

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

handbook
2019

sydney university law society

Sydney University Law Society

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STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES HANDBOOK 2019

sydney university law society

acknowledgements

Many thanks to all those who made the production and publication of the 2019 Student Support Services Handbook possible. We would like to thank the Sydney Law School and the University of Sydney Union for their continued support of SULS and its publications.

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acknowledgement of country

Sydney University Law Society acknowledges the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of this nation. We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land, the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation on which the university stands on. We pay our respects to ancestors and Elders, past, present and emerging. We ask you too to show your respect when using this land.

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THE SULLS EQUITY PORTFOLIO

“To me, equity is not an outcome but a ceaseless battle. It’s an active and unequivocal belief that every person should have fair access to the opportunities, resources, and rewards our society spawns. While we may never truly overcome all dimensions of privilege, we must continue to strive for a community where everyone is treated with dignity and can participate meaningfully.”

Deaundre Espejo, Equity Officer 2019

SULLS Equity is responsible for fostering an atmosphere of equal treatment, access and representation for all members. The portfolio provides a range of assistance schemes for students experiencing hardship or disadvantage, works with the law faculty and student body to advocate for any equity-related issues, and provides information and resources about various support services.

In 2019, SULLS will continue to work towards a more equitable law school by providing assistance in five key areas: financial assistance, academic and professional support, mental wellbeing, diversity and inclusion, and welfare, health and safety.

COME SAIL AWAY WITH ME

introducing your equity officer

I would call Sydney Law School an oxymoron. It's an adrenaline-charged journey into uncharted territory, but at the same time it's an eternal torture chamber akin to one of Dante's nine circles of hell. Yes—studying law can be hard, and for some, personal background or circumstances make it even harder. But don't worry, because I am here for you!

As Equity Officer, my job is to provide you with support whenever you encounter any obstacles to your law school endeavours. Regardless of what you're going through, I want to ensure that you have as fair a chance of achieving your goals as anyone else.

An important thing to remember is that at its core, SULS' mandate is to serve, represent and advocate for students so that we can make our law school a better place. So it's only natural that the value of equity permeates the whole society. While the Equity portfolio exists as a starting point, the entire executive is committed to supporting you.

This handbook is your guide to the range of support services available to students both on-campus and off-campus. You'll also find some handy tips on law school and life in general, as well as contributions from every member of the executive on how we're bringing equity into the forefront of all portfolios.

If you ever find yourself in a sticky situation, or need or simply want someone to talk to, feel free to get in touch with me at equity@suls.org.au. Your wellbeing is my number one priority, and I'm always up for a skim latte and a wholesome chat. Until then, seize the winds and set an open course for the virgin sea!

Deandre Espejo
Equity Officer

WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER

the value of equity in suls

“Law school is hard”. This is a phrase I often hear walking around the law building and personally, I think it’s accurate. Our cohorts are more diverse than ever before, but in a profession that has been historically plagued by a lack of diversity, it is so important that we ensure that we help all students so they can effectively participate in law school.

SULS as an organisation remains cognisant of continuous issues of inequality and personal disadvantage. Moreover, as these issues are inextricably linked to other issues such as financial hardship or mental health, each portfolio is focused on the continual improvement of all aspects of wellbeing. All of us want to ensure that every student, despite certain the pressures and drawbacks, has the best possible time at the Sydney Law School.

I cannot stress enough the importance of engaging and reaching out to our Equity portfolio. Additionally, all executive members of SULS are dedicated to ensuring that you have the best possible experience, so please feel free to reach out to any one of us throughout the year.

In the meantime, good luck for 2019 and I really hope that you find your time at law school both enjoyable and rewarding.

Jeremy Chan
President

HEARD IT THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE

connecting suls to you

No matter your degree and no matter your academic prowess, university can get overwhelming. However, while Suls and many other organisations are always here to help, it can often be difficult to identify which help is offered where. Having a centralised source of information to turn to can hence be crucial, and it is providing such a source of information that forms a significant part of Suls' Secretary portfolio.

Every Sunday throughout the semester, I will send out a newsletter called the Suls Weekly. A compilation of all the events, initiatives and tidbits relating to the week ahead, it is a great place to find all that Suls offers, in one place, before it all occurs. With the newsletter organised by portfolio, all of Suls' upcoming Equity initiatives will be published weekly in the one consistent place, ensuring you never miss them.

To sign-up to the mailing list, visit:

<https://suls.us2.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=8feb2236cc4b57aec38c87e2d&id=cfee64f0b9>.

Sam Goldberg
Secretary

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

For many people, university marks an exciting period of growing independence. With this, however, comes the dreaded and enigmatic burden of fiscal responsibility. Whether you're a humble beginner or seasoned pro, effectively managing money is a must-learn for all. Financial stress can impact your relationships, your studies and your health, so it's important to gain support as soon as you feel you need it.

SUPPORT SERVICES

SULS Assistance

Textbook Loan Scheme

The Textbook Loan Scheme provides textbooks for core subjects each semester. Eligible students will have access to textbooks for the entire semester, after providing a deposit that is refunded upon return of the textbooks.

VISIT: <https://www.suls.org.au/equity-textbook-loan-scheme/>
CONTACT: Deandre Espejo (Equity Officer) equity@suls.org.au

Financial Grants Scheme

The Financial Grants Scheme provides monetary grants to be used for law school-related purchases. Eligible students may receive grants for SULS events such as competitions, First Year Law Camp or Law Ball. Grants may also be used to assist the purchasing of textbooks or stationery, and even graduation photos. Each grant is nonrefundable and up to \$100 in value.

VISIT: <https://www.suls.org.au/financial-grants-scheme/>
CONTACT: Deandre Espejo (Equity Officer) equity@suls.org.au

Online Textbook Exchange

The Online Textbook Exchange facilitates the purchase and sale of law textbooks prescribed by the LLB and JD courses at Sydney Law School.

VISIT: <https://www.suls.org.au/online-textbook-exchange/>
CONTACT: Deandre Espejo (Equity Officer) equity@suls.org.au

On-Campus Support

The Student Financial Support Office

The University's Financial Support Office provides support to students experiencing financial difficulty and whose academic work may suffer as a result. Eligible students may receive interest-free loans and bursaries to help in emergencies and to cover necessities such as textbooks, medical bills and bond payments.

Student Loans: Loans are interest free and can be valued up to \$2000 (for domestic students) or \$1000 (for international students) to cover essential living and study expenses. The repayment period is individually determined according to the student's situation.

Bursaries: Bursaries are grants offered to domestic undergraduate students experiencing significant financial difficulties and who are making satisfactory academic progress. General bursaries have no application deadline and are awarded as part of financial assistance provided by the Scholarships and Financial Support Service. Advertised bursaries are listed at the beginning of March with applications closing 30th April each year, and are usually awarded by July.

VISIT: https://www.suls.org.au//financial_assistance_office/
CONTACT: Student Financial Support Office
student.financialsupport@sydney.edu.au

Blackbullion

Blackbullion is an online provider of financial education aimed at university students. They provide short modules and financial tips that help you develop skills to managing money. You can get free access using your university email address.

VISIT: <https://www.blackbullion.com>

Off-Campus Support

StudentVIP Textbooks

StudentVIP provides a free online service where students can buy and sell textbooks. Upon registration, you can search for textbooks being sold by other students at your university, email or text sellers through the website, and advertise your own textbooks for sale.

VISIT: <https://studentvip.com.au/textbooks>

Financial Counselling Australia (FCA)

FCA is the peak body for financial counsellors in Australia and can help direct you to a financial counsellor local to your area to support you.

CONTACT: 1800 007 007

To find a local financial counsellor, visit:

<https://financialcounsellingaustralia.org.au/Corporate/Find-a-Counsellor>

Salvation Army's MoneyCare service

The Salvation Army's Moneycare service provides free and confidential financial counselling. Advisors will analyse and assess your financial situation and give you advice, helping you to develop a plan to improve your situation.

CONTACT: MoneyCare Surry Hills is closest to the University of Sydney and can be contacted on (02) 8218 1241

To find MoneyCare services near you, visit:

<https://salvos.org.au/need-help/financial-assistance/financial-counselling/>

CENTRELINK ASSISTANCE

There are several government assistance schemes that may assist you in your studies or living expenses.

Youth Allowance

Youth Allowance is a fortnightly payment up to \$499.90 to full time students who are 18-24 years old and are Australian residents. Your fortnightly payment varies based on your situation and you and your parents' income and wealth. Combined LLB and JD degrees at the University of Sydney are approved courses for Youth Allowance.

VISIT: <https://www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/youth-allowance-students-and-australian-apprentices>

Austudy

Austudy is a fortnightly payment up to \$596.50 to full time students who are over 25 years old and are Australian residents. Your own assets and income are considered in determining your payment. You may receive a higher rate if you have been receiving another income support payment long term (other than a student payment). Combined LLB and JD degrees at the University of Sydney are approved courses for Austudy.

VISIT: <https://www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/austudy>

ABSTUDY

ABSTUDY is a payment made to Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Australian students that are not getting another payment to study or train. If you are studying the LLB, you are likely to be eligible for the Tertiary Award, which automatically provides you with the ABSTUDY payment and access to several other payments. If you are studying the JD, you are likely to be eligible for the Master's or Doctorate Award (if you are not receiving any other form of financial help), which automatically provides you with the ABSTUDY payment and access to several other payments.

