

Course Outline

COURSE:	LAWS 3305 B/HIST 3305 C – Crime and State in History
TERM:	Winter 2025
PREREQUISITES:	<i>For registrants in LAWS 3305B:</i> 1.0 credit in LAWS at the 2000 level, or 0.5 credit in LAWS at the 2000 level and 0.5 credit in HIST at the 2000 level <i>For registrants in HIST 3305C:</i> A 2000-level history course or third-year standing and 1.0 credit in history
CLASS:	Day & Time: Wednesday, 6:05pm-8:55pm Room: Please check Carleton Central for current Class Schedule. This course is taught in person in a regular classroom on campus.
INSTRUCTOR:	Joel Kropf
CONTACT:	Office Hrs: Wednesday, 10:45am-11:45am, on Zoom, or by appointment Email: JoelKropf@cunet.carleton.ca TAs: Ian Zoubek (IanZoubek@cmail.carleton.ca) Liam Stephen (LiamStephen@cmail.carleton.ca)
BRIGHTSPACE:	https://brightspace.carleton.ca/d2l/home/292200

CALENDAR COURSE DESCRIPTION

The history of the relationship between the criminal law system and society. Changing issues in the criminal law and the nature of institutional responses, covering medieval to early nineteenth-century England and nineteenth to early twentieth-century Canada.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will explore the changing nature of criminal justice over the past four centuries within the geographical area we now know as Canada. Many of the criminal laws, judicial structures, and penal practices in the settler societies established by France and Great Britain in northern North America stemmed from or reflected developments in the Old World, and we will therefore take note of a few important shifts that occurred in Britain or continental Europe. But most of our discussion will centre on events in Canada, which will themselves give us a sense of the major trends within the broader English-speaking world.

The most pivotal parts of our story arguably took place in the late eighteenth and the nineteenth century, with the adoption of British criminal law, the rise of the legal profession, the transition to imprisonment, the establishment of regular police forces, and so forth. However, the course will also

provide a brief taste of the intriguing early-modern French form of criminal justice employed in New France prior to the British conquest. Moreover, the later lectures will consider how such factors as juvenile justice, parole, and dangerous-offender legislation partly re-flavoured the state's approach to crime during the twentieth century. We will make a special effort throughout to pay attention not only to the practical and procedural logic of criminal justice, but also to the cultural norms and symbolic meanings to which it gave expression.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the semester, you will be able:

1. To discuss the nature and possible causes of broad changes that took place in criminal justice over the past four centuries, especially changes that produced the key components of our current criminal justice system, such as police forces, adversarial trials, prisons, and parole.
2. To use specific historical evidence from documents, articles, or lectures to make broader interpretive arguments. This can involve:
 - a) articulating a central question which you are trying to answer through your research, and which you will realistically be able to answer within the time you have available;
 - b) articulating a thesis that sums up the overarching point you want to make with the evidence you've found;
 - c) synthesizing evidence from several diverse sources to support your argument, as you either:
 - narrate what happened in the past, or
 - explain why it happened.
3. To evaluate articles and lectures by historians, by:
 - a) identifying the central argument being made, and
 - b) deciding whether the evidence being offered provides convincing support for that argument.
4. To show that you are learning to "get inside the head" of people from the past, by using bits and pieces of available evidence to:
 - a) imagine and express what people in the past thought or felt about the world.
 - b) discern the logic of practices with which we are unfamiliar today.

REQUIRED TEXTS

There is no required textbook or coursepack for this class. The required weekly readings will be accessed through links provided on the course Brightspace page. For a list of the readings assigned each week, see the provisional schedule on pages 5-10 of this course outline.

Costs of Educational Material

- Students are not required to purchase textbooks or other learning materials for this course.

EVALUATION

(All required components, including the final exam, 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: 10%

Reading responses: 25%

Research essay: 25%

Critical response assignment: 10%

Final Exam: 30%

1. Participation (10%):

On most days, roughly an hour of our class will be devoted to discussion of the assigned readings, as outlined on the provisional schedule. Your participation mark will be based partly on your attendance of these discussions, and partly on the quality of your participation in the discussion.

2. Reading responses (25%):

Each week, students will submit a 300- to 500-word written response to the readings assigned for that week. Your response must answer the question listed for that day in the provisional schedule on the following pages of this course outline. For this assignment, you should not do outside research; you should simply develop your answer based on what you see in the readings themselves. You must submit the response electronically on the course Brightspace page by 6:00 pm on Wednesday.

