

**COURSE:** LAWS 1000V – Introduction to Legal Studies

**TERM:** Summer 2015

**BROADCAST:** Mondays, 13:30-17:00

**Instructor:** Jane Dickson, PhD.(Law)

**CONTACT:** OFFICE: D592 Loeb  
OFFICE HRS: Office Hours: Mondays, 9:30-11:30, or by pre-arranged appointment only  
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**TA:** TBC

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### ***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](mailto: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/>

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### **COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:**

This course is designed as a basic introduction to the field of Canadian legal studies. As such, it has two basic objectives. The first objective is to provide a basic knowledge of the foundations of law and the legal system in Canada. Students will learn about the sources of law in Canada, the structure and function of legal institutions, the process of law-making and the various actors in the legal process. The second objective of the course is to provide students with the tools to begin to think critically about the role of law in Canadian society. Students will be introduced to various theoretical perspectives concerning the role of law in shaping relationships between individuals and groups as well as relations between the state and society. The ways in which the law may be manipulated to serve particular societal interests will also be considered. Ultimately, students will consider whether law should be considered an effective or desirable method of achieving social change.

**REQUIRED TEXTS:** Texts Available at the Carleton University Bookstore (Please note: good quality, second-hand copies of these texts are often available at reduced prices at Haven Books, 43 Seneca Street, Ottawa (tel. 613-730-9888); please be certain you are purchasing the correct edition of the texts if you are purchasing second-hand copies. Check the ISBN numbers to be sure they match the editions you require).

1. Steven Vago & Adie Nelson, *Law and Society* (4th Canadian Edition), (Toronto: Pearson Education Inc., 2014); ISBN-13: 978-0-205-24801-8..
2. Carleton University Department of Law Casebook Group, *Introduction to Legal Studies*, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition (Concord: Captus Press, 2010); ISBN 978-1-55322-228-6.

### **FORMAT OF THIS COURSE:**

LAWS 1000 is taught through a combination of lectures and discussion groups. Lectures are held for two hours, once per week of term; online and in class discussion groups are approximately one-hour in length and provide an opportunity to review and examine current course materials/subjects to a deeper level than is possible in lecture, obtain TA assistance in understanding course materials and structured assistance in completing assignments and writing exams. **Online discussion groups start in the second week of classes.** Please note that ***all materials covered in lectures, discussion groups and readings constitute examinable material for which students will be held responsible.***

### **EVALUATION PROCEDURES AND DEADLINES:**

There are six formal evaluation components in this course: four assignments and one multiple choice examination. The examination will be held in the regular examination period in August 2015; assignments must be completed and submitted electronically to the appropriate Teaching Assistant via cuLearn by 4:30 p.m. on the due date. Papers submitted in any other fashion will not be accepted; late papers will not be accepted save in the case of a documented medical excuse or similarly serious and unforeseen circumstance. Details of the late submission policy are outlined below.

- Assignment 1 – worth 20%**      This assignment consists of a critical summary (3-5 pages) of a scholarly article.
- Due May 25, 2015, by 4:30 p.m. Assignments must be submitted electronically via cuLearn in advance of this deadline.
- Assignment 2 - worth 20%**      This assignment will require the construction of a case brief (2-3 pages) from a case assigned by the instructor.
- Due June 22, 2015 by 4:30 p.m. Assignments must be submitted electronically via cuLearn in advance of this deadline.
- Assignment 3- worth 20%**      This assignment will consist of a case analysis of no more than 1500 words in which students will be required to critique one of that two briefed cases through a theoretical lens discussed in class.
- Due July 27, 2015, by 4:30 p.m. Assignments must be submitted electronically via cuLearn in advance of this deadline.
- Final Examination – worth 40% to be held during the formal exam period.** The exam will consist of 125 multiple choice questions only.

**Note:** *Failure to complete all assignments and exams in the course will result in the student receiving a failing grade for the course.* Deferrals will not be granted unless all assignments have been handed in.

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to approval of the Department and 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 Department and the Dean.

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE: ANY ACCOMMODATIONS TO ASSIGNMENT DEADLINES OR COURSE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE Summer 2015 ACADEMIC YEAR MUST BE REQUESTED BY EMAIL BY MAY 15, 2015. EMAIL REQUESTS MUST PROVIDE CLEAR DETAILS OF THE ACCOMMODATION REQUESTED, GROUNDS FOR THE ACCOMMODATION, AND BE ACCOMPANIED BY APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTATION. PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT SUCH ACCOMMODATIONS ARE WITHIN THE DISCRETION OF THE INSTRUCTOR, AS SUCH, STUDENTS SHOULD NOT ASSUME ACCOMMODATIONS WILL BE APPROVED.\*\***

#### **LATE ASSIGNMENTS:**

Late assignments will be marked down 2 marks for each day submitted after the due date (including week-end days). Extensions will only be given out in extreme circumstances, such as severe illness of the student or death of a family member. Appropriate documentation will be required to accompany all requests for extensions. Computer failure, conflicts with work schedule or similar problems are not a valid excuse for failure to submit an assignment on time.

