Course Outline

LAWS/HIST 3305A - Crime and State in History

TERM: FALL 2011-12

PREREQUISITES: Third year standing CLASS: Day & Time: Fridays 8:30-11:30

ROOM: Please check with Carleton Central for current room location

INSTRUCTOR: Professor Barry Wright

CONTACT: Office: D591 Loeb

Office Hrs: Thursdays, 3:00-6:00 pm
Telephone: 520 2600 ext. 3681
Email: b_wright@carleton.ca

TA: TBA (please contact TA by email in the first instance if you have questions

outside of class or office hours; contact information will be provided in the

first class)

"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://www2.carleton.ca/pmc/students/accommodations. If you require accommodation for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodation to PMC by 11 November 2011 for December exams and 7 March 2012 for April exams. For Religious and Pregnancy accommodations, please contact Equity Services, x. 5622 or their website: www.carleton.ca/equity

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course surveys historical changes in the definition of crime and the administration of criminal law. While the adversarial criminal trial is associated with the medieval origins of the common law, the basic elements of our current system of criminal justice reflect much more recent transformations in law enforcement, the criminal trial, and punishment. These transformations, associated with the rise of the modern state, attempted to manage the effects of industrialization, urbanization, and colonization. The course focuses on these developments in 18th and 19th century England, and on the adoption and modification of the English criminal law and institutions in late 18th and 19th century Canada. Selected issues in criminal law history are also explored, including the uses of criminal law to deal with real and perceived state security threats, the experiences of native peoples and women.

COURSE ORGANIZATION

Lecture and class discussions. Students will be expected to have completed the required readings from the 3305 coursepack for a particular week's topic as specified in the schedule set out on the following pages.

READING MATERIALS

Purchase of the following coursepack is required. It contains all the assigned readings and is available in the university bookstore:

B. Wright, LAWS/HIST 3305 Crime and State in History (2011 ed.)

Lecture abstracts (overhead displays in class) and essay topics will be made available, accessed from links from the web site version of this course outline (www.carleton.ca/law/outlines/). This material will also be accessible on WebCT.

COURSE EVALUATION

- a) Research Essay 50% (10-15 pages. Due: 11 November 2011)
- b) **Final Examination** 50% (3 hour closed book, scheduled during December Exam Period),

NOTES ABOUT EVALUATION

Failure to complete any portion of the required course assessment will result in a final grade of F. A deferred examination or essay assignment, following the same format, may be written upon application to/approval from the Registrar's Office.

Exams are not returned but may be reviewed with me during office hours the following term. Essays will be returned at the final exam review class at the end of term. They may also be picked up from me during office hours or returned by post where a stamped self-addressed envelope is provided. Otherwise they will be returned at the final exam.

Late essays will be marked down one-half letter grade (eg. B to B-) for each day submitted after the due date without authorized extension from me. Essays must be typed or word-processed and submitted in hard copy. Handwritten papers, computer files, or email attachments will not be accepted. Please retain a photocopy or a secure file copy of the submitted essay. Essays must be submitted in person to me in class on the due date. In exceptional circumstances only, the essay may be deposited in the essay drop box located outside the Law Department General Office, room C473 Loeb Building, by 4:00 pm on the due date. The Department of Law assumes no responsibility for essays or assignments submitted in an irregular manner.

All assignments must be original. Prior approval of the instructor must be obtained if it is intended to submit work that has previously or concurrently been submitted for credit in this or another course. Please note all University regulations concerning plagiarism and related instructional offences in the Undergraduate Calendar.

TOPICS AND READINGS

<u>All</u> required readings noted in the schedule below may be found in the 3305 coursepack. The full bibliographical information for the extracted published material is set out at the beginning of the coursepack. Students are advised to start their essay research by consulting these readings and class notes where relevant.

SCHEDULE

Lecture 1 <u>Introduction</u>

Lecture 2 Conceptualizing Legal History and Origins of Canada's System

Please read for this class from the coursepack:

- Wright, "Overview: Historical Perspectives on Criminal Law, Legal Historical Research, and the Development of Early English Criminal Law" (typescript)

Part 1 - Overview: Developments in the Criminal Law and Historiography

Lecture 3. <u>Eighteenth Century England</u>

Please read for this class from the coursepack:

- Hay, "Property, Authority and the Criminal Law"
- Langbein, "Albion's Fatal Flaws"

Lecture 4. Nineteenth Century England: The Great Transformation - Reform or More Efficient Repression?

Please read for this class from the coursepack:

- McGowan, "The Images of Justice and Reform in the Criminal Law in Early Nineteenth Century England"

*Essay topics made available this class

(*Please note: No class the following week 7 October-University Day)

Lecture 5. The Reception of English Criminal Law in Canada

Please read for this class from the coursepack:

- Hay, "The Meanings of the Criminal Law in Quebec, 1764-1774"
- Glavin, "The Nisga'a Treaty: Death of an Ideology (extracts)
- Parker, "The Origins of the Canadian Criminal Code"

Part 2 - The Development of Criminal Law Institutions and Administration:

Lecture 6. <u>Law Enforcement, the Rise of Police and Public Prosecutions</u>

Please read for this class from the coursepack:

- Storch, "The Plague of Blue Locusts"
- Wright, "A Note on Law Enforcement and Prosecutions" (typescript)
- Macleod, "Canadianizing the West: The North West Mounted Police as Agents of National Policy"
- Hay, "Controlling the English Prosecutor"

Lecture 7. The Criminal Trial and Legal Personnel

Please read for this class from the coursepack:

- Langbein, "The Criminal Trial Before Lawyers"
- Beattie, "The Scales of Justice: Defence Counsel and the English Criminal Trial in the 18th and 19th Centuries"
- Wright, "A Note on the Jury and Judges" (typescript)

Lecture 8. Punishment

Please re-read for this class from the coursepack:

- McGowan, "The Images of Justice and Reform in the Criminal Law in Early Nineteenth Century England" (re-read from lecture 4)
- Taylor, "The Kingston, Ontario Penitentiary and Moral Architecture"

Part 3 - Selected Issues in Criminal Law History

Lecture 9 Conquest and the Experience of Native Peoples in Canada

Please read for this class from the coursepack:

- Loo, "The Road from Bute Inlet"
- Schuh, "Justice on the Northern Frontier: Early Murder Trials of Native Accused"

*Essays due this class

Lecture 10 The Experiences of Women

Please read for this class from the coursepack:

- Gavigan, "Petit Treason in 18th Century England"
- Backhouse, "Sayer Street Outrage,"
- Wright, "A Note on Gender and the History of Criminal Law" (typescript)

Lecture 11 Politics and the Rule of Law in Canada

Please read for this class from the coursepack:

- Marquis, "Doing Justice to British Justice"
- McNaught, "Political Trials and the Canadian Political Tradition"

Lecture 12 Examination Review Class; Essays returned