



COURSE OUTLINE

The course description is online @ <http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/web/crim.html>

Ω Please note: the College electronically stores this outline for five (5) years only.
It is **strongly recommended** you keep a copy of this outline with your academic records.
You will need this outline for any future application/s for transfer credit/s to other colleges/universities.

1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Leonard Statz		
(b)	Office Hours:	Tuesdays: 5:00pm – 6:00pm		
(c)	Location:	Young 210		
(d)	Phone:	250-370-3431	Alternative Phone:	778-922-0790
(e)	Email:	StatzL@camosun.bc.ca		
(f)	Website:			

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Summarize and demonstrate comprehension of the fundamentals of Canadian law.
2. Articulate the fundamental concepts of Canadian law, of the framework within which legislative and judicial authority are exercised, the concept of human rights and the roles of lawyers and judges within the Canadian legal system.
3. Distinguish clearly between criminal and civil law.
4. Critically evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the Canadian system of law and legal institutions.

3. Required Materials

- (a) Texts:
 - i. Boyd, N. (2015) Custom Coursepack, Toronto: Nelson Education
 - ii. Camosun College (2014) Criminal Justice Writing Reference Manual

4. Course Content and Schedule

Class Schedule: Tuesday 6:00pm – 8:50pm, January 10, 2017, to April 11, 2017

Course Content:

Week #1: January 10, 2017

- Course preparation learning exercise
- Detailed introduction to the course, textbook, course assignments, website for course, course and classroom expectations
- Basic Divisions of Law
- Legal perspectives

Readings:

- Chapter 1 'The Role of Law'
- Chapter 5 p. 141-147 'Canada's Courts'

Week #2: January 17, 2017

- What is Law?
- Understanding the challenges and opportunities of legal systems in a globalizing world.
- Review of the basic court system and process in Canada

Readings:

- Chapter 2 p. 'The Sources of Canadian Law'

Week #3: January 24, 2017

- Intended and unintended consequences of legality
- History of Common Law
- Judges & Judicial Decision-making

Readings:

- Chapter 3 65-75 & 86-87 'How Judges Interpret Ambiguous Statutes'

Week #4: January 31, 2017

- Sources of Law
- Charter of Rights & Freedoms
- Prosecution and lawyers

Readings:

- Chapter 4 p. 95-107 & p. 114-136 'The Constitution of Canada'
- Chapter 6 p. 178-193 'The Study of Law, Lawyers & Judges'

Week #5: February 7, 2017

- Human Rights and the law
- International Law
- Constitutional Law

Readings:

- Chapter 5 p. 147-165 'Canada's Courts'

Week#6: February 14, 2017. Reading Break: NO CLASS

Week #7: February 21, 2017

- International Criminal Law
- The International Criminal Court

Readings:

- Chapter 1 p. 1-38 'What is International Law'

Week #8: February 28, 2017

- Mid-term examination
- The adversarial justice system
- Role of Judges, Prosecutors, Defense Counsel

Readings:

- Chapter 8 p. 417-435 'Arbitration & Adjudication'

Week #9: March 7, 2017

- Models of Dispute Resolution
- Indigenous Jurisprudence
- Inquisitorial Justice System
- Mediation and Arbitration

Readings:

- Chapter 10 'Criminal Law'

Week #10: March 14, 2017

- **Case Summary Assignment Due**
- Restorative Justice approaches to Dispute Resolution
- Truth Commissions
- Reconciliation

Readings: NONE

Week #11: March 21, 2017

- Royal Commissions & Recommendations
- Commissions of Inquiry & Inquiries Processes
- Standing Commissions
- Task Forces

Readings: NONE

Week #12: March 28, 2016

- Tort Law
- Civil v. Criminal law
- Disability and the Law

Readings:

- Chapter 7 'Torts of Intention & Negligence'

Week #13: April 4, 2017

- Family Law
- Immigration Law
- Federal Court of Canada

Readings:

- Chapter 8 'The Changing Family & Family Law'

Week #14: April 11, 2017

- Quasi-Judicial Governmental Systems
- Provincial Forensic Review Boards
- Parole Board of Canada
- Exam Review

Readings: NONE

Course Assessment:

Exams (55%)

Two exams are scheduled for this course.

February 28, 2017 (25%)

Final Exam Week (30%)

Each will sample your recollection/understanding of the content from the assigned readings and the material addressed in class (guest speakers, power point, video presentations, etc.). Each exam will not be comprehensive and will be based on the material covered between exam periods (i.e. The final exam will be based on material covered from February 28th to the course end date). That being said, some of the latter material covered will be based on concepts covered during earlier portions of the course. The format may include true / false, fill in the blank, short answer, multiple choice and essay questions.

Failure to attend an exam will result in a mark of ZERO (0). I understand that sometimes emergencies or unforeseeable incidents may arise. However, I will consider accommodation only for students that have advised me prior to the start of an exam of an emergency and can provide documentation supporting the reason for absence. Such accommodation is reserved for only the most serious types of circumstances including, but not limited to, death of family member, serious illness, serious injury, car accident or incidents of similar seriousness ("Emergency Absences"). Common cold, influenza and other minor ailments will not constitute sufficient justification for missing an exam. Documentation (doctor's note, etc.) must be received by the date of the Final Examination. Failure to provide documentation by that date will result in score of ZERO (0).

If you arrive late for either exam and have not made previous arrangements with the instructor, you will be required to complete the exam within the allotted time period from the time the examination began. No further time will be provided. For clarity, if the examination began at 6 pm and 60 minutes were allotted to complete the exam, you will be required to complete the exam by 7 pm, regardless of the time of your arrival.

