

Bachelor of Communication in Media and Public Affairs/Bachelor of Laws (227JA.2)

Please note these are the 2018 details for this course

Domestic students

Selection rank	87
	Note:
	The selection rank is the minimum ATAR plus adjustment factors required for admission to the program in the previous year. This is an indicative guide only as ranks change each year depending on demand.

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. For alternate/equivalent ways of meeting the English requirements for this course please view the English Proficiency Requirements document on the university website.
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[View IELTS equivalences](#)

Duration	5.0 years
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UAC code	363076
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Faculty	Faculty of Business, Government & Law
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Discipline	School of Arts and Communications Canberra Law School
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Location	UC - Canberra, Bruce
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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.
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[View UC's academic entry requirements](#)

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. For alternate/equivalent ways of meeting the English requirements for this course please view the English Proficiency Requirements document on the university website.
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[View IELTS equivalences](#)

CRICOS code	077625G
Faculty	Faculty of Business, Government & Law
Discipline	School of Arts and Communications Canberra Law School
Location	UC - Canberra, Bruce
Duration	5.0 years

About this course

Become a communications professional in a legal environment

Kick-start your professional experience by combining your passion of communications and law. This double degree is focused on preparing you for success in the legal communications industry by arming you with the practical skills and competencies necessary to achieve excellence in your work. With a special focus on political communication, you will explore how societies have evolved alongside advancements in communication technology while profoundly transforming the way we live.

Study a Bachelor of Communication in Media and Public Affairs / Bachelor Laws at UC and you will:

- Develop an in-depth understanding of contemporary society and politics paying particular attention to the relationships between media, politics and public opinion
- Develop digital media literacy and basic competency in a range of communication skills and media research methodologies
- Gain an appreciation of research ethics and related questions of social responsibility
- Engage in complex ethical questions, strategic thinking, and problem solving as they study processes of political communication
- Develop high level written, oral and visual communication skills, the ability to think critically and the capacity to identify, analyse and use information relevant to professional practice in the digital era.

Work-integrated learning

A graduate of the Bachelor of Communication in Media and Public Affairs / Bachelor of Laws can work in a variety of roles in the public and private sector including:

- Communications & media officer
- Government relations officer
- Public information officer
- Media planner
- Campaign manager
- Justice
- Public sector jobs
- Human resources
- Social work.

Course specific information

This double degree prepares students for either a career in organisational communication requiring competence in law, or for legal practice,

particularly in the fields of media and communication.

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

Normal UC admission requirements to an undergraduate course.

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 Media and Public Affairs/Bachelor of Laws (227JA) | 120 credit points

Required - 87 credit points as follows

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

Media and Public Affairs - 42 credit points as follows

Major in Media and Public Affairs (MJ0218) | 18 credit points

Restricted Choice - Must pass 18 credit points from the following

[Communication and Media Research \(7003\) | 3 credit points – Level 2](#)

[Risk, Crisis and Communication \(7545\) | 3 credit points – Level 3](#)

[Elections, Campaigns and Lobbying \(8125\) | 3 credit points – Level 3](#)

[Journalism and Political Process \(8127\) | 3 credit points – Level 2](#)

[Introduction to Political Communication \(9024\) | 3 credit points – Level 1](#)

[Media, Technology and Society \(9027\) | 3 credit points – Level 1](#)

[Democracy and the Public Sphere \(9310\) | 3 credit points – Level 2](#)

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 6 credit points as follows

Media and Public Affairs Project (9031) | 3 credit points – Level 3
Communication Internship (9490) | 3 credit points – Level 3

Law - 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

Introduction to Taxation Law (7037) | 3 credit points – Level 1

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

Client Advocacy and Communication Skills (7570) | 3 credit points – Level 4

Building and Construction Law (7827) | 3 credit points – Level 2

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

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

Health and Biotechnology Law (9997) | 3 credit points – Level 3

Note:

- Honours: Eligible students will enrol in 9804 Law Honours (6cp) in place of two Law Electives in their last year.
- Unit Availability: In any semester and year only a selection of these units are available.

Open Electives - 6 credit points as follows

- Unit Levels: In selecting electives students should note that no more than 30 credit points at Level 1 is permitted for the entire course.

Note:

- Must pass 6 credit points from anywhere in 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 \(9023\)](#)

[Legal Methods and Skills \(6601\)](#)

[Legal Systems \(6602\)](#)

[Media, Technology and Society \(9027\)](#)

Semester 2

[Contract Law \(6594\)](#)

[Digital Media Literacy \(9022\)](#)

[Introduction to Political Communication \(9024\)](#)

[Law of Obligations \(7042\)](#)

Year 2

Semester 1

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

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

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

[Democracy and the Public Sphere \(9310\)](#)

Semester 2

[Communication Technologies and Change \(8131\)](#)

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

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

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

Year 3

Semester 1

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

[Elections, Campaigns and Lobbying \(8125\)](#)

Open Elective Unit

[Risk, Crisis and Communication \(7545\)](#)

Semester 2

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

Open Elective Unit

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

[Media and Public Affairs Project \(9031\)](#)

Year 4

Semester 1

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

Two Law Electives

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

Semester 2

Two Law Electives

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

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

Year 5

Semester 1

Semester 2

Two Law Electives

7019 Advanced Legal Research and Writing OR 8358

Advanced Legal Research and Writing (Honours)

