

---

---

**Course Outline**

---

---

**COURSE:** LAWS 2004 A: Criminal Law in Context  
**TERM:** Fall and Winter 2009– 2010  
**PREREQUISITES:** LAWS 1000 (formerly 51.100)  
**CLASS: Day & Time:** Thursday 2:30 -5:30  
**Room:** Please check with Carleton Central for current room location  
**INSTRUCTOR:** PROFESSOR DIANA MAJURY  
**CONTACT: Office:** D593 Loeb  
**Office Hrs:** Thursday 10:30-12:30  
Friday 9:30 – 10:30 (fall term)  
Wednesday 9:30 – 10:30 (winter term)  
**Telephone:** 520-2600 ext. 3685  
**Email:** [diana\\_majury@carleton.ca](mailto:diana_majury@carleton.ca)

---

---

"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 16, 2009 for December examinations** and **March 12, 2010 for April examinations**. For Religious and Pregnancy accommodations, please contact Equity Services, x. 5622 or their website: [www.carleton.ca/equity](http://www.carleton.ca/equity)

---

---

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The course will provide students with a basic introduction to the criminal law of Canada. The course approaches criminal law in its social context through a critical examination of the role of criminal law, the participants and processes of the criminal justice system, and the principles of criminal liability and of criminal defences. Issues and problems in sentencing and punishment will be discussed and alternatives explored. Current issues in criminal law will be examined.

The course objectives are to give students a solid grounding in criminal law theory and application, from a critical, social justice perspective. Reading, writing and analytic skills will be developed and students will be expected to apply and critique the material they are studying. The course is taught through lectures and discussions.

**REQUIRED TEXTS**

Each term will have a separate course pack – *Materials on Criminal Law in Context I (Fall)* and *Materials on Criminal Law in Context II (Winter)*, compiled by Diana Majury. The course packs can be purchased at Octopus Books, 116 Third Avenue (just off Bank Street in the Glebe). The fall term course pack will be available at Octopus Books after the first class; the winter term course pack will be available later in the fall term. Where possible, online citations and instructions are provided instead of reproducing the material in the course pack. These materials should be printed and added to the course pack.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TEXTS**

Students may wish to purchase the *Pocket Criminal Code* (Toronto: Carswell, 2010) . The Code is also available online.

**EVALUATION**

(All components must be completed in order to get a passing grade)

Your grade in this course will be assessed as follows:

- |    |  |     |
|----|--|-----|
| a) | 1st term essay (4-5 typed pages)<br>Due October 29, 2009                                   | 15% |
| b) | 1st term examination<br>(3 hour open book, in scheduled exam period)                       | 30% |
| c) | 2nd term essay (5 -8 typed pages)<br>Due date will be provided at the start of winter term | 20% |
| d) | 2nd term exam<br>(3 hour open book, in scheduled exam period)                              | 35% |

**Participation:** while there is no grade assigned for class participation, students are expected to attend class having read the assigned material and ready to discuss it.

**Essays:** information concerning the first term essay topic will be handed out on September 24th in class. The essay will be due on October 29th, in class. Information concerning the second term essay topic will be handed out in second term.

**Extensions:** a medical certificate or other appropriate documentation will be required to support any request for an extension. In the absence of appropriate documentation, late essays will be marked down one-half grade point (eg.B to B-) for each day they are late. NB: I give you the dates at the beginning of term and lots of time to do the assignment so that you can schedule this assignment around your other term work. Other assignments or mid term exams are not legitimate reasons to request an extension.

**Exams:** the first term exam will held in the scheduled exam period in December and will be returned and reviewed in class on January 7. The final exam will be held in the scheduled exam period in April. Exams will be open book and will consist of a combination of short answers and essay questions in which you will be expected to discuss and apply what you have learned..

**SCHEDULE**

A topic and reading assignment schedule will handed out at the beginning of each term.