

Course Outline

COURSE:	CRCJ 3003C
TERM:	Winter 2015
PREREQUISITES:	Third-year standing in the B.A. Honours program in Criminology and Criminal Justice.
CLASS:	Day & Time: Tuesdays 6:05 – 8:55pm Room: Please check with Carleton Central for current room location.
INSTRUCTOR:	Amy Conroy
CONTACT:	Office: Loeb B442 Office Hrs: Tuesdays 3:00 – 4:30pm Email: Amy.Conroy@carleton.ca

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

Religious obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: The **Paul Menton Centre** for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your **Letter of Accommodation** at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (*if applicable*). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (*if applicable*) at <http://www2.carleton.ca/pmc/new-and-current-students/dates-and-deadlines/>

You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course aims to provide students with a background in the fundamentals of legal research methods by exploring different approaches to legal research and to examining the legal, ethical, and policy issues that arise during the course of legal and criminological research. The course includes three lectures on current issues in Canadian law; these topics will be used throughout the remainder of the course as a foundation for learning how to properly source and reference primary and secondary legal research materials. Assignments will include a research proposal, case brief, and final research paper. The final paper will be based on a research question (developed by the student) from one of the three legal issues explored in the early part of the course. Students should leave this class with the ability to read legal and criminological research with a critical eye, to evaluate different approaches to investigating particular research questions within the law, and to plan out and write a balanced research paper focusing on a complex legal issue.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Margaret Kerr et al., *Legal Research: Step by Step*, 3rd ed. (Toronto: Emond Montgomery, 2010).

Wayne C. Booth et al., *The Craft of Research*, 3rd ed. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2008). (Please Note: This book is available as an e-book on the library website and will be posted on the course website)

Additional readings will be available online and/or made available through the course website.

EVALUATION

Please note:

*All components must be completed in order to get a passing grade.

**You are responsible for checking our course website on a regular basis. Any updates to be communicated outside of class hours will be posted on CULearn. Please note that attendance in this course is crucial and that not all course content reviewed in class will be posted online.

***Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. Grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean. Please keep all graded assignments until after grades have been finalized.

Attendance	Ongoing	10%
Case Brief	Due February 24 th in class	25%
Research Question and Outline	Due March 10 th in class	25%
Research Paper	Due April 7 th in class. Late papers will be penalized 10% per day, including weekends.	40%

Attendance: Attendance will be taken in most or all lectures. Students must be present when attendance is taken in order to receive credit for being present that day. No credit for attendance will be given retrospectively for students who forget to sign in during class time but later inform me of their attendance.

Case Brief: A case (chosen by me) will be identified in class on February 10th, along with instructions on format and other expectations for the case brief assignment. The brief is due on February 24th in class. Please review the rules on in-class submission and late penalties in the note below*.

Research Question and Outline: Students will design a properly formulated legal research question that is based on one of the three legal issues presented in the lectures given on January 20th, January 27th, and February 3rd. The question *must* relate to one of these lectures and no other topics will be accepted (though there will be flexibility with respect to your focus within the three general topics). Your outline should address relevant legal, ethical, and policy issues relating to your chosen topic, highlight competing perspectives from the literature, and explain how the paper will provide an answer to the research question that you have chosen. The outline should show evidence of preliminary research and understanding of the course content and academic writing instructions covered up to that point. The submission should be approximately 2 pages in length (typed, double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12 point font). The assignment is due March 10th in class. Please review the rules on in-class submission and late penalties in the note below*.

Optional: you have the option of working in pairs for the research question and outline and for the final paper (no more than two students per group and pairs *must* remain the same for both submissions). If you choose to collaborate with a partner on the final paper, you must submit a joint research question and outline, along with a brief, point-form explanation of the duties that each partner will be responsible for (please attach this to your research question and outline). If you choose to work in pairs, partner dynamics and issues regarding workload will need to be worked out by the team members. Please note that if you indicate that you will work as a pair by submitting a joint research question and abstract, you *must* follow through with the decision to collaborate and will not be permitted to change course and work independently for the final paper. Similarly, students who submit an independent research question and abstract cannot later choose to work in partners for the final paper.

Research Paper: The final assignment in this course is a research paper (submitted either individually or in pairs based on whether you submitted an individual or team research question and abstract) that clearly identifies a research purpose, a main thesis, and presents a properly supported argument in response to the research purpose statement. The paper should summarize the law in your area and cover the main views expressed in the academic literature. It should reflect an understanding of the legal, ethical, and policy questions implicated in the issue and should critically engage the opposing arguments. Papers should be no more than 10 pages in length (typed, double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12 point font). The paper is due April 7th in class. Details re: format and other expectations will be provided throughout the course, and will be reviewed in the academic workshops scheduled twice in the term. Late assignments will receive a deduction of 10% per day (including weekends). Please note that as per faculty regulations, all cases of suspected plagiarism will be reported to the Dean.

