

Faculty of Law

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Course Book

The information in this book may change before or during the 2025-26 academic year. For complete and accurate information about any course, please read the course outline that you will receive at the beginning of the course.

Table of Contents

Welcome	5
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Juris Doctor (JD) Program

Juris Doctor (JD) Program	6
1L	7
2L and 3L	7
Perspectives Requirement	9
Writing Requirement	10

1L Courses

All 1L courses are required. The 1L class is divided into three sections and every student is allocated to one of those sections for all their courses.

Constitutional Law	11, 12
Contracts	13, 14, 15
Crime: Law and Procedure	16, 17
Fundamental Legal Skills (FLS)	18, 19
Law, Administration and Policy (LAP)	20
Property	21, 22
Torts	23, 24

2L Required Courses

There are two sections of each course every year.

Administrative Law	25, 26
Evidence	27
Truth and Rebuilding Canadian Indigenous Legal Relations (TRC)	28, 29

2L or 3L Required Courses

Students must take these courses but can choose whether to take them in 2L or 3L. Priority for registration is given to 3L students. There are two sections of each course every year.

Business Associations	30
Civil Procedure	31
Dispute Resolution (DR)	32
Ethical Lawyering	33, 34

2L or 3L Electives

Students may choose to take these courses in 2L or 3L.

Priority for registration is given to 3L students.

Access to Justice	35
Advanced Advocacy	36
Advanced Criminal Law	37
Advanced Legal Research and Writing (ALRW)	38
Air and Space Law	39
Bankruptcy and Restructuring Law	40
Basic Tax Law	41, 42
Clinical Practice	43-45
Community Lawyering	46, 47
Comparative and International Indigenous Rights	48
Conflict of Laws	49
Corporate Tax	50
Directed Research	51
Elder Law	52
Employment Law	53
Environmental Law	54
Externship	55-56
Family Law	57, 58
First Nations Business and Taxation	59
First Nations Governance and Economic Development	60
Health Law	61
Human Rights Law	62
Immigration and Refugee Law	63
Insurance Law	64
International Dispute Resolution	65
International Law	66
Law and Film	67
Law and Religion	68
Mental Health Law and Policy in Canada	69
Moots	70-72
Municipal Law	73
Real Estate Transactions	74
Sentencing Law	75
Sexual Offences: Prosecution and Defence	76
Sports and Human Rights	77
Sports Law: Professional Leagues and International Sports Organisations	78
Trusts	79
Unjust Enrichment	80

Wills and Estates	81
Courses not offered in 2025-26	82
Study at Another University	
Study Abroad	83
Visit Another Canadian Law School	83
Policies and Other Useful Information	
Academic Awards	84
Academic Integrity	84
Accommodation	84
Exams	85
Grades and Marks	85
Grading Policy	87
Grade Reappraisals	90
Minimum Passing Grades	90
Satisfactory Academic Progress	90
TRU Policies	91
Forms for JD Students	
Application to do Directed Research	92
Graduation Requirements Checklist	93
Request for Grade Reappraisal	94
Index of Instructors and Moot Coaches	95-96

Welcome

Welcome to the annual Course Book for the Faculty of Law at Thompson Rivers University. It contains important information about our JD program and the courses we offer. It does not contain everything you need to know about the JD. Other information, such as course timetables and exam schedules, can be found on our web site:

<https://www.tru.ca/law.html>

I hope that this Course Book will be helpful for you, whether you are one of our current or potential JD students, instructors, administrators, alumni, or benefactors, or anyone else who is interested in our JD program, our graduates, and our faculty.

If you have any suggestions for improving the Course Book, I would be happy to receive them.

With best wishes,
Rob

Dr Robert Chambers
Professor and Department Chair
rchambers@tru.ca

Juris Doctor (JD) Program¹

The JD program consists of 96 credits of courses in three years of full-time study. There are 36 credits of required courses in the first year (1L) followed by 21 credits of required courses and 39 credits of elective courses in the upper two years (2L and 3L). One elective course must satisfy the perspectives requirement and one must satisfy the writing requirement (as explained below). A single elective course may satisfy both requirements.

Every course is three credits unless otherwise stated. Most courses run in a single semester for 150 minutes per week in either two 80-minute classes or one 170-minute class with breaks. The six-credit courses in 1L run for two semesters in two classes per week. All classes are held in person except for a few elective courses that have some classes held live on online because they are taught by sessional lecturers who do not live in Kamloops. Clinical practice, directed research, externships, and moots do not have regularly scheduled classes but have activities taking place at variable times.

In 2L and 3L, students normally take 15 credits per semester, but they may take as few as nine credits or as many as 18 credits in a single semester.

1L Required Courses 36 credits	Constitutional Law (6 credits) Contracts (6 credits) Crime: Law and Procedure (6 credits) Fundamental Legal Skills (FLS) Law, Administration and Policy (LAP) Property (6 credits) Torts (6 credits)
2L Required Courses 9 credits	Administrative Law Evidence Truth and Rebuilding Canadian Indigenous Legal Relations (TRC)
2L or 3L Required Courses 12 credits	Business Associations Civil Procedure Dispute Resolution (DR) Ethical Lawyering
2L or 3L Elective Courses 39 credits	includes a perspectives requirement and a writing requirement

¹ Our JD program was amended in 2021. Students who began the program in 2021 or later are in the amended program described here. Students who began the program before 2021 were in the original program. Information about the original program is in a separate pamphlet, which is available from our Admissions and Records Officer, Leanne Walker (lwalker@tru.ca).

1L

1L is the first year of the JD program. 1L students are divided into three sections (91, 92, or 93) with about 45 students in each section. Every 1L student is placed in one of those sections and has all of their classes with their colleagues in that section.

The 1L program consists of 36 credits of required courses, with six courses per week over two semesters (fall and winter). 1L students have three classes per day, four days per week. 1L classes are held Monday to Thursday at 8:30 to 10 am, 11:30 am to 1 pm, and 2:30 to 4 pm. There are no 1L classes on Friday, but there are many extracurricular activities on those days. The breaks between classes provide opportunities to recharge and refresh, meet up with classmates, attend events, study, or visit your professors.

The December mid-term exams are “help not hurt”. This means that they count towards your final grade only if the mark on the mid-term is better than the mark on the final exam in April. For the vast majority of students, the mark in April is better than the mark in December. This makes the December exams a safe place in which to test your understanding of the law and your ability to convey that understanding through the unique format of a law school exam. You will be asked to provide legal advice to imaginary clients about their imaginary legal problems. You will also be asked to explain and critique the law.

Every 1L student does a moot in winter semester as part of Fundamental Legal Skills (FLS). Moot is short for moot court, which is a simulated court in which students can learn and develop their written and oral advocacy skills. The FLS moot involves researching and writing a factum (which are the written arguments submitted to a court of appeal) and presenting oral arguments to the court. Students can also participate in other moots as extracurricular activities or for credit as elective courses in 2L or 3L.

2L and 3L

The two upper years of the JD program (2L and 3L) consist of 60 credits, which are normally taken as five 3-credit courses per semester for four semesters. Students can also apply to take clinical practice courses in fall, winter, or summer for 6, 9, or 12 credits per course.

The 60 credits in 2L and 3L consist of 21 credits (7 courses) of required courses and 39 credits of elective courses. Three required courses (Administrative Law, Evidence, and TRC) are taken in 2L, while the other four required courses (Business Associations, Civil Procedure, Dispute Resolution, and Ethical Lawyering) can be taken in 2L or 3L. Along with the required courses in 1L, these seven required courses in 2L and 3L create a solid foundation that prepares students for more advanced courses and their future careers.

Elective courses may be taken in 2L or 3L. Most do not have pre-requisites beyond successful completion of the 1L program. Some electives do have additional pre- or co-requisites.

Required courses are offered twice each year (once per semester), while most elective courses are only offered once per year. Some electives may be offered twice per year because of higher enrolments, while a few others are usually offered every other year because of lower enrolments. There are about 60 students enrolled in each required course, while elective courses range from small seminars to lectures with up to 60 students. The upper-year moots generally have teams of five students, while most elective courses have enrolments ranging from 20 to 40 students.

Registration for upper-year courses begins in June for the following academic year. Students going into 3L have priority and begin registration a week earlier than students going into 2L.

Upper-year students can also apply to be tutors for 1L students or research assistants for professors. These are paid positions that provide valuable teaching and research experience.

2L students are also kept busy as they begin their search for employment upon graduation with excellent support from our Career Services Office.² Most of our graduates begin their legal careers as articling students under the supervision of a qualified lawyer, while some start out as clerks for judges.

² <https://www.tru.ca/law/students/career-services/students-alumni.html>

Perspectives Requirement

You must complete at least one elective course in 2L or 3L that fulfils legal theory, philosophy, or perspectives-related learning objectives. The following courses offered in 2025-26 will satisfy this requirement:

- Access to Justice
- Advanced Advocacy
- Clinical Practice
- Community Lawyering
- Comparative and International Indigenous Rights
- Directed Research (depending on the subject)
- Elder Law
- Employment Law
- Environmental Law
- First Nations Business and Taxation
- First Nations Governance and Economic Development
- Health Law
- Human Rights Law
- Immigration and Refugee Law
- Immigration, Refugee, and Citizenship Law Moot
- International Dispute Resolution
- International Law
- Jessup Moot
- Kawaskimhon National Aboriginal Moot
- Law and Film
- Law and Religion
- Mental Health Law and Policy in Canada
- Sentencing Law
- Sports and Human Rights
- Wilson Moot

Writing Requirement

You must either (a) write a paper, case comment, memo, moot factum, or similar piece of work that is at least 4,500 words and worth at least 50% of the grade in an elective course, or (b) take Advanced Legal Research and Writing (LAWF 3950). The following courses offered in 2025-26 will or may satisfy this requirement:

- Access to Justice
- Advanced Legal Research and Writing (ALRW)
- BC Law Schools Moot
- Community Lawyering
- Comparative and International Indigenous Rights
- Davies Corporate/Securities Moot
- Law and Film
- Directed Research
- Elder Law
- Environmental Law
- First Nations Governance and Economic Development
- Health Law
- Human Rights Law
- Immigration and Refugee Law
- Immigration, Refugee, and Citizenship Law Moot
- International Dispute Resolution
- Jessup Moot
- Law and Film
- Mental Health Law and Policy in Canada
- Sports and Human Rights
- Wilson Moot

Constitutional Law			
Course Code	LAWF 3010	Section Number	91
Instructor	Professor Nicole Schabus		
Course is open to	1L	Course is	required
Semesters	fall and winter	Credits	6
Days and Times	Monday and Wednesday at 2:30 to 3:50 p.m.		
Assessment Method	TBC		
Materials	<p>The Constitutional Law Group, eds, Canadian Constitutional Law (Emond Montgomery, 2022) 6th edition. This book comes with an access code and instructions for accessing these materials electronically. Copies are also available in the library on reserve.</p> <p>The Constitution Acts, 1867 to 1982 (Department of Justice, Canada). Available online: http://laws.justice.gc.ca/eng/Const/</p> <p>Additional materials are provided through Moodle.</p>		
Calendar Description	<p>Students are introduced to the basic elements of Canadian constitutional law. Topics include the nature of constitutions and constitutional processes; principles of constitutional interpretation; constitutional amendment; and 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. Students also examine the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms including principles of limitations, remedies, interpretation, application, fundamental freedoms, democratic and language rights, mobility rights, legal rights, equality rights, and Aboriginal rights.</p>		
Other Information			

Constitutional Law			
Course Code	LAWF 3010	Section Numbers	92 and 93
Instructor	Professor Blair Major		
Course is open to	1L	Course is	required
Semesters	fall and winter	Credits	6
Days and Times	Tuesday and Thursday at 11:30 a.m. to 12:50 p.m.		
Assessment Method	TBC		
Materials	<p>The Constitutional Law Group, eds, <i>Canadian Constitutional Law</i> (Emond Montgomery, 2022) 6th edn. This book comes with an access code and instructions for accessing these materials electronically. Copies are also available in the library on reserve.</p> <p>The <i>Constitution Acts, 1867 to 1982</i> (Department of Justice, Canada). Available online: http://laws.justice.gc.ca/eng/Const/</p> <p>Additional materials are provided through Moodle.</p>		
Calendar Description	<p>Students are introduced to the basic elements of Canadian constitutional law. Topics include the nature of constitutions and constitutional processes; principles of constitutional interpretation; constitutional amendment; and 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. Students also examine the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms including principles of limitations, remedies, interpretation, application, fundamental freedoms, democratic and language rights, mobility rights, legal rights, equality rights, and Aboriginal rights.</p>		
Other Information	Sections 92 and 93 will be combined in both semesters.		

Contracts			
Course Code	LAWF 3030	Section Number	91
Instructor	Dr Krish Maharaj		
Course is open to	1L	Course is	required
Semesters	fall and winter	Credits	6
Days and Times	Monday and Wednesday at 8:30 to 9:50 a.m.		
Assessment Method	20% Moodle quizzes x 20 (1% each) 30% or 0% mid-term exam (counts only if better than final exam) 50% or 80% final exam		
Materials	Course materials are provided through Moodle. Further reading: Bruce MacDougall, <i>Introduction to Contracts</i> , 5th edn (LexisNexis, 2022).		
Calendar Description	Students undertake 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. Students explore the following: the formation of contracts including offer, 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; and dispute resolution processes. Emphasis is placed not only on knowledge of rules and principles, their historical derivation, rationale, efficacy and social validity, but also upon the creative use of contracts to both avoid and resolve disputes.		
Other Information	The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the fundamental principles of Canadian contract law. Students will learn the basic rules of contract law, and how to apply these rules to novel situations. Emphasis is placed on developing the analytical skills necessary to identify contractual problems and propose reasoned solutions. Attention is also paid to the fundamental premises and policy rationales animating the various rules we shall encounter throughout this course.		

