



Call for Entries: 2025 Law and Religion Essay Competition

About the Competition

The University of Southern Queensland School of Law and Justice invites submissions for the 2025 Law and Religion Essay Competition. All entries will be evaluated by a panel comprising two UniSQ academics and one external expert using standardised assessment criteria.

Eligibility

Open to all students currently enrolled in an LLB or JD university law program in Australia.

Essay Topics

1. Religious Schools and Discrimination

Should religious schools in Australia be legally allowed to make student admission or staff employment decisions with regard to sexual orientation or gender identity?

2. Hate Speech and Religious Protection

Does Australian hate speech/vilification law adequately balance freedom of speech with the protection of religious groups?

3. Custom Topic

Any other issue involving law and religion in Australia that has been approved in advance (after submission of an abstract by a proposed entrant) by the competition organiser, Dr Jeremy Patrick.

Submission Requirements

Original Work

Must be unpublished and your own work

Language

Written in English

No AI Assistance

Must be human-authored

Word Count

3,000–6,000 words (including footnotes)

Prizes



First Place

\$500

Publication opportunity with
the *Australian Journal of Law
and Religion* (AJLR)



Second Place

\$250



Third Place

\$100

Invitations to publish may be extended to other entrants at the discretion of the editors of the AJLR.

Important Deadline

1 June 2025, midnight AEST

Contact Information

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Organised by the University of Southern Queensland School of Law and Justice