

Forest Hill Collegiate Institute



DEPARTMENT: Canadian and World Studies

Teacher: Ms. Lodhikawala

Course name: Understanding Canadian Law

Grade: 11

Course Code: CLU3M1

Pre-requisite: Canadian History Since World War 1, Grade 10, Academic or Applied

Course Description

This course explores Canadian law with a focus on legal issues that are relevant to the lives of people in Canada. Students will investigate and gain an understanding of fundamental legal concepts and processes, including legal foundations and systems, laws relating to rights and freedoms, civil law and the criminal justice system. Students will use critical-thinking, inquiry, and communication skills to develop informed opinions on legal issues and apply this knowledge in a variety of ways, including case analysis, legal research projects and debates.

Course Strands and Big Ideas

A. The Inquiry Process and Skill Development in Legal Studies

A1. The Inquiry Process in Legal Studies: use the legal studies inquiry process and the concepts of legal thinking when investigating law and legal issues in Canada

A2. Developing Transferable Skills: apply in everyday contexts skills developed through the study of law, and identify careers in which a background in law might be an asset

B. Legal Foundations

B1. Legal Principles: explain the role and importance of law and the fundamental principles of justice in Canada (FOCUS ON: Legal Significance)

B2. Legal Heritage: demonstrate an understanding of early laws and legal systems and their relationship to the Canadian legal system (FOCUS ON: Interrelationships)

B3. Legal Roles and Responsibilities: analyse the role and function of individuals, groups, and governments in Canadian law (FOCUS ON: Legal Significance; Interrelationships; Legal Perspective)

B4. Development of Law: analyse and describe how various social, scientific, and technological factors have influenced and continue to influence the development of Canadian law (FOCUS ON: Legal Significance; Continuity and Change)

C. Rights and Freedoms

C1. Human Rights: explain the legal significance of the Canadian Bill of Rights, the Ontario Human Rights Code, the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and the Canadian Human Rights Act (FOCUS ON: Legal Significance)

C2. Development of Human Rights Law: analyse how various factors have influenced and continue to influence the development of human rights law in Ontario and Canada (FOCUS ON: Continuity and Change)

C3. Protecting Rights and Freedoms: analyse the relationship between the formal, legal recognition of rights and freedoms in Canada and how those rights are interpreted and protected in practice (FOCUS ON: Legal Significance; Interrelationships; Legal Perspective)

C4. Legal Limitations of Human Rights: analyse situations in which it may be appropriate to limit rights and freedoms, and explain the arguments for and against such limitations (FOCUS ON: Legal Significance; Legal Perspective)

D. Civil Law

D1. Introduction to Tort Law: analyse the legal foundations of tort law; the factors influencing its development; and the role of individuals, groups, and courts in its processes (FOCUS ON: Legal Significance)

D2. Introduction to Family Law: analyse the legal foundations of family law; the factors influencing its development; and the role of individuals, governments, and courts in its processes (FOCUS ON: Legal Significance; Continuity and Change)

D3. Introduction to Employment Law: analyse the legal foundations of employment law; the factors

influencing its development; and the role of employers, employees, and the courts in its processes (FOCUS ON: Interrelationships; Legal Perspective)

D4. Introduction to Contract Law: analyse the legal foundations of contract law; the factors influencing its development; and the role of individuals, groups, and the courts in its processes (FOCUS ON: Legal Significance; Continuity and Change; Legal Perspective)

E. Criminal Law

E1. Foundations of Criminal Law: explain the foundational concepts of criminal law and their legal significance (FOCUS ON: Legal Significance)

E2. Legal Processes and Procedures: describe the structures and key roles and processes of the Canadian criminal justice system and explain key interrelationships among them (FOCUS ON: Interrelationships)

E3. Criminal Justice System: assess the ability of the Canadian criminal justice system to provide appropriate and even-handed justice to people living in Canada (FOCUS ON: Legal Perspective)

E4. Development of Criminal Law: analyse how various factors have influenced the development of Canadian criminal law (FOCUS ON: Legal Significance; Continuity and Change)

Units:

