

FACULTY OF LAW, UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA
2023-24 COURSE REGISTRATION – PRELIMINARY COURSE INFORMATION¹

COURSE	LAW 343 Information and Privacy Law
UNIT VALUE	1.5 Units (3 hours per week)
INSTRUCTOR	Ross Alexander and John Tuck
TERM OFFERED	Fall 2023
CLASS TIMES	See Schedule
PREREQUISITES/COREQUISITES	None

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Privacy law impacts most aspects of society, including Government, the private sector and personal lives. Privacy law issues are rapidly changing due to technology and the international flow of information. Freedom of information law is regularly used by the media, political parties, advocacy groups and lawyers to learn information that impacts people and shapes societal discourse.

This course introduces students to the Canadian privacy and freedom of information law (with an emphasis on BC legislation), and engages in extensive policy discussion about emerging issues and laws. The privacy topics addressed will include:

- the personal (including discrimination), political (*i.e.*, elections, etc.) and commercial impacts of privacy;
- the impacts of technology on privacy, and Artificial Intelligence (AI) regulation;
- the historical record v. the “right to be forgotten”;
- the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*;
- Canadian public sector privacy laws;
- Canadian private sector privacy laws;
- criminal law and public safety;
- international privacy protection regimes, as well as the international flow of information;
- security, privacy breaches and enforcement;
- health information privacy law;
- employment and labour; and
- statutory and common law torts.

The freedom of information topics will include the FOI process and information protected from disclosure, such as solicitor-client privilege, litigation privilege, confidential business information, policy advice, Cabinet confidences, third-party privacy, law enforcement information and public interest disclosure.

METHODOLOGY

This course will be taught through a combination of lectures, guest speakers and discussion in an online environment.

EXPECTED EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

The students are expected to be evaluated as follows:

- a) Discussion questions / comments for four classes – 10%
- b) Midterm assignment (legal analysis/written argument regarding an FOI issue) – 25%
- c) Paper – 65%

June 2023

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, Law Student Services (law.student.services@uvic.ca).