

LAWS70380 Australian Consumer Law

Credit Points:	12.5
Level:	7 (Graduate/Postgraduate)
Dates & Locations:	2016, Parkville This subject commences in the following study period/s: June, Parkville - Taught on campus. This subject has a quota of 30 students. Please refer to the Melbourne Law Masters website for further information about the management of subject quotas and waitlists.
Time Commitment:	Contact Hours: 24-26 hours Total Time Commitment: 136-150 hours The pre-teaching period commences four weeks before the subject commencement date. From this time, students are expected to access and review the Reading Guide that will be available from the LMS subject page and the subject materials provided by the subject coordinator, which will be available from Melbourne Law School. Refer to the Reading Guide for confirmation of which resources need to be read and what other preparation is required before the teaching period commences.
Prerequisites:	None
Corequisites:	None
Recommended Background Knowledge:	Applicants without legal qualifications should note that subjects are offered in the discipline of law at an advanced graduate level. While every effort will be made to meet the needs of students trained in other fields, concessions will not be made in the general level of instruction or assessment. Most subjects assume the knowledge usually acquired in a degree in law (LLB, JD or equivalent). Applicants should note that admission to some subjects in the Melbourne Law Masters will be dependent upon the individual applicant's educational background and professional experience.
Non Allowed Subjects:	None
Core Participation Requirements:	The Melbourne Law Masters welcomes applications from students with disabilities. The inherent academic requirements for study in the Melbourne Law Masters are: The ability to attend a minimum of 75% of classes and actively engage in the analysis and critique of complex materials and debate; The ability to read, analyse and comprehend complex written legal materials and complex interdisciplinary materials; The ability to clearly and independently communicate in writing a knowledge and application of legal principles and interdisciplinary materials and to critically evaluate these; The ability to clearly and independently communicate orally a knowledge and application of legal principles and interdisciplinary materials and critically evaluate these; The ability to work independently and as a part of a group; The ability to present orally and in writing legal analysis to a professional standard. Students who feel their disability will inhibit them from meeting these inherent academic requirements are encouraged to contact Student Equity and Disability Support.
Coordinator:	Assoc Prof Jeannie Paterson
Contact:	Lecturers Associate Professor Jeannie Paterson (http://www.law.unimelb.edu.au/staff/Jeannie%20Paterson) (Coordinator) Mr Hal Bolitho (http://www.law.unimelb.edu.au/staff/Hal%20Bolitho) Email: law-masters@unimelb.edu.au (mailto:law-masters@unimelb.edu.au) Phone: +61 3 8344 6190 Website: www.law.unimelb.edu.au/masters (http://www.law.unimelb.edu.au/masters)
Subject Overview:	Australia has a detailed and comprehensive consumer protection regime dealing with the supply of goods and services, including financial products, to consumers. Primary legislation is the Australian Consumer Law (ACL), found in schedule 2 of the <i>Competition and Consumer Act 2010</i> (Cth), equivalent provisions in the <i>Australian Securities and Investments Commission Act 2001</i> (Cth) (ASIC Act), applying to financial services and products, and, for consumer credit, the <i>National Consumer Credit Protection Act 2009</i> (NCCP Act). This subject provides students with a detailed knowledge of key features of the Australian Consumer Law and of the common

	<p>law principles and policy imperatives that underpin it. The lecturers are one of the Law School's team of private lawyers with specialist expertise in consumer law and a leading practitioner in this field of law.</p> <p>Principal topics include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # Purposes of consumer protection law # The regulatory toolkit # Common law doctrines underlying the legislative regime # Enforcement and remedial strategies. # Key consumer protection regimes under the ACL, ASIC Act and NCCP Act: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # Misleading or deceptive conduct # Unconscionable conduct # Interest rate caps and responsible lending # Consumer guarantees and implied terms # Unfair contract terms.
Learning Outcomes:	<p>A student who has successfully completed this subject will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # Have an advanced and integrated understanding of the legal principles governing consumer protection law in Australia and the common law doctrines relevant to those regimes # Be able to critically examine, analyse, interpret and assess the effectiveness of these legal regimes # Be an engaged participant in debates surrounding emerging and contemporary issues in the development of Australian consumer protection law # Have a sophisticated appreciation of the factors and processes driving reform of the consumer protection regime in Australia # Have an advanced understanding of situations in which consumer protection issues may arise in commercial transactions # Have a detailed understanding of the interaction between common law doctrines and consumer protection legislation # Have the cognitive and technical skills to generate critical and creative ideas relating to effective consumer protection strategies and to critically evaluate existing legal theories and strategies for the protection of consumers # Have the cognitive and technical skills to independently examine, research and analyse existing and emerging legal issues relating to effective consumer protection strategies and regimes # Have the communication skills to clearly articulate and convey complex information regarding consumer protection to relevant specialist and non-specialist audiences # Be able demonstrate autonomy, judgment and responsibility in the field of consumer protection law.
Assessment:	<p>Class participation, including up to two case presentations (20%) Either: Take-home examination (5,000-6,000 words as specified in the subject reading guide), due 5-8 August (80%); OR Research paper (8,000 words) on a topic approved by the subject coordinator, due 28 September (80%) A minimum of 75% attendance is a hurdle requirement.</p>
Prescribed Texts:	<p>Specialist printed materials will be made available free of charge from the Melbourne Law School prior to the pre-teaching period.</p>
Breadth Options:	<p>This subject is not available as a breadth subject.</p>
Fees Information:	<p>Subject EFTSL, Level, Discipline & Census Date, http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees</p>
Links to further information:	<p>www.law.unimelb.edu.au/subject/LAWS70380/2016</p>
Related Course(s):	<p>Graduate Diploma in Banking and Finance Law Graduate Diploma in Competition and Consumer Law Graduate Diploma in Construction Law Graduate Diploma in Corporations and Securities Law Graduate Diploma in Legal Studies Master of Banking and Finance Law</p>

Master of Commercial Law
Master of Competition and Consumer Law
Master of Construction Law
Master of Laws
Master of Private Law