



## **CALENDAR COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

### **FIRST YEAR MANDATORY COURSES**

LAW 400 *Constitutional Law*, F, 5 credits (3-0)

The basic elements of Canadian constitutional law. The nature of constitutions and constitutional processes; principles of constitutional interpretation; constitutional amendment; Federal/Provincial distribution of legislative powers including the federal general power, natural resources and public property, provincial property and civil rights, trade and commerce, provincial taxation, transportation, communications, and criminal law; the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms including principles of limitation, remedies, interpretation, application, fundamental freedoms, democratic and language rights, mobility rights, legal rights, equality rights, and aboriginal people's rights.

LAW 402 *Contracts*, F, 5 credits (3-0)

A legal and policy analysis of the basic principles and fundamental concepts of the law of contracts as they relate to commercial and consumer transactions. The formation of contracts including offer and acceptance and, consideration; estoppel; privity; terms of contract, including exemption clauses; standard form contracts; bailment; mistake, misrepresentation and unconscionability; termination, including the doctrine of frustration; breach and remedies for breach; dispute resolution processes. Emphasis is placed not only on a knowledge of rules and principles, their historical derivation, rationale, efficacy and social validity, but also upon their creative use to both avoid and resolve disputes.

LAW 403 *Legislation*, H, 3 credits (3-0)

The fundamentals of the legislative process: policy development, legislative drafting, public bill process, statutory interpretation. The interaction of law and policy in the development of legislation, statutory interpretation. Substantive law connections are made with other first year courses. The functions of the lawyer within these processes are examined, including issues of professional responsibility.

The course is taught through performance based learning methods with emphasis on drafting.

LAW 404 *Property*, F, 5 credits (3-0)

An examination of the fundamental concepts of property law and the types of property interests recognized by Anglo-Canadian law. The historical evolution of property concepts; the basic concepts of possession, ownership and title; estates and other interests in land such as joint and concurrent ownership, easements, covenants, licences, mortgages, future interests and perpetuities; the landlord and tenant relationship; the land titles system of registration of title to land; the social constraints upon property use and disposition; and property rights of aboriginal peoples.

LAW 406 *Torts*, F, 5 credits (3-0)

An analysis and critique of the law of torts, primarily the law of negligence, with personal injury as the main focus, although other torts will also be introduced. The nature of tort law and its process; an anatomy of the law of negligence — the nature and extent of liability, defences, remedies, and the assessment of damages; intentional torts; economic torts; strict liability; bailment; the impact of private insurance on the tort system; alternative forms of compensation.

LAW 407 *Foundations in Law and Justice I*, 4 credits (4-0)

An introduction to: legal methods, systems and institutions; sources of law; legal and judicial reasoning; legal analysis, including case analysis and problem-solving skills; critical perspectives on the law, including legal theory and history; the role of the lawyer in system(s) of laws; access to justice.

This course is taught on an intensive basis in the first three weeks of law school to provide students with foundational analytical and critical skills for the subsequent curriculum, and using performance based learning methods.

Note: This course is graded CR, D or F.

LAW 408 *Foundations in Law & Justice II*, 4 credits (4-0)

The fundamentals of legal research, writing, communication and advocacy, including: developing research strategies; identification and assessment of legal and non-legal information appropriate to a legal problem or issue; drafting of memorandum and/or facta; oral advocacy, including mootings; legal communication, including client interviewing and counselling.

This course is taught on an intensive basis in the first 3 weeks of winter term using performance based learning methods.

LAW 410 *Crime: Law and Procedure*, F, 5 credits (3-0)

An anatomy of criminal conduct and the law's treatment of it utilizing a limited range of criminal offences. The designation of human conduct as criminal and a consideration of the social, cultural and political forces involved; the development of the criminal process in English common law, its translation to Canada and embodiment in the Criminal Code; the substantive elements of a criminal offence including both the physical and mental elements; the common law and code defences; procedural, tactical, ethical and evidential problems associated with criminal prosecution at both the pre-trial and trial stages; the sentencing process; the position at law of the victim.