

# FIRST YEAR GUIDE

## 2017



**DEAKIN**  
LAW STUDENTS' SOCIETY

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# THE DLSS

## WHAT IS THE 'DLSS'?

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The Deakin Law Students' Society is the oldest and one of the largest student societies at Deakin University. We are a student run organisation dedicated to assisting all Deakin Law students to make the most of their time at university.

We pride ourselves on the ability to provide relevant and interesting information to students at Deakin. Our seven portfolios provide a broad range of services, from helping you to achieve your dream job to hosting exciting social events!

## LET'S KEEP IN TOUCH!

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[www.deakinlss.org](http://www.deakinlss.org)



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Room EA2.17,  
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# PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

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A warm welcome from the President of  
the DLSS for 2017, Erin Ritchie

Congratulations First Year Law Students! This is a very exciting time for you as you embark on your studies at Deakin.

Deakin Law School is a diverse and supportive community that I invite and encourage all of you to get involved in.

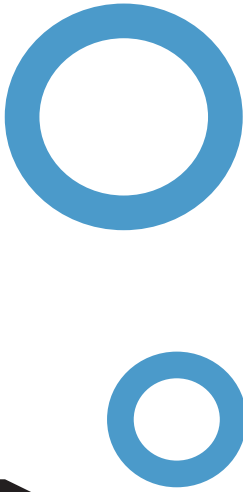
The Deakin Law Students' Society is primarily a body for Deakin Law Students and is here to represent your interests. Get out your diaries and fill them up with events and projects from our various portfolios: Activities, Careers, Competitions, Communications, Education and Marketing.

Whether you are looking to develop a new skill, compete in competitions, explore your career options or meet other students there is something for everyone! This guide is filled with helpful information and tips to get you started at Deakin. If you need further information the committee members of the Society are always keen and willing to assist you wherever possible. You have a very exciting time ahead of you, and look forward to meeting each and every one of you in the near future. I wish you all the best for your time at Deakin, wherever your journey may take you.

Erin Ritchie | **President**

# MEET THE TEAM

# 2017



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# WHAT'S ON?



## **BLACK OUT PUB CRAWL**

2nd March (O-Week)

Tickets @ DLSS stall

The 2017 Black Out Pub Crawl features 3 exclusive locations in St Kilda, which are revealed to attendees via text on the day. With awesome drink specials and an all-black dress code, much fun is sure to be had! Tickets are guaranteed to sell out, so get in quick!



## **FIRST YEAR LAW CAMP**

17th - 19th March (Week 2)

Tickets @ DLSS stall

Law camp is the best way to get to know your first year law mates and get a footing into the social life of Deakin Law. An action packed weekend with awesome activities and parties to get you groovin' into the year. *"One of the best things I did in my first year of uni, made all my uni mates there and wish I could go back every year!"* - Third year Deakin Law Student.





## **PAINT PARTY**

11th May (Week 9)

Keep an eye out for tickets!

The Deakin Law Paint Party is one of Deakin's biggest events and is an amazingly messy night. Hundreds of litres of paint, crazy confetti and heaps of DJ's pumping tunes all night is the Deakin Paint Party that sells out every year. Make sure to wear white, get wild and be a part of Deakin's legendary Paint Party.



## **LAW BALL**

17th August (Trimester 2)

Keep an eye out for tickets!

The Deakin Law Ball is one of our most spectacular events held during the year. Held at one of Melbourne's most prestigious venues, the Palladium at Crown Casino, the Law Ball features live performances, fantastic guest DJ's, and entertainment to keep you enthralled throughout the night. Don't miss out on exclusive access to the after party to continue the fun well into the night!



Check our facebook page 'Deakin Law Students' Society' throughout the year for information about how to purchase tickets for these exciting events!

# EDUCATION

The 'PALS' program run by the Education team is here to help!

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The Peer Assisted Learning Sessions ('PALS'), is a student-run initiative aimed at helping students revise, maintain and work through course content.

As a First Year, you will be able to attend sessions for Contract Law (MLL111) this semester. This will provide you with additional support on top of your tutorials to help you succeed in your very first law unit. PALS is not run for Legal Principles & Skills. As you will find out soon enough, this is a relatively straight forward unit.

## WHEN & WHERE?

The 50 minute tutorials will run twice a week and cover revision of that weeks content and exam techniques. The time and location of each session will be posted on the Facebook group. You will need to request to be a part of this group by searching the subject name (make sure you are a DLSS member first)! Further, the Facebook page serves as an arena for discussion for any questions you may have.



## WHO?

The sessions are led by a PALS leader, a high-achieving student who is familiar with the unit content and able to assist with your success.

## BENEFITS OF PALS

You will be entitled to all of your tutors notes and other supplement material. It's a great opportunity to meet other keen law students (and potential study groups!). You will receive exam advice that is essential in your first year of uni, and the support you need to complete the course. And even better, its FREE for any DLSS member.

# COMPETITONS

The Competitions portfolio gives you the opportunity to gain and refine practical skills that are intrinsic to practising law. These skills include the ability to think on-the-spot, resolve conflicts and maintain professionalism in unpredictable situations.

