

# Postgraduate Law Welcome and Advisory Session

Semester 1, 2025

# Professor Rick Bigwood

Academic Dean and Head of School  
TC Beirne School of Law





# Acknowledgement of Country

- The University of Queensland (UQ) acknowledges the Traditional Owners and their custodianship of the lands on which we meet.
- We pay our respects to their Ancestors and their descendants, who continue cultural and spiritual connections to Country.
- We recognise their valuable contributions to Australian and global society.

*The Brisbane River pattern from A Guidance Through Time*  
by Casey Coolwell and Kyra Mancktelow.





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# Welcome and Introduction

**Professor John Swinson**

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Director of Postgraduate Programs





# Welcome!

The UQ Law School is excited to have you join  
our LLM program in 2025!

# Welcome!

Our LLM Program aims include:

- Providing you with opportunities to learn about legal topics in detail
- Allowing you to think deeply about the law
- Considering how the law should change
- Enabling you to develop friendships and connections



## Our LLM Program is International

- We have students from over 13 countries
- We cover international legal issues
- We look at the laws of Australia and elsewhere, and we learn from the differences



## Our LLM Program is diverse

We have approximately 150 enrolled students

- Australian students with a law degree and/or business degree
- International students with a law degree from a common law country
- International students with a non-common law degree (e.g. from a civil law-based country)
- International students with a non-law (business) degree



# Postgraduate orientation: welcome

Director of Post Graduate Programs – **Professor John Swinson** (孙坚)  
Email: [j.swinson@law.uq.edu.au](mailto:j.swinson@law.uq.edu.au)  
Room: W415 Forgan Smith

## What is my role?

Providing operational and strategic leadership for our PG programs:

- Welcoming you to the UQ Law School LLM program
- Ensuring the LLM program runs smoothly so that you have an excellent educational experience at UQ
- Helping you navigate through course offerings, with their dissertation choices, and facilitating career advice
- Learning from you to improve the LLM program so that it is relevant for you and future LLM students
- Course monitoring and course development
- Working with my Law School colleagues in respect of teaching and learning activities
- Oversight of LLM student recruitment, enrolment and progression to graduation
- Liaising with International Services (BEL Faculty) to ensure our international students are properly supported



# Tips for Success

## Select the right courses

- Courses have different aims and styles
- Not every course is suited for every student

## Participate in Class

- Prepare for class
- Study the readings
- Ask questions in class
- Provide your point of view

## Start work on Assignments early

Do other activities – don't spend all your time studying – have balance

If you need more guidance, ask





# The pathway to academic success and graduation

- Read over your **course profiles**: the electronic course profiles (ECPs) are accessible via **Learn.UQ** (Blackboard). Learn.UQ is the Learning Management System for all UQ courses.
- **Unsure about which courses to enrol in?** Ask me or Daniel Lim or individual academic staff about their courses.
- **Preparation** is key: up to eight hours before each seminar. Effective participation and engagement with academic staff is dependent on your careful reading and consideration of study materials. There are no short cuts.
- Study materials for each seminar can usually be found in 'Learning Resources' via **Learn.UQ** or in the **UQ Libraries**.
- **Attendance**: Go to every class either in-person or online (where classes are 'zoomed'). The **process of learning** takes place before, during and after seminars. Missing seminars hampers your chances of academic success.
- **Participation**: Be prepared to actively contribute to seminar discussions by demonstrating (orally and/or in writing) your understanding of the study materials and their application. Seminars are not a forum in which the course tutor simply 'lectures' you for two to three hours.
- Your **assessments** will be measuring the process and the outcomes of your learning; and, typically, your learning is based on the study materials that have been prescribed for you to read independently, think about, and then discuss in seminars.
- **Look after yourself** and seek assistance if you are struggling for any reason; contact your teachers and alert them to any issues arising that may be impacting our studies or, health. The Law School's **well-being officer Dony Rodriguez** can provide support.



