



We acknowledge that we are on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the hən̓q̓əmi̓ñəm̓ speaking Musqueam people.

**iSchool Mission: Through innovative research, education and design, our mission is to enhance humanity's capacity to engage information in effective, creative and diverse ways.**

## LIBR 533 Legal Information Sources and Services – Course Syllabus (3)

<b>Program:</b>	MLIS
<b>Year:</b>	Winter Term 2022   Term 2
<b>Course Schedule:</b>	In-person   Mondays 6pm - 9pm   January 9 - April 10, 2023
<b>Location:</b>	Allard Law Library, Teaching Room
<b>Instructor:</b>	Carolyn Petrie
<b>Office location:</b>	iSchool Adjunct Office
<b>Office phone:</b>	N/A
<b>Office hours:</b>	By appointment
<b>E-mail address:</b>	<a href="mailto:carolyn.petrie@ubc.ca">carolyn.petrie@ubc.ca</a>
<b>Learning Management Site:</b>	<a href="http://lthub.ubc.ca/guides/canvas/">http://lthub.ubc.ca/guides/canvas/</a>

### Course Goal:

This course provides students with an understanding of the structure of the legal system and legal information in Canada; the ability to navigate this information at a level commensurate with being employed at a junior professional level; an understanding of non-research work common within legal organizations; and perspective on some of the unique features of and current issues affecting legal information, legal libraries and legal publishing.

**FNCC specialization:** The assignments in this course can serve the requirements of the First Nations Curriculum Concentration (FNCC). If students would like to take this course for FNCC credit, they are invited to contact me to discuss this option.

### Learning Outcomes:

#### Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Discuss the basic elements of the Canadian legal system [1.1]
2. Describe and apply legal research and reference methods, and compare those methods to those used in general reference services [5.1]



3. Apply the principles for identifying, evaluating, selecting, and maintaining Canadian legal research tools, both print and electronic [2.2]
4. Discuss the roles and responsibilities that legal information professionals assume in various Canadian organizations [1.4]
5. Describe the current trends in legal information services in Canada and elsewhere [1.1]
6. Recognize the skills required to establish, operate and manage responsibly legal information services [3.2]

### **Course Topics:**

- Overview of the Canadian legal system and Canadian legal information sources
- Basic legislative and case law research skills
- Introduction to Canadian, English and American legal resources, in print and online
- Legal research methods
- Legal reference services in the legal, academic and public library
- Practical law librarianship; running the law library

### **Prerequisites:**

MLIS and Dual MAS/MLIS: Completion of MLIS Core or permission of iSchool Graduate Advisor.  
MAS: completion of MAS core and permission of the iSchool Graduate Advisor.

### **Format of the course:**

Lectures, resource demonstrations, in-class activities and guest speakers. Some content may be provided for online viewing within the week; students are to view, read and/or complete this content by Sunday evening of the assigned week.

Estimated number of weekly hours students should dedicate to this class (preparation activities + class activities): 1 to 1.5 hours, in addition to weekly 2.5 hours of teaching.

### **Required and Recommended Reading:**

#### **Required:**

- Weekly readings will be assigned on Canvas; all readings will be publicly-available or accessible through UBC Library resources (you will not be required to pay for any texts or readings for this course).

#### **Recommended:**

The following textbooks provide a comprehensive overview of legal research approaches and resources, and career development, but are not required reading for this course:

- MacEIlven, D.T., Campbell, N.A. and Davis, J.N. Legal Research Handbook, 6th edition. LexisNexis Canada Inc., 2013
- Demers, Annette L., ed. Legal Information Specialists: a Guide to Building and Launching your Career. LexisNexis Canada Inc., 2012.



**Course Assignments:**

Assignment Name	Due Date	Weight	Graduate Competencies
Law in the News - individual presentation	Throughout the term	25%	2.2, 5.1
Research Assignment	February 27, 2023	25%	1.1, 2.2, 5.1
Subject Guide - group project	April 3, 2023 (presentation)  April 10, 2023 (written product)	40%	1.1, 1.4, 2.1, 2.2
Class participation	Throughout the term	10%	2.1, 2.2, 3.1

**Course Schedule [week-by-week]:**

Date	Topics	Other	Assignments due
January 9, 2023	<b>Introduction</b> Course overview The Canadian legal system Introduction to legal information  Sign up for Law in the News assignment	Class introductions  Scavenger hunt  Law in the News assignment info	
January 16, 2023	<b>Introduction to Legislation</b> What is legislation? Legislative process How bills become law How and where legislation is published Tracing the progress of a bill	Quickscribe demo  In-class activity (legislative tools)	
January 23, 2023	<b>Legislation Part II</b> Legislative citations Coming into force - Federal and in BC Legislative intent - Hansard and other sources	In-class activity (Hansard search)  Guest speaker	
January 30, 2023	<b>Legislation Part III</b> Regulations Point in time legislative research - Federal and in BC	In-class activity (tracing legislation)  Guest speaker	
February 6, 2023	<b>Courts / Case law</b> Overview of the Canadian court system Case law sources and research Case law citations  <b>Discussion of Research Assignment</b>	Quicklaw overview	Law in the News, presenters 1-4



