Course Outline

COURSE: LAWS 3908A – Approaches in Legal Studies II

PREREQUISITES: LAWS 2908 and third-year Honours standing

TERM: Summer 2011

CLASS: Day & Time: Monday & Wednesday 6:00–9:00pm
Room: Please check with Carleton Central for current room location.

INSTRUCTOR: (CONTRACT) Zeina Bou-Zeid, PhD

CONTACT: Office: D580 Loeb
Office Hrs: Monday 5:00-6:00 & Wednesday 5:00-6:00
Email: Zeina_Bou-Zeid@carleton.ca

“Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must contact a coordinator at the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities to complete the necessary Letters of Accommodation. After registering with the PMC, make an appointment to meet and discuss your needs with me in order to make the necessary arrangements as early in the term as possible, but no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first test requiring accommodations. For further information, please see: http://www.carleton.ca/pmc/students/accom_policy.html. If you require accommodation for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodation to PMC by June 10, 2011 for Spring term exams and July 29, 2011 for Summer term exams.

For Religious and Pregnancy accommodations, please contact Equity Services, x. 5622 or their website: www.carleton.ca/equity

COURSE OBJECTIVE AND CONTENT

This course will focus on theoretically informed analysis, critical thinking, interdisciplinary approaches to legal research and the study of different interdisciplinary research methods and designs. The course will ask you to go beyond the study of traditional sources of law (cases & statutes), for a broader exploration of a legal topic.

The course theme is the experiences of immigrants and refugees. The course focuses on Canada, but will also include comparison with the immigration and refugee laws and policies of other countries. The following core themes are emphasized throughout the course: multiculturalism policies; citizenship theories; immigrant rights; the labour market experiences of migrant workers; discrimination & inequality; some gendered aspects and Canada’s response to refugees.

REQUIRED TEXTS

The required readings include articles and books placed on reserve in the library. The readings are located in print form. They are organized in a binder by class number. The readings are also available in electronic form on the Library RSV site (under 3908 Bou-Zeid).

Students should check WebCT regularly for course updates and assignments.
COURSE EVALUATION

Class Participation & Attendance - 10%
This class is structured around discussions and class participation. The success of this course depends on informed and lively student leadership and participation. Regular attendance in class is necessary, but not sufficient, to constitute class participation. You are absolutely expected to do the readings carefully before class and come prepared to discuss them. You will be expected to bring questions and contributions to each class. Your analysis of the readings should reflect a critical analysis of the materials and address problems you detect in the readings. The professor will be monitoring the level of class participation by each student throughout the course.

Two Critical Review Papers - 25% each
You are being asked to submit 2 critical review papers based on the readings for a particular class. Your analysis should go beyond mere summaries. Your critical review papers should include the key arguments or issues that you have identified in the class readings. The critical review papers will be between 5-6 pages (double-spaced).

Critical Review #1: Due (in class): July 18, 2011
This paper will be based on the readings from one the following classes: Class 2 to 4.

Critical Review #2: Due (in class): August 3, 2011
This paper will be based on the readings from one the following classes: Class 5 to 8.

Short Essay - 40%
You are being asked to complete a short essay. The essay format is short answer style questions. It will contain questions based on the readings from the course. The essay will be between 10-12 pages (double-spaced). Date Handed Out in Class: August 3, 2011.

Short Essay: Due (Law Dep. Drop Box by 4:00pm): August 15, 2011.

More detailed instructions for assignments will be provided in class.

ASSIGNMENTS

Any written work submitted must be typewritten, double-spaced, 12pt Times New Roman font with standard 1inch margins. All assignments must include a title page with the course code, your name and your student number and my name on it. Title pages, bibliographies and endnotes are not counted in calculating page length for an assignment.

All assignments must be completed in order to pass the course.

All assignments must be handed in at the Law Department office drop box by 4:00 pm on the due date or to me personally in class. Assignments will not be accepted by e-mail, posted on WebCT or under the door of my office.

Students must keep a hard copy of anything submitted for marking for 3 months after submission.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Late assignments will be marked down by one-half letter grade (e.g. B to B-, B- to C+) for each day the assignment is late. Assignments must be submitted within 7 days of the due date. If they are submitted after 7 days they will receive a grade of F.

Requests for an extension must be made to me prior to the due date and will only be considered if there is an extreme reason (requests must be accompanied by supporting documentation).
PLAGIARISM AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONAL OFFENCES

The University’s policy concerning plagiarism and other instructional offences is outlined in the Undergraduate Calendar. In particular, students should note that a student commits an instructional offence is he or she “submits substantially the same piece of work to two or more courses without the prior written permission of the instructors from all courses involved. Minor modifications and amendments, such as changes of phraseology in an essay or paper, do not constitute a significant and acceptable reworking of an assignment.” Students should also note that it is an instructional offense to commit plagiarism, which is using the words or thoughts of another person without expressly acknowledging it.

CLASS SCHEDULE & READINGS

Class 1. July 4  
Introduction and Course Overview
- Discussion of critical analysis & relationship of theory and method.
- Broad overview of course requirements and assignments.
- Broad overview of immigration & refugee law and policy in Canada.

Class 2. July 6  
Citizenship Theory & Migration

Class 3. July 11  
Group Rights & Migration

Class 4: July 13  
Narratives, National History & Migration
Class 5: July 18

Critical Review # 1 Due

Policy Research & Activists


Class 6: July 20

Feminist Perspectives & Sexuality Studies


Class 7: July 25

Racial Discrimination & Migration


Class 8: July 27

National Security & Migration


August 1: Civic Holiday (No Class or Office Hours)
Class 9: August 3

Critical Review # 2 Due

Ethnographic Research & Migration


Class 10: August 8

Qualitative Research (Interviews) & Migration


Class 11: August 10

Discourse Analysis & Migration


Class 12: August 15

Course Overview

Short Essay: Due at Law Department Drop Box 4:00pm (August 15)