

A nighttime photograph of the Sydney Opera House and the Sydney Harbour Bridge. The Opera House is on the left, illuminated with warm lights. The Harbour Bridge is on the right, also illuminated. The sky is a deep blue, and the water in the foreground is dark. The text 'INTERNATIONAL GUIDE 2016' is overlaid in white, serif font.

# *INTERNATIONAL GUIDE 2016*

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**SYDNEY UNIVERSITY  
LAW SOCIETY**

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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**SULS**



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# FOREWORD

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**ERIC VAN WINSSSEN**  
**SULS INTERNATIONAL OFFICER**



My name is Eric Van Winssen. I am the Sydney University Law Society's International Officer and am also an international student in the JD Program.

For those of you who are international and exchange students, new to Sydney: welcome! For those you who are domestic students, keen to pursue international law or an international career: best of luck!

This Guide was put together by myself and the members of the International Subcommittee, many of whom are either international students themselves or domestic students interested in international law. As such, we may likely share some of your interests or have had experiences similar to your own.

With that in mind, I hope that this Guide can be a useful resource for you in your studies here at Sydney Law School and in your career development. The focus is on three areas: living in Sydney/Australia; studying at Sydney Law School; and international career opportunities. Our team has endeavoured to provide you with an overview of each of these areas, including tips and pieces of advice that we believe can help you succeed.

In creating this year's Guide we have drawn on material from many resources, including previous versions of this Guide and publications done by other SULS portfolios. I would like to thank all those contributors for their hard work and extend a special thank you to the Publications and Design Subcommittees for their phenomenal work in bringing it all together.

I would like to thank the members of the International Subcommittee: Alexandra Alfaro, Darren Clark, Diana Lee, Kevin Mallon, Josh Riesler and Samantha Ryu.

In conclusion, I would like to present the 2016 SULS International Guide. I hope you find it a useful resource and please feel free to contact me with any questions you have.

Best regards,  
Eric

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*SECTION I:  
LIVING IN  
AUSTRALIA*



# ACCOMODATION

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Sydney is a diverse and fast-paced city, with hundreds of unique suburbs. It can also be very expensive. It is important to carefully consider which type of accommodation is best for you, as it will have a big impact on your study, work and living habits.

When considering different accommodation options, remember to think about factors such as proximity to university and work, affordability, availability, cultural connections, social events and activities, and transportation. It is also important to know your rights as a tenant, and to contact the SRC or SUPRA legal services if you have any difficulties or are unsure of something.

## *Living on-campus*

The benefits of living on campus include proximity to classes and easy access to university life. The University of Sydney is situated in a great area, close to shops, restaurants and the city.

On-campus accommodation options include the six residential colleges, the Sydney University Village (SUV), International House and university-owned share houses.

The Student Accommodation Services:

Level 5 Jane Foss Russell Building G02 5

Opening hours at 9 am – 5 pm, Monday to Friday

(02) 9351 3322

[sydney.edu.au/current\\_students/accommodation/on](http://sydney.edu.au/current_students/accommodation/on)

## *Living off-campus*

If you'd prefer to live off-campus, the Sydney University Accommodation Database lists available rooms, share houses and rental properties within close proximity to the University.

Additionally, the University maintains a page with links to various homestay agencies, hostels, and real estate agencies.

(02) 9351 3322

[sydney.edu.au/current\\_students/accommodation/database/index.shtml](http://sydney.edu.au/current_students/accommodation/database/index.shtml)

Other Online Resources:

- Flatmates: [flatmates.com.au](http://flatmates.com.au)
- Gumtree: [gumtree.com.au](http://gumtree.com.au)
- Domain: [domain.com.au](http://domain.com.au)

## Suburb profiles

### NEWTOWN

Newtown is conveniently located next to the main campus. Many of the college accommodations are also similarly located there. Getting to school is as easy as walking there (roughly 15-20 mins). There are buses that run down King St. that can take you to Central, the CBD and beyond or you can catch the train from Newtown or Macdonaldtown stations

Average rent per week:  
Unit: 460.00  
House: 750.00

### CAMPERDOWN

Camperdown, like Newtown, is located next to the University. It offers very similar to features but might be a bit quieter as it consists of more homes and less retail properties. While no train station is conveniently located, Camperdown is split by Parramatta Rd. which has very frequent buses heading into the Central Station and the CBD.

Average rent per week  
Unit: 600.00  
House: 720.00

### GLEBE

Glebe is also within walking distance to the University and there many places to grab a bus. Glebe is a fairly quiet suburb but it still maintains a good number of cheap places to go out to drink and eat. Glebe Road is known for its great variety of ethnic restaurants and the Broadway Shopping Centre is just a stroll away.

Average rent per week:  
Unit: 500.00  
House: 823.00

### REDFERN

Redfern station is a decent transport hub with a good variety of train lines giving you lots of option for getting around. Redfern is a longer walk to the University (20-30 mins) but, if you're so inclined, there are buses that run down Cleveland street that take you right there. There are lots of places for eating out or catching up with friends as well as the necessary day to day amenities.

Average rent per week  
Unit: 580.00  
House: 835.00

### SURRY HILLS

Surry Hills is a bit further out than Redfern but it has similar bus routes that will take you closer to University and Central station is usually a short walk away. Surry Hills has some of Sydney's best restaurants, bars and pubs lining Crown Street and is possibly the best location for food-obsessed Sydneysiders to live.

Average rent per week  
Unit: 588.00  
House: 850.00

*This sub-section was written by Darren Clark.*

# TRANSPORTATION

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## *Public transport*

Sydney offers a variety of ways to get around the city with public transport including the bus, ferry, train and light rail. Opal cards or individual tickets are required to make use of public transport, both are discussed in detail below.

### **BUS**

Sydney is unique amongst some major cities in that the tickets for buses must be bought prior to getting on the bus, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Tickets are usually available for purchase at local newsagents.

For more info see: [sydneybuses.info/](http://sydneybuses.info/)

### **FERRY**

The Ferry is a great way not only to catch public transport in Sydney, but also to experience the city as a tourist. The central hub of the ferries is located in Circular Quay and it provides access to many wharfs including Balmain, Double Bay, Manly, Parramatta, Taronga Zoo, Darling Harbour, and Cockatoo Island.

For more info see: [transport.nsw.gov.au/content/sydney-ferries](http://transport.nsw.gov.au/content/sydney-ferries)

### **TRAIN**

For greater distances, or even within the city limits, the train is a great option. With over 10 different service lines, and stops scattered throughout the city, the train can be a reliable alternative to the bus. The important thing to note is that train routes are often subject to track work, especially on weekends, which may close or partially close a train line. Therefore, it is a good idea to check the link provided below from time to time.

For more info see: [sydneytrains.info/](http://sydneytrains.info/)

### **TIMETABLES**

All public transport operates on a timetable system that is consistent Monday through Friday and varies on Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays.

For more info see: [transportnsw.info/en/maps-and-timetables/index](http://transportnsw.info/en/maps-and-timetables/index)  
[page#ferry-status-updates-item-tab](#)

### **CONCESSION TICKET ELIGIBILITY**

University students in NSW are eligible for the student concession sticker, which is placed on the student identification card and entitles them to receive 50% of full priced transport fares. International students are generally not entitled to transport concessions in New South Wales, however if an international student is on a university exchange then they are entitled to the concession card for the duration of their exchange.

[For International Students on Exchange \(ie for a semester or a year\)](#)

Students who are on a university sponsored exchange do qualify for the student concession and can organize this through the university.

For international students doing the entirety of a degree at the University of Sydney the concession card, and the discount of 50% is not available. International students who use a student ticket without a concession card will receive a fine. However there are alternative discounts available, explained in detail in the link below.

For more info see: [transportnsw.info/en/tickets/concessions/student-child](http://transportnsw.info/en/tickets/concessions/student-child)  
[index.page?](#)

## **OPAL CARD**

The Opal Card is a relatively new alternative to paper tickets for public transport in Sydney. It is a refillable transport card that can be used across all of the transport systems. Credit for the Opal Card and the Opal Card itself can be bought at most local newsagents.

For more info see: [opal.com.au/](http://opal.com.au/)

## **DRIVING**

If you are planning on driving in New South Wales you must have a valid New South Wales driver's license. If you already have a license from another country it will be valid for up to three months, after which you must take the necessary steps to obtain the New South Wales license. This will involve attending a local Road and Maritimes Services Centre, filling out an application and paying a processing fee.

For more information on how to obtain an Australian Drivers License or to transfer an existing license from another country please see the link below:  
[rms.nsw.gov.au/roads/licence/moving-to-nsw.html](http://rms.nsw.gov.au/roads/licence/moving-to-nsw.html)

*This sub-section was written by Darren Clark.*

# BEST OF SYDNEY

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Sydney is one of the great cities of the world and is the face of Australia. People spend their entire lives here and will still find new and exciting things they have yet to experience. As such, we've endeavoured to provide a shortlist of a few recommendations that we have, but please know that we have just scraped the surface.

## *Food and drinks*

One of the most redeeming features of the city is the cornucopia of cafes, restaurants and bars. Each neighbourhood has its own vibe and culture and the establishments seem to follow suit. Here is a list of a just a few of the places you should check out.

### NEWTOWN

- For a genuine and unique Newtown experience be sure to check out **Brewtown Newtown** where they roast their own coffee in house, have an all day breakfast menu and the signature 'brewnut', a delicious pastry that is a must try!
- **The Pie Tin**, an artisan pie bakery & café, that is the perfect place to eat at when you simply just can't decide whether you are feeling a sweet or savory pie.
- Cravings for the American take out staples like fried chicken and classic cheeseburgers? **Mary's** has got you covered. With graffiti interior walls, music and local brews on tap, its an experience no uni-student should go without.
- For a vegan meal, **Gigi's** has created a new Plant-Based menu to align with Gigi's ethics, whilst still using quality local ingredients, creating a perfect authentic Neapolitan woodfired pizza.
- A hip indie bar to spend some time at is the **Newtown Hotel**, where \$5 schooners of draught are a daily special that can be enjoyed in their buzzy beer garden.