Case Summary Assignment (30%)

Due Date: March 14, 2017

To complete this assignment, you must find and summarize five (5) case decisions from one area of law from an Appeal Court and the Supreme Court of Canada and then write a comparative summary. You will need to begin by selecting a division of law and then finding court decisions for five cases in that division of law. It is recommended that you choose cases from one of the following divisions: Criminal law, Family Law or Tort Law. If you choose another division of law you must check with your instructor first. Cases summarized must be Canadian. Cases chosen must all be from the same division of law. You may write two summaries on the same case only if there were differing decisions at the Provincial Appeal Court and Supreme Court of Canada levels. You should write on similar cases in different jurisdictions. One of your five cases must be the most recent Supreme Court of Canada decision in the area you have chosen.

Research, meaning selecting cases and finding decisions, is a key part of this assignment. Once you have found your five cases, the summarizing part of the assignment will be fairly straightforward. If you select cases that involve constitutional questions or where the courts have made new law or changed existing law, the assignment will be easier to complete. Media coverage may be helpful in finding cases and in writing your summary in terms of identifying issues and outcomes, but research outside of the case decisions is not required.

Decisions of courts are available online. Each court has an easy search engine to use. (use links from D2L or go to www.courts.gov.bc.ca and <http://scc.lexum.org/decisia-scc-csc/scc-csc/en/nav.do>)

Each case should be presented individually and summarized. Start with the name of the case, the jurisdiction and court name and the citation for that case.

For the purpose of this assignment summarizing means:

1. Identifying the issue(s) of law at question (What is the case about?);
2. Stating the outcome of the case, including how the judges decided (was the decision unanimous, 5-0, 3-2, 6-3?);
3. Identifying the author of the majority decision;
4. Noting if there were other opinions given (were there concurring or dissenting opinions?);
5. Stating the central reason for the decision (why did the court decide the case this way?) and identifying the points of argument in the case (What were the main questions to be settled or questions where the judges continued to disagree?). Do not repeat the full arguments of the

court. Longer is not better. The key skill you are demonstrating here is summarising briefly. You should be able to summarize the case in approximately 100 words.

When you have answered these questions in each case you must write a short comparative conclusion at the end of the paper about common trends or principles in the cases in order to complete the assignment. Ask yourself questions like: Why did similar cases have similar or different outcomes? How has the opinion of the courts changed over time? Did higher courts have a different opinion than lower courts? Why?

Your conclusion should also briefly address your opinion about the area of law you have researched and what the state of the law is according to the cases you have reviewed. You should consider the theoretical approaches to law discussed in class and Chapter 1 of the textbook, but may apply your own ideas as well.

You must include a reference page with the names and citation for each case you have used, with web links to each case. That page should also be submitted independently to your instructor electronically on the D2L.

Your own written work should total approximately 1000 to 1250 words, the equivalent of four (4) to five (5) pages, double-spaced, in 12-point font. Include a title page.

Submitting work that is not your own is plagiarism and may result in a zero grade for the assignment. For each case, you must start by providing the case citation. A Works Cited page must be provided only if other sources like newspapers were used. Otherwise case citations provide adequate documentation. Please consult the Writing Reference Manual for the Criminal Justice Program for assistance with how to cite cases and use references. Late assignments will be penalized by a deduction of 10% of the mark per day.

Participation (15%)

Regular attendance and active participation are expected of all students. For the purposes of your participation grade, FIVE (5) in-class participation exercises will be assigned. These exercises will take the form of individual or group projects, group discussions or presentations, or individual written projects. Each exercise will be worth THREE PERCENT (3%) of your total grade for the course, for a total participation mark of (15%).

Each participation exercise will be graded out of THREE (3) POINTS as follows:

- 1 Point - Completeness (did the student complete the task/assignment as instructed)
- 1 Point - Correctness (did the student provide accurate/correct information)
- 1 Point – Quality of work (effort put into completing the task, grammar, spelling, etc.)

In-class participation exercises will be held during various classes throughout the semester. I will not provide advanced notice of the dates of those assignments and students who are not in attendance for the classes in which participation exercise occur will receive ZERO (0) on that exercise. Accommodation will only be provided to students who provide advance notice by 12:00 noon on the date of class of an absence due to illness, injury, illness/injury of a dependent ("Advance Notice Absences"). In the case of emergencies or unforeseeable incidents as described above under 'Examinations,' accommodation will also be offered per the rules outlined therein. No accommodation for advance notice absences or emergency absences will be offered without supporting documentation (e.g. doctor's note). Such documentation must be provided by the date of the Final Examination, or the student will receive ZERO (0).

In the case of accommodation with supporting documentation for missed participation exercises, the student will be provided a make-up assignment by the instructor. Such assignments must be completed and submitted by the next class. The assignment may not necessarily be the same as the one assigned in-class and will be determined at the discretion of the instructor.

Course Assessment Dates:

- Mid-term Examination: February 28, 2017
- Case Summary Assignment: Due March 14, 2017
- Final Examination: During Final Exam Period

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

- (a) Assignments
- Case Summary Assignment: 30%
 - Group Presentation: 20%
- (b) Exams
- Mid-term Examination: 25%
 - Final Examination: 30%
- (d) Participation
- 15%

6. Grading System**Standard Grading System (GPA)**

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.	1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

Temporary Grades

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy E-1.5 at camosun.ca for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
I	<i>Incomplete:</i> A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.
IP	<i>In progress:</i> A temporary grade assigned for courses that, due to design may require a further enrollment in the same course. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course. (For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3 rd course attempt or at the point of course completion.)
CW	<i>Compulsory Withdrawal:</i> A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.

7. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College calendar, at Student Services, or the College web site at camosun.ca.

STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

There is a Student Conduct Policy **which includes plagiarism**. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, at Student Services, and the College web site in the Policy Section.