Carleton University

Department of Law

Course Outline

Course: LAWS 2301 E – Criminal Justice System

TERM: Fall 2010

Prerequisites: LAWS 1000

CLASS: Day & Time: Monday - 6:05 -8:5 pm

Room: Please check with Carleton Central for current room location

INSTRUCTOR: Michael A. Smith

(CONTRACT)

CONTACT: Office: C476 LA (Loeb Building)

Office Hrs: By appointment Telephone: 613-230-5787

Email: <u>msmith@langevinmorris.com</u>

"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. 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

GENERAL

This course is designed to provide a broad introduction to the Canadian Criminal Legal System and to the institution, processes, rules and actors. The goal is to situate the criminal law within its general social setting and to examine the interrelationship between the aspirations and practices of each.

A strong emphasis is placed on the practical aspect of the law and how the players within the legal system achieve justice. In the latter part of the course, the focus will be on the criminal law in its more traditional formulations as found in *The Criminal Code* of Canada and in the cases, along with specific current issues in Canada.

MATERIALS

- A. Required Text: Criminal Law in Canada: An Introduction to the Theoretical, Social and Legal Context **4**th **Edition** (Toronto: Carswell, 2002).
- B. Recommended:Criminal Justice in Canada by Colin Goff 4TH edition.
- C. Recommended: *The Criminal Code* (Martin's Annual *Criminal Code* or Tremeear's). A pocket Edition of *The Criminal Code* of Canada is acceptable.

MARKING SCHEME - All components must be completed to pass this course

1. Midterm Examination 20% - In class exam will be held on Nov 16/10

2. Final Examination 35% - Will be held during the December exam period (**TBA**).

3. Essay Assignment 35% - Due date for assignment is **Nov 30/10**.

4. Participation 10% - Will be based on attendance and active participation

Both examinations will be closed book. The examinations will comprise multiple choice and short-answer questions. Students will be responsible for all of the required readings, information provided by guest speakers, supplementary material distributed in class as well as material covered in the lectures.

SYLLABUS/SCHEDULE - FALL TERM

Sep 13 <u>Topic:</u> Introduction – course overview and administrative matters

Sep 20 Topic: Criminal Law and Government Regulation in Perspective

Readings: Chapter 1

Sep 27 <u>Topic</u>: Perspectives on criminal law- theoretical issues and perspectives

Readings: Chapter 2

Oct 4 Topic: Perspectives on criminal law - (continued)

Readings: Chapter 2

Oct 11 THANKSGIVING MONDAY - NO SCHEDULED CLASS

Oct 18 Topic: The production of criminal law – Legislation and the role of parliament

Readings: Chapter 3

Oct 25 Topic: The production of criminal law (cont'd) – The Role of the Courts

Readings: Chapter 3

Nov 2 <u>Topic:</u> Criminal law- personnel, participants and powers – Police

Readings: Chapter 4-section 4.1

Nov 9 Topic: Criminal law- personnel, participants and powers - Crown/Defence

Readings: Chapter 4.2

Nov 16 IN CLASS MIDTERM EXAM – 20%

Nov 23 <u>Topic:</u> Criminal law- personnel, participants and powers- Judges

Readings: Chapter 4.3

Nov 30 <u>Topic:</u> Criminal law – personnel, participants and powers - Victims

Readings: Chapter 4.4

Dec 7 Topic: Criminal law – personnel, participants and powers - Accused

Readings: Chapter 4.5