

# Brennan Justice & Leadership Program Handbook 2024

A collaborative initiative of UTS Law  
and the UTS Law Students' Society



# Contents

<b>Contents</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1. Program Objectives and Structure</b>	<b>1</b>
a. What is the Brennan Program?	1
b. Components of the Program	1
<b>2. The Brennan Justice and Leadership Award</b>	<b>2</b>
a. About the Award	2
b. Completion of the Award	2
<b>3. Brennan Program registration and communication</b>	<b>3</b>
a. Registering with the Brennan Program	3
b. Brennan Program Noticeboard on Canvas	4
c. Communication channels for Brennan Program	4
d. Contacting the Brennan Program	5
<b>4. Reflections on Justice (ROJ)</b>	<b>6</b>
a. Description and purpose of the reflections component	6
b. The range of activities and Award requirements	6
c. Capping ROJ points	10
d. ROJ Submission and AI	10
e. How to log ROJ activities	10
<b>5. Leadership through Service (LTS)</b>	<b>12</b>
a. General requirements and rationale	12
b. What qualifies as LTS?	12
c. Tiering and capping LTS hours	13
d. Choosing a service activity and pre-approval	13
e. How to log LTS hours under the program	14
f. Not sure how to claim in CareerHub?	14
g. Ongoing Leadership through Service Opportunities	15
<b>Where to find LTS Opportunities</b>	<b>16</b>
a. General	16
b. Legally Orientated Volunteering	16
c. Walking Challenges and Charity Fundraisers	16
<b>7. Gaining dual recognition for volunteer and community service</b>	<b>17</b>

# 1. Program Objectives and Structure

## a. What is the Brennan Program?

The Brennan Program is a free, voluntary program for UTS Law students that seeks to strengthen the justice consciousness, idealism and sense of service that participants bring to their studies and later professional work.

### Program Objectives

- Aims to develop each student's capacity for personal and professional leadership.
- Offer an outlet for students to find a sense of wellbeing, fulfilment and satisfaction in their studies and later professional work.
- To strengthen social justice awareness.

The Brennan Justice and Leadership Program was introduced in 2011 as a joint initiative of the UTS Faculty of Law and the UTS Law Students' Society. It is named for the late Sir Gerard Brennan AC KBE, former Chief Justice of the High Court of Australia and UTS Chancellor (1999-2005). His life and career exemplified the qualities of professional leadership, service and excellence that the program seeks to nurture.

With over 1400 students and alumni currently registered, the program is indicative of UTS Law students' interest in social justice and their desire to go beyond the academic curriculum.

## b. Components of the Program

The program has two separate components of **reflection** and **service**.

### Reflections on Justice (ROJ)

Throughout each academic year students are encouraged to participate in opportunities to engage with the themes of justice in its social contexts. Some of these opportunities are facilitated by the Faculty of Law which include: film screenings, panel discussions, Discussion Groups, and the Brennan Book Program. Students are also strongly encouraged to attend non-UTS events which provide an opportunity for engagements with the broader community on themes of social justice. Further information is available in the Reflections of Justice section in this handbook.

### Leadership through Service (LTS)

The Leadership through Service component of the program calls for students to contribute self-initiated voluntary service (both legal and non-legal in nature) over the course of their studies. Please refer to the Leadership through Service section of this handbook for more information.

Students should feel free to continually vary their level of activity and engagement with the program, and participate when able to do so.

## 2. The Brennan Justice and Leadership Award

### a. About the Award

The Brennan Justice and Leadership Award is presented to students who complete both components of the Brennan Program. In order to take out the award students must earn 100 Reflections on Justice points and the required Leadership through Service hours according to the pro-rata allocation outlined in section 5A (page 13).

Once a student graduates the Brennan Justice and Leadership Award will appear on their official transcript, Australian Higher Education Graduation (AHEG) Statement and LinkedIn profile. The achievement will also be acknowledged at an annual celebration evening with the Faculty of Law, and all students who complete this award will receive a letter from the Faculty of Law Dean. The program is highly regarded by the legal profession and other employers.

The Brennan Justice and Leadership Award is not mandatory, students may engage as much as they like. Although, while all students are encouraged to participate in the program, only those who satisfy the requirements of the program will receive the Award.

### b. Completion of the Award

The Brennan Program has three claim deadlines per year, typically occurring in January, March, and July. Students who are seeking to take out the Brennan Justice and Leadership Award are advised to get in touch with the [Brennan Team](#), and checkout the [Facebook page](#) to diarise when claim deadlines are due so they don't miss out.

#### **Why is this important?**

Students who submit their claims by the claim deadline will receive the Brennan Justice and Leadership Program award on their AHEGS. After the deadline passes the Brennan Team are unable to apply this label to a student's AHEGS statement.

Student's last session usually falls prior to one of the claiming deadlines. Students who want to make sure they will have all claims in should get in touch with the [Brennan Team](#) to check their final date. These dates are also listed on the [Brennan Events Webpage](#) throughout the year.

CareerHub is where students should check their progress throughout their degree. Get in touch with the [Program Administrator](#) for guidance and advice.

