

## Course Outline

<b>COURSE:</b>	<b>LAWS 1000B – Introduction to Legal Studies</b>
<b>TERM:</b>	<b>Fall/Winter 2010-11</b>
<b>LECTURES:</b>	<b>Day &amp; Time: Fridays - 11:35am-1:25 pm</b> <b>Room: Please check with Carleton Central for current room location</b>
<b>TUTORIALS:</b>	<b>Fridays, either before or after lecture.</b> <b>(Check your course timetable on Carleton Central to confirm the time and location of the tutorial session you registered for)</b>
<b>INSTRUCTOR:</b>	<b>Dr. Vincent Kazmierski</b>
<b>CONTACT:</b>	<b>Office: D486 Loeb</b> <b>Office Hrs: Wednesdays, 1:00-3:00pm (or by appointment)</b> <b>Telephone: 613-520-2600 x. 8297</b> <b>Email: Please use the email program on the WEBCT page for this class.</b> <b>If WEB-CT is not working, try: <a href="mailto:Vincent_Kazmierski@carleton.ca">Vincent_Kazmierski@carleton.ca</a></b>

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"Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must contact a coordinator at the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities to complete the necessary Letters of Accommodation. After registering with the PMC, make an appointment to meet and discuss your needs with me in order to make the necessary arrangements as early in the term as possible, but no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first test requiring accommodations. For further information, please see: [http://www.carleton.ca/pmc/students/accom\\_policy.html](http://www.carleton.ca/pmc/students/accom_policy.html) . If you require accommodation for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodation to PMC by **November 15, 2010 for Fall exams and March 12, 2011 for Winter exams**. For Religious and Pregnancy accommodations, please contact Equity Services, x. 5622 or their website: [www.carleton.ca/equity](http://www.carleton.ca/equity)

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:**

This course is designed to provide an introduction to the field of Canadian legal studies. As such, it has two main objectives. The first objective is to provide a basic knowledge of the foundations of law and the legal system in Canada. Students will learn about the sources of law in Canada, the structure and function of legal institutions, the process of law-making and the various actors in the legal process. As well, students will be introduced to important areas of substantive law (such as criminal law, constitutional law, and contract law). The second objective of the course is to provide students with the tools to begin to think critically about the law and our legal system. Students will be introduced to various theoretical perspectives concerning the role of law in shaping relationships between individuals and groups as well as relations between the state and society. The ways in which the law may be manipulated to serve particular societal interests will also be considered. Ultimately, students will consider the role that law plays in either advancing or inhibiting social change.

**REQUIRED TEXTS:    Texts Available at the Carleton University Bookstore**

1. P. Fitzgerald, B. Wright, and Vincent Kazmierski, *Looking at Law: Canada's Legal System*, 6<sup>th</sup> ed. (Toronto: Butterworths, 2010).
2. Vincent Kazmierski et al., *Introduction to Legal Studies*, 4th ed. (Concord: Captus Press, 2010) – referred to as the Casebook in the outline of classes.

**\*PLEASE NOTE THAT THESE ARE NEW EDITIONS OF BOTH TEXTS (WITH SUBSTANTIAL REVISIONS) AND OLD/USED EDITIONS WILL NOT BE SUFFICIENT FOR THIS COURSE**

## **LECTURES AND READINGS**

A list of lecture topics and assigned readings will be posted on WEB-CT at the beginning of the fall semester. I highly recommend that students complete the assigned readings prior to each week's lecture. My lectures will identify important issues raised in the readings, but will not simply repeat material in the readings. In addition, I introduce material not covered by the readings in my lectures. Students are encouraged to take detailed notes during lectures. To assist students in taking notes, I post an outline of my lecture (not my lecture notes) on WEB-CT prior to most lectures.

## **TUTORIALS**

Attendance at tutorials is MANDATORY. In fact, attendance and participation in tutorials is assigned marks in this course (see below). Tutorials will be used to teach skills necessary for effectively completing the assignments as well as to deal with the substance of the course. Each tutorial group will consist of about 30 students and will be led by a designated Teaching Assistant (T.A.). Assignments will be marked by the T.A. in charge of the student's designated tutorial. Office hours and email addresses for T.A.s will be posted on Web-CT.

## **WEB-CT:**

Web-CT will be the primary method of electronic communication with students outside of class. It will be used to post marks, to post announcements, to host email communications and electronic discussion boards. Students should make sure that they sign-on to Web-CT in the first week of classes and should check the Web-CT page for this course on a weekly basis.

## **EVALUATION PROCEDURES AND DEADLINES:**

There are six formal evaluation components in this course –three assignments, two multiple choice exams, and attendance/participation in tutorials.

