

# Vanuatu Summer School 2013

LAWS3541/ JURD7841/LAWS8241, Pacific Island Legal Systems (6uoc)  
Enrolment in Summer Semester 2012/13 (U1B) at UNSW

Never Stand Still

Law

This 6UOC course will be taught in conjunction with the Law Faculty of the University of the South Pacific (USP) at the Emalus Campus in Port Vila, Vanuatu from **Tuesday 29 January - Friday 8 February 2013**



Vanuatu Summer School will be offered to all eligible Undergraduate law students, Juris Doctor students, and Postgraduate Masters students.

This course will be taught in English by staff of the University of the South Pacific (USP).

USP is a key contributor to the development of South Pacific nations and a primary source of higher education graduates in the region. Founded in 1968, USP serves its 12 member Countries (Cook Islands, Kribati, Nauru, Samoa, Tokelau, Tuvalu, Fiji, Marshall Islands, Niue, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Vanuatu) through the provision of education, training, research, consultancy services, and technical expertise. Its academic courses are carefully designed to be relevant to the Pacific Island Countries' human resource needs. Its alumni, which number in excess of 30,000, hold influential positions throughout the region. This course will include a number of field trips which will help students to understand the environment within which local legal systems operate.

This program is scheduled as UNSW Summer Semester (U1B) course.

### **Course description**

As the name suggests, this course will provide an introduction to legal systems of the Pacific region, and to some specific areas of Pacific law. Most Pacific Island states have gained independence only in recent years, and thus their laws and legal systems are still works in progress.

This course will introduce many of the issues arising in developing legal systems, including issues of history and politics, constitutional development, recognition and application of customary law, land tenure regimes, and regional engagement between states, and with outside bodies. Additional specific topics may be covered depending on the availability of teaching expertise.

As the course will be taught on location in Vanuatu, students will gain direct exposure to the key features of a Pacific Island legal system in its own environment. In addition, the location will allow field trips to important legal institutions, such as courts, parliament, government departments, and NGOs. This will greatly help students to appreciate some of the difficulties faced by developing legal systems in the region and to appreciate how and why these laws and legal systems are developing in the way they are. Students will also be exposed to the culture and way of life of the South Pacific, and will have an opportunity to meet and mix with USP students and staff at organized social functions.

The course will run over 2 weeks, and classes will generally be held at the Emalus Campus of the University of the South Pacific from 8.30 am–12.30 week days. The campus is a 5 – 10 minute bus ride from the CBD. The final schedule of classes, field trips, and social functions will be available on commencement of the course.

### **Text and course materials**

Required class materials and readings will be available prior to the commencement of the course.

### **Support for students in Port Vila**

Students should remember that Vanuatu is a developing country and travel here requires a flexible attitude. The course convenor, Carolyn Penfold will accompany students in Vanuatu. While students will be expected to be independent during their stay in Port Vila, Carolyn will be available to offer support to students where needed.

### **Climate and clothing**

January – February is mid-summer, and cyclone season. Summer is humid, with maximum temperatures around 32 degrees and minimums around 23 degrees. You will need only summer clothing and perhaps one light jacket. You are likely also to need a rain coat or umbrella. Please remember that the Pacific Islands are generally conservative so beachwear and skimpy clothing should be reserved for beaches and resorts.

### **Attendance Requirements**

**100% attendance** at courses and field trips are compulsory. Students will not be permitted to sit assessment for the program unless attendance has been satisfactory.

## Assessment

**Due: Monday 4 March 2013**

Please submit your research essay at Level 2 Law Student Services Counter with the usual assignment coversheet by 4pm, Monday 4 March.

Essay questions will be distributed on commencement of the course. Alternatively, students may negotiate a topic related to the course content with one of their course teachers. The course will be assessed on a graded basis by class participation / presentation (20%), and a research paper (80%) with requirement as follows:

Enrolled course code	Program	Requirement
LAWS3541/ JURD7841 Pacific Islands Legal Systems	- Dual Law / Graduate Law (LLB)* - Juris Doctor (JD)*	4,000 word essay
LAWS8241 Pacific Islands Legal Systems (Postgraduate)	- Master of Laws (9200) - Master of Business Administration/Law (9230) - Master of Law and Management (9210) - Master of Business Law (9231) - Master of Human Rights Law & Policy (9211)# - Graduate Diploma of Law (5740) - Graduate Diploma in Business Law (5231) - Graduate Diploma in Human Rights Law & Policy (5211)#	6,000 word essay

### Note for Final Year Students

If you are using this course to complete your degree requirements, please notify the course convenor as early as possible so that priority of marking your paper is given and you can be confirmed for graduation to join the main ceremony.

