

## Course Outline

**COURSE:** LAWS 4308 A - Sentencing  
**PREREQUISITES:** LAWS 2004  
Fourth Year Honours Standing  
**TERM:** Fall 2007  
**CLASS: Day & Time:** Tuesday 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.  
**Room:** 234 TB (Tory Building)  
**INSTRUCTOR:** Stephen J. Donoghue  
**CONTACT: Office:** C476 LA (Loeb Building)  
**Office Hrs:** By appointment  
**Telephone:** 613-239-1086  
**Email:** Stephen.Donoghue@Ontario.ca

Students with disabilities needing academic accommodations in this course are required to contact a coordinator at the Paul Menton Centre to complete the necessary *letters of accommodation*. The student must then make an appointment to discuss their needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first class or ITV test. This is to ensure sufficient time is available to make the necessary accommodation arrangement. Please note the deadline for submitting completed forms to the PMC for formally scheduled exam accommodations is November 9, 2007 for December examinations. With regard to accommodations for religious obligations and pregnancy, please see <http://www.carleton.ca/law/accommodations.htm>.

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The aim of the course is to help students develop a critical understanding of the sentencing process and gain an appreciation of the important role of sentencing in the Canadian criminal justice system. A substantive examination of sentencing will be presented with extensive reference to the *Criminal Code of Canada*, other legislation, and case law. A brief overview of the historical perspective of sentencing will provide some understanding of the shift in societal values and perspectives on punishment. The focus of the course will be on the current sentencing regime in Canada with emphasis on sentencing principles and procedure, sentencing options, sentencing for particular offences and of specific offenders, and the role of victims in the sentencing process. As the class is crafted in a seminar style, there will be extensive analysis and discussion concerning the purpose and effect of modern day sentencing practices and what they reveal about Canadian society.

**COURSE MATERIALS**

Required Text – A. Manson, *The Law of Sentencing* (Toronto, Ont.: Irwin Law, 2001)  
Optional Supplemental Text – *Criminal Code of Canada*

## **METHOD OF EVALUATION**

The final grade for the course will be based on the following components:

1. **Student Presentation (20%)**
  - Individually or in groups of two, students will select a sentencing topic to present to the class
  - Presentations should last about an hour and should review the topic selected while also initiating discussion of critical issues related to the topic
  
2. **Student Paper (20%)**
  - Individually, students will write a short paper relating to their topic
  - The paper should be between five to ten pages in length double spaced
  - The paper will be graded according to three factors: demonstration of the student's understanding of the topic, ability to identify and discuss critical issues related to the topic, and style of presentation
  
3. **Participation (10%)**
  - Student grades will incorporate a recognition of attendance and participation in class discussions
  - As this is a seminar style class, student participation is an essential element of the learning process
  
4. **Final Exam (50%)**
  - 2 hour closed book examination
  - Exam will be based on assigned readings, class lectures, and class presentations from the full term
  - Exam will represent a combination of multiple choice, short answer, and long answer questions