

**COURSE:** LAWS 1000A—Introduction to Legal Studies

**TERM:** FALL 2014 – WINTER 2015

**LECTURE:** **Date & Time:** Wednesdays 8:30-11:30

**Room:** Please check with Carleton Central to confirm room location

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Sebastien Malette

**T. A.:** TBA

**Contact:**

**OFFICE:** D591 Loeb  
**OFFICE HRS:** Tuesdays 13:00-15:00 (or pre-arranged appointment)  
**TELEPHONE:** 613-520-2600 x. 3681  
**EMAIL:** [sebastien.malette@carleton.ca](mailto:sebastien.malette@carleton.ca)

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***Academic Accommodations:***

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

**Pregnancy obligation:** write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

**Religious obligation:** write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

**Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:** The **Paul Menton Centre** for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or [pmc@carleton.ca](mailto:pmc@carleton.ca) for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your **Letter of Accommodation** at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (*if applicable*). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (*if applicable*) at <http://www2.carleton.ca/pmc/new-and-current-students/dates-and-deadlines/>

You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

**Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one's own. Plagiarism includes reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else's published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one's own without proper citation or reference to the original source. Examples of sources from which the ideas, expressions of ideas or works of others may be drawn from include but are not limited to: books, articles, papers, literary compositions and phrases, performance compositions, chemical compounds, art works, laboratory reports, research results, calculations and the results of calculations, diagrams, constructions, computer reports, computer code/software, and material on the Internet. Plagiarism is a serious offence.

More information on the University's **Academic Integrity Policy** can be found at:

<http://www.carleton.ca/studentaffairs/academic-integrity/>

**Department Policy**

The Department of Law and Legal Studies operates in association with certain policies and procedures. Please review these documents to ensure that your practices meet our Department's expectations.

<http://www.carleton.ca/law/student-resources/department-policies/>

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:**

This course is designed to provide an introduction to the field of Canadian legal studies. As such, it has two main objectives. The first objective is to provide a basic knowledge of the foundations of law and the legal system in Canada. Students will learn about the sources of law in Canada, the structure and function of legal institutions, the process of law-making and the various actors in the legal process. As well, students will be introduced to important areas of substantive law (such as criminal law, constitutional law, and contract law). The second objective of the course is to provide students with the tools to begin to think critically about the law and our legal system. Students will be introduced to various theoretical perspectives concerning the role of law in shaping relationships between individuals and groups as well as relations between the state and society. The ways in which the law may be manipulated to serve particular societal interests will also be considered. Ultimately, students will consider the role that law plays in either advancing or inhibiting social change.

**REQUIRED TEXTS: Texts Available at the Carleton University Bookstore**

1. Steven Vago & Adie Nelson, *Law and Society* (4<sup>rd</sup> Canadian Edition), (Toronto: Pearson Education Inc., 2003); ISBN-13: 9780205956104.
2. Vincent Kazmierski et al., *Introduction to Legal Studies*, 4th ed. (Concord: Captus Press, 2010) – referred to as the Casebook in the outline of classes.

**\*PLEASE NOTE THAT THESE ARE NEW EDITIONS OF BOTH TEXTS (WITH SUBSTANTIAL REVISIONS) AND OLD/USED EDITIONS WILL NOT BE SUFFICIENT FOR THIS COURSE**

## LECTURES AND READINGS

A list of lecture topics and assigned readings will be posted on cuLearn at the beginning of the fall semester. I highly recommend that students complete the assigned readings prior to each week's lecture. My lectures will identify important issues raised in the readings, but will not simply repeat material in the readings. In addition, I introduce material not covered by the readings in my lectures. Students are encouraged to take detailed notes during lectures. To assist students in taking notes, I post an outline of my lecture (not my lecture notes) on cuLearn prior to most lectures.

## TUTORIALS

Attendance at tutorials is MANDATORY. In fact, attendance and participation in tutorials is assigned marks in this course (see below). Tutorials will be used to teach skills necessary for effectively completing the assignments as well as to deal with the substance of the course. Each tutorial group will consist of about 30 students and will be led by a designated Teaching Assistant (T.A.). Assignments will be marked by the T.A. in charge of the student's designated tutorial. Office hours and email addresses for T.A.s will be posted on cuLearn.

## COMMUNICATION:

cuLearn will be the primary method of electronic communication with students outside of class. It will be used to post marks, to post announcements, to host email communications and electronic discussion boards. Students should make sure that they sign-on to cuLearn in the first week of classes and should check the cuLearn page for this course on a weekly basis.

<https://www.carleton.ca/culearn/>

## EVALUATION PROCEDURES AND DEADLINES:

There are six formal evaluation components in this course – three assignments, two multiple-choice exams, and attendance/participation in tutorials. The drop box in the main office is NOT the primary method for students to submit their papers/assignments. Students should hand in their papers/assignments directly to their instructor or their Teaching Assistant in class, in the tutorial group, or during office hours.

**10% - Assignment 1 - due Oct. 15, 2014.** This assignment will involve writing a short summary and analysis of an academic article that will be assigned by the instructor (2-3 double-spaced pages).

**15% - Assignment 2 - due Nov. 26, 2014.** This assignment will involve writing a short summary and analysis of a case that will be assigned by the instructor (btw 5-7 double-spaced pages). Students will be expected to apply the theoretical approaches discussed in the first two months of the class in their analysis.

