



# careers

Experience. The Difference.



## Bachelor of Laws = your opportunity to promote ideals of justice through the rule of law

Complete a Bachelor of Laws at UniSA and you are on your way to a stimulating career in the legal profession, business or government. The academic degree provides you with one of the key qualifications required for legal practice. For those with an interest in other areas, the degree provides the ideal basis for building a challenging career across many sectors in both the private and public arenas.

This qualification will give you flexibility to make broad choices about your ultimate career direction. The skills and knowledge that this program of study helps you to develop – a strong foundation in the discipline of law, a profound insight into modern society and the necessary skills for successful legal practice – are attributes that many employers are seeking both nationally and internationally.

As interaction between individuals and organisations around the world becomes more complex and challenging, the demand for capable professionals with legal skills is increasing. You have an opportunity to enter an area that is dynamic, growing and global: an area that abounds with opportunities for those interested in practising law as well as those with an interest in applying their legal skills outside of areas of professional practice. Increasing professionalism and growth in this area means that continuing employment options for graduates exist in a large range of areas.

Law graduates can enjoy the freedom of seeking work across a wide spectrum of areas, as most businesses and government departments require professionals with legal skills across many facets of operation – not just professional practice. By starting in a graduate entry position with this degree, you have the opportunity to progress towards specialist and management roles, offering you an upward career path that can be both challenging and rewarding.

## Employment snapshot

### Legal Professionals

Job prospects:	GOOD
Employment predictions to 2011–12:	STRONG
Occupation size:	LARGE (60 400)
Ave weekly wage:	\$1288
% in FT work:	88%
Vacancy levels:	MODERATE
Vacancy reasons:	62% Job change 27% Leaving occupation 11% New jobs

## Which occupations?

The Bachelor of Laws degree is a qualification leading to a professional career. Graduates who wish to practise law and who include certain courses in the degree as well as complete a Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice may enter or work towards roles such as administrative lawyer, barrister, law researcher, legal officer, patent attorney, solicitor or parliamentary counsel.

Opportunities for graduates also exist within the business and government realms in such disciplines as banking, finance, industrial relations, marketing, administration, management or academia.

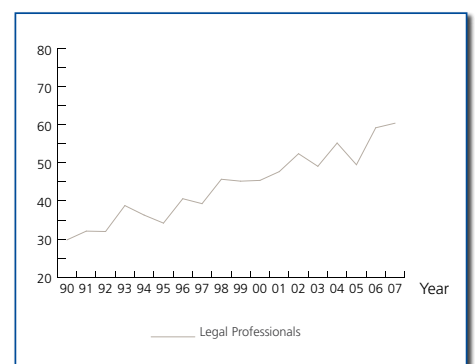
## Which industries?

Graduates may find employment across many industry sectors including administration; banking; business; liquidation and receivership practices; economics; finance; importing and exporting; industrial relations; management; marketing; manufacturing; tourism and hospitality; primary industry or human resources management. In fact, opportunities for those with legal skills exist across most industries and extend to both private and public sectors.

## Graduate Qualities and Employers

Employers look for graduates who not only have strong academic records and relevant qualifications, but also the personal skills and qualities needed to do the job well. As you will know, UniSA programs are designed to develop a range of Graduate Qualities that are highly valued in the workplace.

## The employment level ('000s of people) for Legal Professionals:



## With these Graduate Qualities you'll be able to approach employers knowing that you stand out from graduates of other institutions.

As a Bachelor of Laws graduate, your strong foundation in the discipline of law provides an insight into modern society and its many complex issues and develops the necessary skills for successful legal practice. This will help you present yourself as the best candidate for the job. You'll be aware that it's not enough simply to possess the graduate qualities, you'll also need to be able to explain how you've developed them and how they can help you in your work. You may be able to use examples from previous work or life experience, but you can also refer to your program. So, for example, you might want to tell potential employers that you:

### Have an ability to operate with a body of knowledge

You should emphasise that UniSA programs offer the most recent discipline knowledge in research, theory and extensive practical based applications that have helped you develop a solid knowledge in the areas of your professional interest, which will generally be reflected in your choice of elective courses. Let employers know that your degree program focused on the core underlying principles of law and their application in a changing world and fostered a range of critical, forensic and analytical skills that will enable you to fulfil the essential functions of a legal professional.