- 10% - Assignment 1 - due Oct. 13, 2010 – submitted to the Law Dept. drop slot at Loeb C473.**  
This assignment will involve writing a short summary and analysis of an academic article that will be assigned by the instructor (2-3 double-spaced pages).
  - 15% - Assignment 2 - due Nov. 24, 2010 – submitted to the Law Dept. drop slot at Loeb C473.**  
This assignment will involve writing a short summary and analysis of a case that will be assigned by the instructor (btw 5-7 double-spaced pages). Students will be expected to apply the theoretical approaches discussed in the first two months of the class in their analysis.
  - 20% - Fall Exam - to be held during the formal fall exam period.**  
The exam will consist of multiple choice questions only.
  - 15% - Assignment 3 - due March 3, 2011 – submitted to the Law Dept. drop slot at Loeb C473.**  
This assignment will involve writing a short paper (5-7 double spaced pages) on a topic to be assigned by the instructor.
  - 30% - Winter Exam - to be held during the formal winter exam period.**  
The exam will consist of multiple choice questions only.
  - 10% - Tutorial Attendance and Participation - held every week after class.** Students are required to attend all tutorials offered. Each tutorial is worth approximately 0.5/10. The mark awarded assesses both attendance and participation in the tutorial.
- Note: There will be no make-up assignments or “grade-booster” assignments under any circumstances.** Failure to complete all assignments and exams in the course will result in the student receiving a failing grade for the course. Deferrals will not be granted unless all assignments have been handed in.

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

**LATE ASSIGNMENTS:**

Late assignments will be marked down five percent for each day submitted after the due date (including week-end days). Extensions will only be given out in extreme circumstances, such as severe illness of the student or death of a family member. You must apply for an extension prior to the due date for the assignment. Appropriate documentation will be required to accompany requests for extensions. Computer failure, conflicts with work schedule or similar problems are not a valid excuse for failure to submit an assignment on time. **Students submitting late assignments must submit a hard copy of the assignment to the Department of Law drop-box and must email the instructor notifying him that the assignment has been left in the drop box.**

**APPEALING GRADES ON ASSIGNMENTS:**

Students who have questions about the grade they receive on an assignment or who wish to challenge the grade must make an appointment with the T.A. who marked the assignment within two weeks of receiving the marked assignment and provide a written summary of the alleged errors in marking. The instructor will not entertain appeals of grades that have not first been discussed with the T.A.

**PLAGIARISM AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONAL OFFENCES:**

The University's policy concerning plagiarism and other instructional offences is outlined in the Undergraduate Calendar (see particularly regulation 14 – Instructional Offences). In particular, students should note that a student commits an instructional offence if he or she “submits substantially the same piece of work to two or more courses without the prior written permission of the instructors from all courses involved. Minor modifications and amendments, such as changes of phraseology in an essay or paper, do not constitute a significant and acceptable reworking of an assignment”. Students should also note that it is an instructional offence to commit plagiarism, which is defined as “to use and pass off as one's own idea or product work of another without expressly giving credit to another”.

**POLICY AND PROCEDURE STATEMENT:**

The Department of Law's Policy Statement is available at <http://www2.carleton.ca/law/undergraduate-programs/course-outlines/>. The Department's policy statement is included as part of this course outline. The policy statement contains important information on topics such as the submission of assignments, due dates in course outlines, offenses, writing skills and use of language, prerequisites, course selection, responsibility for ensuring enrolment in a class, and review of grades, among other information. **Please read the Policy and Procedure Statement carefully.**

**A FEW ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES AND SUGGESTIONS:**

- Lectures in this course are designed to complement the texts, not just repeat the same material. As such, it is important to both attend lectures and complete the readings. Students who only complete the readings, but do not attend lectures and tutorials will find it very difficult to do well in this course. Material covered in lectures will be tested in the exams.
- Lectures will be designed to accommodate questions and discussion in class. Feel free to ask questions during the course of lectures. Please remember, however, that questions, comments and discussion in class must remain respectful of the other members of the class.
- This class has close to 350 students in it. As a result, it is very important that students not engage in disruptive behaviour during lectures. Please turn off your cell phones and computer games and put away your newspapers prior to the beginning of lectures.
- Students who keep informed of what's happening in the news will get more out of the content discussed in lectures and readings. The material covered in Laws 1000 will be reflected on a weekly basis in the news.
- If you are having trouble understanding the material in the course, speak to your T.A. or the instructor sooner rather than later. We are here to help you learn.

- Another important resource for helping you understand the course is our PASS facilitator. The PASS facilitator is an upper year student who has already taken the course and can help you with strategies to do well in the course. The facilitator's contact information will be posted on Web-CT.
- Students having difficulty with writing assignments should check-out the many resources available on campus to help students succeed. For a guide to these services check out the Student Academic Success Centre (SASC) website at: <http://www2.carleton.ca/sasc/>

Services provided through SASC include: The Writing Tutorial Service (Library 4<sup>th</sup> Floor); The Learning Commons (Library 4<sup>th</sup> Floor); and the SASC Advising Centre (302 Tory).