



**UNSW**  
SYDNEY

Australia's  
Global  
University

# Built Environment

PLAN7140  
Land and Environment Law



Course Outline – Term 2, 2020

## Disclaimer

Information within this document is subject to change. The full and most accurate course outline will be available in Moodle closer to the start of the term in which the course is offered.

## 1. COURSE STAFF

<b>Course Contact</b>	Laura Crommelin
<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:laura.crommelin@unsw.edu.au">laura.crommelin@unsw.edu.au</a>

## 2. COURSE DETAILS

<b>Credit Points</b>	6 units of credit (uoc)
<b>Workload</b>	Approx. 150 hours including class contact hours, weekly individual and group online learning activities, readings, class preparation, and assessment activities.
<b>Teaching Times and Location</b>	Find details in timetable <a href="http://www.timetable.unsw.edu.au">http://www.timetable.unsw.edu.au</a>

## Description

This course seeks to provide an overview of the legal system and environmental planning law with particular reference to the Australian experience. The course targets three main foci: planning law, planning administration and land/real property. Planning law considers historical, theoretical and administrative issues in law and jurisprudence, focusing on the NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and recent attempts by the Government to overhaul the Planning System. The administrative context within which planning operates as a function of government is addressed, principally looking at the role and function of statutory bodies in the planning and environment area. The property dimension covers fundamental issues of property rights, definitions of value, methods of valuation, and compensation and betterment.

## Aims

Planning law is only a small branch of the entire body of law operating, albeit a very significant part. The aims of this course are:

1. To give an appreciation of the nature of law and the legal system, in addition to providing recognition of where and how planning law (which in NSW means primarily the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979??) fits into the overall scheme.
2. To provide an overview of the legal system and environmental planning law with particular reference to the Australian experience. Three aspects are covered: (1) Planning law considers historical and theoretical issues in law and jurisprudence. (2) The administrative context within which planning operates as a function of government is addressed, principally the role and function of statutory bodies in the planning and environment area. (3) The property dimension covers fundamental issues of property rights, definitions of value, methods of valuation, and compensation and betterment.

## Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

At the successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

1. Recognise the significance of law and the legal system as a defining framework or boundary to planning activity
2. Critically appreciate the nature, content and principles of environmental planning law
3. Assess the effect of land and environmental law on the use, development, management and value of land
4. Understand the administrative context within which planning operates as a function of government
5. Evaluate common law and statutory laws to protect the environment
6. Analyse the supervisory role of administrative law and the responsibilities of State and local government, and the review and appellate functions of the Land and Environment Court
7. Interpret and have a working knowledge of the legislative aspects of the NSW planning system, particularly the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

## 3. ASSESSMENT

Assessment task	Weight	CLOs Assessed
1. Major Assignment	50%	1, 2
2. Group Workshop exercise	30%	3, 4
3. Case Notes	20%	5, 6, 7

## 4. COURSE IMPROVEMENT AND FEEDBACK

Feedback from students is an integral part of improving courses and teaching approaches. One of the primary mechanisms of feedback is myExperience, which we strongly urge all students to complete at the end of term. Course convenors use the feedback to make ongoing improvements to the course. This is communicated in Moodle in the myFeedback Matters page.