UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF LAW

CREDIT MOOT PROGRAMS
FALL TERM 2024 – WINTER TERM 2025

COURSE OUTLINE

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Credit Mooting Program is a student-centered program involving performance-based learning in a supportive atmosphere. Students are carefully selected from a pool of applicants to participate in competitions engaging in a broad range of oral and written advocacy skills. The competitions relate to various areas of law and legal practice in which students engage in many different forms of advocacy. In each competition, the students are supported by a volunteer practitioner coach, a faculty advisor and members of the bench and bar who willingly share their time and expertise with the students as they develop their advocacy skills. This program offers an opportunity of a life-time as students participate in at provincial, national or potentially even international events with students and members of the bench and bar from other schools and jurisdictions. **The work is rewarding but rigorous. Students must be self-motivated and able to work in a team. The time commitment may include after hour meetings and practices with volunteer lawyers and judges, who may not be available during the regular work schedule. Students may also need to work during reading weeks and holidays in order to fulfill their obligations.** This is an enriching experience, but it is also a challenging one. It requires commitment and dedication. For further information on a specific competition, please read the Faculty Mooting website for detailed descriptions of each credit competition.

Please Note: the credit moot course applies equally to those students who are selected as mooters and those who are selected as researchers, where the moot competition requires such a researcher.

OBJECTIVES

By the conclusion of the Credit Moot course, the student should exhibit competencies or emerging proficiencies in oral and written advocacy and problem solving, including:

(1) Demonstrating competency in oral and written advocacy;
(2) Identifying legal issues arising from a case scenario;
(3) Conducting in depth research and writing on current legal topics;
(4) Analyzing and developing legal strategies on behalf of a client;

(5) Preparing strategies and legal arguments within a team environment;

(6) Exhibiting the proper decorum and civility required of a student competitor and as a lawyer representing clients;

(7) Exhibiting proficient lawyering skills.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The moot program is conducted in an atmosphere of mutual respect and collegiality. This is a rigorous and challenging program where all participants are expected to put in the time and effort required to successfully perform at the competition level. The mooting program enriches the law school experience, enhances the reputation of the faculty and provides students with the opportunity to work with practitioners and future colleagues.

Student participants are chosen by the Mooting & Debating Committee of the law school. Each moot competition is assigned a faculty member as advisor who provides guidance and support to the students and the coaches. Each moot competition has a lawyer or lawyers acting as volunteer coaches to assist in the development of the strategies and key advocacy skills required. The coaches provide constructive feedback and attend with the students on competition day. Students primarily work with coaches. Faculty advisors assist the coaches in resolving any difficulties that arise with the students and are ultimately responsible for the grades received by the students. Any issues or concerns should be brought to the faculty advisor for discussion in a timely fashion. The final grades are based on the grade assessment as outlined in this document including grade recommendations given by the coaches.

Responsibilities for students, coaches and faculty advisors are outlined below:

i) Student Responsibilities

In order to fulfill the credit requirements for this course, students enrolled in a credit moot must:

1. Attend a team orientation meeting with the faculty advisor, coach and student partners to discuss logistics of the competitions and student responsibilities, the role and responsibilities of the faculty advisor and coach(es).
2. Attend any advocacy training session(s), if offered.
3. Familiarize themselves with the rules of their particular moot and ensure they are complying with those rules.
4. Contact the assigned coaches, soon after the orientation meeting referenced in item #1, to schedule the first meeting. Students must confirm with the assigned faculty advisor the date and time of this meeting.
5. Thereafter schedule and attend regular meetings with student partners, researcher, if any, and/or coach(es).
6. Keep the faculty advisor regularly informed of the work being done, and/or any issues arising with work not being done, student absences, or as to coaches' availability.

7. Divide the workload equitably and perform their assigned work in a timely fashion. Any issues or concerns in executing the work assigned must be brought to the coach(es) and faculty advisor's attention as soon as possible for timely resolution.

