



BUSINESS SCHOOL  
Te Kura Pakihi

## DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTANCY AND FINANCE

***BLAW 211***  
**Business Law Relating to Entities**

### COURSE OUTLINE

Semester One 2024

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## Paper Description and Aims

This course provides an introduction to New Zealand's legal framework and the law governing commercial transactions, different forms of business structure and the legal requirements relating to these organisations.

## Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this paper, you should be able to

1. Demonstrate a basic knowledge of New Zealand law and the central role played by the government;
2. Demonstrate the skills necessary to identify the sources of law;
3. Demonstrate a basic knowledge of the place of the Treaty of Waitangi in the New Zealand legal system;
4. Demonstrate a basic knowledge of the fundamentals of Property Law;
5. Demonstrate a basic knowledge of the law relating to business organisations.
6. Demonstrate a basic understand of the rules relating to capital raising

## Teaching Staff

### Paper Co -Coordinator and Lecturer

Name: Gerard De Courcy  
Email: gerard@downiestewart.co.nz

### Lecturer

Name: Jo Westgate  
Email: joanne@wwls.co.nz

You should contact Gerard with any administrative enquiries about the paper.

## Course Delivery

### Lectures:

Monday 5pm to 5:50pm

Tuesday 5pm to 5:50pm  
Wednesday 5pm to 5:50pm

Lecture room – To be confirmed

### **Tutorials:**

**Lectures** present the key conceptual material through discussion and interaction between teaching staff and students. Attendance is important.

**Tutorials** are interactive, collaborative sessions in which students attempt to cement concepts presented at lectures with their peers in a supportive environment. Preparation is essential and required.

Tutorials will be held in 9 of the 13 weeks in the semester. A schedule setting out the weeks that tutorials will be held will be posted on Blackboard. You will be allocated to a tutorial and this will be available in e-Vision.

Tutorials offer you the opportunity to work in groups on a series of problems designed to apply the concepts that you have been exposed to in class and from your reading, and to stimulate your interest in the course as it applies to legal issues. The key feature of tutorials, as opposed to lectures and individual study, is participation of all members of the tutorial group. **You are expected to prepare for tutorials before going to them.**

**Course Calendar** The course calendar (in this outline) details scheduling information. Note that this calendar may change as the course proceeds. Any changes will be announced at lectures and be detailed on Blackboard.

*Students are expected to prepare for and attend all classes to gain full benefit from the course*

These activities should be prepared for by reviewing information detailed on Blackboard and completing any assigned readings. Students unable to attend a lecture are expected to catch up on missed material. Unless stated otherwise, all aspects of the course are examinable.

## Expectations and Workload

Students are expected to attend class in person when possible, review the texts or other resources regarding the subject matter and spend 1 – 2 hours preparing and attend in person each tutorial

## Course Learning Resources

### *Recommended Text*

Hubbard Thomas and Varnham (2013) Principles of Law for New Zealand Business Students 5th ed. Pearson Education, Auckland.

Cassidy et al (2018); Guidebook to New Zealand Companies and Securities Law 9<sup>th</sup> ed. Wolters Kluwer

These texts are available on reserve at the Central Library or may be purchased.

### **Blackboard**

*Blackboard* <https://blackboard.otago.ac.nz/> provides you with access to course materials, class notices, and resources. Blackboard is used to email the whole class so it is important that you check your student email and *Blackboard* regularly.

## Class Representatives

Class representatives are an important means of communication between students and staff. Contact details for your student class representatives can be found on the Blackboard page for this paper.

### **Student Webmail**

#### **IMPORTANT - DO THIS NOW:**

We will use your student email account to email you information relevant to your study at Otago. To forward your University email address to an email address that you use regularly:

1. Log into your StudentMail account (<http://www.otago.ac.nz/smlanding/>) using your student username and password.
2. Click the **Cog** button (top right corner).
3. Click on **Mail** under **Your App Settings**.
4. Under **Accounts** on left hand side, select **Forwarding**.
5. Under the Forwarding heading, type in the email address you want your email to be forwarded to. You can also choose to have a copy of these emails kept on your StudentMail account, so please check the box if you would like this.
6. Click the **Save** button.