Throughout the year we run a diverse range of competitions providing you with real-life circumstances to apply your knowledge and develop legal arguments in situations not found in a classroom. Participating is the best way to utilise your legal knowledge and soft skills in an exhilarating way.



## **JUNIOR MOOT** Trimester 1

This is an introductory competition with an emphasis on educating and developing young mooters. A 'moot' court is a simulated court proceeding designed to test the research and advocacy skills of participants.

## **JUNIOR NEGOTIATION** Trimester 2

Teams act on behalf of two conflicting parties to resolve a hypothetical dispute. Competitors must use problem-solving and diplomacy skills. The competition serves as a good introduction to the field of Alternative Dispute Resolution. Intensive preparation is not required.

# THE ADMISSION PROCESS

So, you figured you'd like to use your law degree for your post-university career? Good choice. Sadly you don't become a lawyer as soon as you receive your LLB. Aspiring lawyers must be 'admitted' to the Supreme Court roll before entering the profession, after which you are free to pursue your dream to become Harvey Specter 2.0.

You will learn more about the process during Legal Principals & Skills. It is important to be aware of what will be expected of you at the end of your degree. Look out for Education & Commercial Careers events relating to this process!



## YOU WILL NEED TO DO THE FOLLOWING

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1

Pass your degree.  
This seems obvious, but it's easier said than done.

2

Complete your Graduate Diploma of Legal Training or traineeship, or a clerkship with a firm.

3

Apply to be admitted to practice. You must disclose all criminal offences (including fines!) that you have incurred, and must demonstrate to the Legal Services Board that you are a 'fit and proper' person.

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# THINKING FORWARD

Both the Commercial Careers and Industry Careers portfolios are here to bridge the gap between Deakin law students and all the different opportunities and initiatives available to you throughout your degree.

In an increasingly competitive market where roughly 25% of Law Graduates remain unemployed in the law sector, it can sometimes be daunting (and incredibly overwhelming!) to know where to start in order to build a career in which you will thrive and to stay on track to building a career in which you will thrive after finishing your degree.

That is where the Careers Industry and Careers Commercial Portfolios come in! The DLSS is essential in connecting Deakin law students with potential employers and some of the largest and most prestigious firms around Australia and the world. The numerous practical and networking initiatives put forward by both portfolios throughout the year will keep you informed and will help set you up for your post-law school life.

Being a law student and staying on track to fulfilling your dreams can be difficult, but no one said you have to do it alone! We will be by your side throughout the journey.

LOOK OUT FOR THIS EVENT  
DURING FIRST WEEK!



 ON INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY  
THE D.L.S.S PRESENTS:

## BE BOLD FOR CHANGE

A PANEL ON WOMEN'S RIGHTS IN AUSTRALIA

**WHEN:** 7.30 PM 8TH MARCH  
**WHERE:** BURWOOD CORPORATE CENTRE DEAKIN UNIVERSITY,  
BURWOOD  
**WHAT:** A PANEL OF 4 GUEST SPEAKERS EXPLORING CHALLENGES  
FACING WOMEN IN AUSTRALIA AND DEVELOPMENTS IN THE LEGAL  
SYSTEM THAT CAN AND HAVE BEEN MADE TO COMBAT GENDER IN-  
EQUALITY

# YOUR UNITS

## **MLL110: LEGAL PRINCIPLES & SKILLS**

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Paul McDonough joined the Deakin Law faculty in 2017. He will be teaching MLL110, Legal Principles and Skills, also serving as the unit chair. MLL110 is a foundational course through which Deakin students learn the skills and techniques necessary to succeed in their law curriculum and in their subsequent careers, whether within or outside the formal legal profession. Paul's research focuses on public international law, predominantly human rights law and comparative constitutionalism.

Paul McDonough | **Unit Chair**

## **MLL111: CONTRACT LAW**

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Welcome to MLL111 Contract Law and to the School of Law at Deakin University! MLL111 is one of the most important law Units that you will have to deal with. This is so because contract law underpins our society and the functioning of the markets through which goods and services are created and distributed. It also underpins the study of many other units in your law program. Without a solid understanding of Contract law, most students will struggle to complete these other units.

MLL111 is the study of the norms and rules according to which the contract law dimension works in Australia. In doing so, attention will be paid to Chinese and Indian contract law to provide you with a contextualised international perspective.

Again, welcome to Contract and best wishes for the Trimester. My colleagues and I look forward to meeting you.

Sam Cusumano | **Lecturer**

## TEXTBOOKS

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The textbooks prescribed for your units, while expensive, are extremely beneficial learning resources. Lectures alone are not enough to help you learn the law. Textbooks provide case commentaries and practice questions — some of which are set in tutorials.

Some textbooks can be purchased secondhand, depending on whether they have been prescribed texts in the past. These can be purchased from students on various Facebook groups, through the DUSA bookshop, or through our DLSS Textbook Exchange, available under 'Services and Resources' on the DLSS website ([deakinlss.org](http://deakinlss.org)).

