

**BOND UNIVERSITY
LAW STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION**



First Year Law Guide

2024 EDITION



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A FOREWORD FROM OUR PLATINUM SPONSOR



We not only genuinely care about the people that work within our team, we are extremely proud of the part they play in the success of our firm. At Rose Litigation Lawyers, we have a happy team that enjoy coming to work and working together to achieve great outcomes for our clients.

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We are proud to be the Platinum Sponsors of this year's First Year Law Guide, and to continuously support Bond Law students.

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR



**MATTHEW
VAN GEMERT**

Publications
Director

Hi new Bondies, welcome to Bond! I am Matt, and I am currently in my 7th semester of a Bachelor of Laws. I am also the Publications Director of the Law Students' Association (LSA)!

On behalf of the LSA, I am proud to present to you the 2024 edition of the First Year Law Guide. I intend this to be a valuable resource, offering advice to ease your transition into law school and tips to maximise the beginnings of your legal education, as Bond offers countless opportunities for you to excel.

The first year of law school is most definitely an exciting one and it is also a transformative experience as you will study an array of new concepts. Within this handbook, you will find invaluable insights sourced directly from students and faculty members, discussing topics such as academic and career resources, exchange timelines, and social events.

The LSA as your student body is always here to support you and represent your interests, so do not hesitate to reach out if you require assistance throughout your law degree. Best of luck!



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A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DEAN OF LAW

Congratulations! You are now a law student at one of the best law schools in the country. At Bond, we are committed to providing you with the best possible learning experience and with numerous opportunities to challenge yourself, engage with others, and experience the world.

By enrolling in a law degree, you have taken an important step in your journey towards becoming a successful legal professional. Perhaps you will use your qualifications to become a solicitor or a barrister. Perhaps you will be one of the many law graduates who use their legal expertise in any of a wide range of other industries and professions. Or perhaps you will participate in the ongoing digital transformation of the legal services sector as a legal analyst, legal project manager, or legal AI developer.

Whatever pathway you choose, the knowledge and skills you are going to develop over the next few years are going to provide you with the foundations for a successful career and the ability to lead change and promote justice within your community.



It is certainly an exciting and challenging time to commence a law degree. Success as a 21st century law student and legal professional requires more than good grades (although those are still important). The legal profession, the legal services sector, and the law itself are all undergoing significant disruption and transformation. My advice is that whatever your ambitions post-law school, you prepare for a legal profession that is likely to look quite different to what we had in the past. Make sure you include international and comparative law subjects in your degree, and that you look for opportunities to develop your cross-cultural skills and experience.

Take steps to learn about alternative business models and career pathways, and broaden your skillset to include business and entrepreneurial skills. Make sure you keep looking for ways to develop your digital skills and identify those aspects of legal practice that can't be replicated by technology. All of this might seem overwhelming at times ... but don't worry, you've got this. You have made it this far, and that is already an amazing achievement. You won't be alone: the Faculty of Law and your fellow law students are here to help you, guide you, and support you on your journey.

This Guide will help you take the first steps. The Law Students' Association is to be congratulated for putting together such an outstanding publication. It covers everything a new law student needs to know to make the challenging transition to university and support their success at law school. All this important information is presented in a professional and engaging format. Bond Law is the best law school, and we attract the best law students from across the country and from around the world, so it makes sense that we have the best Law Students' Association. This Guide is proof of that.

A photograph of a university campus featuring a large, curved lake in the foreground. In the background, there are several multi-story university buildings with balconies. The sky is overcast. The image is partially obscured by a blue rounded rectangle containing text and decorative light blue circular lines at the bottom.

Professor Nick James

Executive Dean
Faculty of Law

MEET THE BOND LSA

The Bond Law Students' Association is your representative student association, helping to improve and enhance your experience at every stage of law school!

We are elected by you and your peers annually, a process that occurs during Law Week at the beginning of the May semester. The new committee is announced at Law Ball, the week's concluding event (which is not one to miss!).



As a Faculty Student Association, we are responsible for representing your interests faculty-wide, as well as providing an array of opportunities to engage in. You'll read about each of our endeavours in this Guide, but highlights include:

- Running competitions that develop your practical legal skills
- Assisting you to form connections with Australia's key law firms
- Hosting events which foster community, encourage communication, and allow you to have some fun

Our committee is full of friendly faces, all with different perspectives and advice to offer. We love to have a chat, so please don't be shy if you see us around campus, or feel free to pop into our office at 4_1_25.

THE PRESIDENT'S WELCOME



SOPHIE PEACH
LSA President

Helloo new Bondies!! My name is Sophie Peach and I'm a 7th semester Law and Arts student, and President of the Bond Law Students' Association. On behalf of the LSA, I want to welcome you to the Bond community and congratulate you on beginning your law school journey!

I can assure you that you have made an excellent decision and are about to enter one of the most exciting periods of your life. Studying law at Bond will be challenging, but absolutely worth it! Over the next few years, you will make friends and memories that you will cherish for a lifetime, and experience opportunities more incredible than you could have dreamed of.

To live your Bond law life to the fullest, my greatest piece of advice would be to get involved; whether this is extracurricular competitions, legal clinics or even joining the LSA! You don't know where certain opportunities will take you, so don't be afraid to jump out of your comfort zone and give everything a go.