### GLEBE

- Generous prices and fresh food are a combination that every uni-student wants, **Clipper Café** offers all day breakfast, numerous lunch options and delicious coffee that will make you want to come back for more.
- It's always a good time for **Doughnut Time**, located conveniently close to the university campus, take a break from studying at the library and satisfy your sugar craving with these specialty hand-dipped donuts.
- Be sure to visit the featured best café in Sydney for 2015 & 2016, **The Wedge Espresso**, where a range of reasonably priced sandwiches and specialty coffee are a must try.
- **Baja Cantina** brings California style Mexican food to Sydney. With reasonable prices, generous servings, authentic hot sauces and imported Mexican beer and Tequila, don't miss out on this unique experience.
- To cure those mid-week Wednesday blues, **The Friend in Hand Pub** has got you covered with \$10 jugs of Carlton and hermit carb races.
- For a more laid back atmosphere, the **Different Drummer** has an extensive list of cocktails to be enjoyed in a cozy setting and also have 2-for-1 cocktails during their "happy hour," which actually runs for an hour-and-a-half between 6 and 7:30. **The Little Guy** is another choice, which offers beer, cocktails and free spiced popcorn with trivia Monday and live music in Tuesday, Thursday and Sundays.

## SURRY HILLS

- **El Loco Excelsior** offers affordable tasty Mexican food with a slight Asian twist, open until 3am every Friday and Saturday, experience this late night fiesta while filling up on \$6 tacos and caramel churros.
- For the very best gelato in Australia, **Messina** sets the benchmark by offering a diverse range of over 40 flavours at one time and 5 special flavours per week!
- A great burger for a great price of \$10 can be enjoyed at **Chur Burger** where they keep things simple, cooking each burger to order and best served with a vanilla milkshake!
- **The Clock Hotel** is a laid-back and eclectic pub with a huge balcony and courtyard serving modern Australian food and pizza, offering something for everyone.
- For classic Thai cuisine, **Muum Maam** is Sydney's finest new Thai restaurant that offers a street style Tuk Shop for quick and delicious lunch meals as well as a classic Thai cuisine dinner in a relaxed, cool environment. There are 3 new lunch specials every week (from \$10) and at least 4 new dinner specials that change every month!

## CHIPPENDALE

- At **The Duck Inn & Pub** there is something to love every night, from \$5 schooners and trivia to \$16 burgers and beer, enjoy this reliable hearty pub food in a relaxed space with comfy couches or in the sunny beer garden.
- For breads, sweets and Mecca coffee visit **Brickfields Bakery and Café**, close to campus and is a cool, contemporary evocation of the old village baker.
- **Three Williams** is your weekend brunch spot that is located in a warehouse-style space offering affordable all-day breakfast and lunch options.
- For an afternoon that involves being camped up in a beer garden, and making jugs of beer and pizzas vanish without a trace, be sure to check out the rustic **Rose Hotel**.

If you're new to Sydney, you may also want to experience a few of the features for which Sydney is renowned:

- **Sydney Opera House** is one of the world's great icons, be sure to snap a photo of this graceful building while gliding by on a harbour cruise or ferry. However, for one of the best photo opportunities of the Opera House and the **Sydney Harbour Bridge** talk a walk to Mrs Macquarie's Chair. For a breathtaking panorama of the city and harbour, join in on a guided climb to the 135 meter-high summit through **Sydney BridgeClimb**.
- **Darling Harbour** is a hub for tourists and locals alike, experience the **SEA LIFE Sydney Aquarium** which contains the world's largest collection of Australian marine creatures, or the **Powerhouse Museum** which offers interactive exhibits on science, technology, design and history, or the **Australian National Maritime Museum** where you can board a replica of Captain Cook's ship. Be sure to take a break from the hustle and bustle of this pedestrian precinct by sipping tea among the willow and koi ponds in the **Chinese Garden of Friendship**.
- Sydney is famous for its beaches, to experience fantastic coastal views take a 6km coastal walk along the cliffs from **Bondi to Coogee**. The multiple beaches and parks along this walk offer a place to rest, swim or a chance to eat at one of the cafes, hotels, or restaurants. Be sure to stop for a bite to eat at the **Coogee Pavilion** with a menu ideal for sharing that offers a range of food from freshly shucked oysters and sashimi to wood-fired pizzas. Alternatively, have a bite at one of the many restaurants beside the **Bondi Pavilion** or at the casual and affordable bistro, **Bondi Icebergs Club**. For a truly unique experience, be sure to take a 30-minute ferry from Circular Quay to **Manly Beach**, a favourite seaside destination with its excellent shops and a beachfront promenade that takes you to **Shelley Beach** where you enjoy a meal at the rustic beachside Kiosk, café and restaurant, **The Boathouse**.

## *Events you cannot miss*

Sydneysiders love their holidays and certain times of the year the city really comes alive:

- On 26 January each year, Australians come together to celebrate their national day, **Australia Day**, with many events such as floating concerts, aerial displays and the great Aussie Swim. Finish celebrating the national day by watching the spectacular fireworks and twilight ceremony in Darling Harbour starting at 7:00pm.
- **The Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Parade** will be held on 4 March 2017, be sure to not miss out on one of the world's most memorable parades and join in with hundreds of thousands of others to create a call for love, inclusion, respect and equality.
- On 25 April each year, join in on one of Australia's most important national occasions, **ANZAC Day**, which marks the anniversary of the first major military action fought by Australian and New Zealand forces during the First World War. Start the day off by attending the commemorative service held at Bondi Beach or the ANZAC Day parade, followed by having a drink at the Glenmore, the Argyle or the Australian Heritage Hotel and play a game of Two-up. This game is banned for most of the year so be sure to take the opportunity to take part of this historic game!
- **Vivid Sydney** festival takes place 27 May – 18 June 2016, enjoy this annual outdoor festival of light, music and ideas. It transforms Sydney into a wonderland of 'light art' sculptures, innovative installations and grand-scale projections.
- 8 October to 25 October 2016, is a good food month because it is time for the **Night Noodle Markets**, with 50 food stalls across Hyde Park experience the colour, sounds and smells of an Asian hawker market.

*This sub-section was written by Alexandra Alfaro.*

# BEST OF AUSTRALIA

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Whether Australia is a foreign land and you want to experience all that it has to offer or you simply cannot remember the last time you left Eastern Avenue, there are plenty of options for those looking for a holiday.

## *Weekend trips around Sydney*

- Only a two-hour drive north of Sydney, the **Hunter Valley** is the perfect place for a one-day wine tasting tour or a weekend getaway with fine win and gourmet food. A wine tasting tour, with pick up and drop offs locations in Sydney, is a convenient and affordable way to explore what this valley has to offer.
- The **Blue Mountains** is a listed World Heritage site close in proximity to Sydney, making it an ideal getaway for a day trip. While it is more convenient to travel to this destination by car, there is a Sydney train service to the Blue Mountains from Central Railway Station. Sightsee natural landmarks such as the **Three Sisters**, go for bushwalks that feature amazing views and waterfalls, and also experience one of the most famous caves in Australia, the **Jenolan Caves**.
- Visit the country's first official national park, **The Royal National Park**, it is approximately 30km south of Sydney and accessible by car with a park entry fee of \$12 per vehicle per day. There are plenty of bushwalking trails, although be sure to visit the **Wattamolla Beach, Lagoon and Jump Rock**, and the **Figure 8 Pools**.

## *Trips for study weekend*

- Be sure to visit **tropical North Queensland**, considered the gateway to Australia's **Great Barrier Reef**, fly into **Cairns** and rent a **JUCY Campervan** a convenient way to explore and have accommodation. Head north to **Port Douglas** where the iconic **4-mile beach** is situated and join in on a snorkel or scuba diving tour of the Great Barrier Reef. Don't miss out on visiting **Cape Tribulation** where two spectacular

World Heritage sites meet, the Daintree Rainforest and the Great Barrier Reef. Also visit the **Whitsundays**, which is made up of 74 Island Wonders, the most famous of which is **Whitehaven Beach**.

- **Byron Bay** is the perfect coastal town in the northern rivers region of NSW. Arrive in Byron Bay by taking a flight to the Ballina airport then followed by a 30min drive to the town of Bryon Bay or by taking a coach bus directly from Sydney to Byron Bay. There are plenty of hostels for the budget traveller as well as dinner and drink specials at the local bars and, as the town is small, everything is in walking distance.
- Visit Victoria's capital, **Melbourne**, a city with stately 19th century buildings and a plethora of amazing bars, restaurants and cafes. From rooftop bars like **Goldilocks** to trendy restaurants such as **ChinChin**, there is never a shortage of new and exciting food spots. Melbourne is the place for seeing koalas in the wild while driving to the **Cape Oatway Lighthouse**, or to see little penguins march along the beach at **Philip Island**, or take a drive on the **Great Ocean Road** and see the iconic **12 Apostles**.
- If time and finances permit, traveling in **Western Australia** would easily be an unforgettable experience with destinations such as the **Margret River** or the **Ningaloo Reef** where you can swim with whale sharks Manta Rays and **Broome**, the exotic pearling town where you can ride a camel on the beach during sunset or see the dinosaur tracks that are revealed in the beach's red rocks during low tide. A quick flight from Broome to **Alice Springs**, in the Northern Territory, would allow you to experience the true outback at Uluru where you can hike around the base of the rock and camp over night in the Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park to watch the awe-inspiring sunset and sunrise over **Uluru**.

*This sub-section was written by Alexandra Alfaro.*

*SECTION II:  
STUDYING AT  
SYDNEY LAW SCHOOL*



# SYDNEY LAW SCHOOL BASICS

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Students often find it takes a while to adjust to studying law. The discipline is demanding by its nature and students all need to find what techniques work for them. That said, here are a few fundamentals that may assist you:

## *Note-taking techniques*

It goes without saying that note-taking is one of the essential skills to master in law school. It is easy to borrow or buy notes but it is always best to make your own notes to gain a deeper understanding of the material.

## **CASE SUMMARIES**

Don't just aimlessly summarise cases without bearing in mind the format of the exam. Exams usually consist of two problem questions, so you probably won't need extensive facts. What you will need, however, is a list of authorities you can use and a list of steps you will go through to tackle the problem. Case summaries usually entail concise and relevant facts, contended issues, the final outcome of the case, the principle of law established, and key reasoning (include key dissenting judgments).

For many classes, it is helpful to organise notes according to the reading guide set out in the unit of study outline. For others, it may be easier to follow the lecturer's headings, as some aspects of the reading guide may be outdated and not examinable. It's likely that your notes will continue to undergo substantial edits throughout the semester, so don't spend too much time trying to perfect them each time.

As STUVAC approaches, try to make condensed and customised versions of these summaries by organising key principles, cases, legislation into flowcharts, diagrams, and scaffolds. Then practice using them when you're answering past exam questions.

## **LECTURE NOTES**

One of the benefits of turning up to class is that the lecturer goes through a vast amount of content efficiently by focusing on what is important, highlighting important judgments and things to know for the exam. Pay close attention to what the lecturers point out in passing comments and examples they give to aid understanding.

