

Course Outline

COURSE:	LAWS 3001A: Women and the Legal Process
TERM:	FALL 2018
PREREQUISITES:	1.0 credit in LAWS at the 2000 level
CLASS:	Day & Time: Tuesdays 11:30am – 2:30pm Room: Please check with Carleton Central for current room location
INSTRUCTOR:	Dr. Megan Gaucher
CONTACT:	Office: D496 Loeb Building Office Hrs: Tuesdays 3:00-4:30pm OR By Appointment Telephone: 613-520-2600 x. 4207 Email: Megan.Gaucher@carleton.ca

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: Please contact 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: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

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: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact The Paul Menton Centre (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 as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC Website for their deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable) www.carleton.ca/pmc

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 Plagiarism includes reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else's published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one's own without proper citation or reference to the original source.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://carleton.ca/studentaffairs/academic-integrity/>

Survivors of Sexual Violence

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support

Accommodation for Student Activities

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor 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. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit: students.carleton.ca/course-outline

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://carleton.ca/law/current-students/>

CALENDAR COURSE DESCRIPTION

How the legal process has affected the status of women. Areas of concentration within the Canadian context include the criminal law, citizenship and immigration, education, employment, and welfare and social services.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces students to key issues, theories and debates concerning gender, feminism and the law, primarily in Canada. Approaching law as both a site of regulation and constraint, as well as a tool for feminist practice, the course examines topics ranging from policing, incarceration, employment and immigration, to questions of consent, sexuality and obscenity.

REQUIRED TEXTS

All articles, cases and other materials can be found either on cuLearn, as an eBook at the library or online (see "Course Schedule" for details).

EVALUATION

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

Type of Assignment	Weighting	Due Date
Attendance/Participation	15%	N/A
Op-Ed Assignment	20%	October 2nd
Research Paper Reverse Outline Workshop	15%	November 13th
Final Research Paper	25%	November 27th
Take-Home Exam	25%	December 21st

Participation (15%)

I encourage my students to take ownership of their learning and one way to accomplish this is through effective participation. This means attending as many classes as possible, staying on top of assigned readings, and giving some thought to the readings and themes of the course in relation to your everyday lives.

In this course, students can earn participation marks in three ways: attending class regularly (max. 5 marks), contributing to online discussion forums (max. 5 marks), and participating in-class (max. 5 marks).

In the right-hand column of the “Course Schedule” are discussion questions meant to stimulate your thinking about the materials, course themes, and current developments. You can post a response to these questions on the cuLearn class discussion forum for a mark.

Op-Ed Assignment (20%)

Newspapers regularly publish opinion pieces that comment on topical domestic and international issues, crises, or problems. Op-eds are one way for citizens to contribute directly to debates in the media by publishing an informed opinion piece. It is a short essay that makes and supports one primary argument. It also addresses or refutes counterpoints to this argument. Before you being working on this assignment, I recommend looking at the examples of op-eds posted on cuLearn.

For this assignment, you will write one 700 – 800 word op-ed (single spaced) on one specific issue relating to gender and the law in Canada.

The op-ed must be structured as follows:

- Identify one very specific issue relating to gender and the law in Canada
- Specify the forces that have generated the problem or issue
- Propose a solution and justification for that solution

No referencing is required for this assignment but your arguments should reflect the course materials as necessary. This assignment is due in-class on **October 2nd**.

You are writing this reflection for a public audience. You can assume some reader knowledge but remember that your readers are not specialists. This means you should define technical terms or discuss complex concepts. Also remember that your readers are short on time and attention span. Make your points clearly and make an effort to keep your audience interested.

Research Paper Reverse Outline Workshop (15%)

In most undergraduate courses, students are required to submit a research paper outline prior to starting the writing of the actual paper. While this approach is useful, it also has its limitations. Quite often, it is difficult to provide a detailed plan of an essay when you have yet to research/think through your main ideas. When I write papers, my thesis statement isn't entirely clear to me until I finish a first draft – it is then that I can look back and see what exactly it is that I'm trying to say.

For this workshop, we will reverse the outline-paper order and work backwards. You are expected to bring a hard-copy full draft of your research paper (see information on "Research Paper" below) to class on **November 13th**. It doesn't have to be polished, but it does need to be a draft. In this workshop, we will be constructing reverse outlines based on your research paper drafts, requiring you to pinpoint your thesis statement, main arguments, etc. You will be given a worksheet that you'll need to complete/submit on cuLearn by end of day on **November 14th**. This workshop, along with my feedback on your worksheet, will help you edit/refine your final research paper.

In order to be graded on this assignment, you must complete both parts – attending the workshop with a full draft and submitting the worksheet. Because the in-class workshop is a mandatory assignment, you will only be able to receive an extension/accommodation with proper documentation.

Research Paper (25%)

You are required to submit an 8-10 page paper (double spaced) on a topic of your choosing within the realm of the course. Further information will be posted on cuLearn. This assignment is due in-class on **November 27th**.

Late Assignments/Accommodations

I will be imposing a late penalty of 2% points per day, including weekends, with a maximum penalty of two weeks late (28%) for the op-ed and research paper assignments. After two weeks, I will no longer accept these assignments unless we have worked out an extension. Extensions must be arranged with me **before the assignment deadline**. A late assignment may be emailed to me if you cannot get in to the university to hand it in right away. In this case, the late penalty will stop on the date of your electronic submission; however, you must still submit a hard copy to me before your assignment will be marked. The email version will simply confirm the date you completed the assignment. The hard copy that you submit must be the same as the copy you emailed. In other words, you cannot take advantage of this time lag to continue working on the assignment. To do so will be considered academic dishonesty.

Take-Home Exam (25%)

The final exam will cover all course material, including lecture material and readings, from the entire semester. More information on this exam will be provided in class closer to the end of semester.

SCHEDULE

Please see the "LAWS 3001A – Course Schedule" on cuLearn.