**20% - Fall Exam - to be held during the formal fall exam period.** The exam will consist of multiple-choice questions only.

**15% - Assignment 3 - due March 4, 2015.** This assignment will involve writing a short paper (5-7 double spaced pages) on a topic to be assigned by the instructor.

**30% - Winter Exam - to be held during the formal winter exam period.** The exam will consist of multiple-choice questions only.

**10% - Tutorial Attendance and Participation - held every week after class.** Students are required to attend all tutorials offered. Each tutorial is worth approximately 0.5/10. The mark awarded assesses both attendance and participation in the tutorial.

**Note:**

**There will be no make-up assignments or “grade-booster” assignments under any circumstances.**

Failure to complete all assignments and exams in the course will result in the student receiving a failing grade for the course. Deferrals are granted by the Registrar’s Office.

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to approval of Of the Department and of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

**SCHEDULE AND READINGS**

**Fall Term**

Lecture	Lecture Topic and Readings	Notes and Reminders
1 Sept 10 2014	<b>Introduction to Legal Studies</b>  No Readings	
2 Sept 17 2014	<b>Law in Social Life</b>  Casebook, 1(a)-(c); Vago & Nelson, Chapter 1.	
3 Sept 24 2014	<b>Law and Culture</b>  Casebook, 2(a)-(d)	

4 Oct. 1 2014	<b>Law, the State and the Constitution</b> Casebook, 3(a)-(c)	
5 Oct 8 2014	<b>Law, Rights and the Charter</b> Casebook, 10(b)-(d); 11(d)-(e)	<b>Assignment 1</b>
6 Oct 15 2014	<b>Making the Law: Common Law and Legislation</b> Casebook, 8(a)-(d); Vago & Nelson, Chapter 4.	<b>Assignment 1</b>
7 Oct 22 2014	<b>The Organization and Structure of Canadian Law</b> Vago and Nelson, Chapter 3.	<b>Assignment 1</b>
8 Oct 29 2014	<b>No lecture this week due to Reading Week – Classes Suspended</b>	
9 Nov 5 2014	<b>Law, Morality and Justice</b> Casebook, 5(a)-(e) <b>Assignment One due this week!</b>	
10 Nov 12 2014	<b>Regulating Behaviour: Law, Crime and Social Control</b> Vago & Nelson, Chapter 5; Casebook, 13(a)-d).	
11 Nov 19 2014	<b>Regulating Relationships</b> Casebook, 14 (a)-(e)	<b>Review of Fall Term course materials</b>
12 Nov 26 2014	<b>Dispute Resolution</b> Vago & Nelson, Chapter 6; Casebook, 16 (a)-(b)	<b>Review</b>

13 Dec 3 2014	<b>Adjudication</b>  Casebook, 17(a)-(d)	<b>Review</b>
<b>FIRST TERM EXAM TO BE HELD IN FORMAL EXAM PERIOD</b>		

## Winter term

14 Jan 7 2015	<b>Alternatives to Adjudication</b>  Casebook, 18(a)-(d)	
15 Jan 14 2015	<b>Settlement and Collaboration in the Legal Process</b>  Casebook, 19 (a)-(c)	<b>Review of Exam</b>
16 Jan 21 2015	<b>Access to Justice: Income Issues</b>  Casebook, 20(a)-(b)	<b>Review of Assignment 1</b>
17 Jan 28 2015	<b>Lawyers &amp; Lawyering</b>  Casebook, 22(b)-(f); Vago & Nelson, Chapter 8	<b>Assignment 2, Part I: Locating and Reading the Case</b>
18 Feb 4 2015	<b>Juries</b>  Casebook, 23(a)-(c)	<b>Assignment 2, Part II: The Brief</b>
19 Feb 11 2015	<b>Judges</b>  Casebook, 24(a)-(h)	<b>Assignment 2, Part II cont: Common Mistakes in a Case Brief</b>
20 Feb 18	<b>No lecture this week due to Reading Week – Classes Suspended</b>	

2015		
21 Feb 25 2015	<b>Enforcing the Law</b> Casebook, 25 (a)-(c) <b>Assignment Two due this week!</b>	<b>Assignment 2, Part III: Finalizing the Brief</b>
22 March 4 2015	<b>Law, Liberalism and the Critics</b> Casebook, 6(a)-(f)	
23 March 11 2015	<b>Connecting Law &amp; Society</b> Casebook, 7(a)-(c)	<b>Assignment 3: Case Critique – Understanding the perspective</b>
24 March 18 2015	<b>Law and Social Change</b> Vago & Nelson, Chapter 7 <b>Assignment Three due this week!</b>	<b>Assignment 3: Constructing the Critique</b>
25 March 25 2015	<b>The Charter and Social Change</b> Casebook, 26(a)-(d)	<b>Examination Preparation &amp; Review</b>
26 April 1 2015	<b>The Future of Law: Food for Thought</b> Casebook, 27(c)-(e)	<b>Examination Preparation &amp; Review</b>
27 April 8 2015	<b>Catch-up Lecture and Exam Review</b> <b>SECOND TERM EXAM TO BE HELD IN FORMAL EXAM PERIOD</b>	

\*Please note that this schedule is subject to change. Changes, if necessary, will be announced in class and posted appropriately.