

LAWS5182 Special topic A

Counter-Terrorism and National Security Law

Course Coordinator: Dr Rebecca Ananian-Welsh

This course will examine Australian national security law within a global context, and equip students to critically assess the design and impacts of such laws.

The tension between security and liberty is not a new phenomenon. In the modern world, however, this tension has heightened global significance. In this Special Topic, students will examine and critique key national security frameworks, identify trends, and advance arguments for and against reform. Themes of central importance in the national security arena emerge for discussion, including:

- the meaning of 'terrorism' and 'national security';
- the scope of government powers to protect national security;
- the roles of government agencies, the courts and parliament in the national security context;
- the relationship between security and human rights;
- the impacts of national security law on constitutional values like liberty, democracy and due process;
- measuring the effectiveness of counter-terrorism laws; and
- legal responses to complex issues such as:
 - foreign terrorist fighters.
 - the release of convicted terrorists.
 - cyber-espionage and foreign interference.
 - competing imperatives for secrecy and transparency in government.