

732-727 Public Interest Litigation

Level:	Graduate/Postgraduate
Dates & Locations:	2009, This subject commences in the following study period/s: September, - Taught on campus.
Time Commitment:	Contact Hours: 24 - 26 contact hours per subject. Total Time Commitment: The time commitment for this subject depends on the candidates background and experience.
Prerequisites:	N.A.
Corequisites:	N.A.
Recommended Background Knowledge:	None
Non Allowed Subjects:	None
Core Participation Requirements:	N.A.
Coordinator:	Mr Gary Cazalet
Subject Overview:	<p>Objectives:</p> <p>A student who has successfully completed this subject should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # Understand the development of public interest litigation in the common law tradition # Be aware of the role of public interest litigation as part of a movement for social, economic, environmental and political reform # Be aware of similarities and differences in the use of public interest litigation in a range of jurisdictions, including Australia, the United States, Canada and India. # Understand the strengths and limitations of public interest litigation as part of a strategy for reform # Understand and critically analyse impediments to the use of public interest litigation # Be able to apply their learning to critically analyse and develop public interest litigation law reform proposals. <p>Syllabus:</p> <p>Principal topics will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # The use of public interest litigation as part of a strategy for social, environmental, economic or political reform # Key features of public interest litigation in Australia, the US, Canada and India # Case studies of public interest litigation in action, e.g. environmental, refugee, class actions # Impediments to undertaking public interest litigation including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # Risk of adverse costs orders # Standing requirements # Funding # The development of Strategic Litigation Against Public Participation (SLAPP writs) # The role of public interest litigation clearing houses and services # The relationship between pro bono work undertaken by the private profession and public interest litigation # Public interest litigation in transnational disputes # Future developments and proposals for law reform.
Assessment:	Research paper 10,000 words (100%) (17 December) (topic approved by the subject coordinator)

Prescribed Texts:	Core subject materials will be provided free of charge to all students. Some subjects require further texts to be purchased. Please visit the subject homepage on the Melbourne Law Masters website by following the link at the bottom of this subject entry.
Breadth Options:	This subject is not available as a breadth subject.
Fees Information:	Subject EFTSL, Level, Discipline & Census Date, http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees
Generic Skills:	Please see the Subject Objectives for this information.
Links to further information:	For the latest information on this subject, please visit: http://www.masters.law.unimelb.edu.au/subject/732727