#### **APPEALING GRADES ON ASSIGNMENTS:**

Students who have questions about the grade they receive on an assignment or who wish to challenge the grade must make an appointment with the T.A. who marked the assignment within two weeks of receiving the disputed grade. The instructor will not entertain appeals of grades that have not first been discussed with the T.A.

**A FEW ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES AND SUGGESTIONS:**

- Try to stay on top of the reading assignments in this course. As with most first year survey courses, there is a great deal of reading, and it can pile up very quickly and become overwhelming. Organize your time by spending as much time preparing for class as you spend in class – for example, you have three hours of lecture and discussion group weekly; you should be spending at least that amount of time preparing for class, and allocate more time when assignment deadlines or exams are looming.
- If you are having trouble understanding the material in the course, speak to your T.A. or the instructor sooner rather than later. We are here to help you learn.
- Students having difficulty with writing assignments should check-out the many resources available on campus to help students succeed. These include: The Writing Tutorial Service (Library 4<sup>th</sup> Floor); Student Academic Success Centre (302 Tory); and The Learning Commons (Library 4<sup>th</sup> Floor). Please check to ensure these services are available in the summer term.

**CLASS SCHEDULE AND READINGS**

**Please note:** *No class will be held on June 22, due to the Early Summer Examination Period (don't worry, you don't have an early exam!)*

**Lecture**                      **Topic and Reading Assignment**

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| 1  | Course Introduction – no assigned readings.   |
| 2  | Law in Social Life – Introduction to Legal Studies Course Reader, 1(a)-(c).   |
| 3  | Law and Culture – Introduction to Legal Studies Course Reader, 2(a)-(d).  |
| 4  | Law, the State and the Constitution – Introduction to Legal Studies Course Reader, 3(a)-(c).  |
| 5  | Law, Rights and the Charter – Introduction to Legal Studies Course Reader, 10(b)-(d); 11(d)-(e).  |
| 6  | Making the Law: Common Law and Legislation – Introduction to Legal Studies Course Reader, 8(a)-(d); Law and Society, Chapter 4.           |
| 7  | The Organization and Structure of Canadian Law – Law and Society, Chapter 3.  |
| 8  | Law, Morality and Justice – Introduction to Legal Studies Course Reader, 5(a)-(e).  |
| 9  | Regulating Behaviour: Law, Crime and Social Control – Introduction to Legal Studies Course Reader, 13(a)-(d); Law and Society, Chapter 5. |
| 10 | Regulating Relationships – Introduction to Legal Studies Course Reader, 14(a)-(e).  |

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| 11 | Dispute Resolution – Introduction to Legal Studies Course Reader, 16(a)-(b); Law and Society, Chapter 6.           |
| 12 | Adjudication – Introduction to Legal Studies Course Reader, 17(a)-(d).   |
| 13 | Alternatives to Adjudication – Introduction to Legal Studies Course Reader, 18(a)-(d).                             |
| 14 | Settlement and Collaboration in the Legal Process – Introduction to Legal Studies Course Reader, 19(a)-(c).        |
| 15 | Access to Justice: Income Issues – Introduction to Legal Studies Course Reader, 20(a)-(b)                          |
| 16 | Lawyers and Lawyering Juries – Introduction to Legal Studies Course Reader, 22(b)-(f); Law and Society, chapter 8. |
| 17 | Juries – Introduction to Legal Studies Course Reader, 23(a)-(c).   |
| 18 | Judges – Introduction to Legal Studies Course Reader, 24(a)-(h).   |
| 19 | Enforcing the Law Juries – Introduction to Legal Studies Course Reader, 25(a)-(c).                                 |
| 20 | Law, Liberalism and the Critics – Introduction to Legal Studies Course Reader, 6(a)-(f).                           |
| 21 | Connecting Law and Society – Introduction to Legal Studies Course Reader, 7(a)-(c).                                |
| 22 | Law and Social Change – Law and Society, chapter 7.  |
| 23 | The Charter and Social Change – Introduction to Legal Studies Course Reader, 26(a)-(d).                            |
| 24 | The Future of Law: Food For Thought – Introduction to Legal Studies Course Reader, 27(c)-(f).                      |