

Changes to the curriculum of the JD

Faculty of Law

Improvements to the curriculum of the JD were agreed at a meeting of Faculty Board on Wednesday 25 July 2007. The changes will take effect in early 2008 to coincide with the T1-2008 intake of new students. The overall aim of the changes is to provide increased subject choice, greater flexibility in the timing of units and the opportunity to study in Prato and Malaysia.

The course is renamed Master of Laws (Juris Doctor), compulsory status is removed from three units and new, JD specific, electives have been created.

Removal of compulsory status

The following units will no longer be compulsory

- LAW7276 Principles of taxation
- LAW7251 Negotiation and Mediation skills OR its alternate LAW7071 Commercial alternative dispute resolution
- CHB5288 Ethical issues in legal and professional life

New JD electives

- LAW7421 Overseas study and research A
- LAW7422 Overseas study and research B

The faculty runs a successful Prato program which has proved very popular with LLB students. However, the Prato offering consists of undergraduate units. This has precluded the involvement of JD students who are not generally permitted to enrol in LLB units. The faculty also teaches the undergraduate unit LAW4126E Asian legal systems in Malaysia and may expand its list of undergraduate units taught in Malaysia in the future.

Teaching resources and likely demand from students do not permit the offering of separate 'JD only' units at the overseas campuses. The creation of these new units will allow JD students to enrol in the 'Overseas study and research' units in conjunction with attendance at the scheduled classes in Prato or Malaysia for specified LLB units.

JD students will therefore be able to participate in the international programs via units with an international focus which are available only in Prato or Malaysia

- LAW7423 Professional practice (JD)
(this is a 12 credit point unit)

The creation of this new unit will enable JD students to take advantage of the clinical program run from Monash Oakleigh Legal Service without having to wait for the PDLP stage of the LLM(LP).

Opportunity to transfer

The chart set out on the following pages is designed to help you to decide whether you wish to transfer into the curriculum available from T1 2008 onwards.

- The left hand column shows the current course requirements for JD and LLM(LP) students.
- The right hand column shows the curriculum that will be available to new students from 2008 and into which existing students may choose to transfer.

Benefits of transfer

If you choose to transfer you will have fewer compulsory units, will gain access to the new units involving study in Prato or Malaysia and will have the chance to take part in a clinical unit at Monash Oakleigh Legal Service.

Disadvantages of transfer

By transferring you will become subject to a restriction on the number of credit points that may be undertaken through 'skills' units and, as you will no longer be an LLM(LP) student, you will not have an automatic place in the online PDLP.



Summary of changes to the curriculum of the JD

LLM(LP) students JD students (2006 and 2007 intakes)	New students in 2008 Students who transfer to the 2008 version
<p>Foundational units – compulsory/core</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LAW7212 Australian legal system LAW7079 Legal research and communication 	<p>Foundational units – compulsory/core</p> <p>No change</p>
<p>CoLE units – compulsory/core</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LAW7264 Principles of criminal law LAW7265 Principles of contract law LAW7267 Principles of property law LAW7269 Principles of equity LAW7270 Advanced property law LAW7271 Principles of trusts LAW7275 Principles of corporations law LAW7268 Principles of constitutional law LAW7266 Principles of torts LAW7272 Principles of civil procedure LAW7273 Principles of evidence LAW7274 Principles of administrative law LAW7277 Advanced corporations law <p>The final offering of LAW7265 is expected to take place in T1 2008. Thereafter the following units will be available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LAW7428 Principles of contract A LAW7429 Principles of contract B 	<p>CoLE units – compulsory/core</p> <p>LAW7265 Principles of contract will be split into two units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LAW7428 Principles of contract law A and LAW7429 Principles of contract law B <p>Transitional arrangement</p> <p>If you transfer after successfully completing LAW7265 you will not be required, nor permitted, to undertake the new units.</p>
<p>Other compulsory/core</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LAW7276 Principles of taxation law LAW7251 Neg/Med or LAW7071 CADR CHB5288 Ethical issues in legal and professional life <p>These units will continue to be compulsory for LLM(LP) students and any students who enrolled directly into the JD in 2006 or 2007.</p> <p>They will be offered once in each calendar year and are also open to students in the Graduate Diploma and Masters programs. If you choose not to transfer to the new curriculum and are due to take these units in 2008 you should enrol in them before WES closes in December to ensure that you are given priority in the class lists.</p> <p>NB Students who were enrolled prior to T3 2006 were originally required to undertake</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LAW7213 Law of the Internet LAW7083 Law of Employee relations LAW7223 Overview of Intellectual Property. <p>Since April 2006 these units have not been compulsory and may be replaced by electives.</p>	<p>Other compulsory/core</p> <p>None</p> <p>These units will be available as electives to LLM(Juris Doctor) students.</p>

LLM(LP) students JD students (2006 and 2007 intakes)	New students in 2008 Students who transfer to the 2008 version
<p>Electives from LLM offering</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 units from the list of LLM units (subject to the few prohibited combinations). <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 units from the list of LLM units plus the current LLM(LP)/JD elective <p>LAW7331 Lawyers' responsibilities</p>	<p>Electives from LLM offering</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 units from the list of LLM units (subject to the few prohibited combinations) <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A combination of LLM units and JD specific electives (subject to the restriction set out below)
<p>Elective available to LLM(LP) and JD students</p> <p>LAW7331 Lawyers' responsibilities</p> <p>This unit is required to meet the CoLE requirements in respect of 'Professional Conduct including basic trust accounts' although it is possible to complete the JD without it.</p> <p>You should undertake this as an elective if you plan to seek admission to practice and are not certain that you will be undertaking the Monash PDLP.</p> <p>In 2008 LAW7331 Lawyers' responsibilities will be offered in T2 and T3</p>	<p>LLM(Juris Doctor) specific electives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LAW7331 Lawyers' responsibilities LAW7421 Overseas study and research A LAW7422 Overseas study and research B LAW7423 Professional Practice (JD) (this is a 12 credit point unit)
	<p>Restriction on electives</p> <p>You may take no more than 18 credit points in total from the following units:</p> <p>6 credit point units</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LAW7303 Advocacy: theory and practice LAW7251 Negotiation, mediation and process management skills LAW7071 Commercial alternative dispute resolution LAW7312 Advanced negotiations and mediation skills <p>12 credit point unit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LAW7423 Professional practice (JD)
<p>Opportunity to 'alt-exit' with the Juris Doctor (JD)</p> <p>LLM(LP) students may choose to exit at this stage with a JD or complete the 48 credit point PDLP curriculum to graduate with the LLM(LP).</p>	<p>Course complete with Master of Laws (Juris Doctor)</p>
<p>Curriculum of the Postgraduate Diploma in Legal Practice</p> <p>This includes two 3 credit point units</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LAW7403 Ethics and professional responsibility; and LAW7410 Trust and office accounting <p>which together cover the area of 'Professional Conduct including basic trust accounts'</p>	
<p>Students following all the above curriculum will graduate with the award Master of Laws (Legal Practice, Skills and Ethics) and will be eligible for admission to practice</p>	<p>Students following all the above curriculum will graduate with the award Master of Laws (Juris Doctor) and will need to undertake articles of clerkship or a separate PLT in order to be eligible for admission to practice</p>

Futher information

Monash University Law Chambers
472 Bourke Street
Melbourne, Victoria 3000

Phone: +61 3 9641 6220
Fax: +61 3 9641 6298

Email: monashjd@law.monash.edu.au

www.law.monash.edu.au/jd