

Course Outline

COURSE:	LAWS 4904C– Advanced Legal Topics: Law, Disability and Society
TERM:	Winter 2015
PREREQUISITES	Fourth-year Honours standing
SEMINAR:	Day & Time: Tuesdays 11:35am to 2:25pm Room: Please check with Carleton Central for current room location
INSTRUCTOR:	Dr. Vincent Kazmierski
CONTACT:	Office: Loeb D486 Office Hrs: Thursdays 1-3pm (or by appointment) Telephone: 613-520-2600 x8291 Email: Please use the email available through CULearn

Academic Accommodations

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

Religious obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: The **Paul Menton Centre** for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your **Letter of Accommodation** at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (*if applicable*). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (*if applicable*) at <http://www2.carleton.ca/pmc/new-and-current-students/dates-and-deadlines/>

You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one's own. Plagiarism includes reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else's published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one's own without proper citation or reference to the original source. Examples of sources from which the ideas, expressions of ideas or works of others may be drawn

from include but are not limited to: books, articles, papers, literary compositions and phrases, performance compositions, chemical compounds, art works, laboratory reports, research results, calculations and the results of calculations, diagrams, constructions, computer reports, computer code/software, and material on the Internet. Plagiarism is a serious offence.

More information on the University's **Academic Integrity Policy** can be found at:

<http://www.carleton.ca/studentaffairs/academic-integrity/>

Department Policy

The Department of Law and Legal Studies operates in association with certain policies and procedures. Please review these documents to ensure that your practices meet our Department's expectations.

<http://www.carleton.ca/law/student-resources/department-policies/>

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

This course will explore the ways in which law promotes or hinders the inclusion of persons with disabilities in society. It will start by considering a number of different theoretical conceptions of, and reactions to, 'disability'. The course will then consider the ways in which legal rules have impacted (for better or worse) the everyday experiences of disabled persons in a number of different areas of life, including education, work, and access to other services.

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

- identify and explain several different theoretical perspectives addressing the ways in which 'disability' is understood and addressed within society, particularly the social model of disability
- recognize and explain a cross-section of the legal rules and frameworks that directly address the issue of disability in Canada
- articulate the ways in which the daily lives of persons with disabilities may be impacted by legal rules and frameworks (for better or worse)
- evaluate the effectiveness of a variety of legal rules and frameworks in facilitating the inclusion of persons with disabilities within Canadian society

REQUIRED TEXTS

There is no required text book for this seminar. Instead, required readings will be available through the cuLearn page for this course. Additional readings may be added throughout the term as our discussions of the topics in the course evolve.

LECTURE SCHEDULE AND READINGS

A list of lecture topics and assigned readings will be posted on cuLearn at the beginning of the winter semester. Students will be expected to complete the readings prior to each week's seminar and to come to class prepared to discuss the readings.

CULEARN:

cuLearn will be the primary method of electronic communication with students outside of class. It will be used to post marks, to post announcements, to host email communications and electronic discussion boards. Students should make sure that they sign-on to cuLearn in the first week of classes and should check the cuLearn page for this course on a weekly basis.

EVALUATION PROCEDURES AND DEADLINES:

There are five formal evaluation components in this course.

15% - Attendance and Participation – evaluated on a weekly basis.

This course is designed as a seminar not a lecture. As such, the success of the class is dependent on students coming to class having read the required readings and being ready to engage in thoughtful discussion during the class.

20% - Journal Entries

– submitted through cuPortfolio

Journal Entry 1 due Feb 2, 2015

Journal Entry 2 due March 2, 2015

Journal Entry 3 due March 16, 2015

Students must submit 2 journal entries out of 3 topics (each worth 10%) (Journal Entry 1 will deal with the topic of 'Education', Journal Entry 2 will deal with the topic of 'Services', and Journal Entry 3 will deal with the topic of Work'. Each journal entry will consist of either a photo or brief video image or recorded audio clip and an explanation of how the particular photo/video/audio recording demonstrates the way in which the law either promotes or inhibits the inclusion of persons with disabilities within society. More information concerning the Journal Entries and using cuPortfolio will be provided at the beginning of the term.

10% - Project Proposal

Due Feb 10, 2015 – submitted through cuLearn

Students must submit a 2 page proposal identifying the topic they wish to explore in their class project, the scope of the project and the theoretical framework for the project. (More details to be provided during the term).

20% - Project Presentation

Presentations will be held in-class during Weeks 10 and 11 of the Term

Students will make a 10 minute presentation of their project to the class. More details concerning the presentations will be provided during the term.

35% - Final Project/Paper Due April 8, 2015

Students will submit a written paper that addresses the way in which law either promotes or inhibits the inclusion of persons with disabilities in one of the areas of life covered in the course (Education/Work/Access to Services/Life and Death Decisions). The project may be take one of two forms:

- a) a law reform project that examines formal legal rules and identifies the benefits of and detriments of an existing legal framework and provides a set of proposals for reforming the existing framework; or
- b) a project that attempts to illustrate the everyday experience of persons with disabilities in a particular are of life covered in the course (Education/Work/Access to Services/Life and Death Decisions) using a Legal Consciousness framework.

More details about the class projects will be provided during the term.

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

EXTENSIONS

Students can request an extension on Assignments for serious illness or family and personal emergencies. They will be required to provide official supporting documentation. Students requesting an extension **MUST** contact the course Instructor prior to the assignment deadline.

Extensions will **NOT** be granted for computer problems of any kind. I strongly encourage you to back up your work as you go along: email a draft to yourself whenever you finish a segment of work on it or copy it to a USB thumb-drive or an external hard drive.

A cold or the flu is not a sufficient reason for an extension.

Competing workloads in other courses is not a sufficient reason for an extension.

Work schedule or family schedule conflicts are not sufficient reasons for an extension.