

FAME

Film, Arts, Media and Entertainment

LAW STUDENTS'
ASSOCIATION

2022
CAREERS
GUIDE

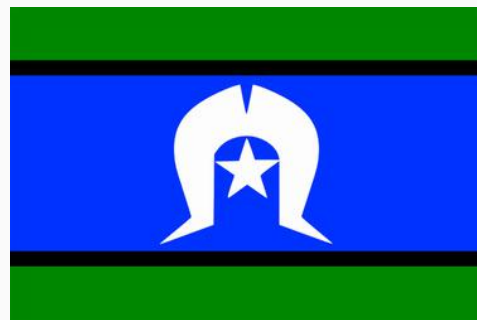
Melbourne Law School

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Film, Arts, Media and Entertainment Law Students' Association ('FAME LSA') acknowledges that we operate on and benefit from stolen Wurundjeri land. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging and to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People. Sovereignty was never ceded, and Australia always was, and always will be, Aboriginal land.

We acknowledge that the following guide explores career options and opportunities that operate within settler law. We also acknowledge that the areas of law discussed in this guide - intellectual property, copyright, trademarks, etc - have not until recently been an avenue for legal protection for Indigenous cultural and creative property.

The law still continues to fall short in its protections of Indigenous cultural intellectual property (also known as 'ICIP'), and we hope that our student association can instigate awareness and change, so that the next generation of lawyers are equipped to address the needs of their Indigenous clients.



ABOUT THIS GUIDE

This Careers Guide was carefully created by members of the FAME team based on research, what we have heard from lawyers and legal professionals, information shared by guests on our careers podcast 'The Brief' and our own personal knowledge.

MESSAGE FROM OUR CAREERS AND SPONSORSHIP DIRECTOR

Growing up, whenever I thought about law school and becoming a lawyer, I would always feel a twinge of sadness because I felt as though there would be no space in my legal career for my love for the creative arts.

Evidently, this is not true. Through my involvement with FAME LSA, I now know that there are opportunities aplenty both at the law school and in the legal workplace for those of us who are both creatively and legally inclined.

So this guide is for others out there like me who love the law, but are also a sucker for creative writing, literature, theatre, music, beauty, fashion, art and comedy! There is absolutely space for us all and I can't wait to see you all out there.

Huge thanks to Amy, Manny, Tanvi, Justin, Beth, Saad, Rob, Leah and Matt for lending a huge helping hand in bring this guide together <3

Also a thank you to Alana Kushnir, David Tan and Shaun Miller for featuring in this guide, and giving up the time to answer our questions!



Sarah Abou-Eid
FAME LSA 2022 Careers & Sponsorship Director

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HISTORY OF FAME

The FAME LSA was founded in late 2019 by two Melbourne Law School students, Coco Garner-Davis and Peter Turner, and celebrated entertainment lawyer, Shaun Miller. Our association was born out of a desire to promote and create opportunities within niche creative areas of the legal world for students who care deeply about the value of the creative arts.

We aim to foster graduate student engagement with the legal-creative industries by promoting creativity, facilitating professional development and offering skill-building opportunities for those interested in all areas of the law and the arts.

Some of our initiatives include:

- Panels featuring intellectual property, media and entertainment lawyers in corporate firms and in-house roles within the arts industry;
- A podcast, The Brief, featuring discussions with and advice from lawyers in the arts industry;
- A student competition, The FAME Game, which allows students to delve into the FAME fields of law and provide a creative response to hypothetical and policy-related problems presented in creative formats;
- External group events, including trips to art exhibitions and film screenings;
- A creative workshop series allowing students to engage in creative, social activities with peers, including life drawing and creative writing;
- The annual Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property lecture;
- Our unique Content Corner with all of the fantastic pieces written by our FAME members.

...and more!

Check out the rest of our offerings at www.famelsa.com

FILM, ARTS, MEDIA AND ENTERTAINMENT LAW STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

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DISCLAIMER

FAME LSA has endeavoured to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the information contained in this publication as of 29 September 2022. However, please be aware that we cannot guarantee the accuracy of the information contained within the 2022 Careers Guide, and FAME LSA accepts no responsibility for reliance upon this information. Reader discretion is advised.

INDIGENOUS PERSPECTIVES IN FAME LAW

Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property, colloquially referred to as ICIP, is a term which reflects the desire of Indigenous and Torres Strait Islander communities to have their traditional arts and culture legally protected. As mentioned earlier in the Acknowledgement of Country, Australian law falls short in its protections of Indigenous and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage. This is despite the increasing commercialisation of ICIP, through the blatant marketplace stealing of Indigenous artwork, design, words, foods, and ritual.

Currently, Australian intellectual property law protects Indigenous cultural property in creative works (music, literature, art, designs. etc.). But, it does not cover aspects of ICIP such as traditional languages, traditional medicines or methods, styles and techniques of art, and the underlying idea or information being conveyed in art pieces. Additionally, it does not protect communal ownership and oral cultural expression and knowledge.

Indigenous and Torres Strait Islander communities are clear about their desires to have their cultural heritage protected and it is important that those of us wishing to enter into these fields of law are attuned to these concerns.

Since our beginnings, FAME LSA has heard from some of the leading minds in ICIP, including Terri Janke, Patrick Goulding, and Patricia Adjei. We hold an annual Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property Lecture, and have also discussed the topic with Delwyn Everard on our podcast, 'The Brief'. These are some great, informative initiatives to get you familiar and thinking about ICIP issues.



Photo Source: Jamie James, 2017

Currently, you can engage in ICIP by working at private Indigenous firms who specialise in it, or by working/volunteering at non-specialist firms or organisations who provide Pro Bono assistance to individuals and organisations seeking ICIP protection.



PRACTICE AREAS WITHIN FAME LAW

FILM, ARTS, MEDIA AND ENTERTAINMENT LAW STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

PRACTICE AREAS





Within the spheres of film, arts, media, and entertainment law, there are many opportunities to pursue your interests and make your mark. Whether you want to embark upon a traditional career trajectory, or break the archetype and develop your own path, consider this your official introduction to the exciting collision of the legal and creative industries.

Below are descriptions of some areas of law which overlap with the creative industries, and potential career options that emerge from these areas. Please note that these areas of law are not mutually exclusive, and often overlap with each other.

But first...

HOW TO KNOW WHAT IS RIGHT FOR YOU?

Sometimes the number of options can be overwhelming and stressful. So, when exploring potential career paths, it is helpful to factor in practical and personal considerations such as...

-  Scope of Work: do you want to work in a specialised area or with a variety of areas?
-  Jurisdiction: do you want to practice exclusively in one jurisdiction or more?
-  Passions: where do your passions lie? what kind of legal work do you enjoy doing?
-  Skill set: what are your strengths and weaknesses?

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW

Intellectual Property (IP) encompasses intangible concepts, inventions, and assets created by human intellect which includes creative work such as creative writing, film, and art. This practice area concerns the regulation and protection of these assets through copyright, trademarks, patents and trade secrets.

IP law is a broad and rapidly expanding sphere of law, requiring some crucial skills to launch a career in this area, such as;



ATTENTION TO
DETAIL



STATUTORY
INTERPRETATION



ADAPTABILITY

MEDIA LAW

Media law encompasses a wide range of legal doctrines, actions and concepts that are part of the broader goal to regulate the telecommunications industry and the publishing and broadcasting of creative materials (such as music, film and television, digital media, and theatre). In this area, understanding the interactions between regulatory bodies, legal frameworks and stakeholders is vital. Media lawyers typically deal with issues relating to piracy, internet censorship, privacy and defamation.

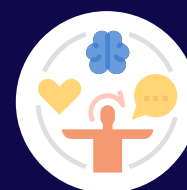
As mentioned earlier, the work of media lawyers overlaps with other areas of law including intellectual property, contracts, commercial law etc. It requires skills such as:



INTERNATIONAL
AWARENESS



COMMUNICATION



ADAPTABILITY

FILM, ARTS, MEDIA AND ENTERTAINMENT LAW STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

ENTERTAINMENT LAW

As suggested by the name, entertainment law centers around the entertainment industry. It involves a number of different practice areas which govern professionals and businesses operating within the entertainment industry. Entertainment lawyers deal with all stakeholders in the entertainment industry including performers, artists, employees and companies.

