

Camosun College Course Outline

CRIMINAL JUSTICE 170
INTRODUCTION TO CANADIAN LAW AND LEGAL INSTITUTIONS

INSTRUCTOR: Randall GARRISON

Office Hours: Monday 10:30- 11:00
Tuesday and Thursday 10:30- 12:00, 14:30- 15:00
Wednesday 10:30- 12:00
or by appointment

Camosun Office: Young 205 Phone: 370-3336

COURSE SCHEDULE: Section 01: Tuesday and Thursday, 9:00-10:20 (Young 201)
Section 02: Tuesday and Thursday, 13:00-14:20 (Y 316/ Y211)

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Yates, Richard. A., Ruth Whidden Yates, and Penny Bain. Introduction to Law in Canada. 2nd edition. Toronto: Prentice Hall, 2000.

Garrison, Randall. Ed. Readings for Crim 170. Victoria: Camosun College, 2004.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

An introduction to the fundamental principles of law; the development of law and legal institutions; the process of law reform; the structure and system of Canadian courts; the philosophy of Canadian jurisprudence; judicial law-making; and exercise of judicial power. (T)

Prerequisites: C+ in English 12 or assessment.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the conclusion of this course each student will be able to summarize and demonstrate comprehension of fundamentals of Canadian law, the Canadian legal system and legal institutions; articulate the fundamental concepts of Canadian law, of the framework within which legislative and judicial authority are exercised, of the roles of lawyers and judges in the Canadian legal system, and of the concept of human rights; distinguish clearly between criminal and civil law; critically evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the Canadian system of law and legal institutions.

EVALUATION:

Students will be evaluated according to the normal procedures and standards set by Camosun College. If exams or assignment deadlines are missed documentation of medical or legal problems will be required in order to write make-up exams or have assignment deadlines extended.

Letter grades will be assigned according to the following distribution of marks:

A+	100-95	B+	84-80	C+	69-65	D	59-50
A	94-90	B	79-75	C	64-60	F	<50
A-	89-85	B-	74-70				

Marks will be determined on the basis of the following work:

1. First Examination- 15%

A preliminary exam will be held in class on **February 5th**. It will consist of Fill-In-the-Blanks, Short Answers, and one Essay question. This examination will serve as a preview of the other examinations in this course and the level of performance expected in the course. The format of the three examinations will be similar and this preliminary examination should be used as a guide in evaluating the effort and skills required for successful completion of this course. A review and exam preparation session will be held in class on February 3rd.

2. Second Examination- 30%

A second examination will be given in class on **March 11th**. It will consist of three sections: Fill-In-the-Blanks, Short Answers, and Essay Questions. The exam will be based on material covered to date and will include material from lectures, discussions, and required readings. A review and exam preparation session will be held in class on March 9th.

3. Media Assignment- 15%

This assignment consists of collecting and annotating five articles from daily or weekly newspapers which show the relationship of criminal justice and the court system. A separate handout will be provided. The written portion of the assignment should be 500-750 words in length. The media assignment is due **March 18th**. Late assignments will be penalized. No assignments will be accepted after April 8th.

4. Final Examination- 40%

A final examination will be given during Final Examination Week, **April 13-21st**. The format will be the similar to the second examination. The exam will cover material presented in the course as a whole, though there will be extra emphasis on material presented since the second examination. A review and exam preparation session will be held in class on April 8th.

ORGANISATION OF THE COURSE:

This course is set up as a survey course taught through two lecture/seminar sessions per week. The course material is divided into three sections. The first will deal with the nature, sources and origins of law. The second section covers the role of legal institutions, including courts, judges, and lawyers. The third section will cover judicial decision-making practices and will introduce four areas of substantive law: tort, criminal, family and administrative law. The three supplemental readings will be found on reserve in the library. The following schedule will provide a guide to lecture topics, reading assignments, and important dates:

January 6th	INTRODUCTION
January 8th	THE NATURE OF LAW Yates, Preface.
January 13/ 15th	SOCIOLOGY OF LAW Reading #1: Brian Burtch.
January 20/ 22nd	SOURCES OF LAW: The Common Law/ Quebec Civil Law Yates, Chapter 2.
January 27/ 29th	INTERNATIONAL LAW AND LEGAL INSTITUTIONS Reading #2. David Matas and United Nations.
February 3rd	ABORIGINAL LAW/ Review Reading #4: Kent McNeil
FEBRUARY 5th	FIRST EXAMINATION
February 10th	ROLE AND AUTHORITY OF THE COURTS Yates, Chapter 5.
February 12th	Reading Break (no class)
February 17th	ROLE OF JUDGES Reading #4: Ian Greene et al..
February 19th	ROLE OF LAWYERS (no new reading)

Feb 24/26th	THE SUPREME COURT OF CANADA Reading #5: Bertha Wilson, R. Martin, F.L. Morton & I. Hunter.
March 2/ 4th	THE CHARTER OF RIGHTS Reading #6: A. Kim Campbell and Mark Tushnet.
March 9th	HUMAN RIGHTS LAW IN CANADA/ Review Yates, Chapter 4.
MARCH 11th	SECOND EXAMINATION
March 16th	DIVISIONS OF PRIVATE LAW: Contract, Family & Tort Yates, Chapters 8 & 9.
March 18th	DIVISIONS OF LAW: Tort Law versus Criminal Law Yates, Chapter 7.
March 18th	MEDIA ASSIGNMENT DUE
March 23rd	DIVISIONS OF PUBLIC LAW: Criminal and Administrative Yates, Chapter 6.
March 25th	DIVISIONS OF PUBLIC LAW: Constitutional Law Yates, Chapter 3.
March 30th	JUDICIAL DECISION-MAKING Reading #7. Roland Case.
April 1st	THE RULE OF PRECEDENT Yates, Chapter 1.
April 6th	STATUTORY INTERPRETATION (no new reading).
April 8th	REVIEW
April 13th-21st	FINAL EXAM WEEK