After the lecture, try to review and tidy your notes to help with memorisation. Combine these notes with your reading notes as well as the key topic summaries on the slides and materials provided on eLearning.

## **SUPPLEMENTARY READINGS**

The recommended further reading materials are useful to consult if you are confused about a particular concept. However, it should also be noted that they also tend to briefly brush over complex topics you are required to grasp, whereas others may cover issues of contention in unnecessary depth. Watch out for the quality of these sources and make sure you don't rely on them as an alternative to the compulsory readings.

## *Practice questions*

Note-taking is only one part of exam preparation. The best way to learn how to apply your knowledge is to practice solving the problem questions. It also helps you identify areas you need to improve on, and allows you to test whether your notes contain exam-friendly scaffolds and checklists. Working with a group of friends is also useful to discuss confusing areas and learn to reach a conclusion.

These can be found on the library catalogue or given during the last lecture. Reviewing tutorial questions and refreshing your memory is also a good way to practice. Try writing your responses out by hand to simulate exam conditions.

## *Exam techniques*

### **READING TIME**

Usually, law exams provide a generous amount of reading time. Read the question multiple times so you don't miss key issues that are not as obvious the first time you read them. Plan out your responses before you start writing because your answers may not end up being coherent or relevant to the issues.

### **TYPES OF EXAMS**

#### A. Open-Book Exams

You will always be pressed for time in any law exam, and open-book exams are no different. For the most part, you will not have enough time to go through notes to find the answer, so you should know what the answer roughly is beforehand. Familiarize yourself with the statute and case law, and make tab labels for each topic in your notes before the exam so you can locate them easily.

#### B. Closed-Book Exams

Don't be terrified of closed-book exams - you don't have notes, but neither does anyone else. It does require an extra bit of rote-learning, so make sure to memorise wordings of certain phrases from judgments, definitions, and the case names.

#### C. Take-Home Exams

First identify the specific requirements of the take-home exam. See if the exam requires research outside of course material, or is confined to the material covered in classes. Unlike other exams, take-home exams may require footnoting, so follow the given directions for formatting. Copying and pasting

from your notes may be tempting, but make sure you don't include irrelevant information or end up accidentally plagiarising. Since you are only given 24 or 48 hours, get the bulk of the material out first and then spend time editing.

### **TYPES OF QUESTIONS**

#### A. Problem Questions

IRAC (Issue, Rule, Analysis, Conclusion) is the common structure recommended for approaching problem questions. Always make sure to consider the parties involved, what actions each party may raise or be subject to, elements required for each action, and a tentative conclusion from the likely outcome of the application of the rule and authority. This should be done using succinct language without flowery introductions, addressing all of the issues (some weighted more than others), using appropriate authority for each proposition.

#### B. Essay Questions

Although essay questions also require spotting issues and forming arguments, essay questions are different from problem questions because you are invited to think more critically. Since essay questions usually ask for your opinion on a contentious issue, look through areas of laws which are unsettled and become familiar with the reasoning in leading cases including the dissenting judgments, as well as articles and comparisons. Be direct in addressing the question, define key terms, and introduce each argument using clear topic sentences.

*This sub-section was written by Diana Lee.*

*Information in this sub-section was sourced from the 2015 SULS Education Guide.*

# ACADEMIC SUPPORT

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Moving to a new country to study is a big step and can definitely take time to adjust, since Australian tertiary studies may also differ from those of other countries. With the competitive atmosphere and the dense nature of material, law school workload can also be a handful, and it is normal to feel overwhelmed. The University recognises these concerns and offers both international and domestic students various academic support services.

## *International student office / international student advisors*

The International Student Office (Level 3 of the Jane Foss Russell Building) is a good place to start if you are an international student having trouble finding the right places to go for your needs. The student advisers can provide help you access scholarships financial assistance, accommodation and housing advice, social activities, disability support, student visa assistance, and more. You can contact them via e-mail or phone, but it is best to set up an appointment to meet (see <http://sydney.edu.au/contact-us.html>).

## *Faculty of law information desk*

Don't forget the Law Information Desk (located on Level 3 of the Law School Building) staff are also happy to help with any general enquiries from Monday to Friday, 10 am to 4 pm. If they cannot provide an answer straightaway, they will usually provide contact details of someone in the Law School who may be able to provide assistance. You can also go to them for documents including timetable change request forms, unit of study outlines, and assessment cover sheets.

## *PASS program*

Led by former Distinction or High Distinction law students, Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS) are free learning programs that involve weekly, one-hour sessions in which students focus on problem questions by working in groups. Since it is student-led and discussion-driven, PASS encourages a collaborative focus and engagement that can

foster better understanding of the material than simply reading cases and making notes. Since there are limited spots available for each unit, it is best to register at the beginning of each semester: [http://sydney.edu.au/business/study/services/pass/pass\\_in\\_law](http://sydney.edu.au/business/study/services/pass/pass_in_law).

## *Law library*

Legal research is an important tool but can be very confusing in the beginning. In addition to the legal research classes offered, the Law Library has a body of qualified staff who are available during its opening hours who can help with using databases to find the information you need. Set up an appointment if you need to sit down and talk about learning to research for an assignment by calling 02 9351 0220 or e-mailing [law.library@sydney.edu.au](mailto:law.library@sydney.edu.au).

## *Special Consideration*

If you are unable to hand in an assessment on time, consider first e-mailing your unit coordinator before the due date to apply for a simple extension, which are usually granted up to seven days.

If your request is refused, however, consider applying for a formal extension. This is available for students who are not able to complete an assessment or sit an examination due to a serious misadventure, illness, or injury. You will need to provide supporting documentation such as a doctor's certificate no later than five days after the assessment date. For LLB students, see [http://sydney.edu.au/law/cstudent/undergrad/special\\_consideration.shtml](http://sydney.edu.au/law/cstudent/undergrad/special_consideration.shtml); for JD students, see [http://sydney.edu.au/law/cstudent/jd/special\\_consideration.shtml](http://sydney.edu.au/law/cstudent/jd/special_consideration.shtml).

*This sub-section was written by Diana Lee.*

# INTERNATIONAL LAW SUBJECTS

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The following contains information about elective units offered in the area of international law. LL.B students must undertake 42 credit points of elective units, which comprises of a maximum of 36 credit points from General electives and a minimum of 6 credit points from Jurisprudence electives. JD students must undertake 42 credit points of elective units after they have completed their compulsory units in JD2. They can be broken down into a minimum of 6 credit points from International, Comparative and Transnational electives, a maximum of 30 credit points from General electives, and a minimum of 6 credit points from Jurisprudence electives.

## *International Economic Law (LAWS3439/5159)*

Description: This unit largely deals with the law of World Trade Organization such as the functions of WTO in economics of trade, public choice, and game theory. It exams the history and application of the General Agreement on Tariffs and trade, and a detailed study of the WTO dispute settlement system.

Session: Semester 2

Coordinator: Dr Brett Williams

Assessment: 2,500 wd essay (33.3%) and 2.5 hr exam (66.6%)

Course Structure: 1 x 6.5 hr seminar/wk for 6 weeks

Session: Semester 2

Coordinator: Prof David Kinley

Assessment: 4000 wd essay (60%) and take-home exam (40%)

Course Structure: 2 x 2 hr seminars/week for 10 weeks

## *International Commercial Arbitration (LAWS3437/5136)*

Description: This unit covers the fundamentals of international commercial arbitration including the international arbitration process, its significance in international dispute resolution, the significance of a well drafted arbitration agreement, legal issues arising from cross border arbitrations, enforcement of arbitral awards, and use of mediation in commercial dispute resolutions.

## *International Human Rights Law (LAWS3434/5134)*

Description: This unit is an introduction to principles and practice of international human rights law through key concepts, debates, documents and institutions. It addresses fundamental questions of breaches in international human rights law and examines a) the fora where international human rights law is being produced; b) particular settings where it is being deployed; and c) particular identities or subjects that international human rights law aims to influence or regulate.

Session: Semester 2

Coordinators: Prof Luke Nottage, Prof Chester Brown

Assessment: Either 1) 3,500 wd optional mid-term assignment (50%) and 1 x 2 hr exam (50%) or 2) 1 x 3 hr exam (100%)

Course Structure: 2 x 2hr seminars/week for 10 weeks

## *International Moot (LAWS3489/5199)*

Description: This unit involves participation in one of the three international moots in which students will work as a team preparing memorials and oral arguments. The ones in 2016 will be the Jessup Moot, William C Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot, and the Tokyo Negotiation Arbitration Competition. There is a competitive selection process involved for enrolment.

Session: Semester 1, March

Coordinators: Prof Chester Brown (Vis Moot), Dr Alison Pert (Jessup Moot), Prof Luke Nottage (Tokyo Negotiation and Arbitration Competition).

Assessment: General course participation (15%), research and writing of memorials (35%), preparation and participation in moots (50%). Assessments vary for individual moots.

Course Structure: At coordinator's discretion.

## *International Comparative Jurisprudence (LAWS3436/5136)*

Description: This unit focuses on the theoretical relationship between the variability of law and social contexts in which it operates. It applies comparativist theory and empirical methodology from different perspectives to study the operation of society's law in different cultural systems, nation states, and societies, at the international level.

Session: Semester 1

Coordinators: Assoc Prof Alex Ziegert

Assessment: 1000-2000 wd research plan (40%) and 3750-5000 wd research paper (60%)

Course Structure: 2x2 hr seminars/week for 10 weeks

## *Migration, Refugees and Forced Migration (LAWS3499/5199)*

Description: This unit examines a fast-moving area of public law by examining government regulation of entry to persons into Australia, issues surrounding refugees and asylum seekers, covering both immigration law and domestic aspects of forced migration.

Session: Semester 1

Coordinators: Prof Mary Crock

Assessment: 3000 wd research essay (50%) and 2 hr exam (50%)

Course Structure: 2 x 2 hr seminars/wk for 10 weeks

# EXCHANGE OPPORTUNITIES

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Exchange is a unique opportunity for students to study law for a semester in a vastly different environment. While on exchange, students are able to meet a variety of new people, experience new cultures and places and enhance their international legal education.

## *Eligibility*

To be eligible for exchange in 2016, you must:

- Be in the final year of the JD or LL.B in 2016.
- Have a WAM of 65 for university wide exchange and 70 for faculty-specific exchange. For American universities, you will usually require a WAM of 75.
- Be enrolled full-time at the University of Sydney (a minimum of the equivalent of 24 credit points per semester) whilst on exchange.
- Be proficient in the language of instruction if applying to an institution where classes are taught in a language other than English.
- Submit a strong application, demonstrating you are a well-rounded and adaptable person.

