

Bachelor of Communication in Journalism/Bachelor of Laws (226JA.2)

Please note these are the 2015 details for this course

Domestic students

Selection rank

English language requirements There are non-standard English language requirements for this course. To be eligible you must have an academic IELTS or equivalent of 6.5, with no band score below 6.0. Students who have undertaken all of their education in an English speaking country (as defined on UC website) are deemed to have met our English language proficiency requirements.

[View IELTS equivalences](#)

Duration 5.0 years

UAC code

Faculty Faculty of Business, Government & Law

Discipline School of Arts and Communications
Canberra Law School

Location

International students

Academic entry requirements To study at UC, you'll need to meet our academic entry requirements and any admission requirements specific to your course. Please read your course admission requirements below. To find out whether you meet UC's academic entry requirements, visit our academic entry requirements page.

[View UC's academic entry requirements](#)

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[View IELTS equivalences](#)

CRICOS code 077624J

Faculty	Faculty of Business, Government & Law
Discipline	School of Arts and Communications Canberra Law School
Location	
Duration	5.0 years

About this course

This course offers students an excellent opportunity to obtain legal qualifications while receiving journalism training to professional standards. Students can expect to obtain work as broadcast, print or multi-media journalists with enhanced opportunities in legal journalism. They may also find work as media advisors. The Bachelor of Journalism prepares students for immediate entry into journalism and related professions. The degree reflects contemporary journalism practice by teaching students the fundamentals in print, online, radio and TV journalism. Students have access to industry-standard radio, TV and online facilities to produce and present their work. Students produce news and current affairs stories in print, radio and TV disciplines for publication on the student journalism website NowUC www.nowuc.com.au UC's strategic location in the national capital and proximity to national institutions, including federal parliament and the parliamentary press gallery, offers learning and internship opportunities for students. The Bachelor of Laws degree offers the following advantages:

- Fully accredited as a basis for admission to practice law in Australia.
- Focus upon corporate and commercial law, with minors in other areas to cater for student preferences.
- Teaching program enhanced by research strengths with student opportunities to be involved in UC's National Centre for Corporate Law, the National Institute of Governance and e-Justice and Court of the Future Networks.
- Opportunities for law internships and international study through linkages with law firms, governments and overseas universities.
- Small class sizes, highly-qualified staff, state-of-the art facilities, including oncampus and remote access to all the major online legal databases.
- A record of excellent employment opportunities and high starting salaries.

The single degree of Bachelor of Journalism may be taken out when the requirements of that degree have been met at the end of three years full-time study or equivalent part-time.

Professional accreditation

This program is recognised by the Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory and the State of New South Wales. Through mutual recognition, UC's degree may serve as the basis for admission in all Australian jurisdictions. Through a program offered in conjunction with the College of Law, students may (in their final year of the Bachelor of Laws at UC) begin their Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice course that qualifies for them for admission. Arrangements exist for students to articulate into programs leading to admission in the UK and the United States

Admission requirements

Attainment of the published ATAR or its equivalent. Note students who fail to make the initial ATAR entrance score may undertake another UC course and enrol in the Law Foundation Major. Upon achieving a credit average in their first year of study students may seek transfer into the formal Law program.

Additional admission requirements

Refer to individual courses.

Assumed knowledge

Refer to individual courses.

Periods course is open for new admissions

This course is not open for new admissions.

Credit arrangements

There are currently no formal credit transfer arrangements for entry to this course. Any previous study or work experience will only be considered as part of the application process in accordance with current [course rules and university policy](#). Credit is not permitted towards completion of a graduate certificate.

Course requirements

Bachelor of Communication in Journalism/Bachelor of Laws (226JA) | 120 credit points

Required - 90 credit points as follows

[Expand All](#) | [Collapse All](#)

