

Course Outline

COURSE:	LAWS 3509A – The Charter of Rights Topics
TERM:	Fall 2014
PREREQUISITES:	Prerequisite(s): LAWS 2105 or LAWS 2201 or LAWS 2302 or LAWS 2502
CLASS:	Day & Time: Tuesday – 6:05 pm - 8:55 pm Room: Please check with Carleton Central for current room location
INSTRUCTOR: (CONTRACT)	Bahaa I. Sunallah, of the Ontario Bar
CONTACT:	Office: B442 LA (Loeb) Office Hrs: By Appointment Email: bahaa.sunallah@carleton.ca

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

The purpose of this course is to explore issues surrounding equality rights under the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms (Charter)* in addition to a study of the applicability of the *Charter* and remedies available to the Courts. The course will first briefly examine the application of the *Charter* under s. 32, and the limitation clause in s. 1 of the *Charter* and the remedies available under s. 52 of the *Constitution Act*.

The course will then examine the current approach of the Supreme Court to equality and the litigation arising under the equality guarantee in s. 15. We will examine equality rights in contexts such as employment, health and social benefits where the deferential treatment is based on the grounds of: age, marital /common-law status, sexual orientation, citizenship, and aboriginal status amongst other enumerated or analogous grounds. Consideration will be given to the relationship, and dialogue, between Parliament and the Courts.

The course format is seminar style, with heavy emphasis on class discussions and students' participation based on your readings of the caselaw and the academic views being discussed. You are expected to participate actively in class discussions. It is recognized that the class will include students with various and diverse views, and a respectful dialogue should be maintained at all times. You are, of course, free to disagree with opinions expressed by other students and myself, but should do so in a respectful and non-personalized way. All students should be permitted an equal opportunity to voice their opinions.

REQUIRED READINGS

Required readings for this course include Supreme Court of Canada decisions as well as selected readings from authoritative textbooks, articles and commentaries. Supreme Court of Canada decisions as well as most articles and commentaries are available online. Other selected readings will be made available through the Library Reserves system.

Note that * indicates "optional" reading.

IMPORTANT NOTES

1. Carleton University Calendar

Link to current Carleton Undergraduate Calendar: <http://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/>

2. Pertinent Dates and Holidays

Pertinent dates and holidays can be found in the 2014-2015 Undergraduate Calendar.

3. Deferred Final Examinations

Deferrals for final examinations are granted following successful application by the student to the Registrar's Office. Please note specifically section 2.5: Deferred Final Examination of the Undergraduate Calendar:

"The granting of a deferral also requires that the student has performed satisfactorily in the course according to the evaluation scheme established in the Course Outline, excluding the final examination for which deferral privileges are requested. Reasons for denial of a deferral may include, among other conditions, a failure to (i) achieve a minimum score in the course before the final examination; (ii) attend a minimum number of classes; (iii) successfully complete a specific task (e.g. term paper, critical report, group project, computer or other assignment); (iv) complete laboratory work; (v) successfully complete one or more midterms; or (vi) meet other reasonable conditions of successful performance."

EVALUATION PROCEDURES

(All components must be completed in order to get a passing grade)

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

Attendance (10%)

Mid-term Exam (40%)

2.0 hours. In-class on Tuesday October 21, 2014

Final Exam (50%)

3.0 hours. Formally scheduled during the University's final examination period.

SCHEDULE

- #1 September 9
Chapters 1 and 2
- #2 September 16
Chapters 3 and 4
- #3 September 23
Chapters 4 and 5
- #4 September 30
Chapter 6a
- #5 October 7
Chapter 6b
- #6 October 14
Chapter 7a and Midterm review
- #7 October 21
Midterm

October 28
(October 27-31, 2014 Fall break, no classes.)

#8 November 4
Midterm discussion and Chapter 7b

#9 November 11
Chapter 8a

#10 November 18
Chapter 8b

#11 November 25
Chapter 9a

#12 December 2
Chapter 9b and Exam review

December 10-21, 2014 Final examinations in fall term courses.

Chapter 1: Course Introduction and Overview
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Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, Part I of the *Constitution Act, 1982*, being Schedule B to the *Canada Act 1982* (U.K.), 1982, c. 11

<http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/Const/page-15.html#h-39>

Section 52 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*, being Schedule B to the *Canada Act 1982* (U.K.), 1982, c. 11

<http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/Const/page-16.html#docCont>

Honourable Beverley McLachlin (Remarks of), “The Charter 25 Years Later: The Good, The Bad, and the Challenges” *Osgoode Hall Law Journal*, Volume 45, Number 2

http://ohlj.ca/archive/documents/45-2_04_McLachlin_postFR.pdf

*Patrick Monahan, *Constitutional Law of Canada*, The *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, Chapter 13.

