

**FACULTY OF LAW, UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA  
2019-20 COURSE REGISTRATION - PRELIMINARY COURSE INFORMATION (PCIS)<sup>1</sup>**

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| <b>COURSE</b>                     | LAW 358 Race, Ethnicity, Culture, and the Law |
| <b>UNIT VALUE</b>                 | 1.5 Units (3 hours per week)                  |
| <b>INSTRUCTOR</b>                 | Devyani Tewari                                |
| <b>TERM OFFERED</b>               | Spring 2022                                   |
| <b>CLASS TIMES</b>                | See schedule                                  |
| <b>PREREQUISITES/COREQUISITES</b> | None  |

### **OBJECTIVES AND COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This seminar introduces students to critical race theory and its contemporary debates. The course provides a survey of various interrelated topics, such as: decolonizing anti-racism, intersectionality, race and space, property and personhood, courts and bias, policing, migration, uneven citizenship, and race and disability. Given the global impact of COVID-19, inequities have become more glaring. This course shall pay special attention to these inequities and how they are connected to race. Why are some people more vulnerable than the rest of the population? How do people at the intersections of race and gender, disability, sexual orientation, class and/or religion experience life differently? Are they the 'other' and if yes, why so? Why do some people lack visibility in public spaces? Who is accommodated in an institution and who is not? Why is there a process of selective accommodation followed? In addressing these questions, we will study critical race theory, feminist analyses of law, the intersectionality of race, gender and disability, socio-legal conceptions of inclusion and multiculturalism and the conflicting feminist perspectives on agency of women belonging to religious minorities.

The objectives of this course are for students to:

- Gain an understanding of critical engagements with race and discrimination as it concerns the Canadian legal system, feminist analyses of race, and histories of racial discrimination;
- Build skills to identify relationships between systemic racism and the legal foundations of settler colonialism; and
- Gain opportunities to express knowledge and understandings of debates, contemporary social issues, and histories of discrimination through presentation and written exercises.

### **CLASS FORMAT**

The course is a seminar. This course relies on active learning strategies. Class time will consist of discussion, reflective exercises, group work, and viewing short films. I begin the class by listing brief questions on themes arising from the assigned readings that set the scene for interaction among members of the class. Therefore, I expect that students will have read the assigned material and are prepared to participate in class discussions.

### **EXPECTED EVALUATION**

There are three modes of evaluation: reflection essays worth 20%, a final assignment worth 60%, and a peer learning exercise worth 20%.

1. Reflection essays (20%): students have to submit four 250 words reflection papers on readings of their choice.
2. Final Assignment (60%): students may write a research paper, an integrative paper, or complete another final assignment (the form of which must be pre-approved by the instructor). A marking guide will be distributed in

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<sup>1</sup> 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](mailto:lawmaass@uvic.ca)).

class. Papers will need to be 4000-5000 words.

3. Peer Learning Exercise (20%): students will facilitate or co-facilitate one class – leading the discussion and prompting their classmates with discussion questions.

**Students cannot use their research papers in this course to satisfy the major paper requirement.**

July 2021