The broad scope of entertainment law matters reflects the complexities of the entertainment industry – at times entertainment lawyers are negotiating a contract between an artist and a broadcasting network, other times they can be litigating a breach of copyright in a courtroom, and sometimes they are providing employment law legal advice.



INTERPERSONAL
SKILLS



BROAD LEGAL
KNOWLEDGE



LEGAL DRAFTING

ART LAW

Art law is an umbrella term encompassing many different practice areas involved in legally protecting art. This can include copyright, intellectual property and contracts. Art law typically involves cross-jurisdictional work, as protections are sought in different countries, and increasingly intersects with technology industries as art forms become digitalised.



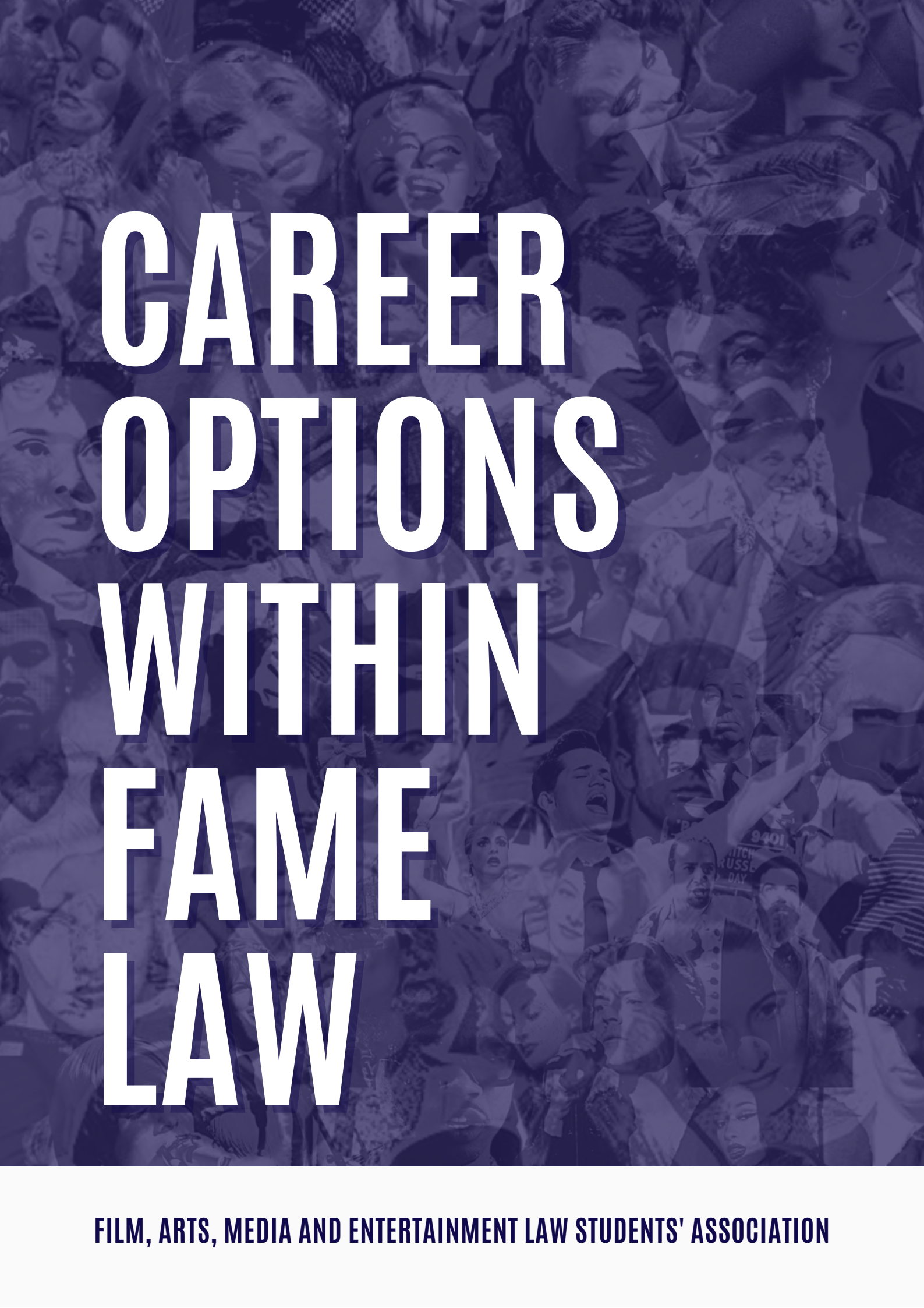
BROAD LEGAL
KNOWLEDGE



LEGAL DRAFTING



INTERNATIONAL
AWARENESS



CAREER OPTIONS WITHIN FAME LAW

FILM, ARTS, MEDIA AND ENTERTAINMENT LAW STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

CAREER OPTIONS

ACADEMIA

A career in academia and research is also available to you, if you are theoretically inclined or enjoy the idea of teaching and supporting students.

In this role, you will influence the upcoming change-makers in the legal profession, and help shape student's academic experiences. A career in academia can be pursued as a full-time endeavour, or it can be something you do on the side. Many practising lawyers contribute to academia as lecturers, tutors, through the peer review process and in mentoring roles.

Research is a significant aspect of legal academia. Depending on your institution, you may be required to regularly contribute research articles and papers for publication, develop text-books and student guides, supervise junior researchers in their work and secure research grants.

A career in academic and research typically requires you to be extremely knowledgeable about your chosen fields, therefore a Masters of Law or a Masters of Philosophy (Law) may be of interest. Here are links to some further information about these courses at MLS:

- [Masters of Law](#)
- [Masters of Philosophy \(Law\)](#)



RESEARCH



WRITTEN
COMMUNICATION



TEAMWORK

CAREER OPTIONS

SOLICITOR

Solicitors are the most common type of lawyer, and are typically what comes to mind when people think of the legal profession. You can become a solicitor and work within FAME related industries in a number of ways, including through the big firms, expert boutique firms or starting your own specialist firm! Shaun Miller, the lawyer who helped found FAME, has his own practice specialising in film and entertainment law.

Solicitors represent their client's interests, and their most common task is to deliver written legal advice. Other tasks include researching cases, attending and conducting client meetings, preparing legal documents for litigation, liaising with other lawyers, among other things.



INTERPERSONAL
SKILLS



LEGAL DRAFTING



TIME MANAGEMENT



CAREER OPTIONS

ADVOCACY

If you are interested in becoming a barrister, there is scope in numerous Australian jurisdictions to specialise in film, arts, media and entertainment law matters.

A barrister is an independent lawyer who specialises in advocacy, dispute resolution and litigation strategy. Their tasks typically include representing clients in a courtroom, representing clients during mediation proceedings and providing specialised legal advice.

At the Victorian Bar, there are a number of dedicated barristers who specialise in areas which overlap with creative industries, such as intellectual property, patents and trademarks, entertainment and broadcasting. Here are a couple:

- Siobhan Ryan KC
- James Samargis



DETAIL ORIENTED



VERBAL COMMUNICATION



COMPOSED UNDER PRESSURE



CAREER OPTIONS

IN-HOUSE COUNSEL

A career as in-house counsel is a great way to combine your love for law and the arts.

In-house counsel are lawyers who are employed directly by a business, and responsible for providing legal advice to and handling legal matters of their employer. For example, Elias Chalouhi, a panellist at FAME'S 2022 in-house careers panel, works as in-house counsel for Paramount Australia and New Zealand.

In-house lawyers typically work within legal teams and due to their employer being their sole client, have an active role in the realisation of business goals and ambitions.