There are ten discussions planned for the semester; you are required to submit a reading response for **five** of these. However, the response for week 9, due on March 12, will be twice as long (600-1,000 words) as a normal response, and will count as two of the required five responses. If you choose to complete more than five responses in all, I will use your best five marks to calculate your grade. Please note that you **must** submit at least five in order to pass this course.

3. Research essay (25%):

The major assignment for the term is an 8- to 10-page research essay. This will be due at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, March 5. You will write on a topic of your choice, but you must clear your proposed topic with the instructor before proceeding with the essay. As a preliminary step, on Wednesday, February 5, you will be required to submit a very brief proposal, consisting of 1) a one-line statement of your general topic, 2) the specific question that your essay will try to answer, and 3) the titles of two of the articles or books that you plan to use as sources. For further details on the essay, see pages 10-11 of this course outline.

4. Critical response assignment (10%):

Along with your research essay, you will be required to submit a 2- or 3-page response to your own paper. For this second part of the assignment, you will imagine that you are an individual involved in the historical practice, event, or phenomenon that the essay has analyzed, and you will write what you think that person might have said if he or she were to have read the essay. The response will provide that individual's assessment of your analysis. The response is due at the same time as the research essay, at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, March 5. For further details on this assignment, see pages 11-13 of this course outline.

5. Final exam (30%):

The final exam for this course will be an on-campus, sit-down examination which the university will schedule at some point in its regular exam period (April 11-26, 2025). It will probably occur outside of regular class time (and could be on a Friday evening, Saturday or Sunday). The exam will include both paragraph answers and an essay, and will be based primarily upon the lectures, although you should also be ready to demonstrate what you have learned from the class discussions and the course readings.

***Optional bonus assignment:**

If you like, you may complete an optional written reflection for bonus marks. In this assignment, you will identify something taught in this course which seems to be at odds with what you have learned in another university or college course, either this spring or in a previous semester. You may choose any type of contrast between the two courses. Perhaps they created contrasting portrayals of what the past was like, or about how the criminal justice system works, or about how human behaviour should be understood, or even about the way academic assignments should be carried out.

Write a 300- to 500-word reflection on the discrepancy between the viewpoints conveyed by the two courses on the issue in question. Describe the difference between what was taught (or assumed) in the two classes, and explain why you think they offered conflicting ideas. Indicate which course provided the more accurate or useful perspective, in your estimation, and explain why you come to that conclusion.

The last possible date to submit this assignment will be **Tuesday, April 8**. If you choose to complete it, you will receive a bonus mark (up to 2% of the final course grade, depending on the quality of the reflection). Note that you will not get a stronger grade for endorsing what this course has taught, nor will you get a weaker mark for criticizing it. You will have the best chance of getting a good mark if you express your opinion frankly, while demonstrating that you understand what was taught and have thought about it carefully.

Required Assignments:

Please note that students **must** submit **all** required assignments (the **research essay**, the **critical response**, **five** weekly reading responses, and the **final exam**) in order to pass this course.

LATE PENALTIES AND REQUESTS FOR EXTENSIONS

Late essays and critical response assignments will be subject to a penalty of 2% per day, up to a maximum of 15%.

The granting of extensions is determined by the instructor, who will confirm whether an extension is granted and how long the extension will be. For requests for short-term extensions, please complete the form at the following link and submit it to the instructor prior to the assignment due date: <https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-consideration-coursework-form/>.

Final exam deferrals must be applied for at the Registrar's Office. Please view the following link for more information about how to apply for a deferral: <https://carleton.ca/registrar/deferral/>

For more information regarding academic consideration for short-term incapacitation (illness, injury, or extraordinary circumstances beyond a student's control), please visit the following link: <https://students.carleton.ca/course-outline/#academic-consideration-for-short-term-incapacitation>

PROVISIONAL SCHEDULE

(Note: the instructor reserves the right to revise the lecture topics, discussion topics, readings, or questions as the term progresses.)