This Guide offers insights, advice, and steps for success in your first year of law school. Spoken from the heart, from a variety of Bond students, we hope this will assist in easing the transition and maximising your time at university. Get ready for a whirlwind experience and don't forget to take advantage of everything Bond and its network has to offer. The LSA and I look forward to sharing these exciting times with you, so don't hesitate to reach out... everyone knows I love to chat!

Best of luck! Soph xx

FIRST YEAR DIRECTOR'S WELCOME

First of all, I would just like to congratulate you for getting into law school at Bond! You are now about to embark on your journey through the Bond Law program where you will learn so many new things and meet so many incredible people. Right now, I'm sure that you might be feeling some uneasiness and nerves as you begin your first year, due to the unfamiliar environment and fast-paced course, but I would just like to let you know that I am here for you and happy to help! As the First Year Director on the LSA, I am your first point of contact and can help you with any queries you have as you are beginning your legal journey. Having started studying at Bond in 231, I too am familiar with the difficulties in transitioning into university life and I just want to let you know that there are so many facilities here at Bond to help you.

Many of you have just come from high school, be it locally, nationally, or even internationally and some may not be accustomed to the fast-paced Bond Law degree. So, I really recommend making appointments with the law librarians whenever you are given work, as they are so helpful in finding research for your assessments and learning how to reference in the right format. Also, keep your eyes out for the Domicile at the start of each semester, as it is a great way to meet your fellow peers and learn more about the different events and Law student societies here at Bond. I hope you have all begun to settle in well. Feel free to contact me if you need any help, have any questions, or just want to talk to someone!



Michael Ting
First Year Director

POSTGRADUATE DIRECTOR'S WELCOME

Dearest Postgraduate Students, welcome to your new and exciting journey in law. As a fellow Juris Doctor student, I understand your needs and endeavour to take care of the postgraduate community. As such, please consider me your first point of contact as Postgraduate Director of the Law Students' Association. We truly care for your wellbeing and want to make sure you succeed in everything you do.

To ensure you are all prioritised in the community, I have reinstated the 23/24 Postgraduate Student Association, which is also a wing of BUSA. I currently sit on the association with a number of other postgraduate members to create events and initiatives for your benefit. We have regular postgraduate networking events to focus on promoting your mental health and wellbeing, so keep an eye out for these!

Trust me, your Juris Doctor will go by very quickly so make sure to take advantage of extracurricular activities during your studies. Attend social events planned especially for you! Engage in the LSA's mootings and negotiation competitions with world-class mentors. Immerse yourself in the unique learning experience here at Bond and enjoy making lifelong friends. Wishing you a very happy 2024 and exciting journey ahead!

Take care, and please reach out if you need anything.

Rebecca Bower
Postgraduate Director





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roselitigation.com.au

An insight into working at Rose Litigation Lawyers

We are Rose Litigation Lawyers, the firm that helps businesses and people resolve their problems or disputes in order to impact peoples' lives for the better.

We genuinely care about the people that work within our organisation and we offer a graduate program and experience that provides training directly from partners, and genuine contact with clients. With offices in Brisbane and the Gold Coast, we provide remarkable opportunities for individuals that fit within the values and culture of our organisation.

Opportunities at Rose Litigation Lawyers

Rose Litigation Lawyers delivers exciting opportunities for the right candidates to begin their legal career and achieve solid training in the process.

If you have a genuine interest in pursuing a career in commercial litigation, are willing to learn the processes relating to litigation and Court procedure, are enthusiastic and highly motivated and would like to be considered for a career with Rose Litigation Lawyers, we welcome your application.

To ensure our firm continues to grow and evolve, we are committed to consistently engaging with PLT students with a view to providing the foundations for a career that will see you grow into one of our own highly skilled litigators.

Applications containing your CV, a covering letter outlining why you think you would be a great member of our team, together with a copy of your academic transcript should be sent to careers@roselitigation.com.au

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INTRODUCTION TO THE CLSA



Hey there! Welcome to the Gold Coast! I'm Prince Virk, the President of the Canadian Law Students' Association (CLSA), hailing from Edmonton, Alberta. I've explored Canada from coast to coast, and now I'm thrilled to introduce you to the amazing experience awaiting you at Bond University.

Consider the CLSA your new home away from home, surrounded by a team of executives who are just as excited to make your law school journey unforgettable. We have a fantastic lineup of social events and competitions throughout the year to add extra vitality to your time here.

Here's some advice for you: Dive headfirst into campus life! Trust me, it's the secret recipe to making your law school adventure even more enriching. While it may get challenging, getting involved in activities you're passionate about is exciting, and a fantastic boost for your resume! Our CLSA events, like the Hockey Arbitration Competition and Constitutional Law Moot, are designed to hone your lawyering skills in and out of the classroom.

And don't forget about the social scene! Our Buddy Night, 'Welcome Back' Breakfast, and the Lord Denning Dinner upon graduation are just a taste of the fun we have in store. There are also regular Homebound Seminars to give you all the NCA details to facilitate your admission back home. To stay updated on these events and more, check out the Bond CLSA Instagram.

Embarking on this law school adventure, especially in a new corner of the world, is an amazing achievement. Be proud of yourself! The friendships and community you'll find at Bond will leave a lasting impact on your life. Embrace every moment, and remember, the CLSA has your back every step of the way. Wishing you the best of luck on this incredible journey!



Prince Virk
CLSA President





INTRODUCTION TO THE ALSS

Welcome to the vibrant community of the Asian Law Student Society (ALSS) at Bond! As the President, I am thrilled to extend a warm greeting to each of you embarking on this exciting journey in the world of law.