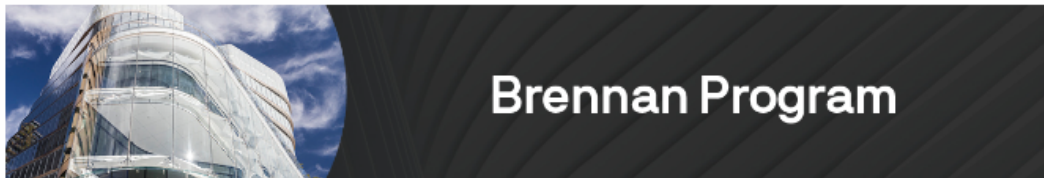
For students who are nearing completion and the Brennan Team haven't been in contact yet, please [get in touch!](#)

# 3. Brennan Program registration and communication

## a. Registering with the Brennan Program

To officially start participating in the Brennan Program students need to register via UTS CareerHub at <https://careerhub.uts.edu.au/Form.aspx?id=4109004>. Once registered click on "Dashboard" from the [CareerHub](#) main login page as a current Law student, the 'Brennan Justice and Leadership Program' will be on the left-hand side of your screen. Filling out the registration form will give access to the program's workflow. Registration continues throughout the duration of a student's UTS law degree. CareerHub provides students an ability to track their progress in the program. Here's what the workflow will look like:

### Brennan Justice and Leadership Program



The Brennan Justice and Leadership Program is a joint initiative of the UTS Law Students' Society (UTS LSS) and the UTS Faculty of Law. It aims to strengthen the consciousness of justice among law students and empower students to develop their leadership qualities. It is an invaluable opportunity that encourages students to further engage with the community in areas that are outside of the standard law curriculum at university.

The Brennan Program entails regular discussion group forums, voluntary service hours within the community and numerous educational seminars and social justice activities, such as the Westmead Children's Hospital and Villawood Detention Centre visits and the Speaker Series events conducted by the UTS LSS, and creative photography and film competition hosted by the Faculty.



Welcome to the Brennan Justice and Leadership Program!

The two main components of the program are:

- [Reflections on Justice \(ROJ\)](#) in which students engage with the themes of justice and its social contexts through lectures and discussion groups; and
- [Leadership Through Service \(LTS\)](#) where students contribute voluntary service (both legal and non-legal in nature) over the course of their studies.

The Brennan Justice and Leadership Award requires you to earn 100 ROJ points 120-200 LTS hours according to the length of your degree.

Please read the [Brennan Program Handbook](#) before proceeding, so you understand the structure of the Program.

E: [brennanprogram@uts.edu.au](mailto:brennanprogram@uts.edu.au)

> Registration	
> Reflections on Justice (ROJ) Points	
> Leadership Through Service (LTS) Hours	

## b. Brennan Program Noticeboard on Canvas

Students who register for the Brennan Program on CareerHub will gain access to the Canvas noticeboard. The noticeboard is updated around the same time as the Census dates for each session. For students who register to the Brennan Program far away from a Census date, or right after, can get in touch with the [Brennan Team](#) to gain access. This noticeboard contains resources for Brennan participants, including:

- announcements regarding upcoming social justice lectures and seminars
- program guides and contacts
- useful reading material
- LTS and ROJ opportunities
- Calendar of Brennan and UTS events via the Canvas Calendar function in your Canvas dashboard.

All posts uploaded in the Canvas noticeboard are shared via social media on the [Brennan Collective Facebook group](#). Request to join the group for immediate access to opportunities.

## c. Communication channels for Brennan Program

**Canvas:** Announcements are posted regularly on the Brennan Program noticeboard on Canvas to inform students of new lectures and other activities and opportunities available under the program.

**Newsletters:** Regular emails are sent to all students registered in the program, which contain a digest of upcoming Brennan Justice Talks, announcements, articles and voluntary opportunities. Adding [brennanprogram@uts.edu.au](mailto:brennanprogram@uts.edu.au) will ensure these emails don't go to Junk folders.

**Web:** There are two primary web pages for the Brennan Program where students can find out all they need to know about getting started in the program, relevant contact details and program FAQs. These web pages are located at the UTS Faculty of Law and UTS Law Students' Society (LSS) websites:

Faculty: [www.uts.edu.au/brennanprogram](http://www.uts.edu.au/brennanprogram)

LSS: [www.utslss.com/social-justice/brennan-program](http://www.utslss.com/social-justice/brennan-program)

### Social Media:



- UTS Law Brennan Program (@UTSBrennanProgram)
- [The Brennan Collective Facebook Group – the Facebook page is a great way to connect with other students in the Brennan Program and keep up-to-date with ROJ and LTS Opportunities.](#)

**Brennan Program FAQs** are published separately - see the [Program home page](#). They address many questions and are a great point of reference!

## d. Contacting the Brennan Program

Enquiries about the Program should be directed to the **Program Administrators** in the Faculty of Law via [brennanprogram@uts.edu.au](mailto:brennanprogram@uts.edu.au)

### **Brennan Directors:**

**Dr Anthea Vogl**  
Senior Lecturer  
UTS Faculty of Law  
[Anthea.Vogl@uts.edu.au](mailto:Anthea.Vogl@uts.edu.au)

**Chloe MacKay**  
Brennan Program Co-Director  
UTS Law Students' Society  
[brennan@utsslss.com](mailto:brennan@utsslss.com)

**Georgia Mitchell**  
Brennan Program Co-Director  
UTS Law Students' Society  
[brennan@utsslss.com](mailto:brennan@utsslss.com)

## 4. Reflections on Justice (ROJ)

### a. Description and purpose of the reflections component

Reflections on Justice (ROJ) are designed to stimulate an intellectual engagement with the idea of justice, which will continue throughout the course of a student's study, and into their professional life. The idea is that students will reflect upon what is learnt at events and activities in order to broaden their legal educational experience and increase awareness on issues of social justice, both in the immediate community and on a global scale. In addition to this, the ROJ component aims to generate a group conversation about justice among students.

