

Abstract

SERVICE LEARNING: AN EXAMPLE OF EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION IN THE AREA OF TAXATION LAW

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Taxation Law is a difficult unit of study. At the University of Western Sydney, the unit is titled “Revenue Law” and is a compulsory unit of study in the LLB degree. Students are therefore required to study content material that is both challenging and demanding. In an attempt to engage the students and to stimulate interest a program has been introduced whereby students may be placed in community based Tax Help Centres to assist low income earners with their tax return obligations and obtain academic credit for such involvement. This service learning program is an example of experiential education. The teaching note describes the structure of the program, examines the possible benefits for students, university and community centres and the impact that the program may have for law academics in general.

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