At the ALSS, our mission is to foster a supportive and engaging environment for all law students, connecting you with invaluable opportunities and resources throughout your academic journey. We are more than just a student organisation; the ALSS is a dynamic community dedicated to enhancing your law school experience.

Our diverse team, led by passionate individuals, work tirelessly to organise a wide range of events and activities to support you during your time at Bond Law and beyond. From academic study sessions and networking events with legal professionals, to social gatherings like Games Night, we strive to provide a platform for you to learn, connect, and grow. Whether you're a first-year student navigating the initial stages of your legal education or a seasoned third-year looking to broaden your network, there is bound to be an ALSS event tailored to your liking. And if not, don't hesitate to reach out, and we will make it happen for you.

I encourage each of you to actively participate in our events, as they offer not only knowledge and networking opportunities, but also a chance to build lasting friendships. If you're passionate about contributing to the success of the ALSS, consider joining our team and taking on a role that aligns with your interests and skills.

We look forward to meeting you at our upcoming events. In February 2024, we have an exciting Women In Law event where you can network, explore career options, meet inspiring legal professionals, and celebrate the start of your law school journey. DO NOT miss out on this wonderful opportunity! Secure your tickets NOW from the link on our Instagram, and I look forward to meeting you all on campus at some point.

Christina Chiang

ALSS President

INTRODUCTION TO BUSA

**Saxon
McGregor**



**BUSA
President**

Welcome to Bond University, and congratulations on commencing your law school journey! My name is Saxon McGregor, and I am the Bond University Student Association (BUSA) President. By now, we should have met during Orientation Week, at our weekly Wednesday by the Water barbeque, or around campus. Over my time here, I have admired my fellow law students and their commitment to their studies, extra-curriculars, and leadership roles. Time at Bond passes terrifyingly quickly, so ensure you maximise your student experience and all it offers. Whether you are studying law as an undergraduate, postgraduate, or by higher degree research, here are some tips I hope will help in the coming years.

Leave Your Comfort Zone

Bond is a destination university, meaning most people travel far and wide to study here. So, everyone is out of their comfort zone and in the same boat. Before I commenced my studies, I was encouraged to say 'yes' to every opportunity, whether in social connection, discovery, education, or sport. Despite it being daunting, these experiences are the ones that have provided me with the most valuable lessons and best memories. Do not be afraid to sign up to participate in mootings, witness examinations, and negotiations—these might even take you across the world. Additionally, you can join a club or society, attend networking and equity events, or participate in our range of social or competitive sports. Whatever you do, you are bound to have a fantastic time when you embrace student life fully.

Access Student Services

From the day you set foot on campus, you are supported by a range of dedicated services and resources to ensure you succeed during your time at university. Whether you need practical advice and guidance or expert assistance, Bond's dedicated services span study, career, personal, disability, advocacy, and Indigenous support. You can access the Academic Skills Centre's free and personalised learning assistance to reach your academic potential. You can connect with our Career Development Centre (CDC) to graduate ready to stand out. To foster good physical and mental health, you can access the Medical Clinic and the Student Wellbeing team. If you need reasonable adjustments to your learning, you can be in touch with our Accessibility & Inclusion Advisor. For our Indigenous students, the Nyombil Centre delivers inclusive and culturally safe support programs. The Pride Alliance and Ally Network foster an inclusive and supportive environment for those who identify as part of the LGBTQIA+ community. Not to mention, BUSA offers its own peer-to-peer support across many of these areas.

Reach Out... and Breathe

You have embarked on a new and exciting part of your life. I know very well that this may be overwhelming, challenging, and confusing initially. Rest assured, it will all become second nature quickly. If there is ever anything my team or I can help with—whether that be pointing you in the right direction for a class, taking on your feedback for what you would like to see at the University, or connecting you with exciting opportunities or helpful support services—please do not hesitate to speak with us. You can find the BUSA office on Level 2 of Building 6 (directly above Lakeside Restaurant), and our friends at the LSA are located on Level 1 of Building 4.



A GUIDE TO LAW TUTORIALS

To make the most of your weekly tutorials as first-year law students, I recommend focusing on two critical aspects: preparation and refinement.

PREPARATION

While grasping the weekly content, engaging with readings, and case analysis is always preferable, there may be weeks where time is limited or formulating a valuable contribution seems challenging. My suggestion is to always start broad and simple. You'll find that weekly topics can be compartmentalised into smaller subtopics, and identifying the problem's relevance to these specifically is a critical first step. From there, it can help that the PowerPoints are often in a similar order to that of the expected answer. Hence, reading the entire question and applying those several slides thoroughly will reduce the difficulty of tutorial preparation. Finally, from my experience, lecturers can often provide similar fact patterns from those in cases, so identifying these similarities can assist in the formation of responses.

REFINEMENT

Bond's unique tutorial setting offers an excellent opportunity for active participation in small classes. However, beyond merely making a few contributions to cover some of those participation marks, you should aim to leave that class feeling confident with the content and structure. Make sure to take notes on the tutor's provided answer as it is common for lecturers to draw exam inspiration from these tutorials. Therefore, dedicating space below your tutorial answer to jot down some notes on the tutor's contributions and structure is highly advantageous. I also recommend spending around twenty minutes after the tutorial to supplement your notes or templates with your newly gained knowledge and skills.