Contracts			
Course Code	LAWF 3030	Section Number	92
Instructor	Dr Chris Hunt		
Course is open to	1L	Course is	required
Semesters	fall and winter	Credits	6
Days and Times	Monday and Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. to 12:50 p.m.		
Assessment Method	30% or 0% mid-term exam (counts only if better than final exam) 70% or 100% final exam		
Materials	Stephanie Ben-Ishai and David Percy, <i>Contracts: Cases and Commentaries</i> , 10th edn (Toronto: Carswell, 2018)		
Calendar Description	Students undertake 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. Students explore the following: the formation of contracts including offer, 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; and dispute resolution processes. Emphasis is placed not only on knowledge of rules and principles, their historical derivation, rationale, efficacy and social validity, but also upon the creative use of contracts to both avoid and resolve disputes.		
Other Information			

Contracts			
Course Code	LAWF 3030	Section Number	93
Instructor	Professor Jack Nelson		
Course is open to	1L	Course is	required
Semesters	fall and winter	Credits	6
Days and Times	Tuesday and Thursday at 8:30 to 9:50 a.m.		
Assessment Method	20% Moodle quizzes x 20 (1% each) 30% or 0% mid-term exam (counts only if better than final exam) 50% or 80% final exam		
Materials	will be provided through Moodle		
Calendar Description	Students undertake 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. Students explore the following: the formation of contracts including offer, 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; and dispute resolution processes. Emphasis is placed not only on knowledge of rules and principles, their historical derivation, rationale, efficacy and social validity, but also upon the creative use of contracts to both avoid and resolve disputes.		
Other Information			

Crime: Law and Procedure			
Course Code	LAWF 3080	Section Numbers	91 and 92
Instructor	Dr Robert Diab (fall) and Professor Mark Mancini (winter)		
Course is open to	1L	Course is	required
Semesters	fall and winter	Credits	6
Days and Times	Tuesday and Thursday at 11:30 a.m. to 12:50 p.m. (section 91) or Tuesday and Thursday at 8:30 to 9:50 a.m. (section 92)		
Assessment Method	40% or 0% mid-term exam (counts only if better than final exam) 60% or 100% final exam		
Materials	Materials are provided through Moodle. Cases are available online at canlii.org or scc-csc.lexum.com .		
Calendar Description	This course provides an anatomy of criminal conduct and its legal treatment, utilizing a limited range of criminal offences. Students examine the designation of human conduct as criminal and consider the social, cultural and political forces involved. Other topics include: 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 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; and the position at law of the victim.		
Other Information			

Crime: Law and Procedure			
Course Code	LAWF 3080	Section Number	93
Instructor	Professor Mark Mancini		
Course is open to	1L	Course is	required
Semesters	fall and winter	Credits	6
Days and Times	Monday and Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. to 12:50 p.m.		
Assessment Method	40% or 0% mid-term exam (counts only if better than final exam) 60% or 100% final exam		
Materials	Materials are provided through Moodle. Cases are available online at canlii.org or scc-csc.lexum.com .		
Calendar Description	<p>This course provides an anatomy of criminal conduct and its legal treatment, utilizing a limited range of criminal offences. Students examine the designation of human conduct as criminal and consider the social, cultural and political forces involved. Other topics include: 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 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; and the position at law of the victim.</p>		
Other Information	<p>The objective of this course is to provide students with a solid foundation in Canadian criminal law and procedure. Students will be expected to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. understand and critically assess (a) the role of police, prosecutors, defence counsel and judges in the administration of the criminal law process; (b) the principles of criminal responsibility and punishment; and (c) the effect of the <i>Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms</i> upon both criminal procedure and substantive criminal law; 2. understand and critically assess various theories and perspectives on the purposes and functions of the criminal law and criminal justice system and on the competing interests that both serve; 3. develop an ability to engage in open and respectful discussion about legal issues; and 4. demonstrate competence in identifying legal issues in a problem and to present, in an acceptable legal style, arguments in relation to such issues. 		

Fundamental Legal Skills (FLS)			
Course Code	LAWF 3060	Section Numbers	01 and 02
Instructor	TBC		
Course is open to	1L	Course is	required
Semester	winter	Credits	3
Days and Times	Tuesday and Thursday at 2:30 to 3:50 p.m. (section 01) or Monday and Wednesday at 2:30 to 3:50 p.m. (section 02)		
Assessment Method	CR (credit) or NCG (no credit given) (i.e. pass/fail)		
Materials	TBC		
Calendar Description	Students are introduced to the following: legal analysis; legal writing and communication, including memoranda and facta; oral advocacy, including mooted; research databases and legal research skills. Emphasis is placed on skill development in oral advocacy and drafting both legislation and private law documents.		
Other Information	Students in section 91 are in section 01 of FLS, and students in section 92 are in section 02 of FLS.		

Fundamental Legal Skills (FLS)			
Course Code	LAWF 3060	Section Number	03
Instructor	Dr Andrew Pilliar		
Course is open to	1L	Course is	required
Semester	winter	Credits	3
Days and Times	Tuesday and Thursday at 2:30 to 3:50 p.m.		
Assessment Method	CR (credit) or NCG (no credit given) (i.e. pass/fail) based on: 25% participation 25% research memo 25% written pleadings 25% oral pleadings		
Materials	will be provided through Moodle		
Calendar Description	Students are introduced to the following: legal analysis; legal writing and communication, including memoranda and facta; oral advocacy, including moot; research databases and legal research skills. Emphasis is placed on skill development in oral advocacy and drafting both legislation and private law documents.		
Other Information	This course will: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Engage you in seeking to understand what skills, habits, and values are fundamental to being a lawyer. 2. Provide opportunities for you to develop and refine your legal research skills. 3. Provide opportunities for you to refine your legal writing and editing skills. 4. Provide an opportunity for you to gain oral advocacy experience by participating in a moot. Students in section 93 are in section 03 of FLS.		

Law, Administration and Policy (LAP)			
Course Code	LAWF 3040	Section Numbers	01, 02, and 03
Instructor	Dr Seán Donlan		
Course is open to	1L	Course is	required
Semester	fall	Credits	3
Days and Times	Tuesday and Thursday at 2:30 to 3:50 p.m. (sections 01 and 03) or Monday and Wednesday at 2:30 to 3:50 p.m. (section 02)		
Assessment Method	CR (credit) or NCG (no credit given) (i.e. pass/fail) based on: 25% course exercises 25% in-class activities 25% case analysis assignment 25% legislative interpretation assignment		
Materials	John Fairlie, <i>Introduction to Law in Canada</i> , 3rd edn (Toronto: Emond Montgomery, 2023). Additional materials will be posted on Moodle.		
Calendar Description	Students are introduced to the following: systems and institutions; sources of law; case analysis and problem-solving skills; court systems; precedent, stare decisis. Students examine the fundamentals of the legislative process: policy development, legislative drafting, public bill process, and statutory interpretation. The interaction of law and policy in the development of legislation, statutory interpretation and the work of administrative tribunals are discussed, along with the fundamentals of the administrative process: subordinate legislation, administrative institutions, forms of dispute resolution, delegation, discretion, process and judicial review. Students make substantive law connections with other first year courses. The functions of the lawyer within these processes are examined, including issues of professional responsibility. Emphasis is placed on skill development in oral advocacy and drafting both legislation and private law documents.		
Other Information	This course introduces students to the Canadian legal system. This includes learning about key legal actors and the relationship between the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government. It also includes learning about the main sources of law: statutory and case law. In terms of common law, students will learn about the analytic method of case analysis and problem-solving. In terms of statutory law, students will learn about legislative process and the rules of statutory interpretation. Sections 01 and 03 will be combined. Students in section 91, 92, or 93 are in section 01, 02, or 03 of LAP, respectively.		

Property			
Course Code	LAWF 3050	Section Numbers	91 and 93
Instructor	Dr Rob Chambers		
Course is open to	1L	Course is	required
Semesters	fall and winter	Credits	6
Days and Times	Monday and Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. to 12:50 p.m. (section 91) Monday and Wednesday at 8:30 to 9:50 a.m. (section 93)		
Assessment Method	40% or 0% mid-term exam (counts only if better than final exam) 20% written assignment in March 40% or 80% final exam		
Materials	Robert Chambers, <i>The Law of Property</i> (Irwin Law, Toronto, 2021) is available online from the TRU Library. Other materials are provided through Moodle.		
Calendar Description	This course is an examination of the fundamental concepts of property law and the types of property interest recognized by Anglo-Canadian law. Topics include 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, licenses, 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.		
Other Information	Upon completing this course, you should understand and be able to explain: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the basic principles of property law in Canada, • justifications for those principles, • what property is, • how property rights differ from personal rights, • the different kinds of property rights recognised in Canadian law, • how property rights can be created or transferred, • how to resolve disputes involving competing property rights, and • aspects of property law that are uncertain or inconsistent and in possible need of reform. 		

Property			
Course Code	LAWF 3050	Section Number	92
Instructor	Professor Brad Morse		
Course is open to	1L	Course is	required
Semesters	fall and winter	Credits	6
Days and Times	Tuesday and Thursday at 2:30 to 3:50 p.m.		
Assessment Method	40% or 0% mid-term exam (counts only if better than final exam) 20% written assignment in March 40% or 80% final exam		
Materials	Robert Chambers, <i>The Law of Property</i> (Irwin Law, Toronto, 2021) is available online from the TRU Library. Other materials are provided through Moodle.		
Calendar Description	This course is an examination of the fundamental concepts of property law and the types of property interest recognized by Anglo-Canadian law. Topics include 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, licenses, 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.		
Other Information	<p>Upon completing this course, you should understand and be able to explain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the basic principles of property law in Canada, • justifications for those principles, • what property is, • how property rights differ from personal rights, • the different kinds of property rights recognised in Canadian law, • how property rights can be created or transferred, • how to resolve disputes involving competing property rights, and • aspects of property law that are uncertain or inconsistent and in possible need of reform. 		

Torts			
Course Code	LAWF 3070	Section Numbers	91 and 92
Instructor	David Hughes		
Course is open to	1L	Course is	required
Semesters	fall and winter	Credits	6
Days and Times	Tuesday and Thursday at 8:30 to 9:50 a.m. (section 91) or Monday and Wednesday at 8:30 to 9:50 a.m. (section 92)		
Assessment Method	TBC		
Materials	TBC		
Calendar Description	Students analyze and critique the law of torts, primarily the law of negligence, with personal injury as the main focus, although other torts are also introduced. Topics include the nature of tort law and its process; an anatomy of the law of negligence, including the nature and extent of liability, defenses, 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.		
Other Information			

Torts			
Course Code	LAWF 3070	Section Number	93
Instructor	Dr Ryan Gauthier		
Course is open to	1L	Course is	required
Semesters	fall and winter	Credits	6
Days and Times	Monday and Wednesday at 2:30 to 3:50 p.m.		
Assessment Method	assignments, mid-term exam, and final exam (mid-term exam counts only if better than final exam)		
Materials	Samuel Beswick, <i>Tort Law: Cases and Commentaries</i> , Peter A. Allard School of Law, UBC, 2021 CanLIIDocs 1859, https://canlii.ca/t/t9st Ernest J Weinrib, <i>Tort Law: Cases and Materials</i> , 5th edn (Emond, Toronto, 2019) Additional materials are provided through Moodle		
Calendar Description	Students analyze and critique the law of torts, primarily the law of negligence, with personal injury as the main focus, although other torts are also introduced. Topics include the nature of tort law and its process; an anatomy of the law of negligence, including the nature and extent of liability, defenses, 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.		
Other Information	An introduction to the Canadian law of torts. Students learn the basic idea of a tort as a non-contractual civil wrong, as well as topics including nuisance, negligence, damages, defences, and vicarious liability. Students examine the role of tort law in modern Canadian society, including in important political and moral questions such as environmental harm, the meaning of consent, and decolonization and reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.		

Administrative Law			
Course Code	LAWF 3900	Section Number	01
Instructor	Professor Mark Mancini		
Course is open to	2L	Course is	required
Semester	fall	Credits	3
Days and Times	Monday and Wednesday at 8:30 to 9:50 a.m.		
Assessment Method	10% hot-seat participation 90% final exam		
Materials	Heckman et al, <i>Administrative Law: Cases, Text and Materials</i> , 8th edn (Toronto: Emond Montgomery, 2022) Additional materials may be provided through Moodle		
Calendar Description	Students are introduced to the general structure of administrative decision-making in Canada: how public administrators obtain power and how that power is exercised both at the level of individual adjudication and at the level of the establishment of public policy. This course also provides an introduction to the checks which courts place on the exercise of administrative power. Students discuss the procedures that courts require of administrative agencies and public officials as well as the substantive grounds on which courts may review the decisions of administrative agencies and public officials.		
Other Information	By the end of the course, students will understand and be able to articulate the foundation of administrative law, and the way in which the relationship between the judiciary, legislature and executive structures the judicial review analysis of administrative decisions. Students will understand the main branches of judicial review in administrative law, including procedural fairness, bias and substantive review. Students will understand and be able to work with the key legal principles of administrative law, which includes being able to articulate the principles, apply these principles to different factual situations, critically analyse the legal sources relevant to these principles, and reflect on the evolution of these principles.		

Administrative Law			
Course Code	LAWF 3900	Section Number	01
Instructor	Dr Blair Major		
Course is open to	2L	Course is	required
Semester	winter	Credits	3
Days and Times	Monday and Wednesday at 8:30 to 9:50 a.m.		
Assessment Method	30% written assignment 70% final exam		
Materials	Van Harten et al, <i>Administrative Law: Cases, Text and Materials</i> , 8th edn (Toronto: Emond Montgomery, 2022) Additional materials will be provided through Moodle.		
Calendar Description	Students are introduced to the general structure of administrative decision-making in Canada: how public administrators obtain power and how that power is exercised both at the level of individual adjudication and at the level of the establishment of public policy. This course also provides an introduction to the checks which courts place on the exercise of administrative power. Students discuss the procedures that courts require of administrative agencies and public officials as well as the substantive grounds on which courts may review the decisions of administrative agencies and public officials.		
Other Information	Administrative agencies are a significant part of government. They make decisions that affect all of us in diverse areas such as immigration, human rights, communications, social benefits, environmental protection, labour relations, access to natural resources, freedom of information, and licensing. This course will examine the constraints on and judicial oversight of administrative decision-makers. The course focuses on procedural and substantive grounds for judicial review.		