# Suitable course offerings for international students

<https://law.uq.edu.au/study/postgraduate/llm-courses-2025>

- *Fundamentals of the Common Law (LAWS7936)* (compulsory for LLM students from a non-common law background)
- *Private Law (LAWS7025)* - *only for LLM students from a non-common law background*
- *Principles of International Law (LAWS7710)*
- *International Human Rights Law (LAWS7156)*
- *International Refugee Law (LAWS7714)*
- *Law, Technology and Global Business (LAWS7855)*
- *International Admiralty and Maritime Law (LAWS7865)*
- *Theories in Dispute Resolution (LAWS7841)*
- *International Commercial Dispute Resolution (LAWS7028)*
- *Intellectual Property Law (LAWS7708)*
- *Internet and AI – Current Legal Issues Impacting Business (LAWS7725)*
- *International and Comparative Competition Law (LAWS7728)*



## Suitable course offerings for international students with common law background

- Commercial Equity Litigation (LAWS7835)
- Advanced Civil Litigation (LAWS7721)
- Interpretation of Statutes & Instruments (LAWS7709)

The above courses are only suitable for students who have a law degree from a common law country.







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# Dr Wenting Cheng

Senior Lecturer  
TC Beirne School of Law

# Find your strength and work on it





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# Law Life and Wellbeing

Dony Rodriguez

Student Support and Wellbeing Officer

# Dony Rodriguez

Student Support & Wellness Officer  
Office: W362

The UQ Law School, through its **Law life & wellbeing** co-curricular program, is proactively committed to supporting our student community and equipping you with the tools you need to thrive.

Studying law can be challenging and involve hard work, so maintaining your wellbeing throughout your journey is fundamental.

We have resources to assist you to practise self-care, connect with friends and access professional support if you need to.



[law.uq.edu.au/current-students/wellness](https://law.uq.edu.au/current-students/wellness)

[lawlife@uq.edu.au](mailto:lawlife@uq.edu.au)



# Law life & wellbeing

 **Coffee Catch Ups (International Students)**

 **Wellbeing Zones (Exam Weeks)**

 **Follow our social media accounts :**

‘UQ Law School’ on Facebook and LinkedIn

 **Pop up events for community building and social interactions**



**[law.uq.edu.au/current-students/wellness](http://law.uq.edu.au/current-students/wellness)  
[lawlife@uq.edu.au](mailto:lawlife@uq.edu.au)**





To learn more please visit: [sharperminds.psy.uq.edu.au](https://sharperminds.psy.uq.edu.au)

Recent research into Australian law students, suggests they are **2.4 times** more likely than medical students, and **3.5 times** more likely than the general population, to report **high, or very high levels of distress**.

Larcombe W, Malkin I, Nicholson P. Law students' motivations, expectations and levels of psychological distress: Evidence of connections. *Legal Education Review*. 2012;22(1/2):71-98.

**I have no or mild symptoms**

**WHO?**

- Sharper Minds website, self tracking app, short online courses

**WHERE?**

- See website or QR code below

**COST?**

- FREE for first year UQ students

**WAIT PERIOD?**

- None

**I have mild symptoms**

**WHO?**

- Talk to tutors and staff
- Mental health champions Mental Health Champions Network - About UQ - University of Queensland

**WHERE?**

- UQ Mental Health Champions network

**COST?**

- FREE

**WAIT PERIOD?**

- None

**I have moderate symptoms**

**WHO?**

- UQ Psychology Clinic, UQ Student Counselling Service, UQ with You

**WHERE?**

- UQ Union Complex or phone, Zoom or Skype

**COST?**

- FREE for UQ Student Counselling Service and UQ with You; \$25/hour UQ Psychology Clinic

**WAIT PERIOD?**

- Varies, typically a week or two

**I want individual therapy**

**WHO?**

- Visiting Psychologists
- Provisional Psychologists
- Visiting Psychiatrist

**WHERE?**

- UQ Medical Centres or UQ Psychology Clinic, Upland Road (opposite Union College)

