

FACULTY OF LAW, UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA
2011-12 COURSE REGISTRATION – PRELIMINARY COURSE INFORMATION¹

COURSE	Law 372 Public Policy Law & Dispute Resolution (cross listed with DR 503)
UNIT VALUE	1.5 Units (3 hours of instruction per week)
INSTRUCTOR	M. Jerry McHale
TERM OFFERED	Fall 2011
CLASS TIMES	See schedule
PREREQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES	None

OBJECTIVES and COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will examine a range of contemporary issues of governance – that is, how institutional authority is allocated and exercised, how decisions are made and how disagreement and dispute are managed. The course focuses on the interaction of our legislative, judicial and administrative institutions as they respond to pressures and issues such as:

- how public policy is made and how policy values are determined and implemented
- public participation and direct democracy
- unmet legal needs, access to justice and theories of conflict management
- the growing use of collaborative dispute resolution models and conflict management systems
- related issues such as the impact of fiscal restraint, ethical issues and public accountability.

METHODOLOGY

The course content will be presented through lectures with class discussion. Students will have the opportunity to participate and critically reflect on the material in class. There will be some practical exercises and expert guest speakers from time to time. Required readings will be focused, and more extensive optional reading material will be identified for those who want it. Lesson plans will be posted on Moodle prior to each class.

EXPECTED EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

There will be two evaluation components:

- a written assignment (25% of the final grade)
- a research paper (65% of the final grade)
 - 15- 20 pages long
 - detailed instructions and possible topic areas for the paper will be posted on Moodle
 - students can choose topics in consultation with the instructor
- class attendance, engagement and participation (10% of the final grade)

May 9, 2011

¹ The information in this document is provided for course registration purposes only and is **subject to change**. More detailed course information about course content and evaluation will be provided upon the commencement of the course. Students seeking additional information about the course prior to its commencement may contact the instructor or, if no instructor is listed, the Manager of Academic Administration and Student Services (lawmaass@uvic.ca)