

FACULTY OF LAW, UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA
Winter Session 2021-22 Course Registration - PRELIMINARY COURSE INFORMATION¹

COURSE	LAW 343-5 Comparative Constitutional Law
UNIT VALUE	1.5 Units (3 hours of instruction per week)
INSTRUCTOR	Eszter Bodnár
TERM OFFERED	Fall 2021
CLASS TIMES	See schedule
PREREQUISITES/COREQUISITES	Students must have completed LAW 100 Constitutional Law or LAW 100I Transsystemic Constitutional Law or equivalent course.

OBJECTIVES AND COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course offers an introduction to comparative constitutional law by providing an overview of the basic constitutional principles, ideas, processes, institutions, and rights, examining them from a comparative perspective. The course also intends to enhance the problem-solving skills of the participants and to deal with contemporary issues. The first part of the course introduces the history, fields, methodology and practice of comparative law, and basic concepts as constitution, constitutionalism, rule of law, democracy, sovereignty, and separation of powers. The second part explores processes, institutions, and rights, comparing a variety of jurisdictions. Topics include constitutional design and constitutional amendment, constitutional interpretation, constitutional review, judicial independence, elections and direct democracy, government structures and frameworks, structure and scope of constitutional rights, and specific rights as freedom of expression, freedom of religion, human dignity, and equality.

METHODOLOGY

A variety of teaching methods will be employed during the course including lectures, class discussion, student presentations, and interactive group exercises. The course may feature guest speakers. Materials for each week will be posted on the Brightspace.

EXPECTED EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

Evaluation is a combination of written assignments, including a research paper, oral presentations, and class participation. There is no final examination.

July 2021

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