8. Determine the various deadlines and deliverables attached to their moot. The students, together with their coaches, must prepare a schedule with their coaches to meet all relevant deadlines. A written schedule prepared beforehand by the students will be expected to form part of the Moot Report discussed below.

9. Arrange, in a timely manner, travel to particular moots through the Mooting and Debating Committee administrative assistant. Students should be mindful of any requirements for travel documents.

10. Conduct themselves in a professional, respectful manner toward all individuals involved in the program such as their competition partners, coaches, faculty advisors, law school staff, the library staff and competitors from other schools.

11. Practice their oral arguments, if applicable, in front of a minimum of three different legal audiences in addition to a full-dress rehearsal with their coach. While coaches often take care of this, students are responsible for assembling their own judging panels if the coach is unable to do so.

12. If a written argument is part of the competition, submit, in a timely fashion, at least three different drafts of the argument to their coach for feedback. If a written argument is not required to be submitted for the competition, the student together with the coach(es) must agree upon an equivalent substitute to be confirmed by the faculty advisor.

13. Following the moot and prior to the end of classes (and beginning of exams) the **moot team is responsible for generating a Moot Report** which must be emailed to their faculty advisor and the Mooting and Debating Committee administrative assistant by the **last week of scheduled classes in the Winter term**.

14. The Moot Report shall contain the following:

    a. The agreed upon schedule of meetings and deadlines with notations indicating when the various deliverables were completed;
    b. The dates and composition of the judging panels for the various oral argument practice sessions;
    c. The number of drafts submitted for review as discussed in #13 above;
    d. The final written materials submitted to the moot competition or the written material used to assist in the preparation of the competition such as an outline of the tactical or strategic approach to the competition;
    e. A summary of the team and individual rankings at the moot if available;
    f. A final brief self-assessment of your performance including how the experience has enriched your law school experience;
    g. Any tips or advice that the team feels would be helpful to next year's moot team;

ii) Volunteer Coach Role & Responsibilities

The primary duty of the volunteer coach is to provide knowledge, advice, guidance and motivation. Volunteer coaches are expected to:

1. Provide feedback and advocacy advice to the students;
2. Review factum drafts and provide feedback;
3. Attend practice rounds where possible and provide performance feedback;
4. Assist where possible in arranging for volunteer judges/lawyers for the practice rounds;
5. Supervise the students' progress;
6. Contact the Faculty Advisor or the Chair of the Mooting Committee as appropriate with any concerns;
7. Have working knowledge of the competition rules and regulations;
8. Make a recommendation as to the grade to be assigned to each student.

iii) Faculty Advisor Role & Responsibilities

Faculty advisors are expected to:

1. Act as a faculty liaison with the coach(es) and students;
2. Provide feedback, advice and guidance to student and/or coaches as needed;
3. Respond to any issues with student or coach participation;
4. Regularly check on the progress of the preparations to identify any problems or concerns and respond to those issues in a timely matter;
5. Review the Moot Report;
6. Assess the student's course grade based on the Moot Report, and the course evaluation matrix including the assessment of the coaches.
7. Confirmation, if possible, of the continuing assistance of the moot coach for the following year. This will assist in early identification of any coaching gaps.

Note: The Faculty Advisor may also serve as a coach, if required, and if allowed by the rules of the individual moot.

COURSE ASSESSMENT

Over and above the student expectations listed above, each moot requires individualized deliverables from its participants. These requirements and associated work streams will be provided to students by the coaches. The fulfillment of the student expectations and these individualized tasks is required to receive a passing grade in the course.

Students should expect to spend at least 10 – 15 hours each week working on the moot during the period between the issuance of the problem and the moot competition itself. Following the moot competition, students should expect to spend several hours generating the Moot Report.

At the completion of the Winter Semester, each student will receive an individual (not a group) letter grade from the advisor in consultation with the coaches. These will follow the University's 12-band system.