Chapter 2: Application of the Charter and the Notwithstanding Clause

Graham Garton Q.C., “*Canadian Charter of Rights Decisions Digest, SECTION 32(1)*”

http://www.canlii.org/en/ca/charter_digest/s-32-1.html

Graham Garton Q.C., “*Canadian Charter of Rights Decisions Digest, SECTION 33*”

<http://www.canlii.org/en/commentary/charterDigest/s-33.html>

Chapter 3: Limitation Clause (justification) and Constitutional Remedies

Sujit Choudhry and Kent Roach, “Racial and Ethnic Profiling: Statutory Discretion, Constitutional Remedies, and Democratic Accountability” *Osgoode Hall Law Journal*, Volume 41, Number 1

http://www.ohlj.ca/archive/articles/41_1_choudry_roach.pdf

**Schachter v. Canada*, [1992] 2 S.C.R. 679 (paras. 1-86)

<http://scc.lexum.org/en/1992/1992rcs2-679/1992rcs2-679.html>

Vriend v. Alberta, [1998] 1 S.C.R. 493 (paras. 108-202)

<http://scc.lexum.org/en/1998/1998rcs1-493/1998rcs1-493.html>

Chapter 4: Judicial Review and the Role of Parliament and the Courts

The following articles appear in *Osgoode Hall Law Journal*, Volume 45, Number 1.

Peter W. Hogg, Allison A. Bushell Thornton and Wade K. Wright, “*Charter Dialogue Revisited—Or ‘Much Ado About Metaphors*”

<http://ohlj.ca/english/documents/Hogg.pdf>

*Richard Haigh and Michael Sobkin, “Does the Observer Have an Effect?: An Analysis of the Use of the Dialogue Metaphor in Canada’s Courts”

<http://ohlj.ca/english/documents/Haigh.pdf>

*Grant Huscroft, “Constitutionalism From the Top Down”

<http://ohlj.ca/english/documents/Huscroft.pdf>

Christopher Manfredi, “The Day the Dialogue Died: A Comment on *Sauvé v. Canada*”

<http://ohlj.ca/english/documents/Manfredi.pdf>

*Carissima Mathen, “Dialogue Theory, Judicial Review, and Judicial Supremacy: A Comment on ‘*Charter Dialogue Revisited*’”

<http://ohlj.ca/english/documents/Mathen.pdf>

Andrew Petter, “Taking Dialogue Theory Much Too Seriously (Or Perhaps *Charter Dialogue* Isn’t Such a Good Thing After All)”

<http://ohlj.ca/english/documents/Petter.pdf>

Kent Roach, “Sharpening the Dialogue Debate: The Next Decade of Scholarship”

<http://ohlj.ca/english/documents/Roach.pdf>

Peter W. Hogg, Allison A. Bushell Thornton and Wade K. Wright. "A Reply on "Charter Dialogue Revisited"

<http://ohlj.ca/english/documents/HoggReply.pdf>

Chapter 5: Early Section 15 Jurisprudence

Andrews v. Law society of British Columbia, [1989] 1 S.C.R. 143

<http://scc.lexum.org/en/1989/1989rcs1-143/1989rcs1-143.html>

**Egan v. Canada*, [1995] 2 S.C.R. 513 (paras. 1-30, 113-181)

<http://scc.lexum.org/en/1995/1995rcs2-513/1995rcs2-513.html>

Chapter 6a: The Purposive and Contextual Approach to Equality

*Peter Hogg, *Constitutional Law of Canada*, 2007 Student Edition, pp 1144-1212

Law v. Canada (Minister of Employment and Immigration), [1999] 1 S.C.R. 497

<http://scc.lexum.org/en/1999/1999rcs1-497/1999rcs1-497.html>

Chapter 6b: The Purposive and Contextual Approach to Equality re-defined

R. v. Kapp, [2008] 2 S.C.R. 483 (paras. 1-26)

<http://csc.lexum.org/en/2008/2008scc41/2008scc41.html>

Withler v. Canada (Attorney General), [2011] 1 S.C.R. 396 (paras. 1-40)

<http://scc.lexum.org/en/2011/2011scc12/2011scc12.html>

Chapter 7a: Comparator Groups – the Road to *Withler*

**Granovsky v. Canada (Minister of Employment and Immigration)*, [2000] 1 S.C.R. 703

<http://scc.lexum.org/en/2000/2000scc28/2000scc28.html>

Nova Scotia (Workers' Compensation Board) v. Martin; Nova Scotia (Workers' Compensation Board) v. Laseur, [2003] 2 S.C.R. 504 (paras. 1-14 and 66-122)

