

Course Outline

COURSE:	LAWS 4303E – Drugs, The User and The State
TERM:	WINTER 2019
PREREQUISITES:	LAWS 2908, 0.5 credit from LAWS 2301 or LAWS 2302 and Fourth-Year Honours standing
CLASS:	Day & Time: Mondays, 6:05pm - 8:55pm Room: Please check with Carleton Central for current room location
INSTRUCTOR: (CONTRACT)	Michael S. Purcell, B.A.(Hons.), J.D. Assistant Crown Attorney Ministry of the Attorney General
CONTACT:	Office: B442 Loeb Building (Contract Instructor’s Office) Office Hrs: By appointment only Telephone: Upon Request Email: msplitigation@gmail.com

CALENDAR COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course explores the state's attempts to control drugs and drug users by exploring different aspects of national and international drug control. The Canadian experience of drug control, viewed from different perspectives, will be explored within a broader socio-legal context.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course explores the legal relationship between those who consume, produce, supply and control drugs, both in Canada and abroad. We evaluate the efficacy of Canadian and international drug policies through comparison. In doing so, we will try to answer two fundamental questions: (1) what is the ultimate objective of drug control, and (2) how should we achieve it?

To answer these questions, we will trace the history of drug control in Canada, up to and including the present day. We are in the very fortunate position of witnessing the evolution of drug policy in real time. Many scholars argue that we are in the midst of a slow, but substantial shift in domestic and international drug policy that emphasizes harm reduction above all else. This shift follows what is widely perceived to be the failure of the “war on drugs”, which prioritized deterrence and denunciation. Whether this shift is temporary or permanent remains to be seen.

Please note: *Any views or opinions expressed during this course are personal to the Instructor and do not represent the views or opinions of the Ministry of the Attorney General, Crown Law Criminal, or the Government of Ontario.*

REQUIRED TEXTS

There are no required texts for this course. All readings will be posted to CuLearn.

EVALUATION

(All components must be completed in order to get a passing grade)

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.

PARTICIPATION/ ATTENDANCE	<p>This course is intended to promote critical thinking and the meaningful exchange of ideas. For that to happen, students are expected to complete the assigned readings. Students are encouraged to share their comments and opinions, but they should be relevant to the themes and subject-matter of the course, clearly articulated and substantiated.</p> <p>There are no right or wrong answers; however, an obviously unfamiliarity with the assigned readings and course material will result in the deduction of marks from your participation grade.</p> <p>Attendance will be taken each class. Absences and lateness will result in deductions from your participation grade.</p>	20%
FINAL PAPER OUTLINE	DUE: 6:30 p.m. IN CLASS on February 25, 2019 → Instructions are posted on cuLearn	20%
FINAL PAPER	DUE: 6:30 p.m. IN CLASS on April 8, 2019	60%

SCHEDULE**WEEK 1: January 7, 2019****COURSE INTRODUCTION**

- Review of course outline & expectations
- Overview of course themes
- Criminal law refresher

Please watch both of the following documentaries:

- 1) BBC Three's "The Rise of Fentanyl: Drug Addiction on the I-95 – Two Years On"
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KsaWpeCj98>
- 2) CTV's W5: "48 Hours" (Opioid Crisis), available online:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F1ojeXgyAu0>

WEEK 2: January 14, 2019

THE HISTORY OF DRUG POLICY & CRIMINAL LAW IN CANADA

WEEK 3: January 21, 2019

THE PRESENT AND FUTURE OF DRUG POLICY & CRIMINAL LAW IN CANADA

WEEK 4: January 28, 2019

INTERNATIONAL DRUG POLICIES

WEEK 5: February 4, 2019

SAFE INJECTION AS HARM REDUCTION

WEEK 6: February 11, 2019

SENTENCING CONSUMERS & TRAFFICKERS

WEEK 7: February 18, 2019

WINTER BREAK – NO CLASS

WEEK 8: February 25, 2019

GUEST LECTURE: POLICING CONSUMERS & TRAFFICKERS

PAPER OUTLINES DUE

WEEK 9: March 4, 2019

NO READINGS - OUTLINE REVIEW

WEEK 10: March 11, 2019

IMPACT OF THE WAR ON DRUGS

WEEK 11: March 18, 2019

GUEST SPEAKER: DRUG TREATMENT COURTS

WEEK 12: March 25, 2019

THE LEGALIZATION OF CANNABIS

WEEK 13: April 1, 2019

TO BE ANNOUNCED/MAKE-UP CLASS

WEEK 14: April 8, 2019

Paper due: 6:30 p.m. IN CLASS

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:

<https://carleton.ca/registrar/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](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/>