### Are prepared for lifelong learning

Tell employers that your degree gave you a broad theoretical and practical base in law that can be built on in the years to come. Let them know that your program included a range of courses that helped to strengthen your general knowledge and skills and broaden your outlook and appreciation for further study and lifelong learning. Provide examples of some of these courses and discuss any plans you may have for further study. Explain that you understand the strategies, avenues and information required to help keep your professional skills and knowledge up to date.

### Are an effective problem solver

Inform employers that the range of areas you studied helped to challenge your decision making from all sides of the spectrum within legal and ethical frameworks. Let them know that you can apply the principles of decision-making in a work environment and that some of the courses you studied to develop these skills included: analysis and problem-solving of Commonwealth and State doctrinal legal issues and analysis and problem-solving of international issues. If you were faced with particular challenges regarding decisions that you had to make in any practical or theoretical component of your course, tell employers about this too. You could use specific examples of where, how and why you had to solve problems during the course of your study program or in any environment in which these skills were called to test.

### Can work autonomously and collaboratively

Emphasise that your studies provided the opportunity to develop and put into practice your skills in working both independently and in team situations. You could talk about the discipline, initiative and organisational skills required to complete individual tasks and the negotiation, leadership and communication skills you developed while working with your fellow students. Try to provide examples of both your positive approach to team work and your capacity to work autonomously. You can talk about any organisation-based projects you undertook that developed your skills in researching and working both independently and within a team-based setting.

### Are committed to ethical action and social responsibility

Underpinning all UniSA programs is a commitment to ethical practice. All UniSA law students are required to undertake a course in Legal Ethics that enables you to identify, understand and analyse ethical issues, how to minimise them and how to address them when they arise. As a student, you also developed an understanding of the concept of 'equality before the law' – that

some groups of people are disadvantaged by our legal system and how the law is evolving to redress that situation. The inclusion of ethical and attitudinal attributes was also incorporated through experiential learning exercises and group work that enabled you to understand why ethical analysis is integral to legal practice. Mention that the program provided you with the skills to provide effective legal advice, taking account of cultural and ethical issues. Talk about any elective courses taken that enhanced your commitment to ethical action and social responsibility.

### Communicate effectively

Indicate that one of the fundamental skills you developed in the Bachelor of Laws program was the ability to think logically and to communicate clearly and effectively. This was further enhanced through topics that developed different aspects of your communications skills such as the drafting of memoranda to supervising partners and written communication of legal advice to individual clients. Advocacy skills exercises including mootings, mock trials and presentations also honed your oral communication skills. Mention any other courses or electives that assisted in the development of your communication skills throughout your course of study and provide examples of when and how your communication skills were put to use.

### Demonstrate an international perspective

Explain to employers that your degree emphasised the need to maintain an international perspective and that this was focused through topics such as Law and Global Perspectives. Mention other courses that helped to develop your international appreciation and understanding of issues such as intercultural communication and Australia's changing role in the global market and international trade. Mention any elective studies or organisation-based projects completed that provided an international focus. Also, tell potential employers that many of the students studying at UniSA campuses in Australia are from overseas. This provided you with the opportunity to interact and communicate with students from all parts of the world.

Note: Statistical data and occupational classifications used in this brochure have been sourced from Department of Employment and Workplace Relations.

## Further information

For more information about the programs, including fees, visit:  
[www.unisanet.unisa.edu.au/programs](http://www.unisanet.unisa.edu.au/programs)

### Australian applicants

School of Law  
City West Campus  
Student enquiries  
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Email: [law.enquiries@unisa.edu.au](mailto:law.enquiries@unisa.edu.au)  
Website: [www.unisa.edu.au/law](http://www.unisa.edu.au/law)

### International applicants

International Prospective Students Office  
GPO Box 2471  
Adelaide SA 5001  
Telephone: (613) 9627 4854  
Facsimile: (613) 9627 4864  
Email: [international.office@unisa.edu.au](mailto:international.office@unisa.edu.au)  
Website: [www.unisa.edu.au/internat](http://www.unisa.edu.au/internat)

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Division of  
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