



## UNSW Course Outline

# LAWS3170 The Essential Advocate: An Intro to Advocacy - 2024

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## General Course Information

Course Code : LAWS3170

Year : 2024

Term : Term 1

Teaching Period : T1

Is a multi-term course? : No

Faculty : Faculty of Law and Justice

Academic Unit : School of Law, Society and Criminology

Delivery Mode : In Person

Delivery Format : Standard

Delivery Location : Kensington

Campus : Sydney

Study Level : Undergraduate

Units of Credit : 6

### Useful Links

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

## Course Details & Outcomes

### Course Description

The course is a practical introduction to courtroom advocacy. Students will be exposed to

examples of various types of advocates and advocacy techniques and problems found in leading cases, trial transcripts, novels, plays, films, and biographies of advocates. Much of the course is devoted to practical exercises.

## Main Topics

- Essential qualities and skills of advocates
- Advocacy as the art of persuasion
- The problems of advocacy: ethics and misconduct
- Preparation for trial
- Case theory
- Evidentiary and procedural issues in practice
- Opening and closing addresses
- Examination-in-chief and objections
- Cross-examination
- The use of written and oral submissions
- Sentences
- Appeals

# Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Demonstrate a clear understanding of the nature of advocacy and the basic techniques of courtroom advocacy (PLOs 1, 3, 9, 10, 11 & 12)
CLO2 : Demonstrate that s/he has attained a firm grasp of the fundamental ethical obligations of an advocate in the Australian justice system (PLOs 1,3, 11 & 12)
CLO3 : Apply problem-solving skills to case studies and exercises of varying complexity (PLOs 5 & 8)
CLO4 : Display effective written and oral communication skills in a variety of classroom exercises and written assignments (PLOs 1, 5, 8, 9 & 10)
CLO5 : Engage in thoughtful and constructive discussion of course concepts (PLOs 5, 8, 9 & 11)
CLO6 : Work constructively with other class members in group work and team exercises (PLOs 9 & 10)

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Demonstrate a clear understanding of the nature of advocacy and the basic techniques of courtroom advocacy (PLOs 1, 3, 9, 10, 11 & 12)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Project (3000 words)</li><li>• Class Participation - 15% general (CLOs 1-6, 9-12) 15% graded oral (CLOs 1, 3, 4, 5, 9-12)</li></ul>
CLO2 : Demonstrate that s/he has attained a firm grasp of the fundamental ethical obligations of an advocate in the Australian justice system (PLOs 1,3, 11 & 12)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Essay (2000 words)</li><li>• Class Participation - 15% general (CLOs 1-6, 9-12) 15% graded oral (CLOs 1, 3, 4, 5, 9-12)</li></ul>
CLO3 : Apply problem-solving skills to case studies and exercises of varying complexity (PLOs 5 & 8)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Project (3000 words)</li><li>• Class Participation - 15% general (CLOs 1-6, 9-12) 15% graded oral (CLOs 1, 3, 4, 5, 9-12)</li></ul>
CLO4 : Display effective written and oral communication skills in a variety of classroom exercises and written assignments (PLOs 1, 5, 8, 9 & 10)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Essay (2000 words)</li><li>• Project (3000 words)</li><li>• Class Participation - 15% general (CLOs 1-6, 9-12) 15% graded oral (CLOs 1, 3, 4, 5, 9-12)</li></ul>
CLO5 : Engage in thoughtful and constructive discussion of course concepts (PLOs 5, 8, 9 & 11)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Essay (2000 words)</li><li>• Project (3000 words)</li><li>• Class Participation - 15% general (CLOs 1-6, 9-12) 15% graded oral (CLOs 1, 3, 4, 5, 9-12)</li></ul>
CLO6 : Work constructively with other class members in group work and team exercises (PLOs 9 & 10)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Class Participation - 15% general (CLOs 1-6, 9-12) 15% graded oral (CLOs 1, 3, 4, 5, 9-12)</li></ul>

## Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

# Assessments

## Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Project (3000 words)	40%	
Essay (2000 words)	30%	
Class Participation - 15% general (CLOs 1-6, 9-12) 15% graded oral (CLOs 1, 3, 4, 5, 9-12)	30%	

## Assessment Details

### Project (3000 words)

#### Assessment Overview

Not specified

Feedback includes formative feedback, peer feedback in class, online and the use of rubric.

#### Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Demonstrate a clear understanding of the nature of advocacy and the basic techniques of courtroom advocacy (PLOs 1, 3, 9, 10, 11 & 12)
- CLO3 : Apply problem-solving skills to case studies and exercises of varying complexity (PLOs 5 & 8)
- CLO4 : Display effective written and oral communication skills in a variety of classroom exercises and written assignments (PLOs 1, 5, 8, 9 & 10)
- CLO5 : Engage in thoughtful and constructive discussion of course concepts (PLOs 5, 8, 9 & 11)

### Essay (2000 words)

#### Assessment Overview

Not specified

Feedback includes formative feedback, peer feedback in class, online and the use of rubric.

#### Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO2 : Demonstrate that s/he has attained a firm grasp of the fundamental ethical obligations of an advocate in the Australian justice system (PLOs 1,3, 11 & 12)
- CLO4 : Display effective written and oral communication skills in a variety of classroom exercises and written assignments (PLOs 1, 5, 8, 9 & 10)
- CLO5 : Engage in thoughtful and constructive discussion of course concepts (PLOs 5, 8, 9 & 11)

**Class Participation - 15% general (CLOs 1-6, 9-12) 15% graded oral (CLOs 1, 3, 4, 5, 9-12)**

#### Assessment Overview

Feedback includes formative feedback, peer feedback in class, online and the use of rubric.

#### Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Demonstrate a clear understanding of the nature of advocacy and the basic techniques of courtroom advocacy (PLOs 1, 3, 9, 10, 11 & 12)
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- CLO5 : Engage in thoughtful and constructive discussion of course concepts (PLOs 5, 8, 9 & 11)
- CLO6 : Work constructively with other class members in group work and team exercises (PLOs 9 & 10)

## **General Assessment Information**

Please see moodle for more detailed assessment information.

#### Grading Basis

Standard

## **Course Schedule**

### **Attendance Requirements**

Please see information about attendance requirements in **Law & Justice Assessment Procedure and Student Information** located in the Other Useful Information tab in the Academic Information field.

Please be advised there will be no classes on public holidays. If your class falls on a public holiday, alternative arrangements will be made by the course convenor to make up the missed class.

# Course Resources

## Prescribed Resources

A reading list is available to students on Moodle.

## Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
	Jill Hunter					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.