

# CLU 3M – Understanding Canadian Law

R.H. King Academy

## Course Details:

Curriculum Document : Ontario Curriculum Grades 11 & 12  
Canadian and World Studies Ministry of Education , 2015

C.L.: J.P. Hoekstra

Prerequisite: Canadian History Since World War I, Grade 10, Academic or Applied.

## Course Description:

This course explores Canadian law with a focus on legal issues that are relevant to people’s everyday lives. Students will investigate fundamental legal concepts and processes to gain a practical understanding of Canada’s legal system, including the criminal justice system. Students will use critical-thinking, inquiry, and communication skills to develop informed opinions on legal issues and apply this knowledge in a variety of ways and settings, including case analysis, legal research projects, mock trials, and debates.

The content of this course will be given through lecture, book readings, discussion and group learning strategies. Evaluation of this course will come from regular tests and quizzes, written responses, group and pairs presentations, homework, class work, class participation culminating activities and a formal exam. These methods of evaluation will be subdivided to correspond to the categories shown below:

70% Course Work			
Category	Value	Description	Examples
Knowledge and Understanding (KU)	20%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Knowledge of facts, terms, definitions</li> <li>Understanding of concepts, principles, and purposes of law</li> <li>Understanding of relationship between concepts/theories e.g., cause and effect.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quiz</li> <li>Unit test</li> <li>Written/oral responses</li> </ul>
Thinking (T)	20%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planning of research and inquiry</li> <li>Processing and analyzing</li> <li>Critical and creative thinking: problem solving, decision making, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research project</li> <li>Data analysis</li> <li>Field work</li> <li>Formulating questions that lead to a deeper understanding of a legal issue</li> </ul>
Communication (C)	15%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communication of information and ideas with clarity and confidence</li> <li>Oral communication for different audiences</li> <li>Written communication e.g., reviews, research essays, legal analysis, letters for different audiences and purposes, position papers.</li> <li>Communication of information and ideas using symbols/visuals e.g., posters, graphic skills, (including the use of technology);</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Poster</li> <li>Oral presentation</li> <li>Mind Map/Concept web</li> <li>Role Play</li> </ul>
Application (A)	15%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Application of knowledge and skills to familiar and new contexts</li> <li>Making connections between various contexts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Case Studies Analysis</li> <li>Personal reflection</li> <li>Deciding on an interpretation</li> </ul>
30% Summative			
Culminating Activity (Mock Trial)	10%		
Final Exam	20 %		

**Units of Study:**

<b>Unit</b>	<b>Description</b>
Unit 1	<b>The Inquiry Process and Skill Development in Legal Studies</b> (An Introduction to Law, Research, Evaluation of Sources, Communication)
Unit 2	<b>Legal Foundations</b> (Fundamental principles of Law, Legal Heritage, Development of Law, Legal Roles and Responsibilities)
Unit 3	<b>Rights and Freedoms</b> (The Rights and Freedoms of Canadians, Development of Human Rights, Protecting Rights and Freedoms, Legal limitations of Human Rights)
Unit 4	<b>Civil Law</b> (Introduction to Tort Law, Resolving Civil Disputes and Introduction to Family, Employment and Contract Law)
Unit 5	<b>Criminal Law:</b> (Foundation of Criminal Law, Legal Process and Procedures, Criminal Justice System, Development of Criminal Law )
Unit 6	<b>Course Culminating Activity and Summative Evaluation</b>

**Tests:**

<b>Unit</b>	<b>Test and Quiz Description</b>
Unit 1 & 2	Legal Foundations Test (Chapters 1-ongoing)
Unit 3	Rights and Freedoms Quiz
Unit 4	Civil Law Test (Chapters 11-12)
Unit 5	Foundation of Criminal Law Test (Chapters 4-6) Legal process and Procedures Test (Chapters 7-10)

**Major Assignments:**

<b>Unit</b>	<b>Assignment</b>
Unit 1	Newspaper Assignment
Unit 2	Presentation: Barriers to Achieving Equality
Unit 3	Mini Essay: Charter of Rights and Freedoms Test Chpt 1+2+3
Unit 4	Negligence Case Analysis Unit test Chpt 11+12
Unit 5	Response – Criminal Offences Debate – Legal Issues Response – Juries Mock Bail Hearing Presentations Youth Crime Presentation
Unit 6	Culminating Project Presentations and Final Exam

**Textbook:**

All About Law, 5<sup>th</sup> ed., Gibson/Murphy, Nelson Canada 1994.

**Cost: \$61** (if lost)