
COURSE:	LAWS 2908A – Approaches in Legal Studies I
TERM:	Summer 2024
PREREQUISITES:	<i>LAWS 1001 and LAWS 1002 (Formerly LAWS 1000 - no longer offered)</i>
CLASS:	Day & Time:
	Room: Please check Carleton Central for current Class Schedule
	(Our course runs online and is fully asynchronous. It means that you must keep up to date with the course content posted on Brightspace)
	Essential: you must have access to the full speed Internet to complete this course.
INSTRUCTOR:	Dr. Ksenia Polonskaya
CONTACT:	Office Hrs: Once per week via Zoom, please see Brightspace for particulars
	Telephone: N/A
	Email: Ksenia.polonskaya@carleton.ca

CALENDAR COURSE DESCRIPTION

Introduction to interdisciplinary research and analysis in law and legal studies; finding and analyzing primary and secondary legal sources. Students are strongly encouraged to take this course in the second year of their program.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will focus on practical and theoretical aspects of legal research. As a participant of this course, you will learn about different methodological approaches in legal studies, explore different sources of law, and develop analytical skills. We will discuss citations, noting up cases, and different aspects of legal writing.

Learning Objectives

1. Develop skills in legal research and writing
2. Analyze and synthesize cases
3. Critically analyze different methodological approaches in legal studies

What to Expect?

It is a condensed summer course that I will run online in **an asynchronous format**. We will work together for 6 weeks in total. Each week includes two sessions that correspond to two modules. Please note that weeks 3 & 6 will include only one module to give you a bit more time to complete two major assignments for this course. My recommendation is to stick with the schedule as close as possible to ensure a timely completion of all course elements.

Each module includes approximately 1,5 - 2 hours of recorded materials. Some lectures can be shorter than others. You will be required to complete a quiz each week.

As a participant of this course, you are expected to review the recorded materials and mandatory readings, participate in the discussions on Brightspace, complete quizzes, and other assignments in compliance with the deadlines specified in the Syllabus.

Time zones

Ottawa follows Eastern Daylight Time (GMT-4). It means that all deadlines are EST. It is your responsibility to make sure you submit your assignments in a timely manner.

Technical Aspects of the Course

Please note that this course requires access to the high-speed Internet. In case of technical difficulties, please contact Carleton Technical Support. Your TAs and your instructor cannot provide any technical assistance.

Communications

- **Emails.** I respond to emails within **48 hours** during the regular working hours 8:30 am to 5 pm EST, Monday to Friday. I will not respond to your queries outside of the regular working hours even on the deadline days. If you send your email on the weekend, please wait until Monday to get a reply. I do not respond to emails during scheduled breaks and statutory holidays. The same policy applies to communications with the TAs. Please plan your communications accordingly.
- **Emails requesting extensions.** Please send your extension requests at least two days in advance of the deadline specified in the Syllabus. You must include a self-declaration form where you should state the reasons for an extension. Please email me the self-declaration form and copy our TAs. The extensions are not granted automatically and are subject to review by your instructor.
- **Brightspace Announcement Board.** Please note that I will use the Announcement Board to communicate with the course participants. Please keep an eye on the announcement.

Policy on Artificial Intelligence (AI)

The use of AI in this class is prohibited.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Canadian Guide to Uniform Legal Citation, 10th ed [The McGill Guide].

Please consult the section “Schedule” to locate other mandatory readings. Some readings (mostly cases, articles, and book chapters) will be available to you via ARES. However, some sources you will need to locate by yourself by using the website of Carleton Library. An excuse “it was not posted on ARES” will not be accepted.

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.

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

Assignments	Mark	Deadline
Introduction Forum & Reply to Your Peer Please access Brightspace to review further particulars	2%	By 17 May 2024, 5 pm
Participation Marks The students will obtain the participation marks throughout the course by completing recorded videos and answering questions. Please note that questions can be embedded in the recordings and/or you can be asked to answer questions via participation forums. Please consult the Schedule and Brightspace for further particulars. If you wish to gain participation marks, you must complete the recordings and answer the questions as per the weekly deadlines. You can complete the recordings after the deadlines, but you will not be gaining any participation marks. The participation marks are capped at 20%.	20%	Weekly deadlines. It is a condensed course. It means no extensions are possible for participation marks. Complete recorded modules weekly to gain the participation marks. Please note that some recordings will include interactive questions. Alternatively, you can be asked to complete a participation forum.
Quizzes The students will be required to complete one quiz weekly. Quizzes will be based on your mandatory readings. Each quiz includes 6 questions. Please consult the Schedule and Brightspace for further particulars.	25% (5 quizzes)	Quiz 1 - 30 May 2024, 5 pm Quiz 2 - 30 May 2024, 5 pm Quiz 3 - 16 June 2024, 5 pm Quiz 4 - 16 June 2024, 5 pm Quiz 5 - 16 June 2024, 5 pm I recommend to complete quizzes weekly. However, if this is not

		possible, please follow the deadlines specified above. No extensions are possible for quizzes under any circumstances. Please plan accordingly.
Assignment 1 (Mid-Term Essay + Working Sheet for Sources) The students will be required to write an essay by answering a pre-determined question posted on Brightspace. The word count will be 1000-1200 words (excluding footnotes). Please note that submissions with the word count lower than 800 words will likely not obtain any mark. Please access Brightspace to review further particulars. The Rubric will be posted on Brightspace.	25%	1 June 2024, 5 pm. Extensions longer than 5 days are impossible.
Final Exam (online) The examination will be held online during the official examination period. The exam will include 25 questions (multiple-choice, true/false, multi-selection). The exam can include up to 3 open-ended short answer questions. The questions will be based on the video recordings & mandatory readings.	25%	Online during the official examination period (21—27 June 2024)
Citation Exercise The exercise will be provided on Brightspace after 31 May 2024.	3%	By 16 June 2024, 5 pm

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/wp-content/uploads/self-declaration.pdf>.

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>

How Can I Submit an Extension Request?

- **Please download the extension request, fill it in, signed it, and date it. Please state the reasons for requesting an extension.**
- **Please submit your extension request at least 2 days before the assignment is due.** To be given full consideration, you must download the form, fill in the form explaining the reasons for an extension, sign the form and return it to me. The extension requests submitted after this deadline (except in the direst of circumstances of true emergencies) would not be given any consideration.
- **Please submit the extension request to me and copy both TAs in your email.**
- **Wait for 48 hours before following up. I will review your request within 48 hours and get back to you.**
- **Extensions are not guaranteed and cannot exceed more than 5 days.**

Extensions will not be granted for any technical problems, including any issues with your internet connection or your computer. Please plan your submissions well in advance so you have some time to troubleshoot technical issues if needed.

Quizzes. Please note that this extension policy does not apply to quizzes. You will have the whole term to complete the quizzes. They are in place to ensure that you complete the mandatory readings and review the course materials.

Penalties

If you submit Assignments 1 or 2 late without an extension, you will lose 2% of the mark **PER DAY**. It does not matter if you are late by 1 second, 30 minutes or 12 hours. The standard is objective i.e., if you are late, you will lose 2%. I will accept the late submissions only within 3 days after the deadline specified in the Syllabus. The same policy applies to the forum posts with the due consideration of the relevant deadlines as applicable.

SCHEDULE

Summer 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>	
May 6, 2024	Early summer and full summer term begins.
May 10, 2024	Last day for registration and course changes (including auditing) for early summer courses.
May 17, 2024	Last day for registration and course changes (including auditing) for full summer courses.

	Last day to withdraw from early summer courses with a full fee adjustment (financial withdrawal).
May 20, 2024	Statutory holiday. University closed.
May 31, 2024	Last day to withdraw from full summer courses with a full fee adjustment (financial withdrawal).
June 1, 2024	Last day to request Formal Examination Accommodation for June examinations to the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities.
	Last day for academic withdrawal from early summer courses.
June 11, 2024	Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade in early summer term undergraduate courses before the official examination period (see examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar).
June 18, 2024	Last day of early summer classes.
	Last day for handing in term assignments, subject to any earlier course deadline and the last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for term work for early summer courses.
June 21-27, 2024	Final examinations in early summer courses and mid-term examinations in full summer courses will be held.
June 27, 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.
July 1, 2024	Statutory holiday. University closed.
July 2, 2024	Late summer courses begin and full summer classes resume.
July 8, 2024	Last day for registration and course changes (including auditing) for late summer courses.
July 15, 2024	Last day for a full fee adjustment when withdrawing from late summer courses (financial withdrawal).
August 1, 2024	Last day for academic withdrawal from full and late summer courses.
	Last day to request Formal Examination Accommodation for August examinations to the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities.
August 5, 2024	Civic holiday. University closed.
August 7, 2024	Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade in late summer and full summer term undergraduate courses, before the official examination period (see examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the

	Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar).
August 14, 2024	Last day of late summer and full summer classes.
	Classes follow a Monday schedule.
	Last day for handing in term assignments, subject to any earlier course deadline.
August 17-23, 2024	Final examinations in full summer and late summer courses will be held.
August 23, 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.

Week 1

Module 1: Introduction & Legal System

Mandatory Readings

- Canada's System of Justice, pp 21-29, [here](#)
- Please review Queen's Research manual "Steps in Legal Research", [here](#)

Tasks

- Please complete the Introduction Forum by 17 May 2024, 5 pm (2%)
- Complete the video recordings to understand the course objectives & my expectations (2%)

Module 2: Sources & Legal Writing

Mandatory Readings

- Brettel Dawson, "Legal Research in a Social Science Setting: The Problem of Method" (1992) 14 Dalhousie Law Journal 445.
- Please review the McGill Guide, E-1: General Rules

Tasks

- I recommend to complete quizzes weekly. If this is not possible, please make sure to complete Quiz 1 by 30 May 2024, 5 pm. No extensions are possible for the quizzes.

- Please complete the recorded videos to obtain the participation marks. Participation forum is available (2%). Please complete the recordings and the forum between the 6th of May until 12th of May 2024 (11:59 pm).

Week 2

Module 3: Primary Sources (Cases)

Mandatory Readings

- *Jones v Tsige*, 2012 ONCA 32
- Queen's Research Manual, please review "Noting Up Cases" and "Case Law Research", [here](#)
- Please review the McGill Guide, E-3 Jurisprudence

Tasks

- Please complete the recorded videos to obtain the participation marks. You will be asked to answer interactive multiple-choice questions embedded in the videos (2%). Please complete the recordings and the questions between the 12th of May until 19th of May 2024 (11:59 pm).

Module 4: Primary Sources (Legislation)

Mandatory Readings

- Please review the McGill Guide, E-2 Legislation
- Please review this short infographic on how new laws are created [here](#)
- Please review section "Primary Sources of Law: Canadian Legislation", [here](#)
- Please review "Summary of Privacy Laws in Canada", [here](#)

Tasks

- I recommend to complete quizzes weekly. If this is not possible, please make sure to complete Quiz 2 by 30 May 2024, 5 pm. No extensions are possible for the quizzes.
- Please complete the recorded videos to obtain the participation marks. Participation forum is available (2%). Please complete the recordings and the forum between the 12th of May until 19th of May 2024 (11:59 pm).

Week 3

Module 5: No Recordings

Tasks

- Please take this additional time to finalize Assignment 1
- **Do not forget that Assignment 1 is due on 1 June 2024, 5 pm.**

Module 6: Secondary Sources

Mandatory Readings

- Ryan Belbin, “When Google Becomes the Norm: The Case for Privacy and the Right to be Forgotten” (2018) 26 Dal J Leg Stud 17.
- Please review the McGill Guide, E-6 Secondary Sources
- Queen’s Framework for analyzing online sources (see ARES)

Tasks

- I recommend to complete quizzes weekly. If this is not possible, please make sure to complete Quiz 3 by 16 June 2024, 5 pm. No extensions are possible for the quizzes.
- Please complete the recorded videos to obtain the participation marks. You will be asked to answer interactive multiple-choice questions embedded in the videos (2%). Please complete the recordings and the questions between the 19th of May until 26th of May 2024 (11:59 pm).

Week 4

Module 7: Doctrinal Methodology in Legal Studies

Mandatory Readings

- Ubaka Ogbogu, Sarah Burningham & Timothy A Caulfield, “The Right to Control and Access Genetic Research Information: Does McInerney Offer a Way out of the Consent/Withdrawal Conundrum” (2014) 47:1 UBC L Rev 1.

Tasks

- **Please complete the citation exercise (3%). I recommend completing the exercise this week. The deadline is 16 June 2024, 5 pm.**
- Please complete the recorded videos to obtain the participation marks. Participation forum is available (2%). Please complete the recordings and the forum between the 26th of May until 2nd of June 2024 (11:59 pm).

Module 8: Historical Methodology in Legal Studies & Research in International Law

Mandatory Readings

- McGill Guide, E-5: International Legal Materials
- Chapter 3 “Asking Questions” in Zachary Schrag, *Princeton Guide to Historical Research* (Princeton University Press, 2021).

Tasks

- I recommend to complete quizzes weekly. If this is not possible, please make sure to complete Quiz 4 by 16 June 2024, 5 pm. No extensions are possible for the quizzes.
- Please complete the recorded videos to obtain the participation marks. You will be asked to answer interactive multiple-choice questions embedded in the videos (2%). Please complete the recordings and the forum between the 26th of May until 2nd of June 2024 (11:59 pm).

Week 5

Module 9: Comparative Law Methodology in Legal Studies

Mandatory Readings

- Ignacio Corone, “The Right to be Forgotten: A Canadian and Comparative Perspective” (Routledge, 2020), see Chapter 2 by Jenifer Stoddart, “Lost in Translation”
- *Dalhousie College v Boutilier Estate* [1934] SCR 642

Tasks

- Please complete the recorded videos to obtain the participation marks. Participation forum is available (2%). Please complete the recordings and the forum between the 2 of June until 9th of June 2024 (11:59 pm).

Module 10: Qualitative Methodology in Legal Studies

Mandatory Readings

- Chapter 39, “Qualitative Approaches to Empirical Legal Research” in Peter Cane, Herbert & M. Kritzer (eds), *The Oxford Handbook of Empirical Legal Research* (Oxford University Press, 2010).

Tasks

- Please complete Quiz 5 by 16 June 2024, 5 pm. Please complete the recorded videos to obtain the participation marks. You will be asked to answer interactive multiple-choice questions embedded in the videos (2%). Please complete the recordings and the forum between the 2nd of June until 9nd of June 2024 (11:59 pm).

Week 6

Module 11: Quantitative Methodology in Legal Studies

Mandatory Readings

- Michael Christensen & Ashli Au, “The Great Reset and the Cultural Boundaries of Conspiracy Theory” (2023) 17 International Journal of Communication 2348.

Tasks

- Please complete the recorded videos to obtain the participation marks. You will be asked to complete the participation forum (2%). Please complete the recordings and the forum between the 2nd of June until 16th of June 2024 (11:59 pm).

Module 12: No Recordings

Tasks

- Please take this additional time to prepare for your final exam and complete all quizzes.

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

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.

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://students.carleton.ca/services/empower-me-counselling-services>
- Good2Talk: 1-866-925-5454, <https://good2talk.ca/>
- The Walk-In Counselling Clinic: <https://walkincounselling.com>

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 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](#).