January 6 – Winter Term Begins**PART I: EARLY-MODERN FRENCH JUSTICE****Week 1: January 8**

Introduction

Lecture: Violence, Pain, Honour, and Law in the Early Modern European World

Week 2: January 15

Lecture: A Place of Honour: Crime and Punishment in New France

Discussion: Attitudes toward violence and pain

- Readings:
 - Excerpts from the *Jesuit Relations*, from Canadiana Online (**links provided on the course Brightspace page**). For each selection, the Brightspace link takes you to the first page in the excerpt; you will then have to use the arrow buttons at the top left of the image to click to the following pages. Note that these pages alternate between French text and English translation; you are of course required only to read the English text, which appears on every second page.
 - Volume 5, pp. 219-221 (Father Paul Le Jeune, 1633)
 - Volume 13, pp. 37-83 (Father François Joseph Le Mercier, 1637)
 - Volume 47, pp. 303-305 (Father Jerome Lalemant, 1663)
 - Volume 51, pp. 205-209 (Father François Le Mercier, 1667-1668)
 - Paul Friedland, “Beyond Deterrence: Cadavers, Effigies, Animals and the Logic of Executions in Premodern France,” *Historical Reflections/Réflexions Historiques* 29, no. 2 (Summer 2003): 295-317 (**link on course Brightspace page**)
- Question: How would you describe the Jesuit missionaries’ attitude toward violence and toward pain? How (if at all) might the Friedland article help us to understand their attitudes?

PART II: THE ERA OF BRITISH JUSTICE**Week 3: January 22**

Lecture: A Legitimate Government? Criminal Justice under British Rule from the Conquest to the Rebellions

Discussion: Criminal justice in eighteenth-century England

- Readings (**links provided on course Brightspace page**):
 - Douglas Hay, “Property, Authority and the Criminal Law,” in Douglas Hay, Peter Linebaugh, John G. Rule, E.P. Thompson, and Cal Winslow, *Albion’s Fatal Tree: Crime*

and Society in Eighteenth-Century England (London: Allen Lane, 1975), 17-63

- John H. Langbein, "Albion's Fatal Flaws," *Past and Present*, no. 98 (February 1983): 96-120
- Question: Which one of these two essays is more convincing? In your answer, provide a one- to three-sentence summary of the thesis of each essay (in your own words), and explain which one gets closest to the truth, in your estimation.

Week 4: January 29

Lecture: Simon Says "Build a Prison": The Transition to Incarceration

Discussion: The creation of Kingston Penitentiary

- Readings (**links provided on course Brightspace page**):
 - "Sundry Documents: Report of Select Committee on Expediency of Erecting a Penitentiary," *Appendix to Journal of the House of Assembly of Upper Canada* (1831) ([Toronto: J. Carey, 1831]), 211-212, Canadiana Online (the link on the Brightspace page takes you to the first page in the document; you will then have to use the arrow buttons at the top left of the image to click to the following page)
 - "The Penitentiary," *Kingston Chronicle & Gazette*, December 14, 1833
 - A Tradesman, letter to the editor, *Kingston Chronicle & Gazette*, December 21, 1833
 - "For the Chronicle and Gazette" (proceedings of a public meeting), *Kingston Chronicle & Gazette*, February 14, 1835
 - A Plain Man, letter to the editor, *Kingston Chronicle & Gazette*, June 18, 1836
 - Scraper, letter to the editor, *Kingston Chronicle & Gazette*, June 29, 1836
 - Charles Duncombe, "Report of Commissioners on the Subject of Prisons, Penitentiaries, Etc." *Appendix to the Journal of the House of Assembly of Upper Canada of the Second Session of the Twelfth Provincial Parliament, Session 1836, Vol. 1, No. 71, pp. 1-5*, Canadiana Online (the link on the Brightspace page takes you to the first page in the excerpt; you will then have to use the arrow buttons at the top left of the image to click to the following pages)
- Question: Which one of the following options best describes why Kingston Penitentiary was created?
 - 1) because Canada needed prisons to make its justice system work better
 - 2) because the authorities wanted to reform criminals
 - 3) because Canadian leaders wanted to make money.

Week 5: February 5

6:00 pm, Wednesday, February 5: Research essay topic proposal due

Lecture: From Local to Legal: Trials, Lawyers, and Juries

Discussion: Public executions in the mid-nineteenth century

- Readings (**PDF provided on course Brightspace page**):
 - "Execution of Thomas Corner at Milton," *The Globe*, December 2, 1858
 - "The Wellington-Street and Georgina Murders," *The Globe*, March 5, 1859
 - "Execution of Dr. King at Cobourg," *The Globe*, June 10, 1859
 - "The Cant of Executions," *Montreal Witness, Commercial Review and Family Newspaper*,

July 2, 1859

- Question: Based on these documents, how would you A) describe and B) explain the behaviour of 1) the spectators and 2) the convicts at public executions?

