1. Overview

This policy sets out the practice in relation to a Masters student’s entitlement to complete two individual studies, and to provide a possible option for the completion of a third individual study in circumstances where the student wishes to pursue a theme or focus not catered for by the Faculty’s postgraduate elective offerings.

It also sets out the practice in relation to a postgraduate Study Abroad/Exchange student’s entitlement to complete an individual study at Bond Faculty of Law.

2. Definitions

Masters student: A student enrolled in the LLM degree.

Study Abroad/Exchange student: A student admitted into a PG Law Study Abroad/Exchange program.

Elective offering: A subject offered which, when completed and combined with all pre-requisites for a specific degree, completes the degree program.
3. The Policy

3.1 Masters Students

3.1.1 In the case of an individual study undertaken by a Masters student, the student will provide a 10,000 word paper in satisfaction of the requirements of the subject. The student will regularly meet with a Faculty academic during the semester to finalise a topic, determine methodology and discuss progress. The Faculty academic will provide advice and assistance, and mark the produced paper. It is expected that the individual study will be completed in time to allow marking and confirmation at the Board of Examiners meeting of that semester.

3.1.2 A Masters student may complete up to two elective subjects by two individual studies, subject to the approval of the Associate Dean (Student Affairs and Service Quality) based upon the following criteria:

a) A Faculty academic must be prepared to supervise the student on an agreed topic within their area of expertise and the topic should be a discrete area of inquiry not covered in previous undergraduate or postgraduate studies by that student.

b) The student will normally be required to have a 65% or above average in a minimum of two 10CP postgraduate elective subjects credited towards the degree.

c) There is no subject offered or intended to be offered within the term of the expected length of the student’s degree that would adequately satisfy the topic area of the individual study.

3.1.3 If appropriate supervision is available, a Masters student may replace two elective subjects with a minor dissertation worth 20CP, subject to the approval of the Associate Dean (Student Affairs and Service Quality) based upon the above criteria.

3.1.4 A Masters student may complete a third individual study if necessary to complete a theme or focus developed in their Masters studies subject to the approval of the Associate Dean (Student Affairs and Service Quality) based upon the above criteria, but with the additional criterion that there should be more than one supervisor for the three individual studies.

3.1.5 A Masters student will not be entitled to obtain credit using individual studies for any more than 50% of the total postgraduate coursework component for their Masters degree at Bond Faculty of Law.

3.2 Postgraduate Study Abroad or Exchange Students

3.2.1 A student admitted into a PG Law Study Abroad/Exchange program may undertake one individual study, subject to the approval of the Associate Dean (Student Affairs and Service Quality) based on the following criteria:

a) A Faculty academic must be prepared to supervise the student on an agreed topic within their area of expertise and the topic should be a discrete area of inquiry not covered in previous undergraduate or
postgraduate studies by that student. The student is required to secure the support of a Faculty academic before Week 1 of the relevant semester of study.

b) The student will normally be required to have a 65% or above average in a minimum of two postgraduate subjects credited towards the degree in which they are enrolled at their home institution.

3.2.2 In the case of an individual study undertaken by a postgraduate Study Abroad/Exchange student, the Associate Dean (Student Affairs and Service Quality) may permit the student to provide a paper to meet the word count requirements of the degree in which they are enrolled at their home institution, provided that this is not less than 10,000 words.

4. Related Policies/Procedures

5. Related Guidelines and Forms

Application for Individual Study in Law – see page 4.
APPLICATION FOR
INDIVIDUAL STUDY IN LAW
Master of Laws
PG Study Abroad/Exchange

1. INDICATE YOUR STUDENT NUMBER AND NAME:
   
   UNIVERSITY
   FACULTY OF LAW

   STUDENT NUMBER
   FAMILY NAME
   GIVEN NAMES

2. WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT ACADEMIC PROGRAM?

3. HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY COMPLETED AN INDIVIDUAL STUDY IN LAW? YES NO

4. WHAT SEMESTER AND YEAR DO YOU WANT TO COMMENCE THE INDIVIDUAL STUDY IN LAW?
   JANUARY 20__ MAY 20__ SEPTEMBER 20__

5. LIST THE PROPOSED SUBJECT AREA:

6. LIST THE PROPOSED SUBJECT TOPIC:

7. STUDENT SIGNATURE: ____________________________________________________ DATE: ___________________

8. SUPERVISOR NAME: ____________________________________________________

9. SUPERVISOR SIGNATURE: ______________________________________________ DATE: ___________________

   ADVISOR USE ONLY

   Completed minimum of 2 x 10CP (or equivalent) postgraduate electives?
   YES NO

   Minimum 65% average met to undertake individual study?
   YES NO

   Is the student completing a Minor Dissertation (20CP)? (Masters students only)
   YES NO

   Student Enrolled Subject Code: _________________________ Date: _________________