**COST?**

- FREE / Bulk Billed at UQ Medical Centres, \$25/hour at UQ Psychology Clinic

**WAIT PERIOD?**

- Varies, typically a few weeks
- Varies, typically a week or two

**I want a referral for private therapy**

**WHO?**

- GP referral to private Psychologist or Psychiatrist

**WHERE?**

- UQ Medical Centres or your local GP

**COST?**

- FREE at UQ Medical Centres, local GPs may charge a gap fee

**WAIT PERIOD?**

- None

**I am in crisis**

**WHO?**

- Emergency Services call Campus Security (3365 3333)
- Suicide Call Back (1300 659 467)
- Student Counselling & Crisis Line (1300 851 998)

**COST?**

- FREE

**WAIT PERIOD?**

- None



# The Hub

A round-up of the latest news and events, just for **current UQ law students**.

Do you have something law-related to share with your peers? **Submit it here.**

Study opportunities  
Careers and Employability  
Events  
Life & Wellbeing  
Community

## In need of a chat? Check in with Dony

Whether it's a coffee catch up at Merlo or a check in via Zoom, your Law Student Support and Wellness Officer Dony is here for you. Learn how you can get to know your peers better, gain additional study support, explore different avenues available to improve your mental health and more.



» [law.uq.edu.au/current-students/the-hub](https://law.uq.edu.au/current-students/the-hub)

# UQ Pro Bono Centre

## Pro Bono Roster

- Dozens of legal **volunteering opportunities** each year, mostly in community legal centres and other not-for-profit organisations
- Some projects are **short-term** (for a few weeks) and others are **longer term**, like our case law database projects
- Our new **Rural, Regional and Remote Project (RRR)** enables students to travel to RRR areas to deliver legal services in RRR communities

Visit the Pro Bono Centre:  
[law.uq.edu.au/pro-bono](http://law.uq.edu.au/pro-bono)





# UQLS

## Graduate & International Students Portfolio

We have many exciting events planned this year for Graduate and International Students! Stay up to date with the UQLS Facebook and keep an eye out for our fun events!

Feel free to reach out to your representative for Graduate and International students anytime on: [graduateandinternationalofficer@uqls.com](mailto:graduateandinternationalofficer@uqls.com)

If you want to know more about life at an Australian university or who to talk to at TCB, we'd love you to get in touch!





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# English for Academic Communication: EAC Law





## Why attend EAC Law?

*New students not only have to learn their discipline, they also have to learn the language and genres of their discipline.*

*Academic English is nobody's mother tongue.*



# Overview

The EAC Law course was developed in conjunction with the School of Law and is a 6-week, discipline-specific program for postgraduate students from a non-English speaking background.

The course is delivered by UQ College teachers – specialists in teaching Academic English.

It focuses on developing written and spoken academic communication skills required for successful completion of postgraduate legal studies.

The course aligns closely to assessment for **Fundamentals of the Common Law (LAWS7936)**.



# EAC Law Course (Sem 1, 2025)

Semester Week	Date	EAC Content	Links to LAWS7936 Assessment
1	<b>Lecture Visit</b> 24th of February	Diagnostic Writing Task	
2	<b>Workshop One</b> 5th of March	Common Law and Legal English Vocabulary Unpacking the Research Plan assessment	Research Plan
3	<b>Workshop Two</b> 12th of March	Understanding subsections of research plan. Writing concise language	Research Plan
4	<b>Workshop Three</b> 19th of March	Understanding the assessment, marking criteria and material.	Assignment
5	<b>Workshop Four</b> 26th of March	Identifying strengths and weaknesses in academic essays.	Assignment
6	<b>Workshop Five</b> 2nd of April	Academic language skills connected to writing a comparative analysis.	Assignment
7	<b>Workshop Six</b> 9th of April	Conceptual strengths/weaknesses Editing, proofreading & peer review	Assignment

# So how can you register for EAC Law?

Semester Week	Date	EAC Content
1	<b>Lecture Visit</b> 24th of February	Diagnostic Writing Task



- ✓ We will visit the LAWS7936 Lecture next Monday (24/2).
- ✓ You will do a short writing task during the lecture period, so bring your laptop!
- ✓ We will then send you an email with some helpful feedback on your writing.
- ✓ We will also say if we think you might benefit from participating in the EAC Law Course.
- ✓ The email will contain details about how to register, and dates/location of the 6 workshops.

