



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Fall 2019

FACULTY OF ARTS

Department of Sociology

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

COURSE TITLE: Intro to Legal Knowledge			
Course Number	LWSO 203-Introduction to Legal Knowledge		
Pre/Co-Requisites	None		
Instructor Name	Dr. Dawn Rault	Email	elfriede.rault@ucalgary.ca
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. 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.</p>		
Office Location	Social Science (SS) Room 936	Office Hours	Mondays 11:30-1:30 (No hours on Oct 14 +Nov 11 for stat holidays) + Thursdays 2-4
Telephone No.	403-220-6505		
TA Name	Lindsey Kokaritis	TA Email	lrkokari@ucalgary.ca
TA Office Location	SS 913	TA Office Hours	TBD
Class Dates	Monday, Wednesday, Friday (please see detailed schedule on D2L)		
Class Times	10-10:50		
Class Location	ICT (Information and Communications Technologies) 102		

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

Required Textbooks, Readings, Materials, Electronic Resources

Boyd, N. (2019). *Canadian Law: An Introduction*. 7th Edition. Nelson: Toronto.
Available at the University of Calgary bookstore.

Other readings are available online or at the University of Calgary library. Instructions on how to access these will be posted on D2L.

Schedule of Lectures and Readings

	LWSO 203 Schedule *Schedule subject to change, additional readings may be assigned
Sept 6	Introduction/Welcome
Week 1 Sept 9, 11,13	Role of Law Chapter 1
Week 2 Sept 16,18,20	Sources of Law Chapter 2
Week 3 Sept 23, 25,27	Interpretation of Law Chapter 3
Week 4 Sept 30, Oct 2,4	Canadian Courts (part 1) Chapter 5
Week 5 Oct 7,9,11	Canadian Courts (part 2) Chapter 5
	No Class Holiday Monday, October 14
Week 6 Oct 16, 18	Study of Law and the Legal Profession Chapter 6 Midterm Exam Wednesday, October 16th
Week 7 Oct 21, 23, 25	Private Law Chapter 7 Case Study due Friday, October 25
Week 8 Oct 28, 30, Nov 1	Family Law Chapter 8
Week 9 Nov 4, 6, 8	Administrative Law Chapter 9
	No class week of November 11th-Reading break
Week 10 Nov 18, 20, 22	Criminal Law-Part 1 Chapter 10
Week 11 Nov 25, 27, 29	Criminal Law-Part 2 Chapter 10
Week 12 Dec 2, 4, 6	Wrap-up/Exam Prep Court Observation Assignment Due Friday, December 6th

Methods of Assessment and Grading Weights

Midterm Exam-20%

- The midterm exam will consist of multiple choice and true/false questions, and it will be administered during class time (45 minutes).

Final Exam-30%

- The final exam will consist of multiple choice and true/false questions. The date, time, and location will be announced by the office of the registrar. The final exam is not cumulative, but builds on content from before the midterm.

Case Study Assignment-25%

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

Court Observation Assignment-25%

- You are asked to observe court outside of class time and use the template posted on D2L to capture your observations and analysis. Please also see documents posted on D2L for information about the Calgary Courts Center.

Final Exam Information

- The final exam will be scheduled by the office of the registrar.

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.

Grade Reappraisal

Within two weeks 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 reconsider 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.*

Technology Use

Please be respectful to those around you when using technology. To minimize disruption in the classroom, laptops are permitted in the classroom BUT ONLY to take notes and to connect with class materials. **(Permission to use LAPTOPS AND CELL PHONES may be withdrawn if they are used for anything else other than class purposes).**

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. **Protection of Privacy:** The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPP) legislation does not allow students to retrieve any course material from public places. Anything that requires handing back will be returned directly during class or office hours. If students are unable to pick up their assignments from the instructor, they can provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment. Private

information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary

3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology Department. They are only available online.

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.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.

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>

Absences and Deferrals

Students who are absent from class assessments (tests, participation activities, 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. For example, the weight of a missed grade may be added to another assignment or test. For information on possible forms of documentation, including statutory declarations, please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html>

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 also requires a form to be filled out. It's available at:

https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/sites/default/files/teams/1/deferred_termwork15_0.pdf

Once an extension date has been agreed between instructor and student, the form should be taken to the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (SS 110) for approval by an Associate Dean (Students).

Academic Accommodation

The student accommodation policy can be found at: ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.

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

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

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:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

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.