Students may attend both internal UTS and external lectures on justice, join Discussion Groups to reflect on the idea of justice in general intellectual and specific social contexts, and participate in the [Brennan Book Program](#) to name a few.

All activities are assigned points. For example, most lectures are worth 5 ROJ points (unless otherwise stated), and participation in five (5) Discussion Group meetings is worth 20 points. Students must earn a total of 100 ROJ points to be eligible for the Brennan Justice and Leadership Award.

There will be several [Program events](#) run on campus each session. However, students can also count their attendance at external events, provided they check with the Program administrator by [email](#).

### b. The range of activities and Award requirements

A series of lectures, seminars and film screenings are held regularly throughout the year. These activities are advertised on the [program website](#), the Brennan Program Canvas noticeboard, Brennan emails, Facebook, and CareerHub.

#### [Brennan Program Events \(5 points each\)](#)

Students must RSVP for any Brennan Program events in the CareerHub "Brennan Program Events" section. Students need to click on the "Book into 'Brennan Events' link, upon which they are taken to a screen that lists current events available for participating in.

Attendance at each event accrues a standard 5 points under the program. However, students must make sure that their name is marked off at the event in order to claim points.

An example of events held by the Brennan Program can be found on our [Brennan Program Justice Talks webpage](#). Students can use this webpage to view past recorded discussions and submit a 350-word reflection for 5 ROJ at any time. Keep an eye out for further recordings to come!

#### **External events credited towards the program (5 points each, unless otherwise agreed)**

Attending **external lectures, seminars and conferences** that have a justice dimension will generally earn participants 5 ROJ points each. These external events are either advertised by the Brennan team or can be approved for points on an *ad hoc* basis by the Program Administrator for students who self-initiate participation (5 points each unless otherwise approved). Students are also encouraged to identify, share and attend external lectures, seminars and conferences by emailing [brennanprogram@uts.edu.au](mailto:brennanprogram@uts.edu.au). The Brennan Team will notify students of the event details and advise if it attracts points under the program.

External events requires students to upload proof of attendance at the event (e.g. ticket, registration confirmation, webinar screenshot) and compose a 100-word reflective note in the "External Event Claim Form" section in CareerHub. The 100-word reflection should outline key learning points from the event. This is a requirement to submit the claim.

Claims submitted ahead of the event will not be approved. It is very important that students claim for events they have actually attended. The Brennan Administrator reserves the right to ask a Brennan participant to support their claim through a 350-word reflection at any time.



### **Law and Justice Discussion Groups (20 points)**

Students are encouraged to join and contribute to a Law and Justice Discussion Group. These groups comprise of 6-8 students and meet five times each session to reflect on ideas of justice that emerge. Students can share their experiences and perspectives, assist each other's reading and exploration, and extend the conversation in ways that reflect the particular insights and interests of group members. The groups will be self-managed and operate for a single session only (i.e. Autumn/Spring). However, some groups may choose to continue together as a group for another session by arrangement with the [LSS Co-Director](#). Students can participate in more than one Discussion Group over the years, but should [email the Brennan Administrator](#) if they are a second time participant. Membership of a Discussion Group accrues 20 ROJ points.

Students must enter their five reflections of 200 words in the 'Discussion Group Claim Form' Section of CareerHub after each catch-up. To learn more and apply keep an eye out for updates in the [UTS LSS Facebook group](#), the [Brennan Collective](#) and [UTS LSS webpages](#).

### **Discussion Group Leaders**

Students that are confirmed as Group Leaders are eligible to claim LTS hours for their time in group coordination. Details are communicated via the LSS Brennan Director.

### **Substantial reflective piece (10 – 20 points)**

Students can submit a substantial reflective piece through creative writing, an essay, law reform submission, podcast, video, short film or some other form of media not created or used for student assessment or any other activity. The Brennan Team encourages Brennanites to be as creative as they would like!

Students should discuss their project in advance with the [Program Administrator](#) to ensure it fits within the guidelines of the Brennan Program and will accrue the points intended. Students upload their reflective pieces to the 'Substantial Reflective Piece' section in CareerHub.

### **Brennan Book Program (20 points)**

The idea comes from "campus books" at US universities (such as Stanford's Three Books program). It gives everyone a chance to come to the Brennan Program with something in common. We hope it becomes a way to open up conversations between all years of the Program, and also between students and staff.

For 2024, we've chosen to streamline the options and stick to one theme. Note: there is a cap: two books per calendar year.

Are audiobooks or podcasts more your thing? Check if your titles are available on [Audible](#) or your preferred audiobook service.

### **2024 Theme Dual Narratives**

This year's theme is "Dual Narratives". In Australia, we have a diverse mix of people, stories, and experiences. When we get to university, we have an opportunity to learn who and what the world is really made of. This theme is about recognising the multiple and complex of experiences navigating Australian life and culture through non-fiction and fiction titles. We hope there'll be something for everyone here. If you find a title in the wild, and think Brennan students would be keen to read, then go ahead and share it in the Brennan Collective on Facebook. We love seeing new names contribute to the program.