Evidence			
Course Code	LAWF 3920	Section Number	01
Instructor	Dr Chris Hunt		
Course is open to	2L	Course is	required
Semester	fall or winter	Credits	3
Days and Times	Tuesday and Thursday at 11:30 a.m. to 12:50 p.m.		
Assessment Method	100% final exam		
Materials	Stewart et al, <i>Evidence: A Canadian Casebook</i> , 5th edn (Toronto: Emond Montgomery, 2020)		
Calendar Description	This course is an examination of the fundamental concepts of evidence law, including the traditional rules as compared to the emerging principled approach, and such core and primary topics as the adversary system; relevance and discretionary exclusion; privilege; burdens of proof; character evidence; judicial notice; competence and compellability; examination of witnesses; hearsay; and opinion evidence.		
Other Information			

Truth and Rebuilding Canadian Indigenous Legal Relations (TRC)			
Course Code	LAWF 3890	Section Number	01
Instructor	Professor Murray Sholty		
Course is open to	2L	Course is	required
Semester	fall	Credits	3
Days and Times	Monday and Wednesday at 10:00 to 11:20 a.m.		
Assessment Method	TBC		
Materials	TBC		
Calendar Description	<p>The course focuses on the substantive elements of the law-school specific TRC Call to Action #28, especially Indigenous Laws, Crown-Aboriginal relations, Treaties and Aboriginal Rights. To ground the learning on Indigenous Laws, land-based learning will be a central experiential learning element of the course. The course also elaborates on the history and legacy of residential school building and the colonial foundations of the legal system. The course will build on indigenous teachings and include skill-based training in inter-cultural competence, anti-racism, human rights and conflict resolution. In addition, it will integrate the international element of TRC Call to Action #28. It refers to the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and the course will further introduce other international legal obligations that Canada is bound by in regard to Indigenous Peoples.</p>		
Other Information			

Truth and Rebuilding Canadian Indigenous Legal Relations (TRC)			
Course Code	LAWF 3890	Section Number	01
Instructor	Professor Brad Morse		
Course is open to	2L	Course is	required
Semester	winter	Credits	3
Days and Times	Friday at 10:00 a.m. to 12:50 p.m.		
Assessment Method	TBC		
Materials	TBC		
Calendar Description	<p>The course focuses on the substantive elements of the law-school specific TRC Call to Action #28, especially Indigenous Laws, Crown-Aboriginal relations, Treaties and Aboriginal Rights. To ground the learning on Indigenous Laws, land-based learning will be a central experiential learning element of the course. The course also elaborates on the history and legacy of residential school building and the colonial foundations of the legal system. The course will build on indigenous teachings and include skill-based training in inter-cultural competence, anti-racism, human rights and conflict resolution. In addition, it will integrate the international element of TRC Call to Action #28. It refers to the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and the course will further introduce other international legal obligations that Canada is bound by in regard to Indigenous Peoples.</p>		
Other Information			

Business Associations			
Course Code	LAWF 3800	Section Number	01
Instructor	Dr Krish Maharaj		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	required
Semester	fall or winter	Credits	3
Days and Times	Monday and Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. to 12:50 p.m.		
Assessment Method	100% final exam		
Materials	J Anthony VanDuzer, <i>The Law of Partnerships and Corporations</i> , 4th edn (Irwin Law, 2018) is available online from the TRU Library		
Calendar Description	This course is a detailed survey of the common forms of business organization, including the law of agency, partnerships, limited partnerships, and societies and corporations, with a focus on the corporation and the rights and responsibilities of shareholders and directors.		
Other Information	By the end of this course, students should be able to describe the key attributes of the forms of business organization covered in the course and the respective advantages and disadvantages of these forms. Students should also understand the respective rights and responsibilities of management and ownership, and the fundamentals of corporate governance.		

Civil Procedure			
Course Code	LAWF 3910	Section Number	01
Instructor	Dr Andrew Pilliar		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	required
Semester	fall or winter	Credits	3
Days and Times	Tuesday and Thursday at 8:30 to 9:50 a.m.		
Assessment Method	10% participation in periodic small group discussions in class 30% optional help-not-hurt assignment 60% or 90% final exam		
Materials	Fraser, Horn, and Griffin, <i>The Conduct of Civil Litigation in British Columbia</i> , Student Edition, 2nd edn (LexisNexis, 2020). The 1st edition is also acceptable.		
Calendar Description	This course is a detailed examination of issues which arise in the progress of a civil action from first meeting the client through to judgment in the Supreme Court of British Columbia. The British Columbia Rules of Court are set in the context of the values underlying them. What sort of civil litigation system do we want? What sort of system do we in fact have? Particular attention is paid to the linkages between the apparently discrete components of the process as set out in the Rules, linkages at the levels of both the underlying values and the actual practice. The use of procedures under the Rules to anticipate and resolve evidence problems that might arise at trial is emphasized. Interprovincial and international aspects of the civil litigation process are also considered.		
Other Information	This course will: 1. introduce the fundamentals of civil procedure and familiarize students with the structure of a civil action, 2. provide a theoretical framework for the rules of procedure and identify the values and policies on which the rules are based, and 3. place the rules in a practical context to encourage future practitioners to use the rules in a responsible, strategic, and cost-effective manner.		

Dispute Resolution (DR)			
Course Code	LAWF 3940	Section Number	01
Instructor	Chrystie Stewart		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	required
Semester	fall or winter	Credits	3
Days and Times	Wednesday at 4:00 to 6:50 p.m.		
Assessment Method	CR (credit) or NCG (no credit given) (i.e. pass/fail) 50% participation 50% five assignments (10% each)		
Materials	There is no required textbook for the course, but the following book is recommended: Roger Fisher and William Ury, <i>Getting to Yes</i> , 3rd edn (Penguin Books, 2011).		
Calendar Description	This course provides an overview of the spectrum of the consensual dispute resolution process, including negotiation, collaborative lawyering, mediation, and judicial dispute resolution (JDR). Interest-based bargaining and mediation are emphasized.		
Other Information	<p>By the end of the course, students should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. identify the difference between positional bargaining and interest based negotiations; 2. demonstrate a working knowledge of value based negotiations; 3. articulately express their thoughts verbally while engaging in debate; 4. identify legal issues and potential remedies in order to create a negotiation map; 5. draft a mediation brief; 6. conduct a mediation; 7. orally advocate for their client in a multi-party negotiation; 8. draft a settlement agreement. 		

Ethical Lawyering			
Course Code	LAWF 3930	Section Number	01
Instructors	Alana Hughes		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	required
Semester	fall	Credits	3
Days and Times	Tuesday and Thursday at 5:30 to 6:50 p.m.		
Assessment Method	100% final exam		
Materials	<p><i>Legal Profession Act, SBC 1998, c 9</i> <i>Legal Professions Act, SBC 2024, c 26</i> <i>Law Society Rules</i> <i>Code of Professional Conduct for British Columbia</i></p> <p>Additional materials are provided through Moodle.</p>		
Calendar Description	<p>This course is an introduction to issues of legal ethics and professional responsibility. Students become competent at ethical reasoning in the context of legal practice. To achieve this goal, the course covers selected topics in the ‘law of lawyering’ (for example, the Law Society of British Columbia’s Code of Professional Conduct), but also addresses the general question of what it means to be an ethical lawyer. Students are expected to develop their awareness of the various moral values underlying the legal system, and to practice how to weigh and apply those values, and the law of lawyering, to ethical problems. Selected topics relating to the regulation of lawyers’ ethics are also addressed.</p>		
Other Information	<p>Upon completing this course, you should understand and be able to explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the duties that lawyers have toward clients, courts, other legal system participants and stakeholders as well as the public? 2. What are the most important parts of the <i>Act, Rules</i> and <i>Code</i>? 3. What are legal ethics anyway? How do you know you have an ethical problem as a lawyer, and what you do if you have one? 		

Ethical Lawyering			
Course Code	LAWF 3930	Section Number	01
Instructors	Kathy Kendall KC and Alana Hughes		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	required
Semester	winter	Credits	3
Days and Times	Tuesday at 5:30 to 6:50 p.m. and Thursday at 10:00 to 11:20 a.m.		
Assessment Method	100% final exam		
Materials	<i>Legal Profession Act, SBC 1998, c 9</i> <i>Legal Professions Act, SBC 2024, c 26</i> <i>Law Society Rules</i> <i>Code of Professional Conduct for British Columbia</i> Additional materials are provided through Moodle.		
Calendar Description	This course is an introduction to issues of legal ethics and professional responsibility. Students become competent at ethical reasoning in the context of legal practice. To achieve this goal, the course covers selected topics in the 'law of lawyering' (for example, the Law Society of British Columbia's Code of Professional Conduct), but also addresses the general question of what it means to be an ethical lawyer. Students are expected to develop their awareness of the various moral values underlying the legal system, and to practice how to weigh and apply those values, and the law of lawyering, to ethical problems. Selected topics relating to the regulation of lawyers' ethics are also addressed.		
Other Information	Upon completing this course, you should understand and be able to explain: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. What are the duties that lawyers have toward clients, courts, other legal system participants and stakeholders as well as the public? 5. What are the most important parts of the <i>Act, Rules</i> and <i>Code</i>? 6. What are legal ethics anyway? How do you know you have an ethical problem as a lawyer, and what you do if you have one? 		

Access to Justice			
Course Code	LAWF 3160	Section Number	01
Instructor	Dr Andrew Pilliar		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	fall	Credits	3
Days and Times	Tuesday and Thursday at 11:30 a.m. to 12:50 p.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	yes	meets writing requirement	yes
Assessment Method	10% participation 15% leading a class discussion 15% short paper 60% major assignment		
Materials	are available on Moodle		
Calendar Description	Students examine what access to justice (A2J) means in contemporary legal and policy contexts. Students are introduced to recent case law, legislation, and research in this pressing area, and critically examine definitions and theoretical underpinnings of access to justice. Students have an opportunity to discuss, assess, and synthesize policy responses to A2J problems and to address A2J issues as they manifest in a range of legal areas (including criminal, civil, and family law).		
Other Information	Through this course, students will: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. develop a critical understanding of what “access to justice” might mean in contemporary discourse, 2. cultivate awareness of the breadth of access to justice problems facing individuals, and the methodological tools available for understanding those problems, 3. develop an appreciation of tools available to policy-makers to address public policy issues like access to justice, and 4. critically engage with access to justice problems and synthesize possible solutions based on their knowledge and experience. 		

Advanced Advocacy			
Course Code	LAWF 3580	Section Number	01
Instructor	Iain Currie		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	winter	Credits	3
Days and Times	Thursday at 6:00 to 8:50 p.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	yes	meets writing requirement	no
Assessment Method	30% participation 30% class assignments 40% final assignment		
Materials	are provided through Moodle		
Calendar Description	Students examine how legal decisions are made and influenced. They draw upon extensive research in fields as diverse as product marketing and modern neuroscience, and structure those discoveries into a framework of classical rhetoric as developed in Ancient Greece and Rome. Students expand their perspective of the student-advocate, and obtain advanced knowledge upon which to base the development of practical skills throughout a career in practice.		
Other Information	<p>This course believes that advocacy can be learned but not taught.</p> <p>The first half of each class will involve an examination of the tools of legal persuasion focusing on their efficacy and the ethics of their use. The second half will involve a combination of hands-on exercises and critical observation of legal argument and trial skills in practice. The goal motivating both halves is not to teach the practice of advocacy but rather to provide an opportunity for students to learn how to find their own way toward mastering the art.</p>		

Advanced Criminal Law			
Course Code	LAWF 3570	Section Number	01
Instructor	Iain Currie		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	fall	Credits	3
Days and Times	Tuesday and Thursday at 4:00 to 5:20 p.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	no	meets writing requirement	no
Assessment Method	100% final exam		
Materials	<p>Greenspan, Rosenberg, Henein and Gourlay, <i>2024 Martin's Annual Criminal Code</i> (Toronto: Thomson Reuters, 2024).</p> <p>Steve Coughlan, <i>Criminal Procedure</i> (Toronto: Irwin Law, 2020) is available online from the TRU Library.</p>		
Calendar Description	<p>Examination of selected substantive areas of criminal law. Topics may include double jeopardy, police entrapment, conspiracy, corporate crime, theft, impaired driving and breathalyzer offences, plea negotiations, ethical issues, mistake of law as a defence, and juveniles and the criminal process.</p>		
Other Information	<p>The course objectives are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. provide a grounding in substantive criminal law beyond the basics introduced in the first-year course, ii. examine the application of substantive criminal law in practice, and iii. critically examine substantive criminal law and its practice considering both public perception and normative concepts of justice. 		

Advanced Legal Research and Writing (ALRW)			
Course Code	LAWF 3950	Section Number	01
Instructor	Michelle Terriss		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	fall or winter	Credits	3
Days and Times	Monday and Wednesday at 10:00 to 11:20 a.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	no	meets writing requirement	yes
Assessment Method	5% participation 45% four small assignments 50% final memo		
Materials	<i>Canadian Guide to Uniform Legal Citation</i> , 9th edn (Toronto: Thomson Reuters, 2018) (100 copies in the library) Other materials are provided on Moodle.		
Calendar Description	This course builds on legal research instruction in the first year of the program and affords further opportunities to learn and practice research skills. Students are provided with instruction in research methodology, citation, print and electronic research/databases, covering case law, statute law, texts, periodicals and web-based materials.		
Other Information	This course is divided into three main parts: A. Legal Reasoning - Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • understand critical thinking and formal logic in general and as applied to legal problems. B. Legal Research - Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • understand current and emerging resources, techniques, and strategies; • use multiple legal research platforms and disruptive technologies such as AI; • evaluate the content of databases and print repositories; and • articulate the rationale for their chosen research methodology and resource selection. C. Legal Writing - Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • draft logical, organized, and well-researched documents; and • cite their references correctly according to either the COAL or McGill Guide. 		