VISIT: <https://www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/abstudy>

Student Start-up Loan

The Student Start-up Loan is a voluntary tax-free loan of \$1077 paid twice a year. You will be eligible if you receive Youth Allowance, Austudy or ABSTUDY Living Allowance. You will need to repay the loan once you reach the HELP repayment threshold. You can usually apply for the Student Start-up Loan when you submit a claim for Youth Allowance, Austudy or ABSTUDY.

VISIT: <https://www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/student-start-loan>

Education Entry Payment

A yearly lump sum payment of \$208, available if you receive Newstart Allowance, the partnered Parenting Payment or other payments.

Pensioner Education Supplement

A fortnightly additional payment of \$62.40 (full-time) or \$31.20 (part-time), available if you receive Youth Allowance as a single main carer or other payments from Centrelink or the Department of Veteran's Affairs.

Rent Assistance

A fortnightly additional payment of up to \$180.18, available if you receive certain payments from the Department of Human Services and your fortnightly rent exceeds a specific amount.

Youth Disability Supplement

A fortnightly additional payment of up to \$129.80, available if you receive the Disability Support Pension and are under 21, or if you receive Youth Allowance or ABSTUDY, are disabled and are under 22. This supplement is automatically applied if you are eligible.

Low Income Health Care Card

If you receive Youth Allowance, ABSTUDY Living Allowance or Austudy, you are eligible for the Low Income Health Care Card. This allows you to receive cheaper medicine under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, bulk billed doctor visits and larger refunds for medical costs when you reach the Medicare Safety Net. Usually, it is automatically sent to you if you are eligible.

Fares Allowance

Available if you receive Youth Allowance, Austudy or the Pensioner Education Supplement and meet additional criteria. Covers the least expensive and most available form of public transport for trips during your study.

Relocation Scholarship

Available for \$4,553 in your first year if you receive Youth Allowance or ABSTUDY and relocate from a regional or remote area to study at the University of Sydney.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The University offers several scholarships each year for continuing undergraduate and postgraduate students. Scholarships are awarded based on merit, through both academic and extra-curricular achievement.

There is no limit to the number of scholarships that you can apply for, so we encourage you to put in applications for everything you are eligible for! Applications close in early March so be sure get them in quickly.

General scholarships are open to students from any faculty. Regularly check the scholarships page as many open and close throughout the year.

VISIT: <http://sydney.edu.au/scholarships/open-now.shtml>

Literary prizes are sums of money awarded to students who write outstanding literary and academic works. Submissions open in August and close in September.

VISIT: http://sydney.edu.au/scholarships/prizes/literary_prizes.shtml

Faculty scholarships are open to students of a specific faculty. Some scholarships offered by the law school are listed below, but if you are in the Combined Laws program, it would be worthwhile to check the scholarships page for your other faculty.

VISIT: <http://sydney.edu.au/scholarships/undergraduate/faculty/index.shtml> (Undergraduate), <http://sydney.edu.au/scholarships/postgraduate/facultyindex.shtml> (Postgraduate)

Faculty Scholarships

Alan Bishop Scholarship

One-off payment of \$6,000. Applicants must be an Australian citizen or permanent resident, be enrolled full-time in their final year of a Bachelor of Laws and have obtained a minimum WAM of 75. Applications close 10 March 2019.

The David Burnett Memorial Scholarship in Social Justice

One-off payment of \$3,000. Applicants must be an Australian citizen or permanent resident, enrolled full-time in a Bachelor of Laws, and a member of the Sydney Law School Social Justice Program. Applications close 10 March 2019 (Round 1) and 18 August 2019 (Round 2).

Eric Cunstance Shaw Scholarship

One year payment of \$6,000. Applicants must be an Australian citizen or permanent resident from an outer regional, remote or very remote area, currently enrolled in a Bachelor of Laws or Juris Doctor, completed a minimum of one semester of full-time study, have one year of study remaining and have achieved a minimum WAM of 75. Applications close 10 March 2019.

Zoe Hall Memorial Scholarship

One-off payment of \$5,000. Applicants must be an Australian citizen or permanent resident, enrolled in their penultimate or final year in the Bachelor of Laws or Juris Doctor, and have at least one semester of enrolment remaining. Applications close 10 March 2019.

VISIT: <http://sydney.edu.au/scholarships/undergraduate/faculty/law.shtml> (Undergraduate), <http://sydney.edu.au/scholarships/postgraduate/faculty/law.shtml#PCSOS> (Postgraduate)

International Students

The University has many scholarships available for international students, including postgraduate scholarships, depending on your home country. It may also be worthwhile to research scholarship opportunities from industry and government in your home country.

VISIT: <http://sydney.edu.au/scholarships/postgraduate/international-postgraduate-scholarships.shtml>

FOR THE LOVE OF MONEY...

tips on managing your finances

As Treasurer, money is something that I spend quite a bit of time dealing with. Although talking about money, savings and spending habits is often seen as somewhat of a taboo topic, I'm a big believer in bringing these discussions out into the open.

As students, we are tasked with a lot; juggling study, work and extracurricular commitments. Regardless of your financial position, achieving a happy balance between all of your activities helps to ensure that you are in a good position personally and financially.

Let me preface the below by saying: I am, by no means, a model of perfect personal finances. But I have had some time managing money and certainly know some things not to do. Here are some practical tips:

1. Get a good bank account.

Bank accounts are certainly not all made the same. Chances are, some of you are with your bank simply because it was the one your parents decided to sign you up to. The Big 4 banks don't have the best deals, and this means you're missing out on fantastic deals: no international transaction fees (great for travel), no monthly fees (forever—not just when you're a student), and much better interest rates.

The annoying (but easy) process of changing banks takes a few hours at most, and can earn you a tidy little sum of money in the long run. Just like how you shop around for the best deal on clothes, shop around for the best deal on banks too.

2. If willpower isn't your thing - stay away from credit cards and pay-later arrangements.

The lure of credit card points and pay-later deals can surely be tantalising, but if you know that your willpower isn't the strongest, it's best to stay away. While they're not all bad news and can certainly come in handy from time to time, letting your spending go out of control while accruing debt is a recipe for disaster, especially if you're purchasing non-essentials.

3. Balance

Add up last week's income. Add up last week's expenses. Subtract B from A. The result should (ideally) be positive.

It may sound simple, but plenty of students find themselves living beyond their means. If you're spending too much based on your income - cut back. Stop buying lunch, cut back on brunches and coffees, and get off ASOS.

If you're already saving a good amount, great! Now put it in a good account that'll earn you good interest.

4. Talk more about money

Like I said at the start, I think talking about money is a great way to foster a bigger discussion about healthy personal finance. Among your circles, chat about salary, chat about ways you're saving money, chat about where and how you're cutting back. Making these discussions part of our everyday removes the taboo around money and helps us make more responsible spending decisions.

To some, those tips would have been second-nature - but at the very least I hope it helped! As your society, SULTS is here to help. Drop by the office or shoot me an email at treasurer@sults.org.au.

Adam Herman
Treasurer

WE LOVE CHEAP THRILLS

making sults wallet-friendly

As law students, we often find ourselves bogged down by a seemingly endless cycle of readings and assessments. Although the stress associated with the daily grind can be quite debilitating, the Law School can, and should be, an enjoyable experience for everyone. The Campus Portfolio exists to facilitate a warm, accessible and fun environment for all law students.

But we all know that a social life does not come cheap. With an ever-increasing HECS debt, expensive textbooks and Sydney's ridiculous living costs, it often seems like there is little left in our budgets to allocate to having fun. This year, the Campus Portfolio will continue to organise casual events which are easy on the wallet and are excellent opportunities to build healthy and wholesome relationships with fellow students.

If you have any questions or ever feel like you want to have a chat, please feel free to contact me at campus@sults.org.au or any other members of the SULTS executive.

Tanvi Patel
Campus Director

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT

The metamorphosis we undertake during our law degree is nothing short of remarkable. We begin as young, wide-eyed cadets nervously enrolling in our first classes and before we know it, we're veterans ready to take on the ranks of grad recruit. But no matter what stage we're in, the legal career path is always confusing. It's often hard to grasp how the system works and what steps we need to take.

For some, this can have a negative impact on their university experience. Fortunately, SULLS and other support services are here to help you out whenever you're feeling stuck about your degree or life after university.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

SUPPORT SERVICES

SULLS Assistance

Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS)

The early years of a law degree can be challenging. To help with this, Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS) are open to all students for particular core subjects. An older student facilitates each session, which provides students with the opportunity to reinforce the major aspects of their course in an informal, laid back environment, and to make friends with people in their course!

Registrations open on the first week of semester. Sessions fill up quickly so sign up early to secure your spot.

VISIT: <https://sydney.edu.au/students/pass.html>

SULLS Education Portfolio

The Vice President (Education) advocates, generally and specifically, on behalf of students, to the Faculty on education-related concerns. If you have any questions or concerns about your degree, learning experience, or academic performance, do not hesitate to get in touch.

CONTACT: Maddy Antrum (VP Education) education@suls.org.au

SULS Education Guide

The SULS Education Guide is where you can find all information on academics and education at Sydney Law School.

