

INFORMATION SHEET

LAWS 4901, 4902 (Tutorials in Law) and LAWS 4908 (Honours Paper)

The Tutorials in Law (LAWS 4901 and LAWS 4902) and Honours Paper (LAWS 4908) courses depend on the initiative of students. They are not regularly scheduled courses, but they involve a comparable workload. For each of these courses, students create projects in consultation with their chosen supervisors. Meetings with supervisors are normally a crucial part of the Honours Paper and/or Tutorial experience. Students should note that it is not always possible to accommodate students who wish to enroll in LAWS 4901, LAWS 4902 and LAWS 4908. In particular, appropriate faculty members might not be available to supervise these courses in all academic terms.

LAWS 4901 and LAWS 4902

The tutorial in law courses (LAWS 4901 and 4902) are primarily intended to offer students the opportunity to study subjects in depth that are not sufficiently covered by existing courses. There is no minimum GPA requirement for enrolling in LAWS 4901 or LAWS 4902, however you do require the permission of a full-time faculty member of the Department of Law and Legal Studies who is willing to supervise you. Contract instructors cannot supervise the Tutorials in Law.

LAWS 4908

The Honours Paper (LAWS 4908) offers 4th year students the opportunity to research a topic in depth over the course of two academic terms. While the research required for the Honours Paper can offer valuable experience, it is not typically expected for admission to graduate and professional programs. If you wish to complete LAWS 4908 you must have a Law GPA over 9.0 and you must find a full-time member of the Department of Law and Legal Studies who is willing to supervise you. Contract instructors cannot supervise the Honours Paper.

How to Get Permission to Register in these Courses

To enroll in LAWS 4901, LAWS 4902 or LAWS 4908, you must take the following three steps:

1. Identify the area you wish to research/study in depth. Your area of interest should be more particular than simply “criminal law” or “the Canadian Charter”. It should be based on an existing foundation of knowledge developed in your undergraduate courses.
2. Find a faculty member who is willing to supervise you. This will often require you to provide the prospective supervisor a proposal for the area or issue you would like to research or study in the course. Remember, it will not always be possible to find a faculty member who is willing or able to supervise the area you wish to study.
3. If you find a faculty member who agrees to supervise you, you should fill out the application form and have it signed by the faculty member who will supervise you. (In cases where you are seeking to have a contract instructor supervise LAWS 4901 or LAWS 4902 you will also have to submit the form for approval by the Chair of the Department.) The applications and guidelines for these courses are on the Department of Law and Legal Studies website. The completed application is due to the Department of Law and Legal Studies before the Last day to register for the specified academic term.