

Course Outline

COURSE:	LAWS 2302 A & V - Criminal Law
TERM:	Winter 2010-11
PREREQUISITES:	LAWS 1000
CLASS:	Day & Time: Thursday: 1135-1425 Room: Please check with Carleton Central for current room location
BROADCAST:	Day & Time: Sunday: 1800-2100
INSTRUCTOR:	Professor Ron Saunders
CONTACT:	Office: D589 LA (Loeb) Office Hrs: Tuesday: 1230-1400 Telephone: 613-520-2600 x 8069 Email: Ron_saunders@carleton.ca Be sure to use only your Connect account in corresponding with me and please include "LAWS 2302" in the subject line Course Web Site: Logon at http://webct.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 . 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

The purpose of this course is to introduce the students to the legal and social dimensions of criminal liability and responsibility in Canada, including issues and problems surrounding mens rea, actus reus, and the attachment of liability. Defences are also examined, including various excuses and justifications, the absence of intent and knowledge, policy defences, including entrapment and the role of Charter protections in the criminal legal system, and defences of incapacity, including provocation, intoxication and mental disorder. The rules and rationales relating to sentencing and punishment will also be examined. Finally, if time permits, the topic of sexual assault will be explored in the context of many of the issues and problems raised throughout the term.

N.B. The prerequisite for enrolling in this course is the successful completion of LAWS 1000.

MATERIALS

Text: *Criminal Law in Canada: An Introduction to the Theoretical, Social and Legal Contexts* (Toronto: Carswell, 2002) - Available (new and used) at the Carleton University Bookstore or Haven Books, 43 Seneca Avenue, Ottawa (havenbooks.ca).

Note: If you are took my section of LAWS 2301 in the Fall term, this is the same text used for that course.

WEB SITE

The PowerPoint presentations used in class will be posted on the course Web site along with course announcements, grades, and other materials. To logon, go to <http://webct.carleton.ca/>. Only students registered in the course have access to the site; your Username and Password to sign on are the same as those for your Connect account (make sure that your Connect account has been activated first).

It is imperative that the student have access to the course website.

EVALUATION (All components must be completed to pass this course

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| 1. Midterm | 30% |
| 2. Written assignment | 20% |
| 3. April Examination | 50% |

Explanation of evaluation scheme:

1. The April exam will be held during the formal examination period; the exact date, time and location will be announced by the Scheduling Office during the term.
2. The midterm will be written on **Saturday, February 12** at 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. It will be a closed book exam. Complete details will be provided before the midterm.
3. The details of the written assignment will be announced during term.

Please note:

- i) A medical certificate or other appropriate documentation must be provided to support any request to write a deferred examination or to hand in the assignment late.
- ii) Both sections of the course write the same assignment and exams.
- iii) The midterm and assignment will be available for pick-up once they are marked from the Media Distribution Centre, D299 Loeb.

SYLLABUS

The course syllabus will generally follow the topics as presented in the "Table of Contents" in the text in the following order: Chapter 6, Chapter 7, Chapter 5 and Chapter 8. The general topics and the order in which they are presented are as follows (subject to some variations as required by time constraints):

Introduction

Criminal Law Liability - Actus Reus

Criminal Law Liability - Mens Rea

Strict and Absolute Liability

Liability for Incomplete Offences: Attempts, Counselling and Conspiracy

Attaching Liability: the Limits of Liability

Criminal Defences: Justifications and Excuses (Duress, Necessity, Self Defence, Defence of Property, Consent)

Criminal Defences: Absence of Intent (Mistake of Fact, Ignorance of the Law)

Criminal Defences: Policy Defences (Entrapment, Charter Protections)

Criminal Defences: Incapacity (Provocation, Mental Disorder, Intoxication, Automatism)

Sentencing and Punishment

Sexual Assault

Grades and Grade Adjustments

Students must complete all the requirements of the course to obtain a passing grade. Furthermore, be advised that there is the possibility the final marks in these sections of LAWS 2302 will be adjusted if they are markedly different from the distribution and/or average of the marks received in other sections of this course. All grades must be approved by the department and the Faculty of Public Affairs.

Policy and Procedures

For a general statement on instructional offences, special examinations, prerequisites, etc., please read carefully the Department of Law's "Course-Related Policy and Procedure Statement" (attached to hard copies). This document can also be found at: <http://www.carleton.ca/law/policy.htm>. You are strongly encouraged to read it carefully.

Please note as well that there are several services available on campus that can provide you with advice on studying, reviewing, writing exams and essays, etc.; for example there is the Writing Tutorial Service (4th Floor of the Library), the Student Academic Success Centre (SASC 302 Tory) and the Learning Commons (4th Floor of the Library).