

## Overview of the Bachelor of Justice and Society Degree

This course is designed to give students the intellectual tools required to deal with important matters of public policy by recognising and providing solutions for the ethical and legal issues involved. The course examines questions such as: what is justice, and does the legal system achieve it? What ethical and legal rules should govern the activities of governments and corporations? What ethical, social and legal issues arise from problems of gender, power, class, race, and our relationship with the environment? **This is not a Law degree**

### Students will develop:

- An understanding of those normative and other concepts central to the structure and functioning of a just society, such as rights, laws, freedom, power and rules.
- An overview of how modern society works, as well as different conceptions of justice for our society
- Skills to research and analyse social issues and assess proposals for social change.
- A specific understanding of social policy, including especially how public policy is developed, implemented, reviewed and reformed within our society.
- Students will also acquire high levels of skills applicable in many occupations: the ability to reason and argue clearly; to understand complex positions and their implications; the ability to see and resolve issues involving values; and the skills required to understand and constructively criticise contemporary life.

### Areas of study

The topics undertaken by students have a strong legal and philosophical focus.

#### First Year topics:

- Legal Studies core topics: Australian Legal System and Contemporary Legal Issues.
- Philosophy core topics: Individual and Society and Critical Reasoning
- Criminal Justice core topics: Crime and Criminology and The Criminal Justice System

Students will also take two electives from another area of the University.

#### Second and Third Years topics:

- A core Legal Studies topic; Researching Juvenile Crime and two additional Legal Studies topics.
- Core Philosophy topics; Freedom, Law and Society or Rights, Welfare and Power, and Moral Philosophy or Bioethics. They will also choose another Philosophy topic.
- Students will also enrol in a combined Legal Studies and Philosophy research topic and will complete a range of elective topics.

Some students will also have the opportunity to undertake a work placement.

### **Potential employment**

This course will equip students to seek employment in a range of public, private sector and community organisations which demand a combination of legal, philosophical and social sciences skills and knowledge of the relationships between justice, law and society. This includes the court system, justice administration, equal opportunity and other public sector jobs, as well as positions in law firms, trade unions, workers' compensation, community organisations, and private industry.

**Additional information about the Bachelor of Justice and Society degree is available at**

<http://www.flinders.edu.au/courses/ugrad/bachelor/bjs.htm>