The Guide has been running for several years, bringing together important information on study and exam technique, elective subjects, offshore and exchange opportunities, programs to supplement study, further study options and academic support. A copy of last year's guide is available online, and this year's guide will be launched in August/September.

CONTACT: Maddy Antrum (VP Education) education@suls.org.au

On-Campus Assistance

The Learning Centre

Law School requires reading and writing skills at a higher than average level, and you may find that you would like to further develop or refresh these skills. The Learning Centre at the University of Sydney runs free academic reading and writing workshops targeted towards specific skills and different levels.

VISIT: http://sydney.edu.au/stuserv/learning_centre/workshops.shtml.

Indigenous Tutorial Assistance Scheme

If you are an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander student, you can access individual or group tuition to assist you with your studies. If you're not signed up to ITAS, you can access support through their drop-in service, where tutors can help you with things such as interpreting essay questions, develop your ideas or referencing.

VISIT: <https://sydney.edu.au/students/indigenous-tutorial-assistance-scheme.html>

Centre for English Teaching

If you have a language background other than English and want to improve your English skills, the Centre of English Teaching offers courses and resources.

VISIT: <https://sydney.edu.au/cet/>

Professional Law Programs

If you have questions about your degree progression, book an appointment with the PLP team who can offer information and advice.

CONTACT: law.professional@sydney.edu.au (02) 9351 0200

Students' Representative Council (SRC) Help

The SRC is the peak representative body for undergraduate students studying at the University of Sydney. They also provide a range of services to assist students who are struggling with financial, emotional, legal or academic issues. These include a free legal service and caseworkers that can provide advice on academic appeals, Centrelink queries, tenancy advice, work-related problems and a host of other issues. All contact with a caseworker or solicitor is strictly confidential.

VISIT: <http://srcusyd.net.au/src-help/>
CONTACT: help@src.usyd.edu.au (02) 9660 5222

Sydney University Postgraduate Representative Association (SUPRA)

SUPRA is the representative association for postgraduate students (including JD students) at the University of Sydney.

Student Advice Advocacy Officers (SAAO): SAAOs offer postgraduate students and SUPRA subscribers advice relating to financial, educational and legal issues. All communications with the SAAOs are treated in absolute confidence. Students can make an appointment or just drop in. To make an appointment or to check opening times, visit the website.

Legal Service: Redfern Legal Centre has a SUPRA-funded branch office (on campus at SUPRA) with a part-time solicitor available to provide free legal advice, representation in court, and a referral service to postgraduate students who are SUPRA Subscribers.

CONTACT: help@supra.usyd.edu.au (02) 9351 3715



src activism
advocacy
representation

We HELP Sydney University undergraduate students with a range of issues. Our services include:

SRC CASEWORKERS

Providing **FREE, independent and confidential advice & support** on a range of issues faced by students including: academic rights and appeals, show cause, exclusion, misconduct / dishonesty allegations, special consideration, tenancy, Centrelink, financial issues, Tax Help (semester 2) and more...



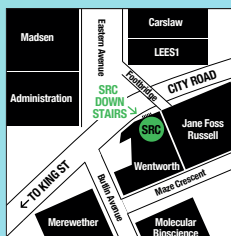
SRC LEGAL SERVICE

Solicitors and a registered migration agent provide **FREE legal advice, representation in court where relevant, and a referral service.** Including: Police & court matters, traffic offences, immigration law, consumer rights, employment law, personal / domestic violence, witness / certify documents, insurance law, visa related matters and more...



EQUIPMENT & LOANS

We offer **Emergency Loans of \$50** and lend out university approved calculators, lab coats and other science equipment



Contact us today to find out more about how we can help you

Level 1, Wentworth Building (G01), University of Sydney. *Enter from City Rd, down the stairs, near footbridge.*

Open: Monday–Friday, 9am–5pm

Appointments: Please call to make a booking,
p: 9660 5222 e: help@src.usyd.edu.au

Drop-in sessions: No appointment required
Tuesdays & Thursdays, 1–3pm

Other Campuses: Please call to book a
campus visit, p: 9660 5222

www.srcusyd.net.au

SIMPLE EXTENSIONS, SPECIAL CONSIDERATION AND APPEALS

There can be times when circumstances (whether it be injury, illness or misadventure) set us back in completing an assessment or an exam. When this happens, there are a number of options and support services at your disposal.

Simple Extensions

Simple extensions are an informal arrangement between a student and a Unit of Study Coordinator that allow the student to submit a non-examination task up to 2 working days after the due date free of free of penalty.

This is provided for on page 48 (clause 66A) of the University's Coursework Policy 2014: <https://sydney.edu.au/policies/showdoc.aspx?recnum=PDOC2014/378&RendNum=0>

TO APPLY: Email your Unit of Study Coordinator, detailing the reason for your request (along with any supporting documentation should you have any).
For more information: <https://sydney.edu.au/students/simple-extensions.html>

Special Consideration

Special consideration is available to you if your ability to complete assessments or examinations has been impacted by acute short-term circumstances beyond your control, such as injury, illness or misadventure. Circumstances reasonably within your control, or occasional, brief or mild illness that occurs shortly before an assessment is due will not be sufficient.

The success of an application depends heavily on whether you can provide the necessary supporting documentation, so ensure you save and organise your documents.

If awarded, Special Consideration will take the form of a replacement assessment or formal extension (no additional marks or leniency will apply). Students with a long-term illness, injury or condition should register with Disability Services to obtain ongoing reasonable assessments or exam adjustments as a result of their circumstances.

For more information: <https://sydney.edu.au/students/special-consideration.html>

Applications need to be made online within 3 working days after the assessment in question.
The online application form can be found here: <https://sydney.edu.au/students/special-consideration/apply.html>

Late applications are only permitted if a reasonable explanation for the delay is provided. If your ability to complete work is impacted by essential commitments such as compulsory religious or cultural occasions, legal responsibilities or high-level sporting commitments, you may be eligible for special arrangements.

Appeals

You can appeal an academic decision within 15 working days of the original decision. Examples of grounds of appeals include: failure to adhere to marking criteria or university policies; impartiality; and procedural fairness. At every stage, the university must provide reasons for their decisions and grant you access to all documents concerning the appeal.

There are three types of informal appeals:

For appeals regarding **Special Consideration or Special Arrangements**, submit an informal resolution request online. Before submitting your appeal, visit <https://sydney.edu.au/students/academic-appeals/resolution.html> for vital information.

For appeals regarding **applications for credit or reduced volume of learning**, submit an informal appeal to appeals.credit@sydney.edu.au. Include your name, student ID, course name, the credit decision you are appealing and the grounds of appeal.

For **other appeals** (e.g. a mark decision), direct them to the Unit of Study Coordinator. Before submitting your appeal, visit <https://sydney.edu.au/students/academic-appeals/resolution.html> for vital information.

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of your informal appeal, you may then appeal to the Faculty or Academic Panel, and then to the Student Appeals Body. We advise you to contact the SRC, SUPRA or Vice-President (Education) of SULLS for support.

DISCONTINUING OR SUSPENDING YOUR STUDIES

Discontinuing a subject is when you withdraw from a Unit of Study. If you discontinue prior to the census date (31 March in Semester 1 or 31 August in Semester 2), you won't receive any academic or financial penalties. You can apply for this through Sydney Student under 'My Studies'.

If you discontinue after the census date up to seven weeks into the semester, you would need to apply for a "Discontinuation - Not to Count as Fail". This will appear on your transcript as as "DC", but won't affect your Weighted Average Mark (WAM). However, you may still be liable for tuition fees.

SEE: <https://sydney.edu.au/students/discontinue-a-unit-of-study.html>

After seven weeks, if you are affected by unforeseeable circumstances which impact your ability to continue a unit, you will need to apply to discontinue directly to the Law Faculty. You will need to show that these were ongoing circumstances that were beyond your control, and that you had reasonable prospects of passing the subject. If successful, you may be eligible for a fee refund. We recommend that you approach the Vice-President (Education) of SULLS for assistance with this application for Law units.

SEE: <https://sydney.edu.au/students/refunds/remissions-and-refunds-under-special-circumstances.html>

Suspending your studies is where you take a break from law or university for a semester or more. You must be sure to apply for suspension, and not fail to enrol, as your candidature will lapse and you will be unable to re-apply for the combined degree.

There are additional requirements for suspending a law degree. Applications for suspensions are completed through Sydney Student, and it is recommended that this is done prior to the census date so that you are not liable for any penalties.

SEE: <https://sydney.edu.au/students/suspend-your-studies/how-to-apply.html>

Discontinuing your course is where you drop out of the entire degree you are studying. In this case, you are either dropping out of tertiary study completely or transferring into another course, which might include changing your non-law degree.

We recommend you discuss such a pivotal decision with a course advisor or the Vice-President (Education) of SALS to ensure you're following all procedures. If you discontinue after the relevant census date, academic and financial penalties may apply.

SEE: <https://sydney.edu.au/students/discontinue-your-course.html>

NOT JUST ANOTHER BRICK IN THE WALL

about the education portfolio

While studying at Sydney Law School, we can often forget that there is more to an education than burying your head in the books. This year I want to stress the importance of equity and wellbeing in education. Everybody deserves to receive the same opportunities and should feel supported to pursue the educational goals that matter to them personally, regardless of circumstance or background.