### **The Shape of Dust by Lamisse Hamouda**

In 2018, on his way to a family holiday in Cairo, Australian-Egyptian citizen Hazem Hamouda disappears without warning, going missing somewhere between landing and customs. His eldest daughter, Lamisse, has recently moved to Egypt from Australia to study at University of Cairo. With little Arabic and even less legal knowledge, she finds out her father has been arbitrarily arrested. Going up against the notorious Egyptian prison system, Lamisse discovers that the Australian embassy provides shockingly little support to dual citizens arrested abroad.

Shouldering the responsibility of her father's welfare, Lamisse learns to navigate both deeply flawed systems, and freeing Hazem involves a reckoning with the two countries she's called home – coming to terms with the prejudice and racism of the country she grew up in and the corruption in the country she was hoping to reconnect with. *The Shape of Dust* is a haunting appraisal of the way Australia treats its citizens, both at home and abroad.

#### [Chai Time at Cinnamon Gardens by Shankari Chandran](#)

Winner of the Miles Franklin Literary Award 2023, *Chai Time at Cinnamon Gardens* is set in a nursing home nestled in the quiet suburb of Westgrove, Sydney – populated with residents with colourful histories.

But this ordinary neighbourhood is not without its prejudices. The serenity of Cinnamon Gardens is threatened by malignant forces more interested in what makes this refuge different rather than embracing the calm companionship that makes this place home to so many. As those who challenge the residents' existence make their stand against the nursing home with devastating consequences, our characters are forced to reckon with a country divided.

Shankari Chandran is a lawyer working in the social justice field, she was raised in Canberra and has lived in London working in Law. She now resides in Australia, and is active in both writing and law.

#### [Sand Talk: How Indigenous Thinking Can Save the World by Tyson Yunkaporta](#)

Tyson Yunkaporta looks at global systems from an Indigenous perspective. He asks how contemporary life diverges from the pattern of creation. How does this affect us? How can we do things differently?

*Sand Talk* provides a template for living. It's about how lines and symbols and shapes can help us make sense of the world. It's about how we learn and how we remember. It's about talking to everybody and listening carefully. It's about finding different ways to look at things.

Most of all it's about Indigenous thinking, and how it can save the world.

#### [Tell Me Again by Amy Thunig](#)

For years, Amy Thunig thought she knew all the details about the day she was born, often demanding that the story of her birth be retold. Years later, heavily pregnant with her own first child, she learns what really happened that day. It's a tale that exemplifies many of the events of her early life, where circumstances sometimes dictated that things be slightly different from how they might seem – including what is meant by her dad being away for 'work' and why her legal last name differs from her family's. In this remarkable memoir, Amy narrates her journey through childhood and adolescence, growing up with parents who struggled with addiction and incarceration. She reveals the importance of extended family and community networks when your immediate loved ones are dealing with endemic poverty and intergenerational trauma. In recounting her experiences, she shows how the stories we tell about ourselves can help to shape and sustain us. *Tell Me Again* will captivate, move and inspire readers with its candour and insight.

#### [I'm Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness](#)

Austin Channing Brown's first encounter with a racialised America came at age 7, when she discovered her parents named her Austin to deceive future employers into thinking she was a white man. Growing up in majority-white schools, organizations, and churches, Austin writes, "I had to learn what it means to love blackness," a journey that led to a lifetime spent navigating America's racial divide as a writer, speaker and expert who helps organizations practice genuine inclusion. In a time when nearly all institutions (schools, churches, universities, businesses) claim to value "diversity" in their mission statements, *I'm Still Here* is a powerful account of how and why our actions so often fall short of our words. *I'm Still Here* is an illuminating look at how white, middle-class, Evangelicalism has participated in an era of rising racial hostility, inviting the reader to confront apathy, recognize God's ongoing work in the world, and discover how blackness--if we let it--can save us all.

#### [Songs for the Dead and the Living by Sara M Salehv](#)

When the ground beneath your feet is always shifting, how can you ever know where you belong?

Jamilah has always believed she knows where her home is: in a house above a paint shop on the outskirts of Beirut, with her large, chaotic, loving family. But she soon learns that as Palestinian refugees, her family's life in Lebanon is precarious, and they must try to blend in even as they fight to retain their identity. When conflict comes to Beirut, Jamilah's world fractures, and the family is forced to flee to Cairo: another escape, and another slip further away from Palestine, the homeland to which they cannot return. In the end, Jamilah will have to choose between holding on to everything she knows and pursuing a life she can truly call her own.

*Songs for the Dead and the Living* is a coming-of-age tale played out across generations and continents, from Palestine to Australia. Sara M Saleh is an award-winning writer/poet, human rights lawyer, and the daughter of migrants from Palestine, Egypt, and Lebanon. Her poems, short stories, and essays have been widely published nationally in English and Arabic.

#### [Anam by André Dao](#)

A grandson tries to learn the family story. But what kind of story is it? Is it a prison memoir, about the grandfather imprisoned without charge or trial by a revolutionary government? Is it an oral history of the grandmother left behind to look after the children? Or is it a love story? A detective tale?

