



FLINDERS LAW STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

CAREERS GUIDE 2025

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Dean's Foreword

Recently, I attended the Law Society's Managing Partners Lunch, where we heard a presentation by LexisNexis on the new legal tech tools they are developing. This followed an earlier conversation with the global head of legal tech with one of the largest law firms in the world, based in Singapore. So many opportunities are emerging everyday – new ways for lawyers to work, interact with their clients, provide their services and support the administration of justice and the rule of law.

Those conversations, and many others I have almost every day confirm that the legal sector is changing rapidly. It's crucial to keep alert to these changes and build the skills to adapt, innovate, grow and flourish. Be adaptable and resilient. You'll need grit and persistence. Each time you step out of your comfort zone, try something new, adopt a growth mindset, and learn from your mistakes, you'll grow in confidence to meet the next challenge.

Trust is critical in so much of what legal professionals do: how we form decisions about whether we trust others, and how we can encourage others to trust us. Clients' trust in lawyers, lawyers trust in each other, for the rule of law to work, our communities must trust our courts and the legal system. Effective communication, connection, collaboration, compassion, and critical thinking are all critical competencies for successful legal professionals – and ones that we hope you are developing during your law studies here at Flinders.

Cyber risks are increasingly critical for all business and institutions. Understanding this new environment is challenging and very dynamic, but an area of rapidly increasing importance to everyone. Responding to these risks is bringing with new jobs and new opportunities. Lawyers are well accustomed to assisting client to protect themselves and manage risk and compliance, but new expertise and skills sets are emerging in this area, and practitioners who possess them will be very much in demand.



Professor Tania Leiman
Dean of Law, Flinders University

The pandemic has taught us how to work and study virtually. Successful lawyers now are expected to be expert at working seamlessly in in-person, hybrid or online teams, workspaces, with clients or 'in' courts. Becoming highly proficient in this new environment will reap rewards in interactions with colleagues, clients and other professionals.

Data, algorithmic decision-making and machine learning are all growing exponentially - making legal services more available, more accessible, and potentially more affordable! But these tools can also adversely impact the most vulnerable in our community. Lawyers who don't understand how these new forms of analysis, prediction and decision-making work won't be able to effectively represent their client's interest. Flinders Law students are ahead of the curve in gaining skills in LLAW3301 Law in a Digital Age and from 2024 in LLAW3337 The Digital Lawyer. Already we're seeing what an advantage this is giving Flinders law students and graduates in obtaining employment.

So to sum up – take every opportunity to build the skills I have mentioned above –the legal sector (and professional services delivery more broadly) is changing rapidly as our lives, workplaces and businesses are impacted by technology, so make sure you build the experience and competencies that will help you stand out. And above all remember that at its essence, law is about how human interact with each other – and so problem solving, ethical behaviour, creativity, trust and compassion will take you a long way – whatever path you ultimately choose.

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Chapter One

Your Degree

Studying at Flinders

Bachelor of Laws – Legal Practice Entry

The Bachelor of Laws – Legal Practice Entry (BLLAW) is the primary, on campus, undergraduate degree that Flinders offers in Law. If you started prior to 2023, then this degree is titled the Bachelor of Laws and Legal Practice (LLB/LP).

The Legal Practice Entry aspect of the degree means that students who successfully complete all 121.5 units of study are eligible to undertake their Practical Legal Training (PLT) with Leo Cussen, who are partnered with Flinders University. The units required to complete the law degree are broken down as follows:

- 90 units of core topics
- 31.5 units of optional topics

Students who fulfill the above requirements are then eligible to complete their PLT. Once PLT has been completed, graduates will meet the requirements to apply to the Supreme Court of South Australia for admission as a barrister and solicitor in South Australia.

The Dean of Law, Tania Leiman, posts regularly on the Law Community FLO site, where you can find job opportunities and communication about events and other general information recent activities with the Law degree.

Core Topics

All law students undertaking a Bachelor of Laws in Australia must complete the core 11 topics which are:

- Ethics
- Criminal Law
- Torts
- Contracts
- Equity and Trusts
- Property (Real and Personal)
- Corporate Law
- Administrative Law
- Constitutional Law
- Civil procedure
- Evidence

Diploma of Laws (DipLaws)

Similar to the Bachelor of Laws, Flinders offers the Diploma of Laws, which is a one-year course. At the end of the diploma, students may either transfer into the Bachelor of Laws, or exit with the Diploma of Laws award. Students who exit with a Diploma will not meet the prerequisite requirements for being admitted as a legal practitioner or to undertake a Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice.

This is available in-person, at both Bedford Park and Festival Plaza.

Juris Doctor (JD)

The Juris Doctor program is a post-graduate law degree that Flinders offers in a fully online delivery mode. It is for students that have already attained undergraduate degrees (in another discipline) and the degree attracts students from all around Australia.

As the JD program is fully online, the method of communication about all opportunities is the 'JD Connect' site on FLO. This is similar to the Law Community web page but is exclusively for JD students. Simone Daniells curates all of the material on the JD Connect site.

Full-Time or Part-Time Study

Students who undertake 3 topics or more, which is the equivalent of 13.5 units in a single semester are classified as full-time. Part-time students are those enrolled in 2 topics (9 units) or less.

Students who wish to have more than four topics (a semester must seek special approval to overload.)

If students decide to change their study load, contacting Ask Flinders is a good way to ensure you have the most efficient degree plan.

Combined Degrees

Also known as double degrees, the Bachelor of Laws can be undertaken concurrently with another degree offered at Flinders University. You can apply through the student system to add a second degree onto your law degree after you have begun studying. You can also change the degree part way through too. Double degrees broaden your perspective and career options and employability.

Double degrees offered with Law:

- Psychological Science (Psychology)
- Accounting (Available at the City Campus)
- Arts
- Business (Available at the City Campus)
- Criminology (Available at the City Campus)
- Information Technology (Available at the City Campus)
- International Relations and Political Science (Available at the City Campus)
- Science

Bachelor of Letters is also available to add onto your degree. It will add an extra year to your studies. You can study creative writing, history, mathematics, and teaching English as a second language. If you are eligible for graduate entry, you can then study Archaeology or Health.

Flinders Connect

If you have a question or encounter an issue during your studies, you can contact Flinders Connect by phone, by visiting in-person, or through AskFlinders online request. Flinders Connect provides support in a variety of areas, and when you ask for assistance, they will automatically refer you to the appropriate person to help. Areas that they help with include enrollment, cross-institutional study, applying for credit for completed topics, finance, exams, graduation, and study plans.

Opening Hours:

Monday: 9am to 5pm

Tuesday: 9am to 5pm

Wednesday: 9.30am to 5pm

Thursday: 9am to 5pm

Friday: 9am to 5pm

Call:

1300 354 633 (Option 2)

More Can Be Found At:

<https://students.flinders.edu.au/support/flinders-connect>

Honours

The Bachelor of Laws and Legal Practice (Honours) and the Bachelor of Laws (Honours) - Legal Practice Entry programs are designed to enhance and refine students' abilities to research, write academically, and to critically think through writing a thesis.

The thesis is written over the course of a year, typically near or at the end of the degree, but before Practical Legal Training commences. Students can begin their Honours thesis in either semester one or semester two.

Results

The due date for an Honours thesis is at the end of week 14 of the second semester in which you undertake your thesis. There are four categories of grades for a thesis as follows:

- Honours 1 – 85-100%
- Honours 2A – 75-84%
- Honours 2B – 65-74%
- Honours 3 – 50-64%

Thesis Proposal

In the semester before you are due to start your Honours, students should start to think seriously about the topic they would like to undertake their thesis on. The only limitations of topics that you can complete your thesis on is if you can secure a supervisor that will oversee that topic.

Before you begin your thesis, you will need to complete a proposal. This is a document which requires you to outline and begin preliminary research on the area in which you wish to undertake your thesis on. Proposals are typically due on the Monday, two weeks before the semester in which you plan to start your thesis, but it is heavily suggested by Honours students and staff to start work on this early!

Dr Rowan Nicholson, Honours Coordinator



Why should I do Honours? / What is the benefit of doing Honours?

You get to do an Honours thesis: a lengthy project that you research and write in the course of two semesters on virtually any legal issue of your own choice. You could focus on something you're passionate about and might not otherwise get the chance to explore. Or you could use the thesis as a way to specialise in a particular area of law in which you hope to practise.

You also develop advanced legal and critical thinking skills and receive a Bachelor of Laws (Honours): an instant signal to any future employer that you are a bright student. That might give you access to opportunities such as an associateship at an appeal court, a highly competitive position in a top national firm, or a scholarship for postgraduate study in law.

How am I able to get into the Honours stream?

If you aren't already in the Honours program, you may be able to transfer in. To be guaranteed a place, you must have completed at least 72 Law units and must have a GPA of at least 5.7 for those units. We may also authorise you to transfer in certain other circumstances, and we're generally willing to do that if you are on an 'upward trajectory', which means you have a GPA of at least 5.5 for Law overall and a GPA of at least 5.7 for your most recent 36 graded Law units.

How do I find a supervisor?

Each Honours student has a supervisor with expertise on the subject of their thesis, usually a member of the Flinders Law staff. You need to secure one in the semester before you plan to begin your thesis. One way to do that is to approach a potential supervisor directly; another is to speak to the Law Honours co-ordinator about who is available and has the most expertise.

What does a supervisor do? To what extent do they help?

This is a different kind of working relationship than you have at any other time during your degree. You meet with your supervisor frequently to discuss your project. They do not of course actually write your thesis for you! It is your own work. But they help you to develop the skills you need, they review drafts of your work, and they give you detailed feedback and advice.

What kind of topics can I do my Honours on?

The only limitation is that you need a supervisor who is willing and able to help with your project, and we can almost always figure that out. You are free to explore either an area of law that you especially enjoyed studying or perhaps something that you would

not otherwise have a chance to study because it is too specific or niche. A few recent examples of thesis subjects are privacy law, piracy, artificial intelligence, neurodiversity, native title, freedom of information, wearable medical devices, corporate social responsibility, outer space, covid, and social media influencers.

How do I find a suitable topic and when should I start looking?

Be on the lookout for ideas throughout your studies and when you read the news. You don't necessarily need to have a fully formed idea when you approach a potential supervisor. You could go to them with a broad area of interest, which they might then help you to narrow down.

What are the requirements of honours?

The thesis has a word limit of either 13,000 or 15,000 words, depending on the date you join the Honours program. The number of units also varies. To do well, you need to devote time and energy to the project, but since it is a project of your own choice you are always highly motivated and interested. As well as doing the thesis, you participate in seminars that prepare you to research and write it, and you may also do extra option topics at Honours or postgraduate level.

What are your top tips for Honours students?

One challenge for Honours students is the delayed gratification: till the moment you finalise and submit your thesis, it will always be imperfect and incomplete. But have confidence in yourself! If you have made it into this program, you are a bright student who is capable of producing a strong thesis. In particular, start writing as soon as you can, even if your first draft is messy and inchoate. It is easier to improve something messy and inchoate than to improve a blank page.

Internships & Exchanges

SA Parliamentary Internship

I partook in the SA Parliamentary Internship in 2023, under The Hon. John Fullbrook (MP). The experience itself provided innumerable benefits for my study and future career pursuits. More than anything else, the internship scheme's primary strength is that it takes the theoretical study that a student had been doing for a few years and gives that student an opportunity to see those theories of policymaking (among others) put into action and how to become an active participant, something that not only strengthens the understanding of the academic work but also providing valuable skills for future employment. In short, I would highly recommend the SA Parliamentary Internship for any student who not only seeks to gain valuable skills but also to enhance their enjoyment and understanding of their studies in politics.

-Jordan Faulkner, Bachelor of International Relations (Honours)

The South Australia parliamentary internship is a long running program facilitated by University of South Australia, University of Adelaide and Flinders University. As an elective, it is available through the law degree at flinders, but to those in international relations, or political science majors. The internship assessment work is a proposal piece for the project, an 8000 word-research piece and a presentation on findings in parliament house.

I personally really enjoyed having classes in parliament house, it gave me a real incentive to come to class each week. My experience with the elective came about via a recommendation from one of my political science lecturers, who mentioned the program was worthwhile. The program involved some paperwork prior to commencing but don't be put off! It's valuable to be able to highlight your areas of interest and

potentially with which political party you might better align. I was placed with council representative, the honourable Tammy Franks to work on a project based on climate change and home insurance affordability in Adelaide. I coordinated with the office to find a project that aligned with my interests and what was going to be helpful for the members.

Some MPs were more hands on than others, so either you learnt to be an independent researcher, or you worked closely with a team, both of which are worthwhile. The classes at parliament house were mostly on parliamentary process and policy with the project being self-directed for the most part. We had a bunch of guest speakers from Hansard to MPs which was fantastic. I made some lovely friends throughout the program and had a lot of fun walking into parliament house as a regular for 12 weeks. The project was super complimentary to other work I was doing that semester and I really found it valuable, especially because it was a double credit class.

I would highly recommend the internship to anyone who wants to learn a bit more about the practical process of policy development, or even just where the laws that our profession deals with begin. Apply for the program and if you aren't already a political science nerd, you soon will be!

-Grainne O'Connell, Bachelor of Laws and Legal Practice, Bachelor of Arts (majoring in Politics)

Internships & Exchanges

Washington Internship Program

The Washington Internship Program (WIP) runs for 8 weeks (January-February), with an alternative 17 week program – combining the Washington Internship Program with a Capital Semester Program (WIPCASP) also available (January-May). Students work full-time in the office of a member of the U.S. Senate or the U.S. House of Representatives. WIPCASP students also study at George Mason University to complete 2 topics. Students are required to produce a major research paper and a formal oral presentation at the end of the program.

Applications can be made through InPlace by following the link below:

<https://www.flinders.edu.au/college-business-government-law/washington-internship-program>

Vienna Space Internship Program

Spend up to 8 weeks in the city of Vienna where you'll discover how law and policy can impact human activity in space, with an opportunity to sit in on meetings at the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs. The Vienna Space Internship Program is an exciting opportunity through the Jeff Bleich Centre available to students in any undergraduate course, who have completed the elective space topic Outer Space Governance: Business, Policy, Law and Crime. Your internship will take place at the European Space Policy Institute (ESPI) headquarters in Vienna, where you will explore space law and policy issues.

Learn more about the program by following the link below:

<https://www.flinders.edu.au/jeff-bleich-centre/vienna-space-internship-program>

Practical Legal Training & Admission

What is Practical Legal Training?

Flinders Law works in conjunction with Leo Cussen-Centre for Law to provide students with a seamless transition from the Flinders Law degree, into the Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice offered by Leo Cussen. Successful completion of either the Bachelor of Laws – Legal Practice Entry degree or the Bachelor of Laws and Legal Practice degree enables students to transition into their Practical Legal Training at Leo Cussen.

Practical Legal Training, through a Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice, combines the legal theories and skills learned during your studies and transitions these into practical skills necessary for a career in legal practice. Leo Cussen and the Flinders Law degrees pair well together due to their focus on where the profession is headed in the future. Both the degrees and GDLP enable students to be prepared for changes in thinking (such as in innovation), and in technology.

Where you can undertake PLT

- Leo Cussen Centre for Law
- The Law Society of South Australia partnered with The University of Adelaide
- College of Law
- **Australian College of Applied Professions with the Law Institute of Victoria
- **Australian National University
- **Bond University
- **University of New South Wales
- **University of Newcastle
- **Queensland University of Technology

** Please note that if students complete their GDLP interstate, you will need to apply for admission interstate. Once admitted interstate, you can apply to

the SA Board of Examiners for Mutual Recognition of your interstate admission. The Law Society of South Australia has more information available about this process on their website.

Admission Requirements

To be eligible to practice as a solicitor or barrister in South Australia, students must complete their PLT. Upon completion, you are able to apply to the Supreme Court of South Australia to be a legal practitioner on the basis you have fulfilled the following rules as set out by Legal Practitioners Education and Admission Council (LPEAC):

- 1. A Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Laws and Legal Practice, or a Juris Doctor Degree; and**
- 2. A graduate Diploma of Legal Practice (GDLP) including workplace experience; and**
- 3. Must satisfy The Board of Examiners that you are a 'fit and proper person'.**

Graduating Flinders with a degree of the Bachelor of Laws and Legal Practice, Bachelor of Laws – Legal Practice Entry, or Juris Doctor, with or without any Honours component will fulfill your ability to undertake GDLP. Once undertaken the GDLP, you will have fulfilled the academic requirements for admission.

To prove to the Board of Examiners you are a fit and proper person, you must make a 'full and frank' disclosure under the LPEAC rules of any matter that may impact your character. You must disclose any criminal charges you have faced, if you have been bankrupt, if you have faced disciplinary action in any profession, or if you have been found to have engaged in academic misconduct (such as breaching academic integrity).

Application Process

To apply to become a legal practitioner, there are a number of steps to take:

1. Prepare and lodge an originating application for admission using the forms from the Law Society of South Australia in accordance with Part 7 of the Uniform Civil Rules 2020 (SA). This includes:
 - a. An affidavit or statutory declaration in support of your application;
 - b. An official Academic Transcript stating completion of the academic requirements;
 - c. A colour copy of identification in the form of either a Driver's License, birth certificate or a passport;
2. The Board of Examiners will review your application. There are strict cut off dates for when this will happen;
3. Once the decision has been made, the Board and the Supreme Court will notify you of the hearing, which you need to attend in person;
4. If the Court orders that an applicant is admitted, you will then take an oath or affirmation, and then sign the Roll of Practitioners.
5. At the hearing you will need to have your application 'moved' by a legal practitioner;
6. You are now eligible to apply for a restricted practising certificate from the Law Society.

Restricted Practising Certificates

To practice as a legal practitioner, you must have a practising certificate issued under the *Legal Practitioners Act 1982 (SA)*. Your first practising certificate will be restricted, as you will be subject to a two-year period of supervised practice. Supervised practice is by an unrestricted legal practitioner. You can apply for your practising certificate through the Law Society of South Australia.

A Comment About Academic Integrity and Artificial Intelligence

With the rise of artificial intelligence (AI) and the development of generative text, it has become increasingly easy to generate content, including university work. Many assessment pieces will set out the parameters of AI use in an assignment, which for law, there are typically no acceptable uses. Breaching this can lead to Academic Integrity. There are various issues with AI, including a lack of legal analysis or interpretation, difficulty with statutory interpretation, and often incorrect or wrong case law and legislation used. Whilst generative AI may be used for non-university purposes, it is highly recommended to avoid for your studies, as at the very worst it could limit your ability to become a legal practitioner.



Jalubro.

Your Strategic Partner in Legal Technology in Australia & New Zealand

Established in 2015, Jalubro is a specialist legal transformation services and solutions provider comprised of legal industry veterans, lawyers, technologists and legal transformation experts recognised for their ability to identify, design and deliver practical solutions that solve the day-to-day operational challenges faced by today's legal teams.

Leveraging our decades of experience working with legal technology, we help law firms and legal departments across Australia and New Zealand:

- Identify technology requirements
- Purchase technology that aligns with organisational goals
- Implement unique solutions
- Get support long after successfully adopting technology

No matter where you are on your digital journey, Jalubro is your strategic partner to a digital legal workplace.

80+

We serve more than **80 leading brands** including FTSE 100 and Fortune 500 companies.

1000+

We support 1000+ **law firms** ranging from **Magic Circle** and **International** to **Boutique** firms.

100+

Across more than **100 countries** around the world.

250+

With a team who's combined legal industry **experience** is greater than **250 years**.

A Future Focused Law Degree

Legal technology has transformed how lawyers practice. The COVID-19 pandemic forced the courtroom system and many law firms to move from paper based to virtual submissions. Automated discovery of documents in litigation using artificial intelligence tools has also become increasingly commonplace. Likewise, the emergence of generative artificial intelligence (AI) will impact everything that lawyers do, from preparing documents to conducting research.

Therefore, the next generation of lawyers must be familiar with and understand how legal technology works. A law degree at Flinders University will provide you with this essential understanding of legal technology by exposing you to real world legal technology tools.

There are several reasons learning these technology skills will be of benefit to you as legal practitioners. First, we do not expect you and your classmates to become software engineers and by learning how to code. However, being more familiar with technology is incredibly helpful if you are intending to work in a technically focused role, such as intellectual property, media, or health law. In addition, being more familiar with technology can help provide you with a different perspective on the logic underpinning legal rulemaking.

Second, understanding how technology works will make you more efficient as a lawyer. A surprisingly large amount of your time in legal practice will be spent constructing documents from templates. If you can use legal technology to perform these tasks more efficiently, you will have more time to spend on your other work. You will also have a clear advantage compared to other lawyers who lack these skills.

Third, technology is a powerful tool that you can use to improve access to justice. Research and government inquiries have shown that there are significant gaps in the availability of access to justice. Whilst technology is not a panacea for these gaps, it can be helpful to provide legal information to a wider range of people. In a world where legal information (and misinformation) has never been more widely available, being able to combine legal and technology skills is essential.

Law and Technology

Nicole Catabran
Principal Consultant, AUS & NZ at
Jalubro



Can you tell us a little about your career path since graduating?

I actually started my professional career while in my penultimate year. I had just finished the Law in a Digital Age topic and saw a job opening posted by Tania Leiman for a legal technology role. So I started as an analyst at PwC NewLaw where I worked on a casual/contractor basis until my final year, where I transitioned into a full-time role as an associate and relocating to Brisbane. After about a year and a half, I transferred to a broader digital transformation role in the PwC Connected Digital Enterprise team where I was able to work with Australia's top banks, telco companies and mining giants. Now, I am Principal Consultant for a UK-based company who has recently entered the ANZ market which specialises in legal technology, consulting and implementation, for corporate law departments and law firms.

What does a typical day as a legal technology consultant look like?

A typical day for me consists of working on various projects where I facilitate the implementation of legal SaaS products like Thomson Reuters' HighQ and Legal Tracker. This also involves a lot of project management, collaborating with clients, partners and internal team members and a lot of problem solving. From time to time, I also assist in pre-sales, delivering training on the platforms and change management. Because I am the only team member in this region, I also make sure to have regular 1:1s with my counterparts and colleagues in other regions to share project progress, lessons learned and to generally connect.

How has your Flinders law degree helped in building your expertise as a legal technology consultant?

My law degree has been invaluable in developing and honing my communication skills, which is one of the most important skills working in consulting. I need to be able to articulate comprehensive and often technical solutions to complex and unique problems within the legal industry in simple layman terms to lawyers.

Additionally, having knowledge about how lawyers think and work means I can tailor the way I speak and write; for example, instead of long chunks of text in an email, I separate everything into headings, use visuals like tables and diagrams to explain processes, etc.

Finally, having clerked at a number of places, such as the Flinders Legal Centre, has allowed me to understand the nuances of legal practice and how it can benefit a lot from technology and process optimisation and ensure that lawyers are focusing on high-value work instead of repetitive administrative tasks.

When law students see that they will have to complete The Digital Lawyer (previously Law in a Digital Age), they may not understand why this is included within a law degree. How important do you think it is for law students to undertake coding and similar courses within their degree?

I was one of the first few cohorts that undertook this topic as a mandatory topic, and I welcomed it as it was a completely new area that I would be able to learn since I chose a law degree. However, I know this sentiment wasn't shared with most of my peers and it's understandable, but it really is a necessary area to dive into before entering the workforce, especially now in the era of AI.

Technical skills in lawyers are a highly sought after set of skills as law firms and legal departments strive to invest more in building their own customised legal apps and in maintaining their legal tech stack. These skills will make you much more employable!

These courses, in conjunction with the traditional law topics, will also allow law students to reflect on how they use technology and how it will affect their clients and future of the legal profession.

Working with technology, especially coding, demands a lot of critical thinking and problem-solving skills that will only benefit you in legal practice. Coding builds a lot of resilience because you'll spend a lot of time trying to figure out why your code doesn't work which forces you to constantly think outside of the box.

Finally, while most students will probably not end up doing any coding in their future jobs, it's still important to have a foundational understanding of how technology works, especially where more and more AI and automation software is being adopted in every workplace, so ensure you are appraising every tool through a critical lens.

It's really important to remember that technology is never going to replace lawyers, but lawyers who don't use technology will be replaced by those who do.

What have been the challenging aspects of your career?

The world of legal technology is still an up and coming area within the legal industry, especially when compared to other countries like the US, and this has meant that it's still not widely understood and accepted by a lot of legal workplaces. So, it can be challenging trying to help lawyers understand the value of allowing technology to assist them. It's also very challenging navigating the change management piece after implementing a new technology, because it means new, but better, ways of working, which is often very difficult to adopt.

- **Practice your speaking skills whenever you can:** speak up more at tutorials, prepare well for oral presentations (be creative with visuals e.g. slide decks) and/or volunteer at competitions.
- **Don't pull all-nighters:** if you're up late stressing about a paper you have to submit, don't force yourself to stay up because you're probably not going to write your best work in that state anyway. Get some sleep and wake up feeling refreshed.
- **Embrace technology:** don't be afraid to try productivity apps that will help you better manage your study load, especially when you're balancing it with a full-time or part-time job, family, friends, personal and professional growth, mental and physical wellbeing and hobbies.
- **Build up your LinkedIn:** I cannot stress this enough! I never rely on traditional job seeking sites anymore because with an active LinkedIn profile that accurately demonstrates my skills and experience, I'm able to be sought out by recruiters and employers. Not to mention being able to connect with like-minded peers and building my professional network!

Careers & Employability Services

Barbara Doherty
Career Development Consultant



Cover Letter: Essentially 3 paragraphs, including WHO and WHY introduction to you and the fit, WHAT your skills include and can assist with: using the STAR method. 3rd paragraph includes what you know about the hiring organisation and how your values match, aim for 1 page.

Should extra curriculum and non-field related work be included in resumes or cover letters?

Yes please! This may include volunteering, casual work, past employment, relevant interests, certifications. Link these inclusions to the transferable skills that you will bring to the job.

What are the 3 key things to look for in a job advertisement? And where to put them in the resume. Time frames, does it fit your purpose?, research the employer. Tailor your resume for each job, keep a copy in your file.

What are your tips to make your resume standout and any other top tips?

- Avoid boxes and tables, use no more than 5 bullet points, clean layout with a 10 or 11 font Arial or Calibri.
- Connect with all target employers through LinkedIn. Build connections in the hidden job market and attend events to connect.
- Always ring the recruiter in the job listing.
- Always think of a question to ask them - it shows that individuals of proactive.

Why is preparing the correct resume and cover letter important for job success?