Air and Space Law			
Course Code	LAWF 3780	Section Number	TBC
Instructor	Professor Jack Nelson		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	winter	Credits	3
Days and Times	Tuesday and Thursday at 10:00 to 11:20 p.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	no	meets writing requirement	no
Assessment Method	20% case study presentation 20% class participation 60% final exam		
Materials	will be provided through Moodle		
Calendar Description	Selected Topics 2: Students focus on a variety of subject areas, either doctrinal or theoretical.		
Other Information	<p>Each day, thousands of aircraft take flight while relying on services provided by satellites orbiting far above. In this context, this course provides an integrated examination of the international and Canadian legal regimes concerning airspace and outer space. Students will analyze the Chicago Convention's comprehensive regime for international civil aviation alongside the Outer Space Treaty's framework for activities beyond Earth's atmosphere. Through comparative analysis of parallel legal concepts across both regimes — including sovereignty, liability, and jurisdiction — students will be prepared to address current and emergent legal issues in air and space law, both at the international level and via the application of the <i>Aeronautics Act</i> (RSC 1985, c A-2) and the <i>Remote Sensing Space Systems Act</i> (SC 2005, c 45).</p>		

Bankruptcy and Restructuring Law			
Course Code	LAWF 3620	Section Number	01
Instructor	Jeff Coulter		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	winter	Credits	3
Days and Times	Tuesday and Thursday at 4:00 to 5:20 p.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	no	meets writing requirement	no
Assessment Method	10% participation 40% take-home mid-term exam 50% 3-hour open-book exam		
Materials	Houlden, Morawetz, and Sarra, <i>The Annotated Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act</i> . Any recent edition would be suitable. It is available online through TRU Library. Purchase is not required. Other materials are provided on Moodle.		
Calendar Description	Topics in this course include receivership, consumer and commercial arrangements, and bankruptcy under the <i>Bankruptcy Act</i> (BIA) and the <i>Company Creditors Arrangements Act</i> (CCAA).		
Other Information	In particular, this course will involve discussion of the most important sections of the BIA; review of select paragraphs of the textbook's annotations of those sections; exposure to and discussion of select bankruptcy issues and case illustrating the broad range of fact situations in which the BIA operates; and considerations of legal and policy issues that may arise. The primary focus will be on personal bankruptcy, with as much corporate insolvency as time and student interests permit, including reviewing restructuring proceedings under the CCAA.		

Basic Tax Law			
Course Code	LAWF 3830	Section Number	01
Instructor	David Ross		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	fall	Credits	3
Days and Times	Monday and Wednesday at 1:00 to 2:20 p.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	no	meets writing requirement	no
Assessment Method	15% written assignment 85% three-hour final exam		
Materials	<i>Income Tax Act</i> , RSC 1985, c 1 (5th Supp), King's Printer (printed, available from the bookstore) Arthur Cockfield, Martha O'Brien, and Catherine Brown, <i>Material on Canadian Income Tax</i> , 16th edn (Toronto: Thomson Reuters, 2020) Free online resources through CanLII or TaxNetPro		
Calendar Description	Students study the basic language and concepts of taxation and learn to identify taxation issues. Topics include the unit of taxation; the meaning and taxation of income; taxation of benefits; the type and scope of deductions available for business income; and the taxation of capital gains including gains (and losses) on taxpayer assets.		
Other Information			

Basic Tax Law			
Course Code	LAWF 3830	Section Number	01
Instructor	Karen Perry		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	winter	Credits	3
Days and Times	Tuesday at 5:30 to 8:20 p.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	no	meets writing requirement	no
Assessment Method	15% tax assignment 85% final exam 5% class participation bonus (cameras must be on)		
Materials	Arthur Cockfield, Martha O'Brien, and Catherine Brown, <i>Materials on Canadian Income Tax</i> , 16th edn (Toronto: Thomson Reuters, 2020). Li, Magee, and Wilkie, <i>Principles of Canadian Income Tax Law</i> , 10th edn (Toronto: Carswell, 2022). This text can be accessed through Taxnet Pro, which will be provided to students during the course. The <i>Income Tax Act</i> and <i>Income Tax Regulations</i> (available online). Case law that is not included in the texts is available through hyperlinks included in the Reading Guide, or can be accessed using Taxnet Pro or CanLII. Additional materials may be provided through Moodle.		
Calendar Description	Students study the basic language and concepts of taxation and learn to identify taxation issues. Topics include the unit of taxation; the meaning and taxation of income; taxation of benefits; the type and scope of deductions available for business income; and the taxation of capital gains including gains (and losses) on taxpayer assets.		
Other Information	Most classes will be held live online (on Zoom).		

Clinical Practice 2			
Course Code	LAWF 3422	Section Number	01
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	fall, winter, or summer	Credits	6
Days and Times	as arranged with the Executive Director of the TRU CLC		
meets perspectives requirement	yes	meets writing requirement	no
Assessment Method	CR (credit) or NCG (no credit given) (i.e. pass/fail)		
Materials	are provided		
Calendar Description	<p>In the Clinical Practice Course, students have the opportunity to work in the TRU Community Legal Clinic (“TRU CLC”) under the supervision of TRU CLC’s team of supervising lawyers. Students develop these skills in the process of assisting real clients with their legal issues. Students work on approximately 10 to 20 legal matters for individual clients, depending on the complexity and duration of each case.</p>		
Other Information	<p>pre- or corequisite: Community Lawyering (LAWF 3410)</p> <p>Students are selected for this course through an application process. Questions about this course should be addressed to the Chair of the Clinical Adjudication Committee: Dr Ruby Dhand.</p>		

Clinical Practice 3			
Course Code	LAWF 3424	Section Number	01
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	fall, winter, or summer	Credits	9
Days and Times	as arranged with the Executive Director of the TRU CLC		
meets perspectives requirement	yes	meets writing requirement	no
Assessment Method	CR (credit) or NCG (no credit given) (i.e. pass/fail)		
Materials	are provided		
Calendar Description	<p>In the Clinical Practice Course, students have the opportunity to work in the TRU Community Legal Clinic (“TRU CLC”) under the supervision of TRU CLC’s team of supervising lawyers. During the course students develop and practice lawyering skills including: 1) client interviewing and counseling; 2) file management; 3) legal research; 4) the drafting of letters, memoranda and other legal documents such as wills or pleadings; 5) providing summary advice; and 6) advocating on behalf of clients. Students develop these skills in the process of assisting real clients with their legal issues. Students also engage in public education and law reform projects. Students work on approximately 24 to 32 legal matters for individual clients, depending on the complexity and duration of each case.</p>		
Other Information	<p>pre- or corequisite: Community Lawyering (LAWF 3410)</p> <p>Students are selected for this course through an application process. Questions about this course should be addressed to the Chair of the Clinical Adjudication Committee: Dr Ruby Dhand.</p>		

Clinical Practice 4			
Course Code	LAWF 3426	Section Number	01
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	fall, winter, or summer	Credits	12
Days and Times	as arranged with the Executive Director of the TRU CLC		
meets perspectives requirement	yes	meets writing requirement	no
Assessment Method	CR (credit) or NCG (no credit given) (i.e. pass/fail)		
Materials	are provided		
Calendar Description	<p>In the Clinical Practice Course, students have the opportunity to work in the TRU Community Legal Clinic (“TRU CLC”) under the supervision of TRU CLC’s team of supervising lawyers. During the course students develop and practice lawyering skills including: 1) client interviewing and counseling; 2) file management; 3) legal research; 4) the drafting of letters, memoranda and other legal documents such as wills or pleadings; 5) providing summary advice; and 6) advocating on behalf of clients. Students develop these skills in the process of assisting real clients with their legal issues. Students also engage in public education and law reform projects. Students work on approximately 32 to 40 legal matters for individual clients, depending on the complexity and duration of each case.</p>		
Other Information	<p>pre- or corequisite: Community Lawyering (LAWF 3410)</p> <p>Students are selected for this course through an application process. Questions about this course should be addressed to the Chair of the Clinical Adjudication Committee: Dr Ruby Dhand.</p>		

Community Lawyering			
Course Code	LAWF 3410	Section Number	01
Instructor	Dr Ruby Dhand		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	fall	Credits	3
Days and Times	Friday at 10 a.m. to 12:50 p.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	yes	meets writing requirement	yes
Assessment Method	25% workshop presentation 75% research paper (4,500 to 5,500 words)		
Materials	are provided through Moodle		
Calendar Description	Students gain practical skills in community lawyering such as client interviewing, strategic litigation, legal research, and ethical issues. They have the opportunity to examine and to be exposed to access to justice issues in context and specific areas of practice such as residential tenancy law, public legal education and law reform in British Columbia. This course shall be a pre-requisite for participation in the Legal Information Service and clinical legal education programs at TRU Faculty of Law.		
Other Information	This course is a pre- or corequisite for the Clinical Practice courses.		

Community Lawyering			
Course Code	LAWF 3410	Section Number	01
Instructor	Odette Dempsey-Caputo		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	winter	Credits	3
Days and Times	Monday at 2:30 to 5:20 p.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	yes	meets writing requirement	yes
Assessment Method	25% workshop presentation 75% research paper (4,500 to 5,500 words)		
Materials	are provided through Moodle		
Calendar Description	<p>Students gain practical skills in community lawyering such as client interviewing, strategic litigation, legal research, and ethical issues. They have the opportunity to examine and to be exposed to access to justice issues in context and specific areas of practice such as residential tenancy law, public legal education and law reform in British Columbia. This course shall be a pre-requisite for participation in the Legal Information Service and clinical legal education programs at TRU Faculty of Law.</p>		
Other Information	This course is a pre- or corequisite for the Clinical Practice courses.		

Comparative and International Indigenous Rights			
Course Code	LAWF 3460	Section Number	01
Instructor	Professor Brad Morse		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	winter	Credits	3
Days and Times	Wednesday at 4:00 to 6:50 p.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	yes	meets writing requirement	yes
Assessment Method	10% outline and literature review for research paper 15% class participation 15% oral presentation of research results 60% research paper (5,000 to 7,000 words)		
Materials	are provided through Moodle		
Calendar Description	Students comparatively examine the construction and development of the relationship expressed in law, history and politics between Indigenous Peoples and the nation-states of Canada, Australia, New Zealand and the United States of America (the “CANZUS” states). They examine the position of Europeans and Indigenous Peoples prior to First Contact and then at the point of that contact in the Americas and Australasia. Students explore the following topics in each CANZUS country: History and Demography, the Discovery Doctrine and Aboriginal Title, Land Holdings, the Separation of Powers Issues, Indigenous Jurisdiction, and Treaty or Agreement Making.		
Other Information	Two hours of every class involve a video conference with the University of Oklahoma College of Law, University of California College of Law, and Curtin University Law School in Western Australia.		

Conflict of Laws			
Course Code	LAWF 3600	Section Number	01
Instructor	Dr Ashley Barnes		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	winter	Credits	3
Days and Times	Monday and Wednesday at 2:30 to 3:50 p.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	no	meets writing requirement	no
Assessment Method	15% class participation 85% final exam		
Materials	Stephen Pitel, ed, <i>Private International Law in Common Law Canada</i> , 5th edn (Toronto: Emond Montgomery Publications Ltd, 2023). Any additional materials will be posted on Moodle.		
Calendar Description	This course is a discourse of the doctrines and rules governing legal disputes cutting across provincial or national boundaries. Topics include jurisdiction; distinctions between substantive and procedural rules; the recognition and enforcement of foreign judgements; domicile; proof of foreign law; and the choice of law rules relating to private law (torts, contracts, property, succession and family law).		
Other Information	Conflict of laws, or private international law as it is often known, comes into play where cases involve a foreign element, or in the case of a federal system, such as Canada, have interprovincial dimensions. While courts and laws are often tied to a defined territory, corresponding to national and/or provincial boundaries, that is rarely the case for individuals, corporations, or their respective activities. For example, a business headquartered in British Columbia may also maintain offices in Ontario, or sign contracts with a company based overseas. For various reasons, families may separate and move across the country or international borders. Where legal disputes arise in these situations, they raise challenging procedural questions of where and how the disputes can be resolved. In an age of globalization with people and corporations increasingly on the move or with interests further afield, such questions have never been more pressing. In this course, students will critically examine and apply the rules that have evolved in Canada to determine which courts have jurisdiction over a legal claim, the law to be applied in resolving it, and whether courts will recognize and enforce decisions from another jurisdiction.		

Corporate Tax			
Course Code	LAWF 3670	Section Number	01
Instructors	Derrick Hosanna and Monica Cheng		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	winter	Credits	3
Days and Times	Monday at 4:00 to 6:50 p.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	no	meets writing requirement	no
Assessment Method	10% class participation 90% final exam		
Materials	Students will be provided with access to Taxnet Pro for the duration of the course. It can be used to access the two main texts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Income Tax Act (Canada)</i> and <i>Income Tax Regulations</i> • Krishna, <i>Fundamentals of Canadian Income Tax, Volume 2: Corporate Tax</i> (Toronto: Carswell, 2018) 		
Calendar Description	Students examine the provisions of the Income Tax Act applicable to corporations and their stakeholders. Topics include the classification of corporations for tax purposes; the taxation of corporate income; the taxation of corporate distributions; and the taxation of various types of corporate reorganizations.		
Other Information	pre-requisite: Basic Tax Law (LAWF 3830) pre- or co-requisite: Business Associations (LAWF 3800) This course is a survey of key issues relating to the tax treatment of corporations and their shareholders including: corporate integration; the small business deduction; the rules relating to the taxation of active business income and investment income; related and associated corporations; the use of corporations to hold portfolio investments; the taxation of corporate distributions; transferring assets to a corporation; reorganizations of capital; winding-up of a corporation; and certain tax considerations in buying and selling a business. The course is a review of the basic statutory provisions and lays the groundwork for transactional tax planning. This course will be taught by video conference.		