BROAD LEGAL KNOWLEDGE



TEAMWORK



UNDERSTANDING OF
REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS



CAREER OPTIONS

DUAL CAREER PATHS

A common way lawyers seek to combine their interest in law and their creative interests is by pursuing a dual career path – what we mean by this is that they pursue a career in law, and also have passion projects or a creative career alongside.

In FAME LSA's history, we have found that it is not uncommon for legal professionals to also be authors, newspaper commentators, singer/songwriters, actors, athletes, and artists, with flourishing careers and businesses. For example, earlier this year at our Young Lawyers Panel, Dylan Dexter, a Media Lawyer from MinterEllison, revealed that he counteracts the intensity of his legal career by being part of an improv comedy group. Similarly, Professor David Tan of the MLS subject Intellectual Property and Popular Culture, is a fine art and fashion photographer, collaborating with Versace and appearing in Vanity Fair, Harper's Bazaar, Marie Claire and Elle.

This is an avenue available to you that does not require any upskilling or further qualifications – simply passion and drive.



PASSION



EXPECTATION
MANAGEMENT



TIME MANAGEMENT



CAREER OPTIONS

CROSS-JURISDICTIONAL PRACTICE

Given the interconnectedness of the world we live in, there are ample opportunities available for those of you who wish to practice in the areas of law listed above, but engage with other jurisdictions.

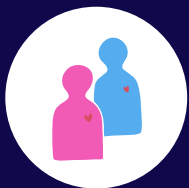
Not only can you represent and retain clients from other jurisdictions, but even your clients in Australia are likely to be publishing, broadcasting and advertising their creative works overseas, and therefore compliance with overseas legal requirements will have you working your way through foreign legislation.



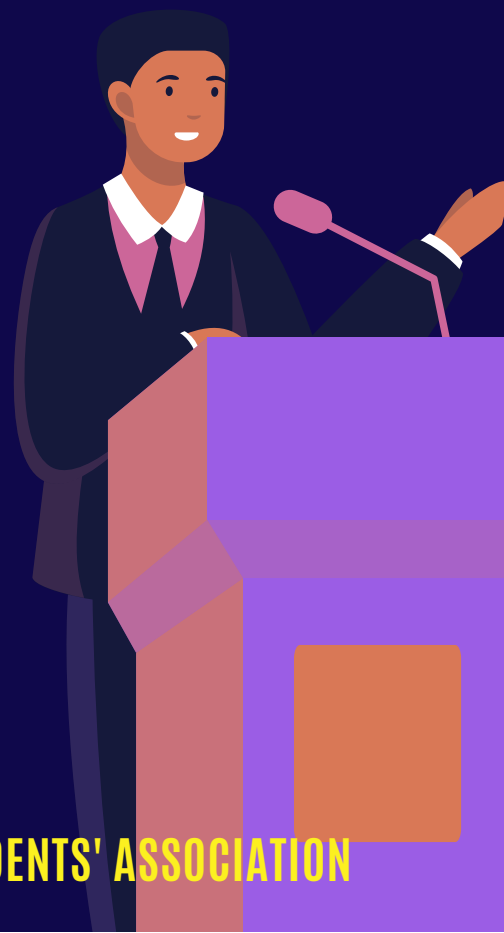
INTERNATIONAL
AWARENESS



INTERCULTURAL
COMPETENCY



RELATIONSHIP
MANAGEMENT



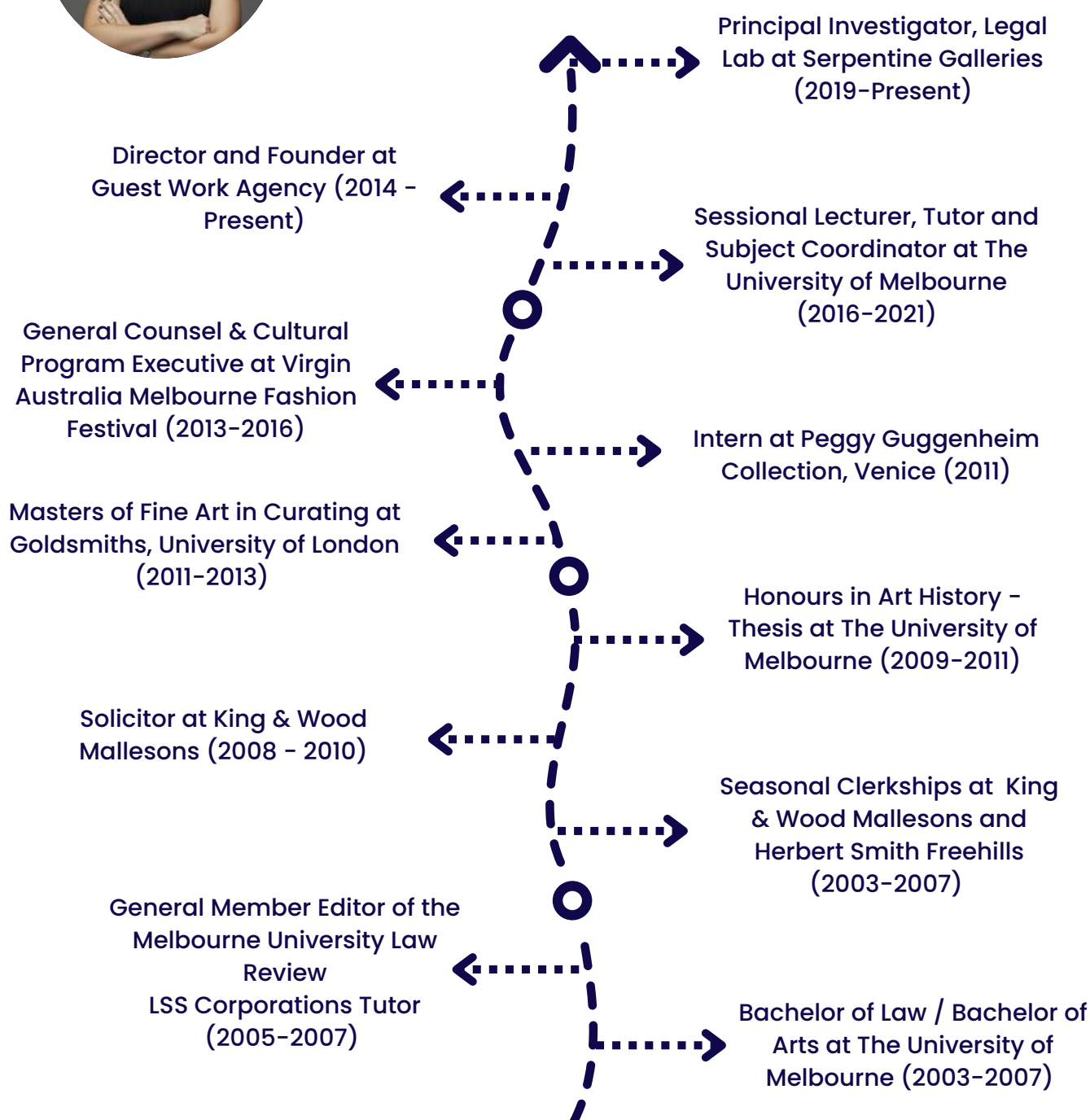
CAREER PATHWAYS

FAME has researched the career progressions of two legal professionals working within the legal and creative industries, and have formulated their career maps to provide examples of how to can establish yourself in this industry.



