

LAWS70346 Law on the Beginning and End of Life

Credit Points:	12.50
Level:	7 (Graduate/Postgraduate)
Dates & Locations:	2010, Parkville This subject commences in the following study period/s: October, Parkville - Taught on campus.
Time Commitment:	Contact Hours: The total class time is between 24 and 26 hours. Total Time Commitment: Visit the Melbourne Law Masters website for more information about this subject.
Prerequisites:	Visit the Melbourne Law Masters website for more information about this subject.
Corequisites:	Visit the Melbourne Law Masters website for more information about this subject.
Recommended Background Knowledge:	Visit the Melbourne Law Masters website for more information about this subject.
Non Allowed Subjects:	Visit the Melbourne Law Masters website for more information about this subject.
Core Participation Requirements:	Visit the Melbourne Law Masters website for more information about this subject.
Coordinator:	Prof Loane Skene
Contact:	For the most up-to-date information about this subject, contact the Melbourne Law Masters Office by email at law-masters@unimelb.edu.au or phone 8344 6190 or alternatively visit the subject website: www.masters.law.unimelb.edu.au
Subject Overview:	<p>Beginning of life, including the law on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # Pre-implantation and prenatal genetic diagnosis # Contraception and abortion # Compensation for medical injuries sustained during pregnancy and the birth process # Withholding and withdrawing treatment from critically ill neonates. <p>End of life, including the law on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # Refusal, withholding and withdrawal of treatment and euthanasia # The role of the family and courts in medical decision making # The meaning and significance of death # Autopsies, the removal and use of organs and tissue after death and the coronial process.
Objectives:	<p>A student who has successfully completed this subject should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # Understand the legal rights of doctors, hospitals, patients and family members in relation to medical procedures at the beginning and end of life # Understand the process for patients and surrogate decision makers to refuse medical procedures and the limits of that process # Be able to advise parents, other family members, guardians and agents on the principles and values that they should consider when making medical decisions on behalf of another person # Be able to advise hospitals, doctors and other health professionals on steps they could take if there is a dispute about medical procedures at the beginning or end of life # Understand the role of the coroner after a person has died # Understand the law on removal and use of organs and tissue after death # Be able to critically evaluate the underlying theory of surrogate decision making at the beginning and end of life.
Assessment:	Class presentation (10%) 2,000 word presentation paper (20%) (8 November) 7,000 word research paper (70%) (20 January 2011) on a topic approved by the subject coordinator

Prescribed Texts:	Visit the subject website for more information
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:	Visit the Melbourne Law Masters website for more information about this subject.
Links to further information:	http://www.masters.law.unimelb.edu.au/