

FACULTY OF LAW, UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA
2023-24 COURSE REGISTRATION - PRELIMINARY COURSE INFORMATION (PCIS)¹

COURSE	LAW 323 Refugee Law
UNIT VALUE	1.5 Units (3 hours of instruction per week)
INSTRUCTORS	Molly Joeck
TERM OFFERED	Spring 2024
CLASS TIMES	See Schedule
PREREQUISITES/COREQUISITE	None

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides an overview of international refugee law as applied in Canada. The course will encourage students to think critically and analytically about refugee law and refugee rights, as well as Canada's role in refugee protection. Some of the topics covered will include: the legal definition of the refugee, who is excluded from refugee protection, border laws and policies as they pertain to refugees, the law and practice of immigration detention, as well as an introduction to the key aspects of refugee law practice in Canada. The course also invites students to reflect on Canadian law's construction of sovereignty, borders, and rights, in relation both to refugee protection and colonialism. The course will engage with such questions, as well as with questions relating to human rights, humanitarianism, and the role of the state in refugee protection.

COURSE OBJECTIVE

Students completing this course will:

- understand the basic principles of Canadian refugee law;
- understand how refugee determinations are made in Canada;
- acquire tools to critically reflect on key issues and problems in the field.

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

A mix of remote and in-person lectures and discussion.

EXPECTED EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

Evaluation will be based on the following:

(1) Four Reading Participation Responses (40%)

This course is designed to encourage meaningful engagement with the course materials. To advance this goal, each student will be required to submit four (4) short responses reflecting on the assigned material, worth 10% each, for a total of 40% of the final grade. Students are asked to prepare responses for four classes of their choosing. These assignments are designed to ensure that students keep up with, and reflect upon, the assigned readings throughout the term.

Each assignment must include:

- a short reflection (1-2 paragraphs if written, or a few minutes by audio/video) on one or more of the readings assigned;
- 2-3 questions or comments that demonstrate engagement with the assigned readings.

These reflections are designed to be open ended – you can critique the texts, praise the text, discuss why you think the text is relevant to our study of refugee law, or identify gaps in the text or questions for future inquiry. You can also

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.studentservices@uvic.ca).

engage with the lecture and class discussion – for example, by identifying points of discussion you found challenging, rewarding, or eye opening.

The assignments may be completed in writing, or in the form of a short video or audio clip.

(2) Final Exam (60%)

June 2023