Overall, focusing on preparation and refinement will enhance the benefits that you receive within your first-year law tutorials, positioning you for success in exams and your later years.



Harry Stapleton
LSA Treasurer



HIGH SCHOOL

VS.

LAW SCHOOL

No doubt many of you have been and will continue to be told that the transition into law school can be a big one. This is for good reason. There are a number of crucial differences between high school and law school which means it can make for a challenging transition. Often it takes some time to find your feet or even your confidence in this new environment. Talk to many of your peers in the law faculty, up to and especially the highest achieving and most successful students, and they will all talk about the way imposter syndrome has and continues to impact them throughout their journey. But trust the process and understand that this is a perfectly normal feeling given all that you have grown used to over the past years.

Throughout high school, the level of personal responsibility over your education journey is vastly different to what is expected in law school. You will be used to having your schedule organised for you and specific time given in class to work on assignments or deadlines for drafts. Instead, law school places the onus on you to be proactive on your journey and place yourself on the front foot when it comes to engaging in your learning and extracurriculars.

Whilst this might initially seem quite daunting and intimidating, and rest assured it can be, it is also an opportunity to take advantage of this newfound freedom. You get to decide exactly what your goals are for law school and then tailor your journey to achieve them, not only in a broad sense but on a day-to-day basis.

In short, law school has so much to offer. There are more opportunities than one person can possibly undertake. So enjoy the journey and trust the process; find your goals and take advantage of having the freedom and space to pursue them!



Tim Palmer

Academic Affairs Director

ACADEMIC RESOURCES AT BOND

Being a Bond Law student gives you access to incredible study resources and academic support! We recommend taking some time at the beginning of your first year to familiarise yourself with all of them so you can reach out to get help if you need it.

Academic Skills Centre

The Academic Skills Centre is a wonderful resource at Bond. You can book a free, one-on-one session to get help with essay writing, time management, grammar, and much more! We cannot emphasise the benefits of personalised support at the Academic Skills Centre enough. Sometimes, a fresh pair of eyes is just what your assignment needs to take it to the next level.

Faculty of Law Librarians

The Faculty of Law has its own library and librarian. From AGLC guides, to help locating textbooks, and referencing sessions, the Law Library has it all! Before you submit your first law assignments, we recommend stopping by the library and booking an appointment with Ian or Dan. They will help you get your AGLC referencing in awesome shape and maximise those referencing marks!

Subject Revision Sessions

Finally, the LSA organises semesterly revision sessions. These are held the week before exams by students who achieved a HD in the subject. They are an amazing way to get a refresher on content right before the exam, and get a few tips from someone who's been through it before.

Overall, the LSA cannot stress the importance of reaching out for help enough. Whether you have questions about what services are available or where to access them, feel free to contact us at vp-education@bondlsa.com.

MAJORS AND SPECIALISATIONS



Chloé Broustail

Vice President
(Education)

A wonderful opportunity available to law students at Bond is the option to undertake a specialisation or major! Specialisations are comprised of 40 credit points (CP) of law elective subjects, and majors are comprised of 60 CP. You may also be eligible for a double major comprised of 120 CP of electives depending on your enrolled degree.

Depending on the degree you are studying and whether it is a dual degree, you may be encouraged to enrol in a law elective subject as early as your first year of study. This means that you can start accumulating CP towards a specialisation or major early in your degree!

Specialisations available:

- Corporate and Commercial Law
- International and Comparative Law
- Contemporary Legal Issues
- Legal Practice
- Canadian Law and Practice
- Legal Transformation
- Climate Law

Majors available:

- Climate Law
- Legal Transformation

Certain electives fall under multiple specialisations and, if you select and time your electives carefully, you may be able to obtain multiple specialisations! For example, International Financial Systems Law falls under both the Corporate and Commercial Law, and International and Comparative Law specialisations. We highly recommend heading to the Bond University website to learn more about the subjects in each specialisation and major!

The Faculty and the LSA strongly encourage you to consider specialisations and majors as early in your degree as possible and consider which one may interest you. If you have any queries about how a specialisation, major, or double major may fit into your structure and sequence, do not hesitate to contact me at vp-education@bondlsa.com, and the LSA will happily help you!



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We work collaboratively to achieve the best outcomes for our clients as experts in the areas of: Dispute Resolution & Litigation, Class Actions, Real Estate, Corporate and Commercial, Construction, Insolvency, Employment Relations and Financial Services.

Best Lawyers

The Best Lawyers® in Australia, 2024 edition

54 of our partners and senior lawyers have been named a 'Best Lawyer' and 18 of our senior associates and special counsel have been named in the inaugural '*Ones to Watch*' list.



The Legal 500 Asia Pacific: Australia, 2023 edition

Piper Alderman is recognised across 12 areas of law including Construction, Corporate and M&A, Data Protection, Dispute resolution: Class actions, Dispute resolution: Litigation, Energy (transactions and regulatory), Financial services regulatory, Intellectual property, Labour and employment, Natural resources (transactions and regulatory), Real estate and Restructuring and insolvency.



Piper Alderman

What do our clients say?

- “ Commercial and pragmatic. More like advisers with a legal lens than pure lawyers.
- “ Intelligent, personable and reliable. They go above and beyond to service their client's needs.
- “ A law firm that we can rely on and trust to act in our best interest no matter what the issue is.

What do our clerks and graduate lawyers say?

