



LWSO 201 (01) INTRODUCTION TO LEGAL STUDIES			
Pre/Co-Requisites	None		
Instructor:	Dr Kirsten Kramar	Lecture Location:	ST 143
Phone:		Lecture Days/Time:	M/W 1:00 – 3:45 p.m.
Email:	Kirsten.kramar@ucalgary.ca		
Office:	SS936	Office Hours:	M/W 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
Instructor Email Policy	<p>Feel free to contact me over email at any time. Please put your course number and section in your email's subject line, and include a proper salutation, your full name, student ID, and a proper closing in the body of your email. I do not answer emails over the weekend. Please take that into account when emailing me questions pertaining to assignments or exams. If you have a course-related question, please check the course outline first. Also, please e-mail me for administrative purposes only, for example to set up an appointment. Please do not use e-mail as a replacement for an office visit, if there is something you want to discuss. Questions about the course content and readings, concerns about grades, or any other personal issues should be dealt with in person during my office hours. Email replies are prioritized by order of importance.</p>		

Course Description

Lecture based format. Introduction to Canada's courts, judicial decision-making, independence and accountability, interest groups, governments in courts, criminal justice policy and process, civil justice, policy-making and judicial impact.

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes

In the first half of the course, students should be able to:

1. Identify and describe key sources of Canadian law, including constitutional law;
2. Describe the foundational concepts of "law" and "politics" and the basic logic, structure, and processes of the courts;
3. Explain the key organizational features of the Canadian judicial system, including quasi-judicial mechanisms for resolving disputes;
4. Explain the processes of judicial decision-making, judicial selection, independence and accountability;

In the second half of the course, students should be able to:

1. Identify and describe key actors in the Canadian legal process;
2. Understand which groups litigate and why;
3. Explain the difference between judicial activism and judicial dialogue between governments and courts; and,
4. Describe the effect of criminal, civil and constitutional litigation in the

development of law and policy in Canadian society.

Required Textbooks, Readings, Materials, Electronic Resources

Hausegger, L., M. Hennigar and T. Riddell. 2015. *Canadian Courts: Law, Politics and Process* (2nd Ed). Oxford University Press.

Additional required readings and audio-visual materials posted in D2L

Learning Technologies and Requirements

There is a D2L site for this course which contains required readings and other relevant class resources and materials (see d2L.ucalgary.ca).

Schedule of Lectures and Readings

See Weekly Folders in D2L for course schedule, weekly readings, PowerPoint Slides, supplementary material, and quizzes.

Methods of Assessment and Grading Weights

COMPONENT	WEIGHTING	DUE DATES/DAY
Four (4) Quizzes via D2L	40%	Quiz 1: May 8 Quiz 2: May 15 Quiz 3: June 5 Quiz 4: June 14
Midterm Via D2L	30%	Opens: May 24, 2023 Closes: May 26, 2023
Final Exam	30%	Registrar Scheduled Final Exam
Total	100%	

1. Quizzes (40%)

Quizzes will open at 2:30 p.m. on the dates listed above. The quizzes can be found in the weekly folders in D2L. Learning checks are “open book” (though you should not need the resources if you have studied!). The quizzes will be available for 24 hours once they open to allow for flexibility. Each quiz 30 questions -- multiple choice and T/F, timed and sequential. Once you begin the quiz you will have 60 minutes to complete 30 questions.

The quizzes consist of key questions and cover the readings and lecture materials for each relevant week (pro-tip: look for overlap between readings and lectures). To preserve academic integrity and in fairness to all students, you will not be able to see the quiz questions as soon as you complete them. The score will be made available to you once you submit your quiz. You will be able to access your answers showing correct/incorrect answers once everyone has completed the learning check. This will be helpful for you to study for the final exam.

NB: If for some unforeseen reason you are not able to complete the learning check during the 24-hour window please contact the instructor – I am able to accommodate reasonable unforeseen issues that may arise by providing a short extension to your individual timeframe for the learning checks.

2. Midterm (30%) May 24, 2023 @ 1:00 (window open for 24 hours until May 26, 2022 @ 1:00)

The midterm test is cumulative, open book, timed and sequential. There are 90 questions to complete in 120 minutes. A portion of the midterm test questions will be drawn from your previous learning checks,

so be sure to review your answers on each of these to prepare for the midterm test. Every effort is made to ensure that questions provide a fair and accurate assessment of what has been taught and to allow for self-directed feedback on individual results. You will be able to review your answers after everyone has completed the midterm assessment to get learning feedback from incorrect/correct answers. Each of the learning checks and the midterm will be useful study aids in preparing for the cumulative final exam.

NB: If for some unforeseen reason you are not able to complete the midterm during the 24-hour window please contact the instructor – I am able to accommodate reasonable unforeseen issues that may arise by providing a short extension to your individual timeframe for the midterm.

