



Lord Denning: "Words are the lawyer's tools of trade"

Language, Communication and the Legal Process

Postgraduate - LAW 5443

It's not just the barrister standing up in the courtroom who must hone his or her use of language. Language is critical at all stages of the legal process. In this unit, you will learn how language can produce problems in the justice system and how to use language more effectively

Led by experts drawing upon decades of legal and linguistic experience, this unit will develop your skills in the following areas:

- Conducting effective interviews with clients and witnesses
- Witness statements and affidavits
- Producing effective documents
- Questioning witnesses
- Courtroom communication
- Cross-cultural communication
- Vulnerable people in the legal process
- Using linguistic expertise

LEARN FROM THE EXPERTS

The Hon. Professor Peter R A Gray AM - Adjunct Professor

Peter Gray has been a barrister and a judge of the Federal Court of Australia. For part of his 29-year term as a judge, he was also Aboriginal Land Commissioner, hearing land rights claims in the Northern Territory. His experiences in that role stimulated an interest in communication issues in the legal system, particularly cross-cultural communication. This interest led him to discover forensic linguistics, a field in which he has been active for almost 15 years. Currently, he focuses much of his time on coaching people in public speaking and helping lawyers to understand and solve problems of language in the justice system.

Professor John Gibbons - Adjunct Professor

"The law IS language," says Professor John Gibbons. An experienced academic with extensive publications, Professor Gibbons has worked with the New South Wales Police on their language procedures, consulted concerning federal legal interpreter legislation by the Attorney General's Department, was adviser to the Law Foundation of New South Wales on language and law issues, and has acted as a linguistic expert in more than 40 legal cases. He has previously been President of the International Association of Forensic Linguists, and Convenor of the UN recognised Scientific Committee on Forensic Linguistics.

TEACHING PERIOD

29, 30 August
5, 6, 7 September

Time

9.30am - 3.30pm
Monash University Law Chambers
555 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne

Cost

Single unit (non-assessed) \$1,500

How to apply/More information:
[monash.edu/law/future-students/
postgraduate/single-units](https://monash.edu/law/future-students/postgraduate/single-units)

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