February 13, 2023	<b>Legal research</b> Process Primary vs secondary sources	Westlaw overview	Law in the News, presenters 5-8
February 20, 2023	<b>NO CLASS - READING BREAK</b>	N/A	
February 27, 2023	<b>Reference Services and Instruction</b> Legal references services Legal research instruction / training  <b>Discussion of final assignment</b> Time to form groups	Guest lecture	Research Assignment
March 6, 2023	<b>Foreign Law</b> Researching other jurisdictions US legal research UK legal research  <b>Other Research Topics and Tools</b> Regulators Media	In-class activity (research questions)	Law in the News presenters, 9-12
March 13, 2023	<b>Other Roles for the Law Librarian</b> Knowledge management Innovation / legal tech Legal data  <b>Research Assignment review</b>	Guest lecture	Law in the News presenters, 13-16
March 20, 2023	<b>Other Roles for the Law Librarian</b> Business development / competitive intelligence	Guest lecture  In-class activity (business development)	Law in the News presenters, 17-20
March 27, 2023	<b>Managing the law library</b> Collections management Budget Staffing Working with other departments	Guest lecture	Law in the News presenters, 21-24
April 3, 2023	<b>Subject Guide presentations</b>  <b>Course wrap up</b> Professional development options Time for course evaluations		Subject Guide presentations
April 10, 2023	<b>NO CLASS - EASTER MONDAY</b>		Subject Guides written material



### **Attendance:**

The class participation grade will be weighted on attendance, class participation, and effective group work. If you know you are going to be absent, or able to complete an assignment for the due date, please contact me ahead of time, whenever possible. Requests for late assignments will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

**Evaluation:** All assignments will be marked using the evaluative criteria given on the [iSchool web site](#). Late submissions must be discussed in advance, whenever possible.

### **Required Materials:**

- There is no cost for the reading materials in this course
- There are no software programs required
- Students will require access to Canvas and browser-based materials and systems, as assigned

**Academic Concession:** If you miss marked coursework for the first time (assignment, exam, presentation, participation in class) and the course is still in-progress, **speak with me immediately** to find a solution for your missed coursework. Any concessions that will result in a change to the student record (such as late withdrawal from the course) will be referred to the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies for evaluation. If this is not the first time you have requested concession or classes are over, please consult the [Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies' webpage on academic concession](#), and then contact me where appropriate.

**Policies and Resources to Support Student Success:** UBC provides resources to support student learning and to maintain healthy lifestyles but recognizes that sometimes crises arise and so there are additional resources to access including those for survivors of sexual violence. UBC values respect for the person and ideas of all members of the academic community. Harassment and discrimination are not tolerated nor is suppression of academic freedom. UBC provides appropriate accommodation for students with disabilities and for religious and cultural observances. UBC values academic honesty and students are expected to acknowledge the ideas generated by others and to uphold the highest academic standards in all of their actions. Details of the policies and how to access support are available here (<https://senate.ubc.ca/policies-resources-support-student-success>)

**Academic Integrity:** The academic enterprise is founded on honesty, civility, and integrity. As members of this enterprise, all students are expected to know, understand, and follow the codes of conduct regarding academic integrity. At the most basic level, this means submitting only original work done by you and acknowledging all sources of information or ideas and attributing them to others as required. This also means you should not cheat, copy, or mislead others about what is your work. Violations of academic integrity (i.e., misconduct) lead to the breakdown of the academic enterprise, and therefore serious consequences arise and harsh sanctions are imposed. For example, incidences of plagiarism or cheating may result in a mark of zero on the assignment or exam and more serious consequences may apply when the matter is referred to the Office of the Dean. Careful records are kept in order to monitor and prevent recurrences. A more detailed description of academic integrity, including the University's policies and procedures, may be found in the [UBC Calendar: Student Conduct and Discipline](#). Academic misconduct includes cheating, plagiarism, and self-plagiarism <http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=3,54,111,959> (§7)

**Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:** Academic accommodations help students with a disability or ongoing medical condition overcome challenges that may affect their academic success. Students requiring academic accommodations must register with the [Centre for Accessibility](#) (previously known as Access & Diversity). The Centre will determine that student's eligibility for accommodations in accordance with [Policy LR7: Accommodation for Students with Disabilities \(Joint Senate and Board Policy\)](#). Academic accommodations are not determined by your instructors, and instructors should not ask you about the nature of your disability or ongoing medical



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condition, or request copies of your disability documentation. However, your instructor may consult with the Centre for Accessibility should the accommodations affect the essential learning outcomes of a course.