Your resume is your primary marketing tool. Your cover letter gives you a chance to highlight and qualify a few experiences or skills describing your “fit” for the position. Think of when you are researching the purchase of a new product or item. You review features, benefits, and performance. This is the purpose of your resume. It sells you (the product) and the benefits you can offer.

What do employers look for in Resumes and Cover letters?

Resume: 1-3 pages only, lots of white space, first page real estate includes your career profile, educational summary and experience relevant to the position.

Name and contact information	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Name & contact details included, LinkedIn if applicable, professional email address Do not include information on age, height, weight, marital status, health, religion 	<input type="checkbox"/>
Career objective/profile/statement (optional)	
Introduces you to the reader, by summarising your 'story' in 5-6 lines maximum (this is the only paragraph in the document). Offers specifics about your background and your experience and what you have to offer. Avoid general statements that any student could make.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Professional memberships	
Dates, name of association and membership type included	<input type="checkbox"/>
Education	
List in reverse chronological order: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dates, title of degree/certificate, educational / training provider. Key subjects, major projects, specific skills - use bulletpoints. Awards and achievements. 	<input type="checkbox"/>
Placements/Experience/Employment/Relevant Volunteering	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Headings and sub headings ensure the most relevant experiences are listed first. Dates (month - year), position titles, and organisation details. Key responsibilities and achievements are described, highlighting your value and impact. No more than 5-7 bullet points per role. 	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community/awards/extra-curricular	
Name of club/community/sporting/cultural association and dates active. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The level of involvement/activity with each interest clearly explained. 	<input type="checkbox"/>
Interests	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This sections represents you as a well-rounded person. 	<input type="checkbox"/>
Referees (not References)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highly relevant referees included with phone, email, relationship, titles, organisation details. List 2-3 people. 	<input type="checkbox"/>
Format	
Use the following: Narrow margins & page numbers, Modern font, 11pt size minimum, correct spelling and grammar and avoid underline / shading.	<input type="checkbox"/>

Example Resume Template

Firstname Surname

My Suburb, SA 5999
0400 123 456
myemail@gmail.com
<http://au.linkedin.com/firstname-surname>

CAREER STATEMENT

A brief, positive statement (2-3 sentences) allowing the reader to gain a quick idea of your suitability for the job. Summarise your studies, aspirations, experience (paid and unpaid), placements and any key skills or strengths from your experiences that best align with what the employer is asking for. Avoid generic statements. Make sure your statements are supported by evidence in the rest of your resume. Make this personal and unique for each application.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Month Year, Name of Association

EDUCATION

Month Year – Month Year

Full and Proper Title of Degree, Full and proper name of institution

- List any notable awards, achievements here
- GPA XX/7

SECTOR EXPERIENCE

Month Year – Month Year

Formal Position Title, Organisation Name, Location

Consider a brief contextual sentence describing the organisation – what it does, its size, and your broad role.

- Articulate your experience and any major achievements using situation, action, result – start with an action verb, supported by numerics, specific task/duty and the outcome
- List achievements/experience in the past tense; eg maintained a database
- Keep bullet points to 5-7; provide more detail for the experience that is most relevant to the sector

Month Year – Month Year

Formal Position Title, Organisation Name, Location

Consider a brief contextual sentence describing the organisation – what it does, its size, and your broad role.

- Articulate your experience and any major achievements using situation, action, result – start with an action verb, supported by numerics, specific task/duty and the outcome
- List achievements/experience in the past tense; eg maintained a database
- Keep bullet points to 5-7; provide more detail for the experience that is most relevant to the sector

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Month Year – Month Year

Formal Position Title, Organisation Name, Location

Consider a brief contextual sentence describing the organisation – what it does, its size, and your broad role.

- Articulate your experience and any major achievements using situation, action, result – start with an action verb, supported by numerics, specific task/duty and the outcome
- List achievements/experience in the past tense; eg maintained a database
- Keep bullet points to 5-7; provide more detail for the experience that is most relevant to the sector

Month Year – Month Year

Formal Position Title, Organisation Name, Location

Consider a brief contextual sentence describing the organisation – what it does, its size, and your broad role.

- Articulate your experience and any major achievements using situation, action, result – start with an action verb, supported by numerics, specific task/duty and the outcome
- List achievements/experience in the past tense; eg maintained a database
- Keep bullet points to 5-7; provide more detail for the experience that is most relevant to the sector

CERTIFICATES, CLEARANCES AND AWARDS

INTERESTS

REFEREES

Title

Firstname Surname

Their Position Title, Organisation

0402 000 001

their.email@email.com.au

Relationship: XXXXXXX

Final checklist

Ensure:

- ☐ 2-4 pages in length
- ☐ Narrow margins
- ☐ Consistent paragraph spacing
- ☐ Consistent and logically formatted headings and sub-headings
- ☐ Use **one modern font** (eg Calibri, Segoe, Arial) throughout
- ☐ Body text font size **minimum 11pt**
- ☐ Consistently aligned and formatted bullet points
- ☐ Avoid underline and black shading
- ☐ Correct spelling and grammar
- ☐ Acronyms, if used, will be understood by audience
- ☐ No tables and lines or fussy formatting additions
- ☐ Any use of capitals limited to major headings
- ☐ No photo
- ☐ Content is consistent with 8 principles for writing a killer resume

There are different ways to format a resume. The principle is to maintain a clean look and feel.

Your resume represents you as a professional.

Need help? Check out our online resource **How to create a killer resume**

<https://careerhub.flinders.edu.au/students/infoPages/detail/307>

Example Cover Letter Template

Firstname Surname
Suburb SA 0000
Mobile: 1234 567 890
Email: mflinders@gmail.com
LinkedIn address
10 Month 20XX

Ms/Mr Surname
Position Title
Organisation
Address
Suburb SA 5000

Dear Mr/Ms Surname,
Re: Position Title

Opening statement. Outline why you are writing. For most cover letters this will include what you are applying for and what you are studying. Usually 1 paragraph.

Why you? Outline your relevant skills, qualifications, and experience appropriate to the position. Make sure you read the advertisement/position description thoroughly. 1-2 paragraphs.

Why them? Build the connection. Why are you interested in this organisation? Make links between your skills and the skills that the employer is requesting. Show the employer that you have researched the company/workplace by highlighting some information about it. Express why you wish to work for the employer and why you would be a valuable contributor. Avoid being generic. This is the part of your application that can really make a difference/connection. Usually 1 paragraph.

Final paragraph. Positive close reinforcing your interest in the role. Reference any attachments (if appropriate). Usually 1 brief paragraph.

Yours sincerely,

(Leave room for your signature)

Matt Flinders



USEP is here for students and graduates with disabilities

Are you a student with a disability or medical condition? Need a little extra support navigating jobs as you study and with career planning once you graduate?

Studying at university when you have a medical condition which impacts your life can be overwhelming enough. Tackling the graduate world and career planning can be an additional stress – but you don't have to do it alone!

Sascha Lemon-Spence and Shona Edwards are two advisors on-campus with the University Specialist Employment Partnership (USEP) here at Flinders University, based with the Careers team.

USEP is a one-to-one service providing specialist career support to students with disabilities, chronic illnesses, mental health conditions or who are neurodiverse. You can engage with USEP at any point in your study and in any degree, and in the year after you graduate.

There is no requirement to provide medical documentation to receive this service. If you feel like you would benefit from a little extra support, then USEP is here for you.



We hold confidential, personalised consultations where we can help with:

- o Resume, cover letter, and interview preparation.
- o Support with job searching and networking.
- o Your workplace rights.
- o Industry information, graduate programs and more.
- o When, where, and how to disclose your condition(s).
- o Accessing the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and linking to a Disability Employment Service (DES) provider.
- o Connecting you to other support services, within the university and beyond.

Our Promise:

As USEP advisors, we promise to treat you with respect and care, and our service is always informed by the value of your lived experience. We understand that you are juggling many demands, and our goal is to empower you to confidently navigate employment and the world beyond university. To do so we discuss practical strategies and building a network of support around you.

Get in touch today:

USEP works across all campuses, and regularly based on Level 2 of the Central Library at Bedford Campus, in the Commons on Mondays and Tuesdays. Let us know which location suits you! Appointments can take place in person, via Microsoft Teams, or via phone, simply let us know what works best for you.

Book your one-to-one consult today via Career Hub.

Website: careerhub.flinders.edu.au/s/usep

Email: USEP@cbsinc.org.au

Phone: 0448 000 897

First Year Clinic Placement

Student Experiences

In my first year of studies, I had the opportunity to attend the Flinders Legal Centre. Despite my initial uncertainty due to being new to the field of law, the experience turned out to be highly rewarding and educational. Upon entering, I was immediately put at ease as I recognized familiar faces from Flinders.

The staff were incredibly accommodating, taking the time to guide me through their daily schedule and inviting me to join their morning meeting. This meeting was a breath of fresh air, as it showcased a collaborative and supportive environment, contrary to the stressful and strict perception I had of a legal clinic. Moreover, I had the chance to participate in a client interview and diligently note the client's concerns. This invaluable experience marked my first real-world exposure to the legal profession and cemented my decision to pursue a career in law.

Witnessing the relief that washed over clients when they were heard and assured of the possibility of legal recourse highlighted the profound impact and significance of a lawyer's role in such situations. Upon completing the client interview, I was tasked with transcribing it into the required legal format. Initially, I was unsure about the process, but I received a helpful guide and support was available when needed. The most enjoyable aspect of this experience was the social setting.

During lunchtime, I was warmly welcomed to join other students in the cafeteria, where we were served delicious food. The environment felt familiar, like gathering with friends. Overall, I strongly urge first-year students to undertake this experience. It provided me with real-life legal exposure and invaluable lessons not typically taught at university.

This experience debunked many of my negative preconceptions about law and fuelled my determination to complete this degree and pursue a career in the field.

-Shakira Tremaine, a Bachelor of Laws and Legal Practice student who underwent a day at the Flinders Legal Centre in 2023.

Attending the Flinders Legal Centre during my first semester of law school was incredibly rewarding. Spending a day with students who are at the end of their degree and discussing their journeys was enlightening, as they offered genuine advice and emphasized the importance of friendships and seeking help. Observing a client interview was a particular highlight, allowing me to witness the raw emotions and challenges faced by real clients and underscoring the crucial role of lawyers and the skills required for client interactions.

This experience reaffirmed my passion for law and that I had made the right choice in choosing this degree. The positive and welcoming environment, especially the interactions with volunteering students, made me eager to continue my journey. The practical tips I received from them, such as how to write a letter of advice, were very helpful in the next assignment I had, and gave me reassurance that it will get easier.

Hearing about the students' experiences with balancing jobs, both within and outside the legal field, alleviated my worries and provided a broader perspective on the realities of a law degree. Ultimately, this experience taught me to embrace learning and mistakes, stress less, and appreciate the significance of law in the real world.

-Milla Swain, a Bachelor of Laws – Legal Practice Entry student who underwent a day at the Flinders Legal Centre in 2024.

Career Development & Experience

One of the most common pieces of advice from employers is that graduates, in setting themselves apart from other graduates, beyond good grades is to participate in extra-curricular activities. By engaging in opportunities, volunteering, competitions, community groups, and clerkships to name a few, students showcase that they are well-rounded individuals as they balance extra-curriculars with study. Time management, organisational skills, and consideration for your wellbeing are attractive qualities for an employer.

All of these opportunities are a fantastic way to get to know your peers, to make quality friends, and to become involved.

The following is divided into:

- Volunteering
- Clerkships
- Work experience
- Competitions



Casual & Part-Time Study

Many students with the cost of living already have a part time or casual position, and having a position whilst you study can demonstrate time management, customer service skills, and the ability to work within a team which can set you up for your career. There are a number of positions available within the legal profession for students to apply for whilst they study.

- Administrative Roles
- Research Assistant
- Jobs at University

Jobs at University

There are a variety of roles available within the University, particularly casual professional roles. Some of these roles can include student ambassador work.

Many roles are often available but common positions include:

- **Student Ambassador**
- **Flinders Connect**
- **Working at Open Days**
- **Tutor at the Yungkurrinthe Tutorial Program**

Where are these advertised?

Many of these roles are advertised either on CareerHub, including from external firms and university roles themselves, or when there are specific intakes each year, such as in July through the Uniform Clerkship Scheme. Building your digital resume and connections on LinkedIn can also be a very informative way to find job postings too.

Volunteering

Becoming A Mentor

The College of Business, Government and Law's Peer Mentoring program is an opportunity for second year and above students to become a mentor to guide a group of students through their first semester of university. Mentoring is available for each discipline, and mentors are only paired with students who are in the same degree. Distinct from tutoring, mentoring is a guiding role where you can provide information on where to seek help, on wellbeing, how to get the most out of readings, exams and more. So, you don't need to worry about providing academic help as that is not your role! This opportunity is available at both Bedford Park and Festival Plaza.

There are many benefits to becoming a mentor, but I particularly enjoy meeting and getting to know my peers. It's also good to give back to the Law community and help first semester students; we all know how stressful it is and being able to provide tips and tricks to students, and to see them flourish as the semester goes on is really fulfilling. It also reminds myself to keep on top of my wellbeing too.

- Alex Lawson, Peer Mentor

If you want to get involved...

...typically at the end of the year, Dr Samantha Kontra, will call for mentoring applications for the following year.

Student Representation

FUSA is building a student voice across the University, partially through the role of student representatives. Student representatives engage with the University, to ensure that students have a meaningful say in the decisions that affect them.

There are a variety of ways in which you can be involved as a student representative including:

- **Become involved in College or University committees such as the College Education Committee;**
- **Become involved with opportunities including course reviews, teaching award committees, or other focus groups including students as partners, student wellbeing, and digital learning.**

If you want to know more, head to the FUSA website here: <https://fusa.edu.au/sro/>

OR contact the Student Representation team at FUSA at srdo@flinders.edu.au

Community Legal Clinics

- Flinders Legal Clinic
- Women's Legal Centre
- Community Justice Services SA

Student Associations

Student Associations are a great way to meet your cohort and industry connections, create events for students, and participate in events, which are either social or focused on career development.

- Brydee Adams, Flinders Law Students' Association



FLINDERS LAW STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION



www.flsa.org.au



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[@flinderslsa](https://www.instagram.com/flinderslsa)



[/company/FlindersLSA](https://www.linkedin.com/company/FlindersLSA)



admin@flsa.org.au

Clerkships

Clerkships are a great path for studying lawyers to get a foot in the door, and practise the skills that will be relevant to you once you graduate! While usually, third and fourth year students are most commonly accepted for a clerkship, there's nothing stopping ambitious first years from looking for a clerkship either! Often, clerkships take place over a temporary period; a firm might be offering an eight week, part time position, or it may be 4 weeks, full time, depending on the firm.

Generally, clerkships are paid opportunities, and will have the student performing various tasks around the office, ranging from legal administrative work, such as updating case files, performing legal research, drafting letters, or ghosting a lawyer to Court appearances to take notes. All of these experiences are incredibly relevant, because they're directly related to the kinds of tasks that you'll be doing if you choose to practise law once you're out of university.

Clerkships run at different stages of the year, depending on what firm you're interested in. The best way to find out when a firm runs their clerkship is to go to their website and check for information there, but there is also the Uniform Clerkship Scheme. The UCS is a scheme run by the three university student associations (FLSA, AULSS, USALSA) where a number of Adelaide Law Firms agree to conduct their interview processes at the same time, usually between semester one and two. This is a great opportunity for a law student to have a wide range of firms to apply to, since it's during a period where they don't have to worry about assignments or exams.

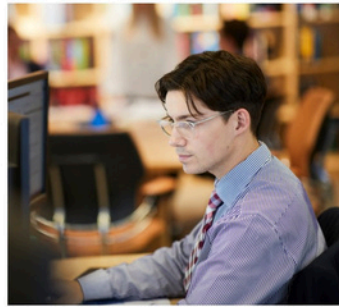
To apply for a clerkship, students will usually have to provide a cover letter outlining why they would be a good choice for the firm, a curriculum vitae (or resume), their academic transcript, and contact details for a couple of referees. This is usually required no matter what firm you're looking to apply for, and in essence is very similar for applying to a job, so will usually involve an interview process where firms can meet you prior to giving an offer.

Student Experience

In 2024, I participated in an eight week clerkship where I got to experience practical work at a law firm. I found this opportunity to be incredibly useful, in more ways than just as a chance to demonstrate and improve my skills, though I was able to do that plenty. Over the course of those eight weeks, I got to draft letters to clients in a variety of fields of law, and got feedback from practising lawyers on how I could improve and what I did well. Beyond that, I also got the opportunity to do real legal research, rather than simply referring to the content I had already covered in lectures. It was discovering new information, new law that I had never touched on in uni, which I found to be far more engaging and interesting than the usual university 'study' cycle.

- Takuma Wood-Cooper, Law Clerk

INVITATION: First to third year students are invited to apply for a Day at LK 2025!



A Day at LK is an informative program designed to introduce law students to life as a lawyer! The program is open to law students in the first three years of their studies.

On Tuesday, 23 September 2025 you will spend the day with us. You will hear from Clerks through to Principals, come away with an understanding of how a law firm works, the work that LK does, career pathways and more!

Applications to join us for this experience will close on **Friday, 8 August 2025** and details about how to apply can be found on our website under the Careers Page - www.lk.law/careers/.

Questions regarding this program can be directed to: Lorraine Wohling - lwohling@lk.law.



**RISK AND
DISPUTE RESOLUTION
SPECIALISTS**

**WWW.LK.LAW
AUSTRALIA | LONDON**

Competitions

Why FLSA Competitions?

The Flinders Law Students' Association competition portfolio allows students to develop their advocacy, interviewing and negotiation skills whilst engaging with real-world legal scenarios. Participating in these competitions is an excellent way to extend theoretical knowledge beyond the classroom and elevate students' legal education to prepare them for future career pathways. The competitions grow public speaking and oral advocacy, expose students to new areas of law and build their professional identity. Students engaging in competitions stand out in the job market as they demonstrate commitment to extra-curricular activities, teamwork, and leadership. Competitions open the door to potential career opportunities by networking with academics and legal professionals invited to judge. These relationships allow you to receive constructive feedback whereby you can refine your legal reasoning, research methods and presentation skills over time.

Negotiations

Negotiation is an event where teams of two law students engage in simulated negotiations. The objective is for each team to represent a client, aiming to reach a mutually satisfactory compromise while avoiding litigation. This competition is a practical platform for students to develop and hone their negotiation skills, which are vital in their future legal careers. Each team receives common facts and confidential information from their client before the negotiation begins. The timing of receiving this information will vary per round. The negotiation session lasts 40 minutes, during which teams may call a 5-minute break. Afterwards, it includes a 10-minute consultation/reflection and a 10-minute self-evaluation phase.

Client Interviewing

Client interviewing is a fundamental skill applicable in various workplaces, even beyond legal practice. Regardless of post-graduation career paths, it is a vital day-to-day skill for lawyers. The competition creates a hypothetical meeting between a lawyer and their client to discuss legal matters. During this meeting, the lawyer listens to the client's situation, gathers relevant information, and provides legal advice or guidance. Understanding the client's needs, discussing potential legal strategies, and establishing a clear path forward in addressing the legal issues at hand is crucial. Teams of two engage in a 30-minute interview. A few days before each round, teams receive a brief memorandum outlining the problem's general nature, with the general area of law indicated. The goal is to extract relevant information from the 'client' for practical advice. A post-interview analysis follows, contributing to the team's final score based on information gathering and professionalism.

Mooting

Mooting is a simulated appellate court competition designed for all law students. With a focus on areas such as tort, contract, criminal, and public law, these competitions allow students to delve deeply into specific areas of law, applying theoretical knowledge in a practical, courtroom-like scenario. In mooting, teams of two students take on roles akin to appellate lawyers, engaging in legal argumentation and debate. Each team receives a hypothetical legal case, often based on real-world legal issues or complex hypothetical situations. The task involves preparing written submissions and presenting oral arguments to a panel of judges, who are typically legal practitioners, academics, or actual judges. This exercise mimics the appellate process, where the focus is not on proving facts, as in trial courts, but on interpreting and applying the law to a given set of facts.

First-Year Competitions

FLSA also offer all these competitions in a first-year form! This is an excellent opportunity to participate against students of the exact same skill level as you. The first year of law school can be incredibly daunting, and many of us feel that we do not know enough to be involved in competitions and wonder how to compete against third and fourth years. First-year competitions allow students to learn and be supported while still experiencing all the benefits of competitions. While entering can feel incredibly frightening, it is the only time you can compete with like-minded students who feel the same way. The competition team at FLSA allow you to ask any questions you may have during this time. First-year students can be assisted with setting out written submissions, planning interview questions, and solving any logistical issues they may face so that expectations are clear. Furthermore, competitions are the best way to understand the practical elements of your learning. A lot of law school is based in the classroom. However, competitions allow you to implement the skills of client interviewing or case analysis in a practical environment. It can also help you hone into what aspects of being a lawyer you enjoy whilst being in a supportive environment to better the elements of being a lawyer you may not enjoy as much.

Olivia Turner, Law Student & 2023 LK First Year Moot Winner

The first-year mooting competition gave me the opportunity to strengthen my skills in case research and public speaking, in an environment where everyone was learning alongside me. Through the feedback of the judges you are able to learn so much so quickly and really develop your skills.

Hannah Goldman, Law Student & 2023 Open Negotiation Winner

Participating in the FLSA Negotiation Competition was a great opportunity to apply and refine the negotiation skills that we had learnt throughout our degree. The judges provide you with practical feedback that can help you to further develop your skills.

Being able to partake in an effective negotiation is such a useful skill to take into the profession, so I would encourage Flinders Law students to take part in this competition.

Grainne O'Connell, Law Student & 2022 First-Year Client Interview Winner

First-year competition cemented my desire to work as a lawyer. Often, law school can be difficult, especially when a lot of it is theory-based, and you cannot see how any of it can be practically applied. The Mooting and Client Interview competitions were exciting and helped me understand there is more to being a lawyer than having your head in the books.

Ashley Files, Lawyer & Mentor, Leo Cussen Centre for Law

The practical experience gained from competitions complements the development of key practical skills in Leo Cussen's PLT program, such as client interviewing, negotiation, and advocacy.



Volunteer Opportunities for FLSA Competitions

FLSA competitions provide numerous opportunities for students to gain valuable experience, not only by participating but also by volunteering. These opportunities are a fantastic way to engage with the legal community, develop your skills, and build your professional network. Here are some of the various volunteer roles available:

Being Witnesses

Volunteering as a client offers a unique perspective on the legal process. In this role, you are given a brief with background information about a hypothetical legal issue. Your role is to present this scenario to the competing students, who will then interview you to gather relevant information and provide advice. This experience helps you understand the client's perspective and improves your ability to communicate effectively and empathetically.

Timekeeping

Witnesses are essential in the Witness Examination. As a witness, you will provide testimony based on a provided script or scenario. This role is instrumental in helping competitors practice their examination and cross-examination skills. Volunteering as a witness can enhance your understanding of courtroom procedures and improve your public speaking abilities.

Being Clients

Timekeepers play a crucial role in ensuring the smooth running of competitions. As a timekeeper, you will monitor the time during various rounds, ensuring that competitors adhere to the allocated times for their oral submissions, interviews, or negotiations. This role is perfect for students looking to get involved in competitions without the pressure of participating. Timekeeping helps you develop attention to detail and organisational skills.

How to Get Involved

To volunteer for any of these roles, contact the FLSA competition portfolio by emailing competitions@flsa.org.au. You can also follow FLSA on social media for updates on upcoming competitions and volunteer opportunities or visit the FLSA office in LWCM 105, Bedford Park. Volunteering is a great way to support your peers, gain practical experience, and make lasting connections in the legal field.

Wellbeing

When reading this guide, studying for topics, or going out into the workplace, the experience as being a law student can be stressful to say the least. Imposter Syndrome is the feeling of self-doubt in your own ability and skills when surrounded by other high achieving individuals. You wouldn't be alone in thinking that you've experienced this feeling at one point or another; it is very common for law students in their first year all the way through to their final year. Assessments, presentations and exams can add to these feelings of stress and worry, which can make it more difficult to concentrate or have a balanced life.

Research has indicated that high levels of stress and burnout among law students can lead to decreased academic performance, impaired decision-making abilities, and compromised mental health.¹ Neglecting well-being during law school can set unhealthy precedents for coping mechanisms in your future, where stress and pressure are inherent. It is also important to look after yourself to avoid burnout, where prolonged mental exhaustion and stress is harder to recover from.

'Happiness is not something ready-made. It comes from your own actions.'

- Dalai Lama

Recognising The Signs

When you are starting to feel mentally or physically exhausted, it may be a sign that you need some time to yourself, even if it is ten minutes to just reset. There are various signs that you may be burning out or emotionally fatigued, including feelings of ongoing exhaustion, poor sleep, difficulty concentrating, decreased ability to retain information, increased irritability, mood swings, or feelings of failure.

Other signs include withdrawal from routine activities, social events or relationships, changes in appetite, and consistent feelings of worry, stress, and anxiety.

This, of course, can be worsened when there is a busier than usual time during your studies, including exams or when there are multiple assessments due in a short period of time. Feeling disappointed in a returned grade is also a normal response, as many of us students expect ourselves to be high achievers. It can be disappointing when you get that mark back, and it was not as high as you wanted it to be is disappointing. But you should always try to remember that it was only what you wrote down or knew at that specific point in time and is not always a representation of what you know.

Set Boundaries

It can be difficult to engage in self-care practices when academic work becomes hectic, as many leisureable activities are the first to be dropped. Establishing boundaries between academic, personal, and social life can help maintain and balance your wellbeing and prevent burnout.

- Allocate time for hobbies, interests and activities that bring you joy.

Did you know there is a Quiz Night at the Tavern (in the Hub) at Bedford Park on Wednesday nights during the semester? This can be a great way to take a break with your friends and to de-stress.

- What do you do for fun?
- When was the last time you did that?

Now may be a good time to think about when you can set time aside for yourself to do something fun – but you will actually need to follow through!

Self-Care Practices

There are many ways in which you can look after yourself:

- Continue that physical exercise that you enjoy doing, such as playing tennis or walking the dog;
- Take some time out from your screen, both phones and computers to reset your mind;
- Practice mindfulness or meditation – there are various tools online for this, and the Wellbeing blog or Oasis also have various mindfulness activities including mindfulness walks around the campus or the Be Well Plan (see below for University resources including the blog);
- Don't sacrifice your sleep! It is very easy to go to sleep later in the night if you are trying to finish an assignment;
- Ensure that you are getting enough nutrition – lack thereof can hinder your concentration;
- Have you read a case that has affected you more than you thought it would? Take short breaks when reading it, speak to the topic coordinator to see if you can get help finding the ratio (legal rule) in a less distressing manner;
- Reward yourself once you have finished a goal, such as an assignment, an exam, or even a topic! Giving yourself something to look forward to once you have finished your goal can be an easy way to look after yourself and reward your efforts.