## *Law faculty exchange*

In 2016, Sydney Law School will send thirty-five students on faculty-specific exchanges to leading universities across North America, Asia and Europe. Approximately thirty to forty students are granted the opportunity to study overseas each year through the Sydney Law Exchange Program, which has a distinguished reputation for facilitating a high-quality legal education with an array of choices of creditable units.

If you are unable to hand in an assessment on time, consider first e-mailing your unit coordinator before the due date to apply for a simple extension, which are usually granted up to seven days.

If your request is refused, however, consider applying for a formal extension. This is available for students who are not able to complete an assessment or sit an examination due to a serious misadventure, illness, or injury. You will need to provide supporting documentation such as a doctor's certificate no later than five days after the assessment date. For LLB students, see [http://sydney.edu.au/law/cstudent/undergrad/special\\_consideration.shtml](http://sydney.edu.au/law/cstudent/undergrad/special_consideration.shtml); for JD students, see [http://sydney.edu.au/law/cstudent/jd/special\\_consideration.shtml](http://sydney.edu.au/law/cstudent/jd/special_consideration.shtml).

## **HOW TO APPLY**

Applications open in June each year to go on exchange for either semester the following year. Students may select as many as five universities. Applications are submitted through the University website and require two academic referees (one of whom must be from the Law School). Students will also be asked to explain why they wish to go on exchange and reasons for their choice of universities.

## **EXCHANGE UNIVERSITIES**

In 2016, the following institutions were available for faculty specific exchange, with some limitations:

- Austria University of Vienna
- Belgium Katholieke Universiteit Leuven
- Canada Queen's University, Ontario
- Canada University of Victoria, British Columbia
- China East China University of Political Science and Law
- China Renmin University of China
- Denmark University of Copenhagen

- France Universite Paris 1 Pantheon-Sorbonne
- Germany Bucerius Law School, Hamburg
- Germany Humboldt University, Berlin
- Ireland Trinity College, Dublin
- Japan Kobe University, Kobe
- Netherlands Radboud University, Nijmegen
- Netherlands Utrecht University, Utrecht
- Netherlands Vrije University, Amsterdam
- Singapore National University of Singapore
- United Kingdom University of Nottingham
- United States Cornell University, Ithaca, New York
- United States University of Texas, Texas
- United States University of Virginia, Charlottesville

### *University-wide exchange*

The university-wide exchange program, offered alongside the faculty-specific exchange program, allows law students to study law subjects at other universities that are not available through the faculty-specific exchange.

#### **HOW TO APPLY**

There are two rounds of applications each year: one in May, to go on exchange the first semester of the following year; and one in October, to go on exchange in the second semester of the following year. You can choose up to five universities for either faculty-specific or university wide exchange.

Applications are made through Sydney Student and require documentation including a Statement of Purpose, two academic referees (who are emailed a form via the system once you've inputted their contact details) and a study plan for each university in which you choose your subjects.

#### **EXCHANGE UNIVERSITIES**

In 2016 the following institutions were available for university-wide exchange, with some limitations:

- Canada University of British Columbia
- Canada University of Ottawa
- Canada University of Toronto
- Denmark University of Aarhus
- Finland University of Helsinki
- Israel Hebrew University of Jerusalem
- Israel Tel Aviv University
- Korea Yonsei University
- New Zealand University of Auckland
- Norway University of Bergen
- Norway University of Oslo
- Sweden Lund University
- Sweden Uppsala University
- The Netherlands Leiden University
- The Netherlands University of Groningen
- United Kingdom University of Glasgow
- United Kingdom University of Manchester
- United Kingdom University of Stirling

*This sub-section was written by Josh Riesler.*

*Information in this sub-section was sourced from the 2015 SULS Education Guide and the Sydney Law School webpage.*

# OFFSHORE STUDY UNITS

Sydney Law School has established cooperation agreements with renowned law schools around the world. Through these opportunities abroad, both undergraduate and postgraduate law students are able to study in Europe and Asia with the choice of various intensive units that are taught during Winter and Summer breaks.

## *Himalayan Field School: Development and Human Rights*

Description: This unit provides students with the opportunity to explore the intriguing legal challenges associated with socio-economic development and human rights in the context of a developing country.

Location: Melamchi and Kathmandu, Nepal

Session: Semester 1

Dates: 19-31 January 2015

Eligibility: Students enrolled in a Bachelor of Laws, Juris Doctor or other postgraduate law program may be eligible for this course.

The Kathmandu School of Law in Nepal accepts twenty students each year. Students who have completed the equivalent of one-year full-time of the JD program are eligible to apply, as are students who have completed the equivalent of three-years full-time of the LL.B program, if they have completed all required units to that stage in their degree.

## *Kyoto and Tokyo Seminars in Japanese Law*

Description: This unit provides the unique opportunity for students to become immersed in the study of Japanese law on an intensive basis. It aims to broaden the skills of students with an interest in comparative law, while gaining exposure to the Japanese legal system. The program is jointly organised by Sydney Law School and Ritsumeikan University School of Law in collaboration with the Australian Network for Japanese law. Students may also gain credit

towards postgraduate studies through their participation in Kyoto and Tokyo seminar program.

The Kyoto Seminar focuses on the way in which law operates throughout Japanese society, and the Tokyo Seminar deals with business law topics with regard to a socio-economic framework. The program also includes field trips to various legal institutions.

Location: Kyoto and Tokyo, Japan

Session: TBC

Dates: TBC

Eligibility: Students enrolled in a Bachelor of Laws, Juris Doctor or other postgraduate law program may be eligible for this course.

The unit is available to undergraduate law students who have completed at least third year Combined Law. Juris Doctor students who must have completed the first year of a JD program are also eligible. Twenty-five students are accepted each year.

## *Shanghai Winter School: East China University of Political Science and Law*

Description: The Shanghai Winter School is an intensive three-week introduction to the study of Chinese law and the legal system in China. The primary focus will be on the evolution of the Chinese legal system by examining its role in the development of Chinese society, as well as the influence of law in a socialist market economy. Topics include Chinese legal history; constitutional law; criminal law and procedure; contract law; financial law; foreign trade law; intellectual property law; and environmental law.

Location: Shanghai, China

Session: Summer Break 2016

Dates: 28 November–16 December 2016

Eligibility: Students enrolled in a Bachelor of Laws, Juris Doctor or other postgraduate law program may be eligible for enrolment in this course.

Undergraduates must have completed the equivalent of three-years full-time of the LL.B program to be eligible to apply, provided they have completed all required units to that stage in their degree. Juris Doctor students must have completed the equivalent of one-year full-time of the JD program to be eligible, although those students who have completed LAWS6857 Introduction to Chinese Law are ineligible for enrolment in this course.

### *South East Asia Field School*

Description: The Southeast Asia Field School is an intensive two-week course taught in English. Students will spend one week in each of two Southeast Asian countries. In 2015, the course was held in Indonesia and Malaysia. The goal of this course is to introduce to the legal systems of both countries to students, while contrasting features of those systems that differ from common law legal systems.

Location: Yogyakarta, Indonesia and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Session: July semester break 2016

Dates: 28 November–16 December 2016

Eligibility: Students enrolled in a Bachelor of Laws, Juris Doctor or other postgraduate law program may be eligible for this course.

The unit is available to undergraduate law who have completed at least third year Combined Law. University of Sydney Combined Law students who have completed all the requirements of their first degree by the end of semester one, including all law units of study, are eligible for this program. Juris Doctor students who have completed the first year of a JD program are also eligible.

### *Contractual Damages*

Description: In this unit students will analyse damages as the primary remedy for actions for breach of contract. This remedy will be contrasted with other remedies, such as specific performance and restitution. Students will learn in a seminar style about the various elements of a damage claim and the different bases for assessment of damages.

Location: Cambridge, UK

Session: Semester 2

Dates: 25–28 September 2016

Eligibility: This course may be undertaken as part of a postgraduate program or as a continuing professional development (CPD) unit for lawyers.

Juris Doctor applicants may be eligible if they have completed the first year of a JD program and must ensure they have made satisfactory progress in their core units to be eligible to enrol (usually a minimum of 72 credit points at the commencement of the program).

### *Media Law: Comparative Perspectives*

Description: This course examines key issues in media law, including defamation law, privacy and breach of confidence, contempt of court, and more. Students will have the opportunity to attend guest lectures by leading media law academics, lawyers and commentators from the UK.

Location: Cambridge, UK

Session: Semester 2

Dates: 4–8 July 2016

Eligibility: Postgraduate students and final year JD students who are eligible to enrol in Master's electives may apply to this unit. This unit is a semester 2 unit of study and will count towards JD students' semester 2 study load.

Juris Doctor applicants may be eligible if they have completed the first year of a JD program and must ensure they have made satisfactory progress in their core units to be eligible to enrol (usually a minimum of 72 credit points at the commencement of the program).

## *Philosophy of Law*

Description: This unit involves discussions of the concept of law, the notions of obligation, authority and the legitimacy of law. This unit will also explore the main theories of legal interpretation, the special role of the concept of rights in legal theory, and principles of determining the moral limits of coercion.

Location: Berlin, Germany

Session: Mid-semester break

Dates: 14-20 July 2016

Eligibility: Students must be eligible to undertake elective units in 2016. JD applicants must have completed the first year of a JD program, and must ensure they have made satisfactory progress in their core units to be eligible to enrol (usually a minimum of 72 credit points at the commencement of the program).

Location: Berlin, Germany

Session: Semester 2

Dates: 10-14 October 2016

Eligibility: Students will have completed their undergraduate law degree, completed legal studies as part of a business or commerce degree or LAWS6252 Legal Reasoning & the Common Law System.

## *Principles of Oil and Gas Law: Norway*

In this newly offered unit students will learn about the distinctive legal issues of oil and gas exploration and production, along with the legal and regulatory responses of oil-producing states.

Location: Stavanger, Norway

Session: Semester 2

Dates: 11-15 July 2016

*This sub-section was written by Josh Riesler.*

*Information in this sub-section was sourced from the 2015 SULS Education Guide and the Sydney Law School webpage.*

## *Plain English in Legal Writing*

Description: The objective of this course is to analyse the role of plain English in legal writing, with regard to contract drafting, property documents, statutes and advice-writing. Students will also examine the reasons for the 'traditional style' of legal writing in contrast with the issues that arise with the use of plain English.



