
INTRODUCTION TO CANADIAN LAW AND LEGAL INSTITUTIONS

INSTRUCTORS:	David Christie, BA, LLB Lauren Whyte, BA, JD Telephone: (867) 668-8770 Emails: lwhyte@yukonu.ca dchristie@yukonu.ca
OFFICE HOURS:	As can be arranged
OFFICE LOCATION:	N/A
COURSE DAYS & TIME:	Thursdays 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Online, Moodle and Zoom

Additional video and written lecture materials will be provided

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.

COURSE PREREQUISITES

None.

EQUIVALENCY/TRANSFERABILITY

CAMO CRIM 170 (3)	KPU CRIM 1107 (3)	SFU CRIM 135 (3) -B-Soc
TRU-OL CRIM 1359 (3)	TWU HUMA 100 lev (3)	UFV CRIM 135 (3)
UNBC SOSC 1XX (3)	VIU CRIM 135 (3)	UAF JUST F1 S (3)
UR JS 230 (3)		

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.

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Describe the hierarchy and structure of the Canadian and Yukon Courts;
- Explain the importance of our constitution, the Rule of Law, and the Charter of Rights and Freedoms;
- Identify the federal and provincial areas of legislative jurisdiction;
- Articulate and apply basic principles of law in the subject areas of torts and contracts;
- Recognize restrictions on non-lawyers and the various ethical duties imposed on members of the legal profession as defined in the Rules of Professional Conduct and the *Legal Profession Act*;
- Identify the role of judges, their ethical duties, and the importance of the independence of the judiciary.

COURSE FORMAT

Course will be a total of 45 hours plus a final exam. Lectures are conducted in a seminar/class participation format, with video recorded lectures and live Zoom video lectures.

ASSESSMENTS

Due dates and instructions for quizzes, essay, and the final exam will be posted on the Moodle class page.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS / MATERIALS:

Canadian Law: An Introduction, 7th Edition (2018): Neil Boyd

Additional required course readings will be provided on Moodle and by email.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS / EVALUATION

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

Moodle Quizzes	30%
Written Essay	30%
Final Examination	40%
Total	100%

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT 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 University 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: <https://www.yukonu.ca/student-life/learning-matters/academic-support-centre> . 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.

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT CONDUCT

Information on academic standing and student rights and responsibilities can be found in the Academic Regulations: <https://www.yukonu.ca/policies/academic-regulations>

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. Plagiarism occurs when students present the words of someone else as their 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 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 an accepted manuscript style (e.g., APA, CSE, MLA, etc.). Resubmitting a paper which has previously received credit is also considered plagiarism. 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 University.

Do not jeopardize your academic future with plagiarism. It is dishonest and can have serious consequences.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

Reasonable accommodations are available for students requiring an academic accommodation to fully participate in this class. These accommodations are

available for students with a documented disability, chronic condition or any other grounds specified in section 8.0 of the Yukon University Academic Regulations (available on the Yukon University website). It is the student's responsibility to seek these accommodations. If a student requires an academic accommodation, he/she should contact the Learning Assistance Centre (LAC) at (867) 668-8785 or <https://www.yukonu.ca/student-life/learning-matters/learning-assistance-centre>

YUKON FIRST NATIONS CORE COMPETENCY

Yukon University recognizes that a greater understanding and awareness of Yukon First Nations history, culture and journey towards self-determination will help to build positive relationships among all Yukon citizens. As a result, to graduate from ANY Yukon University program, you will be required to achieve core competency in knowledge of Yukon First Nations. For details, please see <https://www.yukonu.ca/yukon-first-nations-core-competency>

SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS
FALL 2021 - 3 CREDIT COURSE
CRIMINOLOGY 135

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TOPIC OUTLINE

Chapters referred to are from: Canadian Law: An Introduction, 7th Ed. Neil Boyd: 2018

Class #	DATE	TOPICS
Class #1	Sept 9	Introduction, Chapter 1: The Role of Law: What Is the Relevance and Purpose of Our Legal System?
Class #2	Sept 16	Chapter 2: The Sources of Canadian Law: From the Magna Carta to the Plains of Abraham and on to the Specifics of Statutes and Judicial Decisions
Class #3	Sept 23	Chapter 3: How do Judges Interpret Ambiguous Statutes? Rules and Principles and Their Application
	Sept 30	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation - Statutory Holiday
Class #4	Oct 7	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	Oct 14	Chapter 5: Canada's Courts: The Processes of Dispute Resolution
Class #6	Oct 21	Chapter 6: The Study of Law, Lawyers, and Judges: The Changing Face of the Legal Profession
Class #7	Oct 28	Chapter 7: Torts: Intention Negligence: Private Law, Public Interest
Class #8	Nov 4	Chapter 8: The Changing Family and Family Law: Marriage, Divorce, Support, and Custody
	Nov 11	Remembrance Day - Statutory Holiday
Class #9	Nov 18	Chapter 9: Administrative Law: The State and Its Duty to Be Fair
Class #10	Nov 25	Chapter 10: Criminal Law: Mens Rea, Actus Reus, and Changing Definitions of Crime
Class #11	Dec 2	Class review and general discussion
Class # 12	Dec 16	Final Exam