Directed Research			
Course Code	LAWF 3760	Section Number	01
Instructor	supervision by a full-time member of the Faculty of Law		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	fall or winter	Credits	3
Days and Times	to be arranged with the supervisor		
meets perspectives requirement	may*	meets writing requirement	yes
Assessment Method	100% research and writing project		
Materials	are available online and from the TRU Library		
Calendar Description	<p>Students complete a supervised research project involving the in-depth examination of a legal problem or area of concern not normally covered in a substantive or procedural course and which provides the basis for an article, research paper, brief, memorial, or draft legislation. Admission to this course depends on the availability of supervising faculty. This course may be repeated for credit.</p>		
Other Information	<p>A student may take this course twice in the JD program but only once per semester. The course runs in the fall or winter semester with the student meeting with their supervisor regularly during the semester. The final paper of 8,000 to 10,000 words (including footnotes and headings) is due by the last day of the exam period for that semester.</p> <p>A student who wishes to take this course requires approvals from a full-time member of the Faculty of Law who is willing to act as their supervisor and from the Department Chair. The student should approach a potential supervisor in the semester before the course begins to discuss possible research topics and (with the supervisor's approval) apply to the Department Chair for approval before the course begins. The application form is in this Course Book.</p> <p>* Depending on the subject of the research project, this course might satisfy the perspectives requirement.</p>		

Elder Law			
Course Code	LAWF 3150	Section Number	01
Instructor	Kelly Melnyk		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	winter	Credits	3
Days and Times	Thursday at 5:30 to 8:20 p.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	yes	meets writing requirement	yes*
Assessment Method	10% participation in two role playing exercises (5% each) 20% participation in class 10% statement of issues for research paper or podcast 10% annotated bibliography and list of cases and legislation for research paper or podcast 50% research paper (5,000 to 6,000 words) <i>or</i> podcast (20 to 30 minutes)		
Materials	are provided through Moodle		
Calendar Description	Students will engage with legal issues likely to arise when working with an aging client. Students will learn about legal issues surrounding representing aging clients including doctrines of equity including undue influence, unconscionability, and care agreements, aging clients in the litigation process, use of medical experts in both litigation and planning, predatory marriages, supported decision-making, exploitation and elder abuse, and medical assistance in dying.		
Other Information	Throughout the course students will have an opportunity to work with the law through experiential learning exercises. * The research paper satisfies the writing requirement, but the podcast does not.		

Employment Law			
Course Code	LAWF 3850	Section Number	01
Instructor	Ted Murray		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	fall	Credits	3
Days and Times	Wednesday at 6:00 to 8:50 p.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	yes	meets writing requirement	no
Assessment Method	40% two writing assignments (20% each) 60% final exam The final grade may be reduced at the instructor's discretion if a student fails to meet reasonable expectations for class participation.		
Materials	are provided through Moodle or otherwise online		
Calendar Description	Students examine the law governing non-unionized workplaces in Canada. Topics include constitutional jurisdiction; defining the employment relationship and employer/employee status; the employment contract; implied rights and obligations; termination; reasonable notice of dismissal; constructive dismissal; cause for summary dismissal; human rights; and employment standards legislation.		
Other Information	By the end of the course, students should be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. describe and apply the main legal principles of employment law, including appropriate forum(s) in which to adjudicate employment law disputes; 2. recall and apply the most important statutory provisions, jurisprudence and administrative precedents covered in the course; 3. be familiar with the content of a typical executive employment contract; 4. explain and evaluate practice and procedure relevant to employment law; and 5. critically assess the effectiveness of our current employment law regime. 		

Environmental Law			
Course Code	LAWF 3840	Section Number	01
Instructor	Professor Murray Sholty		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	winter	Credits	3
Days and Times	Monday and Wednesday at 1:00 to 2:20 p.m.		
meets perspectives requirement		yes	meets writing requirement
			yes
Assessment Method	20% class participation 80% paper (5,000 to 8,000 words)		
Materials	Tilleman, Lucas, Bagg, and Galvão Ferreira, <i>Environmental Law and Policy</i> , 4th Edn (Toronto, Emond Publishing, 2020). Additional materials will be posted on Moodle.		
Calendar Description	Students critically examine legal theories, concepts, principles, and processes relevant to environmental protection. Topics include ecological and ethical dimensions; jurisdictional issues; common law rights and remedies; environmental assessment; public participation; contaminated sites; enforcement and compliance; economic approaches; endangered species and protected spaces; land use planning; and environmental dispute resolution.		
Other Information	<p>Objectives</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Examine the social, political, economic and ecological context of Canadian environmental law and policy; 2. Understand and critique the role of law in giving effect to environmental policy and addressing environmental problems; 3. Appreciate the role of Indigenous legal relationships to the environment in Canada and identify the impacts on environmental governance of encounters between Indigenous and Canadian legal orders; 4. Explore how complex environmental issues challenge core legal doctrine (e.g. in constitutional, administrative and tort law); 5. Define and evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of different legal tools for mediating environmental problems; 6. Collaborate with class members to produce sound and creative legal solutions to environmental problems; and 7. Develop concise questions and articulate sound legal arguments about the relationship between law and environmental problems. 		

Externship			
Course Code	LAWF 3780	Section Number	TBC
Instructor	TBC		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	fall or winter	Credits	3
Days and Times	TBC		
meets perspectives requirement	no	meets writing requirement	no
Assessment Method	CR (credit) or NCG (no credit given) (i.e. pass/fail)		
Materials	TBC		
Calendar Description	Selected Topics 2: Students focus on a variety of subject areas, either doctrinal or theoretical.		
Other Information	<p>pre- or corequisite: Ethical Lawyering (LAWF 3930)</p> <p>Students gain practical experience through placements with various legal organizations in Kamloops, BC. Students work under the guidance of a supervising lawyer to acquire skills relating to the practice of law and running a legal office/organization, including but not limited to, file and practice management, legal drafting, professional written communication, interviewing, negotiation, and advocacy. Students will also acquire skills generalized to working as a legal professional, such as navigating the rules of professional conduct, identifying and working through ethical issues, and managing client and/or stakeholder relationships. The placement is coupled with a regular group session, to allow students to reflect on their experiences and engage in discussion around professional development, professional identity formation, and legal practice.</p> <p>Students are selected for this course through an application process. To apply for an externship placement, please email your application to lawassistdean@tru.ca with the subject line "2025-26 Externship Placement Application". Your application must include (1) your resume, (2) a brief expression of interest (300 words or less) detailing which placement you are applying for and why, and (3) your preferred semester to complete your placement (fall or winter). A selection committee will assess all applicants and make decisions on placements. Please note that your name and resume will be sent to the placement organization contact for their review and approval. By applying for an externship placement, you consent to this personal information being shared.</p> <p>Available placements are listed on the next page.</p>		

Externship placements available in 2025-26

British Columbia Lottery Corporation (BCLC) is a provincial Crown corporation responsible for the conduct and management of gambling in BC. BCLC's operations include casino, lottery, and iGaming channels. This practice education opportunity will provide a unique opportunity to gain experience working as part of BCLC's in-house legal team. Student tasks will include reviewing and drafting a range of contracts under the supervision of in-house counsel. These contracts may include sponsorships, leases, software agreements, and promotional contests. There will likely be other tasks in support of the delivery of legal services to the organization, such as legal research and document review. BCLC requires the student to be dedicate up to 8 hours in August for onboarding, which can be done remotely.

The Okanagan Thompson Legal Clinic's purpose is to provide community member's access to justice by providing free quality legal services and education to the community with a trauma informed approach. This practice education opportunity will provide an opportunity to gain experience working as part of the interior's newest legal clinic. There will be two student placements and student tasks be in the clinic's three service programs areas: Legal Representation, Family Law Advocacy, or Poverty Law Advocacy.

TBC

Family Law			
Course Code	LAWF 3820	Section Number	01
Instructor	Dr Daleen Millard		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	fall	Credits	3
Days and Times	Monday and Wednesday at 10:00 to 11:20 a.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	no	meets writing requirement	no
Assessment Method	10% participation in small-group discussions in class 30% or 0% assignment (counts only if better than final exam) 60% or 90% final exam (open book)		
Materials	<i>JP Boyd on Family Law: Resolving Family Law Disputes in British Columbia</i> (2019) is available for free on-line.		
Calendar Description	This course is an analysis of the legal principles affecting the rights and responsibilities of the members of the family. Topics include constitutional issues, marriage, marriage contracts, common law marriage, child neglect and abuse, custody and access, guardianship, adoption, separation, divorce, nullity, spousal and child maintenance, and matrimonial property. Emphasis is placed on the process of family law and the appropriate role for lawyers and judges.		
Other Information	This course explores family law in a way that equips the engaged learner with the skills needed to apply their theoretical knowledge of family law in practice.		

Family Law			
Course Code	LAWF 3820	Section Number	01
Instructor	Judge Stella Frame		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	winter	Credits	3
Days and Times	Monday at 5:30 to 8:20 p.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	no	meets writing requirement	TBC
Assessment Method	TBC		
Materials	are drawn from online sources		
Calendar Description	This course is an analysis of the legal principles affecting the rights and responsibilities of the members of the family. Topics include constitutional issues, marriage, marriage contracts, common law marriage, child neglect and abuse, custody and access, guardianship, adoption, separation, divorce, nullity, spousal and child maintenance, and matrimonial property. Emphasis is placed on the process of family law and the appropriate role for lawyers and judges.		
Other Information	This course is a practical approach to the practice of family law from beginning to end. We discuss the various approaches available to clients in both provincial and supreme court, with a focus on provincial court. Students completing this course should be capable of conducting files in family law in practice.		

First Nations Business and Taxation			
Course Code	LAWF 3220	Section Number	01
Instructor	Professor Murray Sholty		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	winter	Credits	3
Days and Times	Monday and Wednesday at 10:00 to 11:20 a.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	yes	meets writing requirement	no
Assessment Method	20% class participation * 80% two assignments (40% each) * The grade for class participation is based on attendance and general participation in class discussions. Constructive and thoughtful contributions are expected. Students will be graded for quality over quantity.		
Materials	Darwin Hanna, <i>Legal Issues on Indigenous Economic Development</i> 2nd edition (Toronto, LexisNexis Canada, 2023) Other materials are provided through Moodle.		
Calendar Description	Students explore First Nations business enterprises, both on and off Reserve, including taxation implications and strategy, and pay particular attention to unique aspects of First Nations business culture. Students prepare for practice in areas where commercial dealings with First Nations and other stakeholders will be encountered.		
Other Information	The instructor is a member of the Hagwilget First Nation with extensive experience consulting in these areas. There are no prerequisites for this course.		

First Nations Governance and Economic Development			
Course Code	LAWF 3210	Section Number	01
Instructor	Professor Murray Sholty		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	fall	Credits	3
Days and Times	Monday and Wednesday at 8:30 to 9:50 a.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	yes	meets writing requirement	yes
Assessment Method	20% class participation * 80% paper (5,000 to 8,000 words) * The grade for class participation is based on attendance and general participation in class discussions. Constructive and thoughtful contributions are expected. Students will be graded for quality over quantity.		
Materials	Darwin Hanna, <i>Legal Issues on Indigenous Economic Development</i> 2nd edition (Toronto, LexisNexis Canada, 2023) Jody Wilson-Raybould & Tim Raybould, <i>Governance Toolkit: A Guide to Nation Building</i> , 2nd ed (Vancouver: BC Assembly of First Nations, 2014): https://www.bcafn.ca/sites/default/files/docs/Governance-Toolkit.pdf Other materials are provided online or through Moodle.		
Calendar Description	Students explore the evolution of First Nations governance from the <i>Indian Act</i> model of elected Chiefs and Councils to the re-emergence of diverse systems based on pre-contact systems, the revolutionary developments in First Nations economies, and the relationships among First Nations, industry, and governments.		
Other Information	The instructor is a member of the Hagwilget First Nation with extensive experience consulting in these areas. There are no prerequisites for this course.		

Health Law			
Course Code	LAWF 3660	Section Number	01
Instructor	Dr Ruby Dhand		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	fall	Credits	3
Days and Times	Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. to 12:50 p.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	yes	meets writing requirement	yes
Assessment Method	25% virtual presentation 75% research paper (4,500 to 5,500 words)		
Materials	are provided through Moodle		
Calendar Description	Students evaluate the regulation, structure, and financing of the health care system. Topics include licensing and regulation of health care professionals (including medical malpractice claims as a form of regulation); regulation of biomedical research; approval processes for drugs, complementary therapies, and medical devices; resource allocation and access to health care; market considerations; privatization and deregulation of health care; and consent and confidentiality.		
Other Information	<p>Throughout this course, students will be given the opportunity to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. examine the legal framework governing the regulation, structure, and financing of the Canadian health care system; 2. examine and engage in the legal and political debates surrounding the constitutional dimensions of health care in Canada, mental health laws, privatization and deregulation of medical services, consent to health care treatment, privacy and confidentiality, medical malpractice and negligence, access to health care services, reproduction, genetics and emerging technologies, end of life decision making, and the legal and ethical obligations of health care providers; 3. critically analyze and evaluate problems and legal health care reform proposals in Canadian health law and policy; 4. be exposed to effective lawyering and advocacy techniques in the health care context. 		

Human Rights Law			
Course Code	LAWF 3730	Section Number	01
Instructor	Dr Ruby Dhand		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	winter	Credits	3
Days and Times	Friday at 10:00 a.m. to 12:50 p.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	yes	meets writing requirement	yes
Assessment Method	25% virtual presentation 75% research paper (4,500 to 5,500 words)		
Materials	are provided through Moodle		
Calendar Description	This course is a survey of national and provincial human rights laws and practice as distinct from the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and an introduction to the main international and transnational human rights instruments and standards.		
Other Information			

Immigration and Refugee Law			
Course Code	LAWF 3680	Section Number	01
Instructor	Dr Ashley Barnes		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	fall	Credits	3
Days and Times	Tuesday at 2:30 to 5:30 p.m.		
meets perspectives requirement		yes	meets writing requirement
			yes
Assessment Method	20% class participation 20% presentation 60% written assignment (4,500 to 5,500 words)		
Materials	Sharryn Aiken and Colin Grey, eds, <i>Immigration and Refugee Law: Cases, Materials, and Commentary</i> , 3rd edn (Toronto: Emond Montgomery, 2020). Any additional materials will be posted on Moodle.		
Calendar Description	Students explore the basic principles, policies, and procedures governing immigration and refugee law. Topics include refugee law and status; selection and admission of immigrants; inadmissible and 16 non-removable classes; exceptions and the minister's permits; and appeals and judicial review in the Federal Court including Charter issues.		
Other Information	If there is one constant it is that people are always on the move. They come to Canada for any number of reasons: to visit or study, to seek new employment opportunities, and to flee violence or persecution at home, to name a few. Immigration and refugee law regulates the conditions under which such individuals are admitted to and can remain in Canada — a sovereign prerogative of every nation. With migration across borders at record levels around the world, there is no shortage of new pressures on, and challenges for, Canadian immigration law and policy. In this course, students will examine how the law is evolving to address many of these challenges. Class discussions and presentations will immerse students in debates surrounding such issues as temporary foreign workers, immigrant detention, and refugee resettlement. Students will also be asked to analyze recent legal developments in the preparation of their written assignment.		

