

# COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: **Introduction to Law and Legal Institutions**

CLASS SECTION: **CRIM-170-003**

TERM: **Winter 2022**

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): Face-to-face instruction

For COVID-19 information please visit <https://legacy.camosun.ca/covid19/index.html>.

Camosun College campuses are located on the traditional territories of the Lək̓ʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We acknowledge their welcome and graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here.

Learn more about Camosun's [Territorial Acknowledgement](#).

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*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

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NAME: Nour Maghnaoui. LL.B & MA

EMAIL: [MaghnaouiN@camosun.bc.ca](mailto:MaghnaouiN@camosun.bc.ca)

OFFICE: **Young 205**

HOURS: Thursday: 10:30 am to 2:00 pm, **or by appointment**

*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

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This course is 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 the exercise of judicial power.

PREREQUISITE(S): C+ in English 12 or assessment.

## COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

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After successful completion of this course, you should be able to:

- Summarize and demonstrate comprehension of the fundamentals of Canadian law.
- Articulate the fundamental concepts of Canadian law, 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.

- Distinguish clearly between criminal and civil law.
- Critically evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the Canadian system of law and legal institutions.

REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

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- Boyd, N. (2019) Canadian Law – An Introduction, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition Toronto: Nelson Education

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

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

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
Week 1	<p>Detailed introduction to the course, textbook, course assignments, website for course, course and classroom expectations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Constitutional Political Systems and Legal systems</li> <li>• Basic Divisions of Law</li> <li>• Legal Perspectives</li> </ul>	Chapter 1: “The Role of Law”
Week 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is law?</li> <li>• Legal perspectives</li> <li>• Intended and unintended consequences of legality</li> <li>• Review the basic court system and process of Canada</li> </ul>	Chapter 2: ‘The Sources of Canadian Law’
Week 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• History of Common Law</li> <li>• Judges &amp; Judicial Decision-Making</li> <li>• Searching legal cases</li> <li>• Basic Divisions of Law</li> <li>• Sources of Law and the History of the Common Law</li> <li>• The Criminalization of Drug Use and Distribution</li> </ul>	Chapter 3: ‘How do Judges Interpret Ambiguous Statutes?’
Week 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sources of Law</li> <li>• Charter of Rights &amp; Freedoms</li> <li>• Prosecution &amp; Lawyers</li> </ul>	Chapter 4: ‘The Constitution of Canada’ Chapter 6: ‘The

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
		Study of Law, Lawyers & Judges'
Week 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Human Rights and the law</li> <li>• International Law</li> <li>• Constitutional Law</li> <li>• Understanding the challenges and opportunities of legal systems in a globalizing world</li> </ul>	Readings posted on D2L
Week 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International Criminal Law</li> <li>• The International Criminal Court</li> <li>• Reading linked through D2L site</li> </ul>	Readings posted on D2L
Week 7	<b>No Class (Reading Break)</b>	
Week 8	<p><b>Midterm Exam: March 3<sup>rd</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Models of Dispute Resolution</li> <li>• Review of Adversarial Justice System</li> <li>• Inquisitorial Justice System</li> <li>• Mediation &amp; Arbitration</li> </ul>	<p>Chapter 5: "Canada's Courts: The Processes of Dispute Resolution"</p> <p>Supplemental readings will be posted on D2L</p>
Week 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restorative Justice approaches to Dispute Resolution</li> <li>• Indigenous Approaches to Jurisprudence</li> </ul>	Chapter 10: 'Criminal Law'
Week 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Case Summary Assignment is due: March 17</b></li> <li>• The Role of Judges</li> <li>• Legal Reasoning</li> </ul>	Chapter 3: How do judges interpret ambiguous statutes
Week 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Adversarial System of Justice</li> <li>• Role of Crown Counsel lawyers</li> <li>• Role of Defense Counsel lawyers</li> </ul>	Chapter 10 Supplemental readings will be posted on D2L
Week 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Case Analysis Assignment is due March 31</b></li> <li>• Tort Law</li> <li>• Civil Law vs. Criminal Law</li> </ul>	Chapter 7: 'Torts of Intention & Negligence'

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
Week 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family Law</li> <li>• Federal Court of Canada</li> </ul>	Chapter 8: 'The Changing Family & Family Law'
Week 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administrative Law</li> <li>• The state and its duty to be fair</li> <li>• Royal Commissions &amp; Recommendations</li> <li>• Inquiries Processes</li> <li>• Standing Commissions</li> <li>• Task Forces</li> </ul>	Chapter 9: Administrative Law: the state and its duty to be fair.

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 noticed is required. Deadlines scan 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
Mid-term exam	20%
Assigned readings analysis papers	10%
Case Summary Assignment	25%
Case Analysis Assignment	15%
Final exam	30%
	<b>TOTAL</b>
	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

**ELECTRONIC DEVICES:** Cell phones and other electronic devices are to be turned off during lectures, and group discussions (except under exceptional circumstances in which approval has been granted by the instructor). Laptop use is permitted only for taking class notes and/or following PowerPoint slides. The use of electronic devices for entertainment during lectures is not permissible. Students who do not comply with this policy will be excused from the class. If the same behavior is repeated, the student will be reported to the chair and administration.

**MISSED TERM EXAMS:** When students miss an exam, test, or quiz the instructor should be notified of the reason **before the exam**. In general, some type of official documentation is required in order to obtain an excused absence.

**Late submissions:** all assignments must be completed and submitted by the date assigned (midnight maximum). All late written assignments will be penalized by 20% of the total mark per day.

#### SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

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For further information about the criminal justice program, please visit the department's webpage: <https://camosun.ca/programs-courses/criminal-justice-diploma>

#### STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

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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

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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	<a href="http://camosun.ca/advising">http://camosun.ca/advising</a>
Accessible Learning	<a href="http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning">http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning</a>
Counselling	<a href="http://camosun.ca/counselling">http://camosun.ca/counselling</a>
Career Services	<a href="http://camosun.ca/coop">http://camosun.ca/coop</a>
Financial Aid and Awards	<a href="http://camosun.ca/financialaid">http://camosun.ca/financialaid</a>
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	<a href="http://camosun.ca/help-centres">http://camosun.ca/help-centres</a>
Indigenous Student Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/indigenous">http://camosun.ca/indigenous</a>
International Student Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/international/">http://camosun.ca/international/</a>
Learning Skills	<a href="http://camosun.ca/learningskills">http://camosun.ca/learningskills</a>
Library	<a href="http://camosun.ca/services/library/">http://camosun.ca/services/library/</a>
Office of Student Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/oss">http://camosun.ca/oss</a>
Ombudsperson	<a href="http://camosun.ca/ombuds">http://camosun.ca/ombuds</a>

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Support Service	Website
Registration	<a href="http://camosun.ca/registration">http://camosun.ca/registration</a>
Technology Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/its">http://camosun.ca/its</a>
Writing Centre	<a href="http://camosun.ca/writing-centre">http://camosun.ca/writing-centre</a>

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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.

## COLLEGE-WIDE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS, AND STANDARDS

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### 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 Integrity

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

### Academic Progress

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.1.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”

(<http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/procedures.html>) 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://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.9.pdf> and [camosun.ca/sexual-violence](http://camosun.ca/sexual-violence). To contact the Office of Student Support: [oss@camosun.ca](mailto:oss@camosun.ca) or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-3703841

### 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.

**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.