



Assessment 3 Rubric Research Paper 60%

Criteria	Ratings				
Structure 5 points This criterion assesses the scholarly nature of the paper, its introduction, conclusion, use of headings and structure of argument	5 to >4.25 Pts High Distinction Scholarly: A scholarly paper of an excellent and advanced standard Introduction: Introduction clearly and concisely poses the research issue. Headings: Clear and logical headings judiciously used to assist the reader by presenting a well reasoned, complete argument. Structure of Argument: Legal argument is well constructed and logical. Progression through the elements of the argument is fluent, concise and coherent. Arguments are expressed in a manner that demonstrates an excellent and advanced understanding of the research question. Conclusion: An original conclusion consistent with and well supported by legal argument.	4.25 to >3.75 Pts Distinction Scholarly: A scholarly paper of a very good and advanced standard. Introduction: Introduction clearly poses the research issue. Headings: Clear and logical headings assist the reader by presenting a complete argument. Structure of Argument: Legal argument is logical. Progression through the elements of the argument is fluent and coherent. Arguments are expressed in a manner that demonstrates a very good understanding of the research question. Conclusion: An original conclusion consistent with legal argument.	3.75 to >3.25 Pts Credit Scholarly: A scholarly paper of a good standard. Introduction: Introduction is appropriate to the research issue. Headings: Clear headings assist the reader with the flow of your argument. Structure of Argument: Legal argument is logical. Progression through the elements of the argument is fluent and succinct. Arguments are presented through a coherent structure. Conclusion: Conclusion is consistent with legal argument.	3.25 to >2.5 Pts Pass Scholarly: Sound attempt at a scholarly paper. Introduction: Introduction relates to the research issue. Headings: Headings are used and give some coherency to structure. Structure of Argument: Legal argument is sound. Progression through the elements of the argument demonstrates a satisfactory level of fluency for a postgraduate unit. Arguments are presented through an observable structure that makes some attempt at internal logic. Conclusion: The paper has a sound and appropriate conclusion.	2.5 to >0 Pts Fail Scholarly: Some attempt at a scholarly paper, but the paper does not demonstrate a satisfactory standard for a postgraduate unit. Introduction: The paper has an introduction, but it demonstrates a lack of clarity or understanding of the research issue. Headings: Some headings are used but they contribute little to providing a coherent structure. Structure of Argument: Arguments are not legal or where arguments are legal, the arguments are either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • not sound • advanced in a manner that is not logical or demonstrates an unsatisfactory level of fluency for a postgraduate unit • verbose or vague rather than succinct • illogical • difficult to follow in whole or in part, or • contain irrelevant material significantly detracting or undermining relevant material. Conclusion: The paper does not have a conclusion or if it does have a conclusion, the conclusion is not consistent with the legal or other argument presented.
	5 to >4.25 Pts High Distinction Clearly written with a professional tone, adopting gender inclusive language and plain English Thoroughly proofread to ensuring that there are no errors All spelling, grammar, punctuation and capitalisation is correct. Word choices are highly effective and consistent with professional tone.	4.25 to >3.75 Pts Distinction In almost all respects the paper: -is clearly written with a professional tone, adopting gender inclusive language and plain English - has been proofread thoroughly -uses correct spelling, grammar, punctuation and capitalisation. Errors are rare, minor and could be unnoticed by the reader	3.75 to >3.25 Pts Credit Clearly written with a professional tone. Spelling, grammar and use of language is generally correct. Evidence of proofreading but this has not been undertaken thoroughly. While there may be a few errors these do not distort or undermine intended meaning.	3.25 to >2.5 Pts Pass The paper is mostly written with a professional tone Spelling, grammar, punctuation and language are generally correct, with some errors, those these are not extensive. Some evidence of proofreading but this has not been undertaken thoroughly. Errors may occasionally distort or undermine intended meaning though this is rare.	2.5 to >0 Pts Fail Contains numerous examples of poor spelling, grammar or language. Writing is not clear, or expressed in plain English, or does not adopt a professional tone. Evidence of proofreading lacking. Errors distort or undermine intended meaning.

