

# 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.



Congratulations and welcome to The University of Queensland



### Professor Rick Bigwood

Academic Dean and Head of School TC Beirne School of Law



### In this session:

01

Welcome!



02

**Getting Started at UQ** 



**Tips for success** 



**BEL Student Admin** 



Law Life & Wellbeing & Pro Bono Centre



06

**Law Library** 



07

**Student Society Panel** 



Q&A session



Survey

#### Which famous lawyer do you most relate to?



1. Atticus Finch To Kill a Mockingbird

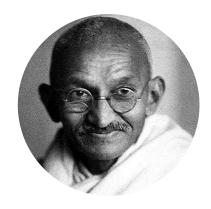


4. Ruth Bader Ginsburg
Former Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of
the United States



2. Elle Woods

Legally Blonde



5. Mahatma Gandhi
Lawyer, anti-colonial nationalist,
and political ethicist



3. Helen Tudor-Fisk Fisk



6. Harvey Specter Suits





## Which famous lawyer do you most relate to?

(i) Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

# First-year teaching team LAWS1700 & LAWS1701

#### LAWS1700 Foundations of Law

Semester 1, 2025

Dr Renato Costa
Course Coordinator



Professor
Justine Bell-James



# LAWS1701 Laws of Contract I: Principles of Contractual Agreement

Semester 1, 2025

Dr Rosemary Gibson
Course Coordinator



**Dr Wenting Cheng** 





# Succeeding in your first year

- This will be a big transition
- You must take **responsibility** for your own learning
- There are many resources to help you
- A quick plug for Rick Krever's Mastering Law Studies and Law Exam Techniques available online through the UQ Library site
- Professional courtesy Court Tour Program



### Beyond the classroom

Take advantage of co-curricular and extra-curricular programs

- Mooting
- UQ Pro Bono Centre and clinical legal education placements
- Join a student law society UQLS, JATL, UQILS, ALPSA
- 100+ other university societies
- Makes you a more rounded individual
- Send a good signal to prospective employers



Make sure to monitor your wellness

**Physical & mental** 



### Associate Professor Radha Ivory

Program Director, Bachelor of Laws (Honours)

TC Beirne School of Law



#### What am I going to study & when?

It depends on your Program

'Straight law' or dual degrees, the 'LLB' is common to element.

It has some core and some elective content.

The core content covers the material that you need to know to become admitted as a lawyer.

You need to take a certain number of electives too. But they cover diverse topics and you can choose which ones to take.

It's important that you follow your program by doing your courses in the right order.

You should be enrolled in LAWS1700 and LAWS1701 this semester.



#### What does a course look like?

At UQ, we call subjects 'courses'

A course may consist of lectures, seminars, online modules, as well as tutorials and workshops. Lectures and seminars start in week 1, tutorials generally start in week 2.

This year we have introduced specialised workshops designed to help with your high school – University transition and develop the necessary skills you will need to succeed in your degree.

You will experience a variety of delivery modes throughout law school (e.g. 1hr lecture and a 2hr seminar, 2hr lecture and 1hr tutorial, 3hr seminar).

You are expected to attend all your allocated classes as per your timetable.

All the details of what will happen in each course will be covered in the **Electronic Course Profile (ECP).** Just search for the course code.

Struggling with class sign-on? Visit: my.uq.edu.au/starting-at-uq



#### How does class allocation work?

Once you have added your courses for study each semester the university uses a system called Allocate + to assign an activity for your timetable.

It is a valuable step for you to participate in the Allocate + process each semester of your study, as this gives you an opportunity to plan your timetable early and be in the system ready to go!

You need to **select your activity preferences in My Timetable during the preferencing window**. Your preferences are taken into account during the sort process that will allocate students to activities. The popularity of each activity is visible to you throughout the process. The preference entry stage provides a more equitable solution for students.

**Preference Sort** - The preference sort is executed by the Central Timetabling team after you have entered your preferences. The allocation sort rules will use the rules configured by UQ and attempts to allocate students to their highest possible preference. On most occasions you will receive a place in an activity from the preferences that you have nominated.

If you don't receive any of the preferences that you have selected initially, don't be alarmed, you will receive a place. You can let the system allocate you or you can contact the Law School front office who can assist you with any special considerations.

**Student Allocation Adjustment** - During the adjustment/sort period, you can use My Timetable to select or change activities online if spaces are available. Adjustments are real-time and first-come/first-served. A waitlisted swap feature is also available for activities that are full. If a space becomes available, you will be allocated into the activity, and an email will be sent to confirm the change.

