



# ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

**St. Jerome's University in the University of Waterloo**

Department of Sociology and Legal Studies

LS 101 - 001

Introduction to Legal Studies

**Section 001** – M, W 2:30 pm – 3: 50 pm ET – Location: SJ2 1004

## **INSTRUCTOR AND TA INFORMATION**

Instructor: Dr. Leroux-Demir  
Office: Sweeney Hall 2004  
Office Hours: By appointment only  
Email: [clleroux@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:clleroux@uwaterloo.ca)

## **Territorial Acknowledgement:**

*We acknowledge that we are living and working on the traditional territory of the Attawandaron (also known as Neutral), Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee peoples. St. Jerome's University is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land promised to the Six Nations that includes ten kilometres on each side of the Grand River.*

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is an introduction to the study of law, its structure, and legal institutions from a cross cultural and historical perspective. This interdisciplinary course examines the origins of the legal system in Canada and their impact on society. Included is an analysis of the diverse social, historical, political, economic, moral, and cultural conditions under which the law arises and functions within society. The objectives of this course are four-fold:

- To familiarize students with the foundation and sources of law
- To develop a basic understanding of the structure and function of legal institutions
- To explore the processes of law-making and overview the various legal actors
- To encourage students to think critically about the role of law and its impacts on different segments of society in conjunction with the application of traditional and contemporary theoretical perspectives

Through a combination of lectures, class discussion and assignments, the goal of the course is to consider the ways in which the law modifies and is modified to uphold particular societal

interests. In addition, students will be encouraged to critically assess the manner in which the law is constituted as a legitimate method to invoke social change.

### **Remote Teaching Contingency Plan**

In the case of transitioning to remote learning throughout the term, this course has a fully functioning, asynchronous online section that will be used in lieu of in-person lectures. Everything you will require to stay on track with the course lectures and assignments are available through the Learn course shell, including pre-recorded lectures, online midterms, and all other relevant resources you require to complete activities and assignments.

### **COVID-19 and Self-Isolation**

Students who self-isolate are responsible for catching up on all course components. It is your responsibility to obtain notes from another student in the class. I do not provide copies of my PowerPoint slides or lecture notes. If you miss a term test due to isolation, a VIF is required to permit a make-up examination at an alternate date.

### **Communication and Email Etiquette**

You are welcome to make an appointment to discuss course materials such as the readings, concepts, theories and all other relevant content.

Please be considerate and polite in your emails to the course instructor. You must include your full name and student ID number when submitting email correspondence. All email correspondence should have the course number (**LS 101- 001**) in the subject heading. Please keep your messages brief. Do not ask for information that can be found on the course outline. Do not ask for your grades by email. **If you miss class, it is your responsibility to obtain notes from a fellow student. I do not provide any copies of my Powerpoint slides or lecture materials.** Emails will be answered within 24-48 hours, except on weekends.

### **Required Texts (Available for purchase through the UW Bookstore)**

#### **BOOK 1: Required**

#### **Option 1: (Digital)**

Title : E-TEXT FOR LAW AND SOCIETY 5TH CDN

Author: AC VAGO & NELSON

ISBN: 9781315443102

Price : \$126.95

To order the access code and receive it instantly, please follow the first link below. You will need a major credit card to complete the purchase.

Link: <https://www.campusebookstore.com/integration/AccessCodes/default.aspx?permalinkId=598fabf3-cf31-448e-b785-c14103cb1d8b&frame=YES&t=permalink>

### **Option 2: (Paperback)**

Title : LAW AND SOCIETY 5TH CDN ED

Author: VAGO & NELSON

ISBN : 9781138215818

Price : \$126.95

The printed book can be ordered online from [wstore.ca](http://wstore.ca), as well as the access code. You can log in to [UWaterloo BookLook](http://UWaterlooBookLook), using your UWaterloo email and password, to view your personalized booklist and add items directly to your shopping cart. **Please note that access codes ordering through the MyBookLook are filled manually and can take up to 3 business days to process.**

On a short-term basis, you may access the readings through the course reserves website (<http://www.reserves.uwaterloo.ca/ares/>) by signing in with your Quest username and password.