Insurance Law			
Course Code	LAWF 3500	Section Number	01
Instructor	Ted Murray		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	winter	Credits	3
Days and Times	Wednesday at 6:00 to 8:50 p.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	no	meets writing requirement	no
Assessment Method	30% coverage opinion memorandum 70% final exam The final grade may be reduced at the instructor's discretion if a student fails to meet reasonable expectations for class participation.		
Materials	are provided through Moodle		
Calendar Description	Students are introduced to various types of insurance (e.g. fire, life, sickness and accident, motor vehicle, and liability). Topics include the nature and formation of the insurance contract; the role of insurance agents; insurable interest; misrepresentation and non-disclosure; and the rights of third parties against the insurer.		
Other Information	By the end of the course, students should be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. describe and apply the main legal principles of insurance law; 2. recall and apply the most important statutory provisions and jurisprudence covered in the course; 3. explain and evaluate practice and procedure relevant to insurance law; and 4. identify and analyse some emerging issues in insurance law. 		

International Dispute Resolution			
Course Code	LAWF 3240	Section Number	01
Instructor	Dr Ashley Barnes		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	winter	Credits	3
Days and Times	Tuesday at 2:30 to 5:20 p.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	yes	meets writing requirement	yes
Assessment Method	15% participation 10% dispute simulation exercise 75% research paper (4,500 to 5,500 words)		
Materials	All materials are available through Moodle.		
Calendar Description	This course examines the growing range of mechanisms available for the resolution of international disputes between states and increasingly with multinational corporations and individuals. Students study different mechanisms for resolving those disputes, from negotiations to formal international courts and tribunals, and critically assess how they function, their limitations, and opportunities for innovation.		
Other Information	Content will include the role of the International Court of Justice along with varying dispute resolution bodies in more specialized international legal areas such as trade, investment, and human rights. Class discussions will also engage with contentious disputes as they emerge, particularly those of relevance to Canada, and provide opportunities through group exercises to further build skills relevant to dispute resolution. Students will gain an appreciation of the unique challenges inherent to addressing legal disputes with international dimensions.		

International Law			
Course Code	LAWF 3740	Section Number	01
Instructor	Dr Ashley Barnes		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	fall	Credits	3
Days and Times	Monday and Wednesday at 1:00 to 2:20 p.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	yes	meets writing requirement	no
Assessment Method	15% class participation 85% final exam		
Materials	John H Currie et al, <i>International Law: Doctrine, Practice & Theory</i> (Toronto : Irwin Law, 2022) Any additional materials will be posted on Moodle.		
Calendar Description	Students examine the elements of public international law, including sources, the role of customary law, the law of treaties, recognition, state responsibility, and the roles and powers of international organizations.		
Other Information	International law governs relations among states, as well as between states and other entities, such as international organizations and individuals. It also facilitates international cooperation on issues of concern to all of humanity in, for example, safeguarding human rights and the environment. This course will introduce students to the foundational principles of public international law, including its sources, the nature of state sovereignty, and responsibility for internationally wrongful acts. Students will have the opportunity to apply these principles to a variety of substantive areas of international law, such as the use of force and international criminal punishment. Classes and exercises will also critically analyze the role and effectiveness of international law and institutions in responding to contemporary global political challenges — from recent armed conflicts to combatting climate change.		

Law and Film			
Course Code	LAWF 3200	Section Number	01
Instructor	Dr Seán Donlan		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	winter	Credits	3
Days and Times	Tuesday at 2:30 to 5:20 p.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	yes	meets writing requirement	yes
Assessment Method	50% constructive participation 50% written assignment on an approved topic		
Materials	Stanley Fish, <i>Law at the Movies: Turning Legal Doctrine into Art</i> (2024) is required. John Sayles, <i>Thinking in Pictures: The Making of the Movie Matewan</i> (revised edn, 2003) is suggested. James Elkins (2006) <i>25 Les Cahier de l'APLIUT 8</i> <u>before</u> the first class: https://journals.openedition.org/cahiersapliut/2559?lang=en		
Calendar Description	Students explore the role of law in narrative films and the relationship of film and cinema to legal and social norms, practices, and issues. The course does not consider the legal aspects of film and the film industry.		
Other Information	<p>Students will explore law and/in film by (a) analysing and assessing a number of genres (eg, courtroom dramas, detective films, police procedurals, prison films, and westerns), (b) considering how films represent, or often misrepresent, law, including legal actors, ideas, and institutions, and (c) exploring cinema as a cultural artefact and an entrée into wider social issues (eg, law and justice, truth, class, race, gender, and social change).</p> <p>As a result, the course will touch on, among other things, law and non-legal norms, jurisprudence (legal philosophy), other legal-normative traditions, and the ethical and professional challenges of legal practice. Students will also ideally engage with, and bring to the course, other disciplines (history, politics, etc).</p> <p>Course themes include Canadian law, class, comparative law, constitutional developments, courtroom dramas, criminal justice procedures, ethnicity, gender, indigenous peoples and the law, justice and law in various film genres, law and emotion, law firms, legal history, legal philosophy, legal pluralism, miscarriages of justice, military law, race, sexuality, vigilantism, etc.</p>		

Law and Religion			
Course Code	LAWF 3190	Section Number	01
Instructor	Dr Blair Major		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	fall	Credits	3
Days and Times	Friday at 10:00 a.m. to 12:50 p.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	yes	meets writing requirement	yes
Assessment Method	paper abstract (500 words) and bibliography: 5% paper presentation: 15% participation: 10% final paper (5,000-5,500 words): 70%		
Materials	are provided through Moodle		
Calendar Description	Students explore and examine the complex interaction between law and religion and how this has shaped and continues to shape the modern world. Students learn about some of the central theoretical questions and debates regarding the nature of the relationship between law and religion, in the historical and contemporary contexts of the Western legal tradition. Students will examine primary and secondary legal sources that address various issues regarding religion, religious communities, religious freedoms, secularism, state neutrality, and religious matters more broadly. Students will learn to work with materials from multiple disciplines to examine legal institutions and doctrines. Students will engage with a broad range of public and private law topics in the course, including constitutional law, the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, administrative law, multiculturalism, and professional ethics.		
Other Information			

Mental Health Law and Policy in Canada			
Course Code	LAWF 3662	Section Number	01
Instructor	Dr Ruby Dhand		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	winter	Credits	3
Days and Times	Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. to 12:50 p.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	yes	meets writing requirement	yes
Assessment Method	25% virtual presentation 75% research paper (4,500 to 5,500 words)		
Materials	are provided through Moodle		
Calendar Description	<p>Through an examination of mental health law and policy in the civil, criminal and human rights contexts, this course will grapple with the unique barriers faced by people with mental health disabilities in the justice system. First, students will examine civil mental health laws and policies in Canada including involuntary psychiatric admission procedures; consent and capacity issues in relation to treatment; substitute-decision making; the use of restraints and forced treatment. The second portion of the course addresses the legal responses to mental health in the criminal justice system; findings of “not criminally responsible”; issues arising in policing and corrections; Mental Health Courts; the criminalization of persons with mental health disabilities; the provision of mental health services in the correctional system; administrative proceedings before forensic mental health review boards.</p>		
Other Information			

Moots

TRU law students compete provincially, nationally, and internationally in moot court competitions against students from other law schools. Each moot focuses on a specific area of law and may take different formats, such as appellate or trial advocacy or negotiation.

Moots are three-credit elective courses that count for credit towards the JD. They provide opportunities for 2L and 3L students to develop their advocacy and other lawyering skills while learning more about a particular area of law. Some moots satisfy the perspectives requirement and others satisfy the writing requirement, as indicated below.

Moot teams usually consist of five students. The teams are selected through a competitive process during the summer before the academic year in which the moots take place. Preparation for the moots begins in the fall semester and the competitions take place in the winter semester. Preparation takes place under the supervision of coaches who provide advice on the mooters' written and oral submissions.

TRU occasionally hosts moot court competitions, but most moots take place at other law schools to which the mooters and coaches travel.

Questions about moots should be addressed to the chair of the mooting committee:
Dr Ryan Gauthier at rgauthier@tru.ca

BC Law Schools Moot

Course Code	LAWF 4000	Section Number	01
Coach	Danielle Ching McNamee		
meets perspectives requirement	no	meets writing requirement	yes
Students develop appellate advocacy and other lawyering skills in the context of preparing for and participating in the British Columbia Law Schools Competitive Moot. Students generally argue a civil law (e.g., contract, property, or tort law) problem, but may argue problems in other areas of law.			

Davies Corporate/Securities Moot

Course Code	LAWF 4060	Section Number	01
Coaches	Chelsea Hunter and James Reid		
meets perspectives requirement	no	meets writing requirement	yes
Students develop appellate advocacy and other lawyering skills in the context of preparing for and participating in the Davies Corporate/Securities Moot. Students argue a problem related to corporate and securities law.			

Immigration, Refugee, and Citizenship Law Moot			
Course Code	LAWF 4080	Section Number	01
Coach	David Knapp		
meets perspectives requirement	yes	meets writing requirement	yes
Students develop appellate advocacy and other lawyering skills in the context of preparing for and participating in the Immigration, Refugee, and Citizenship Law Moot. Students argue problems related to the fields of immigration, refugee, and citizenship law and address related issues of administrative law.			

Jessup Moot			
Course Code	LAWF 4050	Section Number	01
Coaches	Alex Devitt and Natasha Little		
meets perspectives requirement	yes	meets writing requirement	Yes
The development of appellate advocacy and other lawyering skills in the context of preparation for and participation in the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition. The Competition focuses on international public law, and related areas of law. pre- or corequisite: International Law (LAWF 3740)			

Kawaskimhon National Aboriginal Moot			
Course Code	LAWF 4010	Section Number	01
Coach	Chrystie Stewart		
meets perspectives requirement	yes	meets writing requirement	no
Students develop lawyering skills such as advocacy and consensus building, in the context of a non-competitive moot, and conducted in a circle arrangement. Students use a moot problem based on selected contemporary issues in Aboriginal-Government relations.			

National Family Law Negotiation Moot			
Course Code	LAWF 4070	Section Number	01
Coach	Amanda Winters		
meets perspectives requirement	no	meets writing requirement	no
Students develop lawyering skills, such as advocacy, negotiation, and consensus building, in the context of a negotiation competition. Students negotiate issues related to family law, such as the division of assets and child custody. The moot team consists of 4 students.			

Western Canada Macintyre Cup Trial Moot			
Course Code	LAWF 4130	Section Number	01
Coaches	Kelly Melnyk and Iain Currie		
meets perspectives requirement	no	meets writing requirement	no
Students further develop trial advocacy and other lawyering skills in the context of preparation for and participation in the Western Canada Trial Competition. The moot team consists of 2 students.			

Wilson Moot			
Course Code	LAWF 4020	Section Number	01
Coaches	Brodie Noga and Sergio Ortega		
meets perspectives requirement	yes	meets writing requirement	yes
The Wilson Moot was founded in 1992 and was conceived to honour the outstanding contribution to Canadian law made by the late Honourable Bertha Wilson. Students participate in this national moot court competition devoted to Equality Law and the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Students form a team and prepare an appeal to a fictitious appellate court of last resort.			

Municipal Law			
Course Code	LAWF 3230	Section Number	01
Instructors	Philip Huynh, Allan Wu, and Benjie Lee		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	winter	Credits	3
Days and Times	Friday at 1:00 to 3:50 p.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	no	meets writing requirement	no
Assessment Method	100% final exam		
Materials	<i>Community Charter, SBC 2003, c 26</i> <i>Local Government Act, RSBC 2015, c 1</i> Additional materials provided through Moodle		
Calendar Description	Students are introduced to the law pertaining to local governments in British Columbia, and related issues such as the sources and scope of municipal powers, local government regulation of land, buildings, and businesses. Students are also introduced to issues relating to conflict of interest, free expression on municipal property, municipal taxation, bylaw enforcement, and municipal liability.		
Other Information	This course will include classes live online.		

Real Estate Transactions			
Course Code	LAWF 3610	Section Number	01
Instructor	Professor John O'Fee KC		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	fall or winter	Credits	3
Days and Times	Monday and Wednesday at 1:00 to 2:20 p.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	no	meets writing requirement	no
Assessment Method	100% final exam		
Materials	are provided through Moodle		
Calendar Description	This course is an examination of estate transactions. Topics include the purchase and sale of property; mortgaging and other ways to finance land transactions; commercial leasing arrangements; and the Land Titles Act as it relates to land development.		
Other Information	<p>On completion of this course students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. identify common title issues that could affect a purchase decision; 2. understand the role and fiduciary duties of the real estate agent; 3. identify common clauses and pitfalls in constructing a purchase contract; 4. understand and explain the mortgage transaction; 5. recognize and explain common real estate purchase transaction documents; 6. identify protective measures a party may take in the event of a collapsing real estate transaction. 		