<http://scc.lexum.org/en/2003/2003scc54/2003scc54.html>

Hodge v. Canada (Minister of Human Resources Development), [2004] 3 S.C.R. 357

<http://scc.lexum.org/en/2004/2004scc65/2004scc65.html>

**Auton (Guardian ad litem of) v. British Columbia (Attorney General)*, [2004] 3 S.C.R. 657

<http://scc.lexum.org/en/2004/2004scc78/2004scc78.html>

Chapter 7b: Comparator Groups

Withler v. Canada (Attorney General), [2011] 1 S.C.R. 396 (paras. 41-60)

<http://scc.lexum.org/en/2011/2011scc12/2011scc12.html>

Chapter 8a: Analogous Grounds

Corbiere v. Canada (Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs), [1999] 2 S.C.R. 203 (paras. 1-21)

<http://scc.lexum.org/en/1999/1999rcs2-203/1999rcs2-203.html>

Chapter 8b: Analogous Grounds

Falkiner v. Ontario (Ministry of Community and Social Services, Income Maintenance Branch), (2002) 59 O.R. (3d) 481

<http://www.canlii.org/en/on/onca/doc/2002/2002canlii44902/2002canlii44902.pdf>

R. v. Banks, 2007 ONCA 19 (paras. 1-27, 89-106)

<http://www.canlii.org/en/on/onca/doc/2007/2007onca19/2007onca19.pdf>

Leave to appeal to SCC denied:

<http://www.canlii.org/en/ca/scc-l/doc/2007/2007canlii37182/2007canlii37182.pdf>

* *Boulter v. Nova Scotia Power Incorporated*, 2009 NSCA 17

<http://www.canlii.org/en/ns/nsca/doc/2009/2009nsca17/2009nsca17.html>

Leave to appeal to SCC denied:

<http://www.canlii.org/en/ca/scc-l/doc/2009/2009canlii47476/2009canlii47476.pdf>

Chapter 9a: Contextual Factors

Lovelace v. Ontario, [2000] 1 S.C.R. 950 (paras. 1-92)

<http://scc.lexum.org/en/2000/2000scc37/2000scc37.html>

Gosselin v. Québec (Attorney General), [2002] 4 S.C.R. 429 (paras. 1-74)

<http://scc.lexum.org/en/2002/2002scc84/2002scc84.html>

*Jessie Givner, “Child Poverty and Social Assistance: *Gosselin v. Quebec (Attorney General)*”
Canadian Family Law Quarterly, Volume 24

Lavoie v. Canada, 2002 SCC 23, [2002] 1 S.C.R. 769

<http://csc.lexum.org/en/2002/2002scc23/2002scc23.html>

Canadian Foundation for Children, Youth and the Law v. Canada (Attorney General), [2004] 1 S.C.R. 76 (paras. 1-2, 50-70 & 71-129)

<http://scc.lexum.org/en/2004/2004scc4/2004scc4.html>

**Wynberg v. Ontario*, (2006), 82 O.R. (3d) 561 (C.A.) (paras. 1-190 & 203-207)

<http://www.canlii.org/en/on/onca/doc/2006/2006canlii22919/2006canlii22919.pdf>

Leave to appeal to SCC denied:

<http://www.canlii.org/en/ca/scc-l/doc/2007/2007canlii11900/2007canlii11900.pdf>

Chapter 9b: Contextual Factors

Quebec (Attorney General) v. A, 2013 SCC 5

<http://scc-csc.lexum.com/scc-csc/scc-csc/en/item/10536/index.do>

Chapter 10: *Special Issues

1- Disability

Yvonne Peters, “Twenty Years of Litigating for Disability Equality Rights: Has it Made a Difference?” An Assessment by the Council of Canadians with Disabilities. Prepared for CCD by Yvonne Peters

<http://ccdonline.ca/en/humanrights/promoting/20years>

2- Sexual Orientation

M. v. H., [1999] 2 S.C.R. 3

<http://scc.lexum.org/en/1999/1999rcs2-3/1999rcs2-3.html>

P. MacEachern, “Recent Legislative Amendments Dealing With Same Sex Partners”

http://www.nelligan.ca/e/pdf/Legislative_Changes_for_same_sex_partners_CCLA_2000.pdf

B. Cossman, “Lesbians, Gay Men and the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*” (2002) 40 Osgoode Hall L. J. 223

J. Fisher, “Outlaws or In-laws?: Successes and Challenges in the Struggle for LGBT Equality” (2004) 49 McGill L.J. 1183

Reference re Same-Sex Marriage, [2004] 3 S.C.R. 698

<http://scc.lexum.org/en/2004/2004scc79/2004scc79.html>

Bill C-38 The Civil Marriage Act, Library of Parliament

http://www.parl.gc.ca/About/Parliament/LegislativeSummaries/bills_ls.asp?ls=c38&Parl=38&Ses=1