Please utilise the many equity services provided to help alleviate disadvantage during your time studying. I particularly urge you to take advantage of special consideration, financial schemes and counselling services. In 2019, also look out for the joint equity/education initiatives including 'chill out' study spaces for those more stressful times in semester.

Behind the scenes, we'll be advocating for your wellbeing with the faculty and broader University. Please get in touch if there is anything we can raise or a better way we can assist you to get the most out of your time at Sydney Law School.

Most importantly, look after your peers and yourself! Your degree should be so much more than a grade and we want to do everything we can to ensure that nobody misses out on the holistic education they deserve.

Maddy Antrum
Vice President (Education)

IT'S A NEW DAWN

tips for first-year students

1. It takes time to find new study habits

Studying law is very different from studying in high school or other university degrees. There are lots of readings to do, notes to make, and as a first year it can be quite overwhelming. You may find that your old study routine no longer works or you are spending more time but achieving less. Do not panic or doubt yourself because it takes time for you to figure out an efficient and effective way to study law. Listen to advice from your peers and try it out yourself. It may or may not suit you but it is a starting point!

2. Do not stress about finding internships at the start of your degree

It can be quite stressful listening to other people talk about how important an internship is. Suddenly, you feel like everyone around you is trying to find or already has an internship. But don't spend your time stressing about it at the start of your degree. Enjoy law school and find your footing first.

3. Friends are important

It can be hard to make friends in a new environment when people around you already know each other from high schools. Join societies you are interested in or come to SULLS events. Law School is easier when you are not alone. With that being said, do not feel the need to go to all the socials and participate in everything. Balance is the key.

4. Know how to relax

I am a perfectionist and want to plan everything ahead. If you are like me, you will understand why it took me three years to learn how to rest properly. You can only work to your full capacity during the semester after a good rest during holidays. It is a good idea to plan ahead, read ahead and do things ahead in the holidays but don't forget to relax. Work hard and play hard: that is something the education system did not teach me but is extremely important for long-term high performance.

5. Take on challenges

If you are interested in doing something, but think it is too hard or challenging for you, just do it. Regardless of whether you succeed or not, the experience and journey is always rewarding. Some of my challenges were to participate in debating with zero experience, to compete in SULLS internal competitions and to audition for law revue even though I am tone deaf. Though there were definitely some embarrassing moments, I don't regret any of them.

Shanshan Guo
International Officer

PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT

SUPPORT SERVICES

SULS Assistance

SULS Careers Guide

The SULS Careers Guide provides information on careers in the courts, domestic and international law firms, government bodies, and corporate advisory. The guide details the process of application, qualification and practice within the legal profession.

The Careers Guide also features personal reflections from current and previous employees in different organisations, and outlines a number of Social Justice opportunities available.

This invaluable resource is available in both hard copy and on the SULS website, with the 2019 edition launching in the first week of June.

CONTACT: Allana Colonne Robertson (VP Careers) careers@suls.org.au

Careers Mentoring Program

The SULS Careers Mentoring program connects students to mentors who work in their field of interest within the legal profession. From judges to barristers, to academics and commercial lawyers, the mentors are experienced and are matched with students whose career goals align with their chosen career path.

SULS accepts applications from students of all stages but prioritises penultimate year students without contacts in their field of interest.

Also be on the lookout for SULS Women's Mentoring Program and SULS Social Justice and Public Interest Careers Mentoring Program!

CONTACT: Allana Colonne Robertson (VP Careers) careers@suls.org.au

SULS Careers Presentations

SULS hosts a number of career presentations throughout the year, ranging from information sessions and skills workshops, to corporate law and clerkship seminars.

Events held during Semester One will introduce students to the opportunities available in corporate law, including the clerkship presentations that prepare students for the application process. Held every afternoon during weeks 9-12 in Semester 1, Clerkship Presentations culminate with the Clerkship Networking Evening and Careers Guide Launch in the first week of June.

CONTACT: Allana Colonne Robertson (VP Careers) careers@suls.org.au

SULS Part Time Jobs Board

The SULS Jobs Board is a fantastic resource for Sydney Law School students seeking part time legal roles and experience. Advertising both paid and unpaid volunteer opportunities, the jobs board is updated regularly.

VISIT: <https://www.suls.org.au/jobs-board>
CONTACT: Allana Colonne Robertson (VP Careers) careers@suls.org.au

On-Campus Support

Careers Centre

The university's Careers Centre provides online information, workshops and one-on-one appointments for currently enrolled students to assist with degree or career progression, such as choosing majors, further study and managing career goals.

VISIT: http://sydney.edu.au/careers/career_advice/

CareerHub

Career Hub is the online job board where you can find casual and part-time positions, graduate jobs and full-time roles. You can set up email alerts catering to your degree and preferences, and you can access resources and appointments with Career Development Officers through their portal.

VISIT: <https://careerhub.sydney.edu.au>

Off-Campus Support

BeyondLaw

BeyondLaw is an Australian job site for law students which provides information on career paths, and a job board listing volunteer, internship, part-time and full-time opportunities.

VISIT: <https://careerhub.sydney.edu.au>

Out for Australia

Out for Australia aims to support and mentor aspiring LGBTQ+ professionals through the early stages of their career. They run events about career development, LGBTQ+ inclusion in the workplace and a mentoring program for students and young professionals.

VISIT: <http://www.outforaustralia.org/>

TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

about the careers portfolio

The Careers Portfolio aims to disseminate key information throughout the law school to enable students to make informed decisions and take the necessary steps that are critical for their futures. It is for this reason that this year there will be events and publications geared specifically towards certain groups of students who may not be as equipped with the information necessary to make these informed decisions.

Additionally, there will be diversity in the range of presentations and events offered in order to target students who do not want to pursue a career in the corporate sector or other more common career paths after graduation. These events will promote career paths that are often not highlighted or considered and will enable students the opportunity to discover other career paths. It is important to ensure that every student in the law school is provided with information necessary and specific to them as well as opportunities available to them after graduation.

Allanna Colonne Robertson
Vice President (Careers)

STILL HAVEN'T FOUND WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR

dealing with career anxiety

I don't know where I'll be in five years' time. I don't know where I want to work, what I want to become, if I want to enter law at all.

When I travel, I prefer to write up a detailed itinerary rather than winging it in an unfamiliar city. I value certainty, so to feel uncertain about a vital part of my future scares me immensely, like I'm treading water without land in sight.

It's difficult because most people around me know their "calling": becoming a public defender, working for an international company, effortlessly switching careers. They have something that compels them to endure the banalities of these early years, and it's hugely inspiring. But sometimes it sets off this small voice of doubt in my mind:

And you? What are you doing for yourself?

I know where that voice comes from. I feel that Sydney Law School has a culture of competitiveness that we're collectively still struggling to overcome. Throw together a few hundred people who have a strong work ethic, who were big fish in their small ponds, and it's natural that they'll double-down on what worked for them when they were firmly in their comfort zone. Add on rhetoric about "no jobs in law" - and suddenly, competing for small jobs without immediate prospects of progression seems important, without really knowing why.

I was talking with a close friend who wants to break into journalism, a notoriously crowded field. Why not just settle for an easier option, I asked? Calmly, he told me that the only practical option, in the long run, is to do something you care about. The experiences that we've had and hope to have represent paths that may take us to an end; but they should never be the end themselves, because our capacity for growth is never finished.

The best-laid plans of mice and men often go awry. Everyone is at different stages on their own personal pathway. And so that voice of jealousy and doubt is not only unproductive, but illogical, for that path is not yours.

If you have that calling, build your skills and make your mark. But if you're not yet sure, that's okay. The luxury of being young is that we can freely explore where we belong. Understand your passions, and then build your career around that. Most importantly, take your time. I'll be right there with you.

Jeffrey Khoo
Publications Director



MENTAL WELLBEING

MENTAL WELLBEING

While a person may not experience a mental illness, this does not necessarily mean that their mental health is thriving. According to beyondblue, mental health is about “being cognitively, emotionally and socially healthy - the way we think, feel and develop relationships - and not merely the absence of a mental health condition”¹.

With the law school being notorious for its heavy workloads and hypercompetitive nature, it’s especially important that you stay on top of your mental health. Your wellbeing should always take precedence over anything else, and this requires proper self-care and healthy habits.

If you’re ever struggling, whether it be from general stress or more serious personal circumstances, it’s vital to have a strong support network. There are an array of services available on-campus and off-campus, and we at SULLS can provide you with resources or moral support to help get your wellbeing back on track.

SUPPORT SERVICES

SULLS Initiatives

SULLS Mental Health Bulletin

The SULLS Mental Health Bulletin is a new section of SULLS Weekly Newsletter that will be released every fortnight. It will provide information on important mental health dates, as well as events that are happening on and off university. It will also feature articles from students as a platform for sharing stories and advice on mental health and wellbeing.

Subscribe to SULLS Weekly at: <https://www.sulls.org.au/sulls-weekly-newsletter/>
If you have a story or advice to share, contact: Deandre Espejo (Equity Officer) equity@sulls.org.au

SULLS Wellbeing Events on Campus

SULLS will be running various events throughout the year focusing on mental health and wellbeing. Keep your eyes peeled for Wellbeing Week, mental health panels and intervarsity events.

