

UWA Law School

Business Law Major





For over 80 years, the UWA Law School has provided an outstanding legal education to undergraduate students wishing to enter the legal profession. We will continue to provide this training but, in future, it will only be available to students at the postgraduate level, through the new Juris. Doctor (JD) degree program. The advent of this change in the way in which we offer professional legal education, brought about by the introduction of UWA's *New Courses 2012*, has provided us with the opportunity to expand our reach through the provision of a new undergraduate 'major' in Business Law.



The Business Law Major will provide undergraduate students with a thorough grounding in the principles and concepts of the law affecting business transactions and will develop in students a combination of knowledge and skills that are of great value to anyone engaged in the conduct of business. Law is a fundamental business discipline and legal concepts, such as the fiduciary duties owed by directors of a company, the basic principles of the law of contract and the law of torts and the nature of different types of property are all vital to the conduct of commerce in our society. The Business Law Major will introduce students to this and much other important,

interesting and challenging material.



In addition, although successful completion of the Business Law Major is not a pre-requisite for entry into the postgraduate Juris Doctor program, it is nonetheless the case that studying for a Business Law Major offers students who are contemplating undertaking the JD two important advantages:

- (1) It provides them with an early opportunity to familiarise themselves with the Law School and to meet and make friends with many of our current students and members of the academic staff.
- (2) It will also provide students with an invaluable 'pre-law' grounding in legal reasoning and legal method and a basic working knowledge of the fundamental commercial law principles that underpin the Australian legal system.

The Business Law Major may be taken as a 'degree-specific' major within the Bachelor of Commerce or as a second major in any of UWA's five new undergraduate degrees.

- The Business Law Major will equip you with high-level analytical, problem solving, research, and communication skills.
- Take it because you want to ... (can you think of some reasons why you would want to take such a major?)



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'In recent years there has been a clear and consistent trend escalating the accountability and the potential personal liability of professionals, business managers and public servants. There has also been increasing statutory intervention into the everyday running of business enterprises. Nowadays business managers and professional persons constantly find themselves confronted by the need to make decisions with significant, and often frightening, legal ramifications. As a result the line between "business" decisions and "legal" issues is becoming increasingly blurred. Which is why all university graduates planning to enter into the business world should, nowadays, have a grounding in basic legal concepts and a reasonable familiarity with those areas of the law that are directly relevant to their particular profession or business. This is why students who graduate with a Business Law Major so often find that it is a qualification which is highly attractive to prospective employers.'

Peter D. Sinden BA. LL.B. (Hons) (Qld) LL.M. (Lond) ASM. Associate Professor and Director of Business Law Faculty of Law, University of Western Australia



# Majors in the Bachelor of Commerce

### Accounting

Marketing

#### **Business Law**

Economics (double or single major)
Finance
Human Resource Management
Management

## You can take any of these:

- as a degree-specific major
- or as a second major



NB: If you take any of these majors as degree-specific majors, you will need to also take these complementary units:

- ECON1101Microeconomics: Prices and Markets
- MKTG1203 Marketing Management
- MGMT1135 Organisational Behaviour
- STAT1520 Economic and Business Statistics



# What careers will the Business Law Major prepare me for?

- The Business Law Major has been designed to meet the needs of students who are planning careers in accountancy, business management, marketing, human resources, international trade, banking and finance, public service, industrial relations, and related professions and business endeavours.
- It is important to recognise that the skills and knowledge that students
  will acquire while undertaking the suite of units that comprise the
  Business Law Major are relevant, not just to the Australian legal system,
  but also to the legal and commercial environment of the many other
  countries around the world whose modern domestic law is based on the
  English "common law".

## **Business Law Unit Sequence**



#### **LEVEL ONE CORE UNITS**

Financial Accounting Introduction to Law

#### **LEVEL TWO CORE UNITS**

Company Law Legal Framework of Business Taxation

#### **LEVEL THREE CORE UNITS**

Finance Law International Commercial Law Marketing, Management and the Law



## **Business Law Major**



Course Study Plan: CSP002-BSLAW

Degree: BP002 Bachelor of Commerce

Degree-specific major: MJD-BSLAW Business Law (two Level 1 units + three Level 2 units + three Level 3 units)

YEAR 1	Semester 1	1 ACCT1101*	<b>♦</b> ECON1101*	<b>♦</b> MKTG1203	A BROADENING
	Semester 2	1 LAWS1104	<b>♦</b> MGMT1135*	<b>♦</b> STAT1520*	<b>▲</b> BROADENING
YEAR 2	Semester 1	1 ACCT2331	1 LAWS2201	A BROADENING	<b>№</b> ELECTIVE
	Semester 2	1 LAWS2301	BROADENING	(E) ELECTIVE	<b>ELECTIVE</b>
YEAR 3	Semester 1	1 LAWS3306	1 LAWS3328	<b><u> € ELECTIVE</u></b>	<b>№</b> ELECTIVE
	Semester 2	1 LAWS3308	<b>©</b> ELECTIVE	<b>©</b> ELECTIVE	<b>©</b> ELECTIVE

Key: ■ Degree-specific major unit AF Broadening unit: Category A or B 🔸 Complementary unit 🌘 Elective

This study plan is an example of a full-time load of four units per semester.

The standard minimum completion time for a bachelor's degree is three years. The maximum completion time is 10 years.

For course advice find out which Student Office you are assigned to via studentConnect.

You can download course study plans from <a href="http://handbooks.uwa.edu.au">http://handbooks.uwa.edu.au</a>

<sup>\*</sup> This unit is available in semester 1, semester 2.

# A Student Perspective



'From the first unit I took in subject, I found Business Law really interesting in that it gave me a chance to look at businesses and commercial transactions from a different perspective. My studies have covered a wide range of topics including company law and finance law, e-commerce and marketing law. They're always applicable both to the work you do in your degree as well as normal life. Assignments in Commerce usually involve the use of numbers to solve a problem, so the Business Law classes are a good change of pace where we look at a problem, pick out the relevant facts and interpret them to find a solution. The lecturers and tutors are all very knowledgeable and understand that you don't have a legal background, so the classes are really enjoyable and you learn a lot. I'm really happy I chose to study Business Law—I'd recommend it to anyone!'

Catherine Mah (Business Law)



Catherin Mah is currently studying Business Law, Finance and Accounting. She is President of SIFE UWA, and has led projects to address hunger and reduce carbon emissions.

For further information visit www.studyat.uwa.edu.au/business-law