Time Management

Time is one of the most valuable resources as a law student, and it can be difficult to balance with the copious amount of readings, assignments, exams, and presentations due. Some ways to be able to manage your time include:

- Prioritise tasks by due date or importance;
- Create to do lists with what you need to do (it is very satisfying to strike the completed items out!);
- Allocate time for study, and for breaks in-between;
- Make time for social activities, sometimes it is best to take a break to reset and become more productive in the longer term;
- Start your assessments early, even if you look at the assignment document so you know what is expected of you;
- Consider to take everything one step at a time, rather than focusing on the many lectures to watch, focus on the one most immediate.

Mentoring Program

The mentoring program is available for all first semester students within the College of Business, Government and Law. Students are paired with a mentor, a senior student, of the same degree, who has been through similar challenges as what you'll have gone through. Mentors can be a great support network, to listen and to share experiences and how they've managed them. Sessions are not based on academic work, but rather wellbeing and general tips on approaching studies, such as how to get the most out of law readings or how to prepare for law exams. Conversely, if you are a second year or above student who is willing to be in a guiding and supportive role this is a fantastic volunteering opportunity.

Seek Support

If you are in need of either emotional or academic support, there are a variety of places you can go to get some help. Do not hesitate to ask friends, family, or mental health professionals for support and guidance when needed.

- Friends from university can empathise with the student experience and they will likely understand what you are going through. It can be good to share both your challenges and successes with them, as sometimes having someone to listen can be really helpful;
- Ask feedback from the marker about your assignment to improve;
- If you felt you didn't do as well in a topic as you could have done, consider why;
- Find ways to study that work for you. Some people may study in large chunks, whereas others may find it easier to study in smaller intervals. The same goes with note-taking - some people may find mind mapping software (such as MindMup on Google Docs) to organise a conceptual understanding of each week's content to be helpful in visualising the content. This can be particularly helpful for black letter law topics;
- Seek other support from the University.

Support at Flinders University

Prioritising wellbeing is not only essential for thriving as a law student but also for laying a foundation for a successful and fulfilling career. By understanding the importance of wellbeing, recognising signs of imbalance, and implementing strategies for improvement, students can navigate the challenges of legal education with resilience and self-care. Remember that seeking support is a sign of strength, not weakness, and there are numerous resources available at Flinders University to assist you on your journey to becoming a successful legal professional.

Counselling Services

If you are wanting to speak to someone about your wellbeing, whether that be about your study or in general, the University provides a free counselling service to all students, with a focus on finding solutions or mechanisms to manage your challenges. This can be a great starting point if you are unsure where to go and need advice from someone free from judgement. Appointments are in-person, via phone, or via video call.

If you'd like to look at this more, you can find information and the contact details for the service here:

<https://students.flinders.edu.au/support/hcd/counselling>

Student Health and Wellbeing Blog

The Student Health and Wellbeing Blog is produced by Health, Counselling and Disability Services. It is written by the eMental Health Project Officer, Dr Gareth Furber.

The blog is aimed at providing useful information about health and wellbeing, including news about events or programs being run.

Some wellbeing programs that are being held include the ADHD support group, Mindfulness for Academic Success, Be Well Plan, and the Wellbeing Ambassador Program. There are a variety of other programs available and they change at intervals.

Disability Services

Disability services are available for students who have a medical and/or mental health condition, learning disability, or any disability that impacts study. Disability advisors are available to speak to for free, confidential advice and services for students or carers of people with disability that fall within those categories.

One pertinent part of disability services is that they offer Access Plans. Access Plans help students with disability have reasonable adjustments so they can participate in learning and assessment on an equivalent level as other students. The reasonable adjustments are individual to each student's needs, and it is best to speak to the disability services to determine what is appropriate for you. For example, being in a small group room for exams may be suitable for one person or having transcribed lectures. These adjustments can help manage your wellbeing in the long term if you are struggling with any conditions.

You can find out more here:
<https://students.flinders.edu.au/support/hcd/disability>

Oasis Wellbeing

Oasis is located at the Bedford Park campus, which focuses on providing a supportive environment for all students. Oasis has various facilities including: lounge spaces with tea and coffee (free!), quiet spaces, prayer rooms, chaplaincy, and a courtyard garden. Prayer rooms are also available on level four of the City Campus too.

Oasis also do a weekly community market every Thursday which has free bread, fruit, vegetables and low-cost pantry staples.

Lastly, Oasis, with a focus on wellbeing, have programs, activities, and events such as free soup or mindfulness walks that change regularly.

If you are interested in seeing what Oasis has to offer, you can find out information here:
<https://oasis.flinders.edu.au/>

Health Services

The health service at Flinders is a confidential service available to all enrolled students. Eligible consultations are bulk-billed. There are a variety of services that are offered including: routine medical care, emergency care, first aid, health screens, minor surgery, vaccinations, referrals, and SA Pathology.

The contact details for the health services can be found here:

<https://students.flinders.edu.au/support/hcd/health>

Student Learning Support Service

At both Festival Plaza (Level 4) and Central Library (Level 2) in Bedford Park, you can go to the 'Learning Lounges' where you can sit down and get one-on-one study support for you to develop your academic skills, including referencing, drafting, understanding assignments, and reading rubrics.

Studisosity is an online service where you can submit a draft assignment of up to 8,000 words, any time of the year (and have it drafted by a learning advisor with some feedback, including comments on how you can improve and encouraging feedback).

You can access these services through FLO (Canvas). To enrol go to Courses > All courses (at the top of the list) > Browse more courses and you should see 'Student Learning Support Service'. If you need help it can be found here:

<https://students.flinders.edu.au/support/slss>

Student Success and Wellbeing Advisors – Can assist with both academically and personally. Find out more here:

<https://students.flinders.edu.au/support/student-success-wellbeing-advisors>

FUSA

FUSA, or the Flinders University Students Association has many areas where you are able to seek assistance. Some of the services include:

- Clubs – this is where you can find a variety of fun or academic clubs with like-minded people;
- Academic Advocacy – is a resource if you want help with getting re-marked, grade appeals, academic integrity issues, placement issues, or other related academic issues;
- Financial Counselling - you can get information and advice from a financial counsellor at FUSA. FUSA also have funding available for emergency assistance and interest-free loans;
- Student Representation – student representatives are current students of the same degree who communicate with staff members about improving the quality of learning resources.

Yunkurrinthe Student Engagement

If you are an Indigenous or Torres Strait Islander student and would like some support, both personal or academically, there are a variety of services available to you, including a student lounge, individual support through Indigenous student support officers, academic skills development, and a tutoring program.

<https://students.flinders.edu.au/support/indigenous-student-support>

Legal Services

The Flinders Legal Centre offers free, independent and confidential legal advice on various matters, including (but not limited to) contracts, car accidents, accommodation, and loans and debts. You can find out more at:

<https://www.flinders.edu.au/engage/community/clinics/flinders-legal-centre>

International Student Services

The ISS team provides assistance to international students. If you are an international student and having some difficulties adjusting to the Australian academic and living environment, you can speak to a confidential international student advisor. If you are also worried about issues relating to your visa, they may be able to provide some assistance.

<https://students.flinders.edu.au/support/iss>

Chapter Two

Legal Practice Pathways

Property and Development Law

Michael Standard
Partner, Mellor Olsson Lawyers



What does a Property and Development lawyer do in a typical day?

A typical day involves reviewing and drafting emails, meeting with clients, reviewing and drafting contracts, negotiating contracts, and advising clients on legal issues related to property and development matters.

Are there any courses, internships, or extracurricular activities that you would recommend to students considering this pathway?

There are no specific courses. However, I would recommend work experience with a law firm that specialises in property and commercial law as this can provide valuable hands-on experience.

What steps did you take early in your career that you believe were crucial in getting to where you are today?

Networking was crucial to my early career success. I initially faced challenges in securing my first role as a graduate lawyer, submitting numerous resumes to various firms without success. My breakthrough came when a barrister hired me as a law clerk. Through this role, I was introduced to a commercial law firm that eventually hired me as a graduate lawyer. I practiced commercial and property law at this firm and have continued to specialise in these areas at different firms ever since.

What key skills and qualities do you believe are essential for someone pursuing a career in Property & Development Law?

Key skills include strong analytical abilities, attention to detail, managing competing priorities and excellent negotiation skills. Understanding complex laws and being able to communicate clearly with clients and other stakeholders is crucial. Additionally, the ability to work well under pressure is important, as the work often involves tight deadlines and significant financial stakes. Proficiency in drafting contracts, from basic agreements to complex, bespoke contracts is also important.

What are some current trends or emerging issues in Property & Development Law that future lawyers should be aware of?

Current and emerging trends include a growing focus on green building practices, data privacy and cybersecurity, the integration of technology, and housing affordability which is driving new policies. Staying informed about these trends will assist future lawyers navigate the evolving legal landscape.

Can you recommend any professional organisations or industry bodies that would be beneficial for students interested in this field to join?

Becoming a member of property industry associations, such as the Urban Development Institute of Australia and Property Council of Australia, can be highly beneficial. These organisations offer networking opportunities, access to industry publications, and educational resources that can keep members informed about the latest developments in these areas.

Looking back, is there anything you wish you had known or done differently at the start of your career?

There are a few things that I wish I had known or done differently. I would have focused on building a professional network, such as membership with professional associations as this could have improved my opportunities for referrals. Finding a mentor would have also been beneficial in providing guidance, sharing experience and career advice given the challenges that many young lawyers face in their first year of law.

Life as a Barrister

David Kelly
Junior Barrister, Anthony Mason
Chambers



Can you describe your position as a Barrister? What are your main responsibilities?

As a junior Barrister I am primarily engaged by solicitors to assist in the preparation and presentation of complex cases and the provision of opinions relating to proposed claims or non-litigious courses of action (e.g., whether grounds exist to terminate a contract). Whilst on some occasions I am retained in relation to a matter generally, in others I am engaged to assist with respect to discrete tasks (e.g., finalising pleadings). In especially difficult situations I am often led by a more senior Barrister, namely a Kings Counsel or Senior Counsel.

Can you tell us a little about your career trajectory?

I started clerking in second year (2010) and was Associate to the Honourable Justice Peek in the Supreme Court of Australia (where I developed a particular interest in criminal appeals) from 2013 to 2015 before moving into private practice (civil and commercial) between 2015 and 2022. During this time I began mentoring and working as a casual tutor at Flinders and as a law reporter for various authorised reports (including the SASR of which I am now a senior reporter). I then worked in private practice for a number of years before being called to the Bar in 2022.

What is the difference between a barrister and a solicitor?

South Australia has a fused profession. Practising at the independent Bar means undertaking to practise solely as a Barrister and not as a solicitor. Generally speaking a solicitor has day to day involvement and a commercial relationship with the lay client, whereas a barrister does not. The barrister is independent.

Were you interested in litigation whilst you were a student at university? What experiences did you have at university that helped you in your career path?

I was. I was not particularly interested in transactional practice and was more interested in what I perceived to be the area of practice where the law was 'put into action' so to speak. At university I won the First Year Moot.

You were an associate to the Honourable Justice Peek of the Supreme Court of South Australia; how did this equip you to be a Barrister? What are your tips for students seeking to apply to be an Associate?

I would recommend an Associateship to everybody. Going 'behind the curtain', especially early on in a legal career, is a great way to learn some of the unwritten rules of Court and of legal practice, as well as getting to know the members of the profession. Those lessons have been most worthwhile in my practice at the Bar – 'what will persuade a judge of my argument; can we win?' was the main take away and remains the critical question to be answered in all litigious matters. My tips for applicants for Associateships are:

1. Look into the judge's recent decisions and get an idea of their predominant area(s);
2. Assume judge's speak to each other about associateship applications; it's no good saying all you want to do is criminal law and writing to the judge in the chambers down the hallway and saying wills and estates is your life's mission;
3. Be realistic about prospects: there are only so many associateships available so don't be too disheartened if you don't succeed at first;
4. Be flexible: associates often depart when they are offered a job which can occur outside neat 12/18/24 month intervals so opportunities can arise sporadically;
5. Work out how you would be useful for the judge and what you would want in an associate were you a member of the judiciary.

Are there any mistakes that you see junior solicitors or barristers make in court? What are your suggestions for junior lawyers going to court?

I think the main thing is to fess up as soon as possible when a mistake has been made. They are only harder to deal with if they are left unaddressed.

You've had numerous accolades during your career and studies, including in 2022 being named Young Lawyer of the Year by the Law Society. What has been the highlight of your career? Has there been any aspects which have been the most rewarding?

It has been particularly rewarding to take the leap of faith and transition to life at the Bar. First, I have been wonderfully supported by other barristers. There really is a deep and genuine sense of collegiality amongst barristers in Adelaide and I have fantastic support from leading Silks who have involved me in very interesting cases. Secondly, it has allowed me to explore my interest in criminal appeals more intently. I was junior counsel in *Perre v The King* [2023] SASCA 55 and am currently junior counsel for one of nine co-applicants for leave to appeal convictions for murder in *Alzuain & Ors v The King*.

If you could tell any current law student your top tip(s), what would they be?

Practising law is a great job, but it can at times also be a tough job. There can be times where there is simply no substitute for hard graft in advancing a client's best interests, which, subject to the overriding duty to the Court and ethical obligations, is what it's all about. There can be occasions of stress. I don't say that as a deterrent but as an acknowledgment of the role we play in taking on the responsibility of helping people when legal issues arise.

Becoming a Barrister

What is a Barrister?

All South Australian lawyers are eligible to practise as both Solicitors and Barristers.

Solicitors engage the services of Barristers to act on behalf of the Solicitors' clients in court. Barristers are specialist advocates with an advanced understanding of the law and court procedure.

Additionally Barristers provide advice on legally difficult or complex matters and develop sophisticated legal strategies. In court a Barrister will present the client's case and examine and cross-examine witnesses. Barristers generally practise as independent lawyers in Chambers instead of law firms.

Bar Reader's Course

To become a barrister, practitioners must undertake the Bar Readers Course, operated by the SA Bar Association. The course provides training to specialise in court work. The Curriculum consists of two components: Seminar Series and the Reading Period. Practitioners must begin and conclude the entire Course within a single 12-month period.

The seminar series curriculum is divided into six units which cover topics such as: role and responsibility; preparation for court; advocacy; chamber work, pleadings and other court documents; alternative dispute resolution; and courts and tribunals in South Australia.

The Course involves reading, for a period of three months, under the supervision of a mentor who has been a practicing Barrister for at least five years.

Upon successful completion of both components of the course the applicant will be enrolled as a member of the Bar Association. A certificate of satisfactory completion will be obtained after a further period of review by the mentor of the applicant's legal work. The applicant will then be a fully qualified member of the Independent Bar.

Finding Chambers







After completing the Bar Readers Course, the next step is finding somewhere to practice. Finding Chambers in South Australia is a relatively informal process. In limited instances a Chambers with vacancies will advertise via the SA Bar Association website. The reading component of the Course can lead to obtaining work as a junior Barrister to the Mentor.

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- Receive personalised assistance to navigate the admission process 



Working for the Government: Where can I work as a Lawyer?

There is a misconception amongst law students, perhaps because of the shows that pervade our media landscape (pick your poison, legally blonde, suits, etc.) that private practice is the only option for 'real lawyers.' Many of us are aware that we can use our jobs in the vague area of 'government' but are unsure as to what that actually means. This is especially so because we are aware of the numerous clerkship opportunities that are advertised by firms, which demonstrate a clear entry pathway into that side of the profession.

So how does one start out in government?

There are numerous pathways into government as a law student. First you have to consider what kind of work you want to do. For example, do you want to work at a state, federal or even local government level, remembering there are restricts for non-Australian citizens on federal government work.

Would you like to practice law in a stricter sense at the department of public prosecution or provide advice to government departments in select areas such as at the crown solicitors office? Or perhaps you are more interested in developing the policy, and ultimately law that your law school peers have to wade through in various government departments?

These are important questions to ask yourself when considering a role in government. However, don't let it deter you. What is key to remember is the diversity of areas of practice that legal graduates can end up in, especially in government. There is a legal role in nearly every government department and there are a lot of departments! Whatever department you end up in, government work appeals to those who would feel fulfilment for working for the betterment of your community.

State Government

The state government is South Australian's largest employer and a great option to start your career. In terms of law adjacent roles, the department of treasury, health, correctional services or department of human services all offer graduate programs which can be applied for at I Work For SA (website). These programs are useful as they are both paid (unlike many clerkships) and often work on a rotational basis, allowing you to experience various aspects of a department usually for a 3 months to a year (this can vary).

In regard to traditionally legal roles, key options include the state crown solicitor's office department which operates similarly to a private firm, but with the state government as its only client. It represents the state government in court, on various matters, and has specialised teams in areas including civil liability, native title and commercial and public law. It offers both clerkships which open in July, paralegal positions and graduate solicitor positions (apply to the pool in I Work for SA).

Federal Government

Many of these opportunities are reflected at a federal level in Canberra for those willing to move. Graduate programs such as those at the attorney general's department, are included as a part of the Australian Government Graduate Program (AGGP). Law graduates will typically apply for this graduate program as part of the AGGP legal stream (more information is available on the AGGP website). This allows you to apply once for multiple different graduate programs, via a four-stage process, most of which is done online and therefore saves the time and cost of multiple trips to Canberra.

Local Government

Finally, don't forget the numerous opportunities offered by local governments in South Australia. Make sure to check out the LGA.SA website (Local governments association) to find all the jobs available across various council areas.

<https://lga.sa.gov.au/>

Legal roles in local council often include contracts, procurement, governance and risk analysis. Whilst less traditionally 'legal' they often require and are categorised as legal roles, which can be filtered using their website. Often there are no graduate programs offered by local government but keep an eye out for entry level positions. There are significant benefits to working for local government including focuses on more local issues and connection to the community, with many of the benefits of government work generally (entitlements etc).

To sum up, don't feel that private practice is your only option to be a serious lawyer! There are a variety of ways to practice in government or to use your skills for the betterment of communities. Government work is hugely diverse and there are plenty of opportunities, especially for graduates willing to put their hand up (or rather resume in). Make sure to avail of the opportunities which arise, even if you aren't sure that working for a particular department might be your thing, you might just surprise yourself and find out your dream job was with the tax office all along!

Embracing the best of both worlds: The benefits of working in a regional law firm

Matt Dorman
**Mellor Olsson Lawyers Partner &
Regional Manager**



As a law student in South Australia, you have an exciting journey ahead, full of decisions that will shape your future career. One pivotal choice is where to begin your legal practice. While the allure of big city firms is undeniable, there is an often-overlooked gem in regional law firms. At Mellor Olsson Lawyers, with offices in Adelaide, Port Lincoln, Clare, and the Barossa Valley, we offer a unique blend of professional and personal benefits that make regional practice an excellent choice. As a Partner and Regional Manager, I can attest to the many advantages of working in a regional law firm, from diverse case exposure to a fulfilling work-life balance.

Diverse and varied case matters

One of the standout benefits of working in a regional law firm like Mellor Olsson is the breadth of legal matters you will encounter. Unlike metropolitan firms where you might find yourself pigeonholed into a specific niche, regional practice exposes you to a wide range of legal issues. This diversity not only keeps the work interesting but also accelerates your professional development.

In our regional offices, lawyers often handle cases spanning family law, commercial disputes, property transactions, estate planning, and more. This variety ensures that you develop a comprehensive skill set early in your career. For instance, a single week might see you negotiating a commercial lease, drafting a will, and representing a client in a family law matter. This broad exposure is invaluable in building a well-rounded legal acumen and can fast-track your career progression.

Accelerated career advancement

The diverse case load in regional practice translates to faster career advancement opportunities. At Mellor Olsson, our regional lawyers quickly gain hands-on experience that might take years to accumulate in a larger city firm. This practical, frontline involvement allows for rapid skill acquisition and professional growth.

Moreover, working in a regional setting often means more direct client contact and greater responsibility from the outset. Young lawyers are entrusted with significant tasks, enabling them to build confidence and expertise swiftly. This responsibility not only enhances your legal skills but also strengthens client relationships and fosters a deeper understanding of client needs and community dynamics.

Work-life balance and quality of life

Beyond professional development, the lifestyle benefits of working in a regional law firm are substantial. Living and working in South Australia's stunning rural communities offers a quality of life that is hard to match. The picturesque landscapes, coupled with a slower pace of life, contribute to an enviable work-life balance.

In regions like Port Lincoln, Clare, and the Barossa Valley, you can enjoy outdoor activities such as hiking, fishing, and wine tasting, all within close proximity to your home and office. The shorter commute times and the close-knit community atmosphere further enhance your lifestyle.

Supportive and collaborative environment

While the team size in regional offices may be smaller, the support and collaboration you receive are substantial. At Mellor Olsson, we pride ourselves on our supportive work culture. Our regional offices are characterised by a close-knit, collegial environment where team members genuinely care about each other's success and well-being.

Additionally, despite being based in a regional office, you are never isolated. Mellor Olsson's head office in Adelaide provides access to a wealth of resources and expertise. Our regional lawyers regularly collaborate with their city counterparts.

Professional development opportunities

At Mellor Olsson, we are committed to the ongoing professional development of our staff. This commitment extends to our regional offices, where lawyers have access to continuous learning and development opportunities. Whether through formal training programs, mentorship, or practical experience, we ensure our lawyers are well-equipped to advance in their careers.

One of the unique aspects of our professional development program is the clerkship opportunities we offer. Emerging lawyers can spend a period of time in our Adelaide office before transitioning to a regional placement. This experience provides a valuable blend of urban and regional practice, equipping you with a well-rounded perspective and a diverse skill set.

Choosing where to start your legal career is a significant decision, and the benefits of working in a regional law firm are compelling. At Mellor Olsson Lawyers, we offer the best of both worlds: the chance to work on a diverse array of legal matters in a supportive, collaborative environment, all while enjoying the high quality of life that comes with living in South Australia's beautiful rural communities.

The accelerated career advancement, work-life balance, and robust professional development opportunities make regional practice an excellent choice for law students. At Mellor Olsson, we are proud to support our regional lawyers in achieving their professional goals while enjoying a fulfilling personal life. If you are looking to make a meaningful impact in your legal career while embracing a vibrant lifestyle, consider joining us in one of our regional offices. The journey promises to be both rewarding and enriching.

Legal Advisor

Jemma Arman
Regional Legal Advisor,
International Committee of the Red
Cross



Can you describe your position at the International Committee of the Red Cross and what your responsibilities are?

As a regional legal advisor, I support programs on international humanitarian law in eastern Africa. I work closely with delegations and offices in their work with governments and other actors of influence to strengthen the laws related to IHL, and also the implementation of those laws.

Can you tell us a little about your career trajectory and how did you come to be in your position as a Legal Advisor at the International Committee of the Red Cross?

From my early high school years, I wanted to work in the social justice space, and saw law as a tool to do this. I decided in my early career to work within Australia, based on the advice received by my honours supervisor Deslie Billich, to develop my core legal skills at home first before seeking international opportunities. I was fortunate to be accepted as an Associate in the Federal Court, working with his Honour Justice John Mansfield, and then worked as a legal advisor for the Kimberley Land Council (KLC) in Broome, Western Australia for 3.5 years. Both of these experiences were extremely rewarding.

Bridging the gap into the international sphere, I undertook a Masters of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights at the Geneva Academy, and then was accepted as a legal trainee with the International Committee with the Red Cross. After this traineeship, I continued on temporary contracts in the legal division in Geneva and Nigeria, and then was accepted for a permanent position, first working in the protection division as a detention delegate, before taking my current position as a regional legal advisor.

What made you specialise in international humanitarian law? Was this something that you were interested in at university?

During law school, my interests were fairly diverse. Essentially, I was interested in all branches of law that I considered would support social justice outcomes – I considered even succession law could be a tool for this. I was interested in criminal justice reform, public

international law generally, constitutional law, native title. It was at Masters level, and only after practicing for almost five years, that I decided to specialise in international humanitarian law.

In relation to what attracts me to international humanitarian law, it is that it seeks humanitarian outcomes in a way that is achievable, pragmatic, even in times of war. The system is from the outset designed for the worst possible situations that a state can face.

Were there any particular skills you developed during your degree that equipped you with the skills that you still use today?

I appreciate the heavy emphasis of my undergraduate degree on both critical thinking as well as practical legal training. It was quite different to my masters in Geneva which emphasised bulk absorption of content. Starting with a degree that focused on the “how to learn”, “how to question”, “how to research” set an excellent foundation for subsequent studies and practice. Undertaking studies in Indonesia was also formative. I participated in the Australian Consortium for In Country Indonesian Studies (ACICIS) program, which included taking subjects that were accredited to my law degree. Living in a student dorm, undertaking my lessons in Indonesian language and essentially living a “normal” Indonesian university experience gave me both a profound love for Indonesia itself (which remains to this day), as well as an excitement for international living.

What are your suggestions for future law graduates who are interested in international humanitarian law to enter this field?

Studying foreign languages is essential. This is a recommendation for anyone wanting to work internationally, in any field. Many entry-level positions require language testing as part of recruitment, and not having other languages can limit the geographical scope of your options. My impression is that anglophone countries tend not to emphasise language-

learning in the way that other countries do, and that that can put us at an immediate disadvantage when applying for international positions, especially entry-level positions.

What has been the highlight of your career? Has there been any aspects which have been the most rewarding?

This question is too difficult to answer. I've really appreciated many parts of my career. I loved working with the Judge, and with the KLC, the Nyikina Mangala and Balanggara native title cases were huge. One of the parts that I appreciate about my current work is the diversity – training with militaries, engagements with student populations, review of legislation, legal drafting and research, representing ICRC at diplomatic events etc.

You've worked in a variety of places overseas, including in Switzerland where you contributed to the updated Commentaries to the Third Geneva Convention. You've also worked in Nigeria, Rwanda, and Kenya. What have these experiences been like? Are there any particular challenges to working overseas?

I've loved my international work. Each country has been so different, and it's a privilege to have the opportunity of learning in-depth about other parts of the world, other histories and politics, while also working in fulfilling jobs.

The biggest challenge is balancing career and family life. I'm fortunate that my husband is also committed to international work, but it can still be a challenge finding positions in the same country. As I get older, I miss more and more my family at home. There are no easy solutions for this.

What are your tips for students who may want to work overseas? Suggest not answering this, as I answer it above.

If you could tell any current law student your top tip(s), what would it be?