¹Beyondblue, ‘What is mental health?’ (2016) beyondblue. <https://www.beyondblue.org.au/the-facts/what-is-mental-health>.

On-Campus Support

The University of Sydney Counselling and Psychological Services (CAPS)

The University of Sydney offers support to students through its Counselling and Psychological Services (CAPS). CAPS aims to help students build strengths, improve wellbeing and achieve academic success. Their counselling services are free and confidential, and are available to all currently enrolled undergraduate and postgraduate students of the University. CAPS also offer workshops on issues commonly faced by students, such as procrastination and exam anxiety. A full list of workshops can be found on the CAPS website.

VISIT: <https://sydney.edu.au/students/counselling-and-mental-health-support.html>
CONTACT: caps.admin@sydney.edu.au (02) 8627 8433
Level 5, Jane Foss Russell Building (beside Wentworth Building),
Camperdown Campus

Disability Services

Disability Services helps students with a disability access reasonable adjustments to allow them the best possible opportunity to succeed in their studies. Disability Services is the main point of contact and support for students with disabilities and works closely with others in the administration and academic departments of the University to ensure that appropriate arrangements relating to teaching and assessment are made for students with disabilities. Registration with the service is required, at which point a Disability Services Officer will assess your eligibility for the service. Services available will depend on the individual needs of the student.

The Law Faculty's Disability Liaison Officer is Senior Lecturer Ghena Krayem.

CONTACT:
Disability Services
disability.services@sydney.edu.au
<https://sydney.edu.au/study/academic-support/disability-support.html>
Ghena Krayem
ghena.krayem@sydney.edu.au
(02) 9351 0359

MAHsoc (Mental Awareness and Health Society)

MAHsoc aims to remove the stigma surrounding mental illness and provide support to those who have, or know someone who have, a mental illness. They often hold talks, free yoga, and post some very helpful advice and information through their online channels.

CONTACT:
usydmahsoc@gmail.com
https://www.facebook.com/MAHsoc-298593186934594/?fref=ts_

Off-Campus Support

Camperdown and Redfern Community Health

The Camperdown and Redfern Community Health teams provide crisis and case management services for adults experiencing a range of mental health problems, such as depression, mood disorders and severe anxiety. They provide information about mental health problems, individual treatment to assist recovery and can introduce other services that may be able to help.

CONTACT:

Camperdown Community Health Centre, Level 5 (Street Level), KGV Building, Missenden Road, Camperdown. (02) 9515 9000

Redfern Community Health Centre, 103 – 105 Redfern Street, Redfern. (02) 9395 0444

headspace

headspace is the National Youth Mental Health Foundation which offers young people aged 12-25 health advice, support and information on a wide range of issues including general health, mental health, alcohol and other drug worries. The closest headspace centre to campus is Central Sydney.

CONTACT: Level 2, 97 Church Street Camperdown

headspace.centrawsydney@sydney.edu.au (02) 9114 4100

The Black Dog Institute

The Black Dog Institute is a world leader in the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of mood disorders such as depression and bipolar disorder. They also have clinics, but their healthcare professionals require a referral from a patient's managing doctor.

CONTACT: Hospital Road, Prince of Wales Hospital, Randwick

blackdog@blackdog.org.au (02) 9382 4530

beyondblue (online)

beyondblue is a not-for-profit organisation that aims to move the focus on depression away from a mental health service issue and towards one which is understood, acknowledged and addressed by the wider community.

The beyondblue website provides specific resources for young people, LGBTI people, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, women, and friends and family of someone experiencing depression. There is a 24 hour hotline and you can chat online with a professional via the website.

CONTACT: <http://www.beyondblue.org.au/> 1300 02 4636 (24 hour hotline)

A CHANGE IS GONNA COME

demystifying mental health

Often, discussions of mental health at university are a hollow succession of statistics and how-tos you might expect in a corporate setting. But there exists numerous support services designed to ensure you don't navigate any mental hardships on your own. CAPS is one such service - sessions are free, and the workshops they run target widespread issues affecting mental health encountered by all students.

As Marketing Director, I hope to make information on services such as these as readily accessible as possible through our social media channels and website, and to encourage their use even where seeking help may not feel doable.

It's also on us to do our best to facilitate a more positive university experience for others. Many potentially harmful habits are ingrained in law students from day one - we can be obsessive and unkind in a way that becomes normalised. But the more each of us are able to be self-aware and genuinely admit our imperfections, I think the less likely we are to try to keep ourselves afloat at the expense of others.

With all this being said, the university experience itself can and should be able to mollify any struggles we may encounter with our mental health. It's my goal to reach as many of you as possible with the positive things SULS puts on for the benefit of the student body. Attending SULS events and attempting to get involved may be daunting; many among us are not strangers to the intense anxiety that can accompany social situations. However, out of challenges can come relationships that can lift your spirits when you need it most.

Charlie Ward
Marketing Director

I'M FEELIN' MYSELF

tips on self-care

It's 3am and you're not sure whether your headache was induced by a lack of sleep, too much caffeine (surely six a day is fine) or the fact that you've been staring at a laptop screen for the past three hours. You're not sure you have the strength to make sure your references conform to the pedantic requirements of the AGLC - you'll descend into insanity if you have to fix another 'Ibid'. There is no easy way to put it, being a student is tough! As a result, maintaining a healthy and balanced lifestyle is the key to leading your best life.

Here's some tips on how to be the best you:

1. Baby steps

The first step to leading a healthy lifestyle is to remember is that nothing changes overnight! It is important not to feel discouraged if your hard work doesn't pay off immediately. Instead, aim to set realistic and achievable goals which can be gradually built upon every day or week. Although structure and routine are important, it can be incredibly rewarding to take small risks every now and then. Stepping out of your comfort zone can introduce you to a whole new world that you could be missing out on.

2. Balance

With work, study and extracurricular activities, we all feel an overwhelming compulsion to juggle multiple commitments at once. As much as we'd like to believe we could muster up some superhuman strength and knock everything out, we are all only human. When it comes to balancing various commitments, time management is the key.

Here are some helpful tips:

- Set realistic goals
- Prioritise - separate your urgent tasks from the ones that can wait
- Get a diary or a planner where you can track (and colour code) your commitments throughout the semester
- Split bigger tasks into smaller ones to make them more achievable
- Add a "done list" to your to-do list so you can see what you have achieved throughout the day
- Learn to say "no" - don't chew more than you can swallow

3. Treat yo self (in moderation)

We often scold ourselves for going on another ASOS shop or a late night Maccas run. But it's important to recognise that we all deserve to do what makes us happiest every now and then. If it incentivises you to work harder, there is nothing wrong with treating yourself in moderation. In saying that, it is equally crucial to maintain a healthy diet and consume proper nutrients to improve your mental and physical health.

Tips on eating healthy:

- Eat a variety of raw and cooked foods
- Substitute processed snacks with fresh fruit and vegetables
- Introduce foods rich in omega-3 fatty acids into your diet such as tuna, salmon, walnuts and soybeans
- Ensure you are getting moderate intakes of the five core food groups – fruits, vegetables, grains, dairy and protein
- Slowly wean yourself off caffeine
- Drink around 2 litres of water every day

4. Breathe, hydrate, sleep, repeat.

“Siri, how do I fit eight hours of sleep in three hours?” – Me, 3:30am

There is nothing more rejuvenating and rewarding than getting the recommended seven to nine hours of sleep every day. Although it may feel as though you are sacrificing crucial time that could be spent doing your readings or watching that lecture that you've been putting off, we cannot function properly without sleep. If you're like me and find yourself laying in bed questioning every decision you've ever made instead of blissfully falling asleep, here are a couple of tips which could help you get a good restorative rest:

- Create a regular sleeping pattern
- Maintain a night-time winding down routine
- Stay away from caffeine, alcohol and electronics before bedtime
- Avoid napping during the day

5. Get movin' and groovin'

It can be difficult to muster up the motivation to get off the couch during your ritual Netflix binge and head to the gym but it will pay dividends in the long run. Exercise releases endorphins into your bloodstream which give you a feeling of happiness. If the gym isn't your thing, don't worry! Work at your own pace and whatever is enjoyable for you, whether that be yoga, dance class or simply going for a walk. The point is to get movin' and groovin'!

6. Positive vibes only!

Finally, it is important to surround yourself with good people who vibe with you and will lift you up! University is a grind and the easiest way to make it enjoyable is to build strong and healthy relationships with people who understand your humour and will be there for you when you need them. Although it can be easy to shut people out when you're feeling overwhelmed, it can be incredibly therapeutic and worthwhile to make plans with family members and friends.

Tanvi Patel
Campus Director

WHAT ELSE CAN I BE?

dealing with a comparison mindset

Being surrounded by so many bright and driven people in the law school can be both stimulating and challenging. Personally, I know I have found it difficult not to compare myself to the people around me. I was pursuing a Science degree majoring in Physics for my first four years of university, which basically meant that I had at least 20 contact hours each week. The notion of a weekday without any university classes was a myth to me, and so was the concept of being able to hold an office job throughout an entire semester time.