Sentencing Law			
Course Code	LAWF 3812	Section Number	01
Instructor	John Gustafson		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	fall	Credits	3
Days and Times	Thursday at 5:30 to 8:20 p.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	yes	meets writing requirement	TBC
Assessment Method	TBC		
Materials	TBC		
Calendar Description	<p>Sentencing is one of the most significant components of the criminal justice process. Despite its importance, sentencing is frequently an overlooked aspect of an accused person's walk through the criminal justice system. Sentencing Law aims to prepare students for this crucial area of practice. This course considers core principles of sentencing such as denunciation, deterrence, rehabilitation and retribution. The historical development of statute and common law impacting an offender's sentence are studied. Current trends in the common law are discussed, with particular attention to the sentencing of youth and indigenous offenders. Students will apply salient legal principles through oral and written coursework. Students should, on completion, be comfortable speaking to sentence on minor matters in provincial court and in providing meaningful assistance to experienced counsel on serious matters.</p>		
Other Information	<p>recommended pre- or corequisites: Advocacy, Ethical Lawyering, and Evidence</p>		

Sexual Offences: Prosecution and Defence			
Course Code	LAWF 3250	Section Number	01
Instructors	Lana Walker and Danielle Ching McNamee		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	fall	Credits	3
Days and Times	Wednesday at 5:30 to 8:20 p.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	no	meets writing requirement	no
Assessment Method	20% in-class participation 30% midterm assignment (memorandum) 50% final exam		
Materials	There is no textbook for this course. We will be using <i>Martin's Annual Criminal Code</i> for in-class exercises, and copies will be provided for your use in class. Caselaw and other material will be available either on CanLII or posted on Moodle.		
Calendar Description	Students undertake an in-depth review of the law governing the prosecution and defence of sexual offences in Canada, using a procedural lens and focussing on the statutory provisions and caselaw that dictate different stages of a sexual offence prosecution. Students explore the various sexual offences in Canada, the defences available to an accused, pretrial motions, evidentiary issues that frequently arise, and ancillary considerations that arise at preliminary hearing and/or trial.		
Other Information	pre-requisites: Crime: Law and Procedure (LAWF 3080) Evidence (LAWF 3920) This is an advanced criminal law course.		

Sports and Human Rights			
Course Code	LAWF 3780	Section Number	04
Instructor	Dr Ryan Gauthier		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	winter	Credits	3
Days and Times	Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. to 12:50 p.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	yes	meets writing requirement	yes
Assessment Method	Class participation: 10% Reflection paper: 10% Presentation on a topic: 20% Final paper outline: 10% Final paper: 50%		
Materials	TBC		
Calendar Description	Selected Topics 2: Students focus on a variety of subject areas, either doctrinal or theoretical.		
Other Information	This course will review the fundamental structures of both the international human rights law regime and the international sports law regime. This course will then examine various thematic human rights issues of particular importance to sport, including: gender equity, LGBTQ+ rights, anti-racism, rights of children, freedom of expression, environment and climate change, anti-corruption, and sport organization governance and integrity.		

Sports Law: Professional Leagues and International Sports Organisations			
Course Code	LAWF 3980	Section Number	01
Instructor	Dr Ryan Gauthier		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	fall	Credits	3
Days and Times	Monday and Wednesday at 10:00 to 11:20 a.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	no	meets writing requirement	no
Assessment Method	10% class participation 10% reflection essay 10% negotiation exercise 10% contract drafting 60% final assignment		
Materials	Mitten et al, <i>Sports Law: Governance and Regulation</i> , 4th edn (Aspen, 2024) Other materials are provided through Moodle.		
Calendar Description	Students examine and evaluate the effectiveness of the legal framework and policies governing professional sports leagues and international sports governing bodies. Students also compare approaches to governing sport in Canada, the U.S., and Europe. Topics include the monopoly structure of sport; the intersection of competition law and labour law; issues free agency and salary caps; franchise movement and stadium subsidies; and dispute resolution mechanisms.		
Other Information	After taking this course, you will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. describe the basic structure of the North American sports system; 2. discuss substantive areas of law relevant to sport; 3. critically evaluate the current practices of sports organizations, and the legal regime related to sport; 4. evaluate the challenges facing sport and sport's ability to address those challenges; 5. express reflections and opinions on sports law, in a professional manner, using legal sources and arguments. 		

Trusts			
Course Code	LAWF 3720	Section Number	01
Instructor	Professor Brad Morse		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	fall	Credits	3
Days and Times	Tuesday and Thursday at 10:00 to 11:20 a.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	no	meets writing requirement	no
Assessment Method	optional written assignment: 25% open-book final exam: 75% or 100%		
Materials	are provided through Moodle		
Calendar Description	Students explore the concept of the trust, its development in equity, and its relationship to other legal concepts. Topics include various types of trusts; constituting, administering and terminating the trust; trustee duties and powers; variation of trusts; breach of trust; and the doctrine of tracing.		
Other Information			

Unjust Enrichment			
Course Code	LAWF 3650	Section Number	01
Instructor	Dr Chris Hunt		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	winter	Credits	3
Days and Times	Monday and Wednesday at 10:00 to 11:20 a.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	no	meets writing requirement	no
Assessment Method	100% final exam		
Materials	are provided through Moodle		
Calendar Description	Students assess unjust enrichment as an independent source of legal obligation. Topics include elements of the right of action and defences; restitution as the remedy, with particular emphasis on personal versus proprietary restitution; and disgorgement of wrongful gain, distinguished from restitution using breach of fiduciary obligation as the primary example.		
Other Information	This course is designed to provide an overview of key areas of the law of unjust enrichment. We will examine the nature of and rationale underpinning this ancient cause of action, and explore how it applies in very diverse circumstances. Toward the end of the term, we will examine other restitutionary causes of action, including breach of fiduciary duty and breach of confidence. Throughout the class, emphasis is placed on applying settled law to novel situations.		

Wills and Estates			
Course Code	LAWF 3870	Section Number	01
Instructor	Dr Margaret Hall		
Course is open to	2L or 3L	Course is	an elective
Semester	winter	Credits	3
Days and Times	Monday and Wednesday at 1:00 to 2:20 p.m.		
meets perspectives requirement	no	meets writing requirement	no
Assessment Method	TBC		
Materials	TBC		
Calendar Description	Students examine the preparation, execution, interpretation, and administration of wills; testamentary capacity; alteration, revocation and republication of wills; intestate succession; dependant's relief; and estate administration.		
Other Information			

Courses not offered in 2025-26

The following elective courses will not be offered in 2025-26:³

- Advanced Public Law (LAWF 3630)
- Advanced Torts (LAWF 3590)
- A.I., Law, and Justice (LAWF 3780)
- Animals and the Law (LAWF 3180)
- The Business of Practising Law (LAWF 3170)
- Canadian Legal History (LAWF 3750)
- Charter Civil Liberties (LAWF 3540)
- Clinical Practice (LAWF 3420)⁴
- Communications Law (LAWF 3490)
- Comparative Law (LAWF 3550)
- Corporate Governance (LAWF 3560)
- Creditors' Remedies (LAWF 3430)
- Criminal Process (LAWF 3810)
- Designing Legal Expert Systems (LAWF 3120)
- Digital Media Law (LAWF 3480)
- Entertainment Law (LAWF 3100)
- In-House and Corporate Counsel (LAWF 3780)
- Intellectual Property Law (LAWF 3440)
- International Intellectual Property Law and Policy (LAWF 3470)
- International Trade Law (LAWF 3450)
- Jurisprudence (LAWF 3510)
- Labour Law (LAWF 3860)
- Law and Economics (LAWF 3690)
- Lawyering in the 21st Century (LAWF 3400)
- Mergers & Acquisitions (LAWF 3130)
- Privacy Law (LAWF 3530)
- Public Lands and Natural Resources Law (LAWF 3700)
- Remedies (LAWF 3710)
- Sale of Goods (LAWF 3880)
- Secured Transactions (LAWF 3640)
- Securities Law (LAWF 3140)
- Sports Law: High Performance (LAWF 3970)
- Tax Policy (LAWF 3520)
- Transnational Lawyering : Social Justice, Communities & Resources (LAWF 3702)
- Video Gaming Law (LAWF 3780)

³ For information about these courses, please see the TRU Academic Calendar at:
<https://www.tru.ca/current/enrolment-services/calendar.html>

⁴ Clinical Practice (LAWF 3420) is the three-credit version of the course. Students who want to do clinical practice can apply to take Clinical Practice 2 (LAWF 3422) for 6 credits, Clinical Practice 3 (LAWF 3424) for 9 credits, or Clinical Practice 4 (LAWF 3426) for 12 credits.

Study at Another University

It is possible for some of our JD students to study at another university and obtain course credits for their JD from TRU. Opportunities to do this are limited. For more information, please contact Leanne Walker (our Admissions and Records Officer):

<https://www.tru.ca/law/faculty-staff/staff/leanne-walker.html>

Study Abroad

TRU has international exchange programs with five European universities located in the Czech Republic, France, Germany, and Poland. Each university normally accepts one or two of our JD students to study there during one of our fall or winter semesters. Course credits earned at these universities can be accepted for credit towards our JD. For more information, please see:

<https://www.tru.ca/law/jd-program/student-learning-opportunities/international-connections/international-partners.html>

Visit Another Canadian Law School

It is possible for a TRU JD student to visit another Canadian law school for one semester and earn course credits towards their JD from TRU. This requires a letter of permission from the Dean and to be accepted by the other law school as a visiting student. This arrangement is intended to allow a 3L student to participate in an educational opportunity that is not available at TRU and is normally restricted to one or two students per year. Decisions are made in February. Please contact the Department Chair for more information: rchambers@tru.ca

Policies and Other Useful Information

Academic Awards

Please see our web site for information about awards and prizes from the Faculty of Law, TRU, and other organizations.⁵

Dean's Course Prizes

The student who achieves the highest marks in a course receives a Dean's Course Prize. For courses that are taught in two or three sections each year, there is a prize for the top student in each section.

Dean's List

The students with the highest GPAs over a single academic year are placed on the Dean's List. There is a Dean's List for each year of the JD program (1L, 2L, and 3L) and the top 10% of the students in each year are placed on the list. Each student on the Dean's List receives a letter of congratulations from the Dean and a notation on their TRU transcript.⁶

Law Society Gold Medal

The student who achieves the highest cumulative GPA over all three years of the JD program is awarded the Law Society Gold Medal by the Law Society of BC. Three medals are awarded each year: one each to the top graduating JD student at TRU, UBC, and U Vic.⁷

Academic Integrity

Honesty and integrity are essential qualities for anyone wishing to practice law.⁸ Our JD students are expected to behave honestly and with integrity at all times. They should be familiar with TRU's policy on Student Academic Integrity and understand the different forms of academic dishonesty: cheating, academic misconduct, fabrication, and plagiarism.⁹ This policy applies to every course in the JD program. Alleged breaches of academic integrity are dealt with by TRU's Academic Integrity Committee.¹⁰

Accommodation

The Faculty of Law will provide reasonable accommodation for students who have difficulty attending classes or exams or completing assignments on time because of illness, disability,

⁵ <https://www.tru.ca/law/students/awards.html>

⁶ https://www.tru.ca/__shared/assets/ed03-45645.pdf

⁷ <https://www.lawsociety.bc.ca/about-us/awards-and-scholarships/law-society-gold-medal/>

⁸ <https://www.lawsociety.bc.ca/support-and-resources-for-lawyers/act-rules-and-code/>

⁹ https://www.tru.ca/__shared/assets/ED_05-0_Student_Academic_Integrity36334.pdf

¹⁰ https://www.tru.ca/__shared/assets/ai-case-process-infographic53229.pdf

religious observances, family or personal emergencies, or similar special needs. They should consult the Assistant Dean about these issues. Students facing long-term or recurring barriers should read TRU's policy on Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities and confer with Accessibility Services.¹¹

Exams

Final Exams

Final exams normally take place during the examination periods in December and April.¹² The typical final exam is three hours long and written on computer in an examination room. Students use their own laptop computers (or borrow one from TRU) with special exam software that is configured for closed-book or open-book exams. A final exam can count for up to 100% of the grade in a course, but most courses also involve other forms of assessment.

Mid-term Exams in 1L

Most courses in 1L have a mid-term exam in December and final exam in April. The December mid-terms are "help not hurt" which means that they count towards the final grade only if the mark on the mid-term is better than the mark on the final exam.

Deferred Exams

If a student has a valid reason for missing an exam, they can have a deferred exam. Valid reasons for missing an exam are illness, acute medical condition, domestic affliction, and the Wolf Pack travel schedule.¹³ Deferred exams are held in early January and early May.

Supplemental Exams

If a student fails a required course because of their poor performance on the final exam, they can take a supplemental exam to attempt to meet or exceed the minimum passing grade of C-. Supplemental exams are held in April and May. Supplemental exams are not available for elective courses (for which the minimum passing grade is D) nor are they available for required courses that are not assessed by final exam (such as Dispute Resolution).

Grades and Marks

Students may receive marks (out of 100) for assignments, exams, etc. The marks awarded do not appear on transcripts. They are used to calculate the letter grades that will be awarded at the end of the course. Marks are merely a means to an end, which is the determination of the appropriate grades. They can provide useful feedback during the course, but the award of a mark

¹¹ https://www.tru.ca/__shared/assets/BRD_10-0_Academic_Accommodations42574.pdf

¹² <https://www.tru.ca/current/enrolment-services/dates-deadlines.html>

¹³ https://www.tru.ca/__shared/assets/ED_03-09_Examinations43315.pdf

does not automatically determine the grade to be awarded, which depends in part on the grade distribution rules in the Grading Policy set out below.

For example, if there are 20 or more students enrolled in a course, the “B-Median Rule” applies to that course, which means that the median grade must be a B. The median final mark must be from 73 to 76 to produce a median grade of B. If the median final mark is not in that range, the final marks will be adjusted (up or down) by the instructor.

Grades have point values as listed in the following table. These values are used to calculate the student’s grade point average (GPA). Also listed are the range of marks and the description associated with each grade.¹⁴

Grade	Grade Points	Range of Marks	Description
A+	4.33	90-100	Outstanding. Exceptional performance.
A	4	85-89	Excellent. Superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
A-	3.67	80-84	
B+	3.33	77-79	Good. Knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
B	3	73-76	
B-	2.67	70-72	
C+	2.33	66-69	Satisfactory. Basic understanding of the subject matter.
C	2	62-65	
C-	1.67	58-61	
D+	1.33	54-57	Marginal.
D	1	50-53	
F	0	0-49	Fail. Unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.

Students are not graded on a “curve” because our grade distribution rules are based on median grades and not average (or mean) grades.¹⁵ The “B-Median Rule” combined with a limit on the percentage of A-range grades that can be awarded in each class means that our GPAs tend to be lower than students are used to achieving in their previous degrees. A student with a GPA of 3.4 or higher would be probably be in the top 10% of the class (and on the Dean’s List) while a student with a GPA of 3.2 or higher would probably be in the top 25% of the class.