1. Study a foreign language seriously – to the point of fluency.
2. Take time to do a student exchange. Not only can it complement top tip 1, but it's also such a valuable opportunity to diversify your world view.
3. Repeating the advice that I once received, it's valuable to start working within your own country first, before seeking international opportunities. It makes you a better lawyer in your international work, because you've moved beyond theory to real practical experience. It also gives you options if/when you need to end your international work; you know that you can come home and return to meaningful options in Australia as well.



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Criminal Defence Solicitor

Jodie Adams
Criminal Defence Solicitor,
Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement
(“ALRM”)



What does your current role of solicitor within the Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement entail?

I provide a culturally sensitive, quality service to the Port Adelaide Aboriginal community across all areas of criminal law. This includes daily court appearances for matters such as Youth Court, Mental Health (or Part 8A) Court, pre-trial conferences, bail applications, and Nunga Court sentencing- which is my favourite part of the role. I also represent ALRM at various committees, particularly those that involve law students or consider Port Adelaide/Nunga Court specific issues.

What is it like working for a nonprofit organisation?

Working for a not-for-profit (or community) legal service has allowed me assist some of the most vulnerable members of our community. I am driven by social justice issues such as closing the gaps for Aboriginal Australians and equitable access to the law. My position at ALRM has allowed me to explore those and other issues.

Can you tell us about your career path since graduating?

Before graduating, I spent 9 months clerking for Mrs Marie Shaw KC. During that time I had the opportunity to work on some complex criminal matters. I also simultaneously volunteered at ALRM. Immediately upon graduating in 2020, I was offered a clerk's role at ALRM which then led into a Solicitor's position at their Port Adelaide Magistrates Court office. I spent a time as the Operations Manager of ALRM's Custody Notification Service but returned to the Port Adelaide Magistrates Court Solicitor's role in 2022 and have been there ever since.

Were you always interested in being a criminal defence lawyer? Were there any experiences that helped you decide on your career path?

I wasn't always sure exactly what are of law I wanted to practice in. While at high school I had dreams of going into criminal defence law. At uni I was not so sure. I was not the best student in criminal law subjects so I started to consider practicing in areas that I was academically strong in, such as Judicial Review of Family Law.

My time with Mrs Marie Shaw, as well as my volunteering with ALRM, re-ignited my passion for criminal defence and I have been following that path ever since.

If you could change someone's perception on what a criminal defence lawyer is, what would you say to them?

There are times when I have been judged by the wider community as "someone who just gets the bad guys off things". This is not true. To me, criminal defence means fighting for the rule of law and keeping the Police and Judiciary accountable. I truly believe that everyone has the right to a robust criminal defence. This is a cornerstone of our judicial system and I am proud to be someone who makes sure this is, and will continue to be, the reality for Australians.

What have your experiences been going to court?

I have had many and varied experiences going to Court. My job consists of daily court appearances, sometimes multiple matters in heard in one sitting. Appearing in Court so regularly has assisted me to hone formidable public speaking skills. I am also now adept at thinking (and speaking) on my feet while maintaining my composure at all times.

During your time studying at Flinders, you were the Wellbeing Officer at FLSA. How has this role helped prepare you for your career?

My time as Wellbeing Officer for FLSA has helped prepare me for my career by allowing me to learn active listening skills. It has also meant that I can confidently represent the interests of multiple and varied parties in relation to wellbeing issues. I have carried that interest into my professional career, completing the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander specific Mental Health Triage course.

It is often said that law can be a mentally and emotionally taxing career; what are your wellbeing tips to students?

I am sure to take time to spend doing things that make me feel centred. I love to spend time with family. I also enjoy watching mindless TV. I enjoy walking my dog and try to maintain healthy eating habits.

If you could tell any current law student your top tip(s), what would they be?

Volunteer- it's a good way to get out there
Personal brand is important. While at uni, start thinking about how you want to present to (and be viewed by) the wider legal community.

Working in Dispute Resolution

Madi McCarthy
Associate, LK Law



meetings and court hearings, liaising with court staff etc.

In 2021 you graduated with a Bachelor of Laws and Legal Practice (Honours) and a Bachelor of Accounting. From there you started your career at LK as a Law Clerk; how did this shape your pathway to becoming an Associate at the same firm?

Clerkships are a brilliant way to get your foot in the door with a law firm. After my clerkship at LK (in my penultimate year at Flinders), I was invited to stay on as an ongoing clerk, which then progressed into a graduate offer. It was a relief to have a job lined up before I finished my studies and gave me a head start in developing the practical and interpersonal skills that I use every day as a lawyer.

How do you feel having both honours and a double degree has helped you in securing a job in commercial litigation? Was commercial litigation and corporate law an area of interest whilst you were studying?

I really enjoyed my corporate law topics at Flinders, but didn't necessarily plan to go down that path with my career. In hindsight, my double degree in Law and Accounting is probably the perfect combo for it, particularly when I work on insolvency files. Even though I've never worked as an accountant, the Accounting degree gave me a foundational understanding of financial statements and concepts which makes it easier to work with professionals in the finance / insolvency space.

In your current role as an Associate with the firm LK, could you please explain the responsibilities of your role and what you do regarding commercial litigation, insolvency, and audit negligence?

As an Associate, I work across a handful of files which vary in size, complexity and demand. Sometimes I might be the only Associate on a file and work directly with Directors / Principals, and other times I might work with a team of 5+ people. Sometimes a file is short-term, limited in scope and completed in a few months, but others can go for years.

I perform a variety of tasks, depending on the phase of a file – research, reviewing documents, drafting court documents and correspondence, attending client

What are your tips for applying to positions for either clerking or graduate roles?

Do your research on the firms / organisations that you are applying to and tailor your cover letters accordingly. E.g. don't write about your desire to work in family law to a firm that doesn't practice in that area. Add some personality to your resume / cover letter / interview answers – your academic transcript and competitions experience is great, but firms also want a glimpse of who you are outside of Uni. Maybe you play soccer or speak a second language or work casually at the local pizza joint.

Employers are often looking for students with soft skills; how do you feel the Flinders Law degree helped in developing these skills and how it aided in your career journey?

Without realising it at the time, I developed a lot of important, transferrable soft skills at Flinders – time management through juggling class schedules and due dates, problem solving and attention to detail through assignments and exams, team work and communication through tutorials and group tasks etc. These are highly valued and necessary skills to have as a legal practitioner!

What was your experience completing your Law degree with Honours? What did you complete your topic on and how did you pick it? What opportunities have arisen from your Honours dissertation?

Honours was an incredibly rewarding experience for me. First of all, I enjoyed the independent and self-directed nature of writing a dissertation. Second, I was lucky enough to have Professor Tania Leiman as a supervisor (and anyone who has spoken to Tania knows that you walk away with more motivation than you had before). Third, I now have a very niche knowledge about the legal regulation of sex robots.

A lot of unanticipated fun came after completing my Honours dissertation. Tania and I co-authored an article for the Law Society of SA's publication, The Bulletin, titled 'Sex with robots: how should the law respond?' and were awarded the Bulletin Article of the Year Award in 2022. After that, we participated in radio, news and podcast interviews in Australia, NZ and the US. It was a wild ride!

If students are considering completing their Bachelor of Laws with Honours, what are your suggestions for them? Do you have any tips?

Writing a dissertation can sometimes feel like you're stuck on a StairMaster – you're exhausted, and the peak is nowhere in sight. It will feel less overwhelming and more achievable, if you work out what planning tools are most effective for you (e.g. to-do lists, timelines, mind maps, calendars) and break down big tasks into smaller sub-tasks.

In your career thus far, what has been the most rewarding aspects? What have been the most challenging?

It is pretty rewarding to see the final product / outcome of something you've been working on, like drafting written submissions, watching a barrister make those submissions before a judge, and then receiving favourable court orders.

Personal growth is probably in both categories. On one hand, I am far better at legal drafting, case management and dealing with clients today than I was a year ago. I definitely feel more confident and capable now than I did when I was admitted. On the other hand, personal growth often comes from being thrown in the (metaphorical) deep end and learning from mistakes you make along the way.

Wellbeing is an important part of any person's life, but careers revolving around law are said to be particularly taxing. How do you manage your wellbeing, and do you have any tips for students?

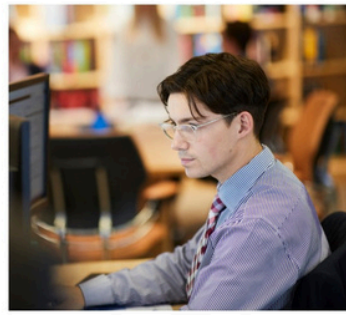
It's all about boundaries and communication! As early as you can in your career, try to set and maintain firm boundaries between your work and personal life. This might look like no work emails on your phone (or no checking them after hours), prioritising social sports or family dinners, or learning how to say 'no' to a new task when there is too much on your plate. The best way to maintain your boundaries is to actively communicate with your supervisors / team members and make sure they are kept up to date with your workload, progress and anticipated deadlines.

For me, the key things I do to manage my wellbeing are (a) working a four day week, which was something

I started doing after two years of full-time work, (b) making time for my hobbies, even if it means getting up early, (c) getting a good night's sleep, and (d) saying 'no' to new tasks and social events when I am at capacity or feeling burnt out.

Lastly, what are your tips more generally for any current law student?

In a perfect world, we would all have a transcript full of HDs and Ds, a few competition wins under our belts and an impressive resume of clerkships and extra curriculars, but it is not a perfect world! You are no less capable just because you've scored a few Ps or skipped the moot. I almost failed my criminal law topic in first year (oops) and remember feeling like it was the end of the world and maybe I wasn't cut out for law, but spoiler alert: everything turned out fine.



LK Clerkship Applications – 2025/2026

Third to Final Year Law Students

LK is an international law firm with a focus on risk management, complex commercial disputes, investigations and inquiries.

We have offices in Adelaide and London and assist clients across multiple jurisdictions. Our team consists of experienced lawyers who are renowned strategists and creative problem solvers. We are known for our tenacity, commitment to commerciality, as well as our enduring passion for our profession.

Clerkships at LK offer law students the opportunity to join our team for four weeks across one of three intakes.

As a clerk you will experience a diverse range of tasks and develop your knowledge and legal skills.

Teamwork is an absolute priority and strong working relationships are a feature on our projects. You will have direct contact with principals and senior members of LK as well as your peers.

To guide you in your experience you will be supported by a mentor and buddy and receive training on our office procedures and resources and participate in legal education, firm wide training sessions and social activities.

Our Clerkship Program is an important career pathway, with many of our clerks joining the firm as graduate lawyers once admitted.



If you would like to know more about our Clerkship Program go to www.lk.law, or contact Lorraine Wohling, Practice Development Manager - lwohling@lk.law.

RISK AND
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Working in Insolvency

Matthew Harders
Associate Attorney, KSG Attorneys-
At-Law, Cayman Islands



Can you tell us about your career path since graduating?

After graduating, I had a 12-month graduate role at Thomson Geer Lawyers in Adelaide starting in 2018, which I had secured after having completed a summer clerkship there. I spent my graduate year in the Dispute Resolution team, practicing general commercial litigation generally, as well as corporate insolvency, restructuring and debt recovery.

After my graduate year, I was successful in my position being made permanent, and I remained with Thomson Geer until June 2023. In my time at the firm, I progressed through the ranks from Graduate, to Associate, and then to Senior Associate.

In early 2023 I secured a role in the Cayman Islands

practising in cross-border insolvency, restructuring and litigation, and I relocated there with my family in July 2023.

Could you please explain the responsibilities of your role doing cross-border insolvency, restructuring and commercial litigation at KSG Attorneys-at-Law?

In my role, I work directly with the Insolvency and Restructuring Partner to manage and run all of the Firm's litigation files. With respect to the cross-border insolvency and restructuring aspect of my practice, we act as Cayman Attorneys on behalf of on-shore law firms, often based in the USA, UK or the Middle East, who act on behalf of the ultimate client. Our onshore instructors generally manage the client-side of matters, while my responsibilities involve managing and running the file on the ground, including drafting various Court documents and correspondence, managing large scale document review processes, and appearing in Court as Counsel at contested hearings and trials.

A further important aspect of my role is business development; I spend a good deal of time building relationships within the Cayman Islands with networks of potential clients, as well as travelling through the US, UK and Europe enhancing and broadening our international referral network.

You currently work in the Cayman Islands; how did your career path lead you overseas?

In late 2022 / early 2023, a couple of my colleagues had secured roles and relocated to London, and that really opened my eyes to the fact that such a thing was possible- it was not something I had turned my mind to before. Realising I could gain some world-class

international experience if I branched out into a different jurisdiction, I started looking quite seriously at what options were available which ultimately led to me securing my current role.

The Cayman Islands have a certain reputation as being a tax haven for international corporations; does this have any impact on your work regarding insolvency and restructuring?

The Cayman Islands are a tax-friendly jurisdiction, but not a 'tax haven' (which has a particular legal meaning). The policy behind this is to encourage companies to register here to take advantage of those tax benefits. What this means is that under local law, various forms of corporate structures can be registered in Cayman but not actually do business in Cayman – they are a Cayman entity on paper, but otherwise have no nexus to the jurisdiction. There are many thousands of entities like this.

By registering here, when these entities become financially distressed, insolvent, or otherwise become involved in litigation, the financial, accounting and legal work associated with that happens in Cayman. That creates a substantial volume of work for accountants and lawyers, which in turn attracts a lot of overseas lawyers (like me) to relocate here to work in that field.

Do you have any advice for students looking to pursue law internationally?

If anyone is looking to take their career overseas, the most transportable experience is transactional – Corporate and M&A lawyers are in high demand all over the world, but litigators like me can find it a little harder. Offshore jurisdictions like the Cayman Islands, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands etc. do need litigation lawyers, but much less so in places like the UK and US. Criminal and family lawyers may find it even harder, just due to the jurisdiction-specific skills that those areas operate in.

Lawyers with 3-5 years' experience in a form of transactional practice will find it easiest to take their career internationally, so I would recommend pursuing a career in that field from the outset if an international move is on the cards.

Is there a particular aspect of cross-border insolvency, restructuring and commercial litigation you find rewarding?

The part of my role that I find most rewarding is the technical legal challenges that come with practising in the Cayman Islands. When it comes to Insolvency and Restructuring, the legislation and case law in the Cayman Islands has been relatively slow to develop when compared to other jurisdictions. That means that many issues which our clients face have no clear answer under Cayman Islands law, as it simply has not yet been the subject of judicial consideration and does not fall within the purview of an Act.

That requires us, as Cayman Attorneys, to be creative and to be able to look to jurisdictions with similar laws, most notably the UK, to draw comparisons and analogies between the jurisdictions to guide the resolution of Cayman disputes. In doing this, when our cases are decided by the local Courts, we are directly contributing to and advancing the development of local jurisprudence, which is extremely satisfying.

Were there any / what were the challenges adjusting to a legal job in a different jurisdiction?

Although different jurisdictions, both Australia and the Cayman Islands inherited their laws (at some stage) from England, so their legal systems are very similar and from a technical legal perspective it was quite easy to adjust. The main challenge really was learning the local customs and conventions when it comes to legal practice – how to deal with opposing counsel, how the local Courts work, how to conduct yourself as an advocate in Court, and so forth. Adjusting to that side of things required me to ask a lot of questions (I felt a

bit like a graduate lawyer again at times) to understand, but within 2 or 3 months I felt quite comfortable.

Prior to moving overseas, you worked at Thomson Geer. How did your position there help you in your transition overseas?

As a Senior Associate at Thomson Geer, I had a lot of autonomy and responsibility, working directly with Partners to effectively manage their files, and to coordinate and supervise more junior practitioners. My experience in that regard was helpful in making the transition overseas, because in Cayman many firms are a lot smaller and depend upon their attorneys being independently capable, needing little to no supervision.

During your time as a student you worked as a clerk at Thomson Greer. How did this help you secure a job in commercial law? What are your tips for those considering about applying to a clerkship?

Clerkships remain the primary vehicle by which law firms recruit lawyers. Most commonly, law firms will take on a number of summer (and/or winter) clerks each year, and will select their graduate lawyers from among their well-performing clerks. The graduates will generally then, subject to performance, progress on to permanent positions as lawyers within the firm. That was certainly true for me, having been kept on from a summer clerk, through to a graduate and beyond. Because clerkships are the main way to getting a job in the law, I cannot stress enough the importance of putting the time and effort into securing one (if a job in the law as the goal).

Like most people, I had an existing resume which I had used many times before, but that was never intended to be used for a professional role; so before applying for clerkships I made a new one from the ground-up. I

drew on the employment resources that Flinders made available, and found a good professional CV template which I used. Taking the time to make your CV as good as possible is absolutely worth it - use all the resources you can find (there are a lot of websites which can help with this for little to no cost) to make sure yours gets read by the HR department. You might be a great clerk, but you need to be able to sell that effectively. It is also important to take the time to properly research the firms you are applying for, and to tailor your CV and cover letter to that firm. Identify what that firm's values are, what they are doing in the market, and the type of work they do which you are interested in, and use your application to demonstrate how you fit into that.

Wellbeing is an important part of any person's life, but careers revolving around law are said to be particularly taxing. How do you manage your wellbeing, and do you have any tips for students?

I did a terrible job at looking after myself throughout law school and my early years in practice, but I like to think I do better now.

The nature of my work is inherently stressful, but I have found that staying active really helps combat that. I am not someone who particularly enjoys exercise for the sake of it, but I do commit to exercising 5-6 times per week which has been remarkably good for my physical and mental health.

It is also important to learn how to mentally switch off from work. That becomes increasingly harder in an ever-connected world; being able to give yourself permission to take some (even if not all) evenings and weekends off, to go and spend time with family and friends or to travel or to do whatever it is that makes you happy, is a learned skill but an important one.

What are your tips more generally for any current law student?

Law school is your training ground – make use of everything it has to offer while you are there.

Extra-curricular activities (non-law related) are great, as it gives you something else to focus on other than your study. I was an active volunteer Firefighter with the SA Country Fire Service and an active volunteer Ambulance Officer with the SA Ambulance Service throughout university, which was great fun and gave me some excellent life skills and experience. Find something you like doing and make the time for it (it is also something you will most certainly be asked about in a job interview).

I do strongly recommend participating in the law school competitions, such as First Year Moot, Open Moot and Witness Examination. These are opportunities for you to get to practice (what I think are) some of the most fun parts of being a lawyer, without the risk of getting a bad grade. Whether or not you intend to practice the sort of law that would see you standing up in court, competitions are good for you. Personally, I found that participating in these competitions really helped me develop my self-confidence and to overcome my fear of public speaking.

Lastly, I would encourage any current or aspiring law student not to be disheartened by how difficult it might seem to get a job in the law. For most of my time in law school, I was certain I would not get a job due to the competitive nature of it, but that was obviously wrong. If you genuinely want to be a lawyer, and you are committed to that course and put in the effort, I am sure that you will be.

In-House Counsel

Natalie Gatis
Angas Securities



It's been quite the journey since graduating law school. My interest in a legal career began while working in the Office of Crime Statistics and Research, Attorney General's Department. The work provided exposure to data regarding crime in South Australia that was gathered from different government agencies (police, corrections, and the courts) to help inform the public on crime and justice.

I was passionate to learn more about the law so made the move to study full-time at Flinders University. I was a mature age student, juggling family life (two sons who were in primary school at the time) and a part-time position as a Paralegal / Librarian at Thomson Geer, a national law firm. Working at Thomson Geer gave me greater insight and understanding of the practical aspects of legal work. I have to say that this period of my life was extremely busy and at times

stressful, but I was fortunate to have the support of my family.

After completing my law degree, I became a full-time Paralegal at Thomson Geer and continued to work until I was admitted as a Barrister and Solicitor in the Supreme Court SA. As part of the Flinders curriculum, I had undertaken my Practical Legal Training at Thomson Geer and then accepted a Clerkship there. I had exposure to employment, commercial litigation and tax law within Thomson Geer.

After completing my Clerkship, I was offered full-time employment as a Solicitor within the commercial law team, working predominantly in recoveries. I have always been grateful to the Thomson Geer team, who were very supportive of my progression from Paralegal to Solicitor.

The legal work was interesting and challenging, but the hours were long, and after several years I was looking to achieve better work life balance. I sought advice from my mentors, who were also Solicitors, and made the move in 2016 from private practice to an In-House Counsel role at Angas Securities Limited, a private finance company. The legal work was varied and interesting and I gained a commercial focus, contributing towards efficiencies in many areas of the business. My career changed paths and following completion of the Australian Institute of Company Directors course; I stepped up to the Chief Executive role in 2021. Then in November 2023, I was appointed as Director & Chief Executive of Angas Securities.

What attracted you to Commercial Law?

My first exposure to Commercial law was as a topic at Flinders University. At that time, I was far more attached to Criminal Law. Commercial law wasn't a topic that I can recall as being passionate about or wanting to practice after law school. But it was through practical experience that I became attracted to Commercial law as it was an area that had high workload and large client base at Thomson Geer. This provided me with practical experience in a range of commercial matters. So, I think it's beneficial to have some work experience in any area of law to give you a better perspective.

The difference between working in private practice to In-House counsel was significant. As an In-House Counsel you are generally required to cover different areas of law unlike private practice, the work tends to be more specialised in one area of law. This gave me the opportunity to gain experience and apply my legal knowledge and commerciality in other areas of law such as employment, contract and intellectual property.

What skills have you learnt that you have found to be important for a career in the legal sector?

Good communication, listening skills and attention to detail are important. Working collaboratively as part of a team and meeting deadlines. Prioritising conflicting work demands and seeking assistance when required. Networking and building your personal branding within the legal community. Continue to invest in yourself by further study and seek a mentor early in your legal career who can guide and provide advice.

What does an average day in practice look like for you In-house?

An average day is generally a variety of work. Meetings are held with different teams within the company to discuss new marketing strategies, campaigns and providing advice on certain disclosures required. Usually under tight deadlines requiring review and sign off before publication.

Working with the Board of Directors and reporting at meetings. Responding to managers seeking advice on new initiatives or issues in relation to services. Recording and updating files on matters. Instructing external solicitors working on matters outsourced. Ensuring the outsourced matter is handled in a cost effective and time efficient manner.

Ultimately, working In-House means you only serve one client. That is the company you work for. Whereas in large law firms you have multiple clients. Another differentiator is that you are closer to the decision making and there is a variety of work. An average day is diverse and challenging.

What advice would you give students when they are applying for corporate positions?

My advice to students is to research the company they are applying for In-House Counsel positions. Note in your application if you have a preference or experience in an area of law. Relate any kind of work experience you currently have in your application. This can include volunteer work in a legal clinic or work experience in the same industry. If a student has any type of part-time job, include details of tasks in the application. It demonstrates managing a study load whilst working. If the opportunity arises, attend networking events. Be persistent and keep applying for positions - do your research and clearly state any experience in your application. Employers are looking for what sets you apart from the many other applicants and what value you can bring to the company. Make the effort and spend the time to personalise each application.

Free Student Membership for all Flinders University Law Students

The Law Society of South Australia is the peak professional body of the legal profession in South Australia, representing, supporting, advising, educating and regulating all South Australian legal practitioners as well as providing exclusive benefits and services to our Members.

As a proud sponsor of the Flinders Law Students' Association, we encourage all law students to take advantage of the free student membership.

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Evaluating Risks in Insurance

Tyler Aufderheide
National Portfolio Specialist,
Liability at QBE Insurance

Can you tell us a little about your career trajectory? How did that lead you to be part of the Liability team at QBE Insurance?

I joined QBE Insurance as a Graduate in 2018 based in Adelaide. The graduate program at QBE is a bit different to what you might get at say a law firm. Rather than be placed in a specific role, you work on a rotational experience – exploring different parts of the business. I commenced my journey in the company's South Australian region, working in a team that assisted Insurance Brokers in the negotiated insurance lines of Industrial Special Risk (ISR), Liability, and Motor.

Entering as a graduate, I had no experience in insurance let alone any understanding on underwriting. I spent my first 6 months working in ISR, learning the basics of insurance and underwriting before adding Liability into the mix 6 months later. After rotating through ISR and Liability underwriting I was given the opportunity to accept a Broker panel of my own and commenced working as an ISR and Liability Underwriter.

Throughout my time underwriting, I started to gravitate towards Liability. I found it the most interesting (and challenging) to underwrite and felt like it was utilising the skills I had obtained during my studies and past employment. I expressed desire with management to specialise in Liability however, at the time it was standard practice within my team to underwrite 2 or more products.

Fast forward to the pandemic and a team restructure. I got a phone call whilst I was on parental leave in 2020 informing me that I had been placed into the Liability team for the Western Region. As you can imagine, I was thrilled and believe this opportunity came about because I had the conversations with my managers to express my desires and interests.

I then spent time honing my skills to become a trusted advisor for our Broker partners and a strong liability underwriter within the Company. Following my work in underwriting, I was then fortunate to be promoted to the National Portfolio Specialist, Liability.

What is your role as a National Portfolio Specialist in Liability? What are your main responsibilities?

I work within QBE's Chief Underwriting Office. This section of the company includes some key areas such as National Product Management, Reinsurance, Underwriting Governance and Disclosure. In my role, I am responsible for supporting the National Portfolio Manager, Liability in providing direction, technical product support, pricing strategies, underwriting guidelines and portfolio analysis on a national basis to ensure the products achieve plan. We help to shape the underwriting strategy and work alongside our liability underwriting team to ensure we help meet our customers' needs and achieve sustainable growth for the company. Some of the items I work on include technical underwriting referrals, technical audits on our underwriting teams, and reviewing and developing policy wordings and endorsements.

You started your career with a graduate program at QBE; how do you feel this helped your career?

Insurance isn't often an industry that is spoken about as a career option, but it should be. The beautiful thing about insurance is you have the ability to change and move into different roles – sometimes without even changing employers. QBE is an international insurer operating across 27 countries, so there is even potential to work abroad.

The QBE Graduate program was my ticket into insurance. Entering the industry through QBE's Grad program let me learn about insurance and the industry in a safe and supportive environment. Rather than be thrown into the deep end and solely be focused on a specific role, through starting my insurance career with the Grad program I was able to have structure to my learning and development that spanned beyond my role.

It provided me with opportunities to develop my network which led to me establishing mentors, coaches and advocates within the Company which have ultimately led to opportunities including my current role.

What are your tips for applying for graduate programs?

- Your first step is to get yourself a strong cover letter and resume irrespective of whether you are going for a graduate program or specific role. By strong, I mean well structured so graduate recruiters can digest the information easily. Stay away from surface level language and opt for tangible information instead to set you apart.

Educate yourself on the company you are applying for, their graduate program and why you want to work there.