Got any questions? Drop us a line: [c.nuttall@uqcollege.uq.edu.au](mailto:c.nuttall@uqcollege.uq.edu.au)



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# Post Graduate Advisory Session

Daniel Lim

Coordinator, Academic Programs

# Contact

**Mr Daniel Lim**

Coordinator, Academic Programs

[pglaw@law.uq.edu.au](mailto:pglaw@law.uq.edu.au)

Ph: (07) 3365 1492

For assistance with administrative aspects of your study such as:

- Program rules
- Enrolment
- Credit or exemptions from previous study
- Progression checks and eligibility to graduate
- Cross-Institutional study

Email [pglaw@law.uq.edu.au](mailto:pglaw@law.uq.edu.au) with your query or if you wish to arrange a meeting.  
Meetings available in person at St Lucia.

Please quote your student ID number in all your written correspondence with the University.

# Important dates

- You should have enrolled in at least one course on mySI-net by now via [www.sinet.uq.edu.au](http://www.sinet.uq.edu.au)
  - If you have any issues email [pqlaw@law.uq.edu.au](mailto:pqlaw@law.uq.edu.au)
- Final date to add/drop courses freely: **7 March 2025**
- Final date to drop course without penalty (Census date): **31 March 2025**
- Final date to drop course without academic penalty but financial applies: **30 April 2025**
- LAWS7936 (Fundamentals of the Common Law) first class commences **24 February 2025**.  
Mandatory for LLM students from non-common law jurisdiction.

UQ academic calendar: <https://about.uq.edu.au/academic-calendar>

# Assessment Tips

## **Applying for extension**

- Do not submit assessments late! 10% penalty each day late and zero marks after 7<sup>th</sup> day.
- DO NOT simply email course coordinator for extension.
- Request for an extension through my.UQ (<https://my.uq.edu.au/>).
- More information on website: <https://my.uq.edu.au/information-and-services/manage-my-program/exams-and-assessment/applying-extension>

## **Plagiarism and Referencing**

- Intentional plagiarism will be treated as misconduct. If you are confused about what plagiarism means, please ask questions.
- Read 'Avoiding Plagiarism' attached in booklet.

## **Referencing and the AGLC4**

- Online module available through the UQ Library: <https://web.library.uq.edu.au/library-services/training/legal-research-essentials/introduction?p=6#6>
- Introduction to legal referencing video from the UQ Library: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zCnMAXAuxV0&t=277s>
- Contact: [librarians@library.uq.edu.au](mailto:librarians@library.uq.edu.au)



# School of Law Website

Most information about your program and courses is available from the Law School website.

For information on your program:

1. [www.law.uq.edu.au](http://www.law.uq.edu.au)
2. Go to 'Study' on the menu bar
3. Select 'Masters Guide' from the dropdown menu.
4. Select the option for your program

## Master of Laws

A tailor-made, unique and transformative learning experience at the premier Law School in Queensland. We offer world-class teaching quality and an extensive suite of law courses relevant for the legal profession in Australia and internationally. Our LLM (Master of Laws) program inspires independent and critical thinking about the law and legal methods, the application of law in contemporary legal practice, and how the future of law and legal practice may be impacted by digital disruption and new technologies.



**For qualified legal practitioners** seeking to gain advanced knowledge in their field of interest. Select from the broadest range of courses and research options.