¹⁴ https://www.tru.ca/__shared/assets/Grading_Systems5647.pdf

¹⁵ An average (or mean) mark is obtained by added up all the marks awarded and dividing the total by the number of marks awarded. A median is obtained by arranging all the marks from highest to lowest and choosing the middle mark from that list.

Grading Policy

Title and Effective Date

1. This policy is known as the Thompson Rivers University Faculty of Law Grading Policy (the “Policy”) and is effective as of September 1, 2023 (the “Effective Date”).

Definitions

2. In this Policy, the following words and phrases have the following meanings:

“A-Range Grades” means A-, A, or A+.

“Academic Recognition Policy” means Thompson Rivers University Senate Policy ED 03-4.

“B-Median Rule” means a requirement that the median grade in a course must be a B.

“Chair” means the Department Chair of the Faculty within the meaning of the Collective Agreement.

“Collective Agreement” means the Collective Agreement between Thompson Rivers University and the Thompson Rivers University Faculty Association in force from April 1, 2019, or such successor agreement as may be in force from time to time.

“CR/NCG Course” means any course offered by the Faculty that has been designated as a Credit Granted/No Credit Granted course.

“Dean’s Course Prize” means the prize awarded to the student with the highest grade in a course, as set forth in Sections 10-12.

“Dean’s List” has the meaning given to that term in the Academic Recognition Policy.

“Effective Date” has the meaning assigned in Section 1.

“Exemption” has the meaning assigned in Section 13.

“Faculty” means the Thompson Rivers University Faculty of Law.

“Faculty Council” means the Faculty Council of the Thompson Rivers University Faculty of Law.

“Gold Medal” means the prize awarded in accordance with Section 23.

“Graded Course” means any course offered by the Faculty that is not a CR/NCG Course.

“Graded Course Rules” means Sections 7-12 of this Policy.

Purpose

3. The purpose of this Policy is to ensure that the Faculty awards grades based on the following principles:
 - (i) Consistent distribution of grades across courses;

- (ii) Accurate communication regarding where students stand academically in relation to one another;
 - (iii) Fair reflection of the quality of students' academic performance;
 - (iv) Integrity and transparency, including the avoidance of inflated grades; and
 - (v) Autonomy and individual judgment of instructors.
4. For Graded Courses that are exempt from the Graded Course Rules, and to the extent that instructors have discretion to determine the distribution of grades within the constraints set out in Section 7, instructors should assign grades in a way that reflects the purposes of this Policy.

Graded and CR/NCG Courses

5. In Graded Courses, instructors shall use the 12-band system of letter grades under the matrix established for the Faculty in TRU Policy ED 03-5 on Grading Systems,¹⁶ or, if a successor policy adopted by Thompson Rivers University modifies the letter grade system for the Faculty, the system established under the policy in effect at the applicable time.
6. In CR/NCG Courses, instructors shall assess each student as either "credit granted," for satisfactory performance, or "no credit granted," for unsatisfactory performance.

Graded Course Categories and Rules

7. Except as otherwise provided in this Policy, the following rules respecting the distribution of grades apply to all Graded Courses, based on the number of students enrolled in the course on the date on which the Chair requires grades to be submitted:
- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| 4-9 students | No more than 75% of grades may be A-Range Grades. |
| 10-19 students | No more than 50% of grades may be A-Range Grades. |
| 20-29 students | B-Median Rule applies.
No more than 25% of grades may be A-Range Grades. |
| 30 or more students | B-Median Rule applies.
No more than 15% of grades may be A-Range Grades.
At least 15% of grades must be B- or lower. |
8. Section 7 applies only to (i) final grades and (ii) mid-term grades in full-year 1L courses.
9. For the purpose of applying the requirements of Section 7, all fractions equal to 0.5 or more will be rounded up to the nearest whole number and all fractions less than 0.5 will be rounded down to the nearest whole number.¹⁷

¹⁶ https://www.tru.ca/__shared/assets/Grading_Systems5647.pdf

¹⁷ For example, 15.7% will be rounded up to 16% (and would exceed a 15% upper limit), and 15.2% will be rounded down to 15% (and would comply with a 15% upper limit).

Dean's Course Prize

10. When submitting grades for a Graded Course, the instructor shall identify the student with the highest numerical mark in the course, who will be awarded the Dean's Course Prize.
11. Where a Graded Course is offered in multiple sections in the same academic year, the instructor of each section shall identify the winner of the Dean's Course Prize for that section.
12. Where a Graded Course is offered for a full year, the instructor shall identify the winner of the Dean's Course Prize at the end of the year.

Applying for Exemptions

13. An instructor may apply in advance to the Chair for permission to treat a course as exempt from all or part of the Graded Course Rules (an "Exemption").
14. An Exemption must be requested and granted before the first day of the semester in which the course is offered.
15. A request for an Exemption must be justified with reasons why the course in question is suitable for assessment without the application (in whole or in part) of the Graded Course Rules.
16. The reasons given for a requested Exemption should be relevant to the manner in which, and should reflect to the extent to which, the requested Exemption would depart from the Graded Course Rules.
17. A request for a significant or complete Exemption from the Graded Course Rules should generally be justified with evidence that the course is to be assessed based on experiential work or work equivalent to professional work product, rather than traditional academic assessments such as exams and essays.
18. The decision on whether to grant an Exemption is at the discretion of the Chair.
19. An Exemption applies for one time that the course is offered, and if an instructor wishes to be granted an Exemption for a subsequent offering of the course, the instructor must make a new application.

Exempt Courses

20. Directed research courses, moots, journal, clinical courses, and courses with fewer than four students are exempt from the Graded Course Rules without requiring an application for an Exemption.

Submission of Grades

21. Each instructor shall submit grades after the completion of the course at the time and in the manner directed by the Chair.

Dean's List

22. The Dean's List is determined in accordance with the Academic Recognition Policy.

Gold Medal

23. The Gold Medal is awarded to the graduating student ranking first overall during the entirety that student's enrollment in the Juris Doctor degree.

Prior Policies Rescinded

24. All prior versions of the Faculty Grading and Ranking Policy are rescinded and have no force or effect as of the Effective Date.

Grade Reappraisals

If a student believes that their final grade in a course may be incorrect, they should arrange to meet the instructor to discuss the issue. If the instructor discovers that the grade is incorrect due to a calculation or data-entry error, they can arrange to get the grade corrected. If the instructor believes that the grade is correct, but the student still believes that it is incorrect, the student can apply to the Department Chair for a grade reappraisal.

The Department Chair will arrange for another instructor to review the relevant materials and provide their opinion whether the original grade can be justified. If the other instructor believes that the original grade is not justified, they can recommend that the grade be raised or lowered. The review process can take a month or more after the application deadlines.

The form to apply for a grade reappraisal is in this Course Book. The deadlines to apply are 15 February for fall semester grades and 15 June for winter semester grades.

Minimum Passing Grades

The minimum grades needed to pass are C- for required courses, D for elective courses, or CR for courses assessed on a CR (credit) or NCG (no credit given) (i.e. pass/fail) basis.

Satisfactory Academic Progress

Students must maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 1.67 (C-).¹⁸ If their GPA is below the minimum for two semesters, they are not in good standing and will be placed on academic probation. If they fail to achieve the minimum GPA over the next two semesters, they will be required to withdraw from the JD program for 12 months.

¹⁸ https://www.tru.ca/__shared/assets/Satisfactory_Academic_Progress5642.pdf

TRU Policies

TRU has many policies which may be of interest to students in the JD program, including:

- Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (BRD 10-0)
- Academic Achievement Awards (ED 09-1)
- Academic Recognition (ED 03-4)
- Annual Academic Schedule (BRD 26-0)
- Confidentiality of Student Information (ADM 2-2)
- Convocation (ED 17-0)
- Examinations (ED 03-9)
- Grading Systems (ED 03-5)
- Integrity in Research and Scholarship (ED 15-2)
- Satisfactory Academic Progress (ED 3-2)
- Student Academic Appeals (ED 4-0)
- Student Academic Integrity (ED 05-0)
- Student Attendance (ED 3-1)
- Visiting Student Status (ED 1-3)
- Withdrawals (ED 03-0)

These and other TRU policies are available online.¹⁹

¹⁹ <https://www.tru.ca/policy/all-policy.html>

Application to do Directed Research

Use this form to apply to take the Directed Research course (LAWF 3760).

Please see the Course Book for information about this course.

PROPOSED RESEARCH PROJECT

Title	
Semester	

STUDENT

Student's Name	
Student's ID No	
Student's Signature	
Date	

SUPERVISOR'S APPROVAL

Supervisor's Name		
Supervisor's Signature		
Date		
Please confirm whether this project will satisfy the JD perspectives requirement by fulfilling a legal theory, philosophy, or perspectives-related learning objective.	yes	
	no	

DEPARTMENT CHAIR'S APPROVAL

Chair's Signature	
Date	

Graduation Requirements Checklist

for students who began the JD program in 2021 or later

To graduate, you must have all of the following:

a minimum overall GPA of 1.67	
a grade of at least C- (or CR for pass/fail courses) in all required courses	
successfully completed a total of at least 96 credits of courses	

Required first-year courses (36 credits)

Constitutional Law (LAWF 3010)	
Contracts (LAWF 3030)	
Crime: Law and Procedure (LAWF 3080)	
Legal Foundations (LAWF 3000)	
Property (LAWF 3050)	
Torts (LAWF 3070)	

Required upper-year courses (21 credits)

Administrative Law (LAWF 3900)	
Business Associations (LAWF 3800)	
Civil Procedure (LAWF 3910)	
Dispute Resolution (LAWF 3940)	
Ethical Lawyering (LAWF 3930)	
Evidence (LAWF 3920)	
Truth and Rebuilding Canadian Indigenous Legal Relations (LAWF 3890)	

Elective courses (39 credits)

39 credits of elective courses in 2L and 3L including ...	
... at least one course that satisfies the Perspectives Requirement	
... at least one course that satisfies the Writing Requirement	

You must apply to graduate

see https://www.tru.ca/current/enrolment-services/graduation.html	
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Request for Grade Reappraisal

Use this form to apply for a reappraisal of a final grade. Send the completed form to the Department Chair at rchambers@tru.ca by 15 February for fall semester grades or by 15 June for winter semester grades.

Student's Name	
Student's ID Number	

Course Name	
Course Code	LAWF
Instructor's Name	
Semester Completed	

Why do you believe that your grade is incorrect?

Attach additional pages of explanation, if needed.

Student's Signature	
Date	

Index of Instructors and Moot Coaches

Barnes, Dr Ashley		Frame, Judge Stella	
Conflict of Laws	49	Family Law	58
Immigration and Refugee Law	63	Gauthier, Dr Ryan	
International Dispute Resolution	65	Sports and Human Rights	77
International Law	66	Sports Law: Professional Leagues and International Sports Organisations ...	78
Chambers, Dr Rob		Torts	24
Property	21	Gustafson, John	
Cheng, Monica		Sentencing Law	75
Corporate Tax	50	Hall, Margaret	
Ching McNamee, Danielle		Wills and Estates	81
BC Law Schools Moot	70	Hosanna, Derrick	
Sexual Offences: Prosecution and Defence	76	Corporate Tax	50
Coulter, Jeff		Hughes, Alana	
Bankruptcy and Restructuring Law	40	Ethical Lawyering	33, 34
Currie, Iain		Hughes, David	
Advanced Advocacy	36	Torts	23
Advanced Criminal Law	37	Hunt, Dr Chris	
Western Canada Macintyre Cup Trial Moot	72	Contracts	14
Dempsey-Caputo, Odette		Evidence	27
Community Lawyering	47	Unjust Enrichment	80
Devitt, Alex		Hunter, Chelsea	
Jessup Moot	71	Davies Corporate/Securities Moot	70
Dhand, Dr Ruby		Huynh, Philip	
Community Lawyering	46	Municipal Law	73
Health Law	61	Kendall KC, Kathy	
Human Rights Law	62	Ethical Lawyering	34
Mental Health Law and Policy in Canada	69	Knapp, David	
Diab, Dr Robert		Immigration, Refugee, and Citizenship Law Moot	70
Crime: Law and Procedure	16	Lee, Benjie	
Donlan, Dr Seán		Municipal Law	73
Law, Administration and Policy (LAP) ...	20	Little, Natasha	
Law and Film	67	Jessup Moot	71

<p>Maharaj, Dr Krish Business Associations 30 Contracts 13</p> <p>Major, Dr Blair Administrative Law 26 Constitutional Law 12 Law and Religion 68</p> <p>Mancini, Prof Mark Administrative Law 25 Crime: Law and Procedure 16, 17</p> <p>Melnyk, Kelly Elder Law 52 Western Canada Macintyre Cup Trial Moot 72</p> <p>Millard, Dr Daleen Family Law 57</p> <p>Morse, Prof Brad Comparative and International Indigenous Rights 48 Property 22 Trusts 79 Truth and Rebuilding Canadian Indigenous Legal Relations (TRC) 29</p> <p>Murray, Ted Employment Law 53 Insurance Law 64</p> <p>Nelson, Prof Jack Air and Space Law 39 Contracts 15</p> <p>Noga, Brodie Wilson Moot 72</p> <p>O’Fee KC, Prof John Real Estate Transactions 74</p> <p>Ortega, Sergio Wilson Moot 72</p>	<p>Perry, Karen Basic Tax Law 42</p> <p>Pilliar, Dr Andrew Access to Justice 35 Civil Procedure 31 Fundamental Legal Skills (FLS) 19</p> <p>Reid, James Davies Corporate/Securities Moot 70</p> <p>Ross, David Basic Tax Law 41</p> <p>Schabus, Prof Nicole Constitutional Law 11</p> <p>Sholty, Prof Murray Environmental Law 54 First Nations Business and Taxation 59 First Nations Governance and Economic Development 60 Truth and Rebuilding Canadian Indigenous Legal Relations (TRC) 28</p> <p>Stewart, Chrystie Dispute Resolution (DR) 32 Kawaskimhon National Aboriginal Moot 71</p> <p>Terriss, Michelle Advanced Legal Research and Writing (ALRW) 38</p> <p>Walker, Lana Sexual Offences: Prosecution and Defence 76</p> <p>Winters, Amanda National Family Law Negotiation Moot 71</p> <p>Wu, Allan Municipal Law 73</p>
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