

FACULTY OF LAW, UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA
SUMMER 2012 - PRELIMINARY COURSE INFORMATION SUMMARY¹

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| COURSE | Law 343 Indigenous Economies |
| UNIT VALUE | 1.5 Units (3 hours of instruction per week) |
| INSTRUCTOR | Judith Sayers |
| TERM OFFERED | Summer 2012 |
| CLASS TIMES | See schedule |
| PREREQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES | None |

Course Description

Objective of the course is to explore how Indigenous peoples can attract investment and generate wealth within their communities consistent with traditional principles of sustainability and stewardship over land and other resources. Regressive laws and policies associated with colonization alienated Indigenous peoples from their lands and resources, and devastated traditional economies. Course explores how those laws and policies created barriers for Indigenous communities and undermined their economies. Issues examined include access to financing, taxation, and the legal and business framework within which Indigenous economies operate. Best practices and case studies from BC First Nations will be used to explore opportunities for viable Indigenous economies, entrepreneurial initiatives, as well as capacities and strategies for creating thriving economies in Indigenous communities.

Credit will be granted for only one of Law 343 Indigenous Economies or Law 343 Aboriginal Economic Development

This course is cross listed with Faculty of Business course COM 450

Course Objectives

Students will understand the unique legal and business framework that Indigenous peoples must operate within to revitalize their economies.

Students will understand the challenges and most importantly, solutions to those challenges and establishing sustainable Indigenous economies.

Students will be exposed to successful First Nations businesses and how those businesses have overcome challenges and/or use existing laws and policies for their benefit.

Methodology

Interactive lectures and guest lecturers on specific topics; case studies of Indigenous businesses

Expected Evaluation Method

1. **Research Project and Presentation worth 30%:** Case study of an Indigenous business enterprise, identifying challenges and opportunities for that particular business
2. **Final Project worth 70%:** Final paper based on a fact pattern to be provided by the instructor. Grades for the project will be based on:
 - i. Approach to solving the problem presented
 - ii. Extent of the solutions/approach
 - iii. Thoroughness of research
 - iv. Clarity in conveying your ideas
 - v. Overall quality of the answer

November 25, 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 Associate Dean (lawassoc@uvic.ca).