Issues and definitions 10 points This criterion assesses the identification and definitions of key terms and issues	10 to >8.5 Pts High Distinction All key words, concepts and issues are clearly and accurately identified and defined.	8.5 to >7.5 Pts Distinction Almost all key words, concepts and issues are identified and defined	7.5 to >6.5 Pts Credit Most key words and concepts are defined. Most key issues are defined but with minor gaps.	6.5 to >5 Pts Pass Most key words and concepts are defined. Most key issues are addressed, though there are some gaps.	5 to >0 Pts Fail Key words and concepts are not defined or a poorly defined. Numerous key issues are not addressed.
Critical Analysis 20 points This criterion assesses analysis of literature and quality of arguments advanced.	20 to >16.8 Pts High Distinction All key issues are the subject of thorough, well-balanced and insightful analysis of theoretical and/or practical literature from various perspectives. Extensive acknowledgement and reconciliation of competing or conflicting arguments raised in the literature, with clear articulation of the basis for choosing between them. All arguments advanced are original, compelling, well supported by the literature and relevant to the legal issues presented. Irrelevant arguments/issues are not included.	16.8 to >14.8 Pts Distinction Almost all key issues are the subject of through balanced, reflective analysis of theoretical and/or practical literature from various perspectives. All arguments are well thought out, well supported by the literature and relevant to the legal issues presented. Irrelevant arguments/issues are not included.	14.8 to >12.8 Pts Credit Most relevant issues are identified and analysed via consideration of theoretical and/or practical literature. Arguments are well supported and relevant to the legal issues presented. Irrelevant arguments/issues are not included.	12.8 to >10 Pts Pass Relevant issues are identified and analysed via consideration of theoretical and/or practical literature. Arguments are sound and relevant to the legal issues presented. Irrelevant arguments/issues may have been included, but they do not detract from internal logic of arguments advanced on the key issues. Stronger arguments may have been overlooked or not given appropriate weight.	10 to >0 Pts Fail Little or no evidence of understanding of key legal issues, although one or two issues may have been identified in a random way. Relevant key legal issues are identified, but there is no observable logic to the law addressed, or much of the content is irrelevant. Arguments may be unsustainable, unsupportable or illogical.
Depth of Research 20 points This criterion assesses depth of research to support arguments and critical analysis. Compliance with AGLC4 referencing requirements is assessed under this criterion.	20 to >16.8 Pts High Distinction Argument is well supported and justifiable through demonstrated research. Evidence of depth of research of papers, texts, treaties and cases with references to these which add to the originality or effectiveness of the argument. Referencing demonstrates an excellent and thorough research effort. All referencing is correct, complies with either AGLC4 or APA and fully supports all contentions made.	16.8 to >14.8 Pts Distinction Argument is well supported and justifiable through demonstrated research. Referencing demonstrates a thorough research effort. All referencing is correct, complies with AGLC4 or APA and supports all contentions made.	14.8 to >12.8 Pts Credit Argument is supported and justified through demonstrated research. Referencing demonstrates a good research effort, though this research could have been more thorough. All referencing is correct, complies with AGLC4 or APA and mostly supports all contentions made.	12.8 to >10 Pts Pass Referencing demonstrates that an attempt has been made to support and justify argument through research. Referencing demonstrates a sound research effort, though this research could have been more thorough. Some key sources may have been missed or the argument advanced may reveal that some key sources have been misunderstood. Care has clearly been taken to ensure that referencing is correct and fully supports all contentions made. Care has been taken to comply with AGLC4 or APA though there may be a few minor errors.	10 to >0 Pts Fail Referencing, or lack thereof, demonstrates an unsatisfactory research effort. There may be few or no key sources (such as relevant scholarly journal articles, books, treaties, conventions, international instruments, legislation or cases referred to. References may not extend beyond the text book or materials referred to in the text book or in class. Little attempt has been made to support or justify argument through thorough research. There may be: • little or no referencing • referencing with scant regard to AGLC4 or APA, QUT or the Faculty's policies relating to submission of original work • referencing which does not support the contentions made or • evidence of plagiarism.
TOTAL					

Additional comments: