

Course Outline

COURSE:	LAWS 2301 A – Criminal Justice System
TERM:	Fall 2024
PREREQUISITES:	LAWS 1001 and LAWS 1002
CLASS:	Day & Time: Thursday 6:05 pm to 8:55 pm Room: Please check Carleton Central for current Class Schedule
INSTRUCTOR:	Meg D. Lonergan [she/they]
CONTACT:	Office Hrs: Please email for an appointment For TAs list and contact information please see Brightspace Email: meg.lonergan@carleton.ca
BRIGHTSPACE:	https://brightspace.carleton.ca/d2l/home/290230

CALENDAR COURSE DESCRIPTION

The institutional and social production of criminal law in Canada. Processes, personnel, and agencies. The role of discretion. The accused and the place of the victim. Issues in sentencing and punishment. Particular attention to racialization, Indigenous experiences, and discrimination in the operations of criminal law.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the course students will have a good understanding of the function and role of various parts of the Canadian criminal justice system, including: the police, courts, accused, offender, victim, and corrections. Issues related to justice, sentencing, punishment, and alternatives to traditional approaches to the criminal justice system will also be explored. This course will involve discussions of colonialism, racism, misogyny, and other systemic forms of discrimination and violence.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Griffiths, Curt Taylor. (2019). *Canadian Criminal Justice: A Primer* (6th edition).
Toronto: Tophatmonocle Corp.

The textbook is available via Carleton University Bookstore or Amazon (consider buying a used copy if you're looking to save money). The textbook should also be made available via ARES.

All additional materials are available on the Brightspace page. Please refer to the course schedule in this syllabus to ensure you are keeping on top of the readings and materials.

CARLETON UNIVERSITY GRADING SCALE

A+	90-100	B+	77-79	C+	67-69	D+	57-59	F	0-49
A	85-89	B	73-76	C	63-66	D	53-56		
A-	80-84	B-	70-72	C-	60-62	D-	50-52		

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.

You do not start with 100% and receive deductions, rather, you start at 0% and earn marks. All assignments must be completed to pass the course (Quizzes, Court Report, Final Exam).

Further details and rubrics available on Brightspace.

Syllabus Quiz: No grade, must be completed

- On the contents of the syllabus
- Available from noon September 1st to September 13th at noon

A syllabus is an agreement between the instructor and students as to expectations for a course. It is critical in all courses to ensure you read the syllabus carefully, ask questions, understand expectations, and are organized for the semester.

This quiz is on the contents of the syllabus to help ensure and incentivize students' familiarity with the information contained therein.

Quizzes: 30% total

Your best 4/5 quiz grades will be used to calculate your grade. You may choose to complete all 5 quizzes for your best chance at a higher grade but are only required to complete 4 as a buffer should you miss a quiz for any reason.

Quizzes may not be retaken, taken late, or made up, so please do not ask!

Schedule

Quiz 1: weeks 3 & 4

- available Sept. 27 at noon to Oct. 1 at noon

Quiz 2: weeks 5 & 6

- available Oct. 11 at noon to Oct. 15 at noon

Quiz 3: weeks 7 & 8

- available Nov. 1 at noon to Nov. 5 at noon

Quiz 4: weeks 9 & 10

- available Nov. 15 at noon to Nov. 19 at noon

Quiz 5: weeks 11 & 12

- available Nov. 29 at noon to Dec. 3 at noon

Midterm Court Report: 30%

Students are required to sit-in at either the Ottawa Court (either Ontario Court of Justice or Superior Court) or the Supreme Court of Canada (perks of attending university in the nation's capital!) for **a case involving criminal law** (not civil proceedings).

Post-pandemic many cases are now conducted online, and it is students' responsibility to know whether their chosen case is streaming or being held in-person. If students complete their report on an online case, I encourage them to visit one of the courts to get a sense of their location and the structures themselves.

Students are encouraged to attend with friends and peers but must submit their own unique reports. This is not a collaborative assignment.

- The Ottawa Court is located at 161 Elgin Street (near the corner of Laurier Ave and Elgin).
 - The scheduling docket is available on their website:
<https://www.ontariocourtdates.ca/>
- The Supreme Court of Canada is located at 301 Wellington Street, just down from Parliament.
 - The scheduling docket is available on their website:
<https://www.scc-csc.ca/case-dossier/info/hear-aud-eng.aspx?ya=2024&mo=0&submit=Search>

Report Components

- Title page: Creative title; your name and student number; instructor's name; date submitted; course information; is not numbered and does not count in page count
 - Abstract: 250–300-word summary of your report
- Report: 5 pages; 1-inch standard margins; double-spaced; size 12 Times New Roman font; APA, ASA, or McGill citations
 - Before you go write ½ to 1 page
 - reflecting on your expectations before attending; what do you know about the case; what are you excited and/or nervous about
 - 1 page: your experience of attending court; observations about trip, building, people, etc.; ethnography, and thoughts and feelings afterwards (i.e., were you surprised by anything; did you learn something new or think about something in a new way?)
 - 1 page summary of case and proceedings
 - 2-3 pages: explain how this assignment relates to other course content and learning outcomes
 - Please cite and meaningfully engage with at least 2 course readings from different weeks (either from content covered or upcoming content if it's more relevant to your case and experience)

Final Exam: 40%

The final exam is cumulative and will be scheduled by Exam Services later in the term. You are required to be available for the whole of the examination period until you receive your exam schedule and should be aware that some exams are held on the weekend.

The exam will be a mix of multiple choice, true/false, definitions, and short answer questions. Content from both the lectures and the readings is testable on the final exam.

- Cumulative
- To be held during the final exam period

All components must be successfully completed in order to get a passing grade.

LATE PENALTIES AND REQUESTS FOR EXTENSIONS

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 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/>.

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>

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

SCHEDULE

Week	Date	Material
1	Sept 5	Introduction to Canadian Criminal Justice System <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course syllabus • "Chapter 1: Foundations of Criminal Justice," pp. 2-20.
2	Sept 12	Studying Criminal Justice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Chapter 2: Understanding the Criminal Justice System," pp. 21-41. • "Chapter 3: Considerations in the Study of Criminal Justice," pp. 41-64.
3	Sept 19	Policing I <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 4: The Structure and Roles of the Police," pp. 68-100. • Pearce, Jeremy., and Simpson, Rylan. (2022). The role of police in conducting wellness checks: Insight from a study of police data. <i>Police Practice and Research</i>, 23(4), 400- 413.
4	Sept 26	Policing II <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Chapter 5: Police Powers and Decision-Making," pp. 101-131. • Zakimi, Naomi., Greer, Alissa., and Butler, Amanda. (2022). Too many hats? The role of police officers in drug enforcement and the community. <i>Policing: A Journal of Policy and Practice</i>, 16(4), 615-29.

5	Oct 3	<p>Criminal Courts I</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Chapter 7: The Structure and Operation of the Criminal Courts,” pp. 166-199. • Adams, Dana. (2011). Access denied? Inconsistent jurisprudence on the open court principle and media access to exhibits in Canadian criminal cases. <i>Alberta Law Review</i>, 49(1), 177-201.
6	Oct 10	<p>Criminal Courts II</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Chapter 8: The Prosecution of Criminal Cases,” pp. 200-247. • Alberton, Amy M., Gorey, Kevin M., Angell, Brent G., and McCue, Harvey A. (2021). Structural violence perpetuated against Indigenous peoples in Canadian criminal courts: Meta-analytic evidence of longstanding sentencing inequities. <i>Critical Social Work</i>, 22(1), 2-22.
7	Oct 17	<p>Criminal Justice Politics and Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Chapter 9: Sentencing,” pp. 248-283. • Strakosch, Elizabeth. (2016). “Beyond colonial completion: Arendt, settler colonialism and the end of politics,” in Sarah Maddison, Tom Clark, and Ravi de Costa (eds.)’s <i>The limits of settler colonial reconciliation: Non-Indigenous people and the responsibility to engage</i>. Springer, pp. 15-33.
	Oct 21-25	FALL BREAK – NO CLASSES
8	Oct 31 /Halloween	<p>Criminal Justice and Media</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goosens, Ilvy., Jordan, Marlee., and Nicholls, Tonia. (2019). #AbolishNCR: A qualitative analysis of social media. <i>Canadian Journal of Criminology and Criminal Justice</i>, 63(2), 46-67. • Kohm, Steven., and Greenhill, Pauline. (2014). Little Red Riding Hood Crime Films: Critical Variations on Criminal Themes. <i>Law, Culture and The Humanities</i>, 10(2), 257- 278. <p>Film screening: TBD by class voting. See Brightspace for details.</p>
9	Nov 7	<p>Corrections I (Incarceration)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Chapter 11: Correctional Institutions,” pp. 312-358. • “Introduction: Seeking Unruly Women,” and “Afterword: Seeing Unruly Women,” in McCoy, Ted. (2019). <i>Stories of incarceration and resistance from Canada’s most notorious prison</i>. University of British Columbia Press, pp. 1-15 and pp. 109-114.
10	Nov 14	<p>Corrections II (Other than incarceration)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Chapter 10: Corrections in the Community: Alternatives to Confinement,” pp. 286-311. • Webster, Cheryl Marie., and Doob, Anthony N. (2019). Missed opportunities: A postmortem on Canada’s experience with the conditional sentence. <i>Law and Contemporary Problems</i>, 82(1), 163-197.
11	Nov 21	<p>Release, Re-Entry and Reintegration (The Role of Community and Connection)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Chapter 12: Release, Re-entry, and Reintegration,” pp. 359-399. • Wilson, Robin J., Cortoni, Franca., and McWhinnie, Andrew J. (2009). <i>Circles of Support & Accountability: A Canadian National Replication of Outcome Findings</i>. Sexual Abuse: A