The grade will be assessed on the following criteria:

1. The content and quality of the Moot Report;
2. The competence and degree to which the student has discharged all of their responsibilities as set out above under the heading "Student Responsibilities";
3. The meeting and practice attendance including active participation in the development and preparation of the case;
4. The preparation of the written materials, if relevant, and/or the preparation of the strategy and approach to the competition if written materials are not submitted;
5. The number of practice sessions required to prepare for the competition and the student's active participation in those sessions;
6. The student's ability to work as a member of a team;
7. The placement of the individual and the team in the competition, if relevant. For clarity, if a team/individual does not rank in the competition this will not reduce the grade, but a high ranking may enhance the grade;
8. The coach's assessment of the quality of student work and each student's level of professionalism and effort;
9. The faculty advisor's assessment of the quality of the student work. This will be particularly pertinent if the faculty advisor is involved in reviewing the student's written work or attends any of the practice rounds.

METHOD OF EVALUATION:

Individual grades will be assigned on the following basis:

Grade	Grade Point Equivalent	Description
A+	4.3	**Outstanding Performance.** Examples include: (1) winning a major competition; (2) winning an individual award; or (3) making an extraordinary individual contribution to the mooting team

A	4.0	**Excellent Performance.** Examples include: (1) placing very high in a major competition; (2) making an outstanding individual contribution to the mooting team; or (3) displaying a talent deserving of winning an individual award in a competition
A-	3.7	**Approaching Excellent Performance.** Examples include: (1) a strong performance in a competition; (2) making an individual contribution to the mooting team that goes beyond expectations; or (3) displaying excellence in mooting
B+	3.3	**Exceeding good performance.** Showing a standard of work that is above what would be expected of the average student at the University of Calgary's law school. This is a very good grade reserved for superior student performance.
B	3.0	**Good performance.** This is the average student at the University of Calgary's law school. It reflects intelligent work that is well above competent. In addition, a student must show a commitment to their mooting team, work hard, and attend all meetings of the team in order to be considered for this grade.
B-	2.7	**Approaching good performance.** This grade still is an example of good work, but for whatever reason is lacking in an area to meet the standard expected—just below average.
C+	2.3	**Exceeding satisfactory performance.** The student's work is competent, but there is significant room for improvement.
C	2.0	**Satisfactory performance.** The student's work is on balance acceptable.
C-	1.7	**Approaching satisfactory performance.** The student's work is above passable, but it raises concerns and may not be of professional quality.
D+	1.3	**Marginal Pass.** Barely adequate

D	1.0	**Minimal Pass.** Poor
F	0.0	**Failure.** Did not meet course requirements.

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY AND FACULTY OF LAW POLICIES AND REGULATIONS:

Technology Requirements

Because some of your communications and moot practices are likely to take place online, students need to be able to reliably access the following:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Webcam/Camera (built-in or external);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Stable internet connection

Electronic Communication

In accordance with the University's Electronic Communications Policy, students may communicate with the instructors of this course via their @ucalgary email accounts only.

Desire 2 Learn (D2L), which is located on the University of Calgary server, will be used extensively for communication with students. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that s/he gets all posted communications and documents and that s/he receives emails sent through D2L. Only your @ucalgary.ca email address should be linked to D2L. Please ensure that you are regularly checking your @ucalgary.ca account.

Regulations

Specific regulations for the Faculty of Law at the University of Calgary, including Faculty-specific regulations on grading, assignments, examinations, deferrals, appeals, academic misconduct, etc., can be found here:

https://law.ucalgary.ca/sites/default/files/teams/2/faculty-regulations-june-2015.pdf.

Except where the Faculty of Law Regulations specify otherwise, all regulations and deadlines of the University of Calgary apply to students in the Faculty of Law. The University of Calgary Calendar containing those regulations can be found here: http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/. The Academic Regulations are here: http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-regs.html.

Academic Misconduct

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit:

https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-non-academic-misconduct-policy

https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-non-academic-misconduct-procedure

Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity.

Academic Accommodation

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The Student Accommodations policy is available at https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations.

