

Understanding Canadian Law, Grade 11, University/College Preparation (CLU 3M1)

This course explores Canadian law, with a focus on legal issues that are relevant to the lives of people in Canada. Students will gain an understanding of laws relating to rights and freedoms in Canada; our legal system; and family, contract, employment, tort, and criminal law. Students will develop legal reasoning skills and will apply the concepts of legal thinking and the legal studies inquiry process when investigating a range of legal issues and formulating and communicating informed opinions about them.

Prerequisite: Canadian History since World War I, Grade 10, Academic or Applied

Legal Foundations

- What is just?
- What is fair?
- How has the law changed and how has it stayed the same?

Rights & Freedoms

- Why are human rights laws important?
- How do diversity & changing beliefs about gender equality, freedom of expression and freedom of religion influence Canadian law?

Concepts of Legal Thinking & The Inquiry Process in Legal Studies

Legal Thinking

- Legal Significance
- Continuity and Change
- Interrelationships
- Legal perspective

Inquiry Process

- investigation of laws and regulations, rights and freedoms, court decisions, and legal concepts, processes, and issues

Civil Law

- Why is a greater degree of proof of guilt required in a criminal case than in a civil case?
- How does family law reflect societal values, beliefs & norms?

Criminal Law

- Is the Youth Criminal Justice Act a “good” law?
- Do punishments fit the crime?
- How does the media influence expectations related to a criminal trial?