Week 6: February 12

Lecture: The Rule of Law? Establishing Dominion over Indigenous Nations in the West

Discussion: The dispute over Louis Riel's sanity

- Readings (**links provided on course Brightspace page**):
 - Louis Riel, "Address to the Jury," in *The Collected Writings of Louis Riel, Volume 3: 5 June-16 November 1885*, ed. Thomas Flanagan, 523-539 (Edmonton: University of Alberta Press, 1985)
 - C.K. Clarke, "A Critical Study of the Case of Louis Riel" (part 1), *Queen's Quarterly* 12, no. 4 (April, 1905): 379-388
 - C.K. Clarke, "A Critical Study of the Case of Louis Riel" (part 2), *Queen's Quarterly* 13, no. 1 (July, 1905): 14-26
- Question: In these documents we encounter several different opinions about whether or not Louis Riel was insane, partly because different people used different definitions of insanity. Articulate two or three of the definitions that people appear to have had in mind; explain which one of those definitions you find most believable, and why.

February 17-21: Winter Break – No Classes

Week 7: February 26

Lecture: An Orderly Dominion? Policing Public Disorder from the Rebellions to the Red Scare

Discussion: The function of police forces

- Readings (**links provided on course Brightspace page**):
 - "Trouble among the Laborers," *Daily Morning News* [Saint John, New Brunswick], June 14, 1870, p. 2
 - "The Police Department," *The Globe*, May 18, 1886, p. 2
 - C.S. Clark, *Of Toronto the Good. A Social Study. The Queen City of Canada as It Is* (Montreal: Toronto Publishing Company, 1898), pp. 24-26, CIHM no. 00659, Canadiana Online, <https://www.canadiana.ca/view/oocihm.00659/35?r=0&s=2>
 - John Wilson Murray [with Victor Speer], *Memoirs of a Great Detective: Incidents in the Life of John Wilson Murray* (London: William Heinemann, 1904), pp. 60-69
 - "City's Wife Deserters Paid Police \$13,000 in Alimony," *Toronto Star Weekly*, May 30, 1914, p. 9
 - S.B. Steele, *Forty Years in Canada: Reminiscences of the Great North-West with Some Account of His Service in South Africa by Colonel S.B. Steele, C.B., M.V.O., Late of the N.W.M. Police and the S. African Constabulary*, ed. Mollie Glen Niblett (Toronto: McClelland, Goodchild & Stewart Limited, 1915), pp. 238-261
 - RCMP Intelligence Bulletin No. 5, "Notes on the Work of the C.I.B. Division for the Two Weeks Ending 31st December, 1919," in *R.C.M.P. Security Bulletins: The Early Years, 1919-1929*, ed. by Gregory S. Kealey and Reg Whitaker (St. John's: Canadian Committee on Labour History, 1994), pp. 23-24

- Question: In light of these readings, which one of the following is the best description of the main reason why the Canadian state has created and maintained police forces?
 - 1) to prevent underprivileged people or difficult individuals from bothering affluent citizens
 - 2) to protect vulnerable people from harm
 - 3) to make the rabble behave themselves
 - 4) to ensure that no one would rebel against the government.

Week 8: March 5

6:00 pm, Wednesday, March 5: Research essay and critical response assignment due

Lecture: Drunk with Money: Vice, Organized Crime, and the International Border

Discussion: Attitudes toward gambling

- Readings (**links provided on course Brightspace page**):
 - “The Surroundings of the Exhibition,” *Montreal Daily Witness*, September 15, 1880, p. 3
 - Commentary on gambling in *The Manitoban*, June 1892, pp. 215-216, Canadiana Online
 - “Benevolent Games of Chance,” *Saturday Night*, November 26, 1927, p. 26
 - Speech by J.S. Woodsworth, *House of Commons Debates*, 17th Parl., 5th Sess., Vol. 3 (22 May 1934), pp. 3297-3299
 - Ted Farah, “Bingo Sweeps from Halifax to Vancouver,” *Vancouver Sun*, February 12, 1937, pp. 1, 3
 - Jacques G. Francoeur, “‘Pineapple’ Variety Bomb Tossing May Set Off Gang War, Police Say,” *Montreal Gazette*, July 20, 1946, p. 11
- Question: Describe Canadians’ attitudes toward gambling during the half-century from which this week’s readings are drawn.