MJ0083 Restricted Choice Unit

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

Three Law Electives

Course information

Course duration

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

Learning outcomes

Learning outcomes	Related graduate attributes
<p>Develop an in-depth understanding of contemporary society and politics paying particular attention to the relationships between media, politics and public opinion.</p>	<p>Communication</p> <p>High order oral, written, visual and digital communication skills. Understanding communication with both the local and global context</p>
<p>Appreciate the disciplinary perspectives of Communication Studies and the ability to apply these to the study of media and public affairs.</p>	<p>Working independently and with others</p>
<p>Develop digital media literacy and develop basic competency in a range of communication skills and media research methodologies.</p>	<p>Development of interpersonal communication skills to maintain good working relationships and within groups.</p>
<p>Gain an appreciation of research ethics and related questions of social responsibility.</p>	<p>Work sensitively with people with diverse background and interest.</p>
<p>Knowledge of communication processes including, at the national level, elections, campaigning and lobbying, and, at the international level, public diplomacy, the role of the media in foreign relations, and the implications of globalisation.</p>	<p>Analysis and enquiry</p> <p>Identify, understand and analyse information and content relevant to professional practice. Apply concepts and methodologies to communication tasks.</p>
<p>Engage in complex ethical questions, strategic thinking, and problem solving as they study processes of political communication.</p>	<p>Problem Solving</p> <p>Think analytically and creatively relevant to communication and media. Critical and strategic thinking and response in professional and political communication context .</p>
<p>Develop high level written, oral and visual communication skills, the ability to think critically and the capacity to identify, analyse and use information relevant to professional practice in the digital era.</p>	<p>Professionalism and social responsibility</p> <p>Understand the social and professional influence of media and politics and the role in ethical practice. Insightful and systematic understanding of various social contexts and knowing the socially responsible approaches to communication practice.</p>

Application of knowledge and skills reflected in the learning outcome includes:

As above

- acquired an understanding of the main elements of studies of journalism, news and political process;
- Understand the role of elections, campaigns, and lobbying in a democratic society;
- Critically analyse contested approaches to the respective powers of governments and political parties, the media, and the public;
- Practical knowledge and skills to apply digital technologies in public and media messages;
- Demonstrate critical thinking and problem solving skills.

Knowledge:

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. In addition to the above, students graduating with Honours will have developed the ability to independently identify and provide solutions to complex legal problems.

Skills

1. Communication

The ability to present knowledge, ideas and opinions effectively and communicate within and across professional and cultural boundaries

- Communicate, both orally and in writing, in ways that are effective, appropriate and persuasive for legal and non-legal audiences
- Ability to communicate in plain English
- Ability to engage with culturally diverse audiences
- Appreciation and adaptability to the communication context, including genre and audience

2. Analysis and inquiry

The ability to gather information, and to analyse and evaluate information and situations in a systematic, creative and insightful way

- Develop intellectual and practice skills to identify, research, evaluate and synthesise relevant factual, legal and policy issues, drawing on a range of sources
- Legal referencing skills and ethical academic practice
- Engage in critical analysis and make a reasoned choice among alternatives

3. Problem Solving

The ability to apply problem-solving processes in novel situations; to identify and analyse problems, then formulate and implement solutions

- Identify and articulate legal issues in a text or scenario
- Apply legal reasoning and research to generate appropriate responses to legal issues
- Think creatively in approaching legal issues and solutions, including both adversarial and non-adversarial options

4. Working independently and with others

The ability to plan their own work, be self-directed, and use interpersonal skills and attitudes to work collaboratively

- Use interpersonal skills to collaborate effectively in teams
- Learn and work independently, including directing aspects of learning and effective management of times and workload
- Reflect on capabilities and performance and develop self-awareness
- Make use of feedback to support personal and professional development

5. Professionalism

The capacity and intention to use professional knowledge and skills ethically and responsibly, for the benefit of others and the environment

- Appreciate the principles and values of justice and ethical practice in legal professional roles
- Understand and be able to apply ethical approaches to decision-making
- Recognise and reflect upon ethical issues likely to arise in professional contexts
- Recognise and reflect upon the professional responsibilities of lawyers in promoting justice and in service to the community.

Application of Knowledge and Skills:

Graduates will have applied their knowledge and skills to analyse and solve legal problems, both in writing and orally (through presentations and mooting programs). They will have undertaken complex legal research tasks, made suggestions for law reform, and reflected upon ethical issues.

Graduates who have completed with Honours will have developed a research proposal and written a thesis.

Majors

- [Major in Communication Studies \(MJ0216\)](#)
- [Major in Legal Practice \(Restricted\) \(MJ0083\)](#)
- [Major in Media and Public Affairs \(MJ0218\)](#)
- [Major in Law Foundation \(MJ0082\)](#)

Awards

Award	Official abbreviation
Bachelor of Laws	LLB
Bachelor of Communication in Media and Public Affairs	BComm Media&PubAffairs

Honours

Refer to individual courses.

Alternative exits

Diploma of Justice Studies, Associate Degree of Justice Studies

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, Student Centre Building 1 (take a BGL Faculty course advice ticket) or Email bglstudent@canberra.edu.au

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CRICOS 00212K

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.