



COURSE OUTLINE: PFP301 - CRIMINAL & CIVIL LAW

Prepared: Chris Thibodeau

Approved: Karen Hudson - Dean

Course Code: Title	PFP301: CRIMINAL AND CIVIL LAW
Program Number: Name	1202: POLICE FOUNDATIONS 5007: NAT RES/ENV ENFORCE
Department:	CRIMINAL JUSTICE
Academic Year:	2025-2026
Course Description:	This course deals with the fundamentals of criminal law, including: analyzing the elements of an offence, classification of offences, and the identification of defenses used in criminal cases. The course will also introduce the student to the rights of citizens in contracts, landlord and tenant situations, labour, and family law. Charter implications, as well as liability under tort law, will be reviewed and discussed. It is also designed to help the student develop research and analysis skills so that they can locate, interpret, and apply both statute and case law to investigations.
Total Credits:	3
Hours/Week:	3
Total Hours:	42
Prerequisites:	There are no pre-requisites for this course.
Corequisites:	There are no co-requisites for this course.
This course is a pre-requisite for:	NRL215, OEL1040, OEL175
Vocational Learning Outcomes (VLO's) addressed in this course:	1202 - POLICE FOUNDATIONS VLO 1 Complete all tasks in compliance with pertinent legislation, as well as policing standards, regulations and guidelines. VLO 2 Analyze all relevant information and make effective and legally defensible decisions in accordance with ethical and professional standards. VLO 3 Be accountable for ones actions when carrying out all tasks. VLO 5 Ensure the respect of human rights and freedoms in all interactions. VLO 8 Monitor, evaluate and document behaviours, situations and events accurately and discreetly in compliance with legal, professional, ethical and organizational requirements. VLO 11 Conduct investigations by collecting, documenting, preserving and presenting admissible evidence
Please refer to program web page for a complete listing of program outcomes where applicable.	5007 - NAT RES/ENV ENFORCE VLO 1 Extend the resource technician`s knowledge into the field of natural resource and recreational law, local, national and international. VLO 2 Introduce the student to the Canadian System of Justice as it relates to natural



	resources and recreation.								
	VLO 3 Familiarize the student with the history of law enforcement.								
	VLO 5 Instruct the student in the power of arrest, search and seizure under the various statutes.								
	VLO 6 Familiarize the student with the laws of evidence and judicial procedures.								
Essential Employability Skills (EES) addressed in this course:	<p>EES 1 Communicate clearly, concisely and correctly in the written, spoken, and visual form that fulfills the purpose and meets the needs of the audience.</p> <p>EES 2 Respond to written, spoken, or visual messages in a manner that ensures effective communication.</p> <p>EES 6 Locate, select, organize, and document information using appropriate technology and information systems.</p> <p>EES 7 Analyze, evaluate, and apply relevant information from a variety of sources.</p> <p>EES 11 Take responsibility for ones own actions, decisions, and consequences.</p>								
Course Evaluation:	<p>Passing Grade: 60%, C</p> <p>A minimum program GPA of 2.0 or higher where program specific standards exist is required for graduation.</p>								
Books and Required Resources:	<p>Martin's Annual Criminal Code 2026 - Student Edition by Greenspan Publisher: Carswell ISBN: 9781038215949</p>								
Course Outcomes and Learning Objectives:	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Course Outcome 1</th> <th>Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 1</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Locate, interpret and apply Canadian Statute and case law.</td> <td> 1.1 Define terms as set out by the course instructor: - Law - Procedural law - Substantive law 1.2 Discuss the sources of Canadian Law: - Legislation - Common Law - Case Law - Church Law 1.3 Identify functions of law 1.4 Identify law making areas of jurisdiction of the various levels of governments: - Federal - Provincial - Municipal 1.5 Locate Federal and Provincial statutes using print and online sources 1.6 Describe typical layout of statutes including the breakdown of sections 1.7 Locate case law using print and online sources 1.8 Explain the system of precedent </td> </tr> <tr> <th>Course Outcome 2</th> <th>Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 2</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Course Outcome 1	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 1	1. Locate, interpret and apply Canadian Statute and case law.	1.1 Define terms as set out by the course instructor: - Law - Procedural law - Substantive law 1.2 Discuss the sources of Canadian Law: - Legislation - Common Law - Case Law - Church Law 1.3 Identify functions of law 1.4 Identify law making areas of jurisdiction of the various levels of governments: - Federal - Provincial - Municipal 1.5 Locate Federal and Provincial statutes using print and online sources 1.6 Describe typical layout of statutes including the breakdown of sections 1.7 Locate case law using print and online sources 1.8 Explain the system of precedent	Course Outcome 2	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 2		
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Course Outcome 2	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 2								

