Legal Studies Foundation

15 TCE Points





In addition to a final research project of your choosing, you will work through the following units:

Unit 1: Laws, legal and non-legal rules: why do we have them?

In our first unit, we explore how laws exist to maintain order, protect rights and uphold justice, and explore the difference between civil, criminal, common and statute law.

Unit 2: The three levels of government in Australia

Australia's government operates at federal, state, and local levels, each with distinct roles and responsibilities, where shared powers can create both efficiency and potential overlap.

Unit 3: Police powers and policing

Law enforcement is divided among local by-law officers handling community regulations, state police managing crime investigation and public safety, and federal police overseeing Commonwealth law enforcement, organised crime, and national security.

Unit 4: Consumer Law

We cover contracts, the rights and responsibilities of traders and consumers, protections against fraud and identity theft and consumer rights related to refunds and complaints.

Unit 5: Family Law

Marriage, divorce, de facto relationships, property settlements and parental responsibilities.

Unit 6: Employment Law

Employment law regulates workplace rights and obligations, different work categories and pay structures, employment agreements and the legal duty of employers to ensure workplace safety.

How you'll be assessed:

Common types of internal assessments include:

Short tests, research reports, visual tasks and group assignments

To be successful in this subject, students require:

- Consistent attendance and a commitment to completing all required work
- A willingness to engage in class discussions and group tasks

There is no external assessment for this subject.

Completion of Work Policy

Assessment due dates are provided in the Program of Learning and on Canvas. Work must be submitted by the due date unless an approved extension has been granted. Unapproved late submissions will incur penalties as outlined in the *Completion of Work Policy*. Students needing extensions should contact their subject teacher before the due date with valid reasons, such as illness or unforeseen circumstances.

For more details refer to the Launceston College: Completion of Work Policy.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

All senior secondary students in Tasmania are expected to uphold academic integrity, meaning they complete their work honestly and fairly. This includes properly referencing any ideas, images, or information borrowed from others, allowing teachers to distinguish between original and sourced content.

Assignments will be submitted through Canvas, email, hard copy as directed in the task sheet.

For more details, refer to the Launceston College: Academic Integrity Policy.

REFERENCING

The APA referencing system is recommended for Legal Studies Foundation. The standards for Criterion 1 state that a student must:

- Create reference lists/bibliographies
- Draws logical conclusions supported by relevant arguments and evidence.

COURSE DOCUMENT

The TASC website provides considerable information about the course. <u>Legal Studies - Foundation - TASC</u>

OTHER COURSE REQUIREMENTS

There are no specific requirements for this course. However, we do undertake a number of local excursions throughout the year, including to the Launceston City Council Town Hall, the Courts (Supreme and/or Magistrates) and the Launceston Police Station. It is therefore important that you have ticked 'yes' on the Minor Excursions Approval form sent out to all students at the start of the year.

Week	Date	Program of Learning 2025	Notes / Assessments
1	6 Feb	Unit 1: Laws, legal and non-legal rules	Yr 11s and 12's return February 6 (Thursday)
2	10 Feb	Laws and customs; Human Rights	AT1: Group PPT on social issues and the law
3	17 Feb	Separation of Powers	
4	24 Feb	Criminal and Civil Law	Wed 26 Feb – Launceston Cup
5	3 Mar	The Adversary System	
6	10 Mar	Changing the law; Customary law	Mon 10 Mar – Public Holiday AT2: Summative test
7	17 Mar	Unit 2: Three levels of government	
8	24 Mar	Constitution and Federation	AT3: Multimodal Task – 'How a law is made'
9	31 Mar	Division of Powers	
10	7 Apr	State government and local councils	AT4: Case Study or Report
Term 1 break – Saturday 12 April – Sunday 27 April			
1	28 Apr	Unit 3: Police powers and policing	
2	5 May	Powers of arrest	AT5: Police posters
3	12 May	Juvenile offenders	
4	19 May	Firearm control; Drug-related offences	
5	26 May	Forensic evidence	AT6: Case Study or Report
6	2 June	Court hierarchy; AFP	Fri 6 June - Moderation Day (LC students work from home)
7	9 June	Unit 4: Consumer Law	Mon 9 June – Public Holiday AT7: Product testing and reviews
8	16 June	Ethical consumerism; Contracts	
9	23 June	Scams and ID theft	Mid-Year Assessments Level 3 & 4 Start Thursday 26 th June – Thursday 3 rd July
10	30 June	Dispute resolution	AT8: Consumer dispute resolution
		Term 2 break – Saturday 5 July – Su	·
1	21 July	Unit 5: Family Law	AT9: Group research task
2	28 July	Divorce	
3	4 Aug	Parenting rights	
4	11 Aug	Property division	AT10: Summative test
5	18 Aug	Catch-up week	
6	25 Aug	Unit 6: Employment Law	
7	1 Sep	Modern Awards and Agreements	AT11: Booklet
8	8 Sep	Fair Work Commission; Unions	
9	15 Sep	Whistleblowers; Discrimination	
10	22 Sep	Workplace disputes	AT12: Workplace disputes task (optional)
Term 3 break – Saturday 27 September – Sunday 12 October			
1	13 Oct		AT13: Independent Research Task
2	20 Oct	Work requirement: Research task	
3	27 Oct		
4	3 Nov		Mon 3 Nov – Public Holiday
Exams begin (Monday 10 th November) - Exams end (Thursday 20 th November)			

ASSESSMENT

Criterion-based assessment helps students see how well they're meeting course outcomes at the end of their study. While there is continuous feedback to guide learning, final assessments focus on showing what students have achieved by the end. Ratings are given as 'A', 'B', or 'C', based on course standards. A 't' indicates partial achievement below a 'C', and a 'z' means no evidence provided.

Schools follow TASC's quality assurance to keep standards consistent. More details are on the <u>TASC website</u>. For Legal Studies Foundation, final awards are based on internal assessments only.

Criteria

The assessment for Legal Studies – Foundation Level 2 will be based on the degree to which the learner can:

- 1. Communicate legal ideas and information
- 2. Plan and organise to complete legal-related activities
- 3. Describe need for law, its sources and categories
- 4. Describe levels of government in Australia
- 5. Describe powers and jurisdictions of the different levels of law enforcement in Australia
- 6. Describe Australian consumer law and its application
- 7. Describe Australian family law and its application
- 8. Describe Australian employment law and its application

Award Requirements

The final award will be determined by the Office of Tasmanian Assessment, Standards and Certification from 8 ratings.

The minimum requirements for an award in Legal Studies – Foundation Level 2 are as follows:

EXCEPTIONAL ACHIEVEMENT (EA)

6 'A' ratings, 2 'B' ratings

HIGH ACHIEVEMENT (HA) 3 'A' ratings, 4 'B' ratings, 1 'C' rating

COMMENDABLE ACHIEVEMENT (CA)

4 'B' ratings, 3 'C' ratings

SATISFACTORY ACHIEVEMENT (SA)

7 'C' ratings

PRELIMINARY ACHIEVEMENT (PA)

5 'C' ratings

A learner who otherwise achieves the rating for a SA (Satisfactory Achievement) award but who fails to show any evidence of achievement in one or more criteria ('z' notation) will be issued with a PA (Preliminary Achievement) award.