Stage 1 Legal Studies

Assessment Type 1: Analytical Response

Focus Area 1: Law and Communities

**Task Description:**

**Part 1:**

As students develop their understanding of the media’s impact on the law, they are encouraged to engage with current events in the media. Students will be required to select and examine one current Australian legal issue from the media (print/radio/TV/social media) and post about their selected issue on a forum. Students must provide a link to their media source, summarise the issue explored and how it links to a **‘big question'** (CCR1). Class members will be required to participate in the forum discussion, responding to posts, contributing their understanding of the issue (CCR2).

Task Particulars:

* 400 words maximum contribution
* Each student must contribute one forum post and **at least** two comments on other posts
* Ongoing assessment across the unit of study

**Part 2:**

Imagine you are working for an online journal and your editor has given you an assignment to write an editorial. You are encouraged to engage with a variety of primary and secondary sources to inform your article.

**Choose one of the following questions to address in your article**

* Are the rights of all Australians adequately protected?
* Should the law influence society, or society influence laws?
* Does the Australian Legal System favour the empowered?
* Is the media too powerful in driving change?

Task Particulars:

* 800 words maximum
* The specific focus and question particulars should be negotiated

**Assessment Design Criteria:**

Understanding and Application:

UA1 Understanding and application of concepts

UA2 Understanding and application of legal principles and processes

UA3 Research, selection and acknowledgement of relevant sources.

Analysis and Evaluation:

AE1 Analysis of legal principles, processes and concepts or problems

AE2 Evaluation of legal arguments to reach a conclusion, and where appropriate, make recommendations.

Communication Collaboration and Reflection:

CC1 Communication of legal concepts, legal principles and arguments

CC2 Collaboration

**Learning Requirements:**

1. develop inquiry skills through questioning, exploration, discussion and research of concepts, the law and legal issues
2. demonstrate and communicate an understanding of concepts, legal principles, processes and issues
3. analyse and apply legal principles and processes
4. evaluate legal arguments to reach a conclusion, and where appropriate, make recommendations
5. research, select and acknowledge relevant sources
6. collaborate effectively with others to problem solve and build on the work of others.

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| **Performance standards for Stage 1 Legal Studies** | | | |
|  | **Understanding and Application** | **Analysis and Evaluation** | **Communication Collaboration and Reflection** |
| **A** | Astute application of concepts to demonstrate understanding    Astute application of legal principles and processes to demonstrate understanding    Thorough and focused research to select and appropriately acknowledge a range of relevant sources | Perceptive analysis of legal principles, processes and concepts or problems    Sophisticated evaluation of legal arguments to reach a convincing conclusion and where appropriate make persuasive recommendations | Highly effective in the communication of concepts, legal principles and arguments    Highly effective and consistent collaboration to achieve insightful, and effective outcomes    Insightful and perceptive reflection on learning, and the personal and group skills required to achieve a successful collaborative outcome |
| **B** | Substantial application of concepts to demonstrate considerable understanding    Substantial application of legal principles and processes to demonstrate considerable understanding    Substantial research to select and appropriately acknowledge a range of relevant sources | Substantial analysis and application of legal principles, processes and concepts or problems    Well-considered evaluation of legal arguments to reach a mostly convincing conclusion and where appropriate make appropriate recommendations | Effective in the communication of concepts, legal principles and arguments    Effective and consistent collaboration to achieve effective outcomes    Well-considered reflection, on learning, and the personal and group skills required to achieve a successful collaborative outcome |
| **C** | Adequate application of concepts to demonstrate generally sound understanding    Adequate application of legal principles and processes to demonstrate generally sound understanding    Adequate research, selection and acknowledgement of a range of relevant sources | Moderately considered analysis and application of legal principles, processes and concepts or problems    Mostly sound evaluation of legal arguments to reach a conclusion and where appropriate make recommendations | Moderately effective in the communication of concepts, legal principles and arguments    Moderately effective collaboration to achieve satisfactory outcomes    Adequate reflection on learning, and the personal and group skills required to achieve a successful collaborative outcome |
| **D** | Some application of concepts to demonstrate partial understanding    Some application of legal principles and processes to demonstrate partial understanding    Basic research, selection and acknowledgement of a range of relevant sources | Some analysis and application of some legal principles, processes and concepts or problems    Partial evaluation of legal arguments and where appropriate, some substantiated recommendations | Some communication of concepts, legal principles and arguments    Some collaboration with other students    Some reflection on learning, and the personal and group skills required to achieve a successful collaborative outcome |
| **E** | Limited application of concepts to demonstrate emerging understanding    Limited application of legal principles and processes to demonstrate emerging understanding | Limited analysis of some legal principles, processes and concepts or problems    Limited consideration of some legal arguments with no or uninformed recommendations. | Limited success in the communication of concepts, legal principles and arguments    Limited collaboration with other students    Rudimentary reflection on learning, and the personal and group skills required to achieve a successful collaborative outcome |