



LAWS5126 (Sem 1, 2024) - FAQs

Welcome to LAWS5126 (Medical Law) for 2024.

You may have seen from the timetable that we have made an exciting change to the course this year. The change has been brought about following student feedback, as well as course planning and development.

In order to address some frequently asked questions about this new course structure, this document has been developed to assist students.

Background

Medical Law has traditionally been the most popular elective in the law school. While we have had a history of solid student enrolments, many of our students have been later year students who are working. It is often difficult for such students to attend on campus 2 hours each week, for 13 weeks. All undergraduate electives at the law school have been offered on a 13 week, on campus attendance model. This provides little choice for students who would prefer a different mode of teaching, or who cannot commit to attending campus every week. For this reason, we decided this year, to run the course in intensive mode.

Class timings

Classes will be offered over two successive weekends:

1. The weekend immediately prior to the start of Semester 1 i.e. 17-18 February,
2. The weekend at the end of week 1 of Semester 1 i.e. 24-25 February.

These dates have been carefully chosen to avoid clashing with other courses.

Please note that it will not be possible to enrol in this course for 2024 after 25 February 2024.

Assessment tasks

The assessment is as in previous years - an item of progressive assessment worth 40%.

A final exam worth 60%. Timings of the assessment is to be advised.

But there is no intent that all items of assessment will be completed as part of the two week-ends classes.

The final exam will be undertaken at a date to be advised - but that date will not be in the final exam period.

Advantages of undertaking the course in this mode

Teaching in intensive mode offers a seamless way of building upon learned material.

There is less need to re-iterate material covered in previous weeks' classes. The material remains fresh.

By the end of week 1 of semester, you will have completed all classes in this course. You will be a position to decide whether you enjoy the course. (and I hope you do!) If so - great.



If not, it is only the end of week one. Early days – it is not too late to undertake a different elective.

You will have ample time to reflect on the course prior to undertaking the final assessment item. No more working on fresh material just prior to the exam, no more cramming materials at the last moment. You will literally have weeks and weeks prior to undertaking the final assessment.

Disadvantages of undertaking the course in this mode

Not everyone likes learning en bloc. Not everyone will be free on the two week-ends allocated by the University for teaching of this course.

I apologise to those who do not enjoy learning en bloc, or who are not available in the weekends allocated by the University.

Conclusion

Please feel free to forward this course information to others who may be interested in knowing more about the course.

I remain happy to answer any questions you might have. Please feel free to email me at any time.

With all best wishes,

Professor John Devereux

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