Week 9: March 12

Lecture: Home Remedies: Jails, Prisons, and Juvenile Institutions in Victorian and Edwardian Canada

Discussion: The experiences of offenders and prison staffers

- Readings (**links provided on course Brightspace page**):
 - Jack Black, *You Can’t Win*, 2nd ed., intro. William S. Burroughs (Edinburgh and San Francisco: AK Press/Nabat, 2000; originally published 1926), 177-190
 - Velma Demerson, *Incorrigible* (Waterloo, ON: Wilfrid Laurier University Press, 2004), 51-61
 - Harvey Blackstock, *Bitter Humour: About Dope, Safe Cracking and Prisons* (Toronto: Burns & MacEachern Limited, 1967), 233-256
 - J. Michael Yates, *Line Screw: My Twelve Riotous Years Working Behind Bars in Some of Canada’s Toughest Jails* (Toronto: McClelland & Stewart, 1993), 25-45
 - Rose Ricciardelli, *Surviving Incarceration: Inside Canadian Prisons* (Waterloo, ON: Wilfrid Laurier University Press, 2013), 21-26
 - OPTIONAL recommended reading: Ted McCoy, “Bridget’s Life Sentence,” in *Four Unruly Women: Stories of Incarceration and Resistance from Canada’s Most Notorious Prison* (Vancouver: UBC Press, 2019), 16-41
- Question: In your estimation, which one of the above readings sheds the most light on the

history of crime or criminal justice? In explaining why you consider that reading most revealing, you should compare or contrast it with the other readings. (**Note:** today's written response should be **twice as long** [600-1,000 words] as usual. It will count as **two** of your required five responses for the course.)

PART III: TWENTIETH-CENTURY DEPARTURES

Week 10: March 19

Lecture: A Long, Loose Leash? Juvenile Justice, Probation, and Parole

Discussion: Parole and mandatory supervision

- Readings (**links provided on course Brightspace page**):
 - T. George Street, "Parole as a Social Control," *Canadian Journal of Corrections* 7, no. 1 (January 1965): 5-7
 - W.R. Outerbridge, "The Tyranny of Treatment ...?" *Canadian Journal of Corrections* 10, no. 2 (April 1968): 378-387
 - Mac Haig, "Crippling the Long Arm of the Law," *Maclean's* 94, no. 49 (December 7, 1981): 10
 - John Hay, with Malcolm Gray, "A Mandate for Supervision," *Maclean's* 95, no. 46 (November 15, 1982): 30
 - Graham Stewart, "Mandatory Supervision: Politics and People," *Canadian Journal of Criminology* 25, no. 1 (January 1983): 97-103
 - Ruth Morris, "What to Do with Dangerous Offenders," *Canadian Dimension* 23, no. 2 (March 1989): 6-7
- Question: Which one of the following options is the best way to describe Canadians' attitudes toward prison and parole in the second half of the twentieth century? Provide evidence to support your answer.
 - 1) They thought prison did not allow the state to control criminals thoroughly enough, and they wanted to find a new means of more thorough control.
 - 2) They thought prison was pernicious, and wanted to find a more humane form of punishment.
 - 3) They thought parole was too lenient, and wanted to use imprisonment more often.

Week 11: March 26

Lecture: Violence, Death, and Bureaucracy: The Abolition of the Death Penalty and the Creation of Dangerous-Offender Legislation

Discussion: Televised portrayals of convicts and the wrongfully convicted

- Broadcasts to watch (**links provided on course Brightspace page**):
 - "Steven Truscott: His Word against History," *The Fifth Estate*, CBC Television, aired March 29, 2000, <https://www.cbc.ca/player/play/2647922641>
 - Bob McKeown, "My Friend the Bank Robber," *The Fifth Estate*, CBC Television, directed by Oleh J. Rumak, aired March 25, 2011, <https://gem.cbc.ca/media/the-fifth-estate/s36e22>
- Question: If you showed these two *Fifth Estate* episodes to a group of Canadians today, which one do you think would be more likely to alter viewers' existing assumptions about crime or

criminal justice? In the course of explaining your answer, you should provide a one-sentence summary of the main point that you think each documentary was trying to make.

Week 12: April 2

Lecture: The Era of Rehabilitative Corrections and Its Aftermath

April 8 - Last Day of Winter Term Classes

Formally scheduled exam period – April 11-26, 2025

POLICY ON IMPERMISSIBILITY OF SUBMITTING SAME WORK MORE THAN ONCE, IMPERMISSIBILITY OF COLLABORATIVE WORK, AND IMPERMISSIBILITY OF USING GENERATIVE AI

Please note that:

- Your reading responses, essay, and critical response must be documents written for this course. You may **not** hand in assignments that you have already submitted for another course, nor may you copy-and-paste chunks of text from papers you have completed for another class.
- You must write your reading responses, essay, and critical response yourself; you may **not** ask classmates, family members, or anyone else to write or rewrite them for you.
- In this course, you may **not** use generative AI tools (such as ChatGPT) to write your assignments, nor to write part of an assignment or come up with ideas for an assignment.

