ANU Juris Doctor (Online)

DURATION: 6 YEARS PART-TIME ONLY

Designed for graduates of all disciplines, the ANU Juris Doctor (Online) fulfils the academic requirements for admission to the Australian legal profession.

Program description

Bringing together the academic rigour of ANU with the accessibility of online study, the ANU Juris Doctor (Online) responds to the increasing demand from part-time students seeking to study with one of the world’s top ranked law schools, but who are unable to relocate to Canberra or attend on-campus lectures.

Like its on-campus equivalent, the ANU JD (Online) allows students with a non-law Australian bachelor degree, or international equivalent, to gain the legal qualification needed for a career in law, legal practice and related sectors. Students studying online or on campus graduate with the same Juris Doctor qualification.

Through the ANU JD (Online), you’ll be introduced to the concepts of law – and the frameworks and institutions that underpin it – before expanding expertise and deepening your understanding in key (compulsory) topics such as evidence, litigation, dispute management, corporations law, property law and international law.

Once you’ve completed the compulsory subjects of the ANU JD (Online), you can select from a wide array of elective courses – including a new capstone experience designed especially for students studying online – to help strengthen your knowledge in specific legal areas.

A new approach to legal education

The ANU JD (Online) is the first Australian law degree to use Problem-Based Learning (PBL) online. We have specifically chosen this approach to challenge and respect the life experiences that our part-time JD students will bring to this program.

Using scenarios modelled on real-world issues and challenges, PBL encourages you to draw on your existing knowledge (and that of your peers) to investigate, research and learn how to ‘solve’ legal problems – an essential skill required when working in legal practice and other professional environments.

In addition, the ANU JD (Online) brings further innovation to the legal education by ‘clustering’ – or simultaneously teaching – complementary areas of law, and removing traditional silos between core topics in the curriculum.

For example, through a clustered approach, ‘Criminal Law’ is taught with ‘Evidence’ – rather than having each subject covered at a different stage of the degree – helping you better understand the rich complexity of interactions and inter-relationships in law.

Online, but not forgotten

Although the ANU JD (Online) overcomes the barriers of distance and allows you to become part of one of the world’s best law schools regardless of location, studying off-campus or online doesn’t mean studying in isolation.

Instead, the ANU JD (Online) creates tailored, supportive learning experiences from day one. You’ll be part of a dynamic and highly connected group of students, teachers, researchers and have direct access to legal experts and resources often otherwise inaccessible to law students in Australia.

Admission requirements

Before you can practice law in Australia, you must complete practical legal training (PLT). Building on your Juris Doctor, PLT provides the practical skills and knowledge you’ll need as a legal professional, and allows you to be admitted as a lawyer.

Generally, ANU JD students complete PLT through the online Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice (GDLP) program at ANU Legal Workshop.