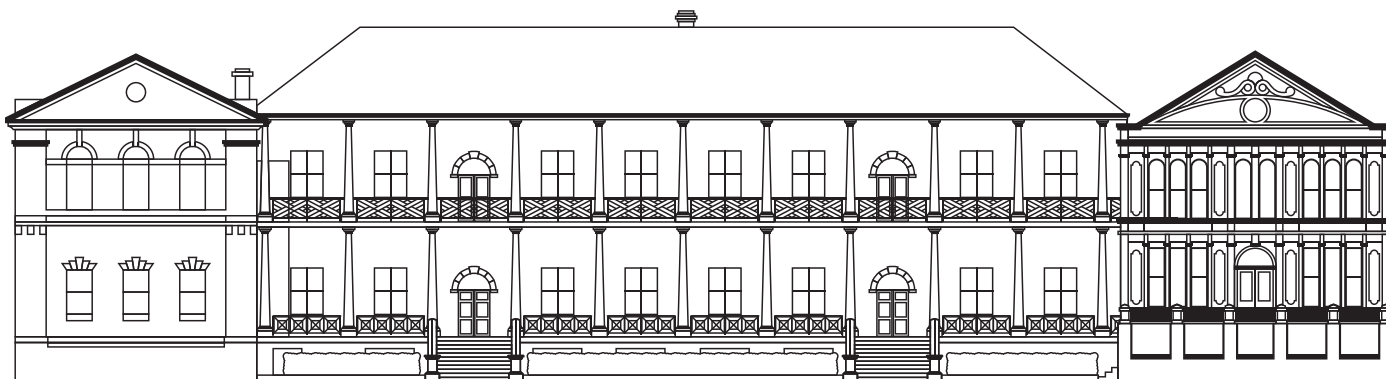




Parliament of  
New South Wales

# Legal Studies and the Legislature



Students participating in this program cover the following objectives and outcomes of the *Preliminary Core Part I: The legal system* and *Core Part II: The individual and the law* components of the NSW Legal Studies Syllabus.

The program content description can be found at the end of this document.

## Objectives

### A student develops knowledge and understanding about:

1. the nature and institutions of domestic and international law
2. the operation of Australian legal systems and the significance of the rule of law
3. the interrelationship between law, justice and society and the changing nature of the law

## Preliminary course outcomes

### A student:

- P1. identifies and applies legal concepts and terminology
- P2. describes the key features of Australian law
- P3. describes the operation of domestic legal systems
- P4. discusses the effectiveness of the legal system in addressing issues
- P6. explains the nature of the interrelationship between the legal system and society

## PROGRAM INFORMATION

On a **sitting day** students participate in a workshop and visit the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council Chambers, observing the Parliament in action and, where possible, meet their member.

On **non-sitting days** students participate in a 60-minute workshop and then a 30-minute tour of the chambers.

### Program 1:

Legal Studies and the Legislature on a sitting day  
(Recommended)

Tuesday  
Time: 12 pm  
Wednesday &  
Thursday  
Time: 10 am  
Duration:  
90–120 minutes

### Program 2:

Legal Studies and the Legislature on a non-sitting day  
(Subject to availability)

Monday and Friday  
Time: 9, 10 or 11 am  
Tuesday, Wednesday and  
Thursday  
Time: 9, 10, 11 am, 12 or 1 pm  
Duration:  
90–120 minutes

### Program 3:

Legal Studies and the Legislature videoconference  
(Teams or ZOOM)

Time:  
Teacher's choice of time  
(Between 8:30 am – 2 pm)  
Duration:  
60 minutes

If you are booked in for the *Law Day Out*, we recommend you enquire about **Program 1** or **Program 2** commencing at 12.30 pm.

**All programs are FREE**

## 2024 Sitting days when Parliament is in session

During sitting weeks, Parliament sits on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Sitting dates for 2024 are:

<b>February</b>	6, 7, 8	<b>August</b>	6, 7, 8 and 13, 14, 15	<b>Question time</b> – indicative and subject to change	
<b>March</b>	12, 13, 14 and 19, 20, 21	<b>September</b>	17, 18, 19 and 24, 25, 26	<b>Legislative Assembly:</b>	<b>Legislative Council:</b>
<b>May</b>	7, 8, 9 and 14, 15, 16	<b>October</b>	15, 16, 17 and 22, 23, 24	Tuesdays 12 pm – 1:15 pm	Tuesday 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm
<b>June</b>	4, 5, 6 and 18, 19, 20	<b>November</b>	12, 13, 14 and 19, 20, 21	Wednesday 11 am – 12:15 pm	Wednesday 11 am – 12 pm
				Thursday 11 am – 12:15 pm	Thursday 11 am – 12 pm

### Bookings

T: 02 9230 2098

E: [dps.education@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:dps.education@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

### Legal Studies resources

<https://education.parliament.nsw.gov.au>

Students who participate in *Legal Studies and the Legislature* will develop an understanding of the nature and functions of law through the examination of the law-making processes and institutions.

This is the content from the Legal Studies Preliminary syllabus on which the program is based.

#### Part 1: The Legal System

Students learn about:

##### 1. Basic legal concepts

- Customs, rules and law
- Rule of law
- Anarchy
- Tyranny

##### 2. Sources of contemporary Australian law

###### Common law

- British origins

###### Statute law

- role and structure of parliament
- legislative process
- delegated legislation

###### The constitution

- division of powers
- separation of powers

##### 3. Classification of law

- Public law
  - criminal law
  - administrative law
  - constitutional law

##### 4. Law reform

- conditions that give rise to law reform including changing social values, new concepts of justice
- agencies of reform including parliamentary committees
- mechanisms of reform including parliaments.

###### Law reform in action

###### (A) native title

- Terra nullius

**(B) contemporary law reform issues.** Bills and case studies from 2023 including

- Residential Tenancies Amendments Bill
- Anti-discrimination Amendment Bill
- Crimes Legislation Amendment (Assaults on Retail Workers) Bill
- First Home Buyers Legislation Amendment Bill
- Climate Change (Net Zero Future) Bill

#### Part 2: The individual and the law

Students learn about:

##### 1. Your rights and responsibilities

- the nature of individual rights
- relationship between rights and responsibilities

##### 2. Resolving disputes

- resolving disputes with the state:
  - non-legal methods
  - member of parliament