

L A K E H E A D U N I V E R S I T Y

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Political Science 2311 FA

Criminal Law

Kevin G. Cleghorn, B.A., LL.B, LL.M

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Office: RB 2050; Office Hours to be provided (if any)

Fall, 2023

Wednesdays, 7 pm -10 pm

RB-3049

Course Outline

- An overview of criminal law in Canada, theory and procedure, including the political issues and controversies surrounding it.
- Lectures will deal with the following topics:
 - Criminal law and social policy
 - Criminal procedure
 - Criminal law and the Charter of Rights and Freedoms
 - The role of the Crown Attorney
 - The role of the defence counsel
 - Lawyers' Professional Responsibility
 - Evidentiary issues and Defences

Required Textbook

Criminal Law in Canada, 7th Edition (unless newer edition available), Simon N. Verdun-Jones (available at Lakehead University book store)

Other resources to be provided.

Course Requirements and Evaluation

Mid-term Examination (take home-October 17-20)	worth	30% (Mandatory)
Essay (submitted by email by October 3 at 6:00 pm)	worth	30% (Optional)
Final Examination (December exam period-multiple choice)	worth	40% (or 70% if optional essay is not submitted) (Mandatory)

The mid-term examination is a take home exam consisting of short answer and essay type questions that you will return by email within 72 hours (sent to students on October 17, 2023 at 9:00 am; to be returned by students on October 20, 2023 at 9:00 am). The final examination (one and one half hours in length) is a multiple choice examination, closed

book and will be scheduled during the December exam period. **The mid-term examination and the final examination are both mandatory. The essay submission is optional, and will serve to reduce the weight of the final examination for your over-all grade if you submit one no later than the deadline date.**

The final examination will include questions from the entire term and will be based on all lectures, all power point slides, all assigned readings and all assigned text book chapters.

Lakehead University is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities. Part of this commitment includes arranging academic accommodations for students with disabilities and/or medical conditions to ensure they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic activities. If you are a student with a disability and think you may need accommodations, you are strongly encouraged to contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) and register as early as possible. For more information, please contact Student Accessibility Services <http://studentaccessibility.lakeheadu.ca> (SC0003, 343-8047 or sas@lakeheadu.ca)

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Supplementary Course Outline

Fall, 2023

- September 6 Lecture 1: Introduction
Required reading: *Criminal Law in Canada*, Chapter 1
- September 13 Lecture 2: Sources of Canadian Criminal Law/ Actus Reus Elements
Required reading: *Criminal Law in Canada*, Chapter 2
- September 20 Lecture 3: Classification of Offences and Trial Jurisdiction/ Mental Elements- Subjective Liability
Required reading: *Criminal Law in Canada*, Chapter 4
- September 27 Lecture 4: Disclosure/ Mental Elements-Objective Liability
Required reading: *Criminal Law in Canada*, Chapter 5
Essay Due-October 3 at 6:00 p.m. sent to kcleghor@lakeheadu.ca
- October 4 Lecture 5: Professional Responsibility/ Regulatory Offences
Required reading: *Criminal Law in Canada*, Chapter 6
- October 11 **NO CLASS-Study Week**
- October 18 Lecture 6: The Preliminary Inquiry
Midterm Examination-Delivered to You by Email on October 17 at 9:00 a.m. – to be returned by October 20 at 9:00 a.m. to kcleghor@lakeheadu.ca
- October 25 Lecture 7: Witnesses/ Mental Impairment and Criminal Responsibility
Required reading: *Criminal Law in Canada*, Chapter 8

- November 1 Lecture 8: The Trial/ Mistake of Fact, Consent and Mistake of Law as Defences
Required reading: *Criminal Law in Canada*, Chapter 9
- November 8 Lecture 9: Sentencing/ Provocation and Intoxication as Defences
Required reading: *Criminal Law in Canada*, Chapter 10
- November 15 Lecture 10: The Youth Criminal Justice Act/ Necessity and Duress
Required reading: *Criminal Law in Canada*, Chapter 11
- November 22 Lecture 11: Guest Speaker(s)
- November 29 Lecture 12: Movie Night (To Be Announced)

The above is subject to change due to COVID 19 or other unexpected circumstances.. Additional required readings, if any, will be handed out in class or forwarded by e-mail, Students are responsible to be available for the final examination to be scheduled for the examination period from December 7 to December 17, 2023.. **Students are responsible to know the time and date of the final examination by consulting the Lakehead University examination timetable. The final examination may be administered on-line or be in person at a location on campus.**

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