- In relation to group assessments specifically, it's completely normal to be nervous – after all you are looking right at your competition. Try to accept that reality prior to going into the assessment centre so that you can move on and focus on the task at hand, and remember, it's rarely about the solution that your groups comes up with, it's more about how you work together as a team to problem solve. With that in mind, it's important to be aware of your own strengths and weaknesses going into any group activity. Are you someone who sits back in group discussions? Try to make a conscious effort to speak up. Maybe you decide that for you, this is easiest done if you go first. Are you someone who tends to dominate a conversation? If so, be mindful of allowing others to speak and share ideas.
- Finally, if any part of your hiring process is virtual – test your internet, camera, speakers and microphone. Tech problems happen (it's a part of life) but nothing will throw you off your game more than going to log on and finding out your microphone throws a lot of feedback.

Were you interested in commercial law at university? What experiences did you have at university that helped you in your career path?

I had every intention of graduating University and becoming a practicing lawyer. Throughout my studies I wasn't too sure what area I wanted to practice in. I'd attend say a family law lecture and be captivated but then my interest would be equally pulled across to another topic just as quickly. I knew jobs were getting competitive and hard to come by, so I was open to most areas – except Criminal... loved studying it but don't think I could have pulled it off!

Whilst studying it felt like most of my peers had connections in the legal profession, be that a family member or friend whereas I none. I decided that to help my 'dream' I needed to get my foot in the door and start building my experience and network. I reluctantly resigned from my comfortable and flexible hours job and for the final 2.5 years of my degree, worked full time as a legal assistant. I initially worked for the Legal Services Commission in their Family Dispute Resolution team before moving across to private practice. I worked for two private law firms and worked across a variety of areas including Personal Injury, Wills and Estate, Family, Insolvency, Debt Recovery and Credit Management. I was able to find aspects I enjoyed of each area of law but I gravitated towards commercial in the end and was quite keen to try and get a job as a Graduate within the Insolvency, Debt Recovery and Credit Management team I was working as an assistant in. My trade off to working fulltime (other than my sanity) was free time and a bit of a diminished University experience. I loved my time at Flinders and I met some great people, but I had to be very smart with my class schedule and time management which meant that I didn't participate in some opportunities that would have also been beneficial.

What has been the highlight of your career?

Moving into my current position was definitely the highlight of my career. I never fathomed getting this position for a few reasons. One being there is only 1 x National Portfolio Manager, Liability (my direct leader) and 1 x National Portfolio Specialist, Liability so the chance of a role becoming available let alone being successful seemed very unlikely.

Has there been any aspects which have been the most rewarding?

The hard work paying off. I have had a relatively accelerated career. I worked hard to get experience and enhance my technical skills which is ultimately what helped me get my current position and be successful in it. Being able to juggle having this career with 2 young kids is also very rewarding and something I'm proud of.

How do you manage your wellbeing whilst working?

I am really lucky to work for a Company that truly values your wellbeing and work under a supportive leader who I have a lot of admiration for. I try to be very mindful of what I need to do for my own mental health and learnt that this changes for each individual person. Some of my good friends go for a run, I'm all about switching my mind off from work with some tv that doesn't require too much thinking.

From an 'emotional rest' perspective, I have a very open and honest relationship with my manager and keep dialogue open as to how things are going including when the workload or even balancing work with family is getting to much.

From a 'social rest' perspective, I try not to overload my weekend with too many commitments and try to utilise this time focusing on clocking up some hours with my family.

In saying all this, I'm by no means perfect and still learning how I can improve in this area. It's very easy to neglect and put focus elsewhere.

If you could tell any current law student your top tip(s), what would they be?

1. Grades aren't everything. Are they important? Sure, but don't beat yourself up for not getting a distinction or high distinction on every topic. No one has ever asked me what my GPA was since joining QBE and I have never asked anyone theirs either. Some people don't even know my background prior to QBE / tertiary qualifications.
2. Be open to different industries. I never imagined not practicing and yet here I am.
3. If you are working at a Company and hope to get a graduate role, don't put all your eggs in one basket. Unless you have a signed contract, apply for other roles.

More information about the 2025 QBE Graduate Program

Our graduate program starts each year in mid-February. Applications open the year before around July time and you can keep up to date with all things graduate program by visiting the QBE website careers page or the QBE GradConnection employer profile page.

If you like the sound of my career so far, an option is to consider applying for the graduate program in the underwriting stream. This is the most technical stream aligned to our products. We also accept law graduates into our Risk & Compliance stream which is more about managing our own risk as a large and complex organisation across many jurisdictions.

Employment & Workplace Relations Law

John Love
Partner, Mellor Olsson Lawyers
Employment and Workplace
Relations Law



Can you share a bit about your educational background and what initially drew you to the field of Employment and Workplace Relations law?

I graduated with a law degree from Adelaide University in 2001.

My interest in Employment and Workplace Relations law was sparked by my interest in politics and my desire to represent workers. As a result, I spent the first decade of my career working for a trade union and representing workers. However, since 2011 I have exclusively represented employers.

What services do you provide to your clients as an Employment and Workplace relations lawyer?

I offer the full range of services across the employment lifecycle. This includes advising on compliance with labour laws, representing clients in employment (and workers compensation) disputes, drafting contracts, and conducting workplace investigations. I also train HR professionals to help navigate the complexities of employment law and to help create a positive workplace culture.

What key skills and qualities do you believe are essential for someone pursuing a career in Employment and Workplace Relations law?

Key skills include patience, listening and strong communication skills, as well as a deep understanding of employment law.

Empathy and a commitment to fairness are crucial, as much of our work involves advocating for fair outcomes and resolving workplace conflicts. Problem-solving and remaining calm are essential, given the emotional and contentious nature of employment disputes.

How has the field of Employment and Workplace Relations law evolved since you started your career?

Employment and Workplace Relations are significantly rewritten every decade. However, the biggest shift in my time is the continued move away from collective disputes involving unions towards individual employee disputes. This reflects the broader societal change from collective to individual rights. The other major change are the increasing financial implications for non-compliance, which in my view are out of step with the actual contraventions.

What advice would you give to law students or recent graduates who are interested in specialising in Employment and Workplace Relations law?

I recommend gaining practical experience through volunteering or clerkships. Hands on experience is the only way to learn.

How important is networking in the field of Employment and Workplace Relations law, and what strategies have you found effective?

Networking is crucial in our field. Building and maintaining relationships with HR professionals, other lawyers and industry experts opens doors.

Presenting at seminars is useful for building a profile. Lastly, don't underestimate the power of maintaining good relationships with everyone you meet because word of mouth referrals remain the key source of business. Every single interaction in a professional context should be viewed through this prism. Burning bridges is a zero-sum game.

What do you see as the future of Employment and Workplace Relations law? How might the role of lawyers in this field change over the next decade?

Employers are increasingly expected to take on a greater social welfare responsibility, even for issues that have nothing to do with the employment relationship. I predict this trend will continue, as well as a stronger focus on employee "well being". Employment lawyers will need to adapt to these changes by continuously updating their knowledge and skills.

Looking back, is there anything you wish you had known or done differently at the start of your career?

Yes, I wish I had the maturity to understand and appreciate the power of personal relationships, rather than seeing the world in black and white. Middle aged John would tell 25 year old John to calm down, be polite, courteous and respectful to everyone.

Plan for career success

Mellor Olsson Lawyers is a full-service law firm with a head office in Adelaide and regional offices in Port Lincoln, Clare, and the Barossa Valley. We are committed to nurturing the next generation of legal professionals.

Mellor Olsson are constantly on the lookout for talented individuals to join our growing team. Our commitment to South Australia's legal community includes comprehensive development, education, and mentoring for future solicitors.

Why choose Mellor Olsson?

Our clerkship and graduate opportunities offer an unmatched, diverse platform for your legal career. Gain invaluable experience under the guidance of our Partners, Senior Associates and Senior Management. These opportunities allow students to work closely with highly respected practitioners, conducting legal research, attending client meetings, and even observing court proceedings. We are a values-based organisation and strive to find team members who align with our culture.

Clerkship and Graduate highlights:

- Mentorship from experienced legal professionals.
- Broad exposure to all aspects of law.
- Development of commercial acumen and core legal skills.
- Flexible part-time options during the final year of study.
- Collaborative and supportive team environment.
- Long-term career opportunities.

Mellor Olsson seek individuals who excel academically, demonstrate life experience, and actively participate in extracurricular activities. If you are eager to learn, develop your skills, and deliver high-quality work, we want you on our team.

Chapter Three

Non-Legal Practice Pathways

Going Back to School

Lesley Johnson
Head of Pedagogy and Practice
Development / Director of
Research, Trinity College



Masters of Teaching, I joined Trinity College in Gawler as a Year 5 teacher.

How did your law degree lead you into your current career as the Head of Pedagogy & Practice Development at Trinity College, and as the Director of Research at Trinity College Institute?

My law degree was instrumental in shaping my career trajectory towards becoming the Head of Pedagogy & Practice Development and the Director of Research at Trinity College Institute. The rigorous training in law honed my critical thinking and judgement skills, which are essential in educational leadership. Additionally, the degree provided me with robust research skills and fostered my ability to learn independently. These competencies have been crucial in managing educational practices and directing research initiatives effectively.

Can you tell us about your career path since graduating?

I'm originally from Scotland where I completed an Honours degree in Scots Law at the University of Dundee in the late 1990s. I practiced law briefly in Edinburgh before moving to Adelaide for a Master of Laws (Research) supervised by Dr Chris Reynolds, graduating in 2005. Subsequently, I became a sessional tutor in Legal Method & Systems and Property Law, then a lecturer at Flinders School of Law.

Following this, I served as the Dean of St Mark's College in North Adelaide. After completing my

What are your current roles and responsibilities in this position?

In my current role as the Head of Pedagogy and Practice Development at Trinity College, I have a wide array of strategic and operational responsibilities. I chair the Curriculum Councils, where I lead the strategic direction of teaching and learning initiatives across the college.

My role involves providing support and guidance on educational practices to college leaders and ensuring the implementation and ongoing refinement of the Trinity Education Model to align with the college's strategic goals.

I am committed to promoting and enhancing high-quality teaching and learning throughout the institution. This includes managing the overall curriculum framework to support effective pedagogical practices and developing and implementing professional development programs tailored to the needs of teachers and educational leaders. These programs focus on innovative pedagogical methods and leadership, fostering an environment of continuous learning and improvement.

Additionally, I direct the college's research agenda to ensure it supports our strategic goals and meets the needs of our students. This involves overseeing the collection and analysis of pedagogical data to inform teaching practices and decision-making. I also regularly evaluate the impact of educational practices and the effectiveness of the Trinity Education Model.

I foster interdisciplinary collaborations within the college to improve student outcomes and implement and oversee an ethical framework for teaching, research, and collaboration. Furthermore, I cultivate partnerships with external research institutions and educational bodies and mentor and coordinate significant roles such as the Director of Digital Learning and Director of Creativity and Innovation, enhancing our educational offerings and ensuring our practices are at the forefront of educational innovation.

Why did you decide to go into a research-based position as opposed to becoming a legal practitioner? Was this something that you were thinking about whilst you were still studying at university?

I decided to pursue a research-based position rather than becoming a legal practitioner because I am deeply interested in exploring big ideas and their practical applications. While studying at university, I was already drawn to the dynamic intersection of knowledge and practice, which is central to my current role.

This interest lies particularly in how we can effectively translate theory into practice within specific contexts, moving beyond the notion of 'one-size-fits-all' solutions.

The aspect that captivates me the most is addressing the 'implementation gap' in education. I am motivated by the challenge of ensuring that theoretical interventions are not merely applied but adapted thoughtfully to the intricacies of real-world educational settings. I believe that education is a complex system, and simplistic linear solutions are inadequate for addressing its multifaceted challenges. My focus is on how we can better bridge the gap between what we know theoretically and how it is implemented practically, ensuring that failures are not unfairly attributed to teachers or students but understood as part of the broader complexities of educational systems. This perspective was something I contemplated during my university years and has significantly shaped my career path.

What has been a highlight or most rewarding aspect of your career?

A highlight and the most rewarding aspect of my career has been its dynamic nature. The fact that it is constantly changing and presents more questions than answers is profoundly stimulating. This environment encourages continuous learning and adaptation, allowing me to engage deeply with the complexities of education and leadership. The ongoing challenge of addressing new questions and exploring uncharted territories in educational practice is what keeps my work exciting and fulfilling.

What has been challenging about your career and post-graduate studies?

One of the most challenging aspects of my career and post-graduate studies has been coming to terms with the reality that I will never know everything. Accepting that the work in education and research is never truly complete has been a difficult, yet enlightening experience. However, this perpetual state of incompleteness is also what makes my career rewarding. It offers continuous opportunities for growth, learning, and development, which keeps the work engaging and ensures that there is always something new to strive towards.

What have you been writing your Masters / PhD on and how long will it take you?

I began my part-time PhD journey in 2020, although I took a six-month break during this period to welcome my youngest son. Currently, I am in the write-up phase of my research. My PhD focuses on the practices, networks, and value creation among teachers engaged in social learning to enhance their capacities as practitioner researchers. The core of my study revolves around teacher professionalism and the collaborative efforts of teachers aimed at achieving collective efficacy. Although I have until 2028 to complete my PhD, I am hopeful that I will finish well before this deadline.

Completing Honours in Law seems to be a very daunting task, let alone completing a PhD. If you could tell any students who are considering undertaking Honours or a PhD, what are your tips for them?

If students are considering undertaking Honours or a PhD, my key piece of advice would be to treat it like a job. Keep chipping away at it consistently. It's a highly rewarding journey, but it's crucial to be genuinely interested in your research question. This sustained interest is essential because, undoubtedly, there will be times when your motivation wanes. Staying engaged with your topic helps maintain momentum even during challenging periods.

What are your tips more generally for any current law student?

For current law students, my advice is to focus on the journey more than the destination. While it's rewarding to receive your degree at the end, remember that learning is a process, not just a product. Embrace the experience of acquiring knowledge and skills throughout your studies, and take opportunities to grow both academically and personally. This approach not only enriches your time at university but also prepares you more holistically for the challenges and opportunities of the legal profession.

Law & Research

Dr Stacey Henderson
Associate Professor &
Lead, Defence, Security & Space in
the Jeff Bleich Centre



What does your current role of Senior Research Fellow at Flinders entail?

My current role is funded by the Australian Government through a research grant and it involves conducting doctrinal research to investigate international laws and norms that apply to the use of chemical and biological agents against agriculture and materials.

What aspect of your job you find highly rewarding?

One thing that I find highly rewarding about my job is sharing my research findings with others, whether that is at conferences, in publications, or just in conversations. One of the most rewarding part of my job though is supervising research students through their PhD or Honours projects and seeing them succeed.

Were you always interested in international law? Were there any experiences that helped you decide on your career path?

I initially became interested in international law when I started a coursework Master of Laws while I was practicing in commercial litigation at a top tier firm in Melbourne. I found the study of international law really fascinating and decided to pursue my PhD in that area after returning to Australia after a long stint of working in the UK. Soon after starting my PhD, I decided that I wanted to pursue a career in academia.

What did you complete your PhD on and how did completing a PhD help you on your career path?

My PhD was on the responsibility of the international community to respond to atrocity crimes and the different measures, short of armed conflict, that can be lawfully used to help to protect populations in other countries. Completing my PhD helped me to secure my first full-time academic position as a lecturer.

You've focused on international law, responsibility of States, and governance of outer space and space technology. What are the new and emerging areas within these fields, and how might Flinders graduates be equipped for a career in such areas?

A lot of my research is forward looking, trying to predict the future and considering how the protective capacity of international law can be harnessed to protect the most vulnerable. Some of the biggest challenges at the moment in international law relate to the changing geopolitical environment and threats to democracy, climate change and the security risks that flow from that, and the emergence of new technologies including AI for use in armed conflict. Flinders graduates are well equipped to pursue careers tackling these big issues as the critical thinking skills developed during a law degree are essential for solving these problems.

What have been your experiences being the lead Defence, Security & Space in the Jeff Bleich Centre at Flinders?

As Lead, Defence, Security & Space in the JBC, I have the privilege of connecting with academics from a wide range of disciplines whose work is relevant to this research theme. One of the most valuable things about a research centre like the JBC is the interdisciplinary perspective which helps to avoid discipline silos and group think.

Do you have any advice for students looking to pursue international law or academia?

International law covers a wide range of areas, so the best piece of advice I can offer is to find the area that you are passionate about. The same advice would apply to pursuing a career in academia, particularly for

anyone considering pursuing a PhD as a pathway to an academic career.

If you could have your time back at University, would you do anything differently and what would that be?

If I had my time at University again, I would have done an exchange overseas during one of my degrees.

How much importance would you place on extra-curricular activities, volunteering, and legal work experience for law students?

Doing some legal work experience or volunteering (even a very brief amount) can be beneficial as it can give you a taste of what the legal profession is actually like. During my law degree, I did a short period of work experience at a firm specialising in criminal law and discovered that I absolutely hated it. That was an important lesson for me that criminal law was not an area that I wanted to pursue after graduation. Participating in extra-curricular activities can be a great way to build connections with your peers. But it is also important to remember that if you don't or aren't able to do these things, you can still secure a job in law and have an extremely successful career.

During the completion of your PhD, and whilst working, how do you manage your wellbeing as workload and possible stress levels increase? What are your tips for students in managing their wellbeing?

In short, sleep and coffee. In all seriousness though, when I started my PhD, I had a toddler and a 5 month old baby, so it was important for me to be able to manage my wellbeing and workload from the beginning and I still use some of the strategies that I put in place then. One thing that helps me is to block out times for different work tasks in my weekly planner, including things like responding to emails, dealing with administrative tasks, conducting research, writing, attending meetings, and so on.

I find knowing exactly what is on my schedule for the week helps me to manage my stress levels and helps me to know when I need to say no to things. But I also schedule times for breaks during the day when I might take a walk or sit outside in the garden. I find that physically stepping away from my desk and connecting in some way to nature can be rejuvenating and reboost my energy levels. Everyone will have something that is important for their wellbeing – whether that is a sport, music, gaming, catching up with family or friends, whatever it is – make sure that you make time for it in your week as it will help.

As a current academic, what advice do you have for students completing their law degree? Do you have any tips for current students regarding successful study techniques? (top tips, wellbeing, study, job application, honours, phd, anything you'd like to let students know about)!

My top tip for students interested in pursuing their Honours project or a PhD is to find the project that you are passionate about, that sparks the desire in you to find out more. This is how you will know that you have found the right project. And remember that academics love to talk about their work and areas of interest, so we are always happy to find a time to chat.

To Space & Beyond the Firm

Dr Joel Lisk

Lecturer in Space Law

**Flinders University, College of
Business, Government and Law**



applying a regulatory framework was a core part of the work). I had originally started working at Cowell Clarke as a law clerk while in the final year of my law degree.

I was also lucky enough to also have an opportunity to participate in the South Australian Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions clerkship program at the end of my final year which allowed me to experience a different area of law before I returned to Cowell Clarke as a Law Graduate.

I also commenced a PhD part time after graduating my law degree. This was a difficult decision to make as it required me to balance my work at Cowell Clarke with what was an intense and long-term project.

I left Cowell Clarke in 2022 to work at Flinders University's Jeff Bleich Centre as a Research Associate focused on the areas of space law and regulation of emerging technologies. I still continued to do some legal work with Cowell Clarke in an external capacity until 2023. At the beginning of 2024 I started a 'side hustle' with my own legal practice so I could continue to do legal work while I continued my research work at Flinders University. I also finished my PhD in 2024.

What has been your career path since graduating?

I started my post-law degree career in 2019 as a lawyer at Cowell Clarke Commercial Lawyers working within their commercial team. My role was focused on regulatory compliance matters, mainly in the areas of Australian Consumer Law, competition law, data and privacy, and not-for-profits and charities (but also lots of other areas of law where understanding and

What does your current role of Research Fellow at Flinders entail?

My role at Flinders University is a research-focused role, so broadly my job is aimed at exploring how we develop and apply laws to space activities (primarily private or commercial activities) as well as how laws work and apply to new and emerging technologies.

Most of my work is targeted at producing research outputs – journal articles, book chapters, commentaries, reports etc. I also do a lot of industry engagement work to understand how those that need to comply with laws (what we sometimes call ‘regulated populations’) experience regulatory frameworks. I do not always do this work alone, frequently working with colleagues within Flinders University as well as at universities across Australia and the world. I am also lucky enough to be able to have opportunities to guest lecture into courses at Flinders University and other universities of topics including space law, regulation more broadly, and lawyers skills.

Is there a particular aspect of your job you find highly rewarding and why?

My favourite part of my job is the ability to spend time understanding how laws work in a deep and thorough way. I’ve always been someone that has enjoyed diving into detail and this job allows me to do that. It also gives me the chance to meet and work with amazing people from across the world, which is great.

Were you always interested in space law? Were there any experiences that helped you decide on your career path?

My interest in space law did not really emerge until halfway through my law degree. I was really interested in ‘space’ as a kid, but thought that my inability to grapple with physics completely ruled me out of a career in the space sector. It was not until I was involved in a research project on space law and policy as an undergraduate that I realised that this was a ‘real’ area of law that I could eventually work in.

More broadly, participating in clerkship programs helped me understand what working in the law looks like. This helped me understand what ‘front end’ commercial legal work looked like – so, not disputes but helping clients comply with their legal obligations and managing risk – which in turn led me to want to work in a commercial law firm.

What does practising in space law involve?

What working in space law looks like really depends on the kind of role you have. As a commercial lawyer, actual space specific parts of my job were quite small. Most of the work related to the advising clients in the space sector about their obligations at law more generally (think, corporations law, how to raise funds to support space activities, technology control laws, contracts and liability management) but with a ‘space’ flavour. For the space sector, it is important to understand that the unique international legal regimes, coupled with the laws of various different countries, can feed into ‘everyday’ compliance activities and operations.

How did completing a PhD help you on your career path?

For an emerging area of legal work, working on a PhD (and eventually getting one) played an important role in signalling that I understood this area of law and could assist clients. Of course, a PhD is not for everyone. As the space sector becomes more mature, the need for higher level academic qualifications will not be as necessary – a law degree and a good understanding of the space sector should be sufficient. For those wishing to move into academia, a PhD is considered a pre-requisite in most instances. This is something to think about if wanting to pursue an academic career.

What is your advice for students looking to pursue space law?

My main advice is to become a good commercial lawyer first. Having a good understanding of how businesses comply with laws is the most important part of being a legal practitioner in the space sector. Being a good commercial lawyer means that you will also be able to spot other issues that are not space specific before they become ‘major’.

What are your experiences being self-employed at Lisk Legal?

My experiences as a sole practitioner are probably very different to many others that start their own legal practice, and this comes down to the reason for doing it. My reason for starting Lisk Legal is because I enjoyed working with clients and helping them to comply with their legal obligations. I also felt that working in legal practice helped me understand how laws work at a different level to a pure academic understanding. I have not been a sole practitioner for very long, but it brings with it a lot of other considerations including managing (sometime very complex) compliance with requirements set out in the Legal Practitioners Act and the by Law Society, financial management, and identifying clients.

If students wish to become self-employed solicitors, how might they get there and what is your advice?

There are several requirements that must be met before someone is able to become a self-employed solicitor. You must complete at least two years of supervised legal practice. This means you will need to work for another lawyer and hold a practising certificate for at least two years. You will then need to participate in a Legal Practice Management Course (or equivalent) in order to 'upgrade' your practising certificate to one that enables you to work on your own.

My advice on this is to first spend time working in a law firm environment to enable you have develop confidence and a skill set you can then use as a sole practitioner. Being a self-employed lawyer is not for everyone – much like how many people do not want to be a partner of a law firm – so it is important to consider this type of decision serious before making the leap.

What skills do you think are essential for law students who are seeking to enter the legal profession, or applying for clerkships and graduate positions?

Initiative is one of the most important skills for someone wanting to enter into the legal profession. The ability to receive instructions from a client or senior lawyer, process those instructions then act on them in a way that considers both the question asked and related important matters is essential. Another important factor is confidence.

Be confident in the education you have received and your own skills. Also be confident to identify that you do not know something. No lawyer is expected to know everything and its important to be confident enough in yourself to know when you do not know something.

What strategies do you have for managing your time, workload, and stress?

Being a lawyer can be a stressful endeavour. It is important to prioritise yourself by reserving time for the things you enjoy. This might be as simple as spending some time in front of the TV each night watching a horribly dramatic show on Netflix, or it could be exercise or sport. Having an outlet outside of work is incredibly important. Sometimes work can be hard and it can get in the way, but reserving time for yourself is essential for your own health.

In terms of workload, sometimes it might feel overwhelming or excessive. My way of dealing with this was to always do lists. This would help me prioritise urgency of work, estimate the time I would need to 'deal' with things, and get some satisfaction in crossing items off the list when done.

And finally, what are your top tips for law students?

University is an awesome time to try out different things and explore the areas of the law you really enjoy. I would always recommend competitions, they are great fun, you can make amazing friends, it is an awesome learning experience, and you get exposure to the legal profession or those with genuine legal backgrounds to give you advice and tips on how to improve on your work.

It might seem a bit cliché or strange, but I would always recommend maintaining your own personality. Sometimes it might feel like the interview processes for clerkships or jobs want you to be a perfect corporate drone, but this is far from the truth. Law firms are looking for people that will work well in their environment. They will have seen your grades and application if they are interviewing you. The interview is an opportunity for the prospective employer to learn more about you as a person.

Human Resources & Me

Kerie Chalker
Human Resources Manager,
CMAX Clinical Research



What does your current role of Human Resources Manager at CMAX Clinical Research entail?

My role as Human Resources Manager is that of a generalist incorporating a variety of key responsibilities and duties such as:

- Recruitment: job descriptions, advertising, screening, interviewing, job offers, onboarding.
- Employee relations: guidance and support for management and employees, implementing strategies to improve engagement and communication.

- Training & development: identify, develop and implement training programs to enhance skills and knowledge on the job, including leadership training and compliance training.
- Compensation and benefits management: Manage remuneration structures, analyse market and industry salary surveys, oversee benefits programs, ensure compliance with minimum Award conditions and pay guides where relevant.
- Compliance and legal: ensure the organisation complies with labour laws and regulations, develop/update HR policies and procedures, maintain accurate and confidential employee records.
- Organisational development: foster a positive organisational culture that promotes diversity, equity and inclusion. Support and manage organisational changes. Participate in strategic planning to align HR initiatives with business goals.
- Health & Safety: Ensure organisation adheres to work health and safety legislation. Implement and manage employee wellness programs.
- Administration & system management: Utilise systems, platforms and databases for efficient HR processes. Analyse HR data to inform decision making and improve HR and business practices as relevant.