- “ The support and guidance from senior practitioners at Piper Alderman is, in my view, a unique strength of the firm. Every step of the way through my graduate experience and beyond I have felt supported to grow and develop professionally.
- “ My experience has provided me with an invaluable opportunity to develop professionally by working with highly skilled lawyers, through direct client engagement and by receiving regular feedback and guidance.
- “ From the beginning of my time at the firm, I have had the opportunity to work on a wide breadth of matters, engage directly with clients, and contribute to completing every task and solving any problem in a meaningful way.
- “ My experience at Piper Alderman has been particularly rewarding because the senior practitioners ensure to involve juniors in matters in a meaningful way.
- “ The support and collegiality that I have experienced at Piper Alderman is second to none.

Interested or want to know more?



Cass Hewson
HR Manager

T +61 7 3220 7735
E chewson@piperalderman.com.au

Adelaide

Level 16
70 Franklin Street
Adelaide SA 5000

T + 61 8 8205 3333
F + 61 8 8205 3300

Brisbane

Level 26
Riparian Plaza
71 Eagle Street
Brisbane QLD 4000

T + 61 7 3220 7777
F + 61 7 3220 7700

Melbourne

Level 23
459 Collins Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

T + 61 3 8665 5555
F + 61 3 8665 5500

Perth

Level 29
Allendale Square
77 St Georges Terrace
Perth WA 6000

T + 61 8 9219 3600
F + 61 8 9219 3601

Sydney

Level 23
Governor Macquarie Tower
1 Farrer Place
Sydney NSW 2000

T + 61 2 9253 9999
F + 61 2 9253 9900

THE LSA APPROACH TO EQUITY



Haden Gasmin
Equity Director

Welcome to Bond! On behalf of the LSA, I am proud to introduce you to our equity initiatives within the Law Faculty and Bond, generally.

Before this, however, I thought I'd share what equity means. The easiest way to frame *equity* is by drawing a distinction from *equality* in a social sense. Essentially, equality ensures every individual – irrespective of their background, culture, and identity – has equal opportunities and resources. Equity, on the other hand, considers those subjective circumstances, ensuring every individual is actually capable of accessing such opportunities, resources, and ultimately, experiences.

My role as the equity director is to essentially implement initiatives that accommodate for those needs. Equity directors in the past have hosted events such as:

- **The Informant:** A panelist event created to facilitate discussions on key issues affecting law students and lawyers in our evolving industry. Past topics include mental health, LGBTQIA+, and reconciliation.
- **Red Table Talk:** A casual, yet safe space where students discuss pertinent, vulnerable, and important topics whilst feeling comfortable and free from judgement.
- **Meditation Sessions:** Self-explanatory!

Equity is also responsible for making statements on behalf of the LSA, such as the 2023 Referendum, Pride Month, NAIDOC Week, and *Roe v Wade*. It is important to keep informed about such social issues, as this assists in shaping our global understanding and our identity as global citizens.

I wish to offer my support where needed. Whether you are struggling with imposter syndrome, impacted by mental health, or just need someone to listen, I am here. All the best with your Bond Law journey! Remember, you are the priority; this is a mantra most people seem to forget.



EQUITY RESOURCES AT BOND

There is a myriad of resources available to ensure every individual is heard and their educational experience isn't hindered by adversity.

For example:

Nyombil Centre

The Nyombil Indigenous Support Centre provides a culturally safe environment where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students can study, socialise, and network with other Indigenous students, and seek advice from staff - Email: nyombilcentre@bond.edu.au

Psychological Services

The psychologists at Bond provide free, confidential counselling services to help you with anything from academic study pressures through to personal problems.

Tel: +61 7 5595 4043, Email: studentcounselling@bond.edu.au

Disability Services

The Accessibility and Inclusion initiative provides advice, support, referrals, and assistance to students who have a condition, or care for someone with a condition, that impacts on their study - Email: accessibility@bond.edu.au

Ally Network

Members of the Bond University Ally Network are informed Bond staff members who understand the rights of the LGBTQIA+ community and support such members. They are not trained counsellors, but are always willing to discuss a student's concerns and help with the provision of information. For more information, visit the Ally Network page on the Bond Website.

LEGAL SKILLS COMPETITIONS



Sophie Roiter
Competitions Director

Bond University has a rich competitions culture. We have a proud mooting program, which sends the best of the best to moots and other competitions all around the world. As a first year, your competitions journey will start within Bond itself, with the LSA's Skills Competitions.

The LSA offers an array of internal competitions throughout the year. First year students enjoy the benefit of a junior division, where they are competing with other beginner-level students in a safe space.

While our competitions are inherently competitive, they are designed to encompass equal parts competition and personal development. We provide information sessions, workshops, mentoring programs and in-depth feedback. While signing up for your first competition is daunting, the skills you will gain from competing will be invaluable to your studies, and in legal practice. Trust me, no one will be walking into these competitions as an expert!

Most students begin competing with the Brian Orr Moot in their first semester. You will be judged by a range of international mooters, staff, mooting alumni, and, in the grand final, firm representatives and Australian judges. They are all enthusiastic enough about legal competitions to volunteer an extensive amount of their own time. You will see advertising for information sessions and sign-up sheets in your very first weeks of law school, and I encourage you all to put your name down.

My greatest words of advice are this: take all of the earliest opportunities you can. Our degrees at Bond are short, and the job market is competitive. Take risks. Explore different pathways. Sign up for everything you can sign up for, and if you do not get in, try again next time. Your efforts will be noticed.

