

Canadian and International Law

Teachers: Mr. C. Moody and Mr. M. Mooney

Email: Attendance@torontoprepschool.com, mmooney@torontoprepschool.com

Code: CLN4U

Grade: 12

Credit Value: 1.0

Credit Hours: 110

Prerequisite: Any university or university/college preparation course in Canadian and World Studies, English, or Social Sciences and Humanities.

Year: Winter/Spring 2013

Textbook: Canadian and International Law. Annice Blair et al, Oxford University Press, 2004.

Extra Help: Mornings at 9 AM and after school by appointment

Course Description:

This course examines elements of Canadian and international law in social, political, and global contexts. Students will study the historical and philosophical sources of law and the principles and practices of international law and will learn to relate them to issues in Canadian society and the wider world. Students will use critical-thinking and communication skills to analyse legal issues, conduct independent research, and present the results of their inquiries in a variety of ways.

Overall Curriculum Expectations (listed by strands): By the end of this course students will:

Heritage

- explain the historical and philosophical origins of law and their connection and relevance to contemporary society;
- evaluate different concepts, principles, philosophies, and theories of law;
- describe the relationship between law and societal values;
- assess the influence of individual and collective action on the evolution of law.

Rights and Freedoms

- describe the historical development of human rights legislation in Canada;
- explain the development of constitutional law in Canada;
- explain the rights and responsibilities of individuals under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms;
- explain the roles of the legislature and the judiciary in defining, interpreting, and enforcing charter rights in Canada;
- analyse the conflicts between minority and majority rights and responsibilities in a democratic society, and examine the methods available to resolve these conflicts.

Criminal Law and Procedures

- analyse theories about criminal conduct and the nature of criminal behaviour, and explain what constitutes a crime in Canadian law;
- analyse the Canadian criminal trial process;
- compare the competing concepts of justice as they apply to the criminal justice system.

Regulation and Dispute Resolution

- evaluate the effectiveness of governments, courts, and individual and collective action in protecting the environment;
- analyse the legal process, legal systems, and sanctions used to protect the rights of the employer and the employee in the workplace;
- explain the major concepts, principles, and purposes of international law;
- evaluate the effectiveness of international laws, treaties, and agreements in resolving conflicts of a global nature;
- explain the factors that make framing, interpreting, and enforcing law on a global scale a complex and difficult process.

Methods of Legal Inquiry and Communication

- use appropriate research methods to gather, organize, evaluate, and synthesize information;
- apply the steps in the process of legal interpretation and analysis;
- explain, discuss, and interpret legal issues using a variety of formats and forms of communication.

Units/Topics

Unit	Length
Introduction	10 Hours
1. Our Legal Heritage	25 Hours
2. Rights and Freedoms	25 Hours
3. Criminology and Criminal Procedures	25 Hours
4. Regulations and Dispute Resolution	25 Hours
Total	110 Hours

* Both Mr. Moody and Mr. Mooney will be teaching the introductory unit. Following this, Mr. Moody will teach units 1 & 3, and Mr. Mooney will teach units 2 & 4. See "Important Dates" sheet for rotation days.

Introduction (10 Hours)

This unit is a brief introduction to the course and focuses on legal terminology, as well as the broad strokes of law. Additionally, students will learn how to conduct legal research and how to communicate their findings.

Unit 1 – Our Legal Heritage (25 Hours)

Canadian law is drawn from a number of sources, including English and French law. As well, its philosophical base and concepts of justice and equity have been shaped by the work of various philosophers of natural and positive law. Through study of these sources, students will understand not only where our legal system has come from, but also how it may change and develop in the future.

Unit 2 – Rights and Freedoms (25 Hours)

Students will examine what is meant by, “a right” and how rights can be claimed. They will also investigate how the concept of human rights has evolved in Canada and the world, how minority rights are recognized, and how the conflict between minority and majority rights can be resolved in a democratic society.

Unit 3 - Criminology and Criminal Procedures (25 Hours)

This unit will study the way society defines criminal actions and behaviour, as well as the systems and structures established to investigate, prosecute, and impose sanctions on what is considered criminal. Embedded in these definitions and structures is the concept of justice. Students will study and evaluate both the principles and procedures of the criminal justice system.

Unit 4 - Regulations and Dispute Resolution (25 Hours)

Law deals with the regulation of conduct, the settling of disputes, and the resolution of conflicts. Civil law may include tort, contract, family and employment law. Students will study both traditional and non-traditional methods of controlling or regulating conduct and settling disputes. In addition to investigating how disputes are settled in Canada, students will also examine international law and consider questions about the international implementation and enforcement of law.

Assessment/Evaluation**Term Work: 70%**

Task	Weight
5 Unit Tests	30% (6% each)
ISP	30%
Various Unit Assignments	10%
Total	70%

Final Evaluation: 30%

Task	Weight
Final Exam	30%

* Note that all assignments will be marked using the achievement chart categories: Knowledge/Understanding, Thinking/Inquiry, Communication, and Application. Cumulatively these categories will be equally weighted and rubrics will be provided with each assigned task.

Class Expectations

1. You are expected to be on time for each class.
2. Textbooks and/or supplemental materials are to accompany you to each class.
3. You are responsible for taking lecture notes, as well as completing all homework found on the wikispace.
4. Homework will be checked daily and taken up in class.
5. If a test is missed, the student must bring a note from the parent stating the reason for the absence; otherwise the student will receive a zero.
6. It is your responsibility to catch up on all missed classes/assignments.