Is there a particular aspect of your job you find highly rewarding?

My favourite part of my role is the diverse scope of my responsibilities, and the autonomy I have over the priorities and deliverables I am accountable for.

What are the challenges to being a HR manager?

Conflict resolution can be a challenge! Finding a way forward that harmonises between parties as well as delivers on the business expectations can be tricky, but is also very rewarding.

Were you always interested in HR? Were there any experiences that helped you decide on your career path?

My initial exposure to HR came from being a part of a Learning & Development Team in my early 20's, at that time the team I worked in went through a restructure to include HR accountabilities. The additional scope to my role really opened my eyes to new career pathways and I loved the challenge and the diversity and so I continued to pursue this pathway over the next 25+ years.

Do you have any advice for students looking to pursue HR roles?

Studies and knowledge are essential to a professional career, but equally important are developing your soft skills. The top soft skills to develop for success in HR that I recommend developing are:

1. Foster a love of communicating and liaising at all levels of an organisation.
2. Build a reputation for trust and integrity into everything you do.
3. Develop a resilience for conflict and not shying away from tough conversations.
4. Have a passion for making a difference for the organisation that positively impacts staff.

5. Be a proactive problem solver and trouble shooter. Always gain clarity on any issue/challenge – gather/analyse the facts, understand the relevant expectations/drivers of all parties, develop your suggested way forward, road test your approach with another person, back yourself and be confident in your way forward, be true to your personal morals and most of all be authentic.

Build proven experience and capability through any part time work or volunteer work, even if it is not in your chosen professional field, gaining a top reputation, gather reference letters and ask for endorsements from people who can help you – these are gold nuggets for employers in assessing your fit to their organisation.

What made you decide to start a law degree after being in HR and recruitment for over 20 years? What benefits will your degree bring you in your role?

My reason for starting a law degree whilst in my 40's was for two reasons:

- 1) Personal development and increase knowledge in an area I have always found to be interesting. Identified it as a good skill set to compliment my HR experience.
- 2) Continual employment legislative changes are a heavy burden for organisations to understand and comply with, necessitating a deeper clarity for senior HR practitioners overall (in my opinion).

What are your experiences completing a law degree part-time? How do you manage university and work?

I wish I had started this journey much sooner! It is definitely challenging working fulltime, being a mother to two young children, running a household as well as studying a law degree - this does not leave much time for fun and relaxation! Currently I am chipping away at my law degree one subject per semester and juggling this as best I can. I enjoy expanding my knowledge and implementing what I am learning everyday.

The downside is the length of time to complete the law degree part time, I have been studying for 6 years so far and hope to be finished soon.

- Balancing finances to minimise financial stress.
- Getting enough sleep, focusing on health.
- My older self has learned to pause for reflection and risk assessment before responding or making decisions.

HR is a potentially stressful position; how do you manage your wellbeing in your role?

I place a high value and attention on having good relationships with my direct HR & Training team and having the support of the senior executive and leadership teams in the business. Working with people I respect and admire and who do the same for me is the key to my wellbeing. The ability to debrief with a range of relevant people such as my direct manager, or with another trusted work colleague helps me to clarify and problem solve any issue.

Other areas for my wellbeing I focus on are:

- Building and maintaining good relationships in my personal life as well.
- Flexible working hours and ability for occasional work from home for balanced.
- Celebrating small and large milestones at work, at study and at home.



JOHNSON
WINTER
SLATTERY



Choose your next move wisely

A better place to work

At Johnson Winter Slattery (**JWS**), our approach to graduate training and development is different to other firms – our graduates work across all practice areas. With no fixed rotations, you have more freedom to choose the areas of law you are interested in.

There are no barriers to your success with us.

JWS is a leading independent Australian law firm. We work on high-profile and complex transactions and disputes, always with a focus on commercial outcomes.

We are a firm of more than 450 people, including 85+ partners, located in Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Canberra, Brisbane and Perth.

A BETTER PLACE TO WORK

jws .com . au

Chapter Four

Directory of Employers

Employer Directory

Civil Legal Practice

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Arnold Block Leibler
Attorney Government Solicitor
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CCK Lawyers
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Gilbert + Tobin
Griffins Lawyers
Herbert Smith Freehills

Hunt & Hunt
HWL Ebsworth
Johnson Winter & Slattery
Kain Lawyers
King & Wood Mallesons
Lander & Rogers
LK
Lynch Meyer
Maddocks
Minter Ellison
NDA Law
Norman Waterhouse
Norton Rose Fulbright
Piper Alderman
Slater and Gordon
Sparke Helmore
Thomson Geer
Wallmans Lawyers

www.allens.com.au

Offices

- Brisbane
- Hanoi
- Ho Chi Minh City
- Melbourne
- Perth
- Port Moresby
- Sydney

Major Practice Areas

- Arbitration
- Banking & Finance
- Capital Markets
- Client Products
- Climate Change
- Company Secretariat
- Competition Law
- Construction & Major Projects
- Energy
- Environment & Planning
- Financial Services Regulation
- Fund Management
- Insurance
- Intellectual Property
- Litigation & Dispute Resolution
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- Patents & Trademarks
- Personal Property Securities
- Privacy & Data Protection
- Private Equity
- Real Estate
- Regulatory Investigations
- Resources
- Restructuring & Insolvency
- Superannuation
- Tax
- Technology & Outsourcing
- Water
- Workplace Relations

Allens is an international law firm with offices throughout Australia and Asia. On 1 May 2012, we formed an integrated alliance with Linklaters. This has resulted in the two firms working together closely for the benefit of clients around the world.

The Allens and Linklaters integrated alliance provides our clients with access to market leading lawyers through a global network of 41 offices in 26 countries, including the emerging markets in Africa, Asia and South America. The alignment of our complementary practices enables us to offer an integrated service to clients, with one point of contact, a unified team drawn from the best resources of each firm, and consistent quality advice and support.

Our clients

Allens has some of the world's longest ongoing client relationships, stretching back more than 150 years. It is a fact of which we are immensely proud and one we never take for granted. We work with many of the world's leading organisations – including 55 of the world's top 100 companies and more than 75 of Australia's top 100 companies. Whether you're a global multinational or a suburban based company with a bright idea, our commitment to providing excellent service remains the same: combining technical excellence with commercial insight to provide the clearest of answers.

Our services

Allens provides access to leading lawyers and resources throughout Australia and Asia, covering all commercial issues, from acquisitions finance to workplace relations. We are praised for our innovative approach to complex work and delivering market-leading solutions to clients.

Arnold Bloch Leibler

www.abl.com.au

Offices

- Melbourne
- Sydney

Major Practice Areas

- Banking & Finance
- Commercial & Corporate
- Competition
- Litigation & Dispute Resolution
- Native Title & Public Interest Law
- Property & Development
- Public Companies
- Reconstruction & Insolvency
- Taxation
- Technology & Intellectual Property
- Workplace Advisory

Arnold Bloch Leibler is a premier Australian commercial law firm that has earned a reputation for its passion, results and its innovative and commercially focused advice. The firm is regularly involved in some of the most important landmark transactions in the country and assist its clients with their most important or difficult legal matters – when their reputation is at risk, in crisis situations or when embarking on key initiatives.

The firm provides strategic legal and commercial advice nationally to a diverse range of leading Australian corporations, high-net-worth individuals and large family businesses as well as international corporations. As a specialist commercial law firm, we have earned a reputation for achieving exceptional results. This is the product of our approach. Our attitude to finding solutions to clients' problems is

commercial, and goal driven. We take time to learn our clients' businesses and each problem is tackled with commitment and creativity.

Arnold Bloch Leibler is regularly involved in some of the most important transactions in Australia. In consistently ranks among the handful of firms with the level of expertise and breadth of practice to meet the varied and complex needs of this country's leading commercial enterprises.

Clerkships

After years of lectures, assignments and exams, you are probably planning to sleep in late and relax during the holidays. Tempting as that may be, if you want to get ahead, consider doing a seasonal clerkship at Arnold Bloch Leibler.

A seasonal clerkship at Arnold Bloch Leibler offers you the opportunity to experience first hand life as a lawyer and our stimulating and unique culture. We do not hide behind smoke and mirrors. Instead, we offer a programme where you have the opportunity to be an integral part of our firm.

Generally, we only take students in their penultimate year of study. Our experience has shown that, by this stage, students have reached a level of their education that can be developed further with us.

Australian Government Solicitor

www.ag.gov.au

Offices

- Adelaide
- Brisbane
- Canberra
- Darwin
- Hobart
- Melbourne
- Perth
- Sydney

Major Practice Areas

- Government and administrative law
- Corporate and commercial law
- Dispute resolution and litigation

The **Attorney Government Solicitor** became part of the Attorney-General's Department (AGD) on 1 July 2015 and is now one of 4 groups within AGD. It has an independent functional identity within AGD and is unique among legal service providers because we are a government agency set up to provide legal services to the Australian Government and its various departments, entities and agencies.

AGS is one of Australia's largest national law practices, with more than 300 lawyers and an office in every capital city. We successfully contest for work against Australia's top-tier law firms. We also undertake tied work (non-contestable) in the areas of constitutional, national security and public international law, as well as Cabinet matters. We are dedicated to government and assist the Attorney-General as First Law Officer to ensure that the Australian Government has access to high-quality legal and related services to advance the national interest. We work in government and public law, and specialise in constitutional and legislative interpretation across all the portfolios.

AGS has an unmatched High Court practice and also provides extensive commercial law services to government.

AGS conducts the Australian Government's constitutional litigation, which involves essential and core aspects of our system of government that can have enduring and whole-of-government implications beyond the interests of any particular portfolio. Such considerations require a specialised level of legal expertise and central coordination.

Ashurst

www.ashurst.com

Offices

- Adelaide
- Brisbane
- Canberra
- Melbourne
- Perth
- Sydney
- For international see website

Major Practice Areas

- Capital Markets
- Commercial Contracts
- Commodities
- Construction
- Corporate
- Data Protection and Privacy
- Dispute Resolution
- Employment
- Environment
- Finance
- Intellectual Property
- Investment Funds
- Native Title
- Outsourcing
- PFI/PPP
- Planning
- Private Equity
- Project Finance
- Public Sector & Government
- Real Estate
- Insolvency & Reconstruction
- Tax

Ashurst provide consistently high quality, commercially relevant legal advice worldwide, and build teams that are specific to our clients' needs, combining specialist legal skills, industry experience and regional know-how. We have a track record of successfully managing large and complex multi-jurisdictional transactions, disputes and projects. Our focus is on getting to the heart of your legal needs and delivering practical, commercial solutions.

In Australia, we work with leading global companies and government clients. Our clients include 73% of the top 100 ASX companies. We are proud to have advised on many of Australia's and the world's largest and most complex deals. We bring together lawyers with the required technical knowledge, direct industry experience and regional capability to support your legal needs and projects in Australia, Asia and across the globe.

Clerkships at Ashurst

Wondering what life as a lawyer might be like? Ashurst's clerkship program will help you make the transition from academic life to professional practice. A seasonal clerkship is a snapshot experience of the commercial legal profession and will influence your future career decisions. A clerkship is typically undertaken in the penultimate year of your Law degree.

Who are we looking for?

We appreciate the diversity of skills, experiences and perspective brought to Ashurst by all of our people. We also recognise that attracting the best talent with complementary strengths is critical to achieving the best team-based outcomes for our clients and our people. We look for the character and strengths we know are key to success from graduate through to partnership.

Baker McKenzie

www.bakermckenzie.com

Offices

- Bangkok
- Beijing
- Brisbane
- Hanoi
- Melbourne
- Ho Chi Minh City
- Hong Kong
- Jakarta
- Kuala Lumpur
- Manila
- Seoul
- Shanghai
- Sydney
- Taipei
- Tokyo
- Singapore
- Yangon

Major Practice Areas

- Banking & Finance
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- Private Equity
- Capital Markets
- Commercial Real Estate
- Construction
- Dispute Resolution & Litigation
- Employment & Industrial Relations
- Energy, Resources, Infrastructure & Corporate
- Technology, Communications & Commercial
- Intellectual Property
- Media
- Tax
- Environmental Markets

Baker McKenzie was conceived and built as a global law firm, so thinking and working globally is embedded in our culture and we understand the challenges of the global economy. We were formed in 1949 when an entrepreneurial Chicago attorney, Russell Baker, met the litigator, John McKenzie. McKenzie shared Baker's vision of creating the world's first multicultural, global law firm and our first office outside the USA was opened in Caracas in 1955. We are now the world's largest law firm by markets, revenue and headcount and have a network of 77 offices in 50 countries around the world.

We opened our first office in Asia Pacific in Manila in 1963, and have grown to 17 full service offices across 13 jurisdictions. With more than 1,000 locally qualified lawyers across the region, and 77 offices globally, Baker McKenzie is the firm with the greatest depth and breadth of coverage across the dynamic Asia Pacific markets. We have been a global law firm in Australia since 1964 and our Australian practice is now the fourth largest in our network with more than 85 partners and over 180 lawyers across Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane.

Baker McKenzie Australia offers our people access to complex, market-leading matters for leading multinational and domestic companies and the ability to work with some of the world's best legal minds – people who know the law and who understand business. We have an unrivalled ability to provide training and secondment opportunities across our global network. Locally, we have an inclusive culture of learning, coaching and opportunity where you will work in small teams on matters that often cross borders. We value people who think ahead and get noticed.

At **Baker McKenzie** we are different in the way we think, work and behave. Like no other law firm we were born global.

Camatta Lempens

www.camattalempens.com.au

Offices

- Adelaide

Major Practice Areas

- Practice Areas
- Bankruptcy
- Civil Dispute Resolution
- Commercial Litigation
- Corporate and Commercial
- Criminal Law and Traffic Law
- Domestic Partnership and Same Sex Relationship Issues
- Estate Planning
- Estates and Probate
- Family Law
- Franchising
- Insolvency
- Liquor Licensing
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Personal Injuries
- Property, Conveyancing and Commercial Leasing
- Wills

Camatta Lempens is committed to offering a safe, flexible and pleasant workplace. At the same time, we ensure that our people are rewarded for hard work with highly competitive remuneration and benefits, as well as rich opportunities for professional development and advancement.

As a midsize Adelaide firm we are large and reputable enough to attract quality clients and work, but small enough that our senior lawyers are accessible and that all staff make real contributions to our matters

Camatta Lempens Pty Ltd Lawyers is a long-established Adelaide law firm. We practice in commercial and civil litigation, corporate and commercial law, personal injury, native title, criminal law, family law, and estates.

Our client base is incredibly diverse. We act for local, national and international businesses across a range of industries, as well as individuals. We are particularly active in the not-for-profit sector.

CCK Lawyers

www.ccklawyers.com

Offices

- Adelaide

Major Practice Areas

- Commercial Disputes
- Commercial Transactions
- Construction & Engineering
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- Private Client Services
- Taxation & Tax Disputes
- Technology & Intellectual Property

Clerkships at CCK Lawyers include the opportunity to be involved in first class commercial legal work, personal mentoring by one of our lawyers, a comprehensive induction process, regular and constructive assessment of your work, and priority consideration for graduate positions.

CCK Lawyers is a commercial law firm with a strong reputation for resolving complex commercial matters quickly and cost-effectively. We take on the largest law firms in Australia, with an outstanding success rate.

Clerkships

We offer clerkships throughout the year for law students in their final or penultimate years of study. Applications are generally accepted in the middle of each year for places in the following calendar year.

Clerkships typically run for four to eight weeks and can be part time (at least two days per week) or full time as studies allow. Students who are undertaking pre-admission practical legal training courses may count their clerkship towards any practical experience requirement.

We seek motivated, hard-working people who are interested in working with experienced lawyers on complex legal matters, and who want to be part of the ongoing growth of the firm.

Clayton Utz

www.claytonutz.com.au

Offices

- Brisbane
- Canberra
- Darwin
- Hong Kong
- Melbourne
- Perth
- Sydney

Major Practice Areas

- Banking & Finance
- Capital Markets & Securities
- Competition
- Corporate/M&A
- Energy & Resources
- Environment & Planning
- Governance & Compliance
- Insurance & Risk
- Intellectual Property
- International Arbitration
- International Trade
- Litigation & Dispute Resolution
- Native Title
- Private Equity
- Real Estate
- Restructuring & Insolvency
- Taxation
- Telecommunications, Media & Technology
- Workplace Relations, Employment & Safety

Clayton Utz is one of Australia's leading law firms, with a reputation for standing out – and for being outstanding. With 175 partners and over 600 employees across six offices, we continue to build on our reputation for confident, innovative and incisive legal advice.

With a genuine commitment to client service, we are trusted advisers to a diverse base of private and public sector organisations. Our clients include many of Australia's top financial institutions, multinational corporations operating in a range of sectors, and state and Australian government departments and agencies. We are also a global leader in pro bono, with one of the largest pro bono practices of any law firm outside of the US. As an independent firm, we have relationships with leading firms around the world. That means our clients can be confident they have access to the best possible advice, wherever and whenever they need it.

We offer the sharpest legal minds. The clearest advice. And an unshakeable sense of what's possible.

Clerkships

Our Clerkship Program will expose you to the fast pace of a full-service commercial law firm and show you the law in action. You'll be working under the guidance of some of the sharpest legal minds in Australia, on challenging, complex and high-profile transactions and matters. You'll be mentored by partners and lawyers who are leaders in their fields, in a firm where individuality is embraced and innovation actively encouraged.

Corrs Chambers Westgarth

www.corrs.com.au

Offices

- Brisbane
- Melbourne
- Perth
- Port Moresby
- Sydney

Major Practice Areas

- Capital Markets
- Climate Change
- Communications and Technology
- Competition and Regulatory
- Construction, Major Projects & Infrastructure
- Corporate
- Cyber Security
- Employment, Workplace Relations &
- Safety
- Energy & Resources
- Environment & Planning
- Financial Services
- Foreign Investment into Australia
- Global Regulatory
- Government
- Health
- Intellectual Property
- Litigation & Dispute Resolution
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- Property & Real Estate
- Restructuring & Insolvency
- Royal Commissions & Inquiries
- Tax

Corrs has a strong history spanning more than 170 years but we are firmly focussed on creating opportunities for our clients in the rapidly changing business landscape of today and tomorrow. Our vision as a world class law firm is to drive Australia's competitiveness and its economic engagement with Asia.

We have offices in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Port Moresby and Perth as well as a strong partnering relationships throughout the Asia Pacific region and worldwide. Our independence and our network of the world's best independent firms provide a competitive advantage for our clients. That gives us the flexibility to deliver the most effective and expert solution for their international needs.

Corrs is led by our Chief Executive Officer, Gavin Maclaren and Sandy Mak, our Head of Corporate.

Our clients want a different type of law firm that is strategic, creative, flexible and able to work in their worlds. These are the qualities that characterise and differentiate our people - world class lawyers who are prepared to think big and do things differently.

With more than 600 lawyers, including 120 partners, our people are consistently recognised for world class services and results.

We have built a culture of collaboration and excellence in which each person is encouraged, supported and trained to be world class. This is the key to excellent results for our people and our clients. Our commitment to our people has made us a much sought-after employer. We are consistently recognised as an Employer of Choice, and are the only large national law firm to be awarded ALB Gold Employer of Choice two years in a row – as voted by our staff in an independent national survey.

Corrs Chambers Westgarth is a premium independent law firm. We work with our clients as true partners in their business. We bring insight, innovation and agility to create success for them on a global stage.

Cowell Clarke

www.cowellclarke.com.au

Offices

- Adelaide
- Sydney

Major Practice Areas

- Banking and Finance
- Commercial Transactions
- Corporate
- Debt Recovery
- Dispute Resolution
- Employment & Industrial Relations
- Environment, Planning & Sustainability
- Environmental, Social & Governance (ESG)
- Equity Capital Markets
- Estate Administration
- Insolvency & Turnaround
- International Trade
- Intellectual Property & Information Technology
- Personal Property Securities Act
- Privacy & Data
- Superannuation
- Tax & Revenue
- Third Party Family Law Disputes

Cowell Clarke is a specialist commercial law firm based in Adelaide. We act for clients in all sectors of business and industry in Australia and internationally. Through our exclusive membership of ALFA International, we give our clients access to specialist legal resources virtually anywhere they have business worldwide.

Clerkships

Cowell Clarke has an outstanding Career Development Program which includes Summer Clerkships & PLT Placements. From time to time, we also have ongoing part time clerk positions available.

We offer several Summer Clerkships, between November and February each year. As we participate in the South Australian Law Students' Council Uniform Clerkship Scheme, the application dates are as prescribed by the Scheme. We accept applications for PLT Placements on an ongoing basis.

You will have access to and work with senior lawyers who are recognised as being the best in their fields. You will have direct client contact. In addition, every clerk is given an opportunity to work in our corporate & commercial, dispute resolution and property practices. While the focus is on variety, we are also happy to accommodate particular areas of interest. You will also have the opportunity to participate in our Professional Development Program, including sessions tailored especially for you.

An element we believe sets us apart from other law firms is the focus that our partners have on creating a supportive and enjoyable work environment. You won't be expected to work 16 hours per day. We recognise that it is not the time you spend at work, but rather what you do when you are there. We work with you to ensure you make the most of your experience at Cowell Clarke.

Our clerkship program enables our clerks to experience the broadest range of practice areas, with rotations through property, corporate & commercial, and our various dispute resolution teams.

Crown Solicitor's Office

www.agd.sa.gov.au/law-and-justice/crown-solicitors

Offices

- Adelaide

Major Practice Areas

- Civil Litigation
- Commercial, Environment and Native Title
- Crown Counsel
- Public Law

The **Crown Solicitor** is responsible for the provision of high quality legal services to the Government of South Australia. The Crown Solicitor's Office (CSO) provides legal advice to Cabinet, Ministers and government agencies, represents the Government of South Australia before courts and tribunals, drafts legal documents for the government, provides conveyancing and other property related services, investigates on behalf of government, and resolves native title claim issues through negotiated agreements.

Clerkships

The CSO Summer Clerkship program offers law students an opportunity to gain practical legal experience within a government environment and undertake work within a legal practice. Each year 5-9 placements are offered to students. Placements are highly sought after and extremely competitive.

Students completing their final years of study are invited to apply for a summer clerkship. CSO is interested in students who are high achievers in both their academic and personal lives, with good interpersonal skills, relevant legal work experience and relevant references.

The summer clerkship offers selected students the opportunity to take part in a structured program, including training and development sessions covering a range of legal and non-legal topics:

- introduction to CSO
- training in drafting and legal research
- information session on the practice management system
- file and matter management
- assisting in client matters, under supervision.

Summer clerkships are offered for a period of 8 weeks each year, typically commencing in late November to early/ mid-December. Summer clerkships conclude in time for students to attend the first practical legal training program offered by the Law Society.

Students offered clerkships will be paid for the full 8 weeks. Each summer clerk is allocated to a section within CSO, or outposted to various government agencies. For more information about the program and how to apply, please visit the CSO website.

Practical Legal Training

The CSO offers placements to students wishing to complete the practical legal training (PLT) component of their professional qualifications. Placements are offered to approximately six students three times per year, for a period of six weeks (225 hours) in accordance with the guidelines set by the Law Society. Applications will be considered as they are received and will be filled on a rolling basis. Once the PLT allocation has been met we will no longer be able to accept any more applications, therefore we encourage students to apply as soon as possible. For more information about the program and how to apply, please visit the CSO website.

DLA Piper

www.dlapiper.com/en

Offices

- Brisbane
- Melbourne
- Perth
- Sydney

Major Practice Areas

- Corporate
- Employment
- Finance and Projects
- Intellectual Property and Technology
- Litigation and Regulatory
- Real Estate
- Restructuring
- Tax

DLA Piper is a global law firm with lawyers in the Americas, Asia Pacific, Europe, Africa Latin America, and the Middle East, positioning us to help companies with their legal needs around the world. We strive to be the leading global business law firm by delivering quality and value to our clients. We achieve this through practical and innovative legal solutions that help our clients succeed. We deliver consistent services across our platform of practices and sectors in all matters we undertake.

Our clients range from multinational, Global 1000, and Fortune 500 enterprises to emerging companies developing industry leading technologies. They include more than half of the Fortune 250 and nearly half of the FTSE 350 or their subsidiaries. We also advise governments and public sector bodies.

In Australia we are trusted legal advisors to approximately a third of the ASX 100 companies or their subsidiaries and all levels of government. We spend time getting to know our clients, so that we can understand their businesses and provide strategic legal solutions that are practical and commercially focused.

Clerkships

A clerkship is a great way to gain insight into our firm. It is also an important step if you are interested in a graduate position with us, as our clerkship pool forms the basis of our graduate recruitment. During your clerkship you can expect to do a variety of things both in and outside the office. The tasks you are involved in will depend on the team you are assigned to and the work they have on at the time. Some common examples include accompanying lawyers to court, attending client meetings and mediations, and assisting on large corporate transactions.

All clerks are assigned a buddy (usually a current graduate) and a supervisor (senior associate or senior lawyer) who will support and guide you through the clerkship.

DMAW Lawyers

www.dmawlawyers.com.au

Offices

- Adelaide

Major Practice Areas

- Agribusiness
- Banking and Finance
- Commercial
- Construction and Projects
- Corporate and Markets
- Cyber and Information Security
- Disputes and Litigation
- Energy and Resources
- ESG and Sustainability
- Franchising
- Government
- Hospitality
- Insolvency and Restructuring
- Intellectual Property
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Native Title & Cultural Heritage
- Property and Development
- Regulatory and Investigations
- Start-ups and Scale-ups
- Superannuation and Funds
- Tax and Revenue
- Workplace and Safety

We are committed to the delivery of prompt precise results of real value to clients. Our lawyers bring genuine expertise and experience in the areas of legal practice that are important to business.

We also pride ourselves on understanding our clients' businesses, and we bring to the table a commercial approach and the experience of having been involved in a variety of industry and business sectors.

Clerkships at DMAW Lawyers

We offer summer clerkships. Applications are invited from penultimate and final year law students for clerkship intakes over November/December and January/February each year. Clerkships are for a duration of 4 weeks and involve a range of genuine work and activity on client instructions, closely supervised by our Senior Lawyers.

DMAW Lawyers is a leading South Australian based commercial law firm providing services throughout Australia.

Our approach is to develop focused team environments that offer true expertise in practice areas important to our clients. Experience suggests that this is the best structure to provide our clients with the specialist skills, flexibility and the responsiveness necessary to achieve the results that they seek and expect.

