**CML 3319 Advanced Legal Research Methodology**

**Brian Dickson Law Library**

**February 2011**

Librarians

Julie Lavigne, Richard J. Harkin, Nathalie Léonard, Colleen Addison, Law librarians

Margo Jeske, Coordinator

Brian Dickson Law Library

University of Ottawa

57 Louis Pasteur St.

Questions: [mjeske@uottawa.ca](mailto:mjeske@uottawa.ca)

562-5845

Office hours : By appointment

Description

The course will introduce students to legal research methodology and develop a critical understanding of the nature and process(es) of legal research methodology. It will provide students with an opportunity to further develop their legal research skills in different areas of law. This course will be team-taught by the law librarians and others invited to share their expertise.

Objectives

* In-depth knowledge of Canadian legal documentation
* Develop a systematic approach to comparative and international legal research
* Use of current legal citation standards

Evaluation

In class participation and short in-class exercises: 30%

Two research assignments based in the Library and Computer Lab: 30%

Research bibliography : 40%

**Rules for the Completion of Assignments**

1.         All assignments must be handed in class no later than the date and time specified in the assignment.

2.         All requests for extensions, as provided in the Faculty Regulations, must be processed through the office for Academic Affairs.  Neither professors nor staff at the Secretariat are authorized to accept late assignments.  **Assignments handed in late without the appropriate authorization will neither be accepted nor graded.**

3.         All work that is handed in must be your own.  You are urged to familiarize yourself with the University Regulations on Academic Fraud, which are reproduced in the Faculty Calendar.  Academic fraud will implicate the student in the University disciplinary process, which may culminate in penalties ranging from loss of credits for the course to expulsion.  Academic fraud will also be reported to the Law Society of Upper Canada, which in turn may refuse admission to practice law in the province.

4.         All grades on assignments are provisional only and are subject to adjustment prior to or consequent upon submission of final grades to Faculty Council for approval in accordance with the Faculty Regulations.

Reading Material (Optional)

Berring, Robert C. and Elizabeth A. Edinger, *Finding the Law*, 12th ed. St. Paul, West Pub. Co., 2005. **FTX Reference KF 240 .C538 2005**

Cohen, Morris L., *Legal Research in a Nutshell*, 8th ed., St. Paul, West Group, 2003. **FTX Reference KF 240 .C6 1992**

Fitzgerald, Maureen F., *Legal Problem Solving: Reasoning, Research & Writing,* 5th ed., Toronto: LexisNexis Butterworths, 2010. **FTX Reserve KE 250 .F57 2010**

*Guide to International Legal Research*, 4th ed., Newark, Lexis Nexis Matthew Bender, 2005. **FTX Reference KZ 1234 .G84 2003**

Holborn, Guy, *Butterworths Legal Research Guide*, London, Butterworths, 2005. **FTX Reserve KD 392 .H64 2001**

Iosipescu, Michael et Philip W. Whitehead, *Legal Writing and Research Manual*, 6th ed., Toronto, Butterworths, 2004. **FTX Reserve KE 250 .Y6 2004**

Lafond, Pierre-Claude, *Techniques de repérage des sources documentaires du droit*, 3rd ed., Cowansville (Qc.), Yvon Blais, 2004. **KE 250 .L334 2004** (1 copy **FTX Reserve** and one copy in **FTX Reference**]

LeMay, Denis et Dominique Goubeau, *La recherche documentaire en droit*, 6th ed., Montréal, Wilson & Lafleur, 2008. **FTX Reserve KEQ 140 .L432 2008**

MacEllven, Douglass T. et Michael J. McGuire, *Legal Research Handbook*, 5th ed., Toronto: Butterworths, 2003. **FTX Reserve KE 250 .M324 2003**

Poirier, Donald et Anne-Françoise Debruche, *Introduction générale à la common law*, 3rd ed., Cowansville (Qc.), Yvon Blais et Bruylant, 2005, chapitre 4. **FTX Reserve K 588 .P647 2005**

*Canadian Guide to Legal Citation*, 7th ed., Toronto, Carswell, 2010. **KE 259 .C353 2010**. **FTX Reserve** and **FTX Reference**]

Tjaden, Ted, *Legal Research and Writing*, 3rd ed., Toronto: Irwin Law, 2010. **FTX Reserve KE 250 .T53 2010**.

Schedule

This course is scheduled on Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning on February 1st, 2011 - in room 430, the computer Lab within the Brian Dickson Law Library.

Subjects to be covered:

Review of basic legal research methodology

Searching the Web

American law

English law

Foreign and international law

Finding legal information produced by Canadian governments and the United Nations

Québec Civil Law

Legal indexes: Canada, U.S., Great Britain, France, and international.

Multidisciplinary and specialized legal research,(i.e. human rights, criminal law, labour)

New trends in legal research

In-computer lab sessions for: Lexis/Quicklaw, Westlaw Canada, REJB and Azimut.

Instruction in the use of RefWorks for papers and theses.

Students who are in need of special services should communicate with Student Academic Success Service (Access Service):

In person : UCU 339 Email : adapt@uottawa.ca

Telephone : 613-562-5976 Web : <http://www.sass.uottawa.ca/access/>

TTY : 613-562-5214

### 