## PARKING

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Parking at Deakin requires a permit between 8:30am and 4:30pm on weekdays. You can pay by the hour, however when you do the maths, if you're going to be at uni more than approx. 6 hours a week, a \$275 yearly permit is cheapest.

For the first few weeks out of every Trimester, and during busy assignment or exam periods, parking can be hard to come by but not impossible. Expect to need to get to uni around 9am if you want a guaranteed park, otherwise you might have to allocate up to 30 minutes or more to find a park once it's full. Parking 'across the creek' at the Elgar Road campus can be easier. Alternatively, come to uni with a friend and use the carpool carpark (Level 2 of the Burwood multi-storey car park), use the free shuttle, or park along the tram line.

# 8

## THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW BEFORE YOU START LAW SCHOOL

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1

Creating a good study group can make all the difference. It is good to have support from fellow students when tackling the seemingly never ending workload.

2

Maintaining a balanced lifestyle is crucial, don't forget to keep exercising and still have a social life during your degree.

3

Sign up for as many DLSS competitions as you can! It will give you a taste of the practical side of law which you won't be exposed to in your lectures and tutorials.

4

Get involved with the DLSS! Law school can get tough and it's good to be around people who have the same problems.

5

Create a LinkedIn account and put your name down for volunteer work at community legal centres.

6

Good notes = Good exam results (if you use them wisely). Most law exams are open book so having a good set of notes can make all the difference in the exam.

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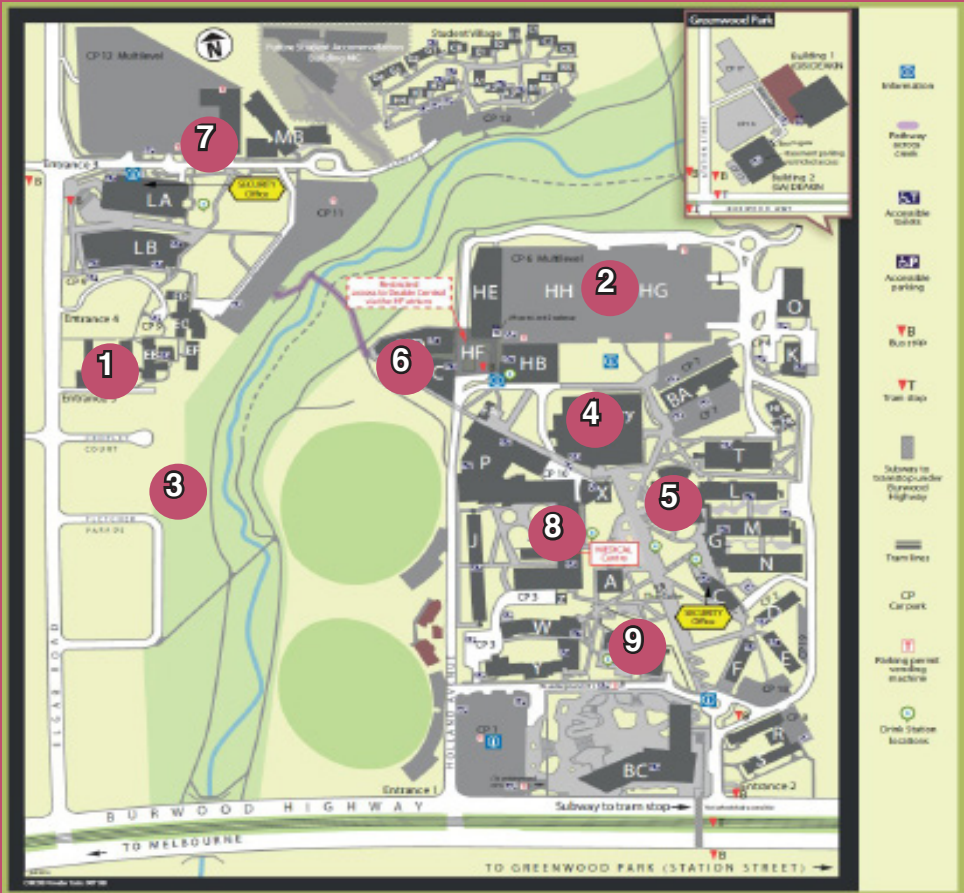
Sign up for Law camp! It is where you get to meet your cohort and make your group of friends.

8

Subscribe to our monthly newsletter, Et Cetera on our website to keep up to date with all things DLSS-related!



# CAMPUS MAP



**1.** Building EA is home to the school of law, and the DLSS office!

**2.** You'll use this carpark the most.

**3.** Building HE is where most of your tutorials will be held and some exams.

**4.** The library.

**5.** Building I is home to 2 common lecture theatres - LT1 & LT1A

**6.** Building BC is where you will find one of the largest law lecture theatres - LT13.

**7.** Building MA hosts majority of law tutorials.

**8.** Building B is home to LT3, another commonly used law lecture theatre.

**9.** Building H, level 2, is where you will find the Law bookshop.

# NOTES...

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