

CAPILANO UNIVERSITY COURSE OUTLINE			
TERM:	FALL 2014	COURSE NO:	WGST 208
INSTRUCTOR:	TBA	COURSE NAME:	WOMEN AND THE LAW
OFFICE:	LOCAL:	SECTION NO(S):	CREDITS: 3
E-MAIL:			

COURSE FORMAT:

Three hours of class time, plus an additional hour delivered through on-line or other activities for a 15 week semester, which includes two weeks for final exams.

COURSE PREREQUISITES:

Note: Completion of WGST 100 or WGST 111 is recommended.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course explores the history and development of equal rights for women through the lens of Canadian law and the Canadian legal system. Using feminist legal analysis, students will learn about sex discrimination in its myriad forms and its interrelationship with other forms of discrimination (including "race"/ethnicity, sexual orientation, and disability). The course begins by developing a conceptual framework and analytical vocabulary on the law, gender and discrimination. It then uses that foundation to explore gender inequities in the specific contexts of the family, work and employment, and violence and crime. It concludes by returning to and revisiting the broader framework and considering the future development of equality in Canada.

COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Apply a feminist perspective to issues of Canadian law and the Canadian legal system
- Identify instances of gender discrimination and other interrelated forms of discrimination
- Analyze the specific contexts of gender inequities
- Use an analytical vocabulary to discuss/describe the law and gender
- Identify key issues in the future development of equality in Canada

COURSE WEBSITE:

<https://moodle.capilanou.ca>

REQUIRED TEXT:

Dawson, Brettel. Women, Law and Social Change: Core Readings and Current Issues. 5th Edition. Toronto: Captus Press, 2009.

Additional supplementary readings may be assigned.

COURSE CONTENT:

Note: The order and topics may change. A detailed list of readings and assignments will be provided in class, and available on the course Moodle site.

Week Topic

Part I. Women and the Law: A Conceptual Framework

Week 1 **Introduction: Feminism and the Law**

Week 2 **Power, Gender and Feminism**

Week 3 **The Reach of the Law**

Week 4 **Separate and/or Equal?**

Part II. Interactions with the Law

Week 5 **Family Issues, Part I**

Week 6 **Family Issues, Part II**

Week 7 **Work and Employment, Part I**

Week 8 **Work and Employment, Part II**

Week 9 **Violence and Crime, Part I**

Week 10 **Violence and Crime, Part II**

Part III. Revisiting the Big Picture

Week 11 **Strategies, Activism and Advocacy**

Week 12 **Continuing the Dialogue**

Week 13 **Wrap up and Review**

Weeks 14/15 **Final Exam Period**

EVALUATION PROFILE:

Reflection Papers	25%
Mid-term Quiz	15%
Group Presentation	25%
Final Exam	25%
Participation	<u>10%</u>
	100%

ASSIGNMENTS:

Note: Assignment details and due dates can be found on the course website.

Reflection Papers: Short reflection memoranda that provide reactions to the content of class readings.

Group Presentation: Groups consist of student teams of 2-3 persons. The assignment will include a short written component and an oral component presented in class

Participation: The participation grade is based on attendance and the general quality of contributions to the class over the course of the semester. It will be the quality, more than the quantity, of class preparation and participation that will count.

GRADING PROFILE:

A+ = 90 - 100%	B+ = 77 - 79%	C+ = 67 - 69%	D = 50 - 59%
A = 85 - 89	B = 73 - 76	C = 63 - 66	F = 0 - 49
A- = 80 - 84	B- = 70 - 72	C- = 60 - 62	

OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

Capilano University has policies on Academic Appeals (including appeal of final grades), Student Conduct, Cheating and Plagiarism, Academic Probation and other educational issues. These and other policies are available on the University website.

Office Hours: To be announced in the first class. Please note that email and Moodle messages will be read and answered during these times.

Attendance: Regular attendance is strongly recommended. When students are absent from class, they are still responsible for the material covered during their absence, including announcements, assigned readings and handouts.

Late Assignments: Marks will be deducted for lateness (% reduction per day). Late assignments must be delivered in class or to the instructor's office -- no email submissions will be accepted.

Missed Exams: Students will be allowed to make up exams and quizzes only under the following conditions: if a doctor's certificate of illness is provided; if suitable documentation is provided for other instances (i.e. death of a close family member); if **prior** approval of the instructor has been obtained.

Incomplete Grades: On rare occasions, a student may be in a situation that warrants the granting of an incomplete grade. Students seeking this grade should submit a written request as soon as the need becomes apparent.

English Usage: University-level writing skills are required for all assignments. Spelling, punctuation and grammatical errors will result in a reduced grade and, if they are excessive, may result in a refusal to grade the paper. See the English Writing Centre for help.

Operational details – continued

Electronic Devices: Laptops may be used only for course purposes in class, and cell phones must be turned off. No personal electronic devices (cell phones, calculators, electronic dictionaries, etc...) may be used during an examination without prior approval from the instructor.

Emergency Procedures:

Please familiarise yourself with the emergency procedures posted on the wall of your classroom.