

Course Outline

COURSE:	LAWS 1000D – Introduction to Legal Studies
TERM:	Fall/Winter 2014-15
LECTURES:	Day & Time: Wednesdays 2:35pm to 4:25pm
	Room: Please check with Carleton Central for current room location
TUTORIALS	Day & Time Check your course timetable on Carleton Central to confirm the time and location of the tutorial session you registered for)
INSTRUCTOR:	Dr. Vincent Kazmierski
CONTACT:	Office: Loeb D486
	Office Hrs: Tuesdays 1-3pm (or by appointment)
	Telephone 613-520-2600 x8291
	:
	Email: Please use the email available through CULearn

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 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/>

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 what law is, how law is 'made', how we experience law, 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. P. Fitzgerald, B. Wright, and Vincent Kazmierski, *Looking at Law: Canada's Legal System*, 6th ed. (Toronto: Butterworths, 2010).
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.

LECTURE SCHEDULE 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.

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.

CULEARN:

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.

EVALUATION PROCEDURES AND DEADLINES:

There are six formal evaluation components in this course –three assignments, two multiple choice exams, and attendance/participation in tutorials.

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| 10% - Assignment 1 | due Oct. 14, 2014 – submitted through cuLearn
This assignment will involve writing a short summary and analysis of an academic article that will be assigned by the instructor (approximately 2-3 double-spaced pages). |
| 15% - Assignment 2 | due Nov. 25, 2014 – submitted through cuLearn
This assignment will involve writing a short summary and analysis of a case that will be assigned by the instructor (approximately 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 | The fall exam will take place during the formal fall exam period.
The exam will consist of multiple choice questions only. |
| 15% - Assignment 3 | due March 17, 2015 – submitted through cuLearn
This assignment will involve writing a short paper (approximately 5-7 double spaced pages) on a topic to be assigned by the instructor. |
| 30% - Winter Exam | The winter exam will take place during the formal winter exam period.
The exam will consist of multiple choice questions only. |

10% - Tutorial Attendance and Participation

Tutorials are held every week. 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 will not be granted unless all assignments have been handed in.

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to approval of the Department and 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.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS:

Late assignments will be penalized five percent for each day submitted after the due date (including week-end days). Extensions will only be given out in extreme circumstances, such as severe illness of the student or death of a family member. You must apply for an extension prior to the due date for the assignment. Appropriate documentation will be required to accompany requests for extensions. Computer failure, conflicts with work schedule or similar problems are not a valid excuse for failure to submit an assignment on time.

APPEALING GRADES ON ASSIGNMENTS:

Students who have questions about the grade they receive on an assignment or who wish to challenge the grade must make an appointment with the T.A. who marked the assignment within two weeks of receiving the marked assignment and provide a written summary of the alleged errors in marking. The instructor will not entertain appeals of grades that have not first been discussed with the T.A.

A FEW ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES AND SUGGESTIONS:

- Lectures in this course are designed to complement the texts, not just repeat the same material. As such, it is important to both attend lectures and complete the readings. Students who only complete the readings, but do not attend lectures and tutorials will find it very difficult to do well in this course. Material covered in lectures will be tested in the exams.
- Lectures will be designed to accommodate questions and discussion in class. Feel free to ask questions during the course of lectures. Please remember, however, that questions, comments and discussion in class must remain respectful of the other members of the class.
- This class has close to 300 students in it. As a result, it is very important that students not engage in disruptive behaviour during lectures. Please turn off your cell phones and computer games and put away your newspapers prior to the beginning of lectures.
- Students who keep informed of what's happening in the news will get more out of the content discussed in lectures and readings. The material covered in Laws 1000 will be reflected on a weekly basis in the news.
- If you are having trouble understanding the material in the course, speak to your T.A. or the instructor sooner rather than later. We are here to help you learn.
- Another important resource for helping you understand the course is our PASS facilitator. The PASS facilitator is an upper year student who has already taken the course and can help you with strategies to do well in the course. The facilitator's contact information will be posted on Web-CT.
- Students having difficulty with writing assignments should check-out the many resources available on campus to help students succeed. For a guide to these services check out the Student Academic Success Centre (SASC) website at:
<http://www2.carleton.ca/sasc/>

Services provided through SASC include: The Writing Tutorial Service (Library 4th Floor); The Learning Commons (Library 4th Floor); and the SASC Advising Centre (302 Tory).