

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

COURSE	Law 357 Sexual Orientation and the Law
UNIT VALUE	1.5 Units (3 hours of instruction per week)
INSTRUCTOR	Gillian Calder
TERM OFFERED	Spring 2012
CLASS TIMES	See Schedule
PREREQUISITES/CO-REQUISIT	None

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This seminar will be structured to use the relationship between law, gender and sexuality to explore fundamental questions about law. The course, in both process and substance, will enable students to challenge how law regulates the lives of GLBTQ folk, and the social, cultural and economic impact of this regulation.

COURSE OBJECTIVE

- stimulate your interest in the relationship between gender, law and sexuality and theoretical approaches to law; with attention to the ways in which families are constructed as a result;
- convey basic principles that underlie and inform substantive questions of sexual identity in Canada, with attention to explanations of intersecting inequalities such as gender, race, class and sexual identity;
- enable you to identify key issues across substantive areas of law, and to write about those issues with attention to complex social and legal forces;
- provide you with an opportunity to examine and discuss the political forces and theoretical debates that shape the law in this area; and
- challenge you to think critically about the role that legal education plays in the adequate preparation of legal advocates.

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

This course will be taught as a seminar. The goal is to have an active and engaged class room environment. In this regard, it is my expectation that students will have read and thought about the assigned materials, and come to class prepared to discuss or perform them. Students will be responsible for facilitating class discussions on a rotating basis. The course will also use innovative pedagogy, where possible, to challenge students to think critically about the ways in which we learn law at law schools in Canada today.

EXPECTED EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

The course will be evaluated by research project, the medium of which will be discussed in class, and by class participation. There will not be an examination in this course. There will be an opportunity for students to fulfill their major paper requirement in this course.

Date: 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).