DW Fox Tucker

www.dwfoxtucker.com.au

Offices

- Adelaide

down-to-earth, relationship-based culture and responsive, personal service ethic.

We pride ourselves on delivering everything our clients demand, and a little more besides – for every client, on every matter. So whatever your commercial needs or objectives, don't hesitate to contact us.

At DW Fox Tucker, every client matters.

Major Practice Areas

- Corporate & Commercial
- Dispute Resolution & Insolvency
- Employment Law
- Energy & Resources
- Risk Management & Insurance
- Family Law
- Hospitality & Licensing
- Intellectual Property
- Property
- Tax
- Wills & Estates
- Workers Compensation & Self Insurance
- Wine law

DW Fox Tucker is a leading independent South Australian commercial law firm. We were established on 1 October 2014 when the former partners of Donaldson Walsh joined with those of Fox Tucker to create an entirely new firm offering a broad, comprehensive range of general commercial services complemented by a suite of expert specialist services for clients in specific key industries and niche market sectors.

With a team of nationally recognised standouts in their field, we are able to offer an outstanding breadth of experience and the capability to handle commercial matters of any size or complexity. Importantly, however, we are still ideally sized to do so with a

Finlaysons

www.finlaysons.com.au

Offices

- Adelaide
- Darwin

Major Practice Areas

- Agribusiness
- Banking & Finance
- Commercial Disputes
- Corporate
- Defence
- Energy
- Environment, Climate Change & Planning
- Family Business
- Health
- Insurance
- Intellectual Property, Technology & Media
- Property & Development
- Resources
- Tax & Revenue
- Wills, Estates & Succession Planning
- Wine
- Workplace Relations, Management & Safety

We know that lawyers develop much of their expertise by working alongside more experienced practitioners. All employees are encouraged to use every day work situations to assist in developing the skills and knowledge of less experienced colleagues. Many learning opportunities both within and external to the firm are available to employees.

Finlaysons is a leading Adelaide law firm with a blue chip client base and commercial focus. We maintain our standing by evolving with the market and the changing needs of our clients. Our goal is to work in partnership with our clients, providing the best advice for the best outcome. To deliver this, we have specialist teams with intimate knowledge of diverse business sectors.

Learning & Development

Professional excellence is expected as standard at Finlaysons. We are fully committed to the continuing professional development of all of our people.

In-House Continuing Legal Education Program - Seminars are presented on relevant topics on a monthly basis. The presentations are delivered by a mix of our own practitioners, internal practice management and external specialists.

External Training – Attendance at seminars and courses that are relevant to your area of practice and personal development is encouraged.

Specialised Programs - Programs such as our graduate lawyer development program and other specialised programs are facilitated for both professional and support staff.

Technology Training - All new employees undergo a comprehensive on-boarding program to become familiar with software packages, firm procedures and general operations at Finlaysons.

Direct any enquiries you may have to People & Development on 8235 7400.

Gilbert + Tobin

www.gtlaw.com.au

Offices

- Melbourne
- Perth
- Sydney

Major Practice Areas

- Banking + Infrastructure
- Competition + Regulation
- Corporate Advisory
- Employment
- Environment, Social & Governance (ESG)
- Intellectual Property
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- Pro Bono
- Real Estate + Projects
- Restructuring & Insolvency

If you share our ambition to be the best, **Gilbert + Tobin** will place you on that trajectory. We employ a diverse mix of talented and ambitious people who are attracted to the firm because of its entrepreneurial spirit, creative approach and capacity for change. These are the reasons we enjoy a reputation as the most successful corporate law firm to emerge in Australia in many years.

We advise many of Australia's and the world's leading organisations and focus on the most dynamic sectors. Our clients and projects span Australia, Asia and emerging African markets.

As a young and independent firm we're not constrained by tradition, so we are always open to change, new ideas and different perspectives on how

to deliver the best outcomes to our clients.

We work within a flat structure, which means our clerks and graduates have direct access to lawyers and partners who are experts in their fields, as well as matters that will improve their skill sets and career prospects. We offer an informal and relaxed environment, approachable partners and lawyers, diverse teams, friendly people who care about the firm and the high performance contribution they make irrespective of their role.

G+T presents a unique opportunity for you to make a name for yourself through the matters and transactions you work on, with personal accountability yet supported by those around you.

"Our culture is quite unique, with its focus on innovation and change. It challenges you to do better, and to be bold and stand by the advice we give. But one thing that surprised me when I joined is how caring it also is. It's not just about getting the work done – there's genuine empathy, and a lack of formality or bureaucracy."

- Anna Sparkes, Chief People Officer

What we look for

We're not a prescriptive firm when it comes to our people; we invite individuality and diversity. We also hold ambition, creativity and entrepreneurial spirit in high regard. Our people are collaborative, passionate and dedicated — but most of all they enjoy what they do and never forget to have fun. We seek clerks and graduates who will complement our practice groups and don't feel the need to take themselves too seriously.

Griffins Lawyers

www.griffins.com.au

Offices

- Adelaide
- Melbourne
- Sydney

Ultimately we provide business solutions for our clients through the provision of practical and strategic legal services. Our vision is to be recognised as an inspiring company leading the way in the legal profession.

Major Practice Areas

- Arts & Entertainment
- Civil Litigation
- Commercial Litigation
- Commercial Tenancies
- Construction
- Corporate Advice & Insolvency
- Criminal (Workplace Crime)
- Defamation Advice & Litigation
- Dispute Resolution
- Employment & Industrial
- Insurance Advice & Litigation
- Liquor Licensing & Gaming Issues
- Planning, Environment & Local Government
- Sports & Representation

Griffins Lawyers is a dynamic, rapidly growing law firm with offices in Adelaide, Sydney, and Melbourne. We specialise in commercial, insurance and planning, environmental and local government law.

We have over twenty years experience in providing technically proficient and astute legal advice to both national and international clients in all jurisdictions of Australia.

We recognise the importance of providing customer service and consistently deliver service of a high standard, ensuring our clients receive the best possible representation.

Herbert Smith Freehills

www.herbertsmithfreehills.com

Offices

- Brisbane
- Melbourne
- Perth
- Sydney

Major Practice Areas

- Asset management and investment funds
- Capital markets
- Competition, regulation and trade
- Compliance and regulatory
- Corporate
- Corporate crime and investigations
- Corporate governance and head office advisory
- Crisis management
- Dispute resolution
- Employment, pensions and incentives
- Environment, planning and communities
- Finance
- Intellectual property
- Mergers and acquisitions
- Projects and infrastructure
- Real estate
- Restructuring, turnaround and insolvency
- Tax

Takeovers and mergers. Arbitration and litigation. We've got it all. And because **Herbert Smith Freehills** is one of the world's leading law firms, we also work with some of the biggest international organisations on some of their most ambitious projects.

Thanks to the quality of our international network, we're able to offer our clients both domestic and

cross-border services, which means you get the chance to work in a truly global way.

Our work is incredibly varied. We provide top quality tailored legal advice to major corporations, governments and financial institutions as well as different types of commercial organisations. We're proud to be a full-service firm and we're proud to be able to do more for our clients.

Herbert Smith Freehills is a place where you won't just experience everything, you'll be a part of it. So if you've got the drive and ambition to become an exceptional lawyer, we'd like to hear from you.

Clerkships

Finding the right fit for you is key to deciding where to start your legal career. Since working together is a good way to get to know each other, we offer a range of summer and winter clerkships in each of our Australian offices. We encourage students to participate in our vacation clerkship program and we fill the majority of our graduate positions through this program.

Spend part of your vacation with us and you'll get a great understanding of how we go about meeting the needs of our clients. The program includes a detailed introduction to the firm and to each practice group, as well as the opportunity to work with our legal teams on real matters.

For more information, visit:

careers.herbertsmithfreehills.com/au/grads/vacation-clerkships

Hunt & Hunt

www.hunthunt.com.au

Offices

- Adelaide
- Brisbane
- Darwin
- Griffith
- Melbourne
- Perth
- Sydney

Major Practice Areas

- Asset Protection and Succession Planning
- China Advisory
- Corporate and Commercial
- Competition and Consumer Law
- Employment and Workplace Relations
- Environment and Planning
- Family Law
- Intellectual Property
- Insolvency and Restructuring
- Litigation and Dispute Resolution
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Property
- Wills and Estates Planning
- Workers Compensation

Established in 1929, **Hunt & Hunt** is a vibrant, mid-sized law firm that provides tailored legal advice to clients across Australia and internationally. Our broad client base includes large and small businesses, government departments, major insurance firms, not-for-profit organisations and private clients.

Our professionalism, combined with our friendly and energetic approach, has made Hunt & Hunt a trusted advisor to some of Australia's largest and most diverse organisations.

Clerkship Program

A seasonal clerkship at Hunt & Hunt lets you explore a broad spectrum of legal work before you decide on your area of specialisation. Hunt & Hunt offers clerkship positions in its Melbourne office.

Why Choose Hunt & Hunt?

A clerkship at Hunt & Hunt gives you a head start in your legal career. Over four weeks, you'll work with senior lawyers on relevant, diverse matters across a range of industry sectors, in a supportive and close-knit environment. Most importantly, you'll get direct access to partners who are leaders in their field.

Our review process for clerks ensures you have a relevant and varied experience, receive regular feedback, support and training to help you develop your skills and career.

We believe that getting you involved in real work helps us get to know each other better and allows you to decide if Hunt & Hunt is the right firm for you.

HWL Ebsworth

www.hwlebsworth.com.au

Offices

- Adelaide
- Brisbane
- Canberra
- Darwin
- Hobart
- Melbourne
- Norwest
- Sydney
- Perth

Major Practice Areas

- Aged Care and Retirement Living
- Banking and Finance
- Building and Construction
- Commercial Contracting
- Competition and Consumer
- Corporate Governance
- Energy and Resources
- Environment and Planning
- Equity Capital Markets
- Financial Services Regulatory
- Foreign Investment
- Government
- Information Technology
- Infrastructure
- Intellectual Property
- Insurance
- Litigation and Dispute Resolution
- Media and Telecommunications
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Property
- Retail and Franchising
- Solvency and Security Enforcement
- Taxation
- Transport
- Workplace Relations and Occupational
- Health & Safety

HWL Ebsworth is Australia's largest and fastest growing legal partnership, we are proud to offer our staff unrivalled career development opportunities and provide them with a chance to work with Australia's most highly regarded commercial organisations, as well as Commonwealth Government and State Government Departments and Agencies. Our differentiators include the following factors:

Clerkship Program

HWL Ebsworth's Clerkship Program is structured to present you with hands-on experiences and training to develop your legal skills and knowledge whilst offering the chance to network with a range of practitioners throughout the firm. You will be exposed to a broad range of work within your designated Practice Groups and we will have the opportunity to get to know you on both a personal and professional level.

At HWL Ebsworth we believe that a healthy balance between work and personal life is crucial. During your Clerkship, you will experience what it is like to be an employee of HWL Ebsworth and you will have the opportunity to attend a variety of social and networking events hosted by the firm.

We are excited to run our Summer Clerkship Program again in 2025. Our recruitment dates are aligned to the Uniform Clerkship Scheme and further details of how to apply can be found via the Graduate Centre on our website. It can be found here:

<https://hwlebsworth.com.au/graduate-centre/>

Johnson Winter Slattery

www.jws.com.au

Offices

- Adelaide
- Sydney
- Melbourne
- Perth
- Brisbane
- Canberra

Major Practice Areas

- Transactional & Advisory
- Dispute Resolution

Specialist Areas

- Competition
- Corporate
- Corporate Governance
- Debt Finance
- Dispute Resolution
- Employment
- Energy & Resources
- Funds Management
- Intellectual Property & Information Technology
- Regulatory
- Restructuring & Insolvency
- Tax

Johnson Winter Slattery is engaged by major Australian and international corporations as legal counsel on their business activities, disputes and most challenging transactions throughout Australia and surrounding regions.

Our role

Our representation of major corporations in many landmark and transformational deals and complex disputes positions us as a leading independent Australian firm.

Our approach

With an appreciation of our client's commercial needs, we blend legal expertise with commercial and market awareness to deliver high quality legal services. This means working closely with clients and their in-house counsel to understand their commercial objectives, and ensuring our approach is tailored to deliver timely commercial outcomes.

Our difference

Our higher ratio of senior lawyers means clients engage directly with the tactical minds and industry expertise required to succeed in complex and high stakes deals and disputes. A partnership ethos of service, technical excellence and collaboration ensures the most relevant specialist expertise and experience is brought to bear on every assignment.

Kain Lawyers

www.kainlawyers.com.au

Offices

- Adelaide
- Sydney

Major Practice Areas

- Business Structuring
- Business Succession
- Commercial Advice
- Corporate Finance
- Corporate Governance
- Dispute Solutions
- Equity Capital Markets
- Financial Services
- Funds Management

Kain Lawyers advise in Private and Public M&A, Equity Capital Markets, Debt Capital Markets, Investment Funds, Property & Real Asset Transactions, Capital Structuring and Transaction Disputes.

We are ranked as one of Australia's top mid-market transaction firms.

Each transaction is led from start to finish by a hands on Director, who is recognised by industry peers as an expert in their field.

Attracting and retaining quality young lawyers is a key driver of the success of our business. For this reason, we invest significant time upfront, identifying, employing and nurturing candidates who have the skills and the cultural alignment to become long-term members of our team and help us achieve our strategic objectives.

If you're in your penultimate year of study, then you should apply for a place in our summer clerkship programs. There is a five-week program which will provide you, as a law student, with a taste of what it's like to work in an exciting and progressive legal business, or a one-year transactions training program known as TransactionPro.

TransactionPro is an intensive one-year training program developed by our directors that accelerates the development of core transactional skills for our graduates and lawyers. This hands-on experience and training places our clerks ahead of the pack when it comes to transaction and transaction dispute experience and helps them start their career with confidence.

In either clerkship, our clerks undertake training in our systems and in practical applications of legal theory as well as obtaining real-world experience with clients. Those who excel in the clerkship program will generally be offered further positions in our business.

King & Wood Mallesons

www.kwm.com/en/au

Offices

- Brisbane
- Canberra
- Melbourne
- Perth
- Sydney
- See website for international offices

Major Practice Areas

- Practice areas
- Acquisitions and Sales
- Administrative Law
- Banking and Finance
- Building and Construction
- Business Law
- Business Structures/Reorganisations
- Capital Raisings
- Compliance and Corporate Governance
- Corporate Advice
- Defamation
- Dispute Resolution
- Employment and Industrial Relations
- Financial Services & Superannuation
- Franchising
- Immigration
- Information Technology
- Intellectual Property
- Liquor Licensing
- Major Projects
- Media Law
- Native Title & Aboriginal Heritage
- Professional and Directors Liability
- Property
- Tax and Revenue
- Takeovers and Schemes
- Trade Practices

King & Wood Mallesons is a new breed of law firm combining local depth with a global platform. Offering a different perspective to commercial thinking and the client experience, 2,700 lawyers across more than 30 international offices are working with clients every day to understand local challenges and navigate through regional complexity. With access to a global platform, we are providing commercial solutions and transforming the way legal services are delivered.

How do we do this? By focusing not just on what you want, but how you want it. Working in close partnership with clients, our relationships are built on delivering a market leading experience and providing access to deep legal insights and local connections, with the benefit of a global platform.

Clerkships

We offer clerkships for students who are in their penultimate year of university. Working under the supervision of a partner, development coach and buddy, the program will enable you to get the most out of your placement and to become familiar with the firm and how it operates.

Our Clerks participate in a comprehensive clerkship program. The program is designed to:

- Help clerks to understand our firm, its practices and procedures
- Equip clerks with the information and skills needed to get the most out of their placements at King & Wood Mallesons.

Lander & Rogers

www.landerson.com.au

Offices

- Brisbane
- Melbourne
- Sydney

Major Practice Areas

- Anti-discrimination and equal opportunity
- Building, construction and engineering
- Capital raising and financing
- Company and securities law (including ASX)
- Compensation Law
- Competition and consumer law
- Dispute resolution
- Employment
- Energy and resources
- Environmental compliance
- Family and relationship law
- Financial services & Superannuation
- Government
- Industrial relations
- Infrastructure and PPPs
- Insolvency, restructuring and mortgage recoveries
- Insurance
- Intellectual Property and Technology
- International trade and investment
- Investigations
- Mergers, acquisitions & joint ventures
- Occupational health and safety
- Privacy Law
- Project development
- Property
- Regulated industries
- Risk management
- Sport and events
- Training

Lander & Rogers is a leading independent Australian law firm operating nationally from Brisbane, Melbourne and Sydney. We have seven main areas of practice and are a principal advisor to many publicly listed and private Australian companies, Australian subsidiaries of global companies, as well as all levels of government. We provide practical legal advice, along with exceptional client service, and we are renowned in Australia for our down-to-earth and friendly culture.

Clerkships

Our seasonal/summer clerkship program is a law student's key opportunity to gain first-hand experience of the law in practice, and our working environment. The clerkships are the time to test run what you've learned at University (with the reassurance of a safety net), and a perfect chance to gauge whether or not Lander & Rogers offers the type of working environment that's the right fit for you.

You'll be well looked after... our seasonal/summer clerkship program is built on learning and fun. We know you've joined us because you're curious about what it's like to be a lawyer, so we'll do everything we can to show you the way by giving you a chance to have a go for yourself. When joining us you'll be teamed with two lawyers (one experienced, and another a little closer in level to you) who immerse you in the day to day running of their practices. What that means on a practical level will vary depending on the practice group you join (we'll ask you to indicate your preferences). Please see the website for further information on how to apply. See here:

<https://www.landerson.com.au/careers/students-and-graduates>

www.lk.law

Offices

- Adelaide
- London

Major Practice Areas

- Complex commercial litigation and arbitration
- Cross-border insolvency and asset recovery
- Independent corporate and regulatory investigations
- Dispute avoidance and alternative dispute resolution
- Risk minimisation and governance advice
- Litigation due diligence and project management

LK has a consistent track record of delivering outstanding results for our clients, in some of the most significant disputes and inquiries. The overwhelming majority of our projects involve actions in multiple jurisdictions, including Asia, the UK, Continental Europe, the US, the Middle East, all the major offshore jurisdictions, and throughout Australia. Our project teams comprise of lawyers from across our offices in Australia and London, and draw on our shared expertise, experience and contacts. A career at LK provides opportunities and experiences that are unrivalled in Australia.

Our Clerkship Program

LK offers clerkships to penultimate and final year law students who have demonstrated academic excellence, practical ability and commitment to the highest levels of achievement.

Clerks are directly exposed to client project work, which is distinct in terms of its magnitude, complexity and international scope. They experience first-hand LK's collaborative, ground-up approach to litigating and resolving legal claims.

Clerks participate in a variety of tasks and work directly with senior lawyers and principals. They are important members of our project teams and perform real professional work for real clients. This includes drafting and presenting research, assisting in the preparation of client advice and preparing court documents.

In addition, clerks at LK receive training on the firm's research methodology, approach to practice and multi-jurisdictional resources. Clerks are encouraged to participate in all aspects of firm life, including taking part in the firm's social, sporting and community activities.

Application Process

We offer up to 20 clerkship placements annually at mutually convenient times throughout the year and in particular during summer and winter university holidays.

Please visit our website for details regarding the application process. See here:

<https://www.lk.law/careers/application-process/>

Lynch Meyer

www.lynchmeyer.com.au

Offices

- Adelaide

Major Practice Areas

- Aged Care and Retirement Villages
- Agribusiness
- Banking and Finance
- Construction, Infrastructure and Engineering
- Environment, Planning and Resources
- Credit Management and Debt Recovery
- Not-for-Profit Sector
- Property
- Transport, Freight and Logistics

When you join us you'll be part of a progressive, dynamic firm that offers stimulating work from a diverse group of clients, and real work life balance.

Ours is a culture which encourages people to speak up and be heard. We expect our people to listen to colleagues and clients alike.

When we do things really well we recognise our people for their achievements and we celebrate.

Lynch Meyer offers a vast range of useful services for small-to-medium enterprises, large corporations and not for-profit organisations. We also provide specialised wealth management services to our private clients.

As a leading Adelaide law firm, we pride ourselves on offering all our clients practical, commercial legal advice and first rate service.

Most of our clients are based in the construction and engineering, property and development, finance or retirement villages and aged care industries. Many are leaders in their field.

Our advice is strategic - everything we do is designed to strengthen our clients' commercial position and deliver the outcomes they want.

Maddocks

www.maddocks.com.au

Offices

- Canberra
- Melbourne
- Sydney

Major Practice Areas

- Advertising, Brands & Marketing
- Advocacy
- Asia & International
- Banking & Finance
- Commercial Contracts
- Competition & Regulation
- Compliance & Enforcement
- Construction & Projects
- Consumer Markets & Franchising
- Corporate & Commercial
- Debt Recovery (Local Government)
- Dispute Resolution & Litigation
- Emergency Services
- Emerging Companies
- Employment
- Energy & Resources
- Environment
- Equity Capital Markets

Our clients tell us they come to **Maddocks** because we have the expertise they require, delivered with a strong emphasis on personalised service. What's more, they explain that the difference between a Maddocks lawyer and others they deal with is that we're welcoming, we value long-term relationships and provide clarity and commerciality in our advice.

Maddocks' Seasonal Clerk program is a great opportunity to experience working in a dynamic legal office and familiarise yourself with the firm. It starts with an orientation, followed by a period in three of our seven practice groups.

You will be exposed to a variety of areas within the firm and your experience may help you in determining your main areas of interest.

For each rotation, you are assigned a co-coordinator who allocates work, provides support and evaluates your progress.

We work collaboratively with our clients to build strong, sustainable relationships – our longest is now more than 100 years old. Our lawyers aim to deliver consistently high standards of service, and we understand the importance of accessibility, responsiveness and transparency. Working with us, you'll enjoy open communication, meaning well scoped, appropriately resourced and effectively managed matters.

MinterEllison

www.minterellison.com

Offices

- Adelaide
- Auckland
- Beijing
- Brisbane
- Canada
- Canberra
- Gold Coast
- Hong Kong
- London
- Melbourne
- Perth
- Shanghai
- Sydney
- Wellington

Major Practice Areas

- Dispute resolution
- Corporate including:
- Energy and Resources
- Major projects construction and Infrastructure
- Regulatory and government
- Tax
- Intellectual Property and Competition Law
- Financial services (including insolvency)
- Human resources and industrial relations
- Insurance and corporate risk
- Real estate (including environment and planning)
- Workers compensation

MinterEllison is a leading international law firm based in Australia with a local presence in Adelaide. The firm offers legal services and commercial solutions to national and multinational companies, public and private sector clients.

Our people have extensive experience working with businesses across a range of sectors including: agribusiness, health and aged care, higher education, not-for-profit, SMEs and energy and resources, encapsulating mining, oil and gas, power and water. Many of our specialists have been independently recognised among Australia's preeminent legal advisers.

At MinterEllison we believe our people are our greatest asset. By joining our firm you become part of a broad team that supports one another, is dedicated to learning and development, and strives for excellence in legal services delivery and client relationship management. As a permanent employee, you gain exposure to some of the state's biggest companies, projects and matters.

Our aspiration is to be our clients' best partner. In order to achieve this aim, we think beyond the law, and apply a commercial approach and creative thinking to our clients' issues and opportunities.

Join us and be a part of the future of legal services provision.

Clerkships

Our clerkships offer you real life work experience. A comprehensive induction program and learning on the job will help you to build your legal skills and commercial acumen. You will work closely with partners and lawyers on active matters giving you exposure to complex and challenging work.

Norman Waterhouse

www.normans.com.au

Offices

- Adelaide

Major Practice Areas

- Commercial Dispute Resolution
- Corporate & Commercial
- Employment & Industrial Relations
- Environment & Planning
- Family Law
- Intellectual Property
- Local Government
- Local Government Governance & Regulatory Services
- Migration & International Business
- Native Title, Resources & Associated Land Access
- Property, Construction, Infrastructure & Development
- Taxation & Wealth Management
- Wills & Estate Planning

Norman Waterhouse is a proud South Australian firm with nearly 100 years of experience. We are not just a law firm, but your partners in business. Our practitioners are experienced in representing a wide range of public and private clients in both a national and international context. At Normans, we are not solely focused on meeting the immediate needs of our clients, but instead creating value-add solutions that build successful long-term relationships.

Our practitioners excel in an environment that encourages teamwork and collaboration whilst maintaining a strong focus on delivering high quality advice to clients. Our workplace culture celebrates opportunities and innovates ideas in a way that enriches diversity of thought across our firm.

Summer Clerkship Program

As a Summer Clerk at Norman Waterhouse you are offered the opportunity to experience working with highly regarded and respected practitioners who are experts in their respective areas of practice. During the four-week program, you may be performing a variety of duties such as drafting letters of advice, research, and attending client interviews, firm meetings and events. Also, when the opportunity presents you may observe attendance at court and other pre-trial stages such as mediation conferences, negotiation and direction hearings. A number of our practitioners began with the firm as Summer Clerks.

Selection Process

It is a great opportunity for you to show us your passion for the law and explore the different areas of law and career possibilities. We seek students who, not only excel academically but inspire to be the best that they can be and who have the attributes in keeping with our Core Values. We consider driven, engaged, well-rounded individuals who are committed to embracing new challenges and new experiences. With the fluctuation of workloads in our practice areas, it isn't always possible for each of our practice teams to offer a placement, therefore, we ask you to include in your application your top three preferences. Shortlisted candidates will be contacted to attend an interview. The firm's seven practice teams include:

- Environment and Planning Team;
- Commercial & Property Team;
- Property, Infrastructure & Commercial Team;
- Dispute Resolution & Insolvency;
- Employment & Industrial Relations Team;
- Governance & Regulatory Services Team; and
- Family Law Team

Norton Rose Fulbright

www.nortonrosefulbright.com

Offices

- Brisbane
- Melbourne
- Perth
- Sydney

Major Practice Areas

- Banking & Finance
- Competition & Consumer
- Construction & Engineering
- Corporate (equity capital markets, M & A, Private Equity)
- Employment & Labour
- Energy & Resources
- Environment & Planning
- Financial & Investment Services
- Health, pharmaceuticals and biotechnology
- Insurance
- Intellectual Property
- Litigation and Dispute Resolution
- Real Estate
- Restructuring & Insolvency
- Taxation
- Technology, media & Communication
- Transport and logistics

Norton Rose Fulbright is a leading global legal practice offering a full business law service to many of the world's pre-eminent corporations and financial institutions. In Australia, we have offices in Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth and Sydney.