#### What is class time for?

Class time is a time where you can think about the knowledge being presented. It is time for you to **ask questions**, gain an understanding of the course content, get feedback on work and get some experience in using the knowledge.

Knowledge and experience don't just happen

– you have to be an active learner.



#### What should I do to keep up?

We manage the scheduled activities and provide information you need to know about what to study in the course on the **course Blackboard**.

Also closely **monitor your UQ email**. It is the 'inbox' for communications from UQ, including announcements from Blackboard sites.

It is up to you to **prepare for class**, complete any online modules or reading or seminar preparation required to participate, schedule in time to complete assessments.

Part of preparation is **planning**. Be a time realist, not an optimist!



#### When and how will I be assessed?

- Research Essays
- Seminar/tutorial preparation
- Case analysis
- Multiple choice exams
- Problem-based exams

- Presentations
- Drafting exercises
- Law reform submissions
- Moots (oral advocacy)

#### What if I can't make a deadline?

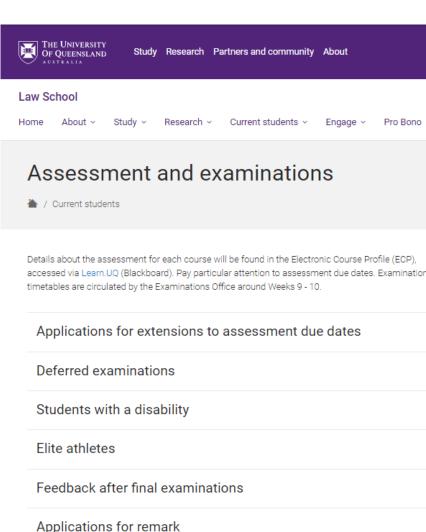
Or when can I get a 'deferred' or extension...

We know life happens.

In some situations, you can get permission to sit a later (deferred) exam or to hand in an assessment late without penalty (extension).

To be fair to everyone, those requests aren't handled by your teachers and are governed by a policy.

Note the first point on the 'Applying for an Assessment Extension' page: 'Don't leave assignment writing until the last minute. We encourage you to plan your workload so you can meet assessment deadlines.'



#### What if I cut corners (on my integrity)?

Don't cheat yourself out of a legal career... Are you 'fit and proper'?

- Always check and comply with the expectations for completing each piece of assessment, including around AI.
- Unless it is specified, you should assume that all assessable items in your courses are to be completed by you – alone (and without the assistance of AI).
- You must complete the Academic Integrity Modules (Part A and B) in the first semester.
- You must comply with the Student Code of Conduct which requires that you conduct your studies with fairness and integrity.

- A breach of the Code may result in an academic misconduct proceeding.
- Any breach or other misconduct will then lead to significant implications when you seek to be 'admitted' as a lawyer in the Supreme Court.

#### What's the big picture (for me)?

It's not all about (traditional legal) jobs and (professional) success

Learning at university is not just acquiring skills or knowledge to do a particular type of job.

It's about you becoming attuned to:

- the types of ideas and activities that light you up.
- the types of values that matter to you and the world as you see it.
- the ways of being with others that feels like nourishing relationships.

It's a process of discovery that involves adversity and failure, as well as smooth sailing and success on standard measures.



#### Tips for a successful first semester

Be organised & prepared



Keep an eye out for **deadlines** in each course



Check **blackboard** for your course regularly – that's how your teachers will communicate with you



Check your **UQ email** regularly



Think about the skills & knowledge you might need and who can help

#### **BEL Student Centre**

Do you have questions?

Visit: Level 2 Colin Clark Building (39)

8:30am - 4:30pm

During busy periods at the start of semester, pre-allocated drop-in sessions apply for each course. Check before you visit.

Email: bel@uq.edu.au

Call: (07) 3365 7111

bel.uq.edu.au/current-students





### Mark these dates!

Key semester dates you don't want to forget!

Date	The last day to
21 February	<ul><li>Enrol for international students (domestic students should have enrolled by now)</li><li>Enrol in at least 1 course in SI-net</li></ul>
7 March	Adding or changing courses  Due date for tuition fee payment
31 March	<ul> <li>Census date - this is the last date to drop courses without financial liability</li> </ul>
30 April	<ul> <li>Semester 1 last date to withdraw or cancel enrolment through SI-net without academic penalty. Financial liability will remain.</li> </ul>

### Course choice and information

How do you know what courses to take?