ALANA KUSHNIR

Art Lawyer, Advisor and Curator

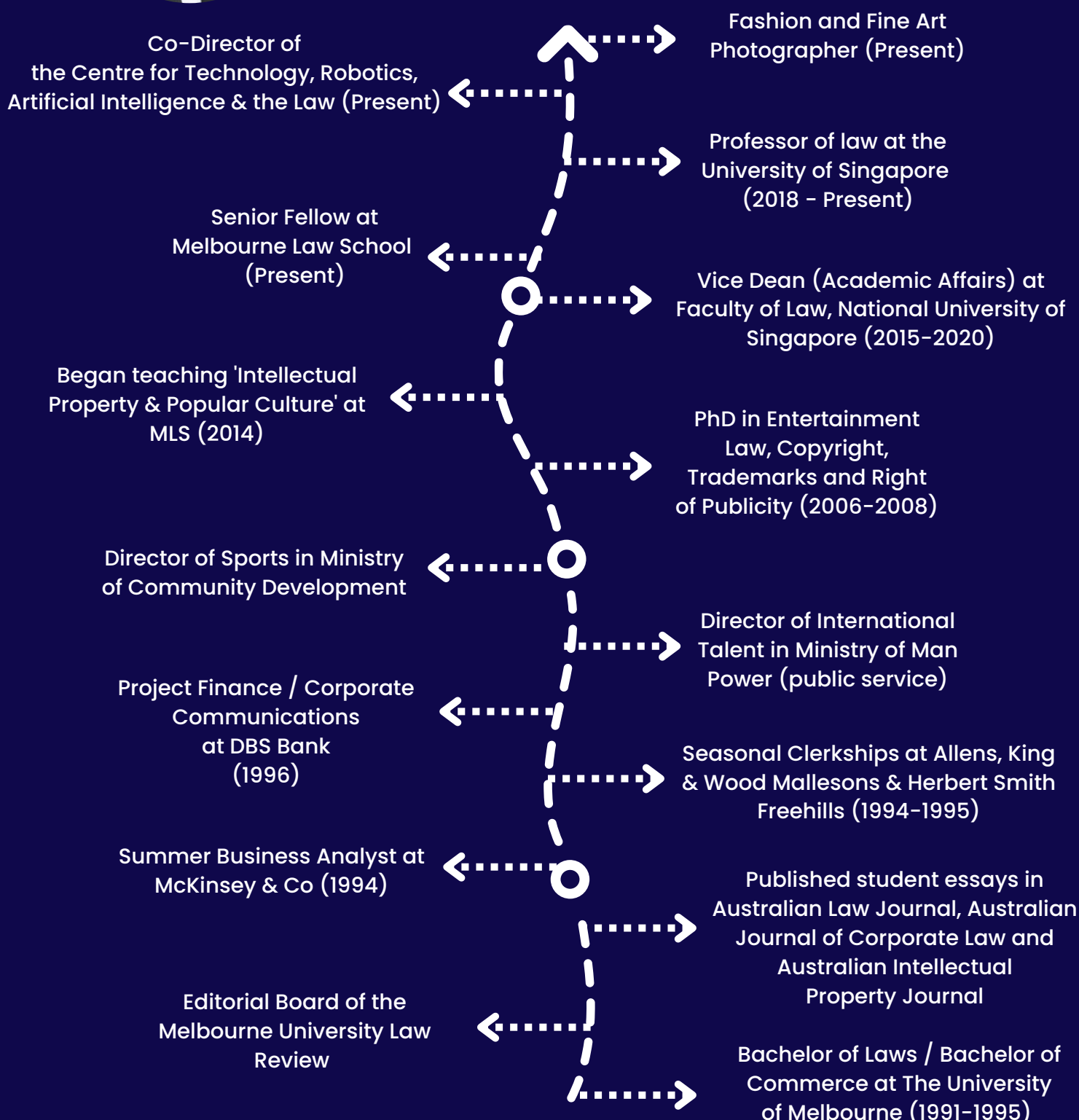


CAREER PATHWAYS



DAVID TAN

Professor, Senior Fellow and Director





LAW FIRMS

FILM, ARTS, MEDIA AND ENTERTAINMENT LAW STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

COMMERCIAL FIRMS WITH FAME PRACTICE AREAS

Below is a guide of the firms in Melbourne (and interstate) which practice in Intellectual Property, Media, Entertainment and Art Law.

If students would like further information about these firms, we highly recommend that they reference their websites or refer to the more detailed firm profiles in the MULSS Guides.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

MEDIA LAW

ENTERTAINMENT LAW

ART LAW

Here are some notable firms who deal with this area:

- Allens
- Ashurst
- Baker McKenzie
- Clayton Utz
- Corrs Chambers Westgarth
- Herbert Smith Freehills
- King & Wood Mallesons
- K&L Gates

Here are some specialised boutique firms in this area:

- Actuate IP
- By George Legal
- Banki Haddock Fiora
- Burns IP
- Epiphany Law
- Spruson & Ferguson
- Studio Legal

Some barrister chambers who work within this area:

- 9 Selborne Chambers
- 10th Floor Chambers

- Bird & Bird
- Blueprint Law
- Corrs Chambers Westgarth
- Gadens
- Hall & Wilcox
- HBL Ebsworth
- Johnson Winter & Slattery
- Media Arts Lawyers
- MinterEllison
- Norton Rose Fulbright
- Simpsons Solicitors
- Shaun Miller Lawyers
- Thomson Geer

- Dentons Hall & Wilcox
- Johnson Winter & Slattery
- Kay & Hughes Entertainment Lawyers
- KCL Law
- Kingston Lawyers
- marshalls+dent+wilmoth
- McCormicks Entertainment Lawyers
- Media Arts Lawyers
- Norton Rose Fulbright
- Sanicki Lawyers
- Shaun Miller Lawyers
- Simpsons Solicitors
- Studio Legal

- Guest Work Agency
- Media Arts Lawyers
- Kay & Hughes Art & Entertainment Lawyers



**CAREERS
CHIT CHAT
WITH
SHAUN
MILLER**

FILM, ARTS, MEDIA AND ENTERTAINMENT LAW STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

CAREERS CHIT CHAT WITH SHAUN MILLER

What was your lightbulb moment which made you go 'I want to pursue a legal career that intersects with the creative arts'?

I combined my law degree with a commerce degree at the University of Melbourne, but was actually more interested in the arts than either of the foregoing. I am fortunate that my mother is a film distributor and exhibitor – Natalie Miller who, amongst other things, founded Cinema Nova 30 years ago and [is] still the co-owner and operator. I did my Article of Clerkship at Mallesons Stephen Jaques (now King Wood Mallesons) in 1991 and realised very quickly that I was not suited to a big corporate law firm.

My mother travelled to the Cannes Film Festival each year. Sensing I needed a creative tonic, she invited me to join her in Cannes in 1992. It was huge fun!

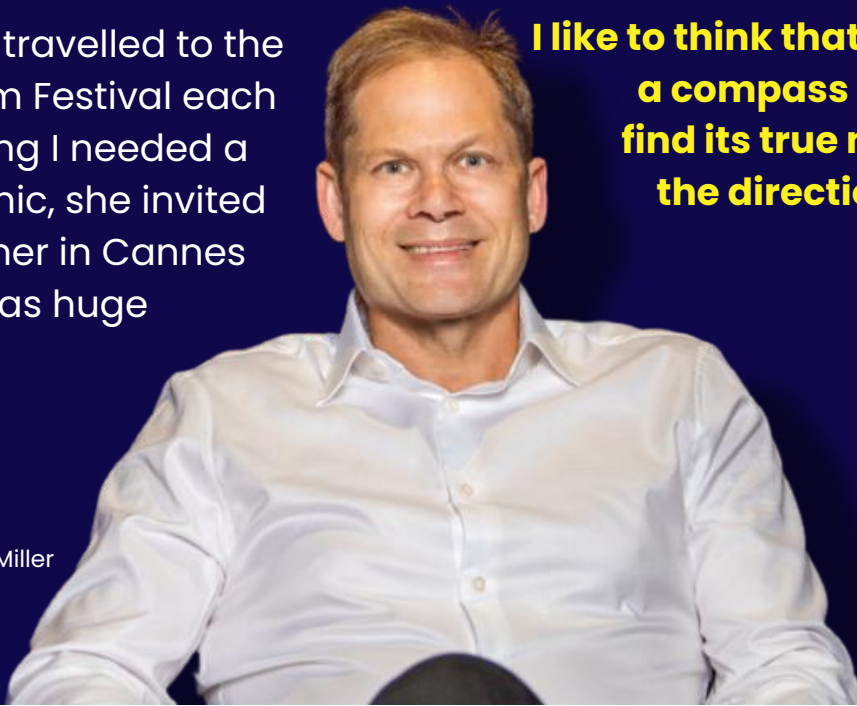
I then did a stint at the ACCC followed by several years of working in my mother's distribution and exhibition companies.