### **Waterloo LEARN**

The LS 101 (section 001) course is hosted through UW LEARN and is accessible via [learn.uwaterloo.ca](http://learn.uwaterloo.ca). Please visit the course page daily to receive the latest announcements, assignment instructions, email policies, and links to updated course materials. If there is an emergency cancellation for the course, the cancellation information will be posted on Learn.

### **Course Requirements**

The course will offer 2 term tests which are completed in-class and a take home assessment.

1. Term Test 1 30% **Due February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023**
2. Term Test 2 35% **Due March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023**
3. Final Take Home Assessment (35%) **Due April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 4 pm ET** in the course [Dropbox](#). **Final released on April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 8 am ET**. There will be no class that day. This is not timed; you have three days to prepare and complete.

Each midterm includes a combination of true/false, multiple-choice, and short answer questions. The final take home assessment will cover the latter part of the course and consist of a selection of short answer and essay style questions. More details to come.

### **Class Schedule and Readings**

**January 9, 11**

Week 1 - Welcome and Introductions

Introduction to Law and Legal Studies

Chapter 1: Introduction pp. 9-12

Chapter 2: Theoretical Perspectives pp. 27-33

Chapter 3: The Organization of Law pp. 100-104

Chapter 4: Lawmaking pp. 112-115, 120-123

Chapter 5: Law and Social Control pp. 174-177

Chapter 6: Law and Dispute Resolution pp. 183-192

**January 16, 18**

Week 2 - The Legal Profession: Actors and Functions

Chapter 8: The Legal Profession pp. 264-266, pp. 268-270, pp. 275-280,

**January 23, 25**

Week 3 - Legal Ethics: The Ken Murray Case

No assigned readings

**January 30, February 1**

Week 4 - Theories of Social Order

Chapter 1: Introduction pp. 20-22

Chapter 3: The Organization of Law pp. 104-108

Chapter 5: Law and Social Control pp. 170-174

Chapter 7: Law and Social Change pp. 219-240

**February 6, 8**

Week 5 - Due Process and Crime Control Models of the Criminal Process

No assigned readings

**February 14, 15**

Week 6 - Canada's Legal History, the Court System and the Charter of Rights and Freedoms

Chapter 3: The Organization of Law pp. 62-77

Chapter 7: Law and Social Change pp. 231-238

**Term Test 1 – February 15<sup>th</sup> in-class (35%)**

**February 20, 22**

Week 7

***Reading Week – No classes***

**February 27, March 1**

Week 8 - Civil Litigation and Tort Law

Chapter 3: The Organization of Law pp. 85-86

Chapter 6: Law and Dispute Resolution pp. 193-203

**March 6, 8**

Week 9 - Contracts and Contract Law – Principles Underlying Civil Law

No assigned readings

**March 13, 15**

Week 10 - Principles of the Criminal Law

Chapter 5: Law and Social Control pp. 144-146, 152-169

**Term Test 2 – March 15<sup>th</sup> in-class (35%)**

**March 20, 22**

Week 11 – Criminal Defences, Mental Disorder and the Law

Chapter 5: Law and Social Control pp. 150-152

See The Mental Health Act of Ontario under [The Government of Ontario's e-Laws](#)

This is not a required reading.

**March 27, 29**

Week 12 - The Legislation of Morality – Drug Legislation and Social Policy

Chapter 4: Lawmaking pp. 124-135

Chapter 5: Law and Social Control pp. 153-160

**April 3, 5**

Week 13 - Week 11: Family Law and Social Policy

Chapter 7: Law and Social Change pp. 211-212

**April 10 (No Class)**

**Final Take Home Assessment**

**Available on April 12<sup>th</sup> at 8 am – Due April 14<sup>th</sup> at 4pm ET in course Dropbox**

**POLICY ON LATE WORK, MISSED ASSIGNMENTS, AND MAKE-UP TESTS**

Make up tests will only be permitted with a VIF or supporting documentation unless ill during self-declaration 48 hour period.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Students can contact me via email ([ccleroux@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:ccleroux@uwaterloo.ca)). In the subject heading please include course code (LS 101 – 001) and term (W 23).

## OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

**Academic Integrity:** In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Check [www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/](http://www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/) for more information.

**Grievance:** A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of their university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read the St. Jerome's University Policy on [Student Petitions and Grievances](#). When in doubt, please be certain to contact the St. Jerome's Advising Specialist, Student Affairs Office, who will provide further assistance.

**Discipline:** A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing an academic offence, and to take responsibility for their actions. Check [www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/](http://www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/) for more information. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about "rules" for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course instructor, academic advisor, or the Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under the St. Jerome's University Policy on [Student Discipline](#). For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students should refer to University of Waterloo [Policy 71, Student Discipline](#). For typical penalties, check the [Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties](#).

**Appeals:** A decision made or penalty imposed under the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Petitions and Grievances (other than a petition) or the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Discipline may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes they have a ground for an appeal should refer to the St. Jerome's University Policy on [Student Appeals](#).

**Note for students with disabilities:** [AccessAbility Services](#), located in Needles Hall (Room 1401) at the University of Waterloo, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with AccessAbility Services at the beginning of each academic term.

**Turnitin.com:** Text matching software ([Turnitin®](#)) may be used to screen assignments in this course. Turnitin® is used to verify that all materials and sources in assignments are documented. Students' submissions are stored on a U.S. server, therefore students must be given an alternative (e.g., scaffolded assignment or annotated bibliography), if they are concerned about their privacy and/or security. Students will be given due notice, in the first week of the term and/or at the time assignment details are provided, about arrangements and alternatives for the use of Turnitin® in this course. It is the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor if they, in the first week of term or at the time assignment details are provided, wish to submit the alternate assignment.

**Mental Health:** All of us need a support system. The SJU faculty and staff encourage students to seek out mental health support if they are needed.

On Campus:

- Counselling Services: [counselling.services@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:counselling.services@uwaterloo.ca) / 519-888-4567 x32655
- **MATES:** one-to-one peer support program offered by Federation of Students (FEDS) and Counselling Services
- Health Services Emergency service: located across the creek from Student Life Centre

Off campus, 24/7:

- **Good2Talk:** Free confidential help line for post-secondary students. Phone: 1-866-925-5454
- Grand River Hospital: Emergency care for mental health crisis. Phone: 519-749-4300 x6880
- **Here 24/7:** Mental Health and Crisis Service Team. Phone: 1-844-437-3247
- **OK2BME:** set of support services for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or questioning teens in Waterloo. Phone: 519-884-0000 x213

**Intellectual Property:** Students should be aware that this course contains the intellectual property of their instructor, TA, and/or St. Jerome's University. Intellectual property includes items such as:

- Lecture content, spoken and written (and any audio/video recording thereof);
- Lecture handouts, presentations, and other materials prepared for the course (e.g., PowerPoint slides);
- Questions or solution sets from various types of assessments (e.g., assignments, quizzes, tests, final exams); and
- Work protected by copyright (e.g., any work authored by the instructor or TA or used by the instructor or TA with permission of the copyright owner).

Course materials and the intellectual property contained therein, are used to enhance a student's educational experience. However, sharing this intellectual property without the intellectual property owner's permission is a violation of intellectual property rights. For this reason, it is necessary to ask the instructor, TA, and/or St. Jerome's University for permission before uploading and sharing the intellectual property of others online (e.g., to an online repository).

Permission from an instructor, TA, or the University is also necessary before sharing the intellectual property of others from completed courses with students taking the same/similar courses in subsequent terms/years. In many cases, instructors might be

happy to allow distribution of certain materials. However, doing so without expressed permission is considered a violation of intellectual property rights.

Please alert the instructor if you become aware of intellectual property belonging to others (past or present) circulating, either through the student body or online. The intellectual property rights owner deserves to know (and may have already given their consent).