[Prospective students - see program details and how to apply](#)

[See LLM courses offered in 2025](#)

[Download the brochure](#)

# Supervised Research Projects/Dissertations

Course Code	Units	Duration
<a href="#">LAWS7825</a>	2	One Semester
<a href="#">LAWS7944</a>	4	One Semester
<a href="#">LAWS7716</a>	4	Two Semesters commencing in Semester 1
<a href="#">LAWS7717</a>	4	Two Semesters commencing in Semester 2
<a href="#">LAWS7701</a>	8	One Semester
<a href="#">LAWS7718</a>	8	Two Semesters commencing in Semester 1
<a href="#">LAWS7719</a>	8	Two Semesters commencing in Semester 2

Application form:

<https://law.uq.edu.au/files/90639/Application%20for%20PG%20Research%20Project%20or%20Dissertation%20Form.pdf>

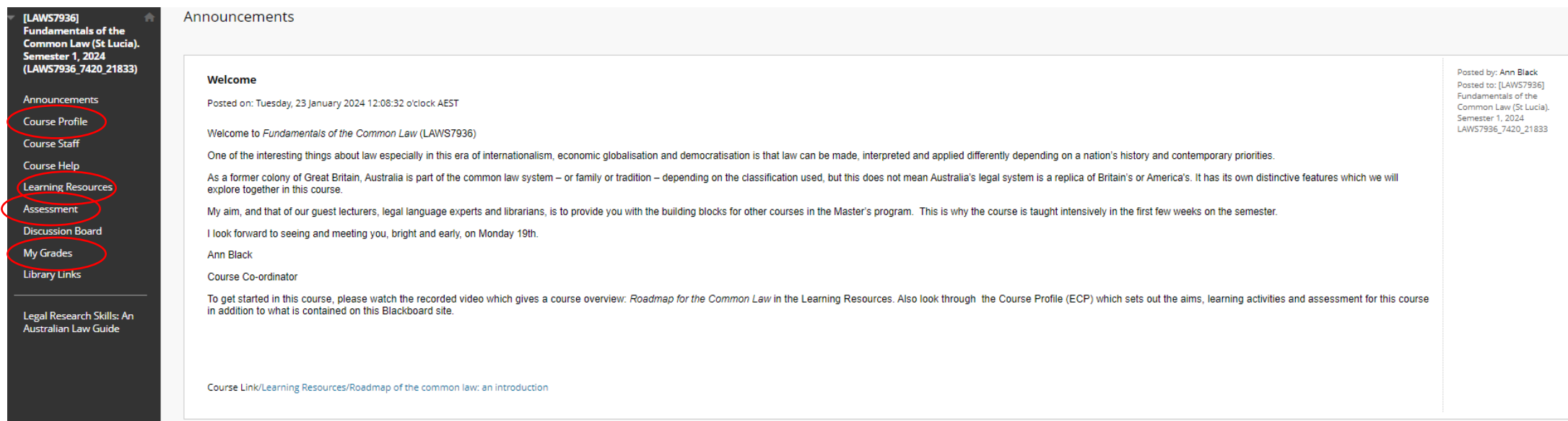
Only available after completing at least one semester of studies.

- UQ GPA of 4.5 to enroll in a #2 supervised research project, and a minimum UQ GPA of 5.5 to enroll in #4 and #8 dissertations.
- Supervisor must be from UQ Law School: <https://law.uq.edu.au/team/academic>
- Email application and proposal to [pqlaw@law.uq.edu.au](mailto:pqlaw@law.uq.edu.au) **no later than two weeks prior to the commencement of the semester** during which the project is to be undertaken.

# Week to week courses vs intensive courses

- Week to week usually means the course is semester long. Check timetable or ECP for details.
- Intensive usually means the course is taught over four days (sometimes six). Could be consecutive days or across weeks.
- Several courses are taught intensively. See the school website.
  - <https://law.uq.edu.au/current-students/course-information-and-support/postgraduate-intensive-timetable>
  - We recommend international students avoid enrolling in too many intensive courses in the first semester of study at UQ. It can be a bit overwhelming!

