VCE Unit 3 Legal Studies

Time Allocation
This unit of work will consist of approximately 100 hours of which at least 50 hours will be class time. To complete this unit of work satisfactorily, students must complete each of the following learning outcomes.

Learning Outcomes

Outcome 1
The student should be able to explain the structure and role of parliament, including its processes and effectiveness as a law-making body, describe why legal change is needed, and the means by which such change can be influenced.

Outcome 2
The student should be able to explain the role of the Commonwealth Constitution in defining law-making powers within a federal structure, analyse the means by which law-making powers may change, and evaluate the effectiveness of the Commonwealth Constitution in protecting human rights.

Outcome 3
The student should be able to describe the role and operation of courts in law-making, evaluate their effectiveness as law-making bodies and discuss their relationship with parliament.

To achieve this outcome:

Assessment Tasks

1. Test on Parliament and the Citizen
The student is required to explain the 3 principles of the Australian Parliamentary System and the structure and role of parliament.

   Weighting: This task is worth 12.5 % of the overall grade   Time allocated to task: 1 period
   Due: Term 1, Week 3

2. Test on Parliament and the Citizen (no. 2)
The student is required to explain why change to the law is needed, how that change is influenced and evaluate the effectiveness of parliament as a law making body.

   Weighting: This task is worth 12.5% of the overall grade   Time allocated to task: 50 minutes
   Due: Term 1, Week 7

3. Test on the Constitution and the Division of Law making Powers
The student is required to explain how the Commonwealth Constitution divides law-making powers between the Commonwealth and State parliaments, and the 3 means by which this division of power may be altered.

   Weighting: This task is worth 30% of the overall grade   Time allocated to task: 1 period
   Due: Term 2, Week 2
4. **Test on the Constitution and the Protection of Rights (no. 2)**
The student is required to explain the 3 ways in which the Commonwealth Constitution offers protection of rights in Australia, and compare this protection with that offered by one other country.

**Weighting:** This task is worth 20% of the overall grade  
**Time allocated to task:** 50 minutes  
**Due:** Term 2, Week 5

5. **Test on the Role of the Courts**
The student is required to explain the two ways in which courts make law, evaluate their effectiveness and describe the relationship that exists between parliament and the courts.

**Weighting:** This task is worth 25% of the overall grade  
**Time allocated to task:** 1 period  
**Due:** Term 2, Week 8