

School of Accounting and Commercial Law

COML 302 THE LAW OF WORK

Trimester 1, 2014

COURSE OUTLINE

Names and Contact Details		Office	Telephone
<i>Course Coordinator & Lecturer</i>	Amanda Reilly amanda.reilly@vuw.ac.nz Office Hours: TBA	RH 723	463 6958
<i>Course Administrator</i>	Lucy May lucy.may@vuw.ac.nz Office hours: Monday-Friday, 8.30am-5pm (Note: Office closed 10.30am-10.45am and 3.30pm-3.45pm)	RH 708	463 5775

Trimester Dates

Teaching Period: Monday 3 March – Friday 6 June

Study Period: Monday 9 June – Thursday 12 June

Examination Period: Friday 13 June – Wednesday 2 July (inclusive)

Withdrawal from Course

1. Your fees will be refunded if you withdraw from this course on or before Friday 14 March 2014.
2. The standard last date for withdrawal from this course is Friday 16 May 2014. After this date, students forced to withdraw by circumstances beyond their control must apply for permission on an '*Application for Associate Dean's Permission to Withdraw Late*' including supporting documentation. The application form is available from either of the Faculty's Student Customer Service Desks.

Class Times and Room Numbers

Wednesday 9.30 – 11.20am

Venue: RHLT2

Non compulsory tutorials will be held in Weeks 3, 5, 7, 10 and 12.

Course Delivery

Lectures are an important delivery mechanism for material in this course but it is expected that students will complement these with careful reading of the required readings. Exercises and questions for reflection and discussion presented during lectures are designed to assist the learning process and students are expected to fully engage with these. Powerpoint slides utilised during lectures will be posted on Blackboard however they are likely to be brief and are not a substitute for attendance at lectures.

Tutorials are not compulsory but they are recommended as they are specifically focused on assisting student in preparation for assessment. Students who do attend tutorials are expected to participate fully in them.

Expected Workload

For 300-level 15 points trimester courses an average student should expect to spend 15 hours per week. This includes attendance at lectures and tutorials as well as preparation, reading and writing.

Prescription

The law governing the relationship between employees and employers; collective bargaining and organisations of workers in New Zealand; and selected areas of international and comparative Labour Law.

Course Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- 1 describe the context of the law pertaining to the employment relationship and the nature of the factors affecting the development and possible future direction of the law;
- 2 state the legal principles governing the employment relationship both at the individual and the collective level;
- 3 apply selected areas of the law to individual fact situations;
- 4 relate issues arising out of practical employment issues to the broader themes of the course;
- 5 critically evaluate the legal principles and institutions governing the employment relationship at both an individual and collective level and, if appropriate, formulate ideas for law reform.

Course Content

Course Content 2014 (NB. Provisional only. There may be some variance)	Date	Topic
Week 1	Wed 5 March	Legal framework of the Law of Work
Week 2	Wed 12 March	The Contract of Employment Who is an Employee?

Week 3 Tutorial Week	Wed 19 March	Who is an Employee?
Week 4 Test (details to be confirmed)	Wed 26 March	Implied Terms
Week 5 Tutorial Week	Wed 2 April	Implied Terms
Week 6	Wed 9 April	Implied Terms
Week 7 Tutorial Week	Wednesday 16 April Mid trimester break 22-28 April	Implied Terms
Week 8 (Assignment due 2pm Monday 5 May)	Wednesday 7 May	Personal Grievances
Week 9	Wednesday 14 May	Personal Grievances
Week 10 Tutorial Week	Wednesday 21 May	Personal Grievances
Week 11	Wednesday 28 June	Collective Approaches
Week 12 Tutorial Week	Wednesday 4 June	Collective Approaches

Readings

Required: COML 302 *Course Materials* (2014) purchased through Vic Books.

Materials and Equipment

There is no charge for class handouts, and limited spare copies of these will be placed in the COML 302 pigeonholes on the 7th floor of Rutherford House.

The Law Library, located in the Old Government Building, contains additional resources that may be used for completing the Assignment. The Law Library is a University resource and is open to students of all Faculties. Library staff will assist with reasonable research requests, however students should be prepared to find most of the materials they need without assistance. Note that the Law Library is a reference library only and no journals may be removed from the premises. However, photocopying cards may be purchased. The Commerce Library also has items available for loan.

Materials permitted in Test and Examination

The Test and Exam are both open book and you may bring whatever materials you like into the exam room. Be aware that the lecturer does not have spare copies of the course materials book available for loan and it is your responsibility to make sure you have a copy of anything you may wish to refer to during the Test and Exam.

Assessment

From Trimester 1, 2014, a revised Assessment Handbook will apply to all VUW courses: see <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf>.

In particular, there will be a new grade scheme, in which the A+ range will be 90-100% and 50-54% will be a C-.

Test 20% (open book) in week beginning 24 March. Details to be confirmed but it is likely to be in the evening, beginning at 6pm, Thursday 27 March.
(50 minutes)

Assignment 30% to be handed in on Monday 5 May at 2 pm (*word limit 1000 words*)

Exam 50% (open book) Date TBA (2 hours)

The Test will be a problem question which will require students to state, and to apply legal principles (Learning Objective 2 and 3). Note the Test is open book. You are advised to arrive early so that you are seated and ready to begin the test on time.

The Assignment will require students to critically evaluate the law taking into account the underlying context of the law. (Learning Objective 1, 4, 5)

The Exam will consist of a mix of problem and essay type questions. The problem questions will give students the opportunity to show they have reached the required standard in terms of mastering and being able to apply relevant legal principles. Essay type questions will give students the opportunity to demonstrate their understanding and critical engagement with the underlying context of the law and the broader themes of the course. (Learning Objectives 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)

Note: assignments are to be placed in boxes labelled "COML 302 on the Mezzanine floor of Rutherford House.

Penalties

If the assignment is submitted late, without prior permission from the Course Coordinator, 5% of the mark will be deducted for each additional day. Extensions will only be allowed in exceptional circumstances such as illness or bereavement. Please note: it will be necessary to provide supporting documentation such as a medical certificate in support of any application for an extension.

The assignment word limit must be adhered to and, if it is exceeded, any excess words will not be marked.

Use of Turnitin

Student work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <http://www.turnitin.com>. Turnitin is an on-line plagiarism prevention

tool which compares submitted work with a very large database of existing material. At the discretion of the Head of School, handwritten work may be copy-typed by the School and submitted to Turnitin. A copy of submitted materials will be retained on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions will not be made available to any other party.

Examinations

Students who enrol in courses with examinations are obliged to attend an examination at the University at any time during the formal examination period. The final examination for this course will be scheduled at some time during the following period:

13 June – 2 July (inclusive)

Mandatory Course Requirements

In addition to obtaining an overall course mark of 50 or better, students must sit the test and submit the assignment unless exemption from these requirements has been obtained from the course co-ordinator which will only be granted in exceptional circumstances.

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat

Class Representative

A class representative will be elected in the first class, and that person's name and contact details made available to VUWSA, the course coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the course coordinator on behalf of students.

Communication of Additional Information

Notices will be posted on **Blackboard** to which all students have access. **Urgent notices** will be circulated by email.

Student feedback

Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php

Link to general information

For general information about course-related matters, go to <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/vbs/studenthelp/general-course-information>

Note to Students

Your assessed work may also be used for quality assurance purposes, such as to assess the level of achievement of learning objectives as required for accreditation and academic audit. The findings may be used to inform changes aimed at improving the quality of VBS programmes. All material used for such processes will be treated as confidential, and the outcome will not affect your grade for the course.

Detailed Tutorial Signup Instructions

1. Go to the signup website at: <https://signups.victoria.ac.nz>
2. Enter your SCS username and password to login the system.
3. The “Signup Home” page opens. It displays all courses you are enrolled for and that use the S-Cubed Tutorial & Workshop Signup system. Click on the course you wish to sign up for.
4. The selected course page opens. It will show the course contact and brief details of the signup instructions. A “key” is provided at the bottom that explains all buttons and what they do.
5. The schedule of tutorials includes the day/time, location, maximum group size, and spaces left in the tutorial sessions.
6. If there are spaces left in a particular session, you will see the “ENROL” button next to it. You can click this button to enrol yourself into that tutorial session.
7. If there are NO more spaces left in a particular session, you will see the “JOIN WAITLIST” button, if available. You can click this button to join the waitlist for that tutorial session. Please note that you will be removed from any other waitlist you may have joined earlier. If somebody withdraws from this session, you will automatically be moved up the waitlist or enrolled into the session. In this case you are enrolled in the session; an email will be sent to you if you are enrolled into the session from a waitlist.
8. You can only “JOIN WAITLIST” if you have already enrolled in one of the other available sessions. In other words, “ENROL” in one session and then you can choose to join the waitlist for another preferred session.
9. You can choose to “WITHDRAW” from a session you have already enrolled for. You can also choose to “CANCEL WAITLIST” to remove yourself from a particular waitlist.
10. A “FULL” button indicates all seats and waitlist are full for that tutorial session. You must choose another session.
11. More details on the various buttons are available in the “Key” section at the bottom of the signup page.
12. You should “ENROL” in only ONE tutorial session and may “JOIN WAITLIST” for only ONE other tutorial session.
13. You can login and signup (or change your signup) anytime before the **closing date of the tutorial signup. You will NOT be able to sign up or change your choice after the tutorial signups have closed.**
14. You can view/confirm details of the sessions you are enrolled and waitlisted for, such as day/time and location by clicking on “My Signups” on the left hand menu.
15. Click on “Support” on the left hand menu if you are having problems.

Finally, unless there are special circumstances and you have made alternative arrangement through the course coordinator, **you must always attend the tutorial sessions that you have signed up for.** If you attend a different session, your attendance may not be recorded and you may therefore fail the mandatory course requirements.