You may opt to submit your essay earlier than the above deadline if you will be applying for Honours, as results need to be finalised in mid-February.

### **Cost**

Students will be charged the normal 6 Units of Credit (UOC) Tuition Fees or Student Contribution Charges (whichever is relevant) for this course.

In addition to the above, there will be an **additional charge of AUD\$500**. This amount (**without accommodation**) covers the cost of welcome and farewell dinners, field trips, class materials, transport for field trips, administration costs and additional administrative expenses incurred by UNSW and USP.

**IMPORTANT: AUD\$500 does NOT include accommodation, airfares, departure taxes, meals (except for course functions), medical and travel insurance, and telephone and other communication charges. Please read the Cost information very carefully and contact Law Student Services ([law@unsw.edu.au](mailto:law@unsw.edu.au)) if you need clarification.**

## Application, Enrolment and Payment Procedure

### Eligibility

UNSW students enrolled in the following programs are eligible to apply:

- Combined Law / Graduate Law (LLB)\*
- Juris Doctor (9150)\*
- Master of Laws (9200)
- Master of Business Administration/Law (9230)
- Master of Law and Management (9210)
- Master of Business Law (9231)
- Master of Human Rights Law & Policy (9211)#
- Graduate Diploma of Law (5740)
- Graduate Diploma in Business Law (5231)
- Graduate Diploma in Human Rights Law & Policy (5211)#

\*LLB and JD students will need to complete at least 60UOC of Law courses to be eligible.

# MHRLP and GDHRLP students are eligible to do this course as one of the two courses permitted outside the Human Rights & Law Policy course list.

Non-UNSW law students from an Australian university who are seeking to obtain credit as cross-institutional student can also apply.

To enrol in this course, **Combined Law / Graduate Law (LLB) and Juris Doctor (JD) students will need to complete at least 60UOC of Law courses.** In assessing applications, priority will be given to (1) students in their final year, (2) students in their penultimate year, and (3) order of application receipt.

### Application form (plus transcript)

**Due: Friday 2 November 2012**

Application forms and information sheets will be available on the [Law website](#) and Law Student Services for collection. The application form, together with myUNSW academic statement should be completed and returned to Law Student Services, Level 2 Law Building by the above due date.

Important:

Applications may close early and late applications will be subjected to the availability of places. This course may also be cancelled under the circumstance of low application numbers.

Students who have been accepted and eligible to enrol **will be notified via UNSW student Zmail account.**

### Deposit Payment

**Due: Friday 16 November 2012**

Payment forms will be sent to eligible students via student Zmail.

To secure enrolment, please make a deposit of **AUD\$200** by Friday 16 November 2012.

Payments are made at the University Cashier at Treasury office. The cashier will accept cash, cheques (made out to "UNSW") or credit cards (except for Diners and American Express). If you are not able to pay at the UNSW Cashier in person, please contact the Treasury office directly to check on best way of payment: <https://my.unsw.edu.au/student/fees/FeesMainPage.html>

After making the payment you should return to the Level 2 Student Services, Faculty of Law with your deposit receipt for your enrolment to be registered.

**Note: Students will be enrolled into the course after deposit payment is made.**

## **Final Payment**

**Due: Monday 10 December 2012**

The same procedure applies for the payment of **the balance**: namely, obtain a payment form, pay the cashier and return to the Level 2 Student Services with your receipt for recording. In order to secure your place in the course, the full cost must be paid before the above date.

## **Refunds/ withdrawal**

Refunds of final payments are available if you withdraw prior to the commencement of the course due to special circumstances. In order to obtain a refund you must provide us with full details of the circumstances, including medical receipts (where appropriate) and the original receipt.

Note: Refund or withdrawal from the course after **18 January 2012** will NOT be allowed under any circumstances.

## **Travel**

You will find excellent information at <http://vanuatu.travel/>

Students are required to make their own travel arrangements. There will be a **welcome dinner and orientation on Monday evening, 28<sup>th</sup> January**, so please organise arrival time to enable you to attend this function.

Students arriving from Sydney on Air Vanuatu / Qantas on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> or Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January will be met at the airport so long as they advise the course convenor of their flight time and accommodation booking beforehand. The convenor will organise taxis, approx \$AU20 per taxi, cost to be shared between students. The taxi trip will take about 15 minutes.

Students are free to organise their own tours of Vanuatu (as individuals or in groups) before or after the course dates, or on the weekend in the middle of the course.

**You should obtain travel insurance as soon as your flight bookings have been arranged.**

## **Visas**

Students from many countries, see the list at <http://vanuatu.travel/getting-here/visa-info/permits-and-fees.html> will be issued with a 30 day tourist visa on arrival. If you do not hold a passport from one of these countries check the same page for information on how to apply for a visa. Students will need to provide the name of their hotel on their immigration form, and should state "tourism" as the purpose of the journey. You will also need to show an onward air ticket.

You will find further information about visas and immigration at the <http://vanuatu.travel/> website.

## **Accommodation**

Note that the cost outlined in page 3 (AUD\$500) does NOT include accommodation. Please refer to the last page for a list of accommodation close to town/CBD and to USP.

Students should book their own accommodation in Port Vila. Many accommodation providers will give discounted rates to groups so you may wish to book accommodation with other students. It may also be possible to get better rates if accommodation is packaged with airfares.

Students are welcome to check the location of proposed accommodation with the course convenor prior to booking. The convenor will not recommend specific accommodation providers but will be happy to advise regarding the convenience of any location.

Students should note that Vanuatu is a developing country and accommodation, food etc may not be of the standard you are used to. You will find accommodation information at the back of this document, and via the <http://vanuatu.travel/> website.

### **Administrative Communication**

All administrative correspondence in preparation for the course will be via your official UNSW student email address. Please ensure that you **check your student Zmail regularly for updates and important information.**

### **Further inquiries**

Please direct general inquiries about the course to:

#### **Law Student Services**

Law Student Centre (Level 2)  
Phone: 9385 2264  
[law@unsw.edu.au](mailto:law@unsw.edu.au)

#### **Paul Gwynne**

School Manager  
Law Building 261  
Phone: 9385 3699  
[paul.gwynne@unsw.edu.au](mailto:paul.gwynne@unsw.edu.au)

Inquiries related to course content or on-shore support may be directed to:

#### **Carolyn Penfold**

Course Convenor  
Law Building 245  
Phone: 9385 2862  
[c.penfold@unsw.edu.au](mailto:c.penfold@unsw.edu.au)

## ACCOMMODATION OPTIONS

There are plenty of accommodation options in Port Vila and students should make their own enquiries. Here is a list of a few places convenient to the CBD and / or USP, but there are plenty of others also. **Students should make their own enquiries regarding accommodation.**

### Budget

Coconut Palms	<a href="http://www.coconutpalms.vu/">http://www.coconutpalms.vu/</a>	popular with visiting students
Room with a View	no web site but you'll find reviews on the web	
Hibiscus Motel	no web site but you'll find reviews on the web	
Travellers Budget Motel	<a href="http://www.thetravellersmotel.com/">http://www.thetravellersmotel.com/</a>	

### More up-market

Poppy's	<a href="http://www.poppys.com.vu/">http://www.poppys.com.vu/</a>
Mangoes	<a href="http://www.mangoesresort.com/">http://www.mangoesresort.com/</a>
The Grand	<a href="http://www.grandvanuatu.com/">http://www.grandvanuatu.com/</a>
La Lagon	<a href="http://www.lalagonvanuatu.vu/">http://www.lalagonvanuatu.vu/</a>

Note: Many hotels will give discounts for those staying longer, sharing rooms, or for group bookings.

See also the <http://vanuatu.travel/> website.