LSA SKILLS COMPETITIONS



BRIAN ORR MOOT COMPETITION

On signing up for the Brian Orr Moot, yourself and a teammate will receive a factual scenario and brief of legal issues. You are tasked with undertaking legal research and presenting oral arguments before a panel of judges. This includes answering questions posed by the judges about your arguments.

Mooting attracts high achieving and ambitious students, and the Brian Orr Moot is the first step for a significant portion of Bond's domestic and international mooters. It is held every January semester and provides great value for your resume. Consequently, it is our most popular competition, especially among first years.

NEGOTIATION COMPETITION

Negotiations involve teams as solicitors for opposing clients. Each team receives a brief which details their client's account of the factual scenario and desired outcomes. It is the aim of teams to negotiate an outcome that achieves your client's aims and is accepted by the other side. This is a core component of any lawyer's skill set, and is highly valued by the sponsoring firms.

This competition is held every May semester and is often a precursor to representing Bond in the Queensland Interschool Legal Competition and Australian Law Students' Association's Negotiation Competitions.

WITNESS EXAMINATION COMPETITION

Witness Examination (or 'Wit-Ex') is often referred to by students as the most challenging and enjoyable of our competitions. It requires students to think on their feet and showcase responsive advocacy under strict time pressures.

Students are given 60 minutes to review witness statements and interview their witness, before appearing before a panel of judges to give an opening address, conduct an examination-in-chief, perform a cross-examination, and give a closing address.

This competition fosters flexible and dynamic thinking and develops important procedural knowledge. It's held every May semester.

CLIENT INTERVIEW COMPETITION

Client interviewing simulates an initial consultation between a prospective client and their solicitors. The purpose of the interview is to gather all the relevant facts pertaining to your client's legal issues. Teams are judged on how well they build rapport, identify the legal and non-legal implications of the problem, provide some preliminary advice, and advise the client of potential steps forward.

Requiring limited legal knowledge, the Client Interview Competition is an ideal way for early law students to test the waters of the LSA's Skill Competitions. It is held every September semester.

THE COMPETITIVE MOOTING

PROGRAM

**Professor
Lisa Bonin**



Director of the
Mooting Program

Bondies have a proud tradition of mooting excellence and we are fortunate to have a faculty that supports and fosters that tradition of excellence.

For many students, doing an external competitive moot is a defining experience in their law school career. Competitive moots offer the opportunity not just to hone your written and oral advocacy skills, but also to engage deeply with interesting contemporary legal issues, and to work collaboratively with a small team of your peers.

All of our competitive moot teams have faculty coaches, and most also have student coaches and mentors. You will have the opportunity to work closely with faculty experts and senior students on a variety of subjects, including contract law, constitutional law, administrative law, sports law, international commercial arbitration, and international human rights law.

Now that we are once again able to travel, mooting offers the opportunity to explore new places. In competitive moots, you also get the opportunity to meet other students from other universities, and even other countries and other legal systems. You share an instant connection, having just spent the past weeks and months working through the same legal issues. The friendships and connections formed through mooting often last a lifetime.

Applications for national moots are usually called early in the May semester, and applications for international moots are usually called late in the May semester or early in the September semester each year. Applications are advertised through a LawSASQ email and on the Bond Mooting iLearn site.

If you are interested in mooting, I encourage you to jump straight in by participating in one of the in-house moots held each semester. If you have any questions at all, don't hesitate to contact me at lbonin@bond.edu.au.

THE COMPETITIVE MOOTING EXPERIENCE



"I have had an exceptional experience with mooting at Bond and will recommend it to any student who will listen! I have not had the most conventional mooting journey – I had only competed in the Pro Justitia in-house competition before being selected as a member of the Vis international moot team. Most students who compete in international moots have an extensive experience in mooting and other competitions. While I generally support the notion that the more experience, the better, my mooting journey shows that everyone can forge their own path with mooting and still have an incredible experience. Representing Bond in Vienna has been the highlight of my time at university. This year I am fortunate enough to be the student coach for the new Vis team, and I am extremely excited to use my knowledge and be a mentor for other students."

Sophie Roiter

"I can confidently say that one of the most unique, enjoyable and rewarding opportunities offered at Bond Law is the mooting program. I cannot encourage you enough to become involved in your first semester! In my first year, I followed the traditional pathway by entering the LSA's in-house Brian Orr Moot, offered in the January semester. I was then fortunate to represent Bond in the National Environmental Law Moot, followed by the International Sports Arbitration Moot. This moot was held in Madrid, Spain, which was an incredible experience! I never would have thought these fantastic opportunities could arise when I threw myself into the deep end in my first semester. So moral of the story, TAKE THE LEAP AND GIVE MOOTING A GO! I love to chat all things mooting and legal competitions, so don't hesitate to reach out!!"

Sophie Peach



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KEEPING UP WITH THE LSA

My portfolio is dedicated to keeping law students well-informed about upcoming events and opportunities tailored for our fellow law enthusiasts. Among various channels, our Instagram page stands out as the most current and indispensable source of information. Additionally, we offer media to discover valuable tips and tricks for upcoming exams, and where to find exam timetables and resources. It not only grants access to upcoming social, academic, career, and equity-related events, but also serves as an excellent platform for establishing connections and seeking guidance from our LSA members. You can do this by DMing us!