Final Examination

The Final Exam is cumulative, but questions will predominantly emphasize material covered after the midterm test

Final Exam	Y
Format	Registrar scheduled, in class
Modality	Registrar scheduled exam in class
Type	Multiple choice, T/F
Duration	120 minutes
Aids	None

Grading Scale

Letter grades will be assigned and submitted to the registrar based on the following scale:

Grade	Percent range	Grade Point Value	Description
A+	96 – 100%	4.0	Outstanding performance
A	90 – 95.99%	4.0	Excellent performance
A-	85 – 89.99%	3.7	Approaching excellent performance
B+	80 – 84.99%	3.3	Exceeding good performance
B	75 – 79.99%	3.0	Good performance
B-	70 – 74.99%	2.7	Approaching good performance
C+	67 – 69.99%	2.3	Exceeding satisfactory performance
C	63 – 66.99%	2.0	Satisfactory performance
C-	59 – 62.99%	1.7	Approaching satisfactory performance
D+	55 – 58.99%	1.3	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject
D	50 – 54.99%	1.0	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
F	<50%	0	Failure. Did not meet course requirements.

Technology Use

The use of laptop and iPad or other writing devices is acceptable when used in a manner appropriate to the course and classroom activities. Please refrain from accessing websites and resources that may be distracting to you or for other students during class time. Students are responsible for being aware of the University's Internet and email use policy, which can be found at

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-electronic-resources-and-information-policy>

IMPORTANT POLICIES AND INFORMATION

Absence From a Mid-term Examination

Students who are absent from a scheduled term test or quiz for legitimate reasons are responsible for contacting the instructor via email within 48 hours of the missed test to discuss alternative arrangements. A copy of that email may be requested as proof of the attempt to contact the instructor.

Deferred Term Work Form: Deferral of term work past the end of a term requires a form to be filled out by the student and submitted, along with any supporting documentation, to the instructor. The form is available at: https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/sites/default/files/teams/14/P22_deferral-of-term-work_lapseGrade.pdf

Once an extension date has been agreed between instructor and student, the instructor will email the form to the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (ascarts@ucalgary.ca) for approval by the Associate Dean.

Deferral of a Final Examination

Deferral of a final examination can be granted for reasons of illness, domestic affliction, and unforeseen circumstances, as well as to those with three (3) final exams scheduled within a 24-hour period. Deferred final exams will not be granted to those who sit the exam, who have made travel arrangements that conflict with their exam, or who have misread the examination timetable. The decision to allow a deferred final exam rests not with the instructor but with Enrolment Services. Instructors should, however, be notified if you will be absent during the examination. The Application for Deferred Final Exam, deadlines, requirements and submission instructions can be found on the Enrolment Services website at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>.

Reappraisal of Grades:

For Reappraisal of Graded Term Work, see Calendar I.2

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

For Reappraisal of Final Grade, see Calendar I.3

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

Academic Misconduct:

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior that compromises proper assessment of students' academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy, Procedure and Academic Integrity, please visit: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html>

Plagiarism And Other Forms Of Academic Misconduct

Academic misconduct in any form (e.g. cheating, plagiarism) is a serious academic offence that can lead to disciplinary probation, suspension or expulsion from the University. Students are expected to be familiar with the standards surrounding academic honesty; these can be found in the University of Calgary calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>. Such offences will be taken seriously

and reported immediately, as required by Faculty of Arts policy.

Recording of Lectures:

Recording of lectures is prohibited, except for audio recordings authorized as an accommodation by SAS or an audio recording for individual private study and only with the written permission of the instructor. Any unauthorized electronic or mechanical recording of lectures, their transcription, copying, or distribution, constitutes academic misconduct. See <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-6.html>.

Academic Accommodations:

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services. SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-accommodation-policy>

Research Ethics

Students are advised that any research with human subjects – including any interviewing (even with friends and family), opinion polling, or unobtrusive observation – must have the approval of the Conjoint Faculties Research Ethics Board. In completing course requirements, students must not undertake any human subject research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required.

Instructor Intellectual Property

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act:

Personal information is collected in accordance with FOIP. Assignments can only be returned to the student and will be accessible only to authorized faculty and staff. For more information, see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/access-information-privacy>

Copyright Legislation:

See the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy> Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

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Evacuation Assembly Points

In the event of an emergency evacuation from class, students are required to gather in designated assembly points. Please check the list found at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/risk/emergency-management/evac-drills-assembly-points/assembly-points> and note the assembly point nearest to your classroom.

Important Dates:

Please check: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html>.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS102, call them at 403-220-3580, or email them at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate>, which has detailed information on common academic concerns, including program planning and advice.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them in the MacKimmie Tower.

Important Contact Information

Campus Security and Safewalk (24 hours a day/7 days a week/365 days a year)
Phone: 403-220-5333

Faculty of Arts Undergraduate Students' Union Representatives
Phone: 403-220-6551
Email: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca,
arts4@su.ucalgary.ca
Students' Union URL: www.su.ucalgary.ca

Graduate Students' Association
Phone: 403-220-5997
Email: askgsa@ucalgary.ca
URL: www.ucalgary.ca/gsa

Student Ombudsman
Phone: 403-220-6420
Email: ombuds@ucalgary.ca

Campus Mental Health Resources

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the following resources:

SU Wellness Centre: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/>

Student Wellness Services:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellness-services/services/mental-health-services>

Campus Mental Health Strategy website: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>