Moving from 1930s Hanoi through a series of never-ending wars and displacements to Saigon, Paris, Melbourne and Cambridge, *Anam* is a novel about memory and inheritance, colonialism and belonging, home and exile.

*Anam* blends fiction and essay, theory and everyday life to imagine that which has been repressed, left out, and forgotten. The grandson mines his family and personal stories to turn over ideas that resonate with all of us around place and home, legacy and expectation, ambition and sacrifice. As he sifts through letters, photographs, government documents and memories, he has his own family to think about- a partner and an infant daughter. Is there a way to remember the past that creates a future for them? Or does coming home always involve a certain amount of forgetting?

#### [God Forgets About the Poor by Peter Polites](#)

I will tell you why you should draft my story. Because migrant stories are broken. Some parts in a village where we washed our clothing with soot. Some parts in big cities working in factories. How we starved for food in Greece and starved for Greece in Australia. You don't know the first thing about me. A son can never see his mother as a woman. You will only see me in relation to you. I have had a thousand lives before you were even a thought. Hospitalised as a child for an entire year. Living as an adult without family in Athens when the colonels took control. Start when I was born. Describe the village and how beautiful it was. On the side of a mountain but in the middle of a forest. If we walked to a certain point on the edge, we could look over the valley and see rain clouds coming. Sometimes we would see a cat on a roof, we read that as a warning of a storm. When we looked down, we saw the dirt, which was just as rich as the sky. My island, your island, our island. Sometimes I think God forgot about us because we were poor. A stunning new novel from the author of *Down the Hume* and *The Pillars*, *God Forgets About the Poor* is a love story to a migrant mother, whose story is as important as any ever told.

#### [Storytellers: questions, answers and the craft of journalism](#)

Leigh Sales is one of Australia's most accomplished journalists, having anchored the ABC's flagship 7.30 program for twelve years. She has been a foreign correspondent, hosted *Lateline* and anchored numerous elections for the ABC. In this book, she turns her interviewing skills onto her own profession, those usually asking the questions: the journalists.

In ten sections – from News Reporting to Editing, via Investigative, Commentary and of course Interviewing – Sales takes us on a tour of the profession, letting the leaders in their field talk direct to us about how they get their leads, survive in war zones, write a profile, tell a story with pictures, and keep the show on the road. A who's-who of Australian journalism – including Lisa Millar, Kate McClymont, Hedley Thomas, Trent Dalton, Benjamin Law, Tracy Grimshaw, Richard Fidler, David Speers, Stan Grant, Niki Savva, Waleed Aly, Annabel Crabb, Karl Stefanovic and Mia Freedman – talk candidly about their greatest lessons and their trade secrets.

A fascinating insight into a vital and much-misunderstood profession, *Storytellers* is a book for anyone who's ever wanted to be a journalist, or even just wondered how the news and stories are made.

### [Borderland by Graham Akhurst](#)

Jono, a city-born Indigenous teenager is trying to figure out who he really is. After graduating, Jono scores a gig at the Aboriginal Performing Arts Centre and an incredible opportunity comes knocking -- interning with a documentary crew. Their mission? To promote a big government mining project in the wild western Queensland desert. The details are sketchy, and the land is rumoured to be sacred. But who cares? Jono is stoked just to be part of something meaningful. Plus, he gets to be the lead presenter!

Life takes a turn when they land in Gambari, a tiny rural town far from the hustle and bustle of the city. Suddenly, Jono's intuition becomes his best guide. He's haunted by an eerie omen of death, battling suffocating panic attacks, and even experiencing visions of Wudun -- a malevolent spirit from the Dreaming. *Borderland* is a heart-pounding horror gothic that follows Jono on an epic quest to find himself in the face of unbelievable challenges. Graham Akhurst is a UTS creative writing lecturer in the School of Communication, and works in the Centre for the Advancement of Indigenous Knowledge (CAIK).

## c. Capping ROJ points

The accumulation of ROJ points can be undertaken and completed at any stage of study. However, Brennanites cannot accrue 100 ROJ points in less than 12 months. This is to encourage students to develop their insights and experiences throughout the progression of their degree.

There is no upper limit on points that may be accrued, and students are encouraged to participate in reflective exercises to the best of their capacity.

## d. ROJ Submission and AI

### ***Written reflective submissions must be your own original work***

Like your university assessment tasks, any reflection that you submit as part of the Brennan Justice and Leadership Program must be your own original work. This means that you are not to plagiarise the work of others, reproduce the reflection as your own work when it was written by someone else, or use an AI program to generate the text.

If the Brennan Program team are concerned that submitted work may not be a student's own original work, the student may be invited to a meeting to discuss how the reflection was produced, and may not receive ROJ points for that reflection.

