

COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: IST 136 Indigenous Justice and Law
CLASS SECTION: IST136-X01
TERM: Winter 2024
COURSE CREDITS: 3
DELIVERY METHOD(S): on campus, in community and on the land (TBD)

Camosun College campuses are located on the traditional territories of the ɫəkʷəŋən and WSÁNEĆ peoples. We acknowledge their welcome and graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here.
Learn more about Camosun's [Territorial Acknowledgement](#).

For COVID-19 updates please visit <https://camosun.ca/about/covid-19-updates>.

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable explanation in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student.

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: Daleen Thomas (778-679-5066)
EMAIL: lawoffice.daleenthomas@gmail.com
OFFICE: By appointment, in person or virtual meetings available
HOURS: By appointment, in advance and after class, in person or virtual meetings

As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

PREREQUISITE(S): One of:

- C+ in English 12
- C in Camosun Alternative

CO-REQUISITE(S): None

EQUIVALENCIES: None

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

Students will examine Indigenous legal traditions, forms of justice, and engage in discourse regarding Indigenous peoples' experiences in the Canadian legal system with a focus on the intersection of Indigenous people and the law with Indigenous justice. Both theory and practice of Indigenous law will be examined and areas of indigenous law explored will include Indigenous family law, Indigenous justice and peoples in the criminal law context including: interactions with police, courts, corrections and colonial law.

Using both experiential and theoretical learning processes, students will consider and assess opportunities for emerging approaches and initiatives to achieve reconciliation in relation to justice with Indigenous peoples.

The following are a list of intended learning outcomes for this course. By the end of the semester, students should be able to:

1. Identify and describe who are Indigenous peoples in Canada and British Columbia;
2. Identify and describe Indigenous approaches to justice within Indigenous traditions;
3. Describe the intersection of economic, structured, political, racial and social factors that impact indigenous people's involvement in the Canadian justice system;
4. Describe and compare the roles and practices of various Indigenous programs and multiple Canadian social control agencies in the treatment of Indigenous offenders; and
5. Describe emerging models of justice and practice that address the needs of Indigenous peoples and communities and explore pathways towards reconciliation.

REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

Learning Materials

In an attempt to respect orality and different forms of teaching Indigenous peoples, the learning materials will include sound recordings, audio-visual documents, websites and texts.

You will be expected to access the following materials:

- Readings and other materials posted on D2L
- Additional material (powerpoints, interviews, etc.) may be added to D2L throughout the semester

*Instructor reserves the right to amend readings, resources and outline from time to time, in consultation with the class(es).

COURSE SCHEDULE, TOPICS, AND ASSOCIATED PREPARATION / ACTIVITY / EVALUATION

The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

All week day classes will be held in Room WT 234 (Wilma Thomas Room 234). In community and on the land teaching will have locations to be announced.

WEEK	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	Date
Week #1	Opening in a Good Way	January 10 th 2024
Week #2	Who are Indigenous people in British Columbia, Canada? Who advocates for each group of Indigenous people? What are their forms of Justice? FNJC	January 17 th 2024
Week #3	What is Indigenous Law? Application of Indigenous Laws – A Case Study First Assignment – Class Post	January 24 th 2024

WEEK	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	Date
Week #4	Indigenous Approaches to Justice within Indigenous Traditions	January 31 st 2024
ON THE LAND	Cultural Activity and Teachings – Indigenous Justice in action	February 2nd and 3rd, 2024
Week #5	Reflection on Cultural Teaching + Background: A Brief Legal History of Settlers on Turtle Island and Justice	February 7 th 2024
Week #6	MID TERM PAPER DUE	
Week #7	Background: A Brief Legal History of Indigenous People and Justice	February 14 th 2024
READING	BREAK	NO CLASS – February 21st 2024
Week #8	Sentencing: Gladue and Itturiliqaq – Punishing Crime vs. Repairing Harm Second Assignment – Class Post	February 28 th 2024
Week #9	Current Indigenous Legal Matter (news) ex. Colton Bushie	March 6 th 2024
Week #10	Understanding Indigenous Inquiries & Commissions – Moving Forward Presentations Day 1 (min. 5)	March 13 th 2024
Week #11	Presentations – Pot Luck (Max 7) Final Lecture	March 20th 2024

**** On the land classes are mandatory. If you need a letter from the instructor to assist with rescheduling work times and obtaining childcare, please let me know as soon as possible.**

Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced notice is required. Deadlines can be reviewed on the [CAL exams page](http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html). <http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html>

EVALUATION OF LEARNING

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Cultural Activity	30%
Midterm Paper (Information based) Students will write a 5 page paper on a topic of their choosing with respect to Indigenous Justice. The goal or aim of this paper is to inform, not to persuade. Alternate options, other than a written paper, will be considered on a case by case basis and must be approved in principle by the Instructor two weeks prior to the due date. Ex. Indigenous Justice reflected in art (hour equivalence into a project will be 8+ hours of labour minimum)	20%
Final Paper or Presentation (Advocacy)	30%

