**Information about the 2011 examination**

The examination will be based on the 2007 senior external syllabus for Legal Studies. It will consist of two papers. Paper One will have 10 minutes perusal/planning time and 2 hours 30 minutes working time. Paper Two will have 10 minutes perusal/planning time and 3 hours working time.

A list of the syllabus topics to be assessed in 2011 is attached.

**Paper One**

Paper One will consist of two parts:
- Part A: Knowledge and understanding (short-response questions)
- Part B: Investigation (questions based on case studies).

**Paper Two**

Paper Two will consist of two parts:
- Part A: You, the Law and Society
  - Section 1 — Family
  - Section 2 — Rights and Responsibilities
- Part B: Law in a Changing Society.

Essay responses of approximately 600 words in length are required.

**Prepared research task**

The syllabus requires each candidate to complete a prepared research task during the year. Candidates are to take their research material into the examination room for use in responding to one of two essay questions in Paper Two Part A Section 2.

**Research topic: Rights and responsibilities**

Laws are enacted or proposed to protect society’s basic rights and to enforce obligations and responsibilities. Two such areas are residential tenancy laws and a proposed “Australian Bill of Rights”.

Outline the statutory protections available in residential tenancy laws or those proposed by a Bill of Rights. Consider the effectiveness, adequacy and appropriateness of residential tenancy laws or a proposed Bill of Rights.

Evaluate whether people’s rights, obligations and responsibilities are adequately balanced.

The prepared task must present the research that each candidate has completed throughout their study. The research is to be based on a hypothesis developed by the candidate on either residential tenancy laws or a proposed Bill of Rights.

Refer to page 6 of the syllabus for the methodology diagram that must be used to provide a framework for the research.
Although the research material itself will not be assessed by markers, it must be handed to the supervisor at the end of the examination. Research material allowed in the examination room may be handwritten or typed, and may include notes, diagrams, references, quotations, etc. All research material must fit on one double-sided sheet of A4 paper.

**Level of achievement**

Each candidate’s level of achievement will be determined by applying the syllabus standards to an overall assessment of responses across both Paper One and Paper Two.

**Enquiries**

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Jo-Anne Cooper
Manager
Assessment Operations
Syllabus topics to be assessed in 2011

**Paper One**

*The Legal System*
- What are the sources of law?
- How are disputes resolved?

*Crime and Society*
- What is criminal conduct?
- What are the basic elements of criminal law?
- How are criminal matters prosecuted?
- What are types of offences?
- What defences and excuses are available to accused persons?
- What are the consequences of conviction?

*Civil Obligations — Agreements*
- What constitutes an enforceable agreement?
- What are the remedies for breach of contract?

*Civil Wrongs — Torts*
- What is a tort?
- What are the elements of negligence?
- What are some aspects of negligence?
- What are the defences to negligence?
- What are some other torts?
- What are some remedies for tort?

**Paper Two**

Part A Section 1

*You, the Law and Society — Family*
- What is a family?
- What legal and social issues may arise in families?

Part A Section 2

*You, the Law and Society — Rights and responsibilities*
- What rights do Australians have?
- What current legal issues relate to rights and responsibilities?

**Part B**

*Law in a Changing Society*
- What makes a good law?
- What factors influence the making and changing of laws?