## e. How to log ROJ activities

ROJ Activity	How to accrue ROJ points	Points
<b>Ad Hoc Activity</b>	An ad-hoc activity is a ROJ activity that does not fit into any of the below categories. Brennanites can use this section for claiming points alongside a 350-word reflection. These can be activities posted on the <a href="#">Brennan Collective Facebook page</a> or anything else miscellaneous as approved ahead of time with the <a href="#">Brennan Administrator</a> .	5 points

<b>Internal event attendance</b>	Register for the event via CareerHub – once attended anyone who registered will have their name marked off. This will automatically accrue the relevant points into the Brennan Program workflow. <b>NB:</b> <i>Students will need to participate for the entire event duration to obtain the appropriate points (in-person and online).</i> Get in touch with the <a href="#">Brennan Administrator</a> for any questions.	5 points
<b>External event attendance</b>	After students have attended an external event, either in person or online, they must register this in CareerHub. For face to face events, students can upload an event ticket/confirmation alongside their 100-word reflection in CareerHub. For online events, such as webinars, students can upload a screenshot of the webinar and the 100-word reflection to CareerHub. <b>NB:</b> <i>The 100-word reflection should outline key aspects learnt from the event. This is a requirement to submit the claim.</i>	5 points
<b>Discussion Groups</b>	Discussion Groups are held in Autumn and Spring sessions. Call outs for groups are released at the beginning of the session by the UTS LSS Brennan Program Director. To claim ROJ points for Discussion Group participation, students must write a minimum of five submissions, 200 words each and submit via 'Discussion Group Claim Form' Section of CareerHub.	20 points
<b>Reflection piece</b>	A substantial reflection using media of a students' choice (podcast, video, 2-3 minute short film, poem, essay etc.) about a topic of interest, or a reflection on an event. Brennanites can upload this piece to the 'Substantial Reflective Piece' section on CareerHub. Please contact the <a href="#">Brennan Administrator</a> beforehand to discuss the piece to ensure appropriate points can be allocated.	10-20 points with prior approval from <a href="#">Program Administrator</a> .
<b>Brennan Book Program</b>	Students can read a prescribed book from that year and write a 1000 word reflection in 'Brennan Book Program' section on CareerHub. <b>NB:</b> <i>Feel free to write a reflection on any of our past books too.</i>	20 points

# 5. Leadership through Service (LTS)

## a. General requirements and rationale

The LTS component of the Brennan Program calls for students to self-initiate engagement in voluntary roles and activities in a range of legal and non-legal settings in the community. This will involve service to others *and* indicates the assumption of some leadership role. For example, students might develop a fundraising initiative, lead an awareness-raising campaign, take on higher organisational responsibility, or advocate for the needs of their host organisation.

To be eligible for the Brennan Justice and Leadership Award, students must complete the required number of hours pertaining to the duration of their degree at UTS as set out below:

Degree length	LTS hours required
5 year Degree	200 hours
4 year Degree	160 hours
3 year Degree	120 hours
Minimum	120 hours

Upon registering participation in the Program via CareerHub, students will be required to confirm their degree length. This allows the system to allocate the required LTS hours to a student's profile.

**Students may wish to undertake service work together with fellow students. This is something that the program encourages.**

## b. What qualifies as LTS?

To qualify for the Award, the service must be:

- voluntary, that is, is unremunerated except for reimbursement of costs such as travel expenses,
- with a not-for-profit organisation or project. (Students should contact the Program Administrator for guidance and, in appropriate cases, exemption from the non-profit requirement.)

It must not:

- attract academic credit or count towards any professional qualification such as under the professional experience requirement for admission as a legal practitioner, or
- involve volunteering for a political party or a member of parliament

**Examples of LTS placements include:**

- Work in agencies that have a service provision function or ethic of care, advocacy and social concern (for example, providing services for homeless people, working with Indigenous organisations, as a teacher of English literacy to child refugees, and advocacy and advice for disadvantaged groups)
- Volunteering as an intern or research assistant at a Faculty Centre (Anti-Slavery Australia, or the Australasian Legal Information Institute (AustLII))
- Volunteering or interning with legal clinics, community legal centres and other agencies that have a justice, public interest or service dimension to their work (e.g. Refugee Advice and Casework Service RACS)

- Exercising leadership in student and university activities, for example, as an executive member of a UTS student club or society or a peer networker with the UTS Student Services Unit
- Community service that involves the exercise of initiative and the development of leadership capacity, such as a facilitator / organiser of a community sports program
- Law students participating in the [Beyond UTS International Leadership Development \(BUiLD\)](#), the [UTS: SOUL Award](#) or the [UTS Accomplish Award](#) Programs can receive dual recognition for some activities. Please reach out to the [BrennanProgram@uts.edu.au](mailto:BrennanProgram@uts.edu.au) inbox to check your eligibility
- Participation in Charity Walks, read page 16 for a full list of criteria.

**Activities that are not within the LTS placement criteria include:**

- Volunteering as a research assistant with a private law firm
- Working without pay in a business which operates for profit
- Being paid by your employer to complete community service work
- Unpaid marketing work which has a profit motive, and/or
- Volunteering or campaigning work for a registered political party.

Neither list is exhaustive of the full range of inclusions or exclusions. Please get in touch with the [Brennan team](#) if you are unsure whether or not your opportunity fits into the LTS requirements.

### c. Tiering and capping LTS hours

The program encourages sustained accumulation of volunteer experience across law studies to instil an enduring ethic of service. This has two implications:

- Students are expected to accrue service across more than 12 months; no more than three-quarters (75%) of service hours that are accrued under the program may be performed in less than 12 months.
- Students are encouraged to seek volunteer positions in a broad range of services; however, may claim all of LTS for work undertaken within one organisation if they wish.
- Volunteer experience doesn't need to be in a service that has a legal function for it to be credited under the program. In this way, the program seeks to encourage leadership and initiative across the legal, social and community sectors.

