW Law & Justice reserves the right to discontinue or vary such courses or staff allocations at any time. If your course is not here, please visit [Handbook](#) for information.

## Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

As a student at UNSW you are expected to display [academic integrity](#) in your work and interactions. Where a student breaches the [UNSW Student Code](#) with respect to academic integrity, the University may take disciplinary action under the Student Misconduct Procedure. To assure academic integrity, you may be required to demonstrate reasoning, research and the process of constructing work submitted for assessment.

To assist you in understanding what academic integrity means, and how to ensure that you do comply with the UNSW Student Code, it is strongly recommended that you complete the [Working with Academic Integrity](#) module before submitting your first assessment task. It is a free, online self-paced Moodle module that should take about one hour to complete.

## Submission of Assessment Tasks

Before submitting assessment items all students must read and abide by the [UNSW Law & Justice Assessment Policy & Student Information](#).

### Special consideration

Special consideration is primarily intended to provide you with an extra opportunity to demonstrate the level of performance of which you are capable. To apply, and for further information, see Special Consideration on the UNSW [Current Students](#) page.

### Feedback

UNSW Law & Justice appreciates the need for students to have feedback on their progress prior to the last date for withdrawal without failure. All courses will therefore provide feedback to students prior to this date, as well as throughout the course. However, students should note that feedback does not take the form only of formal grades and written comments on written assessments. Rather, formative feedback, which helps students to self-assess, to identify misunderstandings, and to identify areas requiring further work, will occur during class and

possibly online. For example, where a teacher asks the class a question, all students should think about how they might answer. Even though not all students will necessarily be able to respond orally, everyone can reflect on their tentative answer in light of the teacher's response and subsequent class discussion. If you are struggling to understand what is being asked in class, or if your tentative answers prove incorrect and subsequent discussion does not clear things up, then you should continue to ask questions (of yourself, your peers or your teacher). Similarly, you can get a sense of your ability in a course through peer feedback during group work, your teacher's responses to your in-class contributions, and your own response to in-class problems and examples (whether or not you are called on to relay your answer to the class) and also your online activities and responses by others to those activities. Students enrolled in this course may check their Moodle course page for details on the specific feedback used in this course.

## Faculty-specific Information

### Additional support for students

- Student support: <https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/support>
- Academic Skills and Support: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/academic-skills>
- Student Wellbeing, Health and Safety: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/wellbeing>
- Equitable Learning Services: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/els>
- UNSW IT Service Centre: <https://www.myit.unsw.edu.au>

### Course improvement

Student feedback is very important to continual course improvement. This is demonstrated within the Faculty of Law & Justice by the implementation of the UNSW online student survey myExperience, which allows students to evaluate their learning experiences in an anonymous way. myExperience survey reports are produced from each survey. They are released to staff after all student assessment results are finalised and released to students. Course convenors will use the feedback to make ongoing improvements to the course. Students enrolled in this course may check their Moodle course page for details on the actions taken in response to evaluation feedback in Student Survey.

## School Contact Information

Please contact [Nucleus Student Hub](#) for all enquiries. The Nucleus acts as a central communications hub for UNSW and will distribute your enquiry to the best person to respond.