RESEARCH ESSAY

The major assignment for the term is an 8- to 10-page research essay, written on a topic of your choice. Any topic related to the history of criminal law or justice is potentially fair game: you could write about the history of piracy, the life of a particular criminal, the history of gun control, the history of fingerprinting, the unfolding of a specific trial, or any number of other subjects. Think broadly and choose something in which you are genuinely interested. Your subject does not necessarily have to relate to Canada; you may want to write about another country instead. However, you must clear your proposed topic with the instructor before proceeding with the essay. As a preliminary step, on **Wednesday, February 5**, you will be required to submit a very short proposal, consisting of 1) a one-line statement of your general topic, 2) the specific question that your essay will try to answer, and 3) the titles of two of the articles or books that you plan to use as sources.

Your essay itself should draw on eight or more scholarly sources. If the topic on which you wish to write seems obscure and you doubt that there will be eight relevant sources available, speak with me about it—do not automatically rule out the topic if it interests you.

Please note that you may not submit an essay which you have submitted for another course. Your essay must be a new paper written for this class.

As in other university essays, it is essential that you make a clear argument, stating your thesis crisply near the beginning of the essay and developing your argument in a logical manner throughout the body of the paper. Avoid making a trite argument: your thesis should be debatable in some respect, or should at least tell readers something that they do not already know.

The essay is due on Brightspace at **6:00 pm on Wednesday, March 5**, and is worth **25 percent** of your final grade. It should be 8-10 pages long, double-spaced, with 12-point font and 1-inch margins (i.e. it should be 2,250-3,000 words in length, not including the bibliography). You must follow the usual scholarly requirements for citing your sources. I would prefer that you use footnotes or endnotes, formatted in accordance with the Canadian Guide to Uniform Legal Citation or the Chicago Manual of Style. However, if most courses in your major use a different citation system (e.g. APA or MLA), then you may use that instead. Please note, though, that your citations must include the page number(s) in the source from which you are drawing the information (even if the citation style [e.g. APA] does not normally require that). Whether you use footnotes or in-text citations, you must provide a bibliography. Make sure to include your name, your student number, the course number/section letter, and the date of submission on the title page.

The following descriptions provide a general sense of the criteria that will be used to grade the paper:

- **A** — An “A” essay has a clear, interesting, and debatable thesis, smoothly stated at some point near the beginning of the paper. The discussion throughout the essay remains focused on proving the thesis, offering a large amount of relevant, specific evidence drawn from an ample number of scholarly sources. The student provides insightful analysis, the argument unfolds logically, and all the writing flows smoothly, with no (or very few) errors in spelling, grammar, or expression. Readers can understand the argument and each supporting point easily on their first pass through the essay.
- **B** — A “B” essay has a clear thesis statement that sums up the argument actually provided in the body of the essay. The essay is generally well organized but might require a small amount of restructuring. The paper provides a satisfactory amount of specific evidence and cites an adequate number of sources, but there may be some room for improvement in either the research or the analysis. Although the writing is competent, it may contain some awkward wording or a limited number of misspellings and grammatical errors.
- **C** — A “C” essay attempts to make an argument, but the thesis statement provided near the beginning might be unclear, or might not fully match what the body of the essay actually argues. There may be significant problems in the organization of the paper. Although the essay provides some specific evidence to support the thesis, the research may be too limited, and the connection between the evidence and the thesis may not always be apparent. There might be a significant amount of awkward wording or a large number of grammatical and spelling errors.
- **D** — A “D” essay does not satisfactorily fulfill the aims of the assignment. There are severe shortcomings in the argument, the evidence, the research, or the writing, or the essay in some other way fails to measure up to normal expectations.

CRITICAL RESPONSE ASSIGNMENT

At the same time that you submit your research essay (**6:00 pm, Wednesday, March 5**), you will also be required to hand in a 2- or 3-page response to your own paper. For this second part of the assignment, you will imagine that you are an individual involved in the historical practice, event, or phenomenon that the essay has analyzed, and you will write what you think that person might have said if he or she were to have read the essay. The response will provide that individual’s assessment of your analysis. Would she agree with the essay? Would he feel that it left out the most important part of the story?

Would she try to clear up something that she perceived as a misunderstanding? Would he find part of the essay incomprehensible? Would she be annoyed? Amused? Indifferent? Would he be grateful that finally, after all these years, someone has taken his side? Would she cite another event in her life to explain why she acted as she did? These are some of the questions you could potentially consider, although you have wide leeway to take this in whatever direction you think best.

