



Canadian and International Law

Teachers: Mr. Cecil Moody and Mr. Jody Robinson

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Code: CLN4U

Grade: 12, University Preparation

Credit Value: 1.0

Credit Hours: 110

Year: Winter 2012

Textbook: *Canadian and International Law*
by Blair, Ryan, Elliott, Manning, Mossuto

Extra Help: Mornings at 9:00 A.M. and after school by appointment.

Rationale:

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.

All tests and assignments will be evaluated according to the following categories:

- *Knowledge and Understanding
- *Application
- *Thinking and Inquiry
- *Communication

Overall Curriculum Expectations

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 Procedure

- 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.

Course Content

Unit	Length
Heritage	15 hours
Rights and Freedoms	25 hours
Criminal Law and Procedures	30 hours
Regulation and Dispute Resolution	25 hours
Methods of Legal Inquiry and Communication	15 hours
Total	110 hours

Course Unit Descriptions

Unit 1 – Heritage

This strand relates to the historical and philosophical roots of our legal system. Canadian law is drawn from a number of sources, including English and French law. As well, its philosophic 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

This strand focuses on human rights and freedoms as seen from a historical and philosophical point of view. 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 – Criminal Law and Procedures

This strand deals with the way society defines criminal actions and behaviour and with 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 the procedures of the criminal justice system.

Unit 4 – Resolution and Dispute Resolution

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.

Unit 5 - Methods of Legal Inquiry and Communication.

Students of law draw on a wide range of skills and information technologies. Students will integrate primary sources such as court visits, trial transcripts, and original documents with secondary sources such as newspaper articles or textbooks. They will also justify and support opinions on a variety of legal issues, using proper legal terminology. They will examine career opportunities in the legal field and work to communicate their findings effectively in written, oral, or visual forms.

Independent Study Project (ISP)- Research Essay

The independent study project will consist of a written, research oriented essay that explores an assigned issue. The assignment is worth 30% of the student's final grade.

Course Culminating Task (CCT)

The course-culminating task is a final written examination worth 30% of each student's final grade. The examination covers the overall expectations of the entire course. The examination will include an accounting simulation and theory-based questions.

Assessment and Evaluation

This course is primarily assignment based. **70%** of course work (assignments, quizzes, tests, projects, etc.) and **30% Final Exam (CCT)**.

All tests and assignments will be marked according to the following categories:

Knowledge and Understanding
Application
Thinking and Inquiry
Communication

ACADEMIC DUE DATES:

All homework and projects will have a DUE DATE and a “WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY” date. The DUE DATE represents the date in which the homework/assignment/project is due. Students should submit the homework/assignments/project to their subject teacher on the DUE DATE. If a student does not submit the task on the due date, the subject teacher will contact the parents/guardians to notify them of the outstanding work that day. The subject teacher will not provide support after the date has passed.

The “WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY” date represents the FINAL DUE DATE in which the subject teacher will accept the homework/assignment/project, after which a mark of zero will be assigned. All work submitted on the original due date will also be returned to the students on this day.

Class Expectations

1. Attend all classes and be on time.
2. Come to class prepared. It is your responsibility to always have your textbook, notebook, laptop, pens, pencils, etc.
3. Always complete your homework. If you require support with completing your homework, you will be placed in the After School Study Club and/or the Saturday Club.
4. Proper behaviour in the classroom is mandatory. Respect the teacher and your peers.
5. Cell phones, ipods, MP3players, CD players are not permitted in the classroom.
6. If a term quiz or assignment is missed, the student must bring a note from a parent stating the reason for the absence, otherwise the student will receive a ZERO. No re-writes will be permitted.