Objective

The purpose of this competition is to:

> highlight the importance of legal awareness within the community and how legal issues permeate our daily lives;
> encourage students to take a proactive, informed approach to legal issues; and
> encourage year 11 and 12 students to develop their research, writing and analysis skills.

Entrant Eligibility

The UNSW Law School Essay Competition is open to all Year 11 or 12 students in any school within Australia.

Essay Topic

In 1992, the Prime Minister Paul Keating said that the High Court decision in Mabo ‘establishes a fundamental truth and lays the basis for justice.’ What did he mean by this statement?

Prizes

The winning essayist will receive $500. Second place will receive $300, third place will receive $200. Please note that no correspondence will be entered into in relation to the prize conditions. Prizes are not transferable or exchangeable.
Judging Panel

The judging panel will comprise suitably experienced law representatives appointed by the Dean, UNSW Law. The judging panel's decision upon the award and distribution of prizes is final. No correspondence will be entered into regarding the judges' decision.

Competition Conditions

1. The closing date for entries is **5pm Friday 27 April, 2012**. Essays must arrive by this date at the Law School, University of New South Wales (address below under point 10).

2. Essays must be written in English and based solely on the competition topic.

3. Essays must be submitted in hard copy, on A4 paper, typed (preferably in 12-point sized font). Please do not include plastic covers or folders with the essay.

4. The essay word limit is **1,000 words**.

5. Format must be written essay form (not a report or project and no electronic or pictorial presentations).

6. Essays must be the original work of the Author. If used, references must be provided, listing information sources used in the essay. Plagiarism will not be accepted.

7. Only one essay per student may be submitted.

8. All essays must include a fully completed **Official Essay Cover Sheet** (stapled to the first page of the essay), which is available from: [www.law.unsw.edu.au/essaycomp](http://www.law.unsw.edu.au/essaycomp)

   Essay Cover Sheets must be signed by a teacher from the student's school.

9. Essays will be assessed anonymously. Please do not include any identifying information on the essay pages. The Essay Cover Sheet will be removed from the essay by a non-judging member of the Law School and registered before the essay is passed on to the judging panel. Once the Essay Cover Sheet is removed, essays will have no identifying markings other than the registration number. The identity of the author will only be revealed once the judging panel have confirmed the winning essays.
10. Essays must be submitted by mail, along with an Official Essay Cover Sheet, (fax or email not acceptable) to the following postal address:

UNSW Law Essay Competition
UNSW Law
University of New South Wales
UNSW SYDNEY NSW 2052

11. UNSW Law will email each entrant acknowledging receipt of essay.

12. Please keep a copy of the essay for your own records – essays will not be returned.

13. The winners' names and schools will be published on the UNSW Law website.

14. The winning essays will be published on the UNSW Law website.

15. Prize giving ceremonies will take place following consultation with the winners’ schools.

Further information or questions:
Please email unsw.law@unsw.edu.au or telephone Ruby Gordon-Green on (02) 9385 9928 for any further information or questions.