



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Fall 2020

FACULTY OF ARTS

Department of Sociology

Department of Sociology Website: <https://soci.ucalgary.ca/>

COURSE TITLE: Introduction to Legal Knowledge			
Course Number	LWSO 203-Introduction to Legal Knowledge		
Pre/Co-Requisites	None		
Instructor Name	Dr. Dawn Rault	Email	dawn.rault@ucalgary.ca
Instructor Email Policy	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. All emails violating customary email conventions will be ignored. All other emails will be answered within <i>two business days</i> . <i>I do not answer emails over the weekend</i> . Please take that into account when emailing me questions pertaining assignments or exams. If you have a course-related question, please check the course outline first. Questions that can be answered by consulting the course outline will not be answered. 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.		
Office Location	Virtual via Zoom	Office Hours (please use the "Calendly" link posted on D2L to book an appointment during office hours Monday 10-12 Thursday 12-2 By appointment	
Telephone No.	403-220-6505 (this goes to email message)		
TA Name	Alhan Yazdani	TA Email	alhan.yazdani@ucalgary.ca
TA Office Location	Virtual	TA Office Hours	TBA
Class Dates	Week of September 7 th -Week of December 9 th		
Class Times	Class is run asynchronous, this means narrated PPT slides and supplemental materials are posted on the course D2L site.		
Class Location	Online		

Course Description

This course will introduce students to the fundamental elements of Canadian law and the Canadian legal system. Students will learn how law can be used as an instrument of social engineering. The course is divided into three parts:

Part one will discuss the purpose and nature of law, certain legal theories, the evolution of the Canadian legal system, and sources of law in Canada.

Part two will focus on Canadian public law, including constitutional law and the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, as well as criminal law and procedure, and administrative law.

Part three will cover certain topics in Canadian private law, including torts, contracts, and family law.

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes

Expectations By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Analyze legal issues from a social science perspective
- Apply social theory to explain legal behaviour
- Articulate a critical understanding of the law
- Demonstrate research and writing skills
- Critically evaluate required readings

Outcomes By the end of this course, students will demonstrate:

- A coherent argument to explain a legal case or phenomenon
- The ability to compare and contrast how social control is accomplished
- The ability to describe how law is affected by social factors such as ethnicity, class and gender
- Explain legal behaviour using social theories

Course Format

For this semester, the course will run asynchronous online through D2L. I will post all narrated PPT lectures slides, and all other course materials on D2L. Students should regularly check D2L for all course announcements.

Learning Resources

Boyd, N. (2019). *Canadian Law: An Introduction*. 7th Edition. Nelson: Toronto.

Available at the University of Calgary bookstore/online vendors.

Other readings are available on D2L or online through the University of Calgary library. Instructions on how to access these will be posted on 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). In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Webcam (built-in or external);

- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Broadband internet connection.

Schedule of Lectures and Readings

	Schedule*Schedule subject to change, additional readings/materials are posted on D2L
Week 1 Sept 7 th -13 th	Role of Law Boyd Chapter 1
Week 2 Sept 14 th -20 th	Sources of Law Boyd Chapter 2
Week 3 Sept 21 st -27 th	Interpretation of Law Boyd Chapter 3
Week 4 Sept 28 th -Oct 4 th	Canadian Courts (part 1) Boyd Chapter 5
Week 5 Oct 5 th -11 th	Canadian Courts (part 2) Boyd Chapter 5
Week 6 Oct 12 th -18 th	Midterm Exam-D2L Timed Exam available <i>Friday Oct 16, 9 am closes Oct 17, 9am</i> Exam includes lectures + materials from Chaps 1,2,3,5,6 Study of Law and the Legal Profession Boyd Chapter 6
Week 7 Oct 19 th -25 th	Private Law Boyd Chapter 7
Week 8 Oct 26 th -Nov 1 st	Family Law Boyd Chapter 8
Week 9 Nov 2 nd -8 th	Administrative Law Boyd Chapter 9
Week 10 Nov 9 th -15 th	Fall Reading Break
Week 11 Nov 16 th -22 nd	Criminal Law-Part 1 Boyd Chapter 10
Week 12 Nov 23 rd -29 th	Criminal Law-Part 2 Boyd Chapter 10
Week 13 Nov 30 th -Dec 6 th	Wrap-up/Flex Week Legal Case Study Due no later than December 6th (before midnight-D2L Dropbox)

Methods of Assessment and Grading Weights

Midterm Exam (30%)

The midterm exam will consist of multiple choice and true/false questions. It will be administered online using the D2L quiz function. This timed **2-hour exam** will be open on D2L for a 24-hour period. Both the midterm and final exams are closed book exams, meaning you cannot use any sources during your exam.

Final Exam (40%)

The final exam will consist of multiple choice and true/false questions. The final exam is scheduled by the registrar but administered online using the D2L quiz function. You will have **2 hours** to complete your final exam, but it can be written any time during a 24-hour period. **The final exam is not cumulative**, but some material carries over from the midterm, so please review your midterm study notes. Both the midterm and final exams are closed book exams, meaning you cannot use any sources during your exam.

- **Students with Accommodations:** If your exam accommodation requires additional time, I will facilitate that through D2L. If you require additional supports, please connect with your access advisor.