Journalism - 45 credit points as follows

Major in Journalism (MJ0217) | 18 credit points

Required - Must pass 15 credit points as follows

Introduction to Journalism (5565) | 3 credit points – Level 1

Audio Journalism (9019) | 3 credit points – Level 2

Newsroom (9028) | 3 credit points – Level 3

Video Journalism (9036) | 3 credit points – Level 2

Long Form and Investigative Journalism (9309) | 3 credit points – Level 3

Restricted Choice - Must pass 3 credit points from the following

Reporting (5572) | 3 credit points – Level 1

Mobile Reporting (9923) | 3 credit points – Level 1

Major in Communication Studies (MJ0216) | 18 credit points

Restricted Choice - Must pass 18 credit points from the following

Communication and Media Research (7003) | 3 credit points – Level 2

Law of Communications (7098) | 3 credit points – Level 1

Risk, Crisis and Communication (7545) | 3 credit points – Level 3

Journalism and Political Process (8127) | 3 credit points – Level 2

Communication Technologies and Change (8131) | 3 credit points – Level 3

Communication Evolution (9020) | 3 credit points – Level 2

Digital Media Literacy (9022) | 3 credit points – Level 1

Introduction to Communication (9023) | 3 credit points – Level 1

Democracy and the Public Sphere (9310) | 3 credit points – Level 2

Law of Communication (9424) | 3 credit points – Level 2

Required Units - Must pass 9 credit points as follows

Journalism Project (9035) | 3 credit points – Level 3

Journalism and Society (9303) | 3 credit points – Level 2

Communication Internship (9490) | 3 credit points – Level 3

Law - Must pass 45 credit points as follows

Major in Legal Practice (Restricted) (MJ0083) | 24 credit points

Required - Must pass 21 credit points as follows

Administrative Law (7018) | 3 credit points – Level 3
Equity Law (7029) | 3 credit points – Level 3
Evidence Law (7030) | 3 credit points – Level 3
Lawyers and Professional Responsibility (7043) | 3 credit points – Level 3
Legal Theory (7046) | 3 credit points – Level 3
Litigation and Dispute Processing (7047) | 3 credit points – Level 4
Property Law (7050) | 3 credit points – Level 2

Restricted Choice - Must pass 3 credit points from the following

Advanced Legal Research and Writing (7019) | 3 credit points – Level 4
Advanced Legal Research and Writing (Honours) (8358) | 3 credit points – Level 4

Major in Law Foundation (MJ0082) | 21 credit points

Required - Must pass 21 credit points as follows

Contract Law (6594) | 3 credit points – Level 1
Legal Methods and Skills (6601) | 3 credit points – Level 1
Legal Systems (6602) | 3 credit points – Level 1
Constitutional Law (7022) | 3 credit points – Level 3
Corporations Law (7024) | 3 credit points – Level 3
Criminal Law and Procedure (7025) | 3 credit points – Level 3
Law of Obligations (7042) | 3 credit points – Level 2

Restricted Choice - Must pass 27 credit points from the following

Law Electives (LAWELECTS) | credit points

Restricted Choice - May select from

Competition and Consumer Law (6593) | 3 credit points – Level 3
Cybercrime (7026) | 3 credit points – Level 2
Employment Discrimination and the Law (7027) | 3 credit points – Level 3
Family Law (7031) | 3 credit points – Level 3
Human Rights Law (7033) | 3 credit points – Level 3
Intellectual Property Law (7035) | 3 credit points – Level 3
International Taxation (7036) | 3 credit points – Level 3
Introduction to Taxation Law (7037) | 3 credit points – Level 1
International Trade Law (7038) | 3 credit points – Level 2
Legal Research Project (7045) | 3 credit points – Level 3
Public Companies Law (7051) | 3 credit points – Level 3
Student Law Internship (7053) | 3 credit points – Level 2
Taxation of Entities and Tax Planning (7055) | 3 credit points – Level 3
Client Advocacy and Communication Skills (7570) | 3 credit points – Level 4
Current Legal Issues (7870) | 3 credit points – Level 4
Employment Law (7906) | 3 credit points – Level 2
Environmental and Planning Law (7907) | 3 credit points – Level 2
Therapeutic Jurisprudence (7917) | 3 credit points – Level 3

Mental Health and the Law (8055) | 3 credit points – Level 2

International Law (8062) | 3 credit points – Level 3

Indigenous Australians and the Law (8245) | 3 credit points – Level 3

Justice Policy and Community Engagement (8359) | 3 credit points – Level 3

Young People and Crime (8507) | 3 credit points – Level 2

Women and the Law (8523) | 3 credit points – Level 2

Canberra Law Review (8672) | 3 credit points – Level 3

Comparative Law (8673) | 3 credit points – Level 3

International Commercial Arbitration (8683) | 3 credit points – Level 3

Mooting (8685) | 3 credit points – Level 4

Law in Action Project (8749) | 3 credit points – Level 4

Legal Advice Clinic (8892) | 3 credit points – Level 4

Transnational Crime (8893) | 3 credit points – Level 2

International Sale of Goods Law (8894) | 3 credit points – Level 3

Criminology (9177) | 3 credit points – Level 3

Privacy, Confidentiality and Access Law (9275) | 3 credit points – Level 3

Alternative Dispute Resolution in Law (9422) | 3 credit points – Level 2

Sentencing and Corrections (9803) | 3 credit points – Level 3

Law Honours (6cp) (9804) | 6 credit points – Level 4

Note:

- Honours: Eligible students will enrol in 9804 Law Honours (6cp) in place of two Law Electives in their last year.

