

Course Outline

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<b>COURSE:</b>	<b>LAWS 5002F – Law and Gender Relations</b>
<b>TERM:</b>	<b>FALL 2019</b>
<b>PREREQUISITES:</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>CLASS:</b>	<b>Day &amp; Time: Wednesdays 11:35am – 2:25pm</b> <b>Room: Please check with Carleton Central for current room location</b>
<b>INSTRUCTOR:</b>	<b>Dr. Megan Gaucher</b>
<b>CONTACT:</b>	<b>Office: Room D496 Loeb Building</b> <b>Office Hrs: Wednesdays 2:30pm – 4:00pm <u>OR</u> By Appointment (In-person, Skype or FaceTime)</b> <b>Telephone: 613-520-2600 x. 4207</b> <b>Email: Megan.Gaucher@carleton.ca</b>

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**CALENDAR COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Examines theoretical approaches informed by significance of gender to structure and operation of law. Concepts such as essentialism, difference, cultural determination, and social construction of gender relations examined in context of contemporary feminist debates. Focus on understanding and facility with feminist analysis and methodology.

**REQUIRED TEXTS**

All required texts can be purchased at Octopus Books (116 Third Avenue):

Maynard, Robyn. (2017) *Policing Black Lives: State Violence in Canada from Slavery to the Present*. Winnipeg: Fernwood Publishing. **(Also available on reserve at the Carleton Library)**

Craig, Elaine. (2018) *Putting Trials on Trial: Sexual Assault and the Failure of the Legal Profession*. Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press. **(Also available as an eBook on the Carleton Library Website)**

Spade, Dean. (2015) *Normal Life: Administrative Violence, Critical Trans-Politics and the Limits of Law (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition)*. Durham: Duke University Press.

Cannon, Martin. (2019) *Men, Masculinity and the Indian Act*. Vancouver: UBC Press.

Khan, Ummni. (2014) *Vicarious Kinks: S/M in the Socio-Legal Imaginary*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press. **(Also available as an eBook on the Carleton Library Website)**

**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	25%	N/A
Presentation	15%	Assigned Week
Critical Reviews (3)	30%	Chosen Weeks
Research Paper	30%	December 18 <sup>th</sup>

**Attendance/Participation (25%)**

Since this is a seminar, active participation is a key element. Minimal participation from students will make for a long three-hour seminar; therefore, while you will get marks for attendance, you will not get full participation marks just for showing up. Moreover, assessment of participation is based on quality, not quantity. It is important that your comments/questions reflect the course material and/or build on previous discussion. Therefore, by participation, I understand: (1) speaking in an informed way; (2) listening well, even to ideas you may disagree with; (3) respectfully building on others' contributions; and (4) keeping on topic. I recognize that not everyone feels comfortable participating in a large group, so I will provide some additional opportunities for participation. That being said, the bulk of your participation assessment will come from seminar discussion.

Remember, you cannot earn participation marks for missed seminars, so consistent attendance is important. I know that life happens and sometimes things come up that are out of our control – to accommodate this, I am giving each student **ONE** free absence. This means that you can miss a class without explanation and without penalty. This “get out of jail free” card can be used for any week **except for your presentation week**. If illness or other unavoidable issues cause you to miss multiple classes, you need to keep me advised of the situation and an accommodation plan may be considered.

**Presentation (15%)**

For the first 45-60 minutes of each seminar, two students will be responsible for working together to present the assigned material and lead the discussion. The sign-up sheet for presentations will be posted on cuLearn and will be on a first-come-first-serve basis.

Presentation must include the following components:

- Summary of the assigned chapters (e.g. main arguments, evidence, theoretical interventions, etc.)
- Critical review of the reading (e.g. strengths, weaknesses, thoughts on chosen theoretical framework/methodology, connection to the course/other readings in this course or other courses you've taken, connections to current events, etc.)
- Discussion questions (You can save these until the end or you can weave them through your presentation – make sure these are questions that will generate discussion rather than yes/no questions)

For these presentations, I encourage you to be creative. You are welcome to use multi-media (e.g. videos, music, images, etc.) so long as they are relevant to your presentation. The purpose of this assignment is to get your classmates engaged so think about tactics your professors have used (or you wish they had used) to accomplish this and apply them to your presentation.

**Critical Reviews (30%)**

You are required to write/submit a minimum of **three** critical reviews on books assigned for this course. Reviews are due in-class on the week **after** we have completed that book. Reviews should be 5-8 pages (double-spaced) and should identify/include the following:

- Central claims/arguments (e.g. What is the author arguing? What theoretical framework/methodology does the author use?)
- Central debates (e.g. How does the author back up their claims? What are the implications of the author's claims for our understanding of law and gender relations? How does the book speak to/disrupt concepts, themes, etc. discussed in class?)
- Strengths/limitations of the book

The purpose of these reviews is not just to summarize the book; rather, it is to critically engage with the author's arguments. To be clear – “critically engaging” does not mean you have to tear the book to shreds. If you have issues with the book, that's totally fine; but you can also agree with everything the author is saying and still critically engage with the author's arguments, theoretical/empirical choices, etc.

Reviews are due at the start of class. If you are unable to submit a review on a particular week, choose a different week. You can submit as many reviews as you like (there are five opportunities in total) and your best **three** commentaries will be counted.

**Research Paper (30%)**

You are required to submit a 20-25 page paper on a topic of your choosing within the realm of the course. Further information will be posted on cuLearn. This assignment must be uploaded on cuLearn by December 18<sup>th</sup>.

**SCHEDULE**

Please see the “LAWS 5002F – Course Schedule” on cuLearn.

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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:** 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: <https://carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/academic/students/>

**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: <https://carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/academic/students/>

**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](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 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). <https://carleton.ca/pmc/students/accommodations/>

### **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: <https://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:

<https://carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/academic/>

### **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/>