For instance, suppose your essay was about a murder case in which the accused was found guilty and sentenced to death, but in which Prime Minister Wilfrid Laurier used the royal prerogative of mercy to cancel the death sentence and send the offender to prison instead. You might choose to write your response from the perspective of Laurier, explaining what he thinks about the essay. Or you might instead assume the vantage point of one of the other people involved in the story—the offender, the judge, the newspaper reporter, the offender’s daughter, or some other relevant individual.

If you discuss one or more specific people in the course of your essay, then you should probably write your response from the perspective of one of these historical individuals. However, depending on your topic, it is possible that the essay may not discuss any specific person from the most relevant group. For example, if you write about the prosecution of vagrants in the nineteenth century, you might not know any of these vagrants’ names. In that case, you may invent a name/persona and write as if you were one of these homeless people. At the top of the response, you should include a title that identifies the person in whose name it is written (e.g. “Response by Wilfrid Laurier, Prime Minister,” or “Response by Isaac Galway, Canal Labourer,” or “Response by Mary Haggerty, of the Kingston Ladies’ Benevolent Society”). If that individual is not mentioned in your essay, use a footnote in the response to indicate whether he or she is a real or fictitious person. Either way, whether you choose a real or invented individual, write from his or her perspective in the first person (e.g. “I, Mary Haggerty, had quite a laugh when I read this essay about my life ...”).

In most cases the response should be written from the standpoint of someone who lived during the events discussed in your essay, but there is one partial exception. If your essay is about something that occurred in the twenty-first century (e.g. in 2019), your critical response must nevertheless be written from some point in the twentieth century (i.e. no later than 1999). For instance, suppose your essay was about a trial in 2015 involving the Toronto defence attorney Marie Henein. You might choose to make Henein the author of the critical response, as if she were writing it early in her career in the mid-1990s, illustrating how she would have responded to your essay if she read it at that earlier point in her life.

The purpose of this exercise is to:

1. practice thinking critically about your own perspective
2. imagine, with the aid of the historical knowledge that you are gaining, how the world might have looked to someone living at a different point in time
3. exercise creativity.

Point number 2 above is the most challenging bit. In writing the response, you will need to be mindful of the customs and assumptions that were prevalent in that particular historical period (the late nineteenth or early twentieth century, in the case of the Laurier example). You will have learned about some of those customs and ideas through the secondary sources that you use for your essay, as well as through the class lectures and discussions. Your job is to write a response which conveys what that kind of person living in that period of history might have thought.

Use normal citation practices to indicate the source of your ideas and to demonstrate that you know what you are talking about. If you have a reference from a primary or secondary source that would support (or help to explain) a statement you make in your response, then you should cite that source in a footnote. For instance, suppose your response was written from the perspective of Wilfrid Laurier and included the following statement: “There was nothing out of the ordinary about my decision to commute MacTavish’s sentence. After all, we have been recommending clemency to His Excellency the Governor General in nearly every third case.” If you made this statement because one of the articles you read said that the royal prerogative of mercy was exercised in 32 percent of capital cases in the first decade of the twentieth century, then you should provide a footnote citing this article. Also, if you do not think the instructor will understand how a particular statement in the response reflects the mind-set typical of the historical period in question, then you may explain your reasoning in a footnote, if you wish.

Depending on your topic, however, the research for the essay may not have provided much specific evidence about how people of that time would have thought or felt about the issue under discussion. In that case, you will simply need to make your own best guess as you write the response, and you may not have any supporting references to cite. That is alright; the response is necessarily an imaginative and at least partially speculative exercise, and it is meant to give you a chance to think and write creatively.

Your response will be graded primarily on the basis of the following criteria:

1. Have you demonstrated that you understand (or have you made a clear attempt to understand) how someone living during the historical period in question would likely have thought about the topic discussed in the essay?
2. Have you shown creativity?
3. Is the response well written? (Note: you do not have to write the response in an academic tone; you may certainly use an informal style or idiomatic language if that is appropriate for the personality from whose perspective you are writing. However, regardless of what style you use, you are expected to craft the writing well, rather than being sloppy [e.g. avoid needless typos].)

The response is worth **10 percent** of your final grade.

