

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

COURSE	LAW 355 Legal Skills
UNIT VALUE	2.0 Units (4 hours of instruction per week)
INSTRUCTOR	Ian Wiebe
TERM OFFERED	Spring 2024
CLASS TIMES	See Schedule
PREREQUISITES/COREQUISITES	LAW 309 Law of Evidence is a recommended pre- or corequisite for this course. LAW 307B Civil Procedure is a recommended pre- or corequisite for this course.

DESCRIPTION

The course uses materials from substantive law and to examine and develop the skills of the lawyer in interviewing, advising clients, and negotiation. The emphasis in the course will be on practicing foundational skills required to carry out these tasks.

Students will learn techniques for conducting interviews and gathering facts; client-centered approaches to giving advice; and how to plan for and conduct a negotiation.

Students will be introduced to a wide range of skills in a practical setting.

Please note that some of the materials in this course consist of fact patterns drawn from the experience of the instructor as a former Crown Counsel, including some that contain graphic depictions of violent crime. The materials are taught with due attention to the challenges of working with traumatic materials for all, but please note that the fact patterns may be difficult for some.

EXPECTED EVALUATION METHODOLOGY (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

This is a pass / fail course.

Students will complete numerous practical exercises, both in and out of class, in which they will be expected to demonstrate a sound grasp of the important skills lawyers use in their day to day work. Participation in roleplaying exercises is required. In order to ensure that students have a fair opportunity to practice skills as they learn them, it is expected that students will attend ALL classes unless prevented from doing so by illness, family hardship or other similarly significant reasons. There will be a final assessment of your legal skills in interviewing, advising, and negotiating scheduled near the end of term.

No students will be allowed to complete a major paper in this course.

Posted 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.studentservices@uvic.ca).