Refer to your **program plan** at:

bel.uq.edu.au/for-students/programcourse-advice

Student Administration Officers at the **BEL Student Centre** can help with course advice and progression checks.

In semester 1 of your first year, normally you enrol in LAWS1700 and LAWS1701





### **BEL Student Centre**

#### We're here to help you







Be aware of important dates affecting enrolment



Change program



Understand your program rules/requirements



Make sure you're on track to graduate







#### Dual programs

You may need to contact another faculty within UQ for advice specific to your other courses

**Bachelors of Computer Science / Laws (Honours)** 

**Bachelors of Journalism / Laws (Honours)** 

**Bachelors of Humanities / Laws (Honours)** 

**Bachelors of Arts / Laws (Honours)** 

**Bachelors of Business Management / Laws (Honours)** 

**Bachelors of Commerce / Laws (Honours)** 

**Bachelors of Economics / Laws (Honours)** 

**Bachelors of Science / Laws (Honours)** 



**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!





### Law life & wellbeing

Please download and install the Slido app on all computers you use





# What is your motivation to study law?

i Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

#### Dony Rodriguez

Student Support & Wellness Officer Director of Mooting

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

lawlife@uq.edu.au



#### Law life&wellbeing





Follow us on Facebook and LinkedIn 'UQ Law School'

Events for engagement with the profession, community building and social interactions





law.uq.edu.au/current-students/wellness lawlife@uq.edu.au

#### Law life & wellbeing

#### First-year support

 Check out the UQLS 'First Year Guide' and get involved with their first-year social events

#### **Connection and community**

Student Newsletter and 'The Hub'

#### **Effective learning and studying**

- UQLS PALS 'Peer Assisted Learning Sessions'
- Library courses/resources and Peer Assistants

#### Physical health and wellbeing

Law school running clubs or social sport teams

#### Diversity, disability and inclusion

 If you have a disability, mental health or medical condition, illness, injury or exceptional circumstance, there are services available to assist you with your studies – act early!









To learn more please visit: 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.















## 'The Hub'

» law.uq.edu.au/current-students/the-hub

Study opportunities

Careers and Employability

Events

Life & wellbeing

Community

#### 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.

# Power up your resume with VMock

BEL students now have access to

VMock – the smart resume checker
providing instant and personalised
feedback on your resume. You'll have
access to example templates, smart
nalytics and tailored suggestions to
ure your resume stands out. Click
above to get started.



# Health and wellbeing

UQ also provides a range of programs and counselling services to help improve your overall physical and mental wellbeing, including:

- Mental Health Champions Network
- UQ Ally Network
- Counselling
- UQ Psychology Clinic
- Health clinics
- UQ Sport.



# Scholarships

Do yourself a favour and investigate the numerous scholarships that are available throughout UQ

Scholarships range in terms of length, application dates, and eligibility

- The UQ Law School has multiple scholarships on offer every year: law.uq.edu.au/study/scholarships-prizes
- UQ also has various non-program specific scholarships: scholarships.uq.edu.au





# Scholarship Dates

Key deadlines you don't want to miss

Scholarship	Nationality	Eligibility	Closing Date
McCullough Robertson Endowed Scholarship for Law Students	Domestic	Students enrolling full-time in 2025 experiencing social, physical or economic challenges.	
Endowed Dr J & Dr M Fulcher Scholarship in Law	Domestic	Students enrolling full-time in 2025 experiencing demonstrated financial challenges.	21 February 2025
The UQLA Endowment Fund Scholarship	Domestic	Full-time students enrolled in 2025 experiencing financial hardship.	

# Beyond the classroom

# Work integrated learning (WIL)

There are various ways to gain invaluable legal work experience

- Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions:
   https://law.uq.edu.au/current-students/careers-overseas/work/odpp
  - Currently a 4-week summer/winter break intensive
  - Usually students apply after 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> year (after completing LAWS2708)
- Professional placements
  - UQLS & UQLA Barrister's Work Experience Program
  - UQ Forage (virtual placements): https://bel.uq.edu.au/for-students/careers/gain-experience
  - Legal Clinic & Barrister Assistance Team (Pro Bono Centre)
- New WIL Electives in progress for 2025-2026:
   https://law.uq.edu.au/study/undergraduate-study/flexible-core-course-list-2025
- Summer & Winter Research Scholar Program: https://employability.uq.edu.au/summerwinter-research
- Research Assistants Register: https://law.uq.edu.au/about/positions-vacant/researchassistant-register



# Mooting

Sharpen your advocacy skills and prepare for the courtroom.

