



**DALHOUSIE
UNIVERSITY**

SCHULICH SCHOOL OF LAW

Health Law and Policy: Current Issues - Laws 2292 / 1 Credit Hour
Winter/Spring 2019

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Office Hours: I will meet with students after tutorial and at other times upon request. Other communication will be through the Dalhousie email system or Brightspace. Please be sure to check Brightspace regularly – you are responsible for keeping up to date with any information posted on Brightspace.

Course Description

This course offers an opportunity for students to engage critically with a set of lectures in health law and policy offered through the Health Law Institute Seminar Series. These lectures are presented by distinguished guest speakers from a variety of scholarly disciplines and professional fields related to health law and policy. The specific content of the lectures changes from semester to semester, and from year to year. The list of dates, speakers, and topics for the Seminar Series relevant to this course is attached and is also available on the Health Law Institute website (<http://www.dal.ca/faculty/law/hli.html>).

Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites and/or other Restrictions

There are no upper-year course prerequisites.

Course Requirements:

Students are required to:

- Attend **all** of the Seminar Series lectures offered through the Health Law Institute Seminar Series. There are four, 1.5 hour lectures per term. The lectures will take place on Fridays from **12:10 – 1:30 p.m., in Room 104**, on the dates indicated on the attachment.
- Read the material relevant to the lecture topic that will be provided to the students prior to their attendance at each lecture. The list of readings will be posted on Brightspace or will be emailed to the class. The list will either provide a link to the article or will reference a reading put on reserve at the library.
- Attend all of the one-hour tutorials that will take place from **2:05-2:55 p.m., in Room 309**, on the same day as the lectures. The tutorials will involve a

roundtable discussion by the students of the lecture content and the material that was distributed prior to the lecture. As there are four lectures in each term, there will also be four one-hour tutorials per term.

- **PLEASE NOTE:** While the Course Timetable may indicate that the course is scheduled to take place every Friday, it will actually only take place on four Fridays each term and there will be a short break between the lecture and the seminar on those days.

Evaluation:

Students will be evaluated on the following basis:

(1) Two Reaction papers (40% - 20% per paper) – Students must write two reaction papers of **2 to 4 double-spaced pages each** that demonstrate their thoughtful engagement with the assigned readings for that topic. Reaction papers do **not** have a research component. Evaluation will be based on a student's ability to understand, analyze, and assess the assigned readings. You should engage in a critical discussion of one or more aspects of the readings and should **not** merely summarize the readings. Linguistic style (e.g., clear wording, appropriate grammar, and correct spelling) will also be considered. **Reaction papers are to be submitted to me via email by 4:30 p.m. on the Thursday immediately before the relevant lectures.**

(2) Short Research Paper (40%) - Students must write a short research paper 4-6 pages in length (double spaced, excluding references) based one of the seminar topics, the relevant assigned readings, and independent research by you.

Although the papers are not considered major papers, I will evaluate them using the criteria (with appropriate modification) for major papers set out in the Calendar. In general terms, these criteria are: (1) research; (2) organization: logic/coherence; (3) analysis-insight-synthesis; (4) literary style; and (5) originality. Please refer to the 2017/2018 Calendar for further information respecting these criteria.

Papers are to be handed in by no later than Monday, April 8, 2019.

PLEASE NOTE: You cannot submit a reaction paper on the same topic as this paper.

(3) Attendance and participation (20%) – Students must attend all of the lectures and tutorials (unless you present a valid reason for not attending), and must meaningfully contribute to tutorial discussions.

Student Requests for Accommodation

Requests for special accommodation for reasons such as illness, injury or family emergency will require an application to the Law School Studies Committee. Such

requests (for example, for assignment extensions) must be made to Associate Dean, Academic Michael Deturbide or the Director of Student Services and Engagement Dana-Lyn Mackenzie as soon as possible, before a scheduled exam or a deadline for an assignment, and will generally require documentation. Retroactive accommodation will not be provided. Please note that individual professors cannot entertain accommodation requests.

Students may request accommodation for either classroom participation or the writing of tests and exams due to barriers related to disability, religious obligation, or any characteristic under the Nova Scotia *Human Rights Act*. Students who require such accommodation must make their request to the Advising and Access Services Center (AASC) at the outset of the regular academic year. Please visit www.dal.ca/access for more information and to obtain the Request for Accommodation – Form A. Students may also contact the Advising and Access Services Centre directly at (902) 494-2836.

Plagiarism

All students must read the University policies on plagiarism and academic honesty <http://academicintegrity.dal.ca/> and the Law School policy on plagiarism <http://www.dal.ca/faculty/law/current-students/jd-students/academic-regulations.html>. Any paper or assignment submitted by a student at the Schulich School of Law may be checked for originality to confirm that the student has not plagiarized from other sources. Plagiarism is considered a serious academic offence which may lead to loss of credit, suspension or expulsion from the law school, or even revocation of a degree. It is essential that there be correct attribution of authorities from which facts and opinions have been derived. Prior to submitting any paper or other assignment, students should read and familiarize themselves with the policies referred to above and should consult with the instructor if they have any questions. Ignorance of the policies on plagiarism will not excuse any violation of those policies.

General Resources:

* General Academic Support – Advising Halifax:
https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/advising.html

* Fair Dealing Guidelines <https://libraries.dal.ca/services/copyright-office/guidelines/fair-dealing-guidelines.html>

Seminar Series Winter/Spring 2019:

Friday, January 18

Cannabis Legalization: Past, Present, and Future?

Robert Strang – Chief Public Health Officer, Nova Scotia

Friday, February 8

Advance Requests for Medical Assistance in Dying: Ethical and Legal Considerations

Jennifer Gibson – Joint Centre for Bioethics, University of Toronto

Friday, March 1

Mosquito Advocacy: Implementing Evidence-Informed Solutions in Change Resistant Environments

Cindy Blackstock – First Nations Child and Family Caring Society at McGill University
School of Social Work

Friday, March 15

The Public Sector and Vaccine Development: A Case Study of the Merck [sic] Ebola Vaccine

Matthew Herder – Health Law Institute and Department of Pharmacology, Dalhousie University