Our social media presence doesn't stop at Instagram; it extends to Facebook, ensuring that we reach all audiences, no matter which platform you prefer. We recognise that diversity in communication channels is essential, and we are committed to delivering vital information to every law student, irrespective of their online habits.

In our Instagram bio, you'll find a Linktree that offers a convenient gateway to sign up for events, competitions, or purchase tickets. This resource is invaluable for securing cost-effective tickets and taking advantage of early bird releases. To complement this, the LSA also distributes our own fortnightly newsletter, The Summons, to keep you updated. LAWSASQ also informs all law students about these events. Our commitment to providing a comprehensive and accessible network for law students is unwavering, and our aim is to get all the information you need to hear straight to you! Make sure to add our socials included below, to stay up to date with your LSA.



Sienna Grubb
Marketing Director

 [bond_lsa](#)

 [Bond University Law
Students' Association](#)

SOCIAL LIFE AND EVENTS

Ella Moore

Vice President (Events)

Hello! My name is Ella and I am the 2023/2024 Vice President of Events of the Bond Law Students' Association. As law students, we often get caught up in textbooks and lectures, which can often lead to feelings of stress and pressure. Whilst we want all Bond Law students to excel in their studies, we believe that social events provide an important avenue for students to unwind, relax, and create exciting memories with like-minded peers! The LSA has several social events each semester to assist in ensuring the overall well-being of all students, and alleviate the pressures of law school.

We plan a semesterly party called 'The Session', where students are encouraged to let loose, dress up to a theme, and have an enjoyable night. Some of the previous themes include 'Dads on Tour', 'Slumber Party', 'Shipwrecked', and 'Y2K'.

Next up on the social calendar is 'Chillz and Grillz', an event where we provide sausages, drinks, and ice creams for all students during the mid-semester study block. We encourage all students to attend this event each semester, as it's the perfect opportunity to fuel your brain and make new friends.

The LSA also hosts a unique event each semester called 'Protrackstination', which, like Chillz and Grillz, takes place in the busier weeks of the semester. Protrackstination provides a much-needed respite in the form of burgers, chicken nuggets, fries, and frozen cokes from McDonald's. This initiative helps students to recharge through a well-deserved (and delicious) study break where you can listen to music and eat free food.



Finally, the annual Law Ball is the largest event on the Bond University Law calendar. Law Ball is held every May Semester and is the concluding event to our annual Law Week. At this event, the outgoing committee hands over to the incoming committee of the LSA, whilst also offering students an enjoyable night to unwind and dress to their best. You do not want to miss this event!



The significance of socialising and participating in student-run events at university cannot be overstated. These events allow students to form lasting friendships, build a support system, and cultivate a sense of belonging within the university community. They provide a platform for personal growth and emotional well-being that are valuable beyond the classroom!

EXCHANGE EXPERIENCE



Jess Coleman
LSA Secretary



My exchange semester at Kingston University in London was undoubtedly the best experience of my life, and I would wholeheartedly encourage anyone considering this opportunity to go for it! Not only was I able to study fascinating electives that weren't available at Bond, but it also allowed me to form genuine friendships and unforgettable travel experiences. I had the chance to explore London, as well as travelling around Europe during the mid-semester break, and at the end of the semester. On top of this, the grades from my exchange subjects didn't count towards my GPA, which took off some pressure and allowed me to balance study with travel.

If you're contemplating embarking on an exchange journey, make sure to explore all of Bond's partner universities. Bond offers exchange with so many universities worldwide, offering you a unique chance to live and travel wherever you'd like! But remember to check which partner universities offer law subjects, or subjects from your second degree.

It's also important to plan ahead. You'll need to apply two semesters in advance, and make sure to save four elective subjects so you can take these on exchange. Consider the timing carefully to fit in your exchange semester with other commitments, such as clerkships or internships. I went on exchange during the first semester of my third year, which I found was perfect timing for my degree. An exchange semester is an opportunity like no other, so make sure to fit it into your Bond experience!

BALANCING UNIVERSITY LIFE



Sophie Healy

Communications
Director

Personally, relocating from Adelaide to the Gold Coast immediately after graduating high school demanded adaptability and an open embrace of change as I transitioned into life as a first year law student. Drawing from my journey, I offer the following insights for effectively managing this exciting yet demanding transition.

SELF-CARE

It is crucial to look after your physical and mental health, first and foremost. Some basic steps in achieving this are getting adequate sleep, regularly exercising, and eating a balanced diet. Further, to rejuvenate and reduce stress, techniques such as meditation, mindfulness, and journaling can be beneficial.

SOCIAL LIFE

At Bond, the endless social activities, events, and thriving student associations and societies actively enrich your student experience far beyond the realms of academics. Engaging in these opportunities is essential, as they provide a unique and invaluable social connection, which instils a profound sense of community and support throughout your time at university.

REACH OUT

It is important to remember you are never alone and that Bond is always there to assist you with any challenges you may face during your journey. You can reach out to the LSA, friends, family, academic advisors, the well-being team, psychologists, and doctors.

GOAL SETTING

Transitioning from high school to university can be overwhelming, but setting small, achievable goals is crucial. Approach your journey one day at a time by creating incremental objectives.

BALANCING TIME

Striking a balance between academic endeavours, social commitments, and potentially even part-time employment is crucial to enjoying your university experience. Develop a weekly schedule that dedicates time to classes, assignments, and personal commitments. By prioritizing tasks and adhering to a schedule it will help you manage your responsibilities effectively to make your academic journey more manageable while simultaneously reducing stress.