I had this idea of becoming a film director so I enrolled in a three month course at New York University. But then I got cold feet about being a film director as I could see from the evidence in front of me that being a filmmaker is a very precarious and insecure career path. I never went to NYU.

The “lightbulb” then lit up where I realised that I could combine my legal knowledge, business skills and passion for the film industry by becoming a film and entertainment lawyer. It was my Venn diagram moment!

I was fortunate to get a job with Bryce Menzies (a film law guru) and was his “second in command” for 10.5 years before setting up my own sole practice law firm in 2010.

I like to think that a career is like a compass – it will always find its true north and go in the direction that is most suitable.



CAREERS CHIT CHAT WITH **SHAUN MILLER**

What can students expect working within this area of law?

Students can expect to work with creative and interesting people and projects in this area of law. The work depends on which route one takes in combining the law with the creative arts. There's private practice law firms, in-house production companies or broadcasters, government positions (such as at Screen Australia or VicScreen) or broader roles such as business affairs in arts-based companies.

Even the mundane tasks have elements of being interesting because of the type of projects one works on in the creative arts – it may be films, music, stage plays, publishing or virtual reality. Unlike, say, corporate law, tax law or insurance law which tend to be dry and, frankly, somewhat meaningless, there is always the added spark of working on projects in the creative arts.

The type of work is always based on legal fundamentals such as contract law, employment law and copyright law.

Firm culture is always more relaxed in this area. Filmmakers and musicians don't expect their lawyers to be wearing a suit and tie. And if there is an opening night for a film followed by an after-party, then one can rock up to work late the following morning and credit it all to "marketing"! At least that's what I always did!



Shaun Miller (right) at FAME's Cinema Nova Networking Night in 2022

CAREERS CHIT CHAT WITH **SHAUN MILLER**

What is your top tip to start shaping your career whilst studying at university?

My top tip is to get mentors who are lawyers working [in] this area of law and also mentors who are directly creating projects such as filmmakers, writers, musicians or theatre producers. Try to get student jobs at media and entertainment law firms, broadcasters or production companies that engage in-house lawyers. Get involved in the FAME Law Students' Association. Volunteer as an usher at a film festival.

Network, network, network. Older people in the industry are often happy to spare 45 minutes to have a coffee and share some career advice. Often careers can get started or progress due to serendipity or chance encounters. You never [know] who you meet by just being "out and about" at film festivals, music events, student theatre shows, seminars and other networking events.

It's not what you know or who you know, but who knows you!

And remember: it will all be alright in the end, and if it's not alright then it's not the end.



Sarah Abou-Eid with Joshua Sanchez-Lawson, Dylan Dexter, Brittany Brancatella and Marco Angele at the Young Lawyers Careers Panel, 2022

CAREERS CHIT CHAT WITH **SHAUN MILLER**

What skills and qualities do you think are essential to be successful in this niche sphere of law?

As noted above, having a fundamental working knowledge of the law are skills needed to be successful in the area of arts law. Added to that is a deep understanding of the industry which the law is applied to. For example, if one wants to be a film lawyer, then you should do some short filmmaking courses (e.g. at the VCA or AFTRS) and also get some experience on the sets of film and television productions, even if it's just as a runner or in catering. Business skills are also important. It's called "Show Business" so one must understand how the "show" is made and how the "business" is run.

The clients and personnel in the arts tend to be outgoing, eccentric and (dare I say) temperamental. If any of those attributes describe your personality traits, then you will have a lot in common with your clients!



FAME members attending a writer's workshop hosted by FAME and Zoey Dawson, 2022



MLS ELECTIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

This section contains extracts from the University of Melbourne Handbook and student testimonials. Dates and times are subject to change every year. Those mentioned are accurate for 2022.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & POPULAR CULTURE

DESCRIPTION

Through the study of laws surrounding pop culture such as movies, music, and fashion, Intellectual Property and Popular Culture (IPPC) offers the opportunity to inspect the relationship between cultural perspectives and IP rights.

This subject is designed for both students who have some familiarity with intellectual property and students who have not.

STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

1. *"David Tan is without a doubt one of the most charismatic teachers you will ever encounter. He managed to keep students engaged and entertained despite the lengthiness of the Zoom classes and the subject's intensive nature.*

The readings and case law were all super interesting, which provided a nice change of pace from the core JD subjects. Whilst the subject does focus on US law, the insight into the field of entertainment law is still made relevant to the Australian IP landscape, as is the theoretical aspect of the subject."



2. *"I am a musician and I have always wanted to practise IP law. I found the subject absolutely fascinating, and it has only confirmed my plans to practise in IP in the future. The subject is taught really well and the subject coordinator is really passionate about the subject as well which only made the subject more enjoyable...I would recommend this subject to anyone who is even a little curious about IP. Even if you aren't, still give it a go!"*

COPYRIGHT & DESIGNS

DESCRIPTION

Copyright and Designs examines the law, policy and practice of the relationship between copyright regime and the design registration system. As the law's primary mechanism for regulating the use of creative matters and providing proprietary rights over the appearance of a mass-produced object, copyright protection and design registration, students will gain an integrated understanding of the nature and policy roles within private law of the legal regimes.

STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

1. *"If you're interested in a career as an IP lawyer this subject is essential. Andrew carefully guides you through the Copyright Act and Designs Act, taking you through provisions and case law whilst providing valuable insight and nuance. The classes were enjoyable, with a focus on group discussion and collaboration. I thoroughly appreciated the practical aspect of the subject, as Andrew made it clear how the legislation would apply in a real-world scenario."*

2. *"I have studied copyright before twice in other subjects... [and] I hoped to get an in-depth experience and...solidify my legal knowledge. Doing this subject confirmed my plans to do this [type of law] for the future. If you are excited to learn about IP, I would definitely recommend this subject."*



"The classes were enjoyable, with a focus on group discussion and collaboration"

TRADE MARK LAW

DESCRIPTION

Trademark Law offers the studies of the legal protection of trademarks and elements of branding and reputation. Through in-depth examination of the Trade Marks Act 1995 (Cth), students will gain a wide perspective of trademark protection and legal regimes in international jurisdictions.

STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

1. *"Trademark Law was a very interesting subject. It draws on a lot of relatable examples in the cases. It is set out in a very logical flow throughout the semester and the key concepts are drawn on frequently which really helps when studying for the exam."*



2. *"It covers the concepts from Intellectual Property and Pop Culture intensive, and builds on them in the context of the Australian system (a key difference from IPPC which is focused on the US system)."*

PATENTS AND TRADE SECRETS

DESCRIPTION

In Patents and Trade Secrets, students will explore the relationship between the practice of the patent regime and the trade secrets protection mechanisms. While patents protect and regulate the use of inventions, trade secrets are confidential details about commercial products. This class will allow students to manifest detailed and advanced knowledge of the principles that inform the requirements for protection of subject matters within those legal regimes.

STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

1. *"While I have never been overly interested in patents and trade secrets...I wanted to gain at least a basic understanding as to how the patent system works so I have a background when I start working full-time.*

The subject was more interesting than I first thought and now think I will try to work on more patent matters in the future. I would recommend this subject, but it is better being exposed to IP first. It is quite fast paced...also, an appreciation for science would be helpful"

2. *"The content is a little technically complex, but he breaks it down and makes it palatable for our simple minds to absorb. 100% would recommend it as an elective if you are interested in intellectual property law or just want a fun class."*

"100% would recommend as an elective if you are interested in Intellectual Property law"



MEDIA LAW

DESCRIPTION

In Media Law, students analyse a wide range of principles, including freedom of speech in the media, legal protection of human rights, and the constraints imposed on the media by the court. By considering the current state of privacy protection in Australia, the subject inspects the core legal barriers media faces in their publishing activities.

STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

1. *"Media Law is a great subject for getting across the key issues that arise within that area of law. A lot of time is spent on defamation, which is fantastic and is necessary knowledge for anyone wanting to work in this sphere. We also cover freedom of speech, issues journalists face when reporting court proceedings and privacy laws. The subject is taught extremely well and the cases and weekly readings are really interesting."*

2. *"Jason is one of the best teachers at the Law School. You will be hard pressed to find someone who invests more time in guiding students through even the most prevalent and current issues in Media Law. As an academic, Jason is renowned and is often cited in cases in the area, showcasing his passion for free press."*



"The subject is taught extremely well and the cases and weekly readings are really interesting."

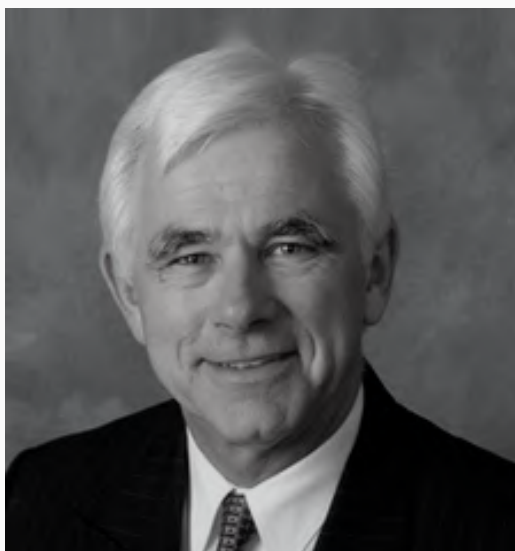
CONSUMER LAW

DESCRIPTION

This subject introduces students to consumer protections in the Australian Consumer Law ('ACL'). Students also look at policy and economic considerations which underpin consumer protections and stimulate debate in this area. The structure of this subject teaches students how to engage with the ACL as consumers seeking protection, and as lawyers advising clients on the statutory obligations and rights available to them.

STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

1. *"Consumer law applies to everything. Absolutely everything (in trade or commerce). Whilst there is a mountain of reading to get done, the material is really interesting and practical in its assessment and application. It had a bad reputation but you can be sure that it has come leaps and bounds since the notorious intensive of 2020"*



**"Phillip Clarke is
incredibly passionate
and prepares so
many great
materials"**

2. *"I can thoroughly say that Consumer Law is worth doing. You get to dive into a lot of particularly interesting cases and learn deeply about your rights as a consumer and how to better look after yourself. Plus, Phillip Clarke is incredibly passionate and prepares so many great materials for you, making exam note time a lot easier compared to other subjects. "*

EMPLOYMENT LAW

DESCRIPTION

In Employment Law, students will engage in a detailed study of the field of employment law. This subject focuses heavily on different law-making processes, as well as various sources of rights and obligations relevant to employment law. Students will explore long-standing areas of difficulty, as well as new challenges which have recently emerged in light of COVID-19.

STUDENT TESTIMONIAL



"Employment Law was such an engaging subject because of how practical and close to life it felt (especially its relevance in the pandemic!)."

The subject not only aims to teach students about the law, but also encourages students to critically reflect on its implications and how it affects employers and employees in the real world.

It is a comprehensive subject that acts as a great starting point for students who are interested in employment related issues."

COMMERCIAL DATA LAW

DESCRIPTION

Commercial Data Law explores the different rights held in various types of data, and how these rights are possibly protected under Australian law. This subject covers a wide range of issues relating to commercial data - from its creation and destruction, to issues of ownership, licensing, protection, security, infringement and access. This subject also explores the various rights and responsibilities related to privacy, and also engages with relevant issues across property, contract and intellectual property law.

STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

It is important to note that even if you have not been exposed to data sciences before, the subject is taught in a manner that anyone can understand. Considering the ubiquitous use of data in this age, I truly believe that this subject should be a requirement for all."

"The subject is so so interrelated in many areas of law...I would recommend the subject as the teachers are fantastic and the content couldn't be more relevant."

LEGAL DRAFTING

DESCRIPTION

Legal Drafting focuses on the development of particular skills required for one of the most crucial aspects of legal practice, legal drafting. Students will be able to develop a range of important skills through this subject, including the capacity to explain complicated concepts clearly, the ability to use simple language with precision, attention to detail, an appreciation of the purpose and intended audience of a document, and the ability to properly structure legal writing. This subject is incredibly practical, and provides skills that will be useful across all kinds of legal work.

STUDENT TESTIMONIALS



**"amazing
course ... taught
in a practical
context by
preeminent
practising
lawyers"**

"Ever wanted to know what lawyers really do in the workplace? This course absolutely gives you a sneak peek into best practices employed by lawyers when drafting anything from advice to written advocacy, from letters of demand to client emails.

What's more is that you will be learning from not just 1, but 4 Partners and Counsel from Corrs Chambers Westgarth. Anyone who is interested in a career in commercial law should check out this amazing course with relevant content being taught in a practical context by preeminent practicing lawyers."

TAXATION LAW AND POLICY

DESCRIPTION

Taxation Law and Policy explores the Australian taxation system and its underlying policy foundations, with a particular focus on the Commonwealth income tax. Through this subject, students will gain an understanding of the public finance principles which frame Australian taxation law and the key factors which influence Australia's taxation system. Importantly, students will also gain and understanding of how to apply key legal principles to commonplace taxation transactions, making this subject highly useful for not only legal practice, but also for everyday life.

STUDENT TESTIMONIAL

"Taxation law is such a helpful subject. The concepts, doctrines and theories you study are highly relevant to other practice areas, plus you are learning a lot about your rights and obligations as a person at a deeper and much more appreciative level. The tax clinic is also a great way to get an understanding of these ideas in a practical form."



"The tax clinic is also a great way to get an understanding of these ideas in a practical form"

INTERNATIONAL ISSUES IN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY *(MLM ELECTIVE)*

This subject focuses on intellectual property through an international lens. Specifically, this subject will consider issues such as the difference sources of intellectual property law, the principal intellectual property treaties around the world and the overall framework of the international intellectual property system. Students will explore these issues through numerous case studies, with a particular focus on cases featuring international intellectual property solutions.

This subject will also consider current challenges for international intellectual property law, such as increasing tensions related to the territoriality of intellectual property rights and intellectual property exploitation on a global scale. These issues will all be considered within the context of private international law, making this subject useful for those considering cross-border intellectual property work.