Legal Case Brief (30%)

You will be asked to critique a court decision using a template posted on D2L.

Final Exam Information

The final exam will be scheduled by the office of the registrar but administered through D2L.

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.

Absences and Deferrals

Students who are absent from class assessments (tests or other assignments) should inform their instructors as soon as possible. Instructors may request that evidence in the form of documentation be provided. *If the reason provided for the absence is acceptable*, instructors may decide that any arrangements made can take forms *other than* make-up tests or assignments. Deferred midterm exams are NOT permitted. If a student misses the midterm exam for an acceptable reason, the weight of that assessment will be re-distributed. For example, the weight of a missed grade may be added to another assignment or test.

Deferred Final Exam Form: Please note that requests to defer a Registrar scheduled final exam are dealt with through the Registrar's Office. Further information can be found at:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>

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/deferral-of-term-work-2020.pdf>

Grade Reappraisal

Within one week of the date the exam/assignment is returned, students seeking reappraisal of examinations or assignments must submit a written response to me explaining the basis for reconsideration of one's mark. I will review the grade assigned and will then book a time with the student to discuss his or her work and rationale. It should be noted that a *re-assessed grade may be raised, lowered, or remain the same*.

Handing in Papers, Assignments

1. The main Sociology Department office does not deal with any course-related matters. Please speak directly to your instructor.
2. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology Department. They are only available online.

Guidelines for Zoom Sessions

Zoom is a video conferencing program that will allow us to meet at specific times for a “live” office hours, so that we can have the opportunity to meet each other virtually and discuss relevant course topics. To help ensure Zoom sessions are private, do not share the Zoom link or password with others, or on any social media platforms. Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course. Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the instructor’s permission.

The use of video conferencing programs relies on participants to act ethically, honestly and with integrity; and in accordance with the principles of fairness, good faith, and respect (as per the [Code of Conduct](#)). When entering Zoom or other video conferencing sessions (such as MS Teams), you play a role in helping create an effective, safe and respectful learning environment. Please be mindful of how your behavior in these sessions may affect others. Participants are required to use names officially associated with their UCID (legal or preferred names listed in the Student Centre) when engaging in these activities. Instructors/moderators can remove those whose names do not appear on class rosters. Non-compliance may be investigated under relevant University of Calgary conduct policies (e.g [Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy](#)). If participants have difficulties complying with this requirement, they should email the instructor of the class explaining why, so the instructor may consider whether to grant an exception, and on what terms. For more information on how to get the most out of your zoom sessions visit: <https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom/>.

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 Faculty Ethics Committee. In completing course requirements, students must not undertake any human subjects research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required.

Copyright Legislation

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright-policy.pdf>) and requirements of the Copyright Act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Instructor Intellectual Property

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. 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.

Recording of Lectures

Note that the audio or video recording of lectures and taking screenshots of PowerPoint slides during the lecture are not permitted without explicit authorization. The non-authorized media recording of lectures is inconsistent with the Code of Conduct and may result in discipline in accordance with the Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure. For more information click here: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/non-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>.

Sharing of Lecture Notes and Exam Questions

Note that publicly sharing lectures notes and exam questions on 3rd party sites such as OneClass, StudyBlue, Quizlet, Course Hero, etc. is not permitted. If you wish to use these helpful studying tools, make sure you adjust your privacy settings accordingly. Any violations are subject to investigation under the UofC Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy. For more information, click here: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/non-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>.

Academic Misconduct

Please refer to the website listed below for information on University of Calgary policies on Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Academic Accommodation

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. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/. 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:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

Libraries & Cultural Resources

To contact your librarian or find out about the resources and services available to sociology students go to the Sociology Library guide: <https://library.ucalgary.ca/guides/sociology>

To access the main Library website go to: <https://library.ucalgary.ca>

Wellness and Mental Health Resources

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that 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 support 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 Student Wellness Services (Room 370 MacEwan Student Centre, <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellness-services/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

Student Success Centre

The Student Success Centre provides services and programs to ensure students can make the most of their time at the University of Calgary. Our advisors, learning support staff, and writing support staff assist students in enhancing their skills and achieving their academic goals. They provide tailored learning support and advising programs, as well as one-on-one services, free of charge to all undergraduate and graduate students. For more information visit: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success>

Student Ombuds Office

The Student Ombuds Office supports and provides a safe, neutral space for students. For more information, please visit www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/ or email ombuds@ucalgary.ca.

Student Union (SU) Information

The SU Vice-President Academic can be reached at (403) 220-3911 or suvpaca@ucalgary.ca; Information about the SU, including elected Faculty Representatives, can be found here: <https://www.su.ucalgary.ca>.

Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points

Assembly points for emergencies have been identified across campus. Assembly points are designed to establish a location for information updates from the emergency responders to the evacuees; from the evacuated population to the emergency responders. For more information, see the University of Calgary's Emergency Management website:

<https://live-risk.ucalgary.ca/risk/emergency-management/evac-drills-assembly-points/assembly-points>

Safewalk

Campus security will escort individuals, day or night, anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences Centre, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). Call 403-220-5333 or visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot pay booths. Please ensure your personal safety by taking advantage of this service.