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
<p>Students will choose between a in person advocacy presentation on an area of Indigenous Justice and Law of their choosing. Final papers will follow the requirements of the Mid Term paper but will require the student to advocate for one concept or practice of Indigenous justice. In person advocacy presentations will be of 15 minutes length each and will properly set out an Indigenous Justice and Law concept, teaching or practice that the student believes should exist in our system. Additional information on Presentation available.</p> <p>Students who wish to be creative may be creative. If a student wishes to propose a final assignment of another nature (series of artwork or other alternate assignment) they can be proposed to the instructor within the first two weeks of class. A short presentation to the class might also be required.</p> <p>The purpose of the final assignment is to work your advocacy muscles and learn how to (or practice) advocating in writing or in person.</p>	
<p>Attendance and Participation</p> <p>Student will participate in classes and engage with materials, including engaging with other students. Attendance is mandatory and non-attendance can be failing the class, irrespective of the percentage in the final mark.</p>	20%
	TOTAL
	100%

If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the [Grade Review and Appeals](http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf) policy for more information.
<http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf>

COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

A. Late Assignments

All assignments must be completed and handed in on the date assigned. Late assignments will be penalized 5% per day however after 10 days will not be accepted for marking. Please note that NO extensions will be granted for the final paper or assignment in this course due to deadlines.

B. Plagiarism, Cheating and Academic Dishonesty

If plagiarism, cheating or academic dishonesty is found, the penalty may be an automatic zero on assignment in question. Please review Camosun's plagiarism policy for more information.

<http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-&-support/e-2.5.1.pdf>

SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

The Indigenous Education and Community Connections Department is a valuable resource for you. If you are having difficulty with course content, registration, course selection, funding issues or anything that would get in the way of you being successful in this program, there are Indigenous advisors and support people there for you to talk with. Please stop by the office or call 250-370-3299 to book an appointment.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of College property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies;

demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

Camosun College offers a number of services to help you succeed in and out of the classroom. For a detailed overview of the supports and services visit <http://camosun.ca/students/>.

Support Service	Website
Academic Advising	http://camosun.ca/advising
Accessible Learning	http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning
Counselling	http://camosun.ca/counselling
Career Services	http://camosun.ca/coop
Financial Aid and Awards	http://camosun.ca/financialaid
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	http://camosun.ca/help-centres
Indigenous Student Support	http://camosun.ca/indigenous
International Student Support	http://camosun.ca/international/
Learning Skills	http://camosun.ca/learningskills
Library	http://camosun.ca/services/library/
Office of Student Support	http://camosun.ca/oss
Ombudsperson	http://camosun.ca/ombuds
Registration	http://camosun.ca/registration
Technology Support	http://camosun.ca/its
Writing Centre	http://camosun.ca/writing-centre

If you have a mental health concern, please contact Counselling to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, please contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

Since I am a lawyer, if you have any issues at all that are causing you concern, please let me know. I will do my best to make sure your issues are resolved. The best way to reach me outside of class is to email me at lawoffice.daleenthomas@gmail.com or call me at 778-679-5066. I don't answer my phone when I am in court and please do not leave me voicemails, they do not get checked regularly.

COLLEGE-WIDE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS, AND STANDARDS

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to comply with all College policy regarding academic integrity; which is about honest and ethical behaviour in your education journey. The following guide is designed to help you understand your responsibilities: <https://camosun.libguides.com/academicintegrity/welcome>

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.13.pdf> for Camosun's Academic Integrity policy and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The College is committed to providing appropriate and reasonable academic accommodations to students with disabilities (i.e. physical, depression, learning, etc.). If you have a disability, the [Centre for Accessible Learning](#) (CAL) can help you document your needs, and where disability-related barriers to access in your courses exist, create an accommodation plan. By making a plan through CAL, you can ensure you have the appropriate academic accommodations you need without disclosing your diagnosis or condition to course instructors. Please visit the CAL website for contacts and to learn how to get started:

<http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/>

Academic Progress

Please visit <https://www.camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.10.pdf> for further details on how Camosun College monitors students' academic progress and what steps can be taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the College's academic progress standards.

Course Withdrawals Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <http://camosun.ca/learn/fees/#deadlines>.

Grading Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

Mandatory Attendance for First Class Meeting of Each Course

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable reason in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student. For more information, please see the "Attendance" section under "Registration Policies and Procedures" (<https://camosun.ca/registration-records/policies-and-procedures-students/registration-policies-students>) and the Grading Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf>.

Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

Students who are incapacitated and unable to complete or succeed in their studies by virtue of serious and demonstrated exceptional circumstances may be eligible for a medical/compassionate withdrawal. Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.8.pdf> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

Sexual Violence and Misconduct

Camosun is committed to creating a campus culture of safety, respect, and consent. Camosun's Office of Student Support is responsible for offering support to students impacted by sexual violence. Regardless of when or where the sexual violence or misconduct occurred, students can access support at Camosun. The Office of Student Support will make sure students have a safe and private place to talk and will help them understand what supports are available and their options for next steps. The Office of Student Support respects a student's right to choose what is right for them. For more information see Camosun's Sexualized Violence and Misconduct Policy: <http://www.camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.9.pdf> and camosun.ca/sexual-violence. To contact the Office of Student Support: oss@camosun.ca or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-370-3841

Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun College is committed to building the academic competency of all students, seeks to empower students to become agents of their own learning, and promotes academic belonging for everyone. Camosun also expects that all students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Please review Camosun College's Student Misconduct Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College's expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

Looking for other policies?

The full suite of College policies and directives can be found here: <https://camosun.ca/about/camosun-college-policies-and-directives>

Changes to this Syllabus: Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change courses if it becomes necessary so that course content remains relevant. In such cases, the instructor will give the students clear and timely notice of the changes.