Winter 2025 Sessional Dates and University Closures	
<i>Please find a full list of important academic dates on the calendar website:</i> https://calendar.carleton.ca/academicyear/	
January 6, 2025	Winter term begins.
January 17, 2025	Last day for registration and course changes (including auditing) in winter courses.
January 31, 2025	Last day to withdraw from full winter courses and the winter portion of fall/winter courses with a full fee adjustment.
February 17-21, 2025	Winter break, no classes.
March 15, 2025	Last day for academic withdrawal from winter courses.
March 25, 2025	Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade, in winter term or fall/winter undergraduate courses, before the official April final examination period.
April 8, 2025	Winter term ends.
	Last day of winter and fall/winter classes.
	Last day for final take-home examinations to be assigned.
April 9-10, 2025	No classes or examinations take place.
April 11-26, 2025	Final examinations in winter and fall/winter courses will be held.
April 18, 2025	Statutory holiday. University closed.
April 26, 2025	All final take-home examinations are due on this day, with the exception of those conforming to the examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar.

UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENTAL POLICIES

PLAGIARISM

The University Academic Integrity Policy defines plagiarism as “*presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.*” This 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, artworks, laboratory reports, research results, calculations and the results of calculations, diagrams, constructions, computer reports, computer code/software, material on the internet and/or conversations.

Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- any submission prepared in whole or in part, by someone else, including the unauthorized use of generative AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT);
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, paraphrased material, algorithms, formulae, scientific or mathematical concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings without appropriate acknowledgement;
- submitting a computer program developed in whole or in part by someone else, with or without modifications, as one’s own; and
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s work and/or failing to use quotations marks.

Plagiarism is a serious offence that cannot be resolved directly by the course’s instructor. The Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of “F” for the course.

STATEMENT ON STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH

As a University student you may experience a range of mental health challenges that significantly impact your academic success and overall well-being. If you need help, please speak to someone. There are numerous resources available both on- and off-campus to support you. For more information, please consult <https://wellness.carleton.ca/>

Emergency Resources (on and off campus):

- <https://wellness.carleton.ca/get-help-now/>

Carleton Resources:

- Mental Health and Wellbeing: <https://carleton.ca/wellness/>
- Health & Counselling Services: <https://carleton.ca/health/>
- Paul Menton Centre: <https://carleton.ca/pmc/>
- Academic Advising Centre (AAC): <https://carleton.ca/academicadvising/>
- Centre for Student Academic Support (CSAS): <https://carleton.ca/csas/>
- Equity & Inclusivity Communities: <https://carleton.ca/equity/>

Off Campus Resources:

- Distress Centre of Ottawa and Region: (613) 238-3311 or TEXT: 343-306-5550, <https://www.dcottawa.on.ca/>
- Mental Health Crisis Service: (613) 722-6914, 1-866-996-0991, <http://www.crisisline.ca/>
- Good2Talk: 1-866-925-5454, <https://good2talk.ca/>
- The Walk-In Counselling Clinic: <https://walkincounselling.com>

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

Carleton is committed to providing academic accessibility for all individuals. You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. The accommodation request processes, including information about the Academic Consideration Policy for Students in Medical and Other Extenuating Circumstances, are outlined on the Academic Accommodations website (students.carleton.ca/course-outline).

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows.

Pregnancy Obligation and Family-Status Related Accommodations

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 about the accommodation policy, visit the [Equity and Inclusive Communities \(EIC\)](#) website.

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, please go to: <https://carleton.ca/equity/focus/discrimination-harassment/religious-spiritual-observances/>.

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 for a formal evaluation.

You can find the Paul Menton Centre online at: <https://carleton.ca/pmc/>

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).

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 where 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/equity/sexual-assault-support-services>

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. Read more here: <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>.

For more information on academic accommodation, please visit: <https://students.carleton.ca/services/accommodation/>.

Academic Consideration for Medical and Other Extenuating Circumstances

Due to medical and other extenuating circumstances, students may occasionally be unable to fulfill the academic requirements of their course(s) in a timely manner. The University supports the academic development of students and aims to provide a fair environment for students to succeed academically. Medical and/or other extenuating circumstances are circumstances that are beyond a student's control, have a significant impact on the student's capacity to meet their academic obligations, and could not have reasonably been prevented.

Students must contact the instructor(s) as soon as possible, and normally no later than 24 hours after the submission deadline for course deliverables. If not satisfied with the instructor's decision, students can conduct an "informal appeal" to the Chair of the department within three (3) working days of an instructor's decision. We have created a webform specifically for appeals to the Chair, which can be found here: <https://carleton.ca/law/application-for-review-of-refusal-to-provide-academic-consideration/>. *Note: This form only applies to LAWS courses and is not the same as a formal appeal of grade.* More information about the academic consideration can be found [here](#).