A range of resources is available to support Legal Studies students and teachers.

HSC Legal Studies research guide

The HSC Legal Studies research guide brings together the essential resources for studying Preliminary and HSC Legal Studies into one place. It lists resources that will help you find relevant legislation, cases, journal articles, research papers and media reports that you can use to support your research.

Get a State Library card so you can access the online databases recommended in the research guide.

How laws are made videos

Watch these videos to find out how laws are made.

Parliament

The law governs our lives from the day we are born to the day we die. So where do our laws come from? This video explains how parliaments make law, explaining the process of a Bill to an Act, how legislation changes over time, why the Commonwealth makes some laws and the states others, and delegated legislation such as regulations. Also available in captioned format.

Courts

Legislation is a major source of law. Courts are the other source of law. This video explains the court hierarchy, the jurisdiction of courts and tribunals, and how courts can make new law by interpreting legislation, filling gaps in legislation, and developing the common law when there is no legislation. Also available in captioned format.

The Law handbook: your practical guide to the law in NSW

Find information on all areas of the law relevant to NSW, including the legal system, Aboriginal people and the law, criminal law, dispute resolution, domestic violence, and drug offences. All 40 chapters of the Law handbook are available online.

Hot Topics

Hot Topics is a plain language series about the law, written by legal experts. The following issues are available:

- Domestic violence. Looks at the prevalence of domestic violence and the legal framework that deals with offenders and victims, including AVOs.
- Courts and tribunals. An overview of Australia’s court system, federal and state, and how it fits within the legal system.
- Voting and elections. Explains the key features of our electoral laws, who can vote, who can stand for election, and how votes are counted.
- You and your lawyer. Find out about the role of lawyers, how to work with a lawyer, lawyers’ duties,
ethics, costs and complaints.
- **Australian legal system** [12]. An overview of the Australian legal system, covering how law is made, what the law deals with and the roles of the legislature, judiciary and executive.
- **Human rights** [13]. An overview of human rights law from its origins and sources through to the development of modern human rights law.
- **International humanitarian law** [14]. Find out about international humanitarian law, the branch of international law that deals with armed conflict.

Find Legal Answers pathway to legal information

Choose a topic on the Find Legal Answers [15] website and follow the links to find legal information.

Visit your public library

Visit your public library to access legal material including online databases, for example:

- **Australian New Zealand Points of View Reference Centre** - a full-text database designed to provide students with a series of essays that present multiple sides of a current issue.
- **Australian New Zealand Reference Centre** – find Australian and New Zealand magazines, newspapers & newswires, reference books, and company information.

Ask your library – many databases are available from home.

Source URL: https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/find-legal-answers/school-resources

Links
[4] https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=INZ8CQUak6A
[5] https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tOvqFzOYblQ