TAKE THE JOURNEY WITH US.



TALBOTSAYER

WHO ARE WE?

Talbot Sayer is a leading specialist corporate, property and dispute resolution firm dedicated to providing premium quality, timely and cost effective advice to our clients with a particular focus on solving their most complex and significant problems. Our principals have extensive experience in mergers and acquisitions, capital raising, property, agribusiness and disputes, having worked exclusively for leading international and national firms prior to establishing Talbot Sayer in 2014. Based in Brisbane, we act for a wide range of clients throughout Australia, including leading private equity firms, large corporates, founders and institutional investors.



None of our principals or lawyers have a billable hours budget.



We pay top of market rates to ensure we can hire and retain the best and brightest.



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We have a flat organisational structure, with advancement based on merit.

OUR MARKET CREDENTIALS

Our consistently high level of deal activity is demonstrated by our ongoing recognition as one of the leading M&A firms in Australia. In what was a massive year for M&A across the globe, Talbot Sayer again ranked 1st in Australia/New Zealand for both small-cap (deals up to US\$50m) and mid-market (deals up to US\$500m), as shown in the Refinitiv rankings set out below. We are also recognised among Queensland's leading corporate and agribusiness practices in Doyle's guide to the legal profession and in Chambers and Partners for Corporate/M&A.

STARTING YOUR LEGAL CAREER

Embrace Networking From Day One

As a first-year law student, diving into the world of legal careers may seem daunting, but early engagement in networking events can set the foundation for your professional journey. Bond University recognises this pivotal step and offers a suite of opportunities to connect with industry leaders and peers from the outset.

One not-to-miss event is our annual Careers Breakfast, where you can start your day with insights from legal professionals, gain early exposure to the field, and learn to navigate your career path over coffee and breakfast. It's a semi-formal, yet informative setting that encourages meaningful conversations and lasting connections.

Equally valuable are our 'Meet the Firm' events — a cornerstone that brings you, the student, to law firms. It's a unique platform to interact directly with potential employers and understand what firms seek in future candidates. Here, first-hand narratives from practising solicitors and partners illuminate the realities of legal work, demystifying the profession for newcomers.

Remember, networking is a potent tool for the legal industry. It's not just about collecting business cards; it's about fostering relationships that could guide you towards mentorships, internships, and ultimately, employment. Starting early can make a significant difference.

Additionally, the Career Development Centre (CDC) at Bond serves as an invaluable resource. While we will touch base on this more comprehensively in the Careers Guide, it's worth noting that the CDC is ready to assist you with personalised career advice, workshops, and resources tailored to the legal profession.

So, embrace these opportunities—your future self will thank you for the head start.

Andrew Gillan-Jane
Careers Director





LANDING A LAW JOB

Cameron Saliba

Vice President (External Relations)

As a first year, one of the last things on your mind is probably securing a law job when you graduate. However, due to Bond's accelerated programs, it is something you need to start thinking about! In this article, I'll briefly cover all you need to know right now about the clerkship and graduate programs, having helped many students through the process as the Vice President of External Relations, overseeing the LSA's Careers Pod, and having just gone through the process myself!

Firstly, a qualification: there are numerous viable pathways into practicing law upon graduation, this advice pertains to those interested in the standard, clerkship-based, commercial law firm pathway. With that said, you must first determine when you need to apply – lets work backwards!

The year after graduation you'll likely want a graduate position secured at a law firm, which means you must apply for graduate roles near the start of your final year. Approximately 75% of graduate roles are filled by students who have completed a clerkship program, which means most students choose to apply for clerkships near the start of their second last year of study. They complete them later that year, or in their final year. A clerkship is usually a paid, 4-week, full-time position, where you gain practical experience within a firm.

The second last year of study when you apply is known as your 'penultimate' year, and you need to be prepared for this – single-degree law students may need to apply as early as their 4th semester! Dual degree students usually apply in their 3rd year, and please note most clerkships are only available to Australian residents or VISA holders.

To prepare, I suggest trying to develop a well-rounded skillset and CV, through focusing on academics, extracurricular involvement, volunteering, and developing any passions you may have that make you uniquely stand out. The LSA will provide detailed guidance on clerkship tips in our Careers Guide publication later this year. Please reach out if you have any questions in the meantime.

LSA CONTACTS

If you need any help throughout your first year of law school or have any concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to our committee, we would love to hear from you!

EXECUTIVE POD

PRESIDENT: president@bondlsa.com

SECRETARY: secretary@bondlsa.com

TREASURER: treasurer@bondlsa.com

CAREERS POD

VP (EXTERNAL RELATIONS): vp-externalrelations@bondlsa.com

CAREERS DIRECTOR: careers@bondlsa.com

COMPETITIONS DIRECTOR: competitions@bondlsa.com

PUBLICATIONS DIRECTOR: publications@bondlsa.com

EDUCATION POD

VP (EDUCATION): vp-education@bondlsa.com

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS DIRECTOR: academicaffairs@bondlsa.com

EQUITY DIRECTOR: equity@bondlsa.com

FIRST YEAR DIRECTOR: firstyear@bondlsa.com

POSTGRADUATE DIRECTOR: postgraduate@bondlsa.com

EVENTS POD

VP (EVENTS): vp-events@bondlsa.com

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR: communications@bondlsa.com

MARKETING DIRECTOR: marketing@bondlsa.com

