COURSE       Law 343-1 Charter Litigation
UNIT VALUE   1.5 Units (3 hours of instruction per week)
INSTRUCTOR   Catherine Boies Parker and Alison M. Latimer
TERM OFFERED Fall 2018
CLASS TIMES  See Schedule
PREREQUISITES/COREQUISITES None

OBJECTIVES AND COURSE DESCRIPTION

This specialized upper year course looks to the past, present and future of Charter litigation to see where we have been and where we are headed. It reflects upon social movements that have led to a turn to strategic rights litigation. These movements have led to some of the recent leading Supreme Court of Canada cases. The course is grounded in practical experience and follows the anatomy of Charter litigation from grassroots social movements, through funding issues, pleading, building a record and on to legal advocacy.

The objectives of this course are:

1. To study new and emerging issues in substantive Charter law;
2. To learn about strategic decision making in respect of manner of proceeding, discovery and building a record;
3. To explore issues of professional responsibility related to access to justice, the special role of the Attorney General, counsel’s responsibilities in working with vulnerable clients; and
4. To build written advocacy skills.

METHODOLOGY

Instruction will be comprised of lectures, skill development exercises, and class discussion.

EXPECTED EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

The course will be evaluated by memorandum of law (20%), affidavit drafting (20%), expert witness question drafting (10%) and drafting a final argument (50%). There will not be an examination. There will not be an opportunity for students to fulfill their major paper requirement in this course.

May 2018

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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, the Manager of Academic Administration and Student Services (lawmaass@uvic.ca).