***Stage 2 Legal Studies***

***Assessment Type 2: Inquiry (30%)***

***Task Description:***

In this assessment you pose and respond to a question. The question arises from your investigation into a legal issue of your choice.

The issue must:

* Be recent. It should have been in the media or in public awareness in the last 12 months
* Linked to the Stage 2 Legal Studies Curriculum (a Focus or Qption Area)
* Reflect at least one set of competing tensions from the SACE subject outline
  + *NB – your question doesn’t need to include the names of the tensions, but a discussion and analysis of the tensions should be evident throughout your task.*

Your presentation is a critical response to the question that you have posed.

***Presentation:***

Your Inquiry may be presented in one of the following ways:

1. A written report, with a maximum word count of 2,000 words
2. An oral/multimodal presentation. This can be up to a maximum of 12 minutes
3. A combination of each of these elements

**Suggested Structure:**

**Introduction**

Introduce the question that you are addressing

Include a brief overview of your legal issue and its current legal status.

Define all key terms (as appropriate)

**Body**

**Arguments For/Against**

Consider arguments on both sides of your legal issue to ensure depth/perspective taking in your analysis.

This section should include the following (where possible/relevant):

* References to relevant legislation/bills
* Personal interviews
* Academic articles / University studies
* News articles

How is the competing tension evident in the analysis?

**Conclusion/Recommendations**

Summarise your findings and key points and make recommendations based on them.

Have you resolved/addressed the question?

***Assessment***

You are being assessed against each of the performance standards. Please see overleaf.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| U | Understanding  and Application | Analysis and Evaluation | Communication |
| A | Perceptive understanding of the ways that the legal system balances competing tensions  Astute application of legal principles and processes to specific contexts  Thorough and focused research to select and appropriately acknowledge a range of relevant sources | Thorough and astute analysis and evaluation of legal concepts, principles, processes or problems  Insightful development of arguments or issues to reach a convincing conclusion and/or make informed recommendations | Very clear and effective communication of legal concepts, opinions and arguments |
| B | Substantial understanding of the ways that the legal system balances competing tensions  Proficient application of legal principles and processes to specific contexts  Well-informed research to select and appropriately acknowledge a range of relevant sources | Well-considered analysis and application of legal principles, processes or problems  Well-considered evaluation of legal arguments or issues to reach a mostly convincing conclusion and/or make mostly informed recommendations | Clear and effective communication of legal concepts, opinions and arguments |
| C | Sound understanding of the ways that the legal system balances competing tensions  Generally informed application of legal principles and processes to specific contexts  Adequate research to select and appropriately acknowledge a range of relevant sources | Adequate analysis and application of legal principles, processes or problems  Sound evaluation of legal arguments or issues to reach a conclusion and/or make recommendations | Generally effective communication of legal concepts, opinions and arguments |
| D | Some understanding of the ways that the legal system balances competing tensions  Partial application of legal principles and processes to specific contexts  Some research to select and appropriately acknowledge a range of relevant sources | Some analysis and application of legal principles, processes or problems  Partial evaluation of legal arguments or issues to reach a conclusion and/or make recommendations | Some effective communication of legal concepts, opinions and arguments |
| E | Limited understanding of the ways that the legal system balances competing tensions  Limited application of legal principles and processes to specific contexts  Rudimentary research, selection and acknowledgement of a range of sources | Limited analysis of legal principles, processes or problems  Limited consideration of legal arguments or issues to reach a vague or unsubstantiated conclusion and/or recommendation. | Limited communication of legal concepts, opinions and arguments |