Join in legal advocacy competitions as an extra-curricular activity and for course credit.

Moot competitions are a tradition in law schools – they provide the opportunity for you to learn from experienced legal professionals and bring out the best advocate in you.

You will join a team that will argue a hypothetical case on appeal in a simulated courtroom against another student team. Each team researches their case and presents written and oral submissions, with feedback and advice from your coach along the way.



## **External Competitions**

Go further and apply to represent our school in **national** and **international competitions**.

UQ has a proud history of success in international competitions. In the later years of your undergraduate degree, you can participate in a selection of international competitions

Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot, the world's oldest and largest moot competition. UQ was victorious for the third time in 2018 and placed 6<sup>th</sup> in 2022.

Willem C. Vis International Arbitration Moot in international commercial law. UQ finished third out of 260 teams in 2020. Winner of the London LSE-LCIA Pre-Moot in 2022. Quarterfinalists in 2023.

International Maritime Law Arbitration Moot involving a dispute about commercial maritime law. UQ was victorious in 2023 for the 10<sup>th</sup> time overall.



## **Internal Competitions**

The UQ Law Society (UQLS) offers an array of legal advocacy opportunities for law students

Whether you want to negotiate deals, interview clients, examine a witness, or present submissions, the UQLS has the competitions for you.

Their competitions provide excellent experience for students looking to get involved in the school's external advocacy program.

Look out for their workshops on 'how to moot', 'how to negotiate'. Read their 'Raise the Bar' guide for competitors.

Mediation, Senior Moot, Senior Client Interviewing, Junior Negotiation

Witness Examination, Junior Moot, Junior Client Interviewing, Senior Negotiation

Questions? Email externalcompetitions@uqls.com.



# Bachelor of Laws (Hons) Court Tour

Registration is essential

Choose between either the morning or afternoon session

• Morning Session – 8:30am arrival for a 9am start

Afternoon Session – 12:30pm arrival or a 1pm start

Date: Friday, 21 February 2025

**Location:** Supreme and District Courts, 415 George

Street, Brisbane City, QLD, 4000

Register by scanning the QR code!





## **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
- **Short-term** (for a few weeks) and **longer-term** projects. Projects include writing legal resources, undertaking research for community legal centre partners, case law databases, and providing legal education in community.

#### **LAWS5180 Clinical Legal Education**

- 9 Brisbane-based clinics in partnership with local community legal centres including Environmental Defenders' Office, Refugee and Immigration Legal Service and LawRight. Students work one day per week across a semester for #2 credit.
- Rural, Regional and Remote Project (RRR) summer and winter clinics based in regional centres (eg Townsville and Toowoomba) for students returning home over those periods.
- Students must have completed at least #16 units of LAWS courses.

#### Visit the Pro Bono Centre: law.uq.edu.au/pro-bono

Hear from former UQ Law students at the Pro Bono Centre 'Pizza Panel' on 7 March





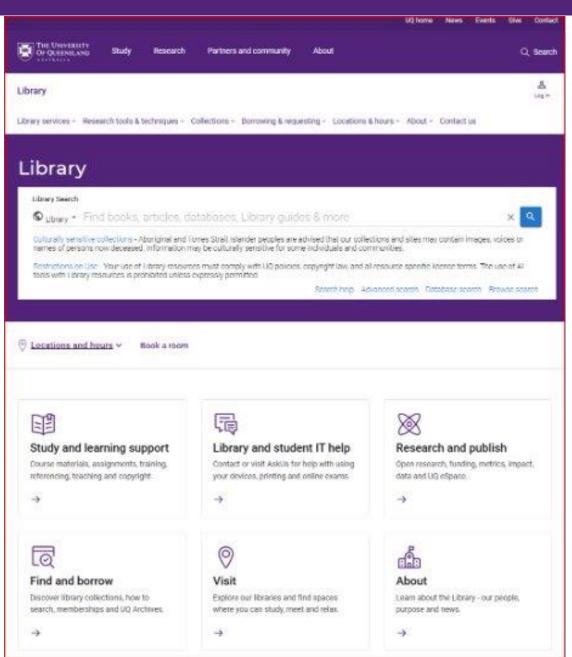
# Library

Maria Larkin - Outreach Librarian

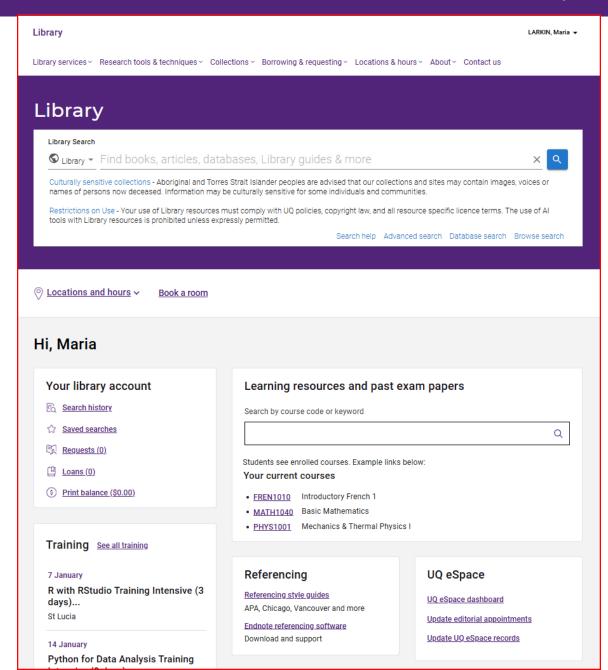




Library website



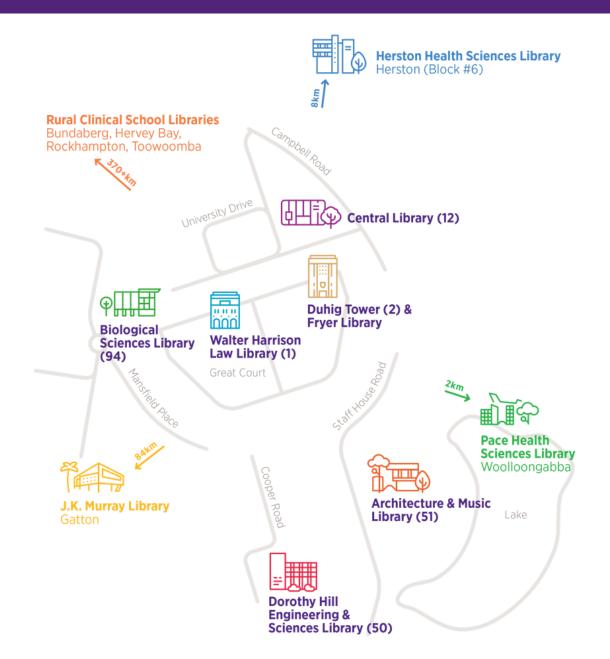
# Library website - logged in





# Library locations







# Walter Harrison Law Library

#### Level 2

- AskUs Virtual Desk
- Kitchenette
- Room W4202 training or study



#### Level 3

- Monograph collection books
- Statutes and law reports
- Journals
- · Individual study spaces
- UQ Law Alumni Textbook Collection



#### Level 4

- Individual study spaces
- Standing desks
- Group rooms





# Law Library Peer Assistants

- hunting for that elusive textbook?
- looking for the perfect study spot?
- just trying to figure out how borrowing works?

Look out for Jaziba, Jerica & Shell!





# Legal Research Skills

#### **Legal Research Essentials**

The University of Queensland Library

This guide is for students at The University of Queensland studying law. It covers legal research, the role secondary sources plays, case law, the parliamentary process and finding legislation.



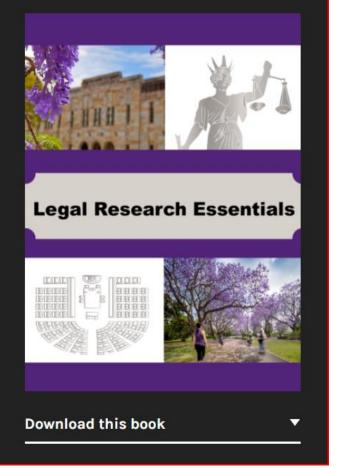




Creative Commons Attribution NonCommercial

**READ BOOK** 





Legal Research Essentials [Pressbook]



## **Generative Al**



### Al in your learning

Discover how AI is changing the way you study and how it can support your learning.





# Ethical and responsible use of Al

Use AI responsibly to support your learning while maintaining fairness, trust, and academic integrity.