## Assessment

All material presented is examinable (except where stated otherwise) by assignments and the final examination. All-important assessment information such as due dates and times, content, guidelines and so on will be discussed at lectures and, where appropriate, detailed on Blackboard. *Students are responsible for ensuring that they are aware of this information, keeping track of their own progress, and catching up on any missed classes.*

Assessment	date	% of final grade
Terms Test	TBA	30%
Final Examination	TBA	70%

## Course Requirements

### Assessment Format

Assessment will consist of a terms test in the middle of the semester (time to be advised) and a final examination.

The terms test                    30% of the course mark

The final examination        70% of the course mark

The course mark will be calculated by adding the terms test mark to the final exam mark.

To pass the course, students must attain a mark of at least 50% of the course mark.

### Referencing Style and Style Guide

Style guides are available on the University Library website:  
<http://www.otago.ac.nz/library/quicklinks/citation/index.html>

## Quality Assurance

At the Otago Business School we monitor the quality of student learning and your learning experience. Your assessed work may be used for assurance of learning processes, such as evaluating the level of achievement of learning outcomes, with the aim of improving the quality of our programmes. All material used for quality assurance purposes will be treated as confidential and the outcome will not affect your grades.

## Learning Outcome

Learning Outcome	Terms Test	Final Exam	Total
Demonstrate a basic knowledge of the New Zealand legal system and the central role played by the government;	15%	7%	22%
Demonstrate the skills necessary to identify the sources of law and the techniques for interpreting and applying the Law;	10%	0%	10%
Demonstrate a basic knowledge of the place of the Treaty of Waitangi in the New Zealand legal system;	5%	0%	5%
Demonstrate a basic knowledge of the fundamentals of Property Law and Privacy Law	0%	21%	21%
Demonstrate a basic knowledge of the law relating to business organisations and capital raising.	0%	42%	42%
<b>Total</b>	30%	70%	100%

### Grading System

The grading scheme used at Otago is:

**Academic Integrity and Academic Misconduct**

### Grading System

The grading scheme used at Otago is:

<b>A+</b>	90-100	<b>C+</b>	60-64
<b>A</b>	85-89	<b>C</b>	55-59
<b>A-</b>	80-84	<b>C-</b>	50-54
<b>B+</b>	75-79	<b>D</b>	40-49
<b>B</b>	70-74	<b>E</b>	<40
<b>B-</b>	65-69		

**Students should ensure that all submitted work is their own.**

Plagiarism is a form of academic misconduct (cheating). It is defined as copying or paraphrasing another's work and presenting it as one's own. Any student found responsible for academic misconduct in any piece of work submitted for assessment shall be subject to the University's dishonest practice regulations, which may result in serious penalties, including forfeiture of marks for the piece of work submitted, a zero grade for the paper, or in extreme cases, exclusion from the University. The University of Otago reserves the right to use plagiarism detection tools.

Students are advised to inform themselves about University policies concerning dishonest practice and take up opportunities to improve their academic and information literacy. If necessary, seek advice from academic staff, or the Student Learning Centre. The guideline for students is available at this link: <http://www.otago.ac.nz/study/academicintegrity/index.html>

## Course Calendar

Commencing	Topic	Lecturer
Starting Mon 26 February  Lectures 1-18	Law and the Constitution Statute Law and Common Law Common Law and Treaty of Waitangi Property Law Privacy law	Jo Westgate
Starting Monday 15April  Lectures 19-38	Partnerships Corporate Identity and Powers Role and Duties of Directors Shareholder's rights FMA and Capital Raising	Gerard DeCourcy

**Lectures end Friday 2 June 2023**

**University Examination Period Semester One  
Begins Wednesday 5 June and ends Wednesday 19 June 2024**

## Disclaimer

While every effort is made to ensure that the information contained in this document is accurate, it is subject to change. Changes will be notified in class and via Blackboard. Students are encouraged to check Blackboard regularly. It is the student's responsibility to be informed.

