

Camosun College Course Outline

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CRIMINAL JUSTICE 170</b> <b>INTRODUCTION TO CANADIAN LAW AND LEGAL</b></p>
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**INSTRUCTOR: Randall GARRISON**

**Office Hours:** Monday and Wednesday 13:30- 14:00, 15:30-16:00  
Tuesday and Thursday 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 (Y201)  
Section 02: Tuesday and Thursday, 13:00-14:20 (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.

**CRIM 170 Web page:** Camosun Home-Schools-Arts and Science-Criminal Justice-Faculty

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

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

### **1. First Examination**- 15%

The first exam will be held in class on **February 8th**. 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 17th**. 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 15th.

### **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 29th**. Late assignments will be penalized. No assignments will be accepted after April 14th.

### **4. Final Examination**- 40%

A final examination will be given during Final Examination Week, **April 18-26th**. 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 14th.

## **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 six areas of substantive law. All handouts and review sheets will be posted on the webpage for Crim 170. The following schedule will provide a guide to lecture topics, reading assignments, and important dates:

January 11th	INTRODUCTION
January 13th	THE NATURE OF LAW Yates, Preface.
January 18/ 20th	SOCIOLOGY OF LAW Reading #1: Brian Burtch.
January 25/ 27th	SOURCES OF LAW: The Common Law/ Quebec Civil Law Yates, Chapter 2.
February 1/ 3rd	INTERNATIONAL LAW AND LEGAL INSTITUTIONS/ <b>Review</b> Reading #2. David Matas and United Nations.
<b>FEBRUARY 8th</b>	<b>FIRST EXAMINATION</b>
February 10th	Reading Break (no class)
February 15th	ROLE OF LAWYERS (no new reading)
February 17 <sup>th</sup>	ROLE AND AUTHORITY OF THE COURTS Yates, Chapter 5.
February 22 <sup>nd</sup>	ROLE OF JUDGES Reading #4: Ian Greene et al.

- Feb 24/ Mar 1<sup>st</sup>            THE SUPREME COURT OF CANADA  
    Reading #5: Bertha Wilson, Rob Martin, F.L. Morton & Ian Hunter.
- March 3/8th                THE CHARTER OF RIGHTS  
    Reading #6: A. Kim Campbell and Mark Tushnet.
- March 10th                 HUMAN RIGHTS LAW IN CANADA  
    Yates, Chapter 4.
- March 15th                 ABORIGINAL LAW/ **Review**  
    Reading #3: Kent McNeil
- MARCH 17th                SECOND EXAMINATION**
- March 22nd                 DIVISIONS OF PUBLIC LAW: Constitutional Law  
    Yates, Chapter 3.
- March 24th                 DIVISIONS OF PUBLIC LAW: Administrative Law  
    Yates, Chapter 6.
- March 29th                 MEDIA ASSIGNMENT DUE**
- March 29th                 DIVISIONS OF LAW: Criminal Law versus Tort Law  
    Yates, Chapters 7 & 8.
- March 31st                 DIVISIONS OF PRIVATE LAW: Family  
    Yates, Chapter 9.
- April 5th                    DIVISIONS OF PRIVATE LAW: Contract  
    Yates, Chapter 10.
- April 7th                    JUDICIAL DECISION-MAKING  
    Yates, Chapter 1.
- April 12th                 JDM: THE RULE OF PRECEDENT  
    Reading #7. Roland Case.
- April 14th                 JDM: Discretion vs Controlled Judgment/ **REVIEW**  
    (no new reading).

**APRIL 18TH-26TH FINAL EXAM WEEK**