DEFAMATION LAW *(MLM ELECTIVE)*

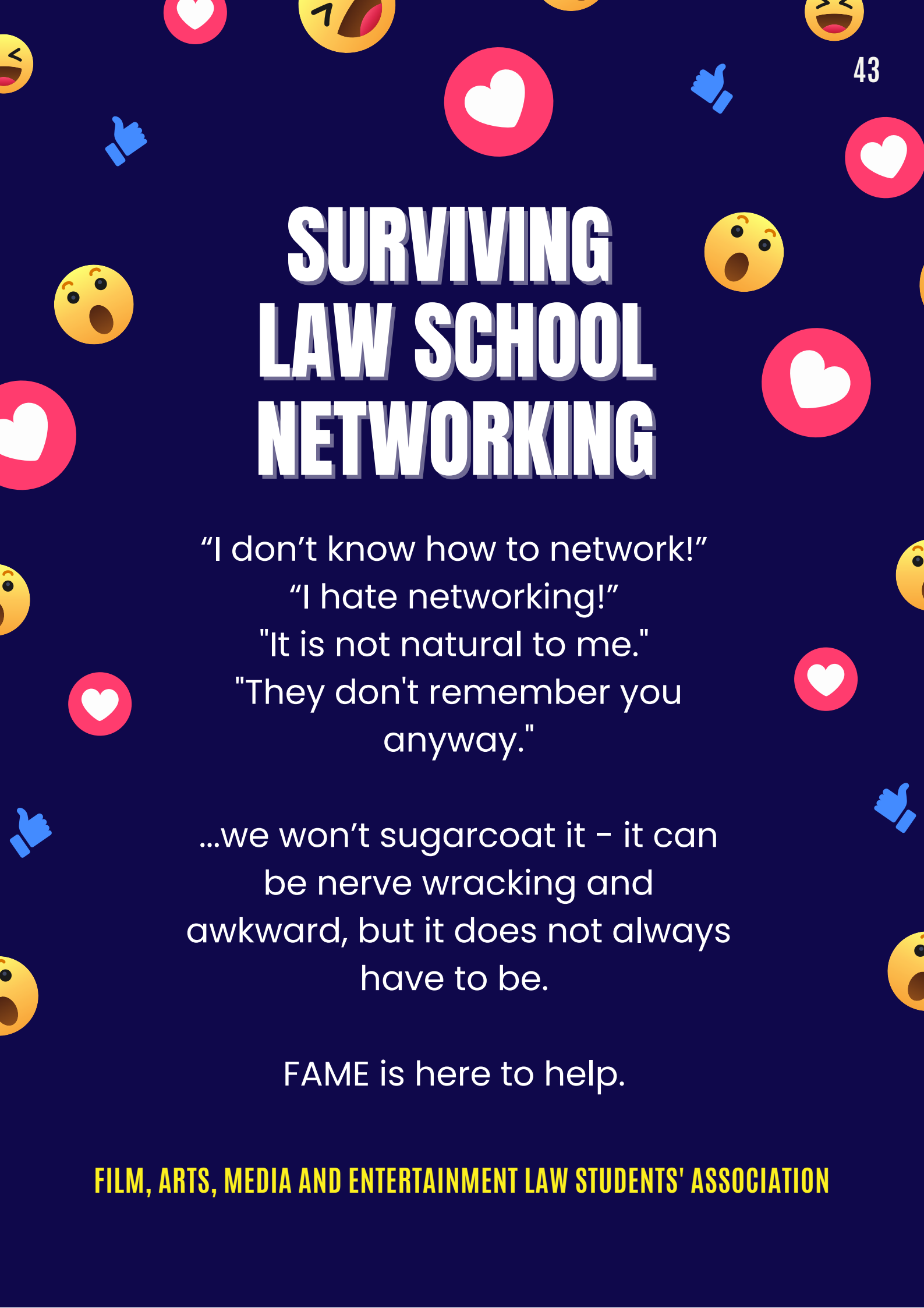
Defamation Law explores Australian defamation law through a multi-jurisdictional lens. Specifically, students will study Australia's current defamation law in comparison to the defamation law of other common law jurisdictions, such as the United Kingdom and North America. In this subject, students will also examine the complex balancing act which underlies defamation law - namely, how best to strike the correct balance between freedom of expression, and the protection of reputation. Furthermore, this subject also focuses on the changing nature of defamation law, as litigation becomes increasingly international, and technological developments continue to change the way in which communications may be shared.





NETWORKING ADVICE

FILM, ARTS, MEDIA AND ENTERTAINMENT LAW STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION



SURVIVING LAW SCHOOL NETWORKING

"I don't know how to network!"

"I hate networking!"

"It is not natural to me."

"They don't remember you
anyway."

...we won't sugarcoat it – it can
be nerve wracking and
awkward, but it does not always
have to be.

FAME is here to help.

FILM, ARTS, MEDIA AND ENTERTAINMENT LAW STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

THE DO'S AND DONT'S OF NETWORKING



Be yourself

Do not fake interest or put up a front that is not truly you, your insincerity will be obvious



Ask for a job

Networking is about forging contacts, not gaining employment



Ask for contact details

of the legal professionals who you speak to in order to follow-up and continue the connection



Use your phone

while engaging in conversation with a legal practitioner -this is extremely unprofessional



WHERE CAN I NETWORK?

There is no set place or setting to network, but being a student at MLS is a prime position to be in.



At MLS, there are events held almost every week which allow you to meet and engage with legal professionals. In 2022, FAME held a Networking Night at Cinema Nova in conjunction with Shaun Miller, which was attended by many legal professionals. Similarly, MULSS held a 'Meet the Profession' event specifically for networking.



You can also network through university events such as lectures, panels and through the university's mentorship program.



Taking part in MULSS competitions can also introduce you to lawyers, as they are often involved in the judging process of these contests.





WHERE CAN I NETWORK?



Another ideal setting to network is through LinkedIn. Messaging legal professionals who interest you through LinkedIn is a great way to get into direct contact with them. It is also common to email lawyers to get in touch with them, and they are typically more responsive through this channel.



It can seem daunting at first, but remember that every lawyer out there has been in your position and they will most likely be eager to help in some capacity. Remember to be sincere and respectful when reaching out, and communicate exactly what you are hoping to attain through connecting with the legal professional.

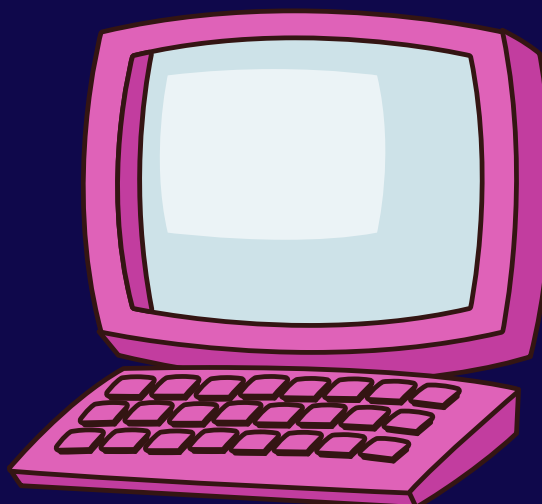


WHO SHOULD I TALK TO?



Networking events can be overwhelming, but there is no obligation to speak to every law firm representative present. Research the firms who will be present and in particular the lawyers who will be representing the firms. From there you can determine who to speak to based on a number of considerations:

- 💡 Your interest in the firm generally
- 💡 The firm's practice areas
- 💡 The firm's clientele
- 💡 The representing lawyer's practice area
- 💡 The representing lawyer's career trajectory
 - ✦ Have they attended the same university as you?
 - ✦ Do they have the same undergraduate degree?
 - ✦ Have they worked on cases you're fascinated by?

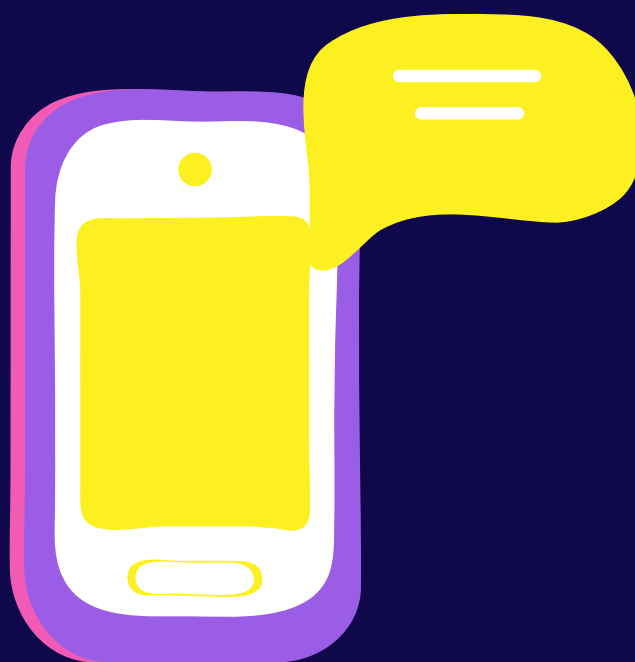
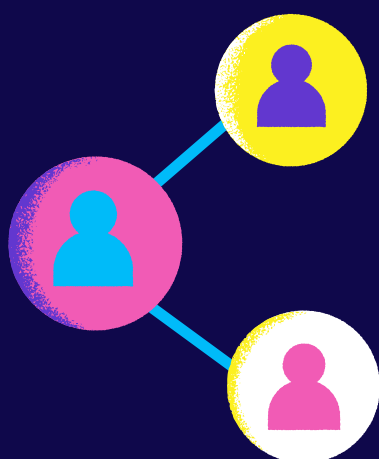


WHO SHOULD I TALK TO?