### d. Choosing a service activity and pre-approval

Students are encouraged to seek out service opportunities that reflect their own interests, commitments and community attachments. The experience of searching for opportunities to contribute is usually a valuable education in itself and develops initiative and resourcefulness as well as valuable contacts.

Students who are unsure if their proposed activity fits within the program criteria, they should contact the [Program Administrator](#) for confirmation.

To help students find a placement, the Brennan Program team can supply a letter of introduction which explains the program to prospective placement organisations; it also outlines why students might offer their volunteer services. Students can email [brennanprogram@uts.edu.au](mailto:brennanprogram@uts.edu.au) to request a copy.

The Brennan Program regularly advertises positions available via the Newsletter, Canvas noticeboard, and [Brennan Collective Facebook Group](#). Students who are not receiving Canvas notifications can email the Brennan Program Team to check they have been included in the noticeboard student list. These are updated each Census date, and if a student registers just after, or quite a while before the next Census date, they may miss opportunities. [UTS Academic year dates webpage](#) lists these dates, the Brennan Program adheres to the main calendar.

## e. How to log LTS hours under the program

All LTS hours must be submitted via CareerHub under the 'Leadership through Service (LTS) Hours' section. **Before filling out this section, a student and their supervisor must complete and sign the [Confirmation of Service Form](#).** Students are required to upload this claim form as evidence of service.

**Please note: students can only claim for volunteer hours already undertaken/accrued. Refrain from claiming for future volunteer hours as these claims will be declined in CareerHub.**

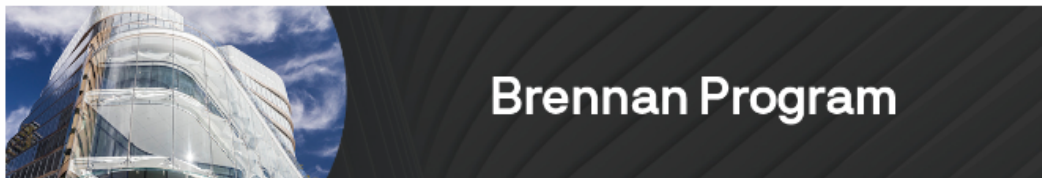
**Confirmation of Service Forms will be stored in CareerHub. However, the Brennan Team also advises students to keep copies of all approved forms.**

## f. Not sure how to claim in CareerHub?

This [video](#) explains how to lodge **ROJ** and **LTS** hours in [CareerHub](#).

Members of the Brennan Program not familiar with CareerHub claiming should watch the [video](#) and get in touch with the [Brennan Program team](#) for further advice.

### Brennan Justice and Leadership Program



The Brennan Justice and Leadership Program is a joint initiative of the UTS Law Students' Society (UTS LSS) and the UTS Faculty of Law. It aims to strengthen the consciousness of justice among law students and empower students to develop their leadership qualities. It is an invaluable opportunity that encourages students to further engage with the community in areas that are outside of the standard law curriculum at university.

The Brennan Program entails regular discussion group forums, voluntary service hours within the community and numerous educational seminars and social justice activities, such as the Westmead Children's Hospital and Villawood Detention Centre visits and the Speaker Series events conducted by the UTS LSS, and creative photography and film competition hosted by the Faculty.



Welcome to the Brennan Justice and Leadership Program!

The two main components of the program are:

- Reflections on Justice (ROJ) in which students engage with the themes of justice and its social contexts through lectures and discussion groups; and
- Leadership Through Service (LTS) where students contribute voluntary service (both legal and non-legal in nature) over the course of their studies.

The Brennan Justice and Leadership Award requires you to earn 100 ROJ points 120-200 LTS hours according to the length of your degree.

Please read the [Brennan Program Handbook](#) before proceeding, so you understand the structure of the Program.

E: [brennanprogram@uts.edu.au](mailto:brennanprogram@uts.edu.au)

> Registration



> Reflections on Justice (ROJ) Points



> Leadership Through Service (LTS) Hours





## g. Ongoing Leadership through Service Opportunities

The Brennan Program continuously attracts ongoing LTS opportunities for students from not-for-profit organisations. Many of these opportunities have multiple application dates throughout the year for ongoing involvement.

### WEAVE

Weave Youth and Community Services was established by and for the community in 1976. Weave is a not-for-profit, place-based community organisation located on Gadigal/Bidjigal land. Their purpose is to empower people to change their lives. Weave provides a range of services that include practical support, housing referral support, counselling, mental health services, drug and alcohol support, access to education and employment opportunities and assistance with connecting people to a range of other services. LTS opportunities with Weave includes their Tutoring Program and their Driving Change program. Students can get in contact with Weave directly if they would like to volunteer.

### PRIMARY ETHICS

Primary Ethics is a not-for-profit organisation who run classes for children to discuss ethical issues with their peers. Classes are impartially facilitated by trained volunteers using approved lesson materials. The volunteers facilitate discussion so that children can explore a range of stories and scenarios. Each volunteer is provided with training to develop their skills in supporting children to listen empathetically, disagree respectfully, build on each other's ideas and use evidence and reasoning to make decisions rather than act out of habit or peer pressure. Students interested in volunteering should get in touch with Primary Ethics directly and download the [Ethics Teacher Position Description](#).