	2. Identify basic rights under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms under the Canadian Constitution.	2.1 Section 2: Fundamental Freedoms 2.2 Section 3: Democratic Rights 2.3 Section 6: Mobility Rights 2.4 Section 7: Legal Rights 2.5 Section 8: Unreasonable Search and Seizure 2.6 Section 9: Arbitrary Detention or Imprisonment 2.7 Section 10: Rights on Arrest or Detention 2.8 Section 11: Rights Related to Criminal and Penal Matters 2.9 Section 12: Cruel and Unusual Treatment or Punishment 2.10 Section 13: Right Against Self Incrimination 2.11 Section 15: Equality Rights 2.12 Section 24: Charter Remedies
	Course Outcome 3	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 3
	3. Apply the basic principles of criminal law to given factual situations.	3.1 Define terms as set out by the course instructor: - Indictable - Summary Conviction - Hybrid or Dual Procedure - Mens Rea - Actus Reus - Facts in Issue 3.2 Identify the most common criminal and quasi-criminal offences in Federal and Provincial Statutes that influence the law enforcement process 3.3 From a given list, classify offences as indictable, summary conviction or dual procedure 3.4 Explain the reasons for the classification of offences 3.5 Describe the role of the police and the Crown Prosecution in proving the elements of a crime (Facts in Issue) 3.6 Identify the Actus Reus elements of an offence - Conduct (Act, Omission and State of being) - Circumstances - Consequences 3.7 Apply the legal principles of actus reus by describing types of actus reus, causation, and voluntariness 3.8 Identify the Mens Rea in a given offence - Made a choice - Made choice of own free will - Made choice with knowledge that it was wrong 3.9 Apply the legal principles of mens rea by describing the types of mens rea and the methods of logical proof of the same 3.10 Describe the differences between absolute and strict liability offences 3.11 Identify the various participants to a crime - Committer - Aider - Abettor - Counselor 3.12 Explain the role and criminal liability of the aider and abettor, counselor, accessory after the fact and conspirator 3.13 Compare the commission of an offence to attempts and conspiracies,

	3.14 Identify the most commonly used defences in criminal cases and describe the elements of each: - Automatism - Drunkenness - Consent - Self-Defence - Mistake of fact - Mistake of law - Duress
Course Outcome 4	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 4
4. Apply civil law with respect to the rights and obligations of citizens in specific law enforcement areas.	4.1 Classify issues in specific civil law areas of torts, contracts, and property 4.2 Determine liability by applying the principles of the law of torts of assault, battery, and trespass 4.3 Apply the principles of the tort law of false imprisonment 4.4 Apply the principles of tort law to the doctrines of negligence 4.5 Recognize property ownership by applying basic law of property 4.6 Identify basic landlord and tenant contract elements and related legislation 4.7 Identify basic elements of contracts - Employment contract - Insurance contract 4.8 Identify issues in family law with respect to custody, property and support and related legislation 4.9 Identify labour law as it relates to labour disputes
Course Outcome 5	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 5
5. Students will demonstrate their learning achievement of course learning outcomes by completions of:	5.1 Application level tests (open and closed book) 5.2 Application assignments 5.3 Case Studies

Evaluation Process and Grading System:

Evaluation Type	Evaluation Weight
Assignment	10%
Exam #1	30%
Exam #2	30%
Exam #3	20%
Student Evaluation	10%

Date:

June 17, 2025

Addendum:

Please refer to the course outline addendum on the Learning Management System for further information.

