

LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Human Rights and Civil Liberties

POLI-2313-FA (which includes POLI-2313-FA, INDI-2319-FA and CRIM-2313-FA)

Kevin G. Cleghorn, B.A., LL.B, LL.M, AccFM (OAFM), LUF, LSM Fall, 2026

Of the Bars of Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan

Adjunct Professor, Department of Political Science

kcleghor@lakeheadu.ca

Wednesdays

7:00-10:00 pm;

RC-1002

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

Required Textbook

None.

Resources or links to resources to be provided.

Course Requirements and Evaluation

(1) Mid-term Examination (take home-October 28-November 1) worth 40%
(Mandatory)

(2) Student Presentation/Essay (student presentations to be scheduled and essay to be
submitted by email by December 4 at 6:00 pm) worth 60%
(Optional)- of that 60%, 30% is for the presentation and 30% is for the essay itself

Final Examination (December exam period-format to be determined) worth 60%
(Mandatory only if students do not do the presentation/essay)

The mid-term examination is a take home exam consisting of short answer and essay type questions that you will return by email (sent to students on October 28, 2026 at 9:00 am; to be returned by students no later than November 1, 2026 at 6 pm). The final examination (one and one half hours in length) is a closed book examination and will be scheduled for the December exam period from December 11-December 21. **The student presentation/essay submission is optional, with presentations scheduled for November and December classes: only students who do not choose to do the student presentation/essay option will be required to write the final examination during the December exam period. Student presentations will occur in-class for 30-45 minutes each, with the essay covering the topic presented in class. Power point presentations**

to be submitted to lecturer and to all students 48 hours prior to presentation (failure to do that will result in loss of two marks). The class is larger than normal-IT IS POSSIBLE THAT NOT ALL STUDENTS CAN DO PRESENTATIONS SO CHOOSE EARLY (THE CUT-OFF NUMBER MAY BE 20 PRESENTATIONS).

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

Schedule for Term

Week One-September 9-Lecture 1: Introduction

Readings to be assigned in class

Course outline reviewed.

Week Two-September 16-Movie “The Accountant of Auschwitz”

Week Three-September 23-Lecture 2: History of Rights Protections

Readings to be assigned in class

Week Four-September 30-NO CLASS-Truth and Reconciliation Day

Week Five-October 7-Lecture 3: The Criminal Justice System and Rights Protections

Readings to be assigned in class

Week Six-October 14-NO CLASS-Study Week

Week Seven-October 21-Lecture 4: Ontario Human Rights Code

Readings to be assigned in class

Week Eight-October 28-Lecture 5: Canadian Courts and Civil Rights Cases

Readings to be assigned in class

Take-home examination released October 28, 2026 at 9:00 am and to be returned by email to kcleghor@lakeheadu.ca by November 1, 2026 at 6:00 pm

Week Nine-November 4-Lecture 6: Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and Legal Rights

Readings to be assigned in class

Week Ten-November 11-Lecture 7: Human Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Readings to be assigned in class

Week Eleven-November 18-Student Presentations

Week Twelve-November 25-Student Presentations

Week Thirteen-December 2-Student Presentations

Essays due from all students who did presentations on December 4, 2026 at 6 pm-to be sent to kcleghor@lakeheadu.ca

The above is subject to change, depending upon the number of student presentations. Students are responsible to be available for the final examination, if applicable, to be scheduled for the December exam period. **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 from December 11 to December 21.**

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)