		Journal of Research and Treatment, 21(4), 412-430.
12	Nov 28	Alternative Futures: Criminal Justice System Reform & Abolition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Chapter 14: Going Forward: Challenges to and Opportunities for Criminal Justice Reform,” pp. 437-453. • Oudshoorn, Judah. (2024). Theorizing a way out of reformist reforms: Gladue reports and penal abolition. <i>Punishment & Society</i>, 26(2), 243-260.
13	Dec 5	Exam Prep
	Dec 9-21	Formally scheduled exams

Fall 2024 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>	
September 4, 2024	Fall term begins.
September 17, 2024	Last day for registration and course changes (including auditing) for fall, and fall/winter courses.
September 30, 2024	Last day to withdraw from fall term and fall/winter courses with a full fee adjustment (financial withdrawal).
October 14, 2024	Statutory holiday. University closed.
October 21-25, 2024	Fall break. No classes.
November 15, 2024	Last day for academic withdrawal from fall courses.
	Last day to request formal exam accommodations for fall, and fall/winter examinations to the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities.
November 22, 2024	Last day for summative tests or examinations or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade in the fall or fall/winter before the official examination period.
December 6, 2024	Fall term ends.
	Last day of fall term classes.
	Classes follow a Monday schedule.
	Last day for take home examinations to be assigned.
December 7-8, 2024	No classes or examinations take place.
December 9-21, 2024	Final examinations in fall term courses and mid-term examinations in fall/winter courses will be held.
December 21, 2024	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.
December 24, 2024 – January 2, 2025	University closed.

University and Departmental Policies

DEPARTMENT POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

Students in this course are prohibited from:

- submitting substantially the same piece of work from another course
- use of AI tools, such as ChatGPT
- There is no group work component in this course.

Email Correspondence Policy

Please be sure communications are sent from your Carleton email address. I try to reply to emails within 72 hours, not including weekends and statutory holidays. If you do not receive a reply to an email after 72 hours, please do send a follow up email, it may have gotten lost in the dark depths of my inbox.

Email correspondence is expected to reflect a professional and respectful tone. You may find sample email formatting on the Brightspace page.

Late Penalties and Extension Policy

Please be sure to ask for extensions as far in advance as is foreseeable. Asking in advance demonstrates organization and planning. Sometimes unforeseeable things do happen, of course, so please let me know if situations arise and you need accommodations.

Assignments submitted late without notice (or a pre-arranged extension) will be penalized 5% per day. Assignments more than 7 days late may not be accepted.

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 follows a rigorous [process for academic integrity allegations](#), including reviewing documents and interviewing the student, when an instructor suspects a violation has been committed. **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://carleton.ca/health/emergencies-and-crisis/emergency-numbers/>

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/>
- Empower Me: 1-844-741-6389, https://studentcare.ca/rte/en/IHaveAPlan_CarletonUniversityUndergraduateStudentsCUSA_EmpowerMe_EmpowerMe
- 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](#).