Faculty of Law Credit/Advanced Standing Policy

1. Overview

This policy governs the approach to the admission of students with advanced standing from other tertiary institutions into the Faculty of Law. It also covers current students who have been granted permission to transfer credit to their current admitted program.

2. Definitions

Advanced Standing – Credit for or exemption from subjects in a program of study granted on the basis of previous studies.

Compulsory Subject – A subject that is essential to qualify for an award and which must be successfully completed unless credit or exemption has been granted.

Core Subject – Core curriculum studies required in all undergraduate programs.

Credit – Where a student is not required to enrol in a subject, as it has been formally acknowledged that the student has previously satisfied or completed the subject matter; thereby reducing the number of subjects needed to complete the program.
**Exemption** – Where a student is exempt from undertaking a required Core or compulsory subject, but the subject must be replaced with an alternative subject. An exemption does not reduce the overall number of subjects required for the program. Exemption should be granted for relevant experience rather than formal study.

**General Elective** – A subject that may be chosen from virtually any on offer across the University provided prerequisites, enrolment restrictions and any other Faculty requirements have been met.

**Law Elective** – A subject that can be chosen from a selection of rotated law subjects offered each semester by the Faculty of Law.

**Precedent Database** – A record of previously assessed credit applications approved or rejected.

**Program** – A combination of subjects which according to degree rules leads to an academic award of the University.

3. The Policy

3.1. **Types of Credit**

a) General Credit: The student is granted credit for general electives or law electives that do not require a specific match to Bond taught subjects.

b) Specified Credit: The student is granted credit for a subject(s) that matches a specific subject(s) within the program. Students who receive credit for a subject are not required to complete that subject in order to qualify for the program award.

c) Exemption: The student is exempted from having to study a compulsory subject but must study another law subject in its place. Where exemption is granted for a Core subject, another relevant subject must be substituted.

3.2. **Transfer of Grades with Credit**

a) When credit is approved for prior study from another institution, the grades that are achieved are not included on the Bond University academic transcript and are not included in the calculation of the grade point average.

b) If credit is transferred from a previous Bond University program for a specific subject, then the grade achieved for that subject will be displayed but not included in the grade point average calculation. The subject previously completed must be the same subject that is contained in the current program including the same subject code and level.

3.3. **Credit and Exemption for Prior Experience**

Professional experience, professional training and development, and other experience through employment and life may be approved for credit or exemption towards any of the Faculty of Law’s programs, but only in exceptional circumstances.
3.4. **Credit Limits**

a) **Bachelor of Laws (LLB)**
   - Bachelor of Business Law (BBL)
   - Bachelor of Jurisprudence (BJuris)
   - Juris Doctor (JD)
   - Master of Laws (LLM)
   - Master of Legal Administration (MLA)

   The maximum amount of credit which may be approved for transfer from another recognised university is one-half of each of the above programs.

b) **Graduate Diploma of Legal Administration (GDLA)**

   The maximum amount of credit which may be approved for transfer from another recognised university is one-quarter of the above program.

c) **Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice (PLT)**

   Credit is not normally transferred into this program.

d) **Doctor of Legal Science (SJD)**

   The maximum amount of credit which may be approved for transfer from another recognised university into this program is 20cp – only applicable for credit that has not been applied to a completed and awarded LLM.

3.5. **Guidelines for Approval of Credit**

   To obtain credit for any compulsory subject(s) within Faculty of Law programs, the content of the previously undertaken subject(s) must cover at least 80% of the content of the Bond subject(s) for which credit is being sought.

   a) **Bachelor of Laws (LLB), Bachelor of Business Law (BBL), Bachelor of Jurisprudence (BJuris)**

   **University Core Subjects**

   Approval of credit for University Core subjects will be determined by the Office of the Core Curriculum.

   **Compulsory Law Subjects and Law Electives**

   Subjects which are the basis of a credit application must have been taught in a professionally recognised law degree in a university, and those subjects must be eligible for credit towards a Bachelor of Laws at that institution.

   Credit for subjects undertaken in an overseas jurisdiction will be assessed according to principles determined by the Law Admissions Consultative Committee.

   Credit for law electives can be granted for any full-unit (approximately 36 hour tuition contact) law subjects previously undertaken.
If a student is awarded credit for five or more compulsory law subjects then an exemption will be awarded for LAWS11-111 Legal Skills. The student will be required to complete one law elective as a replacement. Subjects not included as part of the five are LAWS11-110 Australian Legal System, LAWS11-320 Legal Ethics and Professional Conduct and LAWS11-321 Bookkeeping and Trust Accounts.

**General Electives**

Credit for general electives may be granted one-for-one for any full-unit subjects undertaken at a university.

**Business/IT or Humanities Subjects (BBL or BJuris only)**

For the BBL, credit for Business/IT subjects may be granted one-for-one for any full-unit Business/IT subjects undertaken at a university.

For the BJuris, credit for Humanities subjects may be granted one-for-one for any full-unit Humanities subjects undertaken at a university.

**TAFE**

Students who have completed a minimum of a Diploma in the following disciplines (outlined by the AVCC) will be eligible for four general electives towards the Bachelor of Laws degree. Courses currently recognised by the AVCC include:

- Agriculture/Horticulture
- Building/Construction Management
- Business Studies
- Computing Studies
- Engineering
- Geology/Geoscience
- Library & Information Studies
- Nursing
- Social Work/Social Welfare
- Surveying/Geomatics
- Teacher Ed (Early Childhood Ed)
- Tourism/Hospitality
- Visual Arts and Design

**Police**

Students who have previously completed studies in the Queensland Police, Management Development Training, may obtain one-for-one general elective credit.

