

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

COURSE	Law 378 Equality, Human Rights and Social Justice
UNIT VALUE	1.5 Units (3 hours of instruction per week)
INSTRUCTOR	Hester Lessard
TERM OFFERED	Fall 2011
CLASS TIMES	See schedule
PREREQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES	None

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will examine the role of law and of legal conceptions of equality in struggles by equity seeking groups and individuals for social justice in Canada. Topics covered include the relation of social movements to law and social change, Charter equality rights and strategic litigation, the institutional and jurisprudential frameworks of domestic human rights law, and critical theoretical debates pertaining to anti-discrimination law.

OBJECTIVES

- Critically analyze the relationship between social movements, law and social change in Canada.
- Acquire basic knowledge of the legal and jurisprudential frameworks for pursuing anti-discrimination and equality claims in Canada.
- Extend and deepen knowledge of current strategic and jurisprudential challenges in the human rights arena.
- Analyze a social justice problem of concern and critically assess the ways in which human rights and equality law address those concerns.
- Develop oral presentation and writing skills.

METHODOLOGY

The course is a seminar. Classroom time will consist of discussion, mini lectures, classroom exercises, and presentations by students and guests.

EXPECTED EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

Your term papers (6,500 to 7,500 words, excluding notes, bibliography and appendices) will count for 75% of the grade in the seminar and class participation will count for 25%.

June 2, 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 Administrative and Student Services (lawmaass@uvic.ca)