*SECTION III:  
INTERNATIONAL  
CAREERS*

# EMPLOYMENT IN AUSTRALIA

## *Visa and migration options*

Visa Type	Pros	Cons
<p><b>Skilled Independent Visa (Subclass 189)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Skill/occupation must come under the 'Skilled Occupation List' [Solicitors and Barristers are eligible for application]</li> <li>- To apply for this visa, you must first submit an 'expression of interest', which includes a positive skills assessment for the nominated occupation, and must score at least 60 in the points test (based on a myriad of factors such as age, English language ability, etc.)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Successful applicants will be granted permanent residency and will be able to stay in Australia indefinitely, and will also become eligible to apply for Australian citizenship</li> <li>• Successful applicants will be able to sponsor eligible relatives for permanent residence</li> <li>• You can apply for this visa in or outside of Australia</li> <li>• You may include your partner (married or de facto), children or other dependent relatives in the visa application</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When including family members in the visa applications, there is an extra fee for each family member that is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 18 years or older</li> <li>- Has 'less than functional' English</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Temporary Graduate Visa (Subclass 485)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Recent International student graduates with qualifications under 'Skilled Occupation List' may apply to study or work in Australia for a further 18 months</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is a straightforward pathway to extending your time in Australia as soon as you complete your tertiary education as an international student</li> <li>• This visa could be used as a transitional step before applying for the 'Skilled Independent Visa'</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You must be inside Australia when applying for this visa</li> <li>• You may only apply for this visa once as a primary applicant</li> </ul>
<p><b>Temporary Work (Skilled) Visa (Subclass 457)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A skilled worker, who has been nominated by an approved business, may work in their nominated occupation for up to 4 years</li> <li>- Occupation must fall under the 'Skilled Occupation List'</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You may bring your family to work or study in Australia under this visa</li> <li>• After 2 years of work under this visa, permanent residency may be applied for under the Employment Nomination Scheme (Subclass 186) – under this scheme, your nominating employer must offer you a permanent position in the relevant occupation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If you stop working for the business that sponsored your visa, you must either find another employer who will sponsor you (and lodge a nomination), apply for a different visa or make arrangements to leave Australia</li> </ul>

Visa Type	Pros	Cons
<p><b>Working Holiday Visa (Subclass 417)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Must be between 18 and 31 years of age with enough money to support yourself on a working holiday (plus funds for airfare)</li> <li>- Maximum 1 year granted (with up to four months of study permitted)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online applications are open for passport holders of: Belgium, Canada, Republic of Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Republic of Ireland, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Taiwan, United Kingdom</li> <li>• If you are onshore and want to extend your stay, you may apply for a 'Second Working Holiday Visa'. To be eligible for Second Working Holiday Visa, you must have completed three months of specified work in regional Australia during your first Working Holiday Visa</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must not previously have entered Australia on a Work and Holiday (Temporary) visa (Subclass 462)</li> <li>• You may only work up to six months with one employer unless given permission by the Department of Immigration and Border Protection to work longer</li> <li>• This visa option will unlikely result in permanent residency, created for genuine visitors with an intention to return to their homeland</li> </ul>
<p><b>Temporary Graduate Visa (Subclass 485)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Recent International student graduates with qualifications under 'Skilled Occupation List' may apply to study or work in Australia for a further 18 months</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is a straightforward pathway to extending your time in Australia as soon as you complete your tertiary education as an international student</li> <li>• This visa could be used as a transitional step before applying for the 'Skilled Independent Visa'</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You must be inside Australia when applying for this visa</li> <li>• You may only apply for this visa once as a primary applicant</li> </ul>
<p><b>Work and Holiday Visa (Subclass 462)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Same requirements as above but this visa applies to applications from: Argentina, Bangladesh, Chile, China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Poland, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Thailand, Turkey, United States of America, Uruguay</li> </ul>	

Further information for each visa can be found on the Department of Immigration and Border Protection website: <https://www.border.gov.au/Trav/Visa-1>

The website also contains a fee calculator that will estimate the cost of your visa.

## *Career options for international students*

For many international students, working in Sydney, or Australia more generally, is the first port of call. In the current legal market, there are numerous challenges to gaining employment. For international students these challenges are supplemented by additional hurdles which must be overcome.

### **QUALIFICATION**

Upon completing your law degree you must complete the Practical Legal Training course as the first step to practicing law in Australia. Following completion of your PLT, you may be admitted as a lawyer in the relevant State or Territory. Subsequently, you may obtain a practicing certificate to practice as either a solicitor or barrister.

For more information, please refer to the SULLS Careers Guide and the relevant State or Territory Law Society's webpage.

### **INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY OPPORTUNITIES**

For international students, many public sector career opportunities are unavailable, as they require either Australian citizenship or permanent residency. Careers in the private sector are more accessible to international students, though almost all law firms will give preference to domestic applicants.

The International Subcommittee has informally gathered a list of firms which have, in the past, stated a willingness to consider international applicants.

Firms willing to consider international applicants:

- Allen & Overy
- Allens
- Clifford Chance
- Herbert Smith Freehills

Firms will consider international applicants that can demonstrate their intention to pursue permanent residency:

- Ashurst
- Baker & McKenzie
- Corrs Chambers Westgarth
- K&L Gates
- King&Wood Mallesons
- Minter Ellison
- Norton Rose Fulbright

Please note that this list is informal and does not reflect the official position of any of the firms listed. Furthermore, any firm listed may have subsequently changed their policies. International students should consult each law firm's website and inquire with human resources department as to its policy regarding international applicants.

### **APPLICATION DEADLINES IN 2016**

The recruitment dates for each State are set by the relevant Law Societies. For more information, please consult the relevant websites.

New South Wales

- Graduate Programs: 15 April
- Clerkship Programs: 17 July

Queensland

- Graduate Programs: 15 August
- Clerkship Programs: 21 March

Victoria

- Graduate Programs: 21 August
- Clerkship Programs: 14 August

Western Australia

- Graduate Programs: N/A – The Law Society of Western Australia has a program which allows students who have yet to obtain a graduate position to submit their resume and prospective employers may then contact them directly
- Clerkship Programs: 7 August

## ALUMNI PROFILE

*Carolyn Rainsforth*



UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY, JURIS DOCTOR

### BACKGROUND

My husband is from Adelaide. We met while I was studying in Sydney. Immediately after graduating in November 2012 I moved here. I completed my GDLP (Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice) (College of Law equivalent for South Australia) at the University of Adelaide. A week after I was admitted I landed a job!

### NOTABLE CHALLENGES

Firstly, I did not study in Adelaide so had not built up any connections here. I honestly didn't know a soul. My degree was from interstate so I had to undergo a formal accreditation procedure to have my degree from Sydney University recognized here. Secondly, I was Canadian! I think it tends to be in the backs of employers' minds that you will eventually head back to where you came from, so it's difficult for them to want to invest in you. They say that new law graduates are a financial liability for the first two years. It is only after a bit of experience that they can bring expertise and clients into the firm. (That's what my boss says anyway!) That means that they really need to know you're a "sure thing" and that you're going to stick around for the long haul.

My advice in that regard would be to always be extremely confident that you plan on settling in Australia. That was my attitude

from the day I stepped off the plane and that has served me really well. I feel I got a really well rounded experience in law school and embraced everything, instead of having one foot back in Canada emotionally. Not that I don't miss Canada; of course I do. But it's a mind shift you have to teach yourself in order to really succeed here, or in any other country really. Even if in your heart you aren't sure, be confident about it outwardly.

### THE JOB MARKET

I obtained my job in a different way than most. There is currently a recession going on in South Australia, so the majority of newly admitted lawyers are not finding jobs. I always knew I did not want to work in a big firm, so I drafted an email and researched small firms near where I lived that specialized in criminal/family matters (which is what I was most interested in). The email said something to the effect of "I am recently graduated, really interested in what it's like to work in a small criminal/family/insert specialty here firm, and would love to be able to speak to you about it". No mention of "I'm looking for work". The point was to establish some connections, because I knew once people actually met me they might give me a chance, so the key was to get through the door.

The majority of lawyers never wrote back, unsurprisingly. But then one did! I had two interviews, brought along my academic transcript and resume, and that's how I got my job! I work in a small general practice right by the beach, I get to go to court quite a bit which I love, lots of client contact, my own office, and great hours. And I really think it comes down to the unconventional way I approached it. This of course would not work for those wanting to get into big commercial firms but it would work for others.

### CONCLUDING ADVICE

Remind students that getting a clerkship isn't the be all and end all of your career. So many people are so unhappy in large commercial firms. There are lots of other really fulfilling ways to practice law. Approach it in a different way to the rest of your cohort, and you may just get lucky.

## *Part time employment*

As an international student on a student visa, you will be able to work for up to 40 hours per fortnight and unlimited hours during semester breaks.

When looking for a part time job, a good place to start is to check out the University of Sydney CareerHub. As a Sydney University student, you can use your UniKey account to access this database, containing a variety of different jobs both on and off campus.

You should further note that:

- There are also several workshops throughout the year organised by CareerHub. Many are specifically designed to guide International students in writing a resume, preparing for a job interview, and so on.
- There is also a career advisor available upon appointment.
- This service will be available for up to 5 years after graduation and registration as alumni with the website will be required as a graduate.

### **PAID EMPLOYMENT**

#### General Databases:

The databases below (but not limited to) are useful for finding general work not specifically within the legal field.

- University of Sydney CareerHub
- Seek
- Indeed
- CareerOne
- Australian Job Search

#### Law-Specific Job Search Databases:

- Beyond Law Job Hub
  - “Australia’s #1 job site for law students, graduates & young lawyers”
  - <https://beyondlaw.com.au/>

- Pro Bono Australia
  - A database which contains jobs and volunteering opportunities, connecting jobseekers with Not-for-Profit organisations
  - <http://probonoaustralia.com.au/search-jobs/>

#### Sydney Talent

- The University of Sydney connects students and graduates with work through the Sydney Talent initiative.
- Registration is required and candidates must submit:
  - An up-to-date CV
  - An outline of current studies
  - Brief cover letter stating personal career objectives
- To register, visit: [sydney.edu.au/sydneytalent/](http://sydney.edu.au/sydneytalent/)

#### University of Sydney Legal Careers Webpage

- The law school advertises various legal jobs for students. The majority of jobs listed on this site are legal work, i.e. casual or part-time jobs at law firms or volunteering in legal aid organisations.
- [sydney.edu.au/law/cstudent/undergrad/future.shtml](http://sydney.edu.au/law/cstudent/undergrad/future.shtml)

### **UNPAID EMPLOYMENT**

Sydney Centre for International Law offers four internship positions each year to law students (2 interns for each semester).