As many of my law friends began taking on part-time legal work, I started to feel as though I was missing out on crucial work experience in a way which made me fall behind them. What I have learned however is that while this mindset is not uncommon, it is often unjustified. It is true that work experience is always handy, but the time I spent in labs and writing up lengthy assignments on statistical mechanics was also of benefit, albeit in a different way. While it was by no means work in the legal sector, the very fact that learning about the laws of physics (as opposed to the laws of Australia) inspired and excited me meant that it was worth my time.

It doesn't matter if you aren't doing what is typical for people in your cohort. Everyone does things differently and there's no 'right' way to be a student. At the end of the day, constantly questioning whether I was keeping up with people around me was silly because I wasn't the same as them. Acknowledging that gave me the liberty to explore a lot more things that interested me, like a thesis experiment where I was basically holed up in a windowless lab 5 days a week for a year.

At the end of the day, I know I will recall memories of watching individual Beryllium ions fluoresce in the dark much more fondly than I would have ever recalled wheeling case files around.

Calida Tang
Sponsorship Director

I WANT TO HOLD YOUR HAND

how we can support our struggling friends

Meaningful conversations about mental illness can be incredibly difficult to have. Too often can we find ourselves sheepishly tiptoeing around friends with mental illnesses, externalising an ugly stereotype that constructs mentally ill people as the broken, volatile carriers of their pathologies, and nothing more.

When we buy in to the culture of mental health hyper-awareness, but none of the deeper reflectiveness that should accompany it, there is a tendency to stop there and congratulate ourselves for the achievement of having at least acknowledged the problem. But we have the power to do more to foster a more constructive discourse around mental health.

For one, we should try not to content ourselves with easy, digestible solutions. Supporting a friend who is struggling with mental illness is much more than assuring them that they'll get through it, or anything else that could possibly be captured in a buzzword or platitude.

Be mindful of the fact that you are there, first and foremost, to support them. That friend is not a means through which you can earn points for being altruistic – they are a person. The most helpful thing you can do for them is to listen and empathise. Don't lecture them and don't push them if they don't want to talk about certain things.

It is also important not to interject or interrupt, particularly with an attempt to relate an experience back to yourself or share your own story, tempting as it may be. If they have gone as far as to open up to you, pay them the basic courtesy of not redirecting the conversation to yourself.

Finally, don't feel the need to suggest remedies or coping strategies. More often than not, your friend has tried them already, and your suggestion, however well-intentioned, might not be a constructive one. Being constantly told to “just try x, y or z” can not only be exhausting; it can also fail to give them the benefit of the doubt that they're likely already doing as much as they can to help themselves.

Beyond the interpersonal, we should strive to recognise that mental health doesn't exist in a closed biochemical silo. It is a patchwork of different determinants and variables on which socioeconomic status, marginal identity and other axes of disadvantage can weigh far more heavily than popular mental health campaigns deign to highlight. If we are to position ourselves at the vanguard of a truly robust mental health advocacy that aspires to eliminate the root causes responsible for so much of our suffering, we should recognise this insight as central, and proceed from there.

Justin Handisurya
Vice President (Social Justice)

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Sydney Law School is becoming more diverse than ever. We boast a panorama of different perspectives and experiences across various interrelated dimensions of identity such as race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, nationality, citizenship, education, geographic origin, religion and ability.

However, certain aspects of identity involve concepts that add to inequalities and power imbalances in society. At SULLS, we recognise the strength and potential of a community that includes, represents and fosters equal access for individuals of different backgrounds.

We want to create a law school where everyone has their differences respected, feel valued and have their basic needs met, so that everyone can live with dignity and have the opportunity to participate fully at the law school. SULLS has various portfolios as advocates, representatives and points of contact for any students with concerns about diversity or inclusion.

SULLS PORTFOLIOS

The Women's Portfolio

While progress has been made, women continue to face discrimination within the study, practice and application of law. Experiencing this discrimination, whether explicit or subtle, whether in the classroom or the boardroom and whether by peer or stranger, is frustrating and unfair. Attempting to combat or seek redress for instances of such sexism is often daunting and difficult, particularly without a support network. The SULLS Women's Portfolio serves as a network of support and recognition for female-identifying students, providing a platform for discussion, mentoring and advocacy. The portfolio recognises the immense diversity of its students and seeks to both encompass and represent such plurality within its support and advocacy initiatives.

I hope that you will find these initiatives both helpful and inspiring during your time at law school and during your preparations for life beyond it. Please never doubt that your contributions to a historically male-dominated profession are important and immensely valuable, and if you are ever made to feel this way, please know that I am always available for a chat. These actions and this mindset must, of course, be coupled with an active reversal of institutional sexism from within - SULLS hopes to not only help advocate for this change but to also support the women behind it. Please feel free to contact me at anytime at women@suls.org.au.

Isabella Monardo
Women's Officer

The Queer Portfolio

For queer people, university presents an incredible opportunity for self-discovery and to learn more about the queer community. You will meet LGBTQIA+ people from all walks of life and by doing so, you will learn more about yourself in a highly individualised way which is very exciting.

I know this is certainly true for me, as even in my third year I continue to learn about queer identity, our community, the barriers we still face in the legal profession and beyond but more promisingly the amazing progress the community has made.

As the SULLS Queer Officer for 2019, I am committed to helping queer law students take part in this journey by providing you with the opportunities to help you learn about the queer community and its place in the legal field, learn about yourself and to meet and engage with other members of the queer community both socially and professionally in a safe and welcoming manner.

If you have any questions relating to any issues at all, would like help finding support service for academic issues, mental wellbeing or otherwise, have a concern you want voiced to the law school or just want to have a chat and coffee about anything at all, please do contact me at queer@suls.org.au. I look forward to meeting every one of you fabulous people over the year!

Tom Manousaridis
Queer Officer

The First Nations Portfolio

The University of Sydney Law School has been ranked among the top 15 most prestigious law schools in the world, so you being here is a huge achievement! It may feel daunting walking through this sandstone university, but it does get easier with time.

I understand how it feels to be in a completely new environment, and especially how isolating it may feel to be the only Indigenous student participating in a tutorial discussion. I moved to Sydney three years ago from a remote part of Western Australia and this has been one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences to date. I still remember how much my heart raced for the whole month of Foundations.

SULLS created this portfolio in 2014 and the Ethnocultural portfolio in 2018 to improve students' experience in this liberal institution. We aim to create a more culturally experienced community so all students are encouraged to get in touch by emailing me at firsnations@suls.org.au. I'm here if you have any questions, comments, concerns or just need a friendly face.

During Semester One I will not be on campus during SULLS office hours, so I suggest you contact me to have a cuppa so we can get to know each other and can maintain contact. We will have the opportunity to catch up on a monthly basis over lunch with a qualified Indigenous lawyer who can discuss their professional journey and how they overcame adversity at university. I will be back on campus full time for Semester Two.

Marlikka Perdrisat
First Nations Officer

CONTACT:

Indigenous Academic Advisor for Law, Dr Nicole Watson
nicole.watson@sydney.edu.au (02) 8627 5091 New Law Building Room 539
Mana Yura Engagement Team
support.cadigal@sydney.edu.au (02) 8627 8619 Jane Foss Russell Building Level 5
Student Affairs Unit
studentaffairs@sydney.edu.au (02) 8627 8465

The International Portfolio

Coming to Sydney alone at the age of 15, I know how hard it is to adjust oneself to a new culture. Studying at the Law School as an international student, it can be challenging to study in another language and participate in a seemingly exclusive environment. That's why the SULLS International Portfolio exists: to make international students feel welcome and help international students navigate Law School.

In 2019, we seek to involve more international students in SULLS events and international competitions, and to provide international students with more resources and opportunities for future career paths. If you ever need help or support, please contact me at international@suls.org.au.

Look out for the following events in 2019:

- International Students Dinner
- International Students Guide
- International Students (Peers) Mentoring Program
- International Students Moot
- International Students and Staff Morning Tea
- International Students Autonomous Forum

Shanshan Guo
International Officer

The Ethnocultural Portfolio

As the Ethnocultural Officer, I am committed to advocating for people of colour. In 2019, the ethnocultural portfolio will engage in addressing the issues of discrimination and the lack of progression to senior leadership positions within the legal profession.

Whether you are just starting your journey in Sydney Law School or continuing your journey, it is very important to understand that the ability to freely express your unique identity is crucial for a positive mental health. Always remember that the Law School is YOURS. It should be representative of your respective cultural or religious identity, and who you are should not be diminished in an attempt to "fit in" to the law school.

I am always available to talk about any issues concerning people of colour. One of the best ways to promote diversity is discussion. Please feel free to contact me anytime at ethnocultural@suls.org.au.

Luckme Vimalarajah
Ethnocultural Officer

The Equity Portfolio

I grew up in Greater Western Sydney in a government-identified low socioeconomic school. For me, stepping foot into Sydney Law School was almost like entering a foreign country. The way that people spoke, dressed, and went about their daily lives was unlike anything I had ever witnessed before.

We often hear the stereotype that USyd is a “playground for the rich”, and while it’s not entirely true, I still feel sense of cultural dissonance that took some time to adapt to. Since there aren’t many of us, people often overlook how people of different socioeconomic statuses experience inequality at the law school, and the same can be said for other social groups.

For all other aspects of identity that don’t have a designated portfolio, I am your point of contact. This includes any issues related to socio-economic status, age, ability, or geographic location. I am committed to helping all students find their place here in the university, and being a voice for those who have previously been underrepresented. While I may not be the best representative for some groups, I will do my best to support you or point you in the right direction.

