

PUBL90014 Ethical and Legal Issues in Publishing

Credit Points:	12.50
Level:	9 (Graduate/Postgraduate)
Dates & Locations:	2010, Parkville This subject commences in the following study period/s: Semester 1, Parkville - Taught on campus. On campus
Time Commitment:	Contact Hours: 2 Total Time Commitment: 120
Prerequisites:	None
Corequisites:	None
Recommended Background Knowledge:	None
Non Allowed Subjects:	None
Core Participation Requirements:	None
Coordinator:	Dr Mark Davis
Contact:	Mark Davis davismr@unimelb.edu.au (mailto:davismr@unimelb.edu.au)
Subject Overview:	This subject addresses ethical issues and legal constraints involved in publishing for print and digital media. It will review existing ethical codes and the mechanisms established to police them, as well as offering an overview of how publishing practices are shaped by legislative provisions relating to such matters as intellectual property, privacy, defamation and respect for cultural differences. On successfully completing this subject, students will have gained an understanding of a wide range of ethical and legal consideration.
Objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # be familiar with standard publishing industry practices and codes of conduct as they pertain to print and digital publishing; # develop a strong understanding of the respective roles of editors, publishers and legal professionals in dealing with ethical and legal issues; # understand the impact on publishing practice of laws pertaining to such matters as intellectual property, privacy, defamation and respecting cultural differences; # be familiar with the issues involved in recent high-profile cases where standards have been breached; and # demonstrate an ability to apply ethical and legal knowledge to their own editorial and publishing practice.
Assessment:	Defamation assignment (1000 words) 20% (due mid-semester, contempt assignment (1000 words) 20% (due mid-semester), final essay (3000 words) 60% (due end of semester).
Prescribed Texts:	A subject reader will be available.
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:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # have high-level written and oral communication skills through contribution to class discussions and the completion of assignments; # have a capacity for effective teamwork through group discussions; # have acquired skills in cultural and ethical understanding of the cultural role of books and readings and the responsibilities of publishers;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # have acquired skills in research through the preparation of class papers and assignments, including the use of online as well as print-based materials; # have acquired skills in time management and planning through managing workloads for recommended reading, tutorial presentations and assessment requirements; # have a capacity for critical thinking through the use of readings and discussion to develop an understanding of the considerations that underpin law and ethics; and # have a capacity for theoretical analysis through engagement with a range of texts that offer different perspectives on publishing as a component of the wider field of cultural practices.
Notes:	This subject is only available to students enrolled in the Publishing and Communication program. Students in cognate postgraduate coursework programs may study the subject with the permission of the program coordinator.
Related Course(s):	Master of Creative Writing, Publishing and Editing Master of Global Media Communication Master of Publishing and Communications Postgraduate Diploma in Arts (Editing and Communications)