

Summary of Legal Studies HSC examination specifications and assessment requirements from 2010

In December 2008, the Board of Studies approved changes to the examination specifications and assessment requirements for a number of courses. These changes will be implemented for the 2010 HSC cohort. Details of the Board's decisions are available on the Board's website at <http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/>

A new Legal Studies syllabus will be introduced for the 2011 HSC. This syllabus will be available on the Board's website in Term 1 2009 and will contain revised examination specifications and assessment requirements.

The HSC examination specifications and assessment requirements for Legal Studies in 2010 are outlined below.

Outline of HSC examination specifications

A written examination of 3 hours plus 5 minutes reading time.

Section/Part	Marks
<i>Section I – Law and Society</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Objective response questions• Short-answer questions	15 10
<i>Section II – Crime</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• One structured extended response question with an expected length of response of around eight examination writing booklet pages (approximately 1000 words) in total.	25
<i>Section III – Focus Studies</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Eight extended response questions, one from each focus study.• Each question has two alternatives.• Students answer two alternatives, each from a different focus study, each with an expected length of response of around eight examination writing booklet pages (approximately 1000 words).	50
	100

Changes from current examination specifications

In Sections II and III, the expected length for the extended responses is included as a guide. It is presented as the approximate number of examination writing booklet pages (based on average-sized handwriting), and/or an approximate number of words. Students will not be penalised for responses of excess length: they may write less than or more than what is expected, and their responses will be marked on their merits.

Outline of internal assessment requirements

There will be three to five assessment tasks. There are no changes to the components and weightings in 2010.