- Applicants must be current undergraduate or JD students at the University of Sydney and must have completed ‘Public International Law’
- A strong academic record and an interest in international affairs will be favoured
- Successful interns are required to work one day per week for one semester

To apply and find out more information, visit [http://sydney.edu.au/law/scil/for\\_students/](http://sydney.edu.au/law/scil/for_students/)

### Sydney University Law Society

- The Sydney University Law Society offers multiple volunteering opportunities throughout the year.
- <http://suls.org.au/social-justice/volunteering/>

### Amnesty International NSW Legal Network

- If you are interested in the protection of human rights, Amnesty International has a variety of 'Action Groups' in NSW that seek members and volunteers. Among these Actions Groups is the 'NSW Legal Network', comprised of legal activists. Typical jobs include providing legal research and raising awareness about the legal operation of human rights.
- NSW Legal Network is a fortnightly commitment, meeting every second Monday
- Expressions of interest can be emailed to [nswlegalnetwork@amnesty.org.au](mailto:nswlegalnetwork@amnesty.org.au)
- For more information, visit: <http://www.amnesty.org.au/nsw/group/30191/>

### Law Careers Fair

- At the beginning of each year, a myriad of law firms and services gather in the Great Hall for students to come, ask questions and seek career advice. These fairs provide students with an opportunity to make professional connections with employers from a variety of backgrounds.
- To check when the next fair is scheduled, visit: [http://sydney.edu.au/careers/student\\_events\\_workshops/careers\\_fair/law.shtml](http://sydney.edu.au/careers/student_events_workshops/careers_fair/law.shtml)

*This sub-section was written by Josh Riesler and Samantha Ryu.*

*Information in this sub-section was sourced from various locations, including but not limited to the Sydney Law School website, the Law Society of New South Wales Website, and the Department of Immigration and Border Security website.*

# EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS

## *United Kingdom (England & Wales)*

The UK legal market is going from strength to strength. The UK legal market can be a fun and challenging change of pace for Australian law graduates who want to step out from the splendid isolation of the domestic market and participate on the global stage.

The structure of the legal market in the UK is similar to that in Australia in that it can be separated into different tiers of firms. The 5 leading firms are known collectively as the “Magic Circle”; they are:

- Allen & Overy
- Clifford Chance
- Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer
- Linklaters
- Slaughter and May

Not far behind are the ‘Silver Circle’ firms, which record slightly lower turnover but a much greater than average profit

- Herbert Smith Freehills
- Ashurst
- Berwin Leighton Paisner
- King & Wood Mallesons
- Macfarlanes
- Travers Smith

To work in the UK you must qualify to practice, there are two ways to accomplish this.

### **STEPS FOR QUALIFIED AUSTRALIAN LAWYERS**

#### Solicitors

1. Apply to the SRA using the Apply using the Qualified Lawyers Transfer Scheme Form (QLTS-2), fulfilling the requirements of the Suitability test.

- a) Must be a qualified lawyer in recognised jurisdiction;
- b) Must satisfy English Language requirements or have completed your degree in English; and
- c) Must be of good character.

2. If you receive a Certificate of Eligibility certifying the above, you then sit the QLTS examinations:

- a) Multiple Choice Test; and
- b) Objective Structured Clinical examinations.

#### Barristers

1. Apply to Bar Standards Board to have training assessed by the Qualifications Committee.

- a) Must provide evidence that they are of a good character;
- b) Must prove you have practiced for at least three years, and regularly practiced in court;
- c) Must prove you are in good standing and do not have a criminal record; and
- d) Must provide proof of professional qualifications and English competency.

2. Depending on qualifications and experience, you may then be assigned to complete further academic or vocational training, or assigned the Bar Transfer Test, which can exempt you from certain stages of training.

### **STEPS FOR NON-QUALIFIED AUSTRALIAN LAWYERS (LAW GRADUATES)**

#### Solicitors

1. Satisfy the academic requirements and then apply to the SRA to have your qualifications assessed.

2. Follow the domestic route for qualification:

- a) apply for 12 month full-time Legal Practice Course (LPC);
- b) undertake 2 year training contract at a law firm; and
- c) complete Professional Skills Course (PSC).

## RECRUITMENT PROCESS

To work in the UK your best shot is to secure a training contract. Operating like a graduate program, most will run for two years and will involve four rotations.

Many firms will recruit their 'trainees' from vacation scheme programs. Vacation schemes are short internships run during semester breaks and are similar to clerkships. Vacation schemes in London are most commonly run during July, with applications closing between mid-December and the end of January.

After the completion of a training contract you are not guaranteed a job at the firm, however 80% of trainees stayed at the firm that provided training in 2015. Deadlines for applications for training contracts starting 2018 range from May 31 2016 – August 1 2016, prospective applicants should seek out specific firm policies.

## RESOURCES

- Official website of The Law Society of England and Wales
  - o [lawsociety.org.uk](http://lawsociety.org.uk)
- Official website of the Solicitors Regulation Authority
  - o [sra.org.uk](http://sra.org.uk)
- Official website of The Bar Council
  - o [barcouncil.org.uk](http://barcouncil.org.uk)
- For a comprehensive overview of firms operating in the UK see:
  - o [legal500.com](http://legal500.com)

## ALUMNI PROFILE

*Ashique Rahman*



SYDNEY LAW SCHOOL, LL.M.  
SYDNEY LAW SCHOOL, LL.B.  
UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES, BACHELOR  
OF SCIENCE

### BACKGROUND

Mr Rahman is a senior associate at Fietta, a law firm entirely dedicated to public international law and international arbitration. “My work includes representing private clients and sovereign States on a broad range of contentious and non-contentious public international law matters, including arbitral proceedings brought under investment treaties,” he stated.

### LIFE AFTER SYDNEY UNI

“Following completion of my Bachelor of Laws at Sydney University, I practiced in Australia for a number of years before completing an LL.M from the same institution, specialising in public international law and international dispute resolution. Thereafter, I joined a public international law firm based in London.”

### WORKING IN LONDON

For Mr Rahman, his decision to pursue public international law seems to have provided him the impetus to move to London. “While there are opportunities in Australia to practice public international law and investment treaty arbitration, the market tends to be dominated by practitioners and law firms based in London, Paris, Washington D.C., and more recently, in Asian capitals such as Hong Kong and Singapore,” he wrote.

### HIGHLIGHTS

In writing to us regarding his experiences thus far, Mr Rahman emphasized the positive experiences he has had thus far. “The “highs” are many and include, working with colleagues who are incredibly intelligent, come from diverse backgrounds and have deep knowledge of and experience in all aspects of public international law.”

### TIPS AND ADVICE

When asked to provide advice to students looking to follow a similar career path to his own, Mr Rahman wrote:

“Public international law is a field that lies at the crossroads of academia and legal practice. Leading public international law practitioners often are also thought leaders in their field. I would encourage students who are interested in a career in public international law to pursue their academic interests (whether it be through further study or through publishing their work) in conjunction with practice. There are also many international courts, tribunals and organisations that provide invaluable practical experience for young practitioners in the field.”

## Canada

Like Australia, the majority of the Canadian provinces implement the UK common law system. With its abundant natural beauty and resource wealth and close proximity to the United States, Canada is a favourite destination for those looking for a cooler climate. The National Accreditation Committee oversees the accreditation of international degree holders and is a necessary step before qualification. At the moment, applicants need to apply to individual provincial bar associations for practicing certificates; however, there has been talk of moving to a nationalised standard in the near future.

The top tier law firms in Canada are collectively known as the “seven sisters” and are comparable to the Big 6 in Australia pre 2012.

- Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP
- Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP
- Goodmans LLP
- McCarthy Tetrault LLP
- Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP
- Stikeman Elliott LLP
- Torys LLP

Of course, there are many other firms operating in the Canadian market. For more information please see <http://www.lexpert.ca/500/canadas-largest-law-firms/>

### QUALIFYING IN CANADA

Law graduates and qualified lawyers must apply to the NCA for assessment before you begin the process of qualifying in Canada. Coming from the University of Sydney, applicants will need to pass 5 Canadian specific subject examinations:

- Canadian Administrative Law
- Canadian Constitutional Law
- Canadian Criminal Law
- Foundations of Canadian Law
- Canadian Professional Responsibility

In addition, candidates must demonstrate competency in Contracts, Torts, Property and Business Organizations (Corporations law). For University of Sydney purposes, this equates to a grade of 55% or higher.

After completion of the NCA Accreditation process, candidates must complete the province-specific accreditation program.

### British Columbia

Complete 12 month Law Society’s Admission program, which requires you to:

- Complete 9 months of articles in a legal workplace;
- Complete 10 week Professional Legal Training Course (PLTC); and
- Pass 2 qualification examinations.

### Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan

1. Complete the Canadian Centre for Professional Legal Education Articling Program (CPLLED). This process takes approximately 10 months.
2. Pass 10 competency assessments.

### Ontario

Complete ‘Barrister Examination’ and/or ‘Solicitor Examination’ followed by one of the following:

1. Complete an Articling Program
  - a) Complete 10 months of articling
  - b) Complete online Professional Responsibility and Practice Course
2. Complete the Law Practice Program at Ryerson University (English) or the University of Ottawa (French):
  - a) Four-month training program
  - b) Four-month work placement

# ALUMNI PROFILE

*Marnie Lusis*



SHEA NERLAND LLP, ASSOCIATE  
SYDNEY LAW SCHOOL, JURIS DOCTOR  
UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY, BACHELOR OF ARTS IN  
POLITICAL SCIENCE

## BACKGROUND

Ms Lusis is a Canadian, born and raised in Calgary, Alberta, and is currently an associate at Shea Nerland LLP. After traveling through Australia during her undergraduate studies and subsequently completing a full year exchange at Macquarie University, Ms Lusis decided she wanted to remain in Australia to pursue her law degree. Attracted to the School's domestic and international reputation, she pursued a Juris Doctor degree at Sydney Law School.

## LIFE AFTER SYDNEY UNI

After graduating, Ms Lusis felt called to return to Canada and embarked on the route to qualification as a lawyer in Alberta. She submitted her application to the National Committee on Accreditation ("NCA") within a few weeks of receiving her final transcript, received her determination and undertook the requisite exams. All in, the NCA process took almost 12 months. During this time, while not studying for the exams, she worked for a media and design company, which allowed her to assist the in-house legal team and develop connections in the legal community.

Following her successful completion of the exams, Ms Lusis began searching for an articling role. Much like in Sydney, most of the major corporate law firms in Calgary recruit from their summer student cohorts. According to Ms Lusis, "the biggest hurdle for me was not being able to do a summer associate role." Being outside of the

typical recruiting schedules meant she had to be more entrepreneurial in her approach.

As a result, she focused on mid-sized corporate firms that had strong practices in areas she wanted to work. "From there it was just a matter of hitting the pavement," said Ms Lusis. After a few months of searching she was offered an articling contract at the firm now known as Shea Nerland LLP. Ms Lusis is now an associate with the firm, where she advises public companies on mergers and acquisitions and individuals in respect of business start-ups.

## WORKING IN CALGARY

According to Ms Lusis, working in Calgary presents different opportunities and challenges than she would have faced in Sydney. As a smaller, primarily service-driven market she gets the opportunity to view much more of a business's life cycle than she would have working in Sydney. "Our firm works with a lot of start-up companies, which gives me the opportunity to work with individuals with a concept, advising them from incorporation to expansion plans to raising capital and beyond."

One could still expect many similarities, as she is still working in corporate law. "It's not a 9-5 job," Ms Lusis cautioned. Her background, however, enables her to do more international work, especially for Canadian companies looking to extend into Australia.

## HIGHLIGHTS AND CHALLENGES

One piece of caution Ms Lusis shared was regarding the rigours of qualifying in foreign countries. The law is different in each jurisdiction and is very specific – there will always be hurdles in getting admitted. "Students must understand what the requirements are and be prepared for the all work and effort that it takes," she said.

That said, she believes the hard work is justified by the experience of living and working abroad. "Studying at Sydney University was a truly great experience – really worth it and very rewarding."

## TIPS AND ADVICE

"Put yourself out there." According to Ms Lusis, there were not networking events set up for foreign qualified students so she had to work harder to get in touch with people in the industry and build a network. "Go for coffees, send emails, try and chat with people whenever you can. Networking and putting myself out there is what I found was the key to success."

## *United States*

At present there are only three jurisdictions which will recognize Australian law degrees; they are New York, California and Washington DC. This might change with the implementation of the Uniform Bar Examination (UBE) which standardizes the bar exam in 21 states; however, at the moment all other American jurisdictions require specific American legal courses.

Top Tier American firms will differ based upon the metric used. As a general rule the top tier firms operating in New York are known collectively as “White Shoe firms”; those in California do not suffer from similar colloquialism.

### **NEW YORK**

1. Have a ‘qualifying degree’ from a law school accredited by the NY Bar Association (Check)
2. Complete the online ‘Foreign Evaluation Form’ via the New York State Board of Law Examiners.
3. Once approved, complete the ‘Online Bar Exam Application’ and pay \$750 Application Fee.
4. Sit the NY Bar Exam.

Source: Official website of the New York State Bar Association – [nysba.org](http://nysba.org)

### **CALIFORNIA**

1. Ensure compliance with Title 4, Division 1 of the Rules of the State Bar of California (Admissions Rules).
2. Have a ‘qualifying degree’ from a law school accredited by the State Bar of California.
3. Complete online ‘Registration as a Foreign Educated General Applicant’ and pay \$113 Registration Fee.
4. Have an evaluated law degree equivalency report and ‘Foreign Law Study Evaluation Summary Form’ to be completed by credential evaluation agency (approved by Committee).
5. Provide certified transcript of all legal studies completed.

### **6. Sit the California Bar Exam**

Source: Official website of the State Bar of California – [calbar.ca.gov](http://calbar.ca.gov)

### **RECRUITMENT PROCESS**

Those wishing to practice in the US are best served by first practice at a premier Australian firm, and then move laterally after a few years of domestic experience. Most US firms will not require Australian lawyers to already be qualified for the bar upon hiring, but will expect completion of the Bar Exam within 12 months. The recruitment cycle timing is very similar to Canada, and dates will vary depending on the geographic location of the firm. NY firms will generally close in May, with Californian firms closing around July.

## ALUMNI PROFILE

*Maryam Jahedi*



MARYAM JAHEDI LAW FIRM, ATTORNEY  
SYDNEY LAW SCHOOL, JURIS DOCTOR  
UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, BACHELOR OF  
ARTS IN ECONOMICS

### BACKGROUND

Ms Jahedi is a Sydney Law School graduate that is now a criminal defence lawyer in New York City. She is fluent in Farsi and is now living in her fourth country. While studying at Sydney University, she developed an interest in both criminal and international law. In pursuit of those interests she gained extra-curricular experience by working with the Intellectual Disability Rights Service in Sydney.

### LIFE AFTER SYDNEY UNI

Ms Jahedi chose the JD Program at Sydney University with the ultimate goal of practicing in New York, as despite it nascence it was accepted and recognised by the New York Bar Association.

Her first step was to undertake a prep course. "I really recommend completing a prep course," she said. "In the final year American law schools focus on preparing students to pass the exam." This luxury is not afforded to foreign law students, which makes completing a prep course even more important.

While waiting for her application to pass she gained experience working with the Legal Aid Society in Manhattan working on the Prisoners' Rights Project. For Ms Jahedi, this was an important step as it allowed her to hone her advocacy skills and receive training for criminal defence lawyers all while pursuing a cause she believed in.

Upon being called to the bar she decided to start her own law firm. According to Ms Jahedi, criminal law in New York City is very competitive and most firms are quite small. Starting your own firm is a daunting task, "but if you are willing to work hard and realise that you are building something of your own, I recommend going for it," said Ms Jahedi.

### WORKING IN NEW YORK CITY

As mentioned above, criminal law in New York City is very competitive and comprises many small law firms. Further, since there is no solicitor/barrister distinction you have to really work to develop a client base. Having just started a new firm, Ms Jahedi decided to focus on getting involved with as many bar associations and societies as she could, trying to build her reputation and get cases through word of mouth. "It's important to accumulate as much support as you can and develop a network of people you can leverage."

### HIGHLIGHTS AND CHALLENGES

In discussing her decision to start her own criminal law firm in New York City Ms Jahedi spoke of the ownership she had as a major benefit. "I have my own schedule, I can pick my own clients and I can follow what I think is right to do."

However, this freedom does not come without risks. "They never taught me how to run a business at Law School," she said, emphasising that you need to be a bit of a risk taker to start your own firm. There will be unexpected challenges, especially with administrative matters, that one must be prepared for.

### TIPS AND ADVICE

Ms Jahedi's biggest piece of advice was to get out and ask for help. "Coming from another country I recommend you find one or two people that you respect and can trust." As the only attorney at her firm, she mentioned the ability to have a couple of other lawyers on speed dial if she ever needed to ask for help as something that gave her more confidence.

Moreover, she strongly recommends engaging in volunteer work. "For me I went to high schools and churches to inform people of their legal rights. They didn't care I was new and it gave me an opportunity to build a network and develop a connection with the community."

## Hong Kong

As a former British colony, Hong Kong's Common Law legal system resembles the legal system of England in many ways. Like Australia, the profession is split into barristers and solicitors. Additionally, registered foreign lawyers can practice in Hong Kong advising on the law of their home jurisdiction.

The Five biggest firms operating in Hong Kong are:

- Mayer Brown JSM
- Deacons
- Baker & McKenzie
- Linklaters
- Clifford Chance

Outside the big 5, a number of premier Australian-market firms operate in Hong Kong:

- King & Wood Mallesons
- Herbert Smith Freehills
- Allen & Overy
- Reed Smith Richards Butler
- Woo Kwan Lee & Lo
- Hogan Lovells

### **TO WORK AS A SOLICITOR IN HONG KONG AFTER GRADUATION:**

1. Complete the Post-graduate Certificate in Laws (PCLL) by either getting exemptions for subjects, or competing them as part of the Conversion Exam.
2. Work in a Hong Kong law firm for two years under a training contract.

The PCLL requires applicants to demonstrate competency in 11 core subjects:

Contract, Tort, Constitutional Law, Criminal Law, Land Law, Equity, Civil Procedure, Criminal Procedure, Evidence, Business Associations, Commercial Law.

For applicants with a common law degree from outside of Hong Kong, competence may be demonstrated if the core subjects were completed as part of their degree; exemptions may be granted by the PCLL Conversion Board if so. If these exemptions are not granted,

students will have to sit the Hong Kong Conversion Examination for PCLL Admission.

### **TO WORK AS A BARRISTER IN HONG KONG:**

1. Meet one of the following requirements:
  - a) hold a Postgraduate Certificate in Law (PCLL)
  - b) be a solicitor in Hong Kong or
  - c) be an overseas lawyer.
2. Undertake one year of pupillage at chambers (unpaid).
3. Apply to the Bar Council for admission.

### **TO QUALIFY IN HONG KONG AS A ADMITTED AUSTRALIAN LAWYER:**

1. Have at least two years of post admission experience in the practice of law; and
2. Pass all of the Heads of the Overseas Lawyers Qualification Examinations (though applicants may be able to receive exemptions): 1) Conveyancing, 2) Civil and Criminal Procedure, 3) Commercial and Company Law, 4) Accounts and Professional Conduct, 5) Principles of the Common Law.

### **PRACTICING AS AN ADMITTED AUSTRALIAN LAWYER IN HONG KONG:**

Foreign lawyers can practise on a fly-in/fly-out basis if their presence in Hong Kong is limited to three continuous months or 90 days in total (over a 12 month period). Any longer stays require registration as a foreign legal consultant. However, they are not permitted to advise on Hong Kong law unless they are admitted.

Foreign lawyers can be admitted as Hong Kong solicitors either by;

1. obtaining an exemption from; or
2. going through the Overseas Lawyer Pathway (above)

For More information:

- PCLL Conversion exam
  - o [pcea.com.hk/package.html](http://pcea.com.hk/package.html)
- PCLL University of Hong Kong
  - o [ple.hku.hk/pcll/](http://ple.hku.hk/pcll/)

## Recruitment Cycle in Hong Kong

The recruitment process is slightly different from that of Australia, with firms offering clerkships, vacation programs, training contracts and pupilages. The process is not as standardized as it is here in Australia and each firm will have a slightly different process; however, the general format is below:

### **CLERKSHIPS**

A clerkship will run for approximately 4 weeks but and represent an opportunity to gain knowledge of a different legal structure while soaking up the rich, vibrant culture of Hong Kong. There are two cycles; summer and winter. Applications for summer roles will generally close January/February of the relevant year (2017 summer clerkships will close January/February 2017). Winter applications will close August/September 2017.

