



Student Professionalism Expectations for Bond Law Students

Introduction

The Faculty of Law is committed to preparing you for the intellectual, ethical and professional challenges of practising in the legal profession. As future lawyers representing the interests of others, and owing duties to the court, you will be subject to high standards of competency, honesty and trust. As a professional, you will be expected to work effectively and professionally with clients, colleagues, the courts, opponents and the general community. More broadly, you will also be

responsible for upholding the rule of law and the interests of justice.

During your studies you must comply with the University's [Student Code of Conduct](https://bond.edu.au/current-students/services-support/safe-respectful-communities/student-conduct-misconduct) (see <https://bond.edu.au/current-students/services-support/safe-respectful-communities/student-conduct-misconduct>).

The information below expands upon the standards contained in the Student Code of Conduct.

Collegiality

Collegiality and professionalism go hand-in-hand to ensure a constructive learning environment in which everyone can participate freely and equally. For example, you should:

- Show respect to fellow students, teachers, other University staff, guests and visitors, including those from diverse backgrounds;
- Behave professionally and courteously when attending events or study activities off campus as a Bond Law student;
- Participate constructively in class discussions and debates (as well as staff-student consultations, and Faculty, University and student events and competitions) without resorting to disruptive, overbearing, bullying, discriminatory, racist, abusive or offensive language or behaviour;
- Use courteous language in oral or written communications (including emails) when seeking assistance, asserting a right or interest, or registering a concern or complaint;
- Turn your mobile phone off or to silent mode when in class or consultations;
- Not record classes or discussions without prior approval;
- Not use laptops or other mobile devices to access social media sites (such as Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat and Twitter), internet-based telephonic or video conferencing services (such as Skype or Facetime), or browse emails or websites not relevant to the class discussion during class time or consultations;
- Use University facilities fairly – it is never acceptable to simply ‘commandeer’ a room because it is open and empty, so make sure you book the room (and if you don’t need it, please cancel the booking); and
- Leave University rooms as you find them – clean, no food or rubbish strewn about, chairs pushed in, and desks in the correct configuration.

Your teachers will extend to you the same level of consideration and professional regard, although this does not preclude them from disciplining misbehaviour and speaking frankly where academic performance is unacceptably poor.

Academic integrity

Cheating and plagiarism undermine the integrity of the Faculty’s academic programs. Under the Student Code of Conduct, the sanctions for academic misconduct are very serious, and can include a fail grade for the subject and possible suspension or expulsion from the University.

For law students, the consequences are even more severe – you risk your prospects of being admitted to the legal profession after completing your law studies if you were involved in instances of academic integrity breaches. This is because the admitting authorities require law graduates to disclose any charges and/or findings of academic misconduct, in their application for admission, and admitting authorities may exercise their discretion to refuse admission to applicants they deem to be not a ‘fit and proper person’. The authorities

may also remove any lawyer from the roll of legal practitioners if they subsequently discover the lawyer failed to fully disclose academic misconduct in their admission application.

Cheating is acting in a way to achieve an unfair advantage for yourself or another in any form of assessment.

Examples of cheating include:

- Using answer guides prepared by others to tutorial or seminar questions and problems, or to other forms of assessment such as assignments or moots, in such a way as to misrepresent your answers as the product of your own thought and study;
- Producing, distributing or selling answer guides for the purposes of assisting other students to misrepresent their answers as their own;
- Submitting work produced by an external agent or third party (ghost-writer or generative artificial intelligence) as your own original piece of work; and
- Using unauthorised materials or electronic devices in an examination.

Plagiarism is misrepresenting as one’s own original work another’s ideas, interpretations, words, or creative works; and/or one’s own previous ideas, interpretations, words, or creative work without acknowledging that it was used previously (i.e. self-plagiarism). These ideas, interpretations, words, or works may be found in published and unpublished documents, print and/or electronic media, designs, music, sounds, images, photographs or computer codes, or gained through working in a group.

Examples of plagiarism include:

- Submitting or copying another’s work as your own;
- Submitting work developed jointly with another without acknowledging that fact;
- Directly quoting any part of another person’s work without appropriate acknowledgment;
- Using summaries of another person’s work without appropriate acknowledgment; and
- Using or developing unacknowledged ideas derived from another person’s work without appropriate acknowledgment.

Enforcement

Your teachers will impose penalties on your assessments if you exceed the word limits, submit after the due date without prior approval for an extension, or reference inappropriately. They also reserve the right to deduct marks from class participation in instances of anti-collegial and unprofessional behaviour, or unacceptable use of technology.

Your teacher will refer cases of misconduct to the Office of the Executive Dean for investigation and resolution. Students who witness or are victims of another student’s misconduct may write to or meet with the Associate Dean (Student Affairs and Service Quality), who will refer the matter to the appropriate person for investigation and resolution, where warranted.