Open Electives - 3 credit points as follows

- - 3cp open electives from any part of the University.

In addition to course requirements, in order to successfully complete your course you may need to meet the inherent requirements. Please refer to the [inherent requirements statement](#) applicable to your course

Typical study pattern

UC - Canberra, Bruce

Standard Full Time, Semester 1 Commencing

Year 1

Semester 1

Introduction to Communication (9023)

Introduction to Journalism (5565)

Legal Methods and Skills (6601)

Legal Systems (6602)

Semester 2

Contract Law (6594)

Digital Media Literacy (9022)

Law of Obligations (7042)

Reporting (5572)

Year 2

Semester 1

[Audio Journalism \(9019\)](#)

[Communication Evolution \(9020\)](#)

[Communication and Media Research \(7003\)](#)

[Corporations Law \(7024\)](#)

Year 3

Semester 1

[Constitutional Law \(7022\)](#)

[Journalism and Society \(9303\)](#)

[Long Form and Investigative Journalism \(9309\)](#)

[Newsroom \(9028\)](#)

Year 4

Semester 1

[Equity Law \(7029\)](#)

Two Law Electives

[Criminal Law and Procedure \(7025\)](#)

Year 5

Semester 1

MJ0083 Restricted Choice Unit

7019 Advanced Legal Research and Writing OR 8358

Advanced Legal Research and Writing (Honours)

[Litigation and Dispute Processing \(7047\)](#)

Two Law Electives

Semester 2

[Journalism and Political Process \(8127\)](#)

[Law of Communication \(9424\)](#)

[Property Law \(7050\)](#)

[Video Journalism \(9036\)](#)

Semester 2

[Communication Internship \(9490\)](#)

[Journalism Project \(9035\)](#)

Open Elective Unit

[Legal Theory \(7046\)](#)

Semester 2

Two Law Electives

[Administrative Law \(7018\)](#)

[Evidence Law \(7030\)](#)

Semester 2

Three Law Electives

[Lawyers and Professional Responsibility \(7043\)](#)

Course information

Course duration

Standard ten semesters full-time or equivalent. Maximum twenty-four semesters.

Learning outcomes

Learning outcomes	Related graduate attributes
1. Produce a range of content to media industry standards.	Communication, Analysis and inquiry, problem solving, working

	independently and with others, professionalism
2. Demonstrate production and presentation techniques in broadcast, print and online environments to industry standard.	Communication, Analysis and inquiry, problem solving, working independently and with others, professionalism
3. Demonstrate an ability to apply the journalistic and communication theories which underpin journalism practice.	Communication, Analysis and inquiry, problem solving, working independently and with others, professionalism
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the theoretical principles of communication in society.	Communication, Analysis and inquiry, problem solving, working independently and with others, professionalism
5. Develop analytical and critical thinking skills, and apply them to journalistic practice.	Communication, Analysis and inquiry, problem solving, working independently and with others, professionalism
6. Understand and apply media research methods.	Communication, Analysis and inquiry, problem solving, working independently and with others, professionalism
7. Demonstrate an understanding of the role of the media in society and the impact of journalism on public debate. In particular, understand the rapid changes currently occurring in media industries.	Communication, Analysis and inquiry, problem solving, working independently and with others, professionalism
8. Understand and apply the legal and ethical principles of contemporary journalism.	Communication, Analysis and inquiry, problem solving, working independently and with others, professionalism

professionalism

9. Experience in a professional journalism or media environment through a compulsory internship.

Communication, Analysis and inquiry, problem solving, working independently and with others, professionalism

10. Develop generic communication and personal presentation skills to equip graduates for success in professional life.

Communication, Analysis and inquiry, problem solving, working independently and with others, professionalism

11. Graduates will have a broad and coherent theoretical and technical knowledge of the discipline of law, suitable for entering the legal profession or undertaking other careers involving legal work. The course will provide students with a program of study and learning to satisfy the academic requirements for admission to legal practice.

