

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

COURSE	Law 340 Indigenous Lands, Rights and Governance
UNIT VALUE	1.5 Units (3 hours of instruction per week)
INSTRUCTOR	Val Napoleon
TERM OFFERED	Spring 2012
CLASS TIMES	See Schedule
PREREQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES	None

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is an introductory course that builds on what students will have learned about aboriginal rights law in their First Year courses in Property, Constitutional Law and the Legal Process. It examines most of the major legal issues concerning indigenous peoples (Indian, Inuit and Métis) in Canada today.

OBJECTIVES

This course examines the major legal issues concerning Indigenous peoples (Indian, Inuit and Metis) in Canada. It will explore the development of Canadian case law relative to these groups and its simultaneous preservation and dispossession of Indigenous people's rights. It will provide an overview of aboriginal title, treaties, the distribution of legislative authority with respect to Aboriginal peoples, fiduciary law, the treatment of Aboriginal women in Canadian law, taxation, Aboriginal child welfare and criminal justice issues. Comparisons will be drawn from other countries dealing with Indigenous Rights. In exploring these issues the course will also examine aspects of legal pluralism, and assess a variety of normative and political justifications for aboriginal rights.

METHODOLOGY

The course will use a variety of techniques, including lectures, class discussion, videos and visiting speakers. In order to encourage different perspectives on the issues, students are expected to attend classes, *having prepared for them by reading the assigned materials beforehand*. Students are also expected to take the initiative by offering answers and comments as they feel appropriate. When preparing for class, instead of simply summarizing the material, students should attempt a critical assessment and should raise important issues arising from the readings for discussion with other members of the class.

EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

Final exam worth 100% of the final grade.

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).