I’ve included some support services below. If you’d like to have a chat, please don’t hesitate to contact me at equity@suls.org.au.

Deandre Espejo
Equity Officer

SUPPORT SERVICES

Student Affairs Unit

All students at the University of Sydney have a right to study in an environment that is free from unlawful harassment and discrimination, and to be treated with dignity and respect, irrespective of their background, beliefs or culture. If you feel that you have experienced unlawful discrimination or harassment, contact the Student Affairs Unit to speak to a Harassment and Discrimination Support Officer or to make a complaint.

CONTACT: <https://sydney.edu.au/students/contact-student-affairs.html>
(02) 8627 8465

University of Sydney Union Spaces

There are a number of safe spaces for groups on campus, which include:

Queerspace: Queerspace is an autonomous, safe space for queer students on campus. It is located in Meeting Room 1, Ground Floor of the Holme Building.

*Wom*n's Space:* The Wom*n's Space is a safe location for female-identifying students and offers an area for breastfeeding, quiet study, meetings and women's events. It is located in Manning House Level 1.

International Student Lounge: The ISL is located on Level 4 of the Wentworth Building and offers resources to help international students transition into life at Sydney University.

Ethnocultural Space: The Ethnocultural Space is a safe and autonomous space for students who identify as being from an ethnic minority. It is located in Manning House Level 1.

Disability

Disability Services

Disability Services helps students with a disability access reasonable adjustments to allow them the best possible opportunity to succeed in their studies. Disability Services is the main point of contact and support for students with disabilities and works closely with others in the administration and academic departments of the University to ensure that appropriate arrangements relating to teaching and assessment are made for students with disabilities.

Registration with the service is required, at which point a Disability Services Officer will assess your eligibility for the service. Services available will depend on the individual needs of the student.

The Law Faculty's Disability Liaison Officer is Senior Lecturer Ghena Krayem.

CONTACT:

Disability Services

disability.services@sydney.edu.au<https://sydney.edu.au/study/academic-support/disability-support.html>

Ghena Krayem

ghena.krayem@sydney.edu.au

(02) 9351 0359

Mature-Aged Students

The Sydney Law School offers a Peer Mentoring Program at the beginning of semester. Students who were unable to participate in this program or would like to get in touch with other mature-aged students are welcome to register their interest with the Equity Officer. SULLS is exploring the opportunity to establish a network for mature-aged students at law school, and your comments and suggestions are welcome.

CONTACT: Deandre Espejo (Equity Officer) equity@suls.org.au**Parents**SULLS Parent Group

The SULLS Parent Group was established as a social network for parents studying law. It meets once a month casually to allow parents the opportunity to share their experience and to get to know and support one another. Students with family obligations are also warmly invited to join the group.

CONTACT: Deandre Espejo (Equity Officer) equity@suls.org.auChildcare Information Office

The Sydney University Childcare Information Office on the Darlington Campus provides childcare resources and support for students, staff and members of the local community. It has information about the 5 centres closest to campus, relevant government agencies and other daycare centres.

LOCATION: Level 5, Jane Foss Russell Building (near Wentworth Building), Camperdown Campus**OPEN:** 10am to 4pm, Monday to Wednesday.**EMAIL:** child_care@sydney.edu.au**PHONE:** +61286271489

Parent Rooms

Abercrombie Building

LOCATION: Level B2, Room B2001, Abercrombie Building

Shared facility suitable for expressing/breastfeeding containing a lounge, privacy screens, sink, powerpoint and fridge. Accessible with a swipe card. To organize access, contact the Business School Infrastructure Office on (02)91141130.

Business School Building

LOCATION: Level 1, Room 109, Business School Building

Shared facility suitable for expressing/breastfeeding containing a lounge, privacy screens, sink, powerpoint and fridge. Accessible with a swipe card. To organize access, contact the Business School Infrastructure Office on (02)91141130.

Education Building

LOCATION: Level 4, Room 454, Education Building.

Shared, first aid room, suitable for expressing/breastfeeding. It is private and lockable, has a bed and powerpoint.

Fisher Library

LOCATION: Level 3, Fisher Library (front desk security attended will provide access and directions)

Parent room including zip hot water, chilled water, microwave, fridge, change table, nappy disposal unit. Has privacy with small table and chairs for breastfeeding.

Holme Building

LOCATION: Disability Access Toilet, Holme Building

Accessible via Holme Building Courtyard, the disability access toilet has a baby change table.

Jane Foss Russell Building

LOCATION: Disability Access Toilets on Levels 4, 5, 6 of the Jane Foss Russell Building

Each toilet has a baby change table.

Manning House

LOCATION: Level 1, Manning House.

The Wom*n's Space may be used by mothers and has a change table.

Childcare around Camperdown Campus

There are three day care centres on or near the Camperdown campus. These do not preference Sydney University staff or students and parents are required to apply to each centre to be placed on its waiting list.

KU Laurel Tree House Child Care Centre

61 Arundel Street, Glebe

(02) 9660 8857 <http://www.ku.com.au/ku.laureltreehouse>

KU Union Child Care Centre

72 Lander Street, Darlington

(02) 9351 7878 <http://www.ku.com.au/ku.union>

KU Carillon Avenue Child Care Centre

Carillon Ave (Next to Newtown North Primary School), Newtown
(02) 9557 2344 <http://www.ku.com.au/ku.carillonavenue>

Boundary Lane Children's Centre

128-146 Burren Street Newtown NSW 2042
(02) 93510134 boundary.lane@sydney.edu.au

Babysitting Services and Nannies

The Sydney University CareerHub allows parents to advertise for paid babysitting/nanny positions.

VISIT: http://sydney.edu.au/careers/employers/job_ads/

SHE MOOTS IN HER OWN WAY

inclusivity in suls competitions

It is no secret that the word 'competitions' conjures up images of stern law students using abstruse legal jargon in an imposing court setting. Many tend to perceive competitions as elitist and open only to those confident in their speaking ability. This could not be further from the truth.

In 2019, we want to help more students engage with the Competitions Portfolio by making it more accessible and inclusive. We are going to have our Intro to Comps and Bootcamp, along with all internal grand finals, filmed and available online. We recognise that not everyone is able to attend skills workshops due to extra-curricular, work and family responsibilities, but this ensures everyone has equal access to resources.

We also want to address the traditional barriers that certain groups of people face in the legal profession. Last year, SULLS hosted its inaugural Women's Mooting Program. We're also collaborating with the International Portfolio to run our very first International Students' Moot.

SULLS prides itself on the opportunities it offers, but also acknowledges the long-standing disparity in skills. This year, we hope to run a mentoring program aimed at LLB III to JD II (and older) students who haven't had a chance to get involved in competitions in their earlier years. Our re-joining of ALSA means that we can give skills competitors more pathways.

But perhaps what we are most proud of is our ability to wholly subsidise the flights and accommodation of all intervarsity competitions. This ensures that all students who are selected and wish to compete, will be able to.

There are so many ways to get involved, whether that be competing yourself, helping convene, doing a skills workshop or just coming along to watch your friend compete. If you have questions at all, or suggestions on how we can make competitions more equitable, our inbox is always open at: competitions@suls.org.au.

Kaity Crowe and Wendy Hu
Competitions Directors

WELFARE, HEALTH AND SAFETY

WELFARE, HEALTH AND SAFETY

Emergencies and Important Numbers (24 hours, 7 days a week)

If you are in an emergency: Fire, Police and Ambulance: 000 or 112 from a mobile phone

If you are in an acute mental health crisis:

Lifeline: 13 11 14

NSW Mental Health Access Line: 1800 011 511

If you have experienced sexual harassment or assault:

Police (in an emergency): 000 (in an emergency)

Police Assistance Line: 131 444

NSW Rape Crisis Centre: 1800 424 017

University of Sydney Crisis Line: 1800 793 457 (1800 SYD HLP)

If you are experiencing or witnessing an incident on-campus, or feel unsafe at the University:

University of Sydney Crisis Line: 1800 793 457 (1800 SYD HLP)

Campus Security: (02) 9351 3333

SULS Events Code of Conduct

SULS observes a code of conduct at all events for how members are expected to behave. By attending a SULS event, all members agree to the policy. If you witness or experience conduct that causes discomfort, distress, or danger, it is important that you bring this to the attention of a member of the SULS Executive or report anonymously.

With an Equity Officer and a diverse executive team, we will assign the most appropriate and suitable person to handle an issue. There are a variety of available procedures for handling conduct violations, from a discussion to more serious sanctions.

The full policy can be viewed at:

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/574a8854e707eb4fe69d75b4/t/5c5800c7652dead3278d1b0c/1549271240410/Code+of+Coduct.pdf>

IT'S THE SAFETY DANCE

welfare at socials

We've all heard of the benefits of social events. We've been told by our parents, teachers, friends and self-help books that we need a good balance of work and play. That's why the activities and events hosted by the SULLS socials portfolio are designed to allow students to have the maximum amount of fun, while offering a break from the daily pressures of law school.

