



Leadership for Lawyers

Executive leadership development designed specifically for the legal profession

DATES	FORMAT	LOCATION	COURSE FEE
10-11 Sep 2026	Two-day intensive	UNSW CBD Campus	A\$3,950

The approval case

Leadership for Lawyers is a practical, research-based executive course for lawyers who are stepping into, or already hold, people, management or strategic leadership responsibilities. The program is tailored to the realities of legal work across firms, in-house teams, government and regulatory environments.

Approval supports more than individual development. The participant returns with legal-sector-specific frameworks and practical tools that can be applied to team performance, decision-making, influence, culture and organisational change.

Organisational value

- **Stronger leadership decisions.** Apply structured approaches to complexity, influence, ethical leadership and competing commitments.
- **Better team performance.** Use practical strategies for motivation, performance dialogue, psychological safety, trust and sustainable high performance.
- **Greater change capability.** Build adaptive leadership skills for disruption, new ways of working and complex authority relationships.
- **More deliberate leadership practice.** Navigate the tension between practising, managing and leading, while developing clarity, confidence and purpose.

2025 participant feedback

"An excellent course - it was interactive, insightful, and very relevant for senior lawyers."

Program focus

Legal leadership	Leadership in complexity, disruption and legal-sector-specific models
Self-leadership	Adaptability, collaboration, communication, emotional intelligence and resilience
Teams and culture	Cohesion, trust, psychological safety, wellbeing and cross-generational leadership
The PML trilemma	Balancing the demands of practising, managing and leading
Adaptive leadership	Diagnosing symptoms and causes, working with dissent and intervening effectively

Special guest keynote: Shannon Finch, Group Executive at Westpac and leader of its global legal function.

COPY-READY APPROVAL REQUEST

Request approval to attend

Subject: Approval request - UNSW Leadership for Lawyers, 10-11 September 2026

Hi [Manager's name],

I am seeking approval to attend UNSW's Leadership for Lawyers executive course on 10-11 September 2026 at the UNSW CBD Campus.

The two-day program is specifically designed for legal professionals in leadership or emerging leadership roles. It is directly relevant to my responsibilities in [team / project / leadership priority], particularly the need to [insert current organisational challenge or objective].

The course covers leading high-performing legal teams, decision-making and influence, adaptive leadership, team culture, psychological safety, and the practical tension between practising, managing and leading. The special guest keynote is Shannon Finch, Group Executive at Westpac and leader of its global legal function.

The course fee is A\$3,950. If approved, I will translate the learning back into the team by [select commitments below - for example, a team briefing and one agreed leadership improvement initiative].

May I have approval to register and allocate the two course days to this professional development? I am happy to discuss the relevance, budget or intended application.

Thank you,
[Name]

Suggested return-to-work commitments

- ☐ Deliver a 20-minute team briefing within 10 business days of the course.
- ☐ Share three practical leadership frameworks or tools with the legal team.
- ☐ Agree one leadership improvement initiative with my manager and review progress after 30 days.
- ☐ Document a short personal leadership action plan linked to my current role goals.

Manager approval checklist

☐ Role relevance confirmed	☐ Course dates approved
☐ Funding source identified	☐ Registration authorised
☐ Work coverage arranged	☐ Return-to-work commitment agreed
Manager: _____	Date: _____

Course details

Dates and time: Thursday 10 September, 9:00 am-4:30 pm plus debrief/networking; Friday 11 September, 9:00 am-4:20 pm plus debrief. Pre-reading and reflection are included.

Location: UNSW CBD Campus, 210 George Street, Sydney.

Fee: A\$3,950 per participant, as shown in the registration checkout on 13 August 2026.

Who it is for: Lawyers in, or preparing for, management, people leadership or strategic roles across firms, in-house teams, government and regulatory environments.

[View the full 2026 program and register](#)

Information is current as at 13 August 2026. Course availability, pricing and terms should be confirmed on the official UNSW page before registration. Recognition toward future postgraduate study may be available subject to university requirements.