

Course Outline

Course:	LAWS 4204B – Legal Issues in eCommerce
Term:	Winter 2023
Prerequisites:	LAWS 2908, LAWS 2201, LAWS 2202 and fourth-year Honours standing
Class:	Day & Time: Thursdays 6:05 pm to 8:55 pm
	Room: St. Patrick’s Building, room 415
Instructor:	Stephen Waxman BA (Hon) LLB
Contact:	Office: Contact via email
	Office Hrs: By appointment
	Telephone: 613-286-2788
	Email: stephenwaxman@cunet.ca
	OR
	stephen.h.waxman@gmail.com

CALENDAR COURSE DESCRIPTION

An examination of selected legal topics relevant to the conduct of electronic commerce. Topics include types of regulation, government support, jurisdiction challenges, contract disputes and consumer protection. Court and alternative dispute resolution policy of Domain Names challenges are also included.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this course is to address legal issues in E-Commerce from a legal, economic, political and regulatory perspective. The students will be exposed to contract law issues and

how the implementation of this new approach has affected our way of life. The course will also address important privacy and sociological issues which impact modern society. This course will expose students to the issue of how e-commerce has affected our way of life.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Legal Issues in Electronic Commerce, R.L. Campbell, Fourth Edition, available in CU Bookstore.

Students can either opt for curbside pick-up or order from www.carletonshop.ca. The textbooks will be received within 2 business days anywhere within Canada.

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.

1. Essay (45% - Due Thursday, April 6, 2023)

Students will write an essay on a topic agreed upon by the instructor. The instructor will discuss in class a range of possible essay topics. The paper will be between 3000 and 3500 words (12-15 double spaced typed pages). Maximum length is 3500 words or approximately 15 double spaced typed pages. Penalty: The marking of the assignments will be in letter grades. Late assignments will be penalized at the rate of ½ full letter grade per day (e.g. original mark B: one day late B-, two days late C etc.). The paper should include a cover sheet, which should include the title of your paper, your name and student number. Please ensure that your paper is securely fastened. Do not use paper clips. Do not use plastic or other covers. Quality of expression is essential. Care must be taken to ensure proper spelling, grammar and style, as each will be taken into account in assigning a mark. Use headings for each section of your paper. Include a table of contents, with page numbers, for each section of your paper. The title should accurately reflect the subject matter of your paper. The introduction should include a position statement which is then explored in the paper. The introduction should define your topic and indicate the problem to be addressed. The body of the paper should include analysis, and demonstrate that you have done research and reading including course materials and other publications. Possible reform options should be explored. A conclusion which concisely and cogently summarizes your discussion is invaluable. Proper footnoting and bibliography are required. You may use any commonly accepted style.

Note that there are Instructional Offences: Assignments must be original. It is an instructional

offence for any student to copy the work of another student or to submit work that is not his or her own. In relying on the ideas of others, it is important to acknowledge that you are doing so. This does not apply merely when you are paraphrasing or quoting the work of an author, but also when you are using your own words to describe the ideas of others. The onus is on each student to retain a copy of her or his assignment until the graded assignment is returned. This will avoid the risk of an assignment being lost.

2. Presentation (25%)

Each student is responsible for making a presentation of 15-20 minutes before the class based on the subject matter of the essay. The presentation will outline the main issues raised in the paper and the student must be prepared to address any questions posed as a result of the exercise.

3. Participation (10%)

Students will be graded for their participation in class.

4. Outline (20% - Due Friday, February 17, 2023)

Each student is required to submit an outline regarding the subject matter of their paper. The outline should describe in general the paper to be researched and submitted at the end of the term, and should not be more than 3 pages single spaced.

LATE PENALTIES AND REQUESTS FOR EXTENSIONS

Late assignments will be penalized at the rate of ½ full letter grade per day (e.g. original mark B: one day late B-, two days late C etc.).

The granting of extensions is determined by the instructor who will confirm whether an extension is granted and the length of the extension. For requests for extensions lasting less than 7 days, please complete the form at the following link and submit it to the instructor prior to the assignment due date: <https://carleton.ca/registrar/wp-content/uploads/self-declaration.pdf>. **Extensions for longer than 7 days will normally not be granted.** In those extraordinary cases where extensions lasting longer than 7 days are granted, the student will be required to provide additional information to justify the longer extension (up to a maximum of 14 days).

SCHEDULE**Readings: Practical Guide to E-Commerce and Internet Law**

Class 1 (Jan 12): Course introduction, essay and presentation requirements.

Class 2 (Jan 19): The New Age in Commerce: The key principles to contracts entered into by online merchants and consumers. (Pages 1-18)

Class 3 (Jan 26): Online Advertising: Key principles applicable to the online advertising of goods and services including the issue of the potential liability of the parties involved. Pages 215-251)

Class 4 (Feb 2): E-mail marketing: Comprehensive review of Canadian anti-spam legislation which came into force July1, 2014. (pages 253-274)

Class 5 (Feb 9): Behavioural Marketing: The legal issues triggered by online behavioural advertising will be discussed. (pages (pages 275-287)

Class 6 (Feb 16): Social Media: The risks to businesses and employers with social media and best practices regarding fraud protection and how privacy laws interact with social media issues in the workplace. (pages 289-321)

Class 7 (Mar 2): User Generated Content: An overview of the legal issues arising in connection of online services including the right to privacy and intellectual property rights. (323-339)

Class 8 (Mar 9): Promotional Contests: An overview of the regulatory environment of promotional contests in Canada including regulatory requirements specific to Quebec residents. (pages 341-352)

Class 9 (Mar 16): Copyright: An overview of the essential principles of copyright law. pages (pages 43-65)

Class 10 (Mar 23): Trade-Marks: The outline of the Canadian trade-mark legal framework. (pages 69-83)

Class 11 (Mar 30): Domain Names: A review of the domain name registration system and the legal issues which may arise in connection with domain names. (pages 85-104)

Class 12 (Apr 6): Patents and course wrap-up: An overview of the scope of patent protection and the general requirements for obtaining a patent. The issue of patent infringement and remedies will be explored. (pages 109-127)

Winter 2023 Sessional Dates and University Closures	
<i>Please find a full list of important academic dates on the calendar website: https://calendar.carleton.ca/academicyear/</i>	
January 9, 2023	Winter term begins.
January 20, 2023	Last day for registration and course changes (including auditing) in full winter and late winter courses.
February 20, 2023	Statutory holiday. University closed.
February 20-24, 2023	Winter break. No classes.
March 15, 2023	Last day for academic withdrawal from full winter, late winter, and fall/winter courses.
April 7, 2023	Statutory holiday. University closed.
April 12, 2023	Winter term ends. Last day of full winter, late winter, and fall/winter classes.
April 15-27, 2023	Final examinations in full winter, late winter, and fall/winter courses will be held. Examinations are normally held all seven days of the week.
April 27, 2023	All final take-home examinations are due on this day.

UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENTAL POLICIES

DEPARTMENT POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

Please review the following webpage to ensure that your practices meet our Department's expectations, particularly regarding standard departmental protocols and academic integrity requirements: <https://carleton.ca/law/student-experience-resources/>.

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/>.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows: <https://students.carleton.ca/course-outline/>.

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 Department of Equity and Inclusive Communities (EIC): <https://carleton.ca/equity/>.

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 Department of Equity and Inclusive Communities (EIC): <https://carleton.ca/equity/>.

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): <https://carleton.ca/pmc>.

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/student-support/svpolicy/>.

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 contact the departmental administrator or visit: <https://students.carleton.ca/services/accommodation/>.

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: <https://carleton.ca/law/student-experience-resources/>.