

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

COURSE	Law 324 Children and the Law
UNIT VALUE	1.5 Units (3 hours of instruction per week)
INSTRUCTOR	Tim Richards
TERM OFFERED	Spring 2012
CLASS TIMES	See Schedule
PREREQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES	None

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

Law 324 explores the experiences of children in our society and studies the legal relations and rights that shape their lives. The rights of children arise in family law courses and this course will seek to avoid duplicating the content of these courses. Instead, the course will place the child as the centre of study and explore the agency they possess in their legal worlds. At the outset the course will briefly canvas the nature of childhood in its recent historical and its contemporary context. Legal instruments including the *Convention of the rights of the Child* and the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms* will be used as reference points for the scope of the concerns canvassed by the course. The course will proceed to study diverse concerns affecting children including the provision, protection and participation rights of children, children and medical consent and the right to health services, the discipline of children, child exploitation and the effects of digital technology on children. The course will have an interdisciplinary element drawing from fields such as history, sociology, psychology and medicine.

METHODOLOGY

The course will follow a predominantly seminar format. For most of the course the topics will be organized in weekly blocks. The first class will develop the context and general content for the topic. In the second class students will present and lead discussion on the week's topic based on the class readings. Guest speakers will also be included in the course. Participation in classroom discussions will be valued and encouraged.

EXPECTED EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

Class Presentations	20%
Research Paper	80%

June 13, 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).