***Strand A will be embedded throughout the course**

Unit 1: Legal Foundations

- Focusing legal heritage examining historical roots of law
- How did Canada and its intricate legal system come to be? Focusing on the Canadian Constitution
- Examining how we make and interpret the law
- Analyzing the legal roles and responsibilities of various members of the Canadian legal system
- Brief overview of the categories of law

Unit 2: Rights and Freedoms

- Analyzing the development of rights and freedoms in Canada by the introduction of the Charter
- How is the Charter enforced and applied within the legal system and everyday life
- Focusing on fundamental freedoms within the Charter and how this applies to our everyday life
- What are the legal systems in place to dispute cases on the grounds of violating the Charter- reviewing the role of the Human Rights of Ontario and Canada

Unit 3: Civil Law: Regulation and Dispute Resolution

- Students will examine the structure of the Canadian private law system
- Examine the key differences between public and private law
- Outline the various methods of dispute resolutions
- Understanding the nature of Tort Law and contractual obligations

Unit 4: Criminal Law and Procedures

- How is a crime defined under the Canadian legal system
- How is the legal system structured for youth crime
- What are the legal duties and procedures for arrest and pre-trial processes
- Outlining the Canadian court system and the trial process
- Determining the legal parameters around sentencing

Instructional Time Breakdown*

Unit 1: Legal Foundations	20 hours
Unit 2: Rights and Freedoms	20 hours
Unit 3: Civil Law: Regulations and Dispute Resolution	20 hours
Unit 4: Criminal Law and Procedures	20 hours
Culminating Activity	10 hours

In addition to the above breakdown, students are expected to complete homework

Assessment and Evaluation Strategies

The concept of Mastery Learning will drive our assessment and evaluation strategies in this course. Students will be given a variety of choices for assessments in order to showcase their knowledge and understanding through their individual learning style. Students will complete quizzes through the Brightspace learning platform to solidify their knowledge and understanding of our course's Big Ideas. Students will also communicate with one another through debates and replicate the trial and court proceeding processes. Finally students will engage with all the legal concepts learned throughout the course and outline their ideas in a well researched essay, podcasts, and presentations. By the end of the course, students will be very comfortable showcasing their ideas and discussing their opinions with legal terminology and evidence within the classroom.

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Achievement Categories/Strands</u></p> <table><tr><td>Knowledge/Understanding</td><td>25%</td></tr><tr><td>Thinking</td><td>25%</td></tr><tr><td>Application</td><td>25%</td></tr><tr><td>Communication</td><td>25%</td></tr></table>	Knowledge/Understanding	25%	Thinking	25%	Application	25%	Communication	25%	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Final Mark Determination</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">-__The teacher professional judgement will be used-__The final mark is cumulative, that is, it is based on 100% completion of the course material- 70% of term work and 30% Culminating Activity						
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Thinking	25%														
Application	25%														
Communication	25%														
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Levels of Achievement</u></p> <table><tr><td>Level 4</td><td>80 % - 100 %</td></tr><tr><td>Level 3*</td><td>70 % - 79 %</td></tr><tr><td>Level 2</td><td>60 % - 69 %</td></tr><tr><td>Level 1</td><td>50 % - 59 %</td></tr><tr><td>Level R</td><td>< 50 %</td></tr></table> <p>* Level 3 is defined as the Provincial standard. A student achieving a Level 3 should be well prepared for work in the next grade level or the next course.</p>	Level 4	80 % - 100 %	Level 3*	70 % - 79 %	Level 2	60 % - 69 %	Level 1	50 % - 59 %	Level R	< 50 %	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Learning Skills</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Independent Work▪ Collaboration▪ Organization▪ Self-Regulation▪ Initiative▪ Responsibility <p>Learning skills are necessary for success and affect level of achievement. They will be reported as follows:</p> <table><tr><td>E – Excellent</td><td>S – Satisfactory</td></tr><tr><td>G – Good</td><td>N – Needs Improvement</td></tr></table>	E – Excellent	S – Satisfactory	G – Good	N – Needs Improvement
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EVALUATIONS

Individual unit evaluations will be rigorous and consist of various assignments communicated by the teacher.