

Online



## Welcome

Deakin's Juris Doctor (JD) is a premium postgraduate program offered by Deakin Law School. With a distinct commercial focus, it has been designed to equip you with the skills and experience needed to succeed in the global employment market.

You will complete all the subjects that are required for legal practice and can also undertake a range of topical elective units including tax law, health law and legal professional practice. We recognise that employers demand commercial expertise and the course is designed to deliver that opportunity to our students.

Deakin's JD has a strong practical focus that will develop your skills in advocacy, reasoning, critical thinking, provision of advice, analysis and communication. You will engage with important policy issues in the law and also have the opportunity to participate in our practical clinical program in which you can work on real cases with real clients.

As a Deakin JD graduate, you will be prepared for outstanding career opportunities within legal practice but also in a wide range of employment contexts including media organisations, regulatory agencies, not-for-profit and community organisations, domestic and international commerce, law reform bodies, government and consulting firms. We look forward to welcoming you to our vibrant, intellectual community for the study of law.

**Professor Jenni Lightowers**  
Dean of Law, Deakin Law School

## Why choose Deakin?



40 years of distance and online teaching excellence.



Deakin Law School is ranked in the top 10 of law schools in Australia  
ARWU 2021 Global Ranking of Academic Subjects – Law



Among the top 1% of universities worldwide  
Shanghai Ranking's Academic Ranking of World Universities (2020)



Study at your own pace via Deakin's flexible **Online campus**. You choose when and where to study online.  
Visit [deakin.edu.au/cloud](https://deakin.edu.au/cloud) to find out more.



Victoria's #1 university for student support  
2020 Student Experience Survey, UA benchmark group Victorian universities.



#1 university for student satisfaction in Victoria for eleven consecutive years.  
Australian Graduate Survey (2010–15) and QILT Student Experience Survey (2016–20)



'The online delivery provides enormous flexibility. The seminars are most valuable in the way that we engage with other students and the lecturers. It has developed my analytical skills to a whole new level.'

**Julia Zhang GAICD**  
Deakin Juris Doctor student



'Deakin's Juris Doctor is designed for graduates who desire the flexibility of studying where and when they desire. It provides the academic training necessary for admission to the legal profession in Australia and its first rate online learning environment equips graduates with skills necessary to pursue a broad range of careers in law, business or government.'

**Dr Firew Tiba**  
Senior lecturer, Deakin Juris Doctor

The JD combines its commercial focus with the development of practical skills essential to contemporary legal practice. Designed for non-law graduates, this intellectually-stimulating course is offered fully online after an optional induction program held in Melbourne.

The Deakin JD goes beyond the teaching of legal knowledge and practical skills, to the development of a broader understanding of the policy informing the law, focusing on current policy issues and developing skills in the use of legal theory and legal research methods.

Your assignments might include problem-based written advice, an oral bail application, an assignment focusing on the implementation of procedural rules, preparation of a memorandum of advice, oral court submissions and a file management project.

The Deakin JD meets the academic requirements for admission to legal practice in Victoria and other Australian jurisdictions. A person wishing to practice as a lawyer is also required to complete a 12 month traineeship program or 6 month legal practice course and demonstrate that they are a 'fit and proper person' as required by Australian admitting bodies.

The Deakin JD course is designed to produce graduates who can become first-class law practitioners by providing comprehensive training in each of the major areas of legal practice and systematically embedding research, theory and policy considerations throughout the curriculum. A distinctive feature of the course is its orientation towards commercial law, though students may choose from a range of elective options including placement in the Deakin Law Clinics, an award winning community legal centre where students can work with practicing solicitors and real client matters.

Leading, practising lawyers help shape our courses, so everything you learn is relevant to the industry and preparing you for a career in law.

## Induction program

JD students are invited to attend an optional (but highly recommended) campus-based Juris Doctor induction program which will be live-streamed and recorded and includes video presentations.

Visit [deakin.edu.au/jd](https://deakin.edu.au/jd) for the induction program dates for 2020/2021.

## Deakin Law Clinic

The JD will help you develop the practical skills essential for contemporary legal practice. Deakin Law Clinic, based in Melbourne's CBD, offers units in new business ventures, commercial law, employment law, family law and criminal law. You will work on real cases and interview real clients (under the supervision of qualified solicitors), conduct legal research, offer advice where appropriate, and in some instances attend court proceedings.

Visit [deakin.edu.au/law-clinic](https://deakin.edu.au/law-clinic).

## Learn from leading practising lawyers

Deakin's JD is taught by DLS academic staff with **high-calibre legal experience** and expertise in legal teaching and research. This teaching helps you develop the skills required for legal practice as well as in-depth knowledge of the law and policies that inform it.

## Be a global explorer

During your studies, you'll have the opportunity to participate in international consultancy experiences, internships, volunteering placements, and study abroad programs – both face-to-face and virtual. These are more than opportunities to experience a new culture or workplace; they will enrich your learning and provide credit towards your degree. In the global world of business, they play a crucial role in preparing you for a wealth of career opportunities, which value intercultural experience. For more details on our exciting range of international programs please visit [deakin.edu.au/overseas-study](https://deakin.edu.au/overseas-study).

## Work experience

With its practical, hands-on opportunities, this course is designed with a real-world learning focus that builds workplace resilience and career success. Work Integrated Learning (WIL) is available within this program as a structured opportunity for students looking for additional hands-on experience. These experiential learning opportunities help you combine concepts covered in the course with workplace practice, to integrate your knowledge whilst connecting and networking with industry professionals. Visit [deakin.edu.au/law-wil](https://deakin.edu.au/law-wil) for more information.

## Professional recognition

Deakin's JD is designed to satisfy the academic requirements for you to be admitted to practise as an Australian lawyer. In Victoria these requirements have been set by the Victorian Legal Admissions Board (VLAB). In addition to satisfying the academic qualifications, you will also need to complete certain practical legal training requirements and must be considered a fit and proper person to be admitted to legal practice.

## Career outcomes

The Juris Doctor can lead you to a diverse range of local and international careers in areas such as:

- Solicitor or Barrister in commercial law, criminal law, family law, public international and human rights law
- Corporate Lawyer
- Lawyer or Policy Adviser for a government department or authority, for example the Attorney General's Department, the Department of Public Prosecutions
- Industrial Relations
- Media
- Politics.

Deakin has transformed the Melbourne Burwood Campus to a modern and innovative learning environment through the construction of the new Deakin Law School Building (LC).

The new building, will increase teaching capacity at Burwood by providing flexible and interactive spaces for learning, and advanced facilities for Deakin Research and Deakin Law School. The new Deakin Law School Building (LC) features four levels of flexible, active learning spaces for general purpose teaching, two levels of student support and health and wellbeing services and two levels of staff workspace including a new home for Deakin Law School. It is also Deakin's first leading-edge sustainable building with key design features including: rainwater harvesting and use, glare control systems, activity and fitness spaces, and a fully accessible connection to end-of-trip active transport facilities.



## Course information

**Course code:** M729

**Years:** 3 years full-time or part-time equivalent

**Campus:** Online

**Intake:** Trimester 1 (March), Trimester 2 (July),  
Trimester 3 (November, part-time only)

## Course breakdown



## Core units

## Elective units

7 credit points of elective units elective units can be chosen from a wide range on offer. For a full list of the elective units available, [click here](#).



Am I eligible to apply? Find entry requirements and application assistance at the links below.

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lawnewsroom.deakin.edu.au

## Contact us

### Domestic

deakin.edu.au/help-hub

### International

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Email: [study@deakin.edu.au](mailto:study@deakin.edu.au)

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