



Bachelor of Communication in Public Relations/Bachelor of Laws (228JA.1)

Please note these are the 2016 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](#)

English language requirements

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[View IELTS equivalences](#)

CRICOS code	077626G
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 prepares students for a career involving a combination of organisational communication and legal responsibilities. Public relations is the management function that enables organisations to communicate with internal and external audiences to achieve mutual understanding. This course provides students with the theoretical understanding and practical skills required to work as a public relations professional for private enterprise, a government organisation or a not-for-profit body. The Public Relations course is accredited by the Public Relations Institute of Australia (PRIA) and graduates are eligible to become professional members of the PRIA. The Bachelor of Laws course prepares students for employment in the legal profession by providing them with practical skills and competencies in the basic areas of legal practice. It also has a strong commercial orientation.

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. The Bachelor of Communication in Public Relations is accredited by the Public Relations Institute of Australia (PRIA). Students are eligible to become professional Associate Members immediately on graduation and full Members after two years of professional practice. The restructured degree will need to go through a re-accreditation process.

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 Public Relations/Bachelor of Laws (228JA) | 120 credit points

Required - 87 credit points as follows

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

Public Relations - 42 credit points as follows

Major in Public Relations (MJ0219) | 18 credit points

Required - Must pass 12 credit points as follows

Public Relations Planning and Practice (9029) | 3 credit points – Level 3

Digital PR and Media Relations (9034) | 3 credit points – Level 2

Public Relations Strategy: Issues and Crisis Management (9038) | 3 credit points – Level 3

Principles of Public Relations (9363) | 3 credit points – Level 1

Restricted Choice - 6 credit points as follows

Part A - Must pass 3 credit points from the following

Public Relations Writing (7130) | 3 credit points – Level 2

Public Relations Writing (9497) | 3 credit points – Level 1

Part B - Must pass 3 credit points from the following

Corporate Communication (9021) | 3 credit points – Level 3

Corporate Communication (9492) | 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

Public Relations Project (9037) | 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

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

Law Honours (7039) | 3 credit points – Level 4

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

What Works in Criminal Justice (Criminology) (7915) | 3 credit points – Level 3

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

Note:

- Honours: Eligible students will enrol in 7039 Law Honours in place of a Law Elective in their last year.

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)

Principles of Public Relations (9363)

Semester 2

Contract Law (6594)

Digital Media Literacy (9022)

Law of Obligations (7042)

Public Relations Writing (9497)

Year 2

Semester 1

Semester 2

Communication Evolution (9020)
Corporations Law (7024)
Digital PR and Media Relations (9034)
Risk, Crisis and Communication (7545)

Corporate Communication (9492)
Law of Communication (9424)
Property Law (7050)
Public Relations Planning and Practice (9029)

Year 3

Semester 1

Public Relations Strategy: Issues and Crisis Management (9038)
Open Elective Unit
Communication and Media Research (7003)
Constitutional Law (7022)

Semester 2

Legal Theory (7046)
Open Elective Unit
Communication Internship (9490)
Public Relations Project (9037)

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

Two Law Electives
MJ0083 Restricted Choice Unit
7019 Advanced Legal Research and Writing OR 8358
Advanced Legal Research and Writing (Honours)
Legal Theory (7046)

Semester 2

Evidence Law (7030)
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>That students graduate with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- A well-rounded understanding of the social, political and cultural domestic and global contexts in which public relations is practised.- The skills and knowledge to operate as an entry-level public relations practitioner	<p>Communication</p> <p>a) High order written and oral communication skills relevant to</p>

- An understanding of the theoretical principles that apply to modern public relations practice.
- A conceptual and practical understanding of ethical practice, social responsibility and legal frameworks for public relations
- Experience in a professional public relations environment through a compulsory internship.
- An understanding of, and basic competence in, media research methods and the ability to apply these to research tasks
- An understanding of the principles of risk and crisis and of political communication in the context of professional practice
- High level written and oral communication skills, the ability to think critically and the capacity to identify, analyse and use information relevant to professional practice.

professional practice.

- b) Mastery of specialist professional communication techniques.
- c) Understanding of strategic professional practice and leadership.
- d) Ability to take direction.

Working independently and with others

- a) Development of initiative and resilience
- b) Work sensitively and co-operatively with diverse stakeholders
- c) Develop interpersonal skills to enable the establishment and maintenance of good working relationships

Analysis and enquiry

- a) Identify and analyse information relevant to professional practice.
- b) Comprehend socio-economic, cultural, political, ethical and legal contexts in which they will practise their specialisation.
- c) Apply concepts, principles and professional methodologies to professional communication tasks.

Problem Solving

- a) Examine and question information relevant to professional communication tasks.
- b) Analyse and explain contexts in which they practice
- c) Assess and evaluate professional communication outcomes
- d) Think critically and creatively when developing responses

Professionalism and social responsibility

a) Understand the social and professional influence of public relations and its role in ethical practice

b) Understand the diverse needs of stakeholders and socially responsible approaches to communications with them

c) Differentiate between ethical and non-ethical practice

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 mooted 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 Law Foundation \(MJ0082\)](#)
- [Major in Communication Studies \(MJ0216\)](#)
- [Major in Public Relations \(MJ0219\)](#)
- [Major in Legal Practice \(Restricted\) \(MJ0083\)](#)

Awards

Award	Official abbreviation
Bachelor of Laws	LLB
Bachelor of Communication in Public Relations	BComm PubRel

Honours

Refer to individual courses.

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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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.