**Bachelor of Arts (English as an International Language)**

Students who complete the first two semesters of this program through Bond University will be eligible for credit towards the Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Business Law and Bachelor of Jurisprudence. Information can be found here: [Credit Table](#)
b) **Graduate Diploma of Legal Administration (GDLA)**

**Compulsory Subjects**

Subjects which are the basis of a credit application must have been taught in a professionally recognised law degree in a university, and those subjects must be eligible for credit towards a Juris Doctor at that institution.

**General Electives**

Credit for general electives may be granted one-for-one for any full-unit postgraduate subjects undertaken at a university.

c) **Master of Legal Administration (MLA)**

**Compulsory Subjects**

Subjects which are the basis of a credit application must have been taught in a professionally recognised law degree in a university, and those subjects must be eligible for credit towards a Juris Doctor at that institution.

**Law Electives**

Credit may be granted for law electives on the basis of prior postgraduate law subjects undertaken.

**General Electives**

Credit for general electives may be granted one-for-one for any full-unit postgraduate subjects undertaken at a university.

d) **Juris Doctor (JD)**

**Compulsory Subjects**

Subjects which are the basis of a credit application must have been taught in a professionally recognised law degree in a university, and those subjects must be eligible for credit towards a Juris Doctor at that institution.

Credit for subjects undertaken in an overseas jurisdiction will be assessed according to principles determined by the Law Admissions Consultative Committee.

If a student is awarded credit for five or more compulsory subjects then an exemption will be awarded for LAWS75-111 Legal Skills. The student will be required to complete a law elective as a replacement. Subjects not included as part of the five are LAWS75-110 Australian Legal System, LAWS75-320 Legal Ethics and Professional Conduct and LAWS75-321 Bookkeeping and Trust Accounts.

**Law Electives**

Credit may be granted for law electives on the basis of prior postgraduate law subjects undertaken.
Graduate Diploma of Legal Administration

If a student has completed the Graduate Diploma of Legal Administration at Bond University, they may receive credit for a maximum of four subjects (40cp) towards the Juris Doctor program. These four subjects comprise three compulsory law subjects and one law elective.

e) Master of Laws (LLM)

Credit may be granted towards a Master of Laws degree (LLM) in accordance with the table below and to a maximum of 4 subjects (40cp).

Subjects which are the basis of a credit application must have been taught in a professionally recognised law program in a university, and those subjects must be eligible for credit towards a postgraduate law degree at that institution.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prior studies</th>
<th>Maximum credit towards Bond LLM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bond JD</td>
<td>Up to 4 subjects (40cp), comprising 4 law electives*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non Bond JD</td>
<td>Up to 2 subjects (20cp)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice (PLT)</td>
<td>Up to 2 subjects (20cp)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other recognised postgraduate Law program</td>
<td>Up to 2 subjects (20cp)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non Bond LLM (under dual award agreement with approved partner institution)</td>
<td>Up to 4 subjects (40cp)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* LLM students can rely on law electives completed during a Bond JD in determining their LLM specialisation (40cp of cognate subjects). However, to earn a particular LLM specialisation, students must complete at least one of the relevant subjects while enrolled in the LLM.

f) Doctor of Legal Science (SJD)

Credit may be granted for up to two subjects (20cp) undertaken in an LLM program completed at a recognised university – only applicable for credit that has not been applied to a completed and awarded LLM.

3.6. Time Limits

Credit or advanced standing obtained or granted towards a compulsory subject or elective shall normally be cancelled nine years after the end of the year during which the credit or advanced standing was obtained if the candidate has not, by that date, completed the requirements of the degree.

Time limits are governed by the University Award Regulations: Part 1: Award Regulations Division 1 Clause 16
3.7. **Withdrawal of Credit**

The Faculty of Law, Bond University reserves the right to withdraw credit that has been granted where an error has been made in the assessment of an application or where the documentation supplied by the applicant has been found to be misleading or invalid.

Where changes to this policy or to any precedents are made, credit that has already been granted may not be withdrawn.

3.8. **Applying for Credit**

All new students wishing to apply for credit should follow the University process found in the Academic Regulations: Part 2; Academic Regulations Division 2 Clause 10

Students who have already commenced their program and wish to apply for credit after their first semester of enrolment must first seek approval from their Academic Advisor. If permitted to apply for credit, the student should meet with their Academic Advisor to coordinate the submission of relevant documents and discuss the effect of future program sequencing.

3.9. **Precedent Database**

The Student Business Centre will maintain a database of all previous credit assessments which will form a Precedent Database. The collected information will include the date of approval, the authorised staff member conducting the assessment and the outcome of the assessment. All records will be valid for three years, after which an assessment must be conducted again.

3.10. **Requirements for International Students**

New students applying for credit should submit relevant documents as soon as possible and preferably before commencement of the program. The student will be advised by the end of Week 2 and must acknowledge receipt of this notification in order to comply with the regulations of the ESOS Act.

Credit transfer after the student’s first semester that leads to a reduction in the student’s program duration will be reported to the International Student Team Coordinator in the Student Business Centre as soon as possible for appropriate action.