

Course Title: **Competition Law**

Course Code: **LAWG908**

Descriptor Start Date: **01/01/2026**

POINTS: **30.00**

LEVEL: **9**

PREREQUISITE/S: **None**

COREQUISITE/S: **LAWS901**

RESTRICTION/S: **None**

## LEARNING HOURS

Hours may include lectures, tutorials, online forums, laboratories. Refer to your timetable and course information in Canvas for detailed information.

**Total learning hours: 300**

## PRESCRIPTOR

An advanced examination of New Zealand's competition law principles and the influence of the Closer Economic Relations (CER) Agreement with Australia, while examining international comparisons of these principles to competition laws in Australia, the European Union (EU), and United States of America (USA).

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Critically explain the core principles of competition law and policy, focusing on New Zealand.
2. Examine how competition law intersects with justice, societal vulnerabilities, and sustainability.
3. Analyse competition laws in real-world situations.
4. Critically examine and present reasoned arguments in support and alternative to those arguments and positions.
5. Create a research paper that adds to the understanding of a selected aspect of competition law enforcement.

**Disclaimer: Course descriptors may be amended between teaching periods/semesters**

## CONTENT

- Objective of Competition Law: Examine the goals of competition law in fostering market fairness and preventing anti-competitive practices.
- Basic Competition Economics: Understand essential economic principles related to market competition and dynamics.
- Market Definition and Power: Analyse market definition, assess market power, and evaluate entry conditions and competition criteria.
- Cartels and Collusion: Investigate the regulation of hardcore cartels and tacit collusion, focusing on enforcement strategies.
- Cooperation and Agreements: Assess the effects of joint ventures and competitor agreements on competition, particularly concerning substantial lessening of competition.
- Misuse of Market Power: Review practices like predatory pricing, bundling, and refusals to deal that involve the misuse of market power.
- Mergers and Competition: Evaluate mergers for their potential to reduce competition, including those that might facilitate greater coordination between competitors.
- Competition Law and Innovation: Explore the relationship between competition law, innovation, intellectual property, and information technology.
- Public Benefit Test: Analyse the application of the public benefit test and the review process for authorising competitive practices and agreements.

## LEARNING & TEACHING STRATEGIES

An appropriate range of strategies that may include lectures, workshops & online learning.  
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## ASSESSMENT PLAN

Assessment Event	Weighting %	Learning Outcomes
Seminar presentation (Individual)	20.00	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Legal Writing - Research paper (Individual)	80.00	1, 2, 3, 4, 5

### Grade Map

#### MAP1

A+ A A- Pass with Distinction  
B+ B B- Pass with Merit  
C+ C C- Pass  
D Fail

### Overall requirement/s to pass the course:

50% overall

## LEARNING RESOURCES

Details of all learning resources (including journals, databases, websites etc) are available on Canvas. Required Text(s): If there is a required text, details are available by searching the University Bookshop's website: [www.ubs.co.nz](http://www.ubs.co.nz) For further information, contact: Te Ara Pakihi, Te Ohanga Me Te Ture - Faculty of Business, Economics and Law

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Principal Programme: **AK1044, Master of Laws**

Related Programme/s: **AK1050**

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