



SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS  
CRIM 135  
FALL 2013  
CREDIT COURSE

**CRIMINOLOGY 135**  
**INTRODUCTION TO CANADIAN LAW AND LEGAL INSTITUTIONS**

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**INSTRUCTORS:**

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**OFFICE HOURS:**

One hour before class each week, or as can be arranged

**OFFICE LOCATION:**

Classroom

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**COURSE OFFERINGS**

**DAYS & TIMES:**

**Classes:** Wednesdays

**Time:** 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

**Room:** **A2601**

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

An introduction to the Canadian and Yukon legal systems. The course examines the nature of authority, the foundations of law-related institutions, including sources of law, the relationship of law to the political process, the role of lawyers, the judiciary and the courts in the development of law.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

The objective of this course is to promote critical thinking about the Canadian legal system based on knowledge of theoretical concepts and actual functioning of law, police, counsel, the courts and corrections.

With conscientious application in this course students will develop knowledge and critical understanding of:

1. The fundamental principles of jurisprudence.
2. The basic legal institutions in Canada.

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Changes may be made prior to the start of classes.

3. The concept of law as a process of authority and decision-making
4. The authority and decision making process in operation at various levels of the legislative and judicial systems.
5. Legal administrative processes.
6. Statutes and law journals in the investigation of basic legal problems.
7. The broad social, historic, economic, and political contexts within which Canadian law and legal institutions have developed.

### **DELIVERY METHODS/FORMAT**

Lectures in a seminar/class participation format.

### **COURSE PREREQUISITES**

Admission to the School of Liberal Arts.

### **REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS / MATERIALS:**

Canadian Law: An Introduction, 5th Edition: Neil Boyd: ISBN-10: 0176502262 | ISBN-13: 9780176502263 | 408 Pages | © 2011

Additional Course Readings will be provided in class

### **EQUIVALENCY/TRANSFERABILITY**

UBC	No Equivalent Course	UVIC	No Equivalent Course
SFU	Crim 135(3) – B-soc	UR	JS 230 (3)
UAF	Just F1 S (3)	VIU	Crim 135 (3)
UNBC	Sosc 100L (3)	TWU	Soci 100L (3)
UFV	Crim 135 (3)	KWAN	Crim 1107 (3)
TRU –OL	Crim 1359 (3)		

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS / EVALUATION**

Student performance will be evaluated by grading in each of the following areas:

Attendance and Participation	10%
Oral Presentation	15%
Essay Outline	5%
Written Essay	20%
Midterm Examination	20%
Final Examination	30%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

### **COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS:**

All course requirements will be evaluated in accordance with the guidelines set out above. With the exception of the final exam, a failure to complete any of the evaluative components will result in a grade of zero for that component. A failure to complete the final exam will result in a grade assessment of “fail” for the course.

## **Attendance and Participation**

Attendance is mandatory. As per Academic Regulation 4.01 a student may be dismissed from a course or program if more than 10% of the scheduled contact hours are missed in any one course. Dismissal from a course may result in loss of full-time status and loss of sponsorship funding.

Students will be expected to have read and be prepared to discuss the assigned readings for each class. Students will also be expected to read and study materials handed out in class. Students are expected to participate fully in any group exercises that may be assigned during class time. Class attendance and participation will be worth 10% of your final grade.

Mere presence in the classroom is not sufficient. Students will be assessed for active listening skills, demonstrated knowledge of the required readings, and proven understanding of the issues. Students are encouraged to express their own views, to criticize the instructors' analysis, and to raise questions from current events that relate to course content. The Instructor will call upon individual students to answer questions about the materials each week. Students are strongly encouraged to keep up with the assigned readings and to be prepared for each class.

Yukon College policy allows a student to withdraw from a course if more than 10% of the scheduled contact hours are missed in any one course. Withdrawal from a course may result in loss of full-time status and loss of sponsorship funding.

## **PLAGIARISM**

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. Students who plagiarize material for assignments will receive a mark of zero (F) on the assignment and may fail the course. Plagiarism may also result in dismissal from a program of study or the college.