Communication, Analysis and inquiry, problem solving, working independently and with others, professionalism

12. Students will also undertake an in depth study of selected areas of law, including the Priestly 11 units, and in chosen law electives, with an emphasis on commercial law and/or justice studies.

Communication, Analysis and inquiry, problem solving, working independently and with others, professionalism

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Communication, Analysis and inquiry, problem solving, working independently and with others, professionalism

13. In addition to the above, students graduating with Honours will have developed the ability to independently identify and provide solutions to complex legal problems.

Communication, Analysis and inquiry, problem solving, working independently and with others, professionalism

Majors

- [Major in Communication Studies \(MJ0216\)](#)
- [Major in Journalism \(MJ0217\)](#)
- [Major in Law Foundation \(MJ0082\)](#)
- [Major in Legal Practice \(Restricted\) \(MJ0083\)](#)

Awards

Award	Official abbreviation
Bachelor of Laws	LLB
Bachelor of Communication in Journalism	BComm Jnl

Honours

The degree of Bachelor of Laws may be awarded with first or second class honours. Requirements are specified in the Determination of Course Particulars for the Bachelor of Laws.

(i) To be eligible to undertake studies at honours level, a student must achieve at least a credit average in all law units undertaken at the University of Canberra, this being determined by averaging their scores in all eligible subjects.

Eligible Units: Eligible Units are those which count towards the Entry GPA and Honours GPA. Eligible Units are:

- Any Law unit done which counts towards your LLB (i.e., not the subjects going only towards the non-law degree if you are enrolled in a double degree. If you are enrolled in a straight LLB, your open electives are not counted).
- This includes Units for which you receive Advanced Standing, whether done at UC or elsewhere.
- Where you have done extra subjects which may count, e.g. more than the required amount of law electives, your best results will be counted.

(ii) Law Honours has 12 credit points of research-related units. These are made up of:

- Legal Methods and Skills (3cp)
- Advanced Legal Research and Writing (Honours) (3cp)
- Law Honours (6cp)

(iii) The degree of Bachelor of Laws may be awarded with first or second class honours. Following submission of an Honours thesis as part of the unit Law Honours, students must show a Good performance by receiving a minimum of a Credit in the 6 credit point restricted choice unit Law Honours.

Calculating the final class of honours:

Law degrees with Honours are awarded in the following classes depending on the Honours GPA obtained and the standard of the Honours Thesis.

First Class: Showing an exceptional performance by both an Honours GPA of at least 6 and a mark of 80 and above in the honours component of your assessment

Second Class - Division I: Showing a Very Good performance by both an Honours GPA of at least 5.5 and a mark of 73 and above in the honours component of your assessment

Second Class - Division II: Showing a Good performance by both an Honours GPA of at least 5 and a mark of 65 and above in the Honours component of your assessment

Calculating the Honours GPA

GPA's are calculated by using the University's system. The Unit Law Honours will be weighted as 30% for the purposes of calculating the Honours GPA. Units used in the Honours GPA are as described in 'Eligible units' above for entry to the Honours component of the course.

Note that marks are not automatically rounded up for purposes of Honours. Thus 4.99 does not become 5.00. Where your final mark is within two marks of the next level of honours, or of achieving honours at all (e.g. a 4.8 is rounded up to 5.0), you can apply in writing to have your honours result upgraded. This will be determined by the Law Program Manager and the Law Honours Unit Convener, taking into account your academic record and any mitigating circumstances which may have affected your academic performance.

High achieving students may also be eligible for enrolment in the Bachelor of Arts (Honours) course.

Enquiries

Student category	Contact details
Prospective Domestic Students	Email study@canberra.edu.au or Phone 1800 UNI CAN 1800 864 226
Prospective International Students	Email international@canberra.edu.au or Phone +61 2 6201 5342
Current and Commencing Students	In person Faculty of Business, Government and Law student support area (Building 11, Level B, Room 27 - Reception counter) or Email BGLCourseConveners@canberra.edu.au

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UC acknowledges the Ngunnawal people, traditional custodians of the lands where Bruce campus is situated. We wish to acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of Canberra and the region. We also acknowledge all other First Nations Peoples on whose lands we gather.