Similarly, there is no need to message each and every lawyer you come across on LinkedIn. Read their profiles thoroughly and conduct further research to determine if making their connection will be useful and informative in the context of your career aspirations.

Having this background research not only narrows down your plan of action, but also assists in conversation starters. Which brings us to our next point...





WHAT SHOULD I TALK ABOUT?

Simply, talk about exactly what you wish to learn. Legal professionals are hypersensitive to awkward, forced small talk. Do not be afraid to ask the questions that are genuinely keeping you up at night.

Prepare some questions in advance to ease the nerves and give you a safety net when launching a conversation. Networking is a balance between talking and active listening, so throughout your conversation make sure that you are engaging in flowing, natural conversation to avoid coming across as interrogative. Give other students (if there are any with you) an opportunity to speak as well.

FIRM-RELATED QUESTIONS

- How does the firm support their staff?
- Are there opportunities for socialising with colleagues?
- What is the dress code like?



PRACTICE-AREA QUESTIONS

- What is it like to work in X?
- What skills do I need to succeed in X?
- What can I be doing now to succeed in X?



WHAT SHOULD I TALK ABOUT?

NON-LEGAL QUESTIONS

- Think back to the research you did on the lawyer - do they play sports/musical instruments?
- Do they volunteer elsewhere on the side?
- What were their experiences of college like?



PERSONAL QUESTIONS

- What is your favourite thing about working at X?
- What has been the most difficult part of working at X?
- If you could go back in time to when you were applying to X, what advice would you give yourself to stand out in applications?



RESOURCES FOR CAREER EXPERIENCE

FILM, ARTS, MEDIA AND ENTERTAINMENT LAW STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

CLERKSHIPS

- Each year, at different intake periods, there are a number of clerkship opportunities available to students. There are a number of firms who have 'teams' who work in intellectual property and media law, and allow clerks to rotate into these divisions during their clerkships.
- For more information on clerkships, see the MULSS Clerkship Guide 2022

- [LASC Workshops at MLS](#)
- [Melbourne Law School Career Services \(Consultations, Career Planning, Workshops, Seminars and more\)](#)
- [LIV Young Lawyers \(Mentoring, Blogs, Workshops\)](#)
- [Victorian Women Lawyers \(Mentoring, Competitions, Networking\)](#)

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

VOLUNTEERING

- [Arts Law Centre of Australia](#)
- [Arts Access Victoria](#)
- [City of Melbourne Events](#)
- [Australian Centre for Contemporary Art](#)
- [Melbourne Art Fair](#)

SNEAK PEEK

CAREERS FASHION GUIDE

For more detailed analysis, FAME is releasing a full-length fashion guide later in 2022, so keep your eyes peeled for its release!

DECODING THE DRESS CODE

We often use the term ‘Dress code’, but what does this mean in practical terms?

In the workplace, dress codes indicate the level of formality of clothing an organisation expects from its workers. Depending on the profession, culture, reputation, and managerial preferences of a given office, there will be different expectations and requirements. It is important that you dress accordingly.

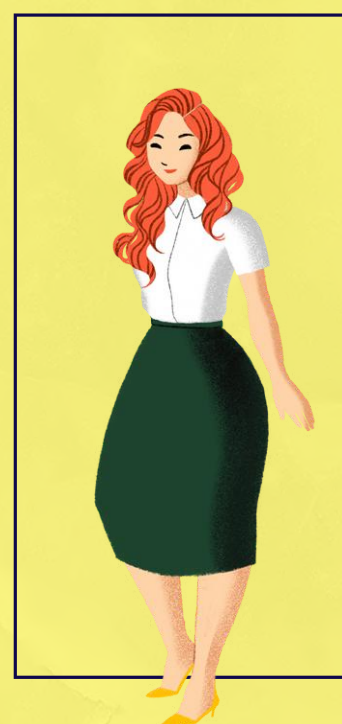
Even when you have been provided the dress code, it can be difficult to decode what exactly is expected of you. To help you on your way, we have pulled together some key points. However, keep in mind that everything said in these pages is general advice and we want to emphasise that everyone has their own unique style. So, always incorporate your own flair and personal preferences into your work outfits!

BUSINESS ATTIRE

Business attire is the most formal dress code in the office, calling for structured clothing made from finer-textured fabrics. Traditionally, this dress code applies when lawyers are expected to attend mediation, court, important client meetings or an important work related function.

Business attire typically signals suits, collared shirts, knee-length skirts, suit trousers, and blazers. The colour palette for business attire generally includes black, navy, and greys, but this is not always the case, with some firms allowing for brighter colours such as reds, purples and pinks.

Lace-up dress shoes, heels or dress flats are appropriate.



BUSINESS CASUAL



The more relaxed cousin of business attire, business casual fuses more comfortable styles with an elegant finish. There is greater flexibility here for incorporating your own unique touch to your outfits.

Instead of wearing a suit, you may opt for slacks with a shirt and a sweater. Blazers and sports-coats are also appropriate. While you may wear matching trousers, you can mix things up a bit!



Blouses and skirts are also appropriate, but there is more scope to experiment with patterns and colour. Fine-knit cardigans and sweaters can add interest to your outfit.

Dress shoes, loafers and heels are ideal footwear for this dress code.



SMART CASUAL



The least formal dress-code for the office, smart casual does away with the ties and stuffy fabrics, preferring less structured and more comfortable clothing. While some organisations employ the smart casual dress code, this is the least common to be found in the office.



With relaxed fits and textures, there is much more choice with colour and fabric. You may opt for a polo-neck or casual shirt, but avoid wearing t-shirts in the office. Dark jeans or chinos are acceptable - but steer clear of anything with rips or holes.



Loafers, boat-shoes, boots, dress flats and heels are typically appropriate. Resist the temptation to wear sneakers unless you have confirmed that it is acceptable to wear them in your office!





DRESS FOR YOUR DAY

As the name suggests, 'dress for your day' indicates that you must dress according to the needs of your day. This has gained popularity in recent years. For example, if you have a day jam-packed with meetings with important clients, a business attire outfit would be ideal. However, if you are simply in the office for a few hours in a non-client facing role, smart-casual attire would be suitable.

INTERVIEWS, CLERKSHIPS, ETC.

Congratulations on getting that interview/clerkship! Now, you've got to dress to impress. Clothing is an important way to express your personality. Even though particular dress-codes can seem restrictive, you can play with colour, pattern, styles and accessories.

Recruiters and interviewers pay attention to detail, one way to leave a lasting impression is to dress as though you are already part of the office. This will help your prospective employers to picture you in the office.



CONTACT US

For general inquiries, send an email to general@famelsa.com, president@famelsa.com, or message us on Facebook

For inquiries about our careers initiatives, or questions about sponsorship, send an email to careers@famelsa.com, sponsorships@famelsa.com or treasurer@famelsa.com

For questions about our events, the FAME Game and other student-based initiatives, send an email to engagement@famelsa.com

For questions about our regular online content, send an email to communications@famelsa.com

Stay up to date with what's happening at FAME LSA:

- Website: <https://famelsa.com/>
- Facebook: [unimelbfamelsa](https://www.facebook.com/unimelbfamelsa)
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- LinkedIn: see [here](#)
- Discord: hang out [here](#)

To become a member of FAME LSA, click here: <https://bit.ly/joinFAMELSA>





THANK YOU

FOR TAKING THE TIME TO READ
THIS GUIDE!