Recruitment process: Applicants must generally complete an application form detailing relevant information and submit a resume, cover letter, academic transcript and references either online or by email or post. Selected applicants will be invited to attend an interview with HR and potentially

a second interview with senior partners of the firm, although this differs from firm to firm.

Application deadlines: applications are often accepted on a rolling basis, and thus it is recommended that they should be made several months in advance

### **VACATION PROGRAMS**

Vacation programs provide student with the benefit of an early exposure to the legal industry, and it is strongly recommended that students interested in being considered for training contracts apply.

Successful applicants have the opportunity to gain understanding and the skills required to become an effective solicitor.

Recruitment process: The application process is similar to those above - generally consisting of a detailed application form, resume, cover

letter and potential interviews.

Application deadlines: Applications should be made several months in advance and firms usually interview all their vacation program alumni for training contracts

### **TRAINING CONTRACTS (GRADUATE ROLES)**

Completion of the training program will lead to admission as a practicing solicitor. Unlike Australia, applications for a training contract in Hong Kong will require significant preparation on your part. Again, the process will differ from firm to firm, however the standard application must be completed approximately 2 years before your first day at work.

Recruitment process: The application process is similar to that for the clerkship - generally consisting of a detailed application form, resume, cover letter and potential interviews. Interviews will generally be given to all students who have previously participated in the firms vacation programs, however all applicants will be considered. Applicants may only accept an offer if they have passed the PCLL examination.

### **PUPILAGES**

For those students who wish to become barristers, the best course of action is to gain admission to a Pupilage program. These programs are run by a large number of barristers' chambers in Hong Kong and offer pupillages with the aim of providing comprehensive and in-depth training for pupils. Through the program, successful applicants will be exposed to a wide range of commercial, company and general civil work as well as have the opportunity to learn from leading practitioners in the Hong Kong Bar.

Recruitment process: Applicants must generally submit a full resume and detailed cover letter along with academic references by email or post. Selected applicants will be invited to attend potential interviews with the relevant recruiters.

Application deadlines: Applications should be made 1 to 2 years in advance.

## China

The legal system in the PRC was re-established in 1979 after the Cultural Revolution. It is a civil law and was initially developed under the influence of the German civil law system. Foreign law firms are subject to various restrictions; they are not allowed to practice PRC law, including providing any legal opinions on its application, and any PRC lawyers they hire must suspend their licenses. What foreign law firms can do includes providing legal advice on non-Chinese law.

Practising in China with a University of Sydney degree is complicated by the fact that foreign nationals cannot be admitted to practise in mainland China. Foreigners are not allowed to practice as an authorized lawyer in mainland China. Foreign lawyers can only work as legal counsel – to provide legal advices regarding certain issues) for a representative office of a foreign law firm established in mainland China.

Large law firms/ offices in Mainland China

- Yingke Law Firm
- Dacheng Law Office
- King & Wood Mallesons
- DeHeng Law Offices
- Grandall Law Firm

Steps to qualifying IF **candidate has Chinese citizenship or residency status in Hong Kong, Macau or Taiwan:**

1. Obtain approval for the eligibility of the degree at the Chinese Service Center for Scholarly Exchange (CSCSE).
2. Pass the National Judicial Examination (NJE), administered by the Ministry of Justice.
3. Apply for a one year Vocational training program and sign a training contract, and register with the local lawyers association.
4. Take the exam after at the end of this training program - and then apply to be admitted as a practising lawyer.

For more information:

- Official website of the International Bar Association
  - o [ibanet.org/PPID/Constituent/Student\\_Committee/qualify\\_lawyer\\_China.aspx](http://ibanet.org/PPID/Constituent/Student_Committee/qualify_lawyer_China.aspx)
- Official website of the National Judicial Examination developed by the P.R.C. Ministry of Justice
  - o [moj.gov.cn/sfks/node\\_8007.htm](http://moj.gov.cn/sfks/node_8007.htm)

### RECRUITMENT PROCESS

There are no universal pathways to practise in China as a foreign national; it comes down to the individual firm. Some global firms with access in China may offer secondments (for example, King & Wood Mallesons and Baker & McKenzie), and some firms may also take overseas students as interns (for example, Fangda Partners offers internships to overseas students). The process is far from standardized and those interested are best served to contract the firms directly. It is important to note that proficiency in Mandarin is a must.

## Singapore

Singapore is widely regarded as one of the leading commercial legal centres of Southeast Asia and the larger region. The increasing dominance of Asia in driving the world economy is cementing Singapore's position as a global legal hub, with many global firms expanding into the region. Singapore's international reputation as the leading centre for arbitration in the Asian region is has placed it the world map as the arbitration and international dispute resolution seat of choice.

### **AUSTRALIAN LAW GRADUATES WITHOUT A SINGAPOREAN CONNECTION:**

Foreign law graduates may practise law in Singapore by undergoing the Foreign Practitioners Examination (FPE), which allows experienced foreign lawyers to practise Singaporean law within permitted areas of legal practice. The permitted areas include banking and finance, mergers and acquisitions and intellectual property.

Foreign practitioners are required to have gained admission to a Bar overseas with at least three years of practical experience, and have obtained an offer to work in Singapore.

### **SINGAPOREAN CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS OF SINGAPORE**

1. Obtain at least a 70% average from an approved overseas university as a "full-time candidate".
2. Pass Part A of the Singapore Bar Exam.
3. Attain at least six months of recognised legal experience.
4. Pass Part B of the Singapore Bar Exam - a compulsory 5-month practical law course and examination for both local and overseas graduates.
5. Fulfill the Practice Training Period requirement (e.g. a six month Training Contract with a Singapore law practice).

### More information see:

- Singapore Institute of Legal Education
  - o [sile.edu.sg](http://sile.edu.sg)
- The official website of the Ministry of Law Singapore
  - o [mlaw.gov.sg](http://mlaw.gov.sg)
- Singapore Corporate Counsel Association
  - o [scca.org.sg](http://scca.org.sg)

### **RECRUITMENT PROCESS**

Many firms will offer Summer and Winter internship programs, running July and December respectively (reverse from Australian calendar). Applications will typically close around 6 months before the start date. For example, Baker and McKenzie's 2016 Winter program applications close on the 31st of August 2016.

Applications for practice training contracts are generally open in September, for a start date two years in the future. For example, September 2016 for a 2019 start date.

## ALUMNI PROFILE

*Michael Dunmore*



STOCKHOLM UNIVERSITY, LL.M.  
SYDNEY LAW SCHOOL, LL.B.  
UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY, MASTER'S DEGREE IN  
CRIMINOLOGY  
UNIVERSITY OF WINDSOR, BACHELOR OF ARTS  
(HONOURS)

### BACKGROUND

Mr Dunmore is an associate working in the Dispute Resolution practice group at a major international law firm in Tokyo. Hailing from Ontario, Canada, he moved to Sydney to complete his Master's Degree in Criminology.

After deciding to pursue an LL.B. at Sydney Law School, Mr Dunmore took a course in international arbitration, convincing him to pursue a career in the field. Subsequently, in between his second and third year of law school he took part in an internship at the Beijing Arbitration Commission and participated the Sydney in Shanghai Winter school.

### LIFE AFTER SYDNEY UNI

Once Mr Dunmore completed his law degree, he interned for two leading arbitration institutions in Asia: The Singapore International Arbitration Centre and the Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre. He then further interned at the International Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong before being admitted in New South Wales.

Mr Dunmore subsequently completed his Master's Degree in international commercial arbitration at Stockholm University and interned at WilmerHale in London, one of the world's pre-eminent law firms, providing him the opportunity to work with and learn from some of England's leading arbitrators. While in London he qualified as a solicitor in England and Wales.

Following his stint in Europe, Mr Dunmore was an international case counsel at the Kuala Lumpur Regional Arbitration Centre. Subsequently, he was hired as an associate at a major international law firm in Tokyo.

### WORKING IN TOKYO

Mr Dunmore highlighted that the work culture in Japan is very different from Australia. In particular, the working hours are much longer. Students considering a career in Japan should be aware of the demanding work culture.

He also recommends mastering Japanese if seriously considering a career in Japan. He is one of only a few lawyers at his firm that doesn't speak the local language, which presents various obstacles.

### HIGHLIGHTS AND CHALLENGES

Mr Dunmore spoke very enthusiastically about his experiences working and living in Tokyo. "The food is amazing, it's very clean, there is always something going on and it's a really fun and safe place to live. I really enjoy the lifestyle, even without speaking the language."

With that in mind, Mr Dunmore reiterated that the work culture isn't for everyone, especially people that have never worked at an international law firm before. "The working hours and way of approaching work is quite different and it took me some time to become accustomed to it."

### TIPS AND ADVICE

For working in Japan Mr Dunmore's biggest piece of advice was for students to learn as much as they can before making the trip over. "Learning the language and understanding the culture is extremely important."

For working in arbitration, obtaining a masters degree specifically in international arbitration is also highly recommended (if not essential).

## *South Korea*

In recent years, South Korea has opened up its legal market to foreign law firms, which has seen a growing demand for foreign-trained lawyers. Foreign-trained lawyers may either practice as a Foreign Legal Consultant (FLC), prohibited from practising Korean law but able to advise on the jurisdiction in which they are qualified, or pass the Korean Bar exam and be qualified to practise in Korean law as an attorney.

### **PRACTICING IN SOUTH KOREA AS A FOREIGN LEGAL CONSULTANT**

To become an FLC, candidates must have practised in their respective jurisdiction for at least three years. FLCs may then operate representative offices, or be hired by law firms whose head offices' countries have signed and ratified a relevant Free Trade Agreement with the Republic of Korea. Relevant registration criteria include a license to practise law in a country that is a party to an FTA with Korea, a minimum of three years' experience in that country, and residence in the Republic of Korea for at least 180 days per year. There are also restrictions on the area of legal services that FLCs may participate in.

### **PRACTICING IN SOUTH KOREA AS LOCALLY ADMITTED ATTORNEY**

Alternatively, there are two requirements for a foreign practitioner to be admitted locally. Candidates must first complete a graduate level law school program at an approved Korean university and then pass the Korean Bar Examination. After being qualified to commence practice, the applicant must register with the KBA.

#### For More Information:

- Korean Ministry of Justice
  - o [moj.go.kr/HP/MOJ03/menudo?strOrgGbnCd=100000&strRtnURL=MOJ\\_10205010](http://moj.go.kr/HP/MOJ03/menudo?strOrgGbnCd=100000&strRtnURL=MOJ_10205010).

*This sub-section was written by Kevin Mallon.*

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