Carleton University

Department of Law

Course Outline

COURSE: LAWS 3306 B - Crime, Law, Process & Politics

TERM: Winter 2009-10

Prerequisites: LAWS 2004

CLASS: Day & Time: Mondays - 18:05 - 20:55

Room: Please check with Carleton Central for current room location

INSTRUCTOR: Paolo Giancaterino

(CONTRACT)

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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. If you require accommodation for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodation to PMC by March 12, 2010 for April examinations.

For Religious and Pregnancy accommodations, please contact Equity Services, x. 5622 or their website: www.carleton.ca/equity

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The aim of the course is to develop a critical understanding of the constant evolution of criminal law in Canada. The course will examine the way Canadians think, talk and act on criminal justice and how this has shaped the criminal justice system today.

The course will be taught from a legal-process perspective that will concern itself with legislative, administrative, judicial and private ordering and their interactions. This process is also rooted in a pragmatic approach to politics which attempts to understand competing perspectives and achieve some form of reconciliation between them.

The course will concentrate on the ongoing conflict between the due process vs. victims' rights perspective, the parties involved in said conflict (accused, victims, police, public and politicians) and the resulting debates on criminal law currently in the public domain. We will also focus in on specific offences and offenders to gain a better understanding of how the ongoing conflict affects criminal law today.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Roach, Kent. Due Process and Victims' Rights: The New Law and Politics of Criminal Justice. Toronto: University of Toronto Press Incorporated, 1999

EVALUATION - NB: All components must be completed in order to get a passing grade

Participation: 10% (will be based on attendance and active participation)

Mid-term exam: 35% (February 8, 2010)
Final exam: 55% (Exam Week - TBD)

SCHEDULE

The lectures are organized into various topic areas with assigned readings. Chapter number corresponds with chapter number in required textbook.

TOPICS:

Jan 4 Basic Introduction to the Course

- Course Outline

Overview of Topics and Methodology

Jan 11 Models of the Criminal Process

Chapter 1 – pgs 11 to 50

Jan 18 The Police

Chapter 2 - pgs 51 to 87

Jan 25 The Criminal Trial

Chapter 3 - pgs 88 - 114

Feb 1 Victimless Crimes?

Chapter 4 – pgs 115 - 150

Feb 8 Mid-Term Examination

Feb 15 FAMILY DAY & WINTER BREAK

Feb 22 Women

Chapter 5 - pgs 151 to 190

Mar 1 Young People

Chapter 6 - pgs 191 - 220

Mar 8 Minorities

Chapter 7 - pgs 221 - 249

Mar 15 Aboriginal People

Chapter 8 – pgs 250 to 277

Mar 22 Illicit Drugs

Erickson, Patricia G. (1999) A persistent paradox: Drug law and policy in Canada. *Canadian Journal of Criminology*, 41:275-284

Further readings to be assigned

Mar 29 Crime Victims

Chapter 9 - pgs 278 to 309

Apr 5 Course Review and Exam Review/Preparation