Knowing how our clients' businesses work and understanding what drives their industries is fundamental to us. Our lawyers share industry

knowledge and sector expertise across borders, enabling us to support our clients anywhere in the world.

We are strong in financial institutions; energy; infrastructure, mining and commodities; transport; technology and innovation; and life sciences and health care. We take the view that we are only as strong as our people – which is why quality training and flexible work programmes are paramount to our business. We deliver an extensive range of training programmes targeted at specific stages of our lawyers' professional development. Our graduate lawyers have the opportunity to follow a unique Asia Rotation programme and to spend time in one of our Asia Pacific offices. Come and explore our world.

Summer Clerkship

The summer clerkship programme runs for 10 weeks in Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth and Sydney over the summer.

You will have the chance to spend five weeks in one practice group and then rotate to a different practice area, to broaden your knowledge as much as possible. Our clerkship programme is your opportunity to start building a career with a global law firm, doing meaningful work of value. You will also be able to get to know our people, working closely with – and learning from – our associates, senior associates and partners. All in all, it is an opportunity to experience what life is really like as a graduate.

The summer clerkship programme is the primary source for our national graduate programme, which feeds directly into our international opportunities such as the Asia Pacific International Rotational programme. Language skills in Mandarin, Cantonese and Japanese are highly regarded.

Piper Alderman

www.piperalderman.com.au

Offices

- Adelaide
- Brisbane
- Melbourne
- Sydney

Major Practice Areas

- Agribusiness
- Banking & Finance
- Competition & Consumer
- Construction & Infrastructure
- Corporate & Commercial
- Dispute Resolution & Litigation
- Employment Relations
- Energy & Resources
- Government & Administrative Law
- Health & Life Sciences
- Hospitality, Tourism & Gaming
- Insolvency, Turnaround and Recoveries
- Insurance
- Intellectual Property, Technology & Telecommunications
- Planning & Environment
- Private Client Services
- Privatisation
- Property
- Taxation & Superannuation
- Transport & Logistics

Piper Alderman is a commercial law firm with offices in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Adelaide. We have over 50 partners and over 300 staff in total. Our firm is committed to continual excellence in the practice of law, having been leading advisers to commercial interests across Australia for over 160 years. We have achieved our impressive growth by listening to our clients, responding to their needs and creating practical legal solutions.

Piper Alderman is a single, united partnership dedicated to performing as a team and working together with our clients to achieve their business goals. As a genuinely national firm, we work with clients across all states and territories in Australia, as well as several international organisations.

Clerkships at Piper Alderman

We offer our clerks a seasonal short-term program or a two-year program that may lead to a graduate position. Clerks work two days per week commencing from their penultimate year of study through to graduation. Our clerks progress quicker because of this ongoing experience.

We know that flexibility is key, so you get to choose the days you work each semester depending on your university timetable. We understand that as a student, you may have other commitments that require time away from work such as exams or exchange programs. Our range of leave policies allow you to apply for time off when you need it.

We pride ourselves on offering real work, real experience and real opportunity. Providing our clerks with the opportunity to participate in real legal work is important for their engagement and development. We don't recruit law clerks to become additional administrative assistants, but rather to offer real legal support to our lawyers and partners. You will be kept busy with legal research, drafting and attending court.

Slater & Gordon

www.slatergordon.com.au

Offices

- Brisbane & 10 other QLD Offices
- Canberra
- Hobart
- Melbourne & 14 other Vic Offices
- Perth
- Sydney & 11 other NSW Offices

Major Practice Areas

- Compensation Law
- Family Law
- Wills + Will Disputes
- Estate Planning + Probate
- Employment Law
- Dispute Resolution
- Class Actions

Slater and Gordon is a leading international consumer law firm in over 30 locations across Australia and 12 locations in the United Kingdom. Slater and Gordon's mission is to give people easier access to world class legal services. The firm provides specialist legal and complementary services in a broad range of areas.

Our Clients

Our clients are people throughout Australia and the United Kingdom (UK) who are in need of a broad range of personal legal services. They want lawyers who are accessible and able to provide expert advice on their legal matters at an affordable price. Our clients came to us for individual legal needs, as well as group actions. They come from all backgrounds and socio-economic circumstances.

Our History

Slater and Gordon was founded in Australia in 1935. The company has grown from quite humble beginnings servicing the needs of unions and working people. We have built a powerful reputation throughout our history as a law firm that fights to achieve the best outcomes. From the many landmark legal cases we have won to the introduction of innovations such as No Win - No Fee*, we have been determined to ensure that more people are able to access affordable legal services.

The origins of Slater and Gordon in the United Kingdom (formerly Russell Jones and Walker) date back more than 85 years to the 1920s. The firm had similar foundations to that of Slater and Gordon in Australia, with its commitment to justice evident in its history of landmark cases throughout the decades.

Our Graduate Program

The Slater and Gordon Graduate Program is an 18-month program designed to provide our Graduates with on the ground experience, dedicated support, ongoing development opportunities, as well as forging and maintaining relationships with clients and colleagues.

The program's PLT course will ensure all Graduates are provided the same PLT experience from coursework, subjects, submissions through to work experience requirements for PLT. See here for more information:

<https://www.slatergordon.com.au/careers/graduate-program>

Sparke Helmore

www.sparke.com.au

Offices

- Adelaide
- Brisbane
- Canberra
- Darwin
- Melbourne
- Newcastle
- Perth
- Sydney
- Upper Hunter

Our firm values and celebrates diversity. We aim to increase the diversity of our workforce to better represent the communities in which we live and work. Our culture provides the foundations of a welcoming and inclusive environment, and we encourage people from all backgrounds to join us—and bring their whole selves to work.

Major Practice Areas

- Commercial & Projects
- Corporate
- Government
- Insurance
- Workplace

Sparke Helmore is a truly integrated national firm that looks to the future. Established in 1882, we have more than 800 people flexibly working from nine offices across Australia, serving the needs of the insurance, government, financial services, technology, mining, construction and property sectors.

Our expertise spans corporate and commercial to construction, workplace to insurance, IP to IPOs, mining to manufacturing, and property to procurement.

We offer the security and history of a long established firm with the excitement and opportunity for growth. We operate in a way that puts our clients and our people at the heart of everything we do— we're proud to be described as being down to earth, practical and easy to deal with.

Thomson Geer

www.tglaw.com.au

Offices

- Adelaide
- Brisbane
- Canberra
- Melbourne
- Perth
- Sydney

Specialist Practice Areas

- Advertising & Marketing
- Agribusiness
- Banking & Finance
- Biotechnology & Pharmaceutical
- Competition & Regulation
- Construction & Projects
- Corporate & Advisory
- Employment, Workplace Relations & Safety
- Energy & Resources
- Environment & Planning
- Franchising
- Funds Management & Financial Service
- Gaming & Leisure
- Government
- Health, Aged Care & Retirement Villages
- Insurance
- Intellectual Property
- Litigation & Dispute Resolution
- Media, Broadcasting & Entertainment
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- Property
- Restructuring & Insolvency
- Superannuation & Wealth Management
- Tax
- Technology
- Telecommunications

Thomson Geer has a total of 527 people, including over 85 Partners and more than 275 other professionals operating out of our offices in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Canberra, Perth and Adelaide. Our industry coverage and client work is diverse.

Why choose us?

Your future and our future. We know you're not just a student on work experience. We want to give you a realistic and stretching introduction to the legal profession. How does this happen? From day one, you'll be an active participant in the team, involved in all aspects of legal practice, and working directly with experienced practitioners. We also want you to enjoy your time with us – there are lots of social events you can get involved in – and what better way for you to get to know your colleagues?

Our clerkships

At Thomson Geer, we've created an environment that's flexible, friendly, personable, collegiate and professionally stimulating. We're also big on communication and ensure we're respectful and accountable to each other. It is encouraged to have a balanced lifestyle and support social activities that promote wellness here. If this interests you, see our website for our clerkships:

<https://www.tglaw.com.au/careers-2/graduates-and-clerkships>

www.wallmans.com.au

Offices

- Adelaide

Specialist Practice Areas

- Business & Commercial
- Competition & Consumer
- Financial Services
- Hospitality & Licensing
- Insolvency
- Insurance
- Litigation & Dispute Resolution
- Mediation
- Medical
- Mercantile
- Planning & Environment
- Privacy
- Property, Construction & Infrastructure
- Retirement Villages & Aged Care
- Taxation & Superannuation
- Transport & Shipping
- Workplace Relations, Employment & Safety
- Personal Injury
- Taxation & Superannuation
- Wills & Estate Planning
- Commercial & Property
- Governance
- Litigation & Dispute Resolution
- Planning, Environment & Licensed Premises
- Workplace Relations, Employment and Safety

Wallmans Lawyers is an established multipractice commercial firm, providing an integrated team of nationally recognised leaders with extensive knowledge of key industry sectors. While predominantly Adelaide based, the firm services a significant range of local, national and international clients across the corporate, private and government sectors as well as individuals.

Comprising of a full service team, our lawyers have a reputation for understanding our clients' business, their objectives and goals, whilst ultimately providing solutions that are cost effective and commercial. As a multi-practice firm, we are able to offer complementary services that are essential to effective business operations including tailored taxation, superannuation, property, workplace relations, litigation and dispute resolution assistance. We act for a wide variety of clients from medium sized businesses through to publicly listed organisations across a broad range of industries, including financial services, professional services, government, health, aged care, transport and shipping, not for profit, insurance, hospitality and wine, tourism, media and property and construction.

Clerkships and PLT

Wallmans Lawyers offer six-week clerkships for students wanting to undertake their PLT placement and a four-week Summer Clerk Program during December and January. Many summer clerks have been invited back to do their Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice (GDLP) or PLT placement with us. We look for students with ability, enthusiasm and motivation who are friendly team players with strong communication skills. In other words, Wallmans people.

In return, we will offer an opportunity to experience life in a successful city legal practice, and welcome you as part of the team. You will work with lawyers at all levels on a daily basis, and the program will be coordinated by our Human Resources Manager to help make your transition from student to pre-admission lawyer as smooth as possible.

Employer Directory

Criminal Law Practice

City and Suburban Practices

Beger & Co Lawyers
Colthorpe Lawyers
Caldicott + Isaacs Lawyers
Georgiadis Lawyers
Jankus Legal
Mangan Ey & Associates
Office of the Commonwealth of
Public Prosecutions
Office of the Director of Public
Prosecutions
Websters Lawyers
Woods & Co Lawyers

Suburban and Rural Practices

AM Legal
Andersons Solicitors
Boylan Lawyers
Hume Taylor & Co
Johnston Withers
Kyrimis Lawyers
Mellor Olsson
Scammell & Co

Beger & Co Lawyers

www.beger.com.au

Offices

- St Peters

Beger & Co Lawyers is an accredited Law Society of South Australia "Gold Alliance" Adelaide law firm. The firm is a general practice of experienced Adelaide lawyers and conveyancers located in St Peters, South Australia. The lawyers at Beger & Co Lawyers are all highly experienced in court disputes, employment matters, litigation, wills and estates, commercial law and property law. Beger & Co guarantees a service of the highest quality in a friendly and comfortable environment.

Colthorpe Lawyers

www.colthorpelawyers.com.au

Offices

- Adelaide
- Morphett Vale

Colthorpe Lawyers specialise in criminal defence law, including defending all prosecutions for traffic-related offences, licence reviews and the lifting of immediate police suspensions of licence. We frequently deal with simple traffic offences such as speeding and other minor offences but also drink driving offences, driving whilst disqualified, driving to evade police, in a manner dangerous and causing injury or death by negligent driving.

Caldicott + Isaacs Lawyers

www.caldicottlawyers.com.au

Offices

- Adelaide

Caldicott + Isaacs Lawyers is a specialised law firm that works in all areas of criminal law. The firm handles all types of criminal matters, from serious charges including murder, manslaughter, kidnapping, drug offences, sex offences, serious assaults, violent offences, theft and fraud, to traffic and driving charges, including drink driving, drug driving, causing death by dangerous driving and driving whilst disqualified.

Georgiadis Lawyers

www.georgiadis.com.au

Offices

- Adelaide

Georgiadis Lawyers is a boutique firm specialising in a range of corporate and personal practice areas. The firm practices in commercial and business law, property law, family law, wills and estates. Clients can expect personalised and effective solutions tailored to their unique needs, delivered by an experienced team dedicated to achieving the best outcomes.

Jankus Legal

www.jankuslegal.com.au

Offices

- North Adelaide

Jankus Legal addresses its clients' needs by working efficiently and effectively, and where possible providing a fixed quote for legal work. Jankus Legal provides legal services in business documents and advice, business structures, wills and estates plans, and notary public. Christine Jankus is a solicitor with nearly 30 years of experience in commercial law and is also a member of the Law Society of South Australia and the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Mangan Ey & Associates

www.manganey.com.au

Offices

- Adelaide

Mangan Ey & Associates Barristers and Solicitors specialise in criminal and traffic law. They are one of Adelaide's oldest and experienced specialist criminal law firms, established in 1982. They practice in murder and manslaughter cases, all types of drug offences, sexual offences, assault, disorderly behaviour, domestic violence, theft and robbery, fraud, firearms and weapons offences, serious criminal trespass, drink driving, general traffic offences and demerit points, and driving without due care.

Office of the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions

www.cdpp.gov.au

Offices

- Adelaide
- Brisbane
- Canberra
- Cairns
- Darwin
- Hobart
- Melbourne
- Perth
- Sydney
- Townsville

The **Office of the Commonwealth of Public Prosecutions** (CDPP) is an independent prosecution service established by Parliament to prosecute alleged offences against Commonwealth law. It aims to provide an effective, ethical, high quality and independent criminal prosecution service for Australia in accordance with the Prosecution Policy of the Commonwealth.

The CDPP provides an effective and efficient independent prosecution service that contributes to a fair, safe and just Australia where Commonwealth laws are respected, offenders are brought to justice and potential offenders are deterred.

As the CDPP is responsible for the conduct of prosecutions against the laws of the Commonwealth in all Australian jurisdictions, they are in a unique position to provide feedback to policy formulators and lawmakers about the operation of Commonwealth criminal law and their experience working with these laws in the courts.

Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions

www.dpp.sa.gov.au

Offices

- Adelaide

The **Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions** (ODPP) is responsible for prosecuting offences in South Australia. Lawyers working at the ODPP may either serve as a prosecutor, appearing in court, or a solicitor, preparing matters for prosecution. The ODPP aims to provide the people of South Australia with an independent and effective criminal prosecution service that is timely, efficient and just.

PLT Placements

Applicants must complete the online application on the ODPP website, indicating their preferred intake. Please ensure you attach an updated curriculum vitae, a copy of your academic transcript, and contact details for two current referees. You must also write a short summary outlining why you are interested in completing your placement with the ODPP, highlighting your academic and personal achievements and relevant legal work experience. Your application should showcase your interpersonal skills, ambition, and interests in the law.

Summer Clerkships

Summer Clerkships are offered to students completing their final years of tertiary law studies. Applications for the Summer Clerk roles should reflect both academic and personal achievements as well as any relevant legal work experience. To be successful in obtaining a Clerkship within the ODPP, your application should showcase your interpersonal skills, ambitions and your passion for the law.

Websters Lawyers

www.websterslawyers.com.au

Offices

- Adelaide

Websters Lawyers are a firm of experienced barristers and solicitors from a diverse range of areas who have the common aim of providing a more personal and efficient legal service than clients are likely to have received elsewhere.

Websters Lawyers practice in a wide variety of areas, including criminal law, employment law, family law, injury claims, traffic disputes, wills and estates and workers compensation. They are one of the few legal firms in Adelaide to offer a full range of legal services. That means that whatever your issue, Websters Lawyers have someone with the expertise to assist.

Triversity Competition

Websters Lawyers sponsors a yearly competition involving the three universities in Adelaide (Flinders University, Adelaide University and the University of South Australia). 12 competitors in their final or penultimate year compete over three weeks in teams of two to show off their skills and talents. This competition comprises of a Client Interview component, a Negotiation component, and a Moot Court component to win a paid 6-week clerkship with Websters Lawyers. If you are interested in competing in this competition, join any of the yearly competitions or ask the Competitions Team for more information.

Woods & Co Lawyers

www.criminallawexperts.com.au

Offices

- Adelaide

Woods & Co Lawyers is a specialist criminal and traffic law firm located in the heart of Adelaide. With more than 20 years of experience providing high-quality legal advice and assistance throughout Adelaide and South Australia, the firm has a wealth of knowledge and expertise on all aspects of criminal and traffic law from drink driving and robbery cases to murder. Woods & Co believes in being experts in their field and providing a boutique service to clients that is second to none.

AM Legal

www.amlegal.com.au

Offices

- Aldinga

AM Legal provides comprehensive legal advice and dispute resolution services, helping individuals and businesses manage their legal affairs effectively. Their expertise spans a wide range of areas, including Family Law, Business and Commercial Services and Succession and Estate Planning. Additionally, AM Legal offers Notary Public services to certify or verify documents for use both in Australia and overseas. It is also strongly committed to participating in the community also undertaking a significant amount of pro bono work.

Boylan Lawyers

www.boylanlawyers.com.au

Offices

- Adelaide
- Port Pirie
- Strathalbyn
- Victor Harbor
- Port Augusta
- Whyalla

Boylan Lawyers are not only located in the CBD of Adelaide but they have five rural locations to extend their assistance throughout the state. Their areas of practice include; wills and estates, injury law, family law, property and commercial law, litigation, work law and notarising.

Andersons Solicitors

www.andersons.com.au

Offices

- Adelaide
- Murray Bridge
- Morphett Vale
- Nuriootpa
- Port Adelaide
- Whyalla
- Woodville

Andersons Solicitors specialises in Personal Injury Claims, Commercial and Business Law, Family Law, Wills and Estates, Employment Law and Criminal Law. As a mid-sized law firm, Andersons has a strong reputation for putting clients first by being helpful, accessible, finding solutions and getting results.

PLT Placements and Clerkship Opportunities

Andersons' Clerkship and PLT programs provide invaluable, practical experience and the chance to explore a range of practice areas. As a clerk, you will be exposed to their Commercial, Personal Injury, Wills and Estates and Family Law teams. Working within a team of clerks, individuals gain experience and exposure to real client matters. You will be led by and gain hands-on experience from a range of practitioners at various levels, including two partners dedicated to overseeing the clerkship program. Day-to-day tasks will include undertaking legal research, drafting correspondence and a range of legal documents, attending client meetings, observing court proceedings and alternative dispute resolution.

Hume Taylor & Co

www.humetaylor.com.au

Offices

- Adelaide
- Millicent
- Whyalla

Hume Taylor & Co Lawyers is a medium-sized, South Australian law firm with offices located in Adelaide, Millicent and Whyalla. The firm represents a diverse range of clients, maintaining a sizeable commercial, corporate and private client base. Working across a range of fields of law, they can cater for most legal requirements.

Kyrimis Lawyers

www.kyrimislawyers.com.au

Offices

- Mount Gambier

Kyrimis Lawyers is a full-service regional law firm based in Mount Gambier, aiming to provide the highest quality legal services in a timely fashion. The firm practices in areas of wills and estates, commercial law, workplace law, land brokerage, criminal law, family law, and civil disputes. With over 29 years of experience helping local people and businesses in various legal matters, Kyrimis Lawyers has developed a strong reputation for looking after their clients' interests with timely, cost-effective legal advice and representation.

Johnston Withers

www.johnstonwithers.com.au

Offices

- Adelaide
- Salisbury
- Murray Bridge
- Clare
- Port Augusta
- Whyalla
- Roxby Downs

Johnston Withers is a progressive, mid-sized South Australian law firm with a social conscience. It has been serving Adelaide and regional SA clients for nearly 70 years. It has a head office in Adelaide; regional offices in Clare, Port Augusta and Whyalla; and regularly visits Roxby Downs. Johnston Withers' areas of focus are injury law, employment law, commercial and property law, family law, wills and estates, criminal law and dispute resolution. They are highly regarded for particular expertise in some niche areas: defamation; native title and Aboriginal legal issues; food, wine and agri-law; environmental law; and legal assistance for not-for-profit organisations and associations. Underpinning all they do is a focus on building strong personal relationships with clients – helping them in their workplaces, in their families, in their businesses and their lives. Johnston Withers offers PLT placements and employs law clerks and interns as needed.

Mellor Olsson

www.molawyers.com.au

Offices

- Adelaide
- Port Lincoln
- Clare
- Barossa Valley
- Bordertown
- Kadina
- Keith
- McLaren Vale

The lawyers at **Mellor Olsson** can assist with personal injury, wills and estates, commercial services, employment law, local government and planning and conveyancing. The firm takes pride in providing legal solutions for all South Australians.

Scammell & Co

www.scammell.com.au

Offices

- Adelaide
- Port Adelaide
- Walkerville
- Gawler
- Tanunda

Scammell & Co cover a wide range of legal and associated matters, but the firm has extensive experience in injury claims. The firm's services include personal injury, family law, commercial services, litigation, wills and estates and criminal law.

Employer Directory

Community Legal Services

Australian Refugee Association
Family Violence Legal Service Aboriginal Corporation
JusticeNet
Legal Services Commission
Northern Community Legal Service
Riverland Community Justice Centre
Westside Community Lawyers
Women's Legal Service (SA) Inc

Australian Refugee Association

www.australianrefugee.org

Offices

- Salisbury
- Torrensville
- Mitchell Park

The **Australian Refugee Association** (ARA) was established in 1975 by a group of concerned people who volunteered their time to help people arriving in Australia from Vietnam.

Volunteers are an integral part of the work that the ARA does, and there are currently approximately 600 volunteers. The ARA's mission is to help refugees become settled and participating citizens of Australia. Their vision is an Australia where refugees are an integral part of a thriving, prosperous community. The ARA provides advice, assistance, advocacy and practical support with settlement services, migration services, employment services, youth services, public education, policy and advocacy.

Family Violence Legal Service Aboriginal

www.fvlsac.org.au

Offices

- Port Lincoln
- Port Augusta
- Ceduna

The **Family Violence Legal Service Aboriginal Corporation** (FVLSAC) – is a free community legal service assisting Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander victims/survivors of family violence and/or sexual assault in the state of South Australia. The service works with families and communities affected by violence. FVLSAC provides face-to-face and/or telephone legal advice to victims/survivors of family violence and/or sexual assault. The service also provides client support services and community legal education.

JusticeNet

www.justicenet.org.au

Offices

- Adelaide

JusticeNet SA is an independent, not-for-profit legal service that provides pro bono legal assistance to individuals and charitable organisations in South Australia. The organisation is run by experienced lawyers and assisted by volunteers and aims to provide a safety net for individuals or groups who cannot afford a lawyer.

JusticeNet accepts applications for volunteers year-round and opens positions on an as-needed basis. The major intake is during June and November each year. Places are competitive. As a volunteer, you can expect to handle enquiries from the public, review applications for pro bono assistance across the spectrum of civil law, research legal issues, draft advice and undertake fundamental legal administrative and file management tasks. You will gain experience working in a legal practice environment and gain insight into the barriers facing vulnerable and disadvantaged members of the community. All of this is done as part of a small but supportive team.

Legal Services Commission

www.lsc.sa.gov.au

Offices

- Adelaide
- Elizabeth
- Norralunga
- Port Adelaide
- Port Augusta
- Whyalla

A career with the **Legal Services Commission** allows you to play a role in providing the community with access to quality legal services. The Commission provides legal representation in criminal and family law matters, as well as free legal advice and minor assistance in most areas of law.

The Commission offers attractive employment conditions including salary packaging, flexible working arrangements within a range of family-friendly policies, plus opportunities for professional development.

Our people are valued and respected. We encourage and recognise individual and team effort, innovation and creativity in our activities. The Legal Services Commission has about 200 staff throughout SA with offices in Adelaide, Whyalla, Port Augusta, Elizabeth, Mount Barker, Port Adelaide and Noarlunga. Most positions are for lawyers and paralegals but we also employ a full range of administrative staff. The majority of employees are located in our Adelaide office.

Legal aid lawyers require a comprehensive knowledge of the law, excellent communication skills and an ability to deal with people from diverse backgrounds. We prefer applicants with relevant work experience and we recommend volunteer work (e.g. at a community legal centre or JusticeNet SA) to gain relevant experience and increase employability.

Northern Community Legal Service

www.northernlegal.org.au

Offices

- Salisbury
- Gawler
- Davoren Park

Northern Community Legal Service offers free legal information and a referral service to people living in the northern Adelaide metropolitan area. Ongoing legal assistance is only provided to those people who are on low incomes and who are not eligible for legal aid. The centre has a specialist Child Support Service, which is available to parents receiving, or those eligible to receive child support, as well as parents who are paying child support. The service can also assist with various family, civil and criminal law matters.

Riverland Community Justice Centre

[www.communityjusticesa.org.au/
riverland](http://www.communityjusticesa.org.au/riverland)

Offices

- Berri
- Cadell (By Appointment)
- Loxton (By Appointment)
- Morgan (By Appointment)
- Renmark (By Appointment)
- Waikerie (By Appointment)

The **Riverland Community Justice Centre** is a community legal centre offering free, confidential legal advice to South Australians in the Riverland region. With a dedicated local solicitor, a mental health worker, and other highly experienced support staff, the Centre assists with a wide range of legal matters, including family law, criminal law, employment law, and civil disputes such as neighbourhood or contract issues. Eligible clients who cannot afford a private solicitor and do not qualify for legal aid can receive ongoing assistance and court representation at no cost. Contact the Centre to book a free appointment or learn more about their services.

Westside Community Lawyers

www.westsidelawyers.com.au

Offices

- Port Adelaide
- Port Pirie

Westside Community Lawyers acts for people who require legal assistance and representation in court. This service also advises not-for-profit organisations and helps people to understand their legal rights through education and information. Ongoing legal assistance is provided to those who are not eligible for legal aid from the Legal Services Commission of South Australia.

Women's Legal Service (SA) Inc

www.wlssa.org.au

Offices

- Adelaide

The **Women's Legal Service (SA) Inc** is a community-based legal centre providing legal services to women in South Australia. The Service focuses on assisting women with legal information, advice, representation, referrals and education on a wide range of issues including domestic violence, family law, criminal injuries compensation, discrimination, employment, debts, and immigration. Every year the Women's Legal Service provides advice to over two thousand women.









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leading PLT Program



Set yourself up for a successful legal career with PLT at Leo Cussen.

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- Experience real work in a supportive setting 
- Be mentored by practising lawyers 
- Gain 1-on-1 access to specialist careers advisors experienced in legal recruitment 
- Tailored support finding your 15 days placement 
- Fast track admission by completing the program in your final year of Bachelor of Laws 
- Receive personalised assistance to navigate the admission process 