# Learn.UQ (Blackboard)



[LAWS7936]  
Fundamentals of the  
Common Law (St Lucia).  
Semester 1, 2024  
(LAWS7936\_7420\_21833)

Announcements  
Course Profile  
Course Staff  
Course Help  
Learning Resources  
Assessment  
Discussion Board  
My Grades  
Library Links

Legal Research Skills: An  
Australian Law Guide

## Announcements

### Welcome

Posted on: Tuesday, 23 January 2024 12:08:32 o'clock AEST

Welcome to *Fundamentals of the Common Law* (LAWS7936)

One of the interesting things about law especially in this era of internationalism, economic globalisation and democratisation is that law can be made, interpreted and applied differently depending on a nation's history and contemporary priorities.

As a former colony of Great Britain, Australia is part of the common law system – or family or tradition – depending on the classification used, but this does not mean Australia's legal system is a replica of Britain's or America's. It has its own distinctive features which we will explore together in this course.

My aim, and that of our guest lecturers, legal language experts and librarians, is to provide you with the building blocks for other courses in the Master's program. This is why the course is taught intensively in the first few weeks on the semester.

I look forward to seeing and meeting you, bright and early, on Monday 19th.

Ann Black  
Course Co-ordinator

To get started in this course, please watch the recorded video which gives a course overview: *Roadmap for the Common Law* in the Learning Resources. Also look through the Course Profile (ECP) which sets out the aims, learning activities and assessment for this course in addition to what is contained on this Blackboard site.

Posted by: Ann Black  
Posted to: [LAWS7936]  
Fundamentals of the  
Common Law (St Lucia).  
Semester 1, 2024  
LAWS7936\_7420\_21833

Course Link/Learning Resources/Roadmap of the common law: an introduction

<https://learn.uq.edu.au/>

Note: Some courses may have a different layout – New Blackboard Ultra!

# Student Central

For all administrative enquiries and information related to your student journey

- Academic records
- Admissions and changing programs
- Enrolment and fees
- Exams and calculator approvals
- Forms and certified documents
- Graduation queries
- Orientation and timetables
- Study (or academic progression)
- Withdrawing from a course or program

Student Central, Prentice (Building 42)  
Student.services@uq.edu.au  
1300 275 870 (option 2)  
Live chat: 8.30am to 4.30pm  
<https://my.uq.edu.au/student-support>

[facebook.com/uniofqld](https://facebook.com/uniofqld)

[Instagram.com/uniofqld](https://instagram.com/uniofqld)



# Student Services

Student Services provide assistance to all UQ students (and staff) via a number of services, including:

- Counselling
- Diversity, Disability & Inclusion
- Accommodation advice
- Financial Hardship
- International and remote Student Support
- Learning support
- Chaplaincy Services
- Mentoring
- Volunteering
- Student Staff Partnerships
- Campus Activations.





# BEL Student Centre

Contact us for help

Visit: Level 2 Colin Clark Building (39)

Email: [bel@uq.edu.au](mailto:bel@uq.edu.au)

Call: 3365 7111

[bel.uq.edu.au/for-students](http://bel.uq.edu.au/for-students)





# Business, Economics and Law Student Base

Level 1, Colin Clark Building

Your space to hang out, study and connect on campus!

The airconditioned study rooms, social courtyard and kitchenette are yours to enjoy.

Plus, keep an eye out for fun activities and giveaways happening in the space.

See you there!

Scan me!





# Your Support Services

Start your university journey with confidence. Find out about the range of support services available to you at UQ.



Thursday 20 February 2025  
10:00 - 11:15am  
Online







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# Questions?

[pglaw@law.uq.edu.au](mailto:pglaw@law.uq.edu.au)

Ph: +61 7 3365 1492



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# Orientation Feedback

Have your say: Help shape the orientation experience for UQ students



Be in with a chance to win 1 of 6 \$50 eGift vouchers. T&Cs apply.