Plagiarism involves presenting the words of someone else as your own. Plagiarism can be the deliberate use of a whole piece of another person's writing, but more frequently it occurs when students fail to acknowledge and to document sources from which they have taken material. Whenever the words, research, or ideas of others are directly quoted or paraphrased, they must be documented according to standard procedures (APA). As well, re-submitting a paper for which you have previously received credit is also an academic offence.

## **WRITTEN ESSAY REQUIREMENTS**

Written assignments for this course must be word-processed and fulfil the basic requirements for formal academic papers. You also should note that **LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE PENALIZED BY ONE MARK PER DAY** unless an extension is legitimately warranted and approved by the course instructor in advance of the assignment due date. Assignments submitted late without instructor approval will not be graded.

## **Writing Centre**

All students are encouraged to make the Writing Centre a regular part of the writing process for coursework. Located in Room C2211 (in the College Library), the Writing Centre offers writing coaching sessions to students of all writing abilities. For further information or to book an appointment, visit the Centre's website: [dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/writingcentre](http://dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/writingcentre)

At the instructor's discretion, students may be required to attend Writing Centre coaching sessions during the composition process of their paper(s) as a condition of assignment completion. The number of sessions required per assignment will be specified on the assignment sheet, and the Writing Centre will issue written confirmation of attendance, which should be attached to the written work being submitted for evaluation.

### **Students with Disabilities or Chronic Conditions**

Reasonable accommodations are available for students with a documented disability or chronic condition. It is the student's responsibility to seek these accommodations. If a student has a disability or chronic condition and may need accommodation to fully participate in this class, he/she should contact the Learning Assistance Centre (LAC) at (867) 668-8785 or [lassist@yukoncollege.yk.ca](mailto:lassist@yukoncollege.yk.ca).

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SYLLABUS / CLASS SCHEDULE

Chapters referred to are from: Canadian Law: An Introduction, 5th Ed. Neil Boyd: 2013

Class #	DATE	TOPICS
Class # 1 DC	Sept 4	Introduction Chapter 1: The Role of Law: Coming to Terms with the Relevance and Purpose
Class #2 DC	Sept 11	<b>Assignment of Oral Presentation and Essay Topics</b> Chapter 2: The Sources of Canadian Law: From the Plains of Abraham to Statutes
Class #3 DC	Sept 18	Chapter 3: How do Judges Interpret Ambiguous Statutes? Rules and Principles and Their Application
Class #4 DC	Sept 25	Chapter 4: The Constitution of Canada: The British North America Act, 1867, the Constitution Act, 1982, the Future of Federalism, and The Charter of Rights and Freedoms
Class #5 JP	Oct 2	Chapter 5: Canada's Courts: The Processes of Dispute Resolution
Class #6 JP	Oct 9	<b>Essay Outlines Due</b> Class Discussion about Legal Research and Essay Writing <b>Class Review for Midterm</b>
Class #7	Oct 16	<b>Mid-Term Examination (TAKE HOME EXAM)</b>
Class #8 JP	Oct 23	<b>Mid-Terms Marked and Discussion</b> Chapter 6: The Study of Law, Lawyers, and Judges: The Changing Face of the Legal Profession
Class #9 JP	Oct 30	<b>Oral Presentations</b>
Class #10 DC	Nov 6	Chapter 8: The Changing Family and Family Law: Marriage, Divorce, Support, and Custody
Class # 11 JP	Nov 13	<b>Essays Due at Start of Class</b> Chapter 7: Torts of Intention and Negligence: Private Law, Public Interest
Class #12 JP	Nov 20	Chapter 9: Administrative Law: The State and Its Duty to Be Fair
Class # 13 DC	Nov 27	Chapter 10: Criminal Law: <i>Mens Rea, Actus Reus</i> ... <b>Class Review for Final</b>
Class # 14 JP	Dec 5-13	<b>Final Exam (Date &amp; Time TBA)</b>