Course Description

This seminar course explores laws and punishment in Canada prior to the creation of a modern criminal code. Though civil law is considered, readings and discussions will focus on criminal law as it was understood and practiced by Canada’s First Nations, the French and British Empires, and the young nation of Canada. As much as any institution, a community’s legal principles tell us a great deal about its values and fears.

Readings

All readings for the course will be posted on ACORN or available on-line. There is no text to purchase! Students, however, must complete the assigned readings before coming to class.
Evaluation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Value</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance &amp; participation</td>
<td>Throughout the term</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Article review</td>
<td>October 3</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>October 24</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research paper</td>
<td>December 4</td>
<td>35%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>25%</td>
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Article analysis (10% - due October 3rd)
Select one the articles assigned for September 26th – Reid or Duval – and write a 600-750-word review of it. Explain what the author was trying to do and how he went about it. Did he succeed?

Research paper (35% - due December 4th)
Write a 12- to 16-page (3000 to 4000 words) essay on one of the topics suggested; you may choose a different topic in consultation with me. You will have to submit a tentative bibliography by midnight on November 14th. More information will be provided in class.

Deadlines and Academic Integrity
Tests and assignment due dates are indicated in the syllabus. Makeup tests and extensions will be granted only for illness or family emergencies. In all cases, documentation will be required and should be presented to the Registrar’s office. The penalty for late submissions is 5% per day, every day. Because files can be damaged or questions of authorship arise, be sure to keep your essay notes and rough drafts until after the course has been completed and back-up material on your computer regularly. **Computer failure is not an acceptable excuse for lateness or loss of material.** It is the responsibility of the student to keep a copy of all work submitted.

Copying someone’s ideas or words without acknowledging their source constitutes academic dishonesty and can result in severe penalties, including failure of the course. Severe penalties will also be incurred in cases where work is purchased, “shared,” or submitted to more than one instructor. To learn more about plagiarism, please take the “You Quote It, You Note It” tutorial on the library website. You may also consult pp. 33-34 of the Acadia Calendar for more details, or ask me if you have any questions.

Students with Disabilities
If you are a student with a documented disability who anticipates needing accommodations in this course, please inform me after you meet with Jill Davies (jill.davies@acadiau.ca or 585-1127) or Kathy O’Rourke (disability.access@acadiau.ca or 585-1823) in Disability Access Services, located in the Student Resource Centre, which is on the lower floor of the Old SUB.
Class schedule

September 5 – Introduction

September 12 – Aboriginal Cultures and “Law”

September 19 – First Nations and Newcomers I

September 26 – First Nations and Newcomers II

October 3 – French Authority (article reviews due)

October 10 – Evidence and Expertise

October 17 – Britain's Bloody Code
**October 24 – Reception & Midterm**


**October 31 – Aboriginal Sovereignty and British/Canadian Encroachment**


**November 7 – Penal Reform and Moral Treatment, I**


**November 14 – Penal Reform and Moral Treatment, II (bibliographies due)**


**November 21 – Women and the Law, I**


**November 28 – Women and the Law, II**