Students needing an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/accommodation-students-disabilities-procedure). 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 Angela Gallo-Dewar, Assistant Dean, Student Services (agallode@ucalgary.ca).

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/ .

Instructor Intellectual Property

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

Copyright Legislation

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy)and requirements of the Copyright Act (https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html) to ensure they are aware of the

consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Religious/Spiritual Observance

The University of Calgary recognizes and respects the diversity of its members, including diversity of religious faiths and observances. It is understood that some students may not be able to attend classes, write tests or write final examinations on days of observance. Please note that to arrange an alternative date or time for a final exam on this basis, students must submit an application accompanied by written evidence to the Assistant Dean of Student Services at agallode@ucalgary.ca prior to the date of the examination. The regulations on exam deferral for religious observance may be found in the Regulations of the Faculty of Law at para. 8(a)(i):

https://law.ucalgary.ca/sites/default/files/teams/2/faculty-regulations-june-2015.pdf.

The general University of Calgary policy on Religious/Spiritual Observance is available here:

http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-4.html.

Accessibility Services

The University of Calgary has a range of resources available to facilitate an accessible learning environment for students with disabilities including chronic health issues, physical, mental, psychiatric and learning disabilities, and impairments of a temporary nature due to accident, illness or injury. Students with a disability or medical condition requiring accommodation in the classroom or in the examination or evaluation process must communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services as early as possible in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities. See https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/b-1.html.

Student Accessibility Services will work with students and administrators at the Faculty of Law to implement the required accommodations and supports. All requests for accommodation will be kept confidential. Please note that documentation of a disability is a requirement for accommodation. The Student Accessibility Services website is here: http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/.

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures, which can be found here:

https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/archives/2018/b-1.html

Students needing an accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a protected ground other than a disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, as early as possible, to the Assistant Dean of Student Services, Angela Gallo-Dewar at: agallode@ucalgary.ca.

Wellness and Mental Health Resources

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive support when needed.

We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through Student Wellness Services (Room 370, MacEwan Student Centre, https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellness-services) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy (http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/).

Sexual Violence Policy

The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary's sexual violence policy guides us in how we respond to incidents of sexual violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual violence, or those who are alleged to have committed sexual violence. It provides clear response procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain circumstances. Please see the policy available at https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/sexual-and-gender-based-violence-policy

Freedom of Information and Privacy

The University of Calgary complies with the requirements of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act. The University's privacy policy can be found here: https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Privacy-Policy.pdf

Student Success

The Student Success Centre provides services and programs to ensure students can make the most of their time at the University of Calgary. Our advisors, learning support staff, and writing support staff assist students in enhancing their skills and achieving their academic goals. They provide tailored learning support and advising programs, as well as one-on-one services, free of charge to all undergraduate and graduate students. For more information visit: https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success

Student Ombuds Office

The Student Ombuds Office supports and provides a safe, neutral space for students. For more information, please visit www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/ or email ombuds@ucalgary.ca

Student Union (SU) Information

The SU Vice-President Academic can be reached at (403) 220-3911 or suvpaca@ucalgary.ca.

Information about the SU, including elected Faculty Representatives, can be found here: https://www.su.ucalgary.ca

The Law representative on the University Student Union can be contacted via e-mail at lawrep@su.ucalgary.ca.

Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information

The GSA Vice-President Academic can be reached at (403) 220-5997 or gsa.vpa@ucalgary.ca.

Information about the GSA can be found here: https://gsa.ucalgary.ca

Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points

Assembly points for emergencies have been identified across campus. Assembly points are designed to establish a location for information updates from the emergency responders to the evacuees; from the evacuated population to the emergency responders. For more information, see the University of Calgary's Emergency Management website: http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints

Safewalk

Campus security will escort individuals, day or night, anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences Centre, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). Call 403-220-5333 or visit http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk.

Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot pay booths. Please ensure your personal safety by taking advantage of this service.