#### UQ's rules for using AI

Understand UQ's rules on using AI in assessments and maintaining academic integrity.





## Al access and training

Explore AI tools available for free to all students at UQ. Access free training workshops and self-paced quides.



#### Acknowledge and reference AI use

Learn how to properly acknowledge and reference Al tools in your academic work.





# Shaping UQ's AI future - have your say

Learn how UQ students are influencing Al policy and decisions at UQ. You can help shape UQ's Al policies by sharing your feedback and ideas. UQ has information and resources for students regarding Generative AI, centralised in the AI Student Hub.

UQ provides **free access** to Microsoft Copilot and Adobe Creative cloud software including Firefly.

Students can use any AI they like, and the AI Student Hub includes guidance on responsible use and expectations for academic integrity.



Learn more: bit.ly/ai-student-hub



# How we can help you

Library home page - contact us

#### Contact the AskUs Service for

help with borrowing

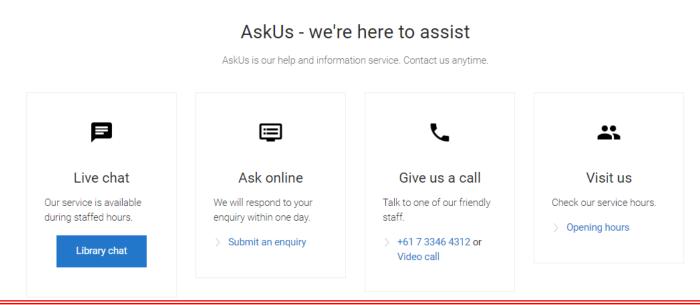
membership enquiries

student IT queries

'live' assistance with locating library materials

#### Contact the Librarian team for

- assistance with legal research
- referencing queries/resources access
- consultations book an appointment



#### Ways to contact your librarians

#### Email us

Email librarians@library.uq.edu.au for assistance. Please include:

- . as much detail as you can to help us answer your question
- any documents or attachments relevant to your query.

We will respond within one business day.

#### Book an appointment

Book an appointment (UQ login required)

Find Librarian appointments and select your faculty

# Law Student Societies Panel









# Q&A

#### slido

Please download and install the Slido app on all computers you use





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# **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





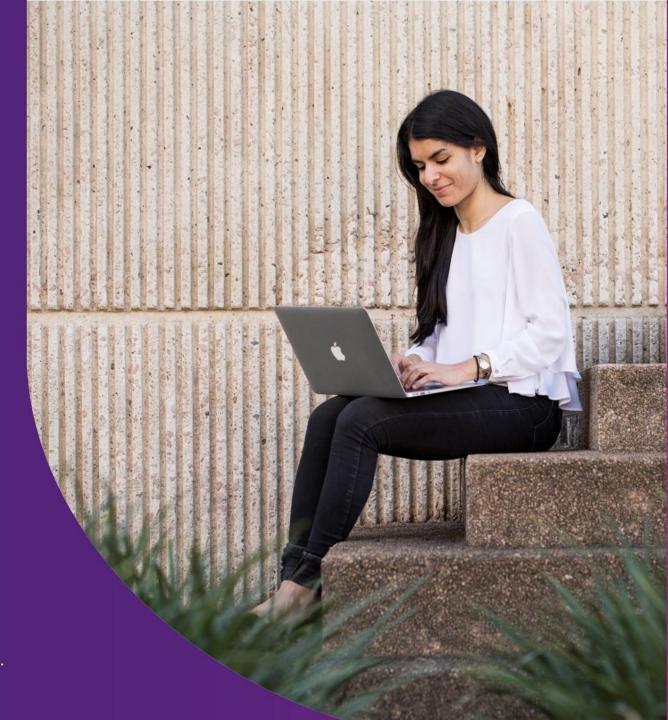
CREATE CHANGE

## 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.



# Next steps!

# 1. Before leaving this lecture theatre, please ensure you have 'checked-in' with a BEL Buddy or Staff Member

- To help with the process, please try and locate your Eventbrite registration email which has the QR code for scanning.
- Once you've checked-in, you will receive a 'Bachelor of Laws (Honours)' wristband
  to give you access to the rest of the BELfest festival and other orientation activities
  today.

# 2. The next activity will start at 10am in the UQ Centre Exhibition Hall (just outside these doors, across the foyer)

 Use this time for a quick bathroom break if needed. Bathrooms are located to the right-hand side as you exit the lecture theatre doors.

# Thank you for joining!