***For all assignments:** No email submissions will be accepted (for any of the assignments). A penalty of 10% per day (including weekends) will be applied to all late assignments. For assignments that are due in lecture, the firm deadline will be 6:15pm on the day of class. Any assignments handed in after that time will be considered 1 day late. If getting to class on time on that particular day is an issue, you must make arrangements to submit your assignment at an earlier date. Note that for all assignments submitted in the Institute's drop box, the date stamp affixed by the office will be taken as the date of submission. Extensions will only be granted in extreme circumstances. Please do not assume that an extension will be granted, regardless of the circumstances: contact me as soon as possible to explain your reasons for requiring an extension. I will request third party documentation for all extensions. If you are requesting an extension on or after the due date, please come to me prepared to show evidence of having worked on the assignment up to that point (in addition to documentation for the extenuating circumstances). Please note that extensions will not be granted for computer failure or for conflicts with work schedules.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM

The University Senate defines plagiarism as "presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one's own." This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else's published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one's own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another's data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another's works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in "substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs."

Plagiarism is a serious offence that cannot be resolved directly by the course's instructor. The Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of "F" for the course.

SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Readings
Jan. 6 th	Introduction / Overview of the Course	N/A
Jan. 13 th	Introduction to Legal Research and Research Design	Kerr et al. pp. 3-9, 57-67 Wayne C. Booth et al. Chapter 3
Jan. 20 th	Standards in Criminal Identification – The Rise and Fall of Forensic Fingerprinting	Katherine Schwinghammer, “Fingerprint Identification: How “The Gold Standard of Evidence” <i>Could</i> Be Worth Its Weight” (2005) 32:2 Am. J. Crim. L. 265, at 280.
Jan. 27 th	Canada’s Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women	RCMP, “Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women: A National Operational Overview” (2014) online: http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/pubs/mmaw-faapd-eng.pdf
Feb. 3 rd	Forensic Use of Abandoned DNA in Canada	John Burchill, “Mr. Stillman, DNA and Discarded Evidence in Criminal Cases” (2006) 32:2 Man. L. J. 5
Feb. 10 th	Case Briefing and Uniform Legal Citation / Academic Writing Workshop #1	Carleton University Learning Commons. “Using Uniform Legal Citation” available online: http://www.library.carleton.ca/sites/default/files/help/writing-citing/uniform_legal_style.pdf
Feb. 17 th	Winter Break – No classes	N/A
Feb. 24 th	Guest Lecture by Law Librarian Julie Lavinge: Part I: Library Basics and Finding Legal Documents	Kerr et al. pp. 139-151, 153-160 & 203-207 Carleton Library Tip Sheet. “Finding Bills & Statutes”
Mar. 3 rd	Using Primary Sources - Case Law / Guest Lecture by Law Librarian Julie Lavinge: Part II Noting up Case Law and Legislation	Kerr et al. pp. 33-53, 105-128 & 187-201 Please review the facts and decision in <i>R v Stillman</i> [1997] 1 SCR 607 (available on CanLii)
Mar. 10 th	Using Primary Sources - Statutes and Regulations	Kerr et al. pp. 13-31, 91-104 & 161-185 Please review the facts and decision in <i>Canada (AG) v Bedford</i> [2013] 3 SCR 1101 (available on CanLii)
Mar. 17 th	Ethical Issues in Criminological Research	Frakel, Mark and Siang, Sanyin. “Ethical and Legal Aspects of Human Subjects Research on the Internet” Workshop Report, Washington (1999): 1-20 http://www.aaas.org/spp/sfrr/projects/intres/report.pdf Angela Campbell, “Bountiful Voices” (2009) 47:2 Osgoode Hall Law Journal

		183 http://digitalcommons.osgoode.yorku.ca/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1149&context=ohlj
Mar. 24 th	Media Coverage of Current Legal Issues	<p>Please familiarize yourself with the following media stories through your own use of online sources:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Supreme Court of Canada's order for release of information in response to an access to information request for data on the whereabouts of sex offenders registered on Ontario's sex offender registry; 2. The controversy that followed the release of information requested in an access to information request for location data on registered gun owners in New York; 3. The "hate map" that was created through analysis of hateful 'tweets' across the United States; 4. The Supreme Court of Canada decision on the admissibility of Nelson Hart's confession relating to the charges he faced for first-degree murder.
Mar. 31 st	Review of Final Paper Guidelines / Academic Writing Workshop #2	Wayne C. Booth et al Chapter 7, 9 & 10
Apr. 7 th	Course Wrap Up / Submission of Final Papers	N/A