



DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
FACULTY OF ARTS

Law & Society 201 L02
Introduction to Legal Studies
Winter 2016

INSTRUCTOR: Ian Brodie
TELEPHONE: 403-220-3030
OFFICE: SS920
EMAIL: irbrodie@ucalgary.ca
OFFICE HOURS: W 4:00-5:00
COURSE DAY/TIME: T Th 9:30-10.45
COURSE LOCATION: SS 113

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Overview of the role of law in society. Examination of different concepts of law. Study of legal rules, institutions, processes and personnel in social context. Discussion of construction and exercise of the power of law. Emphasis on Canadian law and legal system.

COURSE OBJECTIVES & LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students will be able to identify and explain key concepts of the law and essential aspects of our legal system.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

The following textbook can be found in the University of Calgary Bookstore.

- Boyd, N. (1995). Canadian law: An introduction. Sixth ed. Toronto: Nelson.

COURSE COMPONENT WEIGHTS AND DUE DATES:

COMPONENT	WEIGHTING	DUE DATES
Written assignment	20%	March 1
Mid-term exam	40%	February 10
Final exam	40%	As scheduled by Registrar
Total	100%	

Written assignment:

The written assignment will be a short five to eight page term paper graded in part on the quality of the writing. Details of the assignment will be distributed separately.

Late papers will be penalized five points per day late. Papers late by more than seven (7) days will receive a zero grade.

Mid-term examination:

A one-hour mid-term exam will be held in class on **February 10**. Further details about the issues to be covered and the grading rubric will be provided in class. The exam will be closed book. Part of the grading will be based on the quality of the writing.

Final examination:

A two-hour final exam will be held **as scheduled by the Registrar**. Further details about the issues to be covered and the grading rubric will be provided in class. The exam will be closed book. Part of the grading will be based on the quality of the writing.

Grade reappraisals:

Up to one week after an exam or assignment is returned, a student may seek a reappraisal of the grade from the instructor. To do so, the student must submit a written request briefly explaining the grounds for the reappraisal. Note, a reappraisal may raise, lower or confirm the grade originally assigned.

GRADE SCALE: The following grading scale will be used:

A+ (91-100)	B+ (77-79)	C+ (67-69)	D+ (55-59)
-------------	------------	------------	------------

A (85-90)	B (73-76)	C (63-66)	D (50-54)
A- (80-84)	B- (70-72)	C- (60-62)	F (0-49)

INSTRUCTOR GUIDELINES:

Students are expected to arrive on time and having already read the readings for the week. The course moves quickly through a great deal of material.

To ensure the best learning environment for all students, students are asked to avoid use of laptops and other electronic note-taking devices in this course. Please be considerate of others and switch off all cell phones when you enter the classroom. Sending/receiving texts and browsing the Web is extremely disruptive to others and will not be tolerated. Please no eating during class.

Email is a common form of communication but it is not an effective way to answer student questions. If you cannot make the instructor's office hours, please request a one on one meeting outside of these hours.

IMPORTANT POLICIES AND INFORMATION:

Absence From Mid Term Examination:

Students who are absent from the mid term examination for legitimate reasons (e.g. illness with the appropriate documentation) are responsible for contacting the instructor via email within 48 hours of the missed test to discuss alternative arrangements. A copy of this email may be requested as proof of the attempt to contact the instructor. Any student who fails to do so forfeits the right to a makeup test.

Deferral of Final Examination:

Deferral of a final examination can be granted for reasons of illness, domestic affliction, and unforeseen circumstances, as well as to those with three (3) final exams scheduled within a 24-hour period. Deferred final exams will not be granted to those who sit the exam, who have made travel arrangements that conflict with their exam, or who have misread the examination timetable. The decision to allow a deferred final exam rests not with the instructor but with Enrolment Services. Instructors should, however, be notified if you will be absent during the examination. The Application for Deferred Final Exam, deadlines, requirements and submission instructions can be found on the Enrolment Services website at [www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/deferred final](http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/deferred_final).

Appeals:

If a student has a concern about the course or a grade they have been assigned, they must first

discuss their concerns with the instructor. If this does not resolve the matter, the student can then proceed with an academic appeal. The first in an academic appeal is to set up a meeting with the Department Head.

University Regulations:

Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the University policies found in the Academic Regulations sections of the Calendar at www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-regs.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_0.pdf

Plagiarism And Other Forms Of Academic Misconduct:

Academic misconduct in any form (e.g. cheating, plagiarism) is a serious academic offence that can lead to disciplinary probation, suspension or expulsion from the University. Students are expected to be familiar with the standards surrounding academic honesty; these can be found in the University of Calgary calendar at www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2.html. Such offences will be taken seriously and reported immediately, as required by Faculty of Arts policy.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP):

FOIP legislation requires that instructors maintain the confidentiality of student information. In practice, this means that student assignment and tests cannot be left for collection in any public place without the consent of the student. It also means that grades cannot be distributed via email. Final exams are kept by instructors but can be viewed by contacting them or the main office in the Department of Sociology. If students are unable to collect their assignments from the instructor in person they may provide a stamped, self-address envelope to the instructor. Any uncollected assignments and tests will be destroyed after three months; final examinations are destroyed after one year.

Evacuation Assembly Points:

In the event of an emergency evacuation from class, students are required to gather in the designated assembly point. For this course the assembly point is the **Professional Faculties**

Building food court.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

For program planning and advice, visit the Arts Students' Centre in Social Sciences 102, call 403-220-3580 or email artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit arts.ucalgary.ca/advising for program assistance.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit their office in the MacKimmie Library Block.

Important Contact Information:

Campus Security and Safewalk (24 hours a day/7 days a week/365 days a year)
Phone: 403-220-5333

Faculty of Arts Undergraduate Students' Union Representatives
Phone: 403-220-6551
Email: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca,
arts4@su.ucalgary.ca
Students' Union URL: www.su.ucalgary.ca

Graduate Students' Association
Phone: 403-220-5997
Email: ask@gsa.ucalgary.ca
URL: www.ucalgary.ca/gsa

Student Ombudsman
Phone: 403-220-6420
Email: ombuds@ucalgary.ca

COURSE SCHEDULE AND TOPICS (subject to change):

Part I – Legal Theory

January 12 & 14: What is “law”? Why do we have law? What is a legal system?

- Boyd, Chapter 1

January 19 & 21: Where does law come from?

- Boyd, Chapter 2

Part II – Disputes

January 26 & 28: Mediation, Arbitration, and Litigation

- Mcewen, C., & Maimon, R. (2005). Arbitration and Mediation As Alternatives To Court. Policy Studies Journal, 712-726.

Part III – Legal Institutions

February 2 & 4: The Constitution

- Boyd, Chapter 4

February 9: Review session

February 11: Mid-term examination

Reading week

February 23 & 25: Courts

- Boyd, Chapter 5

March 1: The legal profession

- Boyd, Chapter 6

Part IV – Substantive Law

March 3: Administrative Law

- Boyd, Chapter 9

March 8, 10, & 15: Criminal Law

- Boyd, Chapter 10
- Manfredi, C. (2001). Judicial power and the charter: Canada and the paradox of liberal constitutionalism (2nd ed.). Don Mills, Ont.: Oxford University Press, Chapter 5.

March 17 & 22: Family Law

- Boyd, Chapter 8

No class March 24

Part V – Current Issues

March 31 – April 7: Polygamy

- TBA

April 12 - Review