However, in order to ensure that we are able to provide the highest quality of fun at all of our events, we stand by a strict set of conduct rules to ensure that everyone is being treated fairly and with respect. We do not tolerate bullying, harassment, or discrimination of any kind. Instead we want to promote inclusivity and respect! If you see someone standing alone at an event, be it LLB Law Camp or JD Drinks, go up and say hey! Law School is made better by taking a break from the library while creating new memories with new friends, and we want to ensure everyone is able to have a positive experience at one of our events.

Maddy de Dassel and Miriam Shendroff
Social Directors

KEEP YOUR HEAD UP

athlete welfare

With student welfare being a central focus of SULS, we endeavour to provide opportunities for all students to get involved and stay active. Activities like fitness club are aimed at catering to a variety of interests across the law school, and hopes to afford many chances to get involved. Activities such as interfaculty and intervarsity sport offer a more competitive arena, however, the focus remains on involvement and participation.

As a faculty and a society, we pride ourselves on maintaining our integrity, especially in competitions. We uphold the tenets of good sportsmanship by being respectful on and off the field to our fellow players, other teams and referees. We play with pride, support one another, and work as a team to create a welcoming and inclusive environment.

SULS also endeavours to support those students who are engaged in extracurricular sporting pursuits outside of the law school. Here are a few tips to help you balance those extra expectations and demands, and ensure that you stay healthy:

Prioritise sleep. Do not sacrifice your sleep to stay up late studying, your dwindling focus will mean you will not be as effective in your studies or in whatever you do the following day. Aim for at least 8 hours of sleep a night, increasing this when at the peak of your training or in the middle of exams.

Eat well. Prepare meals and snacks in advance to bring to class. It can be difficult to find meals on campus that will re-fuel you with the necessary nutrients so come prepared. Make sure you maintain a healthy diet during high-stress periods such as exams.

Allocate rest. Make sure you set aside time each week to relax and unwind. Whether it is enjoying time with friends or family, reading a book or completing guided meditation, it is important to set aside time to refresh and recharge.

Stretch and recover. Set aside time after every training session to stretch and/or roll, and an additional session at least once a week dedicated to stretching and recovery. Know your limitations and listen to your body to reduce the risk of injuries.

Manage expectations. Be realistic about the requirements and demands of your university work and your sporting pursuit and communicate these clearly. Plan ahead but remain flexible with your time to account for fluctuations in pressures coming from each.

Hannah Stilin
Sport Director

HEALTH AND MEDICAL

On-Campus Services

The University of Sydney Health Service

The University Health Service offers experienced general practitioner and emergency medical care services to all members of the University community. Services include treatment of illness and injury, advice on contraception and STIs, and advice for students with examination difficulties. You can make an appointment online.

CONTACT: Wentworth Clinic, Wentworth Building G01 on Butlin Avenue, Level 3
<http://sydney.edu.au/health-service/services/index.php> (02) 9351 3484

Off-Campus Services

Royal Prince Alfred Hospital

This is the closest public hospital and emergency department to campus.

IN A EMERGENCY, DIAL 000
50 Missenden Road, Camperdown NSW 2050

Sydney Medical Service

Sydney Medical Service is available for after-hours home visits.

CONTACT: (02) 8724 6300
Weeknights 6:00pm to 8:00am; Weekends 12:00pm Saturday to 8:00am Monday

Youthblock Youth Health Service

Youthblock is a free holistic health service for young marginalised people between the ages of 12 and 25, providing services in primary care, counselling and sexual health.

CONTACT: 288 Abercrombie Street, Redfern NSW 2016
Mon, Tues, Thu & Fri 9.00-5.00pm, Wed 11:30am-5:00pm
<https://youthpoint.com.au/youthblock-youth-health-service/> (02) 9562 5640

Aboriginal Medical Service Redfern

The Aboriginal Medical Service Cooperative in Redfern provides culturally appropriate health care to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. Their services are delivered and predominantly managed by professional Aboriginal staff.

CONTACT: 36 Turner Street, Redfern NSW 2016
Mon-Thu 8am-6pm, Fri 9am-5pm
<https://amsredfern.org.au/> (02) 9319 5823

ACCOMMODATION

On-Campus Services

Accommodation Services

Finding accommodation that is right for you can take time and research. You should consider factors such as your proximity to university and work, social life, budget, and access to transportation. The Accommodation Services team is available to help you with advice when you are looking for a place to live. If you are in need of short-term or emergency housing, they can work with you to find temporary accommodation.

CONTACT: Level 5, Jane Foss Russell Building (10am-4pm Mon-Fri),
Camperdown Campus
www.sydney.edu.au/accommodation (02) 9351 3322

On-Campus Living Options

The advantages to living on campus include proximity to your classes, access to the nearby city, shops, and restaurants, and university life. Several students utilise on-campus accommodation options such as the six residential colleges, the Sydney University Village (SUV), International House and university-owned share houses.

Apply to scholarships available for Queen Mary Building, Abercrombie Student Accommodation and the residential colleges on their websites.

VISIT: <http://sydney.edu.au/campus-life/accommodation/live-on-campus.html>

Student Accommodation Services (Off-Campus)

The University of Sydney is located in the inner west, with the surrounding suburbs of Newtown, Surry Hills, Glebe, Ultimo, Chippendale, Haymarket, Camperdown, Redfern, Darlington, Annandale, Stanmore, Enmore and Forest Lodge. You may wish to rent a share-house, single rooms, or search for homestay options.

Rent is often quoted and charged on a weekly basis. Typically, the closer you are to the Central Business District, the more sought-after and expensive the units are. The University maintains a page with links to various homestay agencies, hostels, and real estate agencies:

<http://sydney.edu.au/campus-life/accommodation/live-off-campus.html>

A number of students choose to live in student accommodation run by private providers. Some of these places close to the University of Sydney include:

- UniLodge (Broadway or Wattle Street)
- Urbanest (Darlington, Glebe, Cleveland Street or Sydney Central)
- Iglu (Broadway, Redfern, Central or Central Park)
- Scape Abercrombie (Darlington)

You may also like to search through real estate agencies, accommodation websites such as <https://flatmates.com.au> and Facebook share house pages.

Make sure you are aware of your rights as a tenant. The free university SRC legal service can assist your with advice on tenancy law if you have any questions: <http://srcusyd.net.au/src-legal-service>.

TRANSPORT

Opal Cards

The Opal card is a smartcard ticket that you keep and reuse. You load money onto the card to pay for travel on all public transport in Sydney.

If you are enrolled as a domestic, full-time tertiary student at the University of Sydney, you are entitled to certain concession fares on public transport in NSW. Don't forget: when travelling on a concession fare, you must carry your student card or you may be fined.

VISIT: <https://www.opal.com.au/>

Train

The closest train station to campus is Redfern, which is a 10-minute walk from Camperdown campus. Students travelling to or from the campus after hours should use the free campus shuttle bus which runs on a loop from Fisher Library to Redfern Station via Manning Road, Western Avenue, Carillion Ave, City Road, Butlin Avenue, Maze Crescent, and Blackwattle Creek Lane during semester every 15-20 minutes.

Buses

From Parramatta Road (closest to the Quadrangle) to Railway Square, catch routes 412, 413, 436, 438, 439, 440, 461, 480, 483, M10, L39 and L38.

From Parramatta Road (closest to the Quadrangle) to Martin Place/City, catch routes 413, 438, 439, L38 and L39.

From City Road (closest to Wentworth Building) to Railway Square, catch routes 422, 423, 426, 428 or M30.

Parking

With limited parking on campus, the University encourages students to use public transport, walk or cycle in. There is free parking available in the bus lane on Parramatta Road near Footbridge between 10am-3pm Monday-Friday, and timed parking spots around Darlington and Forest Lodge.

Daytime casual parking rates

(6am-3pm, Monday to Friday)

Fee: \$24 flat rate (valid until 6am next day) excluding the New Law Building carpark, which is permit-holders only 6am-3pm Monday to Friday. Use the Shepherd Street carpark during these hours.

Shepherd Street carpark

Fee: \$4 per hour (to maximum \$24) or \$24 flat rate (valid to 6am next morning)

Evening and weekend casual parking rates

(3pm-6am, Monday to Friday; 6am Saturday to 6am Monday)

Fee: \$2 per hour (to maximum \$6) or \$6 flat rate (valid until 6am next day)

For more information on parking and other campuses, visit: <http://sydney.edu.au/campus-life/getting-to-campus/parking.html>.

Cycling

Riding your bike to university is environmentally friendly, saves money and a great way to keep active! There are many places around campus where you can leave your bike during class: <http://sydney.edu.au/campus-life/getting-to-campus/cycling.html>.

The University of Sydney even has its own bike shop on Manning Road, The Bike Doctor, where you can pop in for repairs, purchases and advice.

International Students

Public Transport

International students are only entitled to concession fares on NSW public transport when their study is fully funded by specified Australian Government scholarships, comprised of:

- The International Postgraduate Research Scholarships
- The Endeavour Postgraduate Scholarships and Education and Training Scholarships
- The Australian Awards

To view the guidelines for eligibility visit: <https://transportnsw.info/document/581/tertiary-guidelines.pdf>. If you are eligible, you must apply for a Transport Concession Entitlement Card.

Driving

International students wishing to drive with a foreign licence in Australia must meet the requirements as set out by the Roads and Maritime Services. For information on Driving with an Overseas Licence, visit: <https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/transfer-overseas-driver-licence>.



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