



## Introduction to Canadian Law – CRIM 135

### University Studies Program

### Course Outline

COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE:	April 2007
OUTLINE EFFECTIVE DATE:	September 2022
COURSE OUTLINE REVIEW DATE:	April 2027

---

#### GENERAL COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is a general introduction to the principles of jurisprudence and the legal institutions of Canada. Students will study: Canada's legal systems; the various ways law is made and organized; different explanations and perspectives of law; and its history and role in Canadian society. Students will learn basic concepts in public and private law, including constitutional, family, criminal, and tort law and will also learn basic techniques of legal reasoning and research.

---

**Program Information:** This course is required in the Criminal and Social Justice Diploma Program and can be used as an elective in University Studies programs as well as other programs. Refer to the College program guide for additional information.

---

**Delivery:** This course may be delivered face-to-face, hybrid or online.

**COTR Credits:** 3

**Hours for this course:** 45 hours

#### Typical Structure of Instructional Hours:

Instructional Activity	Duration
Lecture Hours	45
Seminars / Tutorials	
Laboratory / Studio Hours	
Practicum / Field Experience Hours	
Other Contact Hours	
<b>Total</b>	45

#### Practicum Hours (if applicable):

Type of Practicum	Duration
On-the-job Experience	N/A
Formal Work Experience	N/A
Other	N/A
<b>Total</b>	

**Course Outline Author or Contact:**

Avery Hulbert, MA, BA (Hons.)

---

Signature

---

**APPROVAL SIGNATURES:**

Department Head

Erin Aasland Hall

E-mail: [aaslandhall@cotr.bc.ca](mailto:aaslandhall@cotr.bc.ca)

Dean of Business and University Studies

Stephanie Wells

E-mail: [Swells2@cotr.bc.ca](mailto:Swells2@cotr.bc.ca)

---

Department Head Signature

---

Dean Signature

EDCO

Valid from: September 2022 - April 2027

---

Education Council Approval Date

---

**COURSE PREREQUISITES AND TRANSFER CREDIT:****Prerequisites:** None**Corequisites:** None**Flexible Assessment (FA):**

Credit can be awarded for this course through FA

☒ Yes☐ No

Learners may request formal recognition for flexible assessment at the College of the Rockies through one or more of the following processes: External Evaluation, Worksite Assessment, Demonstration, Standardized Test, Self-assessment, Interview, Products/Portfolio, Challenge Exam. Contact an Education Advisor for more information.

**Transfer Credit:** For transfer information within British Columbia, Alberta and other institutions, please visit <http://www.cotr.bc.ca/Transfer>.

Students should also contact an academic advisor at the institution where they want transfer credit.

**Prior Course Number:** N/A

---

## Textbooks and Required Resources:

Textbook selection varies by instructor and may change from year to year. At the Course Outline Effective Date the following textbooks were in use:

Boyd, N., (2019). *Canadian Law: An Introduction* (7th ed.). Scarborough, ON.: Nelson Education. ISBN: 9780176724429

Joseph, B., (2018). *21 Things you may not know about the Indian Act: Helping Canadians make reconciliation with Indigenous peoples a reality*. Page Two Books Inc. ISBN: 9780995266520

Additional readings made available online.

Electronic versions of this textbook are available through the Publisher.

Please see the instructor's syllabus or check COTR's online text calculator <http://go.cotr.bc.ca/tuition/tCalc.asp> for a complete list of the currently required textbooks.

---

## LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon the successful completion of this course, students will be able to

- discuss the various contexts (social, historical, economic, political) within which Canadian law and legal systems have developed;
  - explain the fundamental principles of jurisprudence;
  - identify the basic legal institutions in Canada;
  - explain the roles and responsibilities of various professionals of the legal system;
  - assess how the concept of law affects decision-making at various levels of the legislative, judicial, and administrative systems;
  - evaluate the Canadian constitutional framework and its impact on legal systems;
  - recall key concepts in substantive areas of law;
  - identify Indigenous title and rights within law;
  - demonstrate critical analysis skills;
  - apply case studies to theoretical legal arguments; and
  - identify and summarize Canadian legal cases.
- 

## COURSE TOPICS:

- Unit 1 – The Role and Origin of Law
  - Purpose and Perspectives on Law in Canada
  - Sources of Law
  - Rules & Principles of Law
- Unit 2 – Basic Elements of the Canadian Legal System
  - History of Canadian Legal System
  - Constitution of Canada, *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*
  - Canada's Court System
  - Roles and Responsibilities of Legal Professionals
- Unit 3 – Substantive Law: Torts, Contract, Family, Administrative and Criminal

- Tort Law
- Family Law
- Administrative Law
- Criminal Law

*See instructor's Course Information Sheet for the detailed outline of weekly readings, activities and assignments.*

#### **EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT:**

Assignments	% Of Total Grade
Assignments (15% each)	30%
Final Assignment	20%
Class participation (including small assignments, discussion participation)	20%
Final Exam	<u>30%</u>
Total	100%

*Please see the instructor Course Information Sheet for specific classroom policies related to this course, such as breakdown of evaluation, penalties for late assignments, and the use of electronic aids.*

#### **EXAM POLICY:**

Students must attend all required scheduled exams that make up a final grade at the appointed time and place.

Individual instructors may accommodate for illness or personal crisis. Additional accommodation will not be made unless a written request is sent to and approved by the appropriate Department Head prior to the scheduled exam.

Any student who misses a scheduled exam without approval will be given a grade of "0" for the exam.

#### **COURSE GRADE:**

Course grades are assigned as follows:

Grade	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D	F
Mark (Percent)	≥ 90	89-85	84-80	79-76	75-72	71-68	67-64	63-60	59-55	54-50	< 50

A grade of "D" grants credit, but may not be sufficient as a prerequisite for sequential courses.

**ACADEMIC POLICIES:**

See [www.cotr.bc.ca/policies](http://www.cotr.bc.ca/policies) for general college policies related to course activities, including grade appeals, cheating and plagiarism.

---

**COURSE CHANGES:**

Information contained in course outlines is correct at the time of publication. Content of the courses is revised on an ongoing basis to ensure relevance to changing educational, employment, and marketing needs. The instructor will endeavour to provide notice of changes to students as soon as possible. The instructor reserves the right to add or delete material from courses.