### FOSTER THE FUTURE

Foster the Future is a charity whose team of young volunteers make a difference in the community by tutoring for academic progression. All volunteer tutors are university students and young professionals who are eager to share their experiences and knowledge for others to succeed. Volunteers are trained to accommodate for the unique needs of students in foster care. Students come from diverse backgrounds and range from kindergarden to year 12. For volunteering opportunities students should get in touch directly with Foster the Future and read through their [volunteer webpage](#).

### AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS LIFE BLOOD

This is an exciting initiative from the Brennan Program, in collaboration with the Australian Red Cross Lifeblood. All students need to do is give blood and upload a selfie from the clinic in CareerHub. And, if eligible, students can do this every 12 weeks!

People of all walks of life need blood products. Some need it to get them through a serious event in their lives, like cancer or a difficult pregnancy. Others have medical conditions, which mean they need blood products regularly to stay alive or be healthy. Follow the links below to learn more.

Students can check [eligibility](#) and call 13 14 95 or make an appointment online.

Brennanites should make sure when [booking online](#) they mention the *University of Technology Sydney (UTS) UTS Law Students Society Team*. This counts towards UTS's point total.

1 visit and blood donation = 3 LTS hours!

1 visit and plasma donation = 5 LTS hours!

# Where to find LTS Opportunities

## a. General

- Centre for Volunteering - <https://www.volunteering.com.au/resources-tools/find-a-volunteer-role/>
- Go Volunteer - <https://govolunteer.com.au>
- Good Company - <https://www.goodcompany.com.au/au>
- Volunteer Match - <https://www.volunteermatch.org>
- Ethical Jobs (possible to search for both paid and volunteer positions) <https://www.ethicaljobs.com.au>
- Communteer – Online volunteering for students <https://communteer.org/>

## b. Legally Orientated Volunteering

- Aboriginal Legal Service - <https://www.alsnswact.org.au/volunteer>
- Australian Pro Bono Centre - <https://www.probonocentre.org.au/about-the-centre/>
- Community Legal Centres NSW - [https://www.clcnsw.org.au/work\\_volunteer](https://www.clcnsw.org.au/work_volunteer)
- Each CLC often advertises for volunteers has a register - here is a list of the major CLCs <https://clcs.org.au/> If you visit the website for a CLC you are interested in you will see that most have a page for volunteers through which you can send an expression of interest.
- Justice Connect - <https://justiceconnect.org.au/work-with-us/volunteer/>
- Law Society of NSW has a list of possible services on its website - <https://www.lawsociety.com.au/legal-communities/law-students/internship-program/volunteering>
- LegalAid volunteers- [https://www.clcnsw.org.au/work\\_volunteer](https://www.clcnsw.org.au/work_volunteer)
- SocialJustice Opportunities - <https://siopps.net.au/ready-to-volunteer/>

## c. Walking Challenges and Charity Fundraisers

Students are often interested in charity walks for fundraising money and raising awareness.

Students can use these opportunities to claim up to 20 LTS throughout their time in the Brennan Program.

Please see other conditions below:

- The challenge should be for a community organisation or Not-For-Profit.
- If students claim less (i.e. 10 LTS hours), students will be free to use the remaining 10 LTS hours for another walking challenge.
- When submitting the claim, students should attach:
  - proof of their preparations, on day route walking screenshots via way of smartwatch or other mapped routes for evidence in physical activity distance
  - Proof of registration to the charity event, and
  - Proof of fundraising efforts.
- The claim will be approved or declined in line with the evidence supported in your claim, as is the process for normal ROJ and LTS claims.
- Failure to provide adequate evidence will result in a declined claim.

Please email [BrennanProgram@uts.edu.au](mailto:BrennanProgram@uts.edu.au) if you have any questions.

## 7. Gaining dual recognition for volunteer and community service

Students are encouraged to be smart with their extracurricular activities. If they are involved with the [UTS BUILD Program](#), [UTS SOUL Award](#) or [UTS Accomplish Award](#), they can receive dual recognition for LTS relevant\* volunteer and community service hours. Students may be eligible to take out multiple Awards prior to graduation.

### Here's an example:

Sam signed up to the Brennan Program and the UTS SOUL Award last year and, for the past 6 months, has steadily been volunteering and accruing hours with [RACS](#). Sam wishes to claim his hours every 12 months (just in case his supervisor changes). Sam claims for his community leader role and involvement in the Law Student Society separately.

At the 12 month mark, Sam gets his 73 hours approved by his RACS supervisor and uploads it via CareerHub via the appropriate SOUL volunteer experience form process. [Here's how to claim via CareerHub](#).

As part of the Brennan Program, Sam had his RACS supervisor sign [this LTS approval form](#).

Sam can claim these hours and receive dual recognition via his respective SOUL Award and Brennan Program dashboards in CareerHub. Just look for the relevant form.

When claiming for dual recognition within the Brennan Program, SOUL and BUILD Programs, keep in mind it is only the volunteer work students undertake in their local or international community that are eligible for LTS hours.

Unless specifically promoted or approved by the Brennan Program, students cannot claim ROJ points for attending seminars and preparation events towards the SOUL Award and BUILD programs by uploading your ticket to the Brennan Program CareerHub workflow. However, if students feel compelled, or are passionate about a certain topic, they can reflect on the event/seminar in 350 words and upload this to the ROJ section for 5 ROJ points.

Students who need further clarification on their situation should [get in touch](#).