Office hours: By appointment via Phone/Zoom
Email: eleonard@uottawa.ca
CLASS: Thursday 7pm-10pm

Course Description

From birth to death, people are called upon to develop and maintain family ties which have a number of legal consequences. By being born alive and viable, the child acquires legal personality and is generally assigned a filiation. On becoming an adult, this person is likely to unite with another person, form a couple and have his own children. This course presents the legal consequences arising from this process, through the two themes of persons and family law.

The course will also look at the most current developments in persons and family law, while providing an LBGTQ+ and open perspective to the topics covered.

Course Objectives

To provide students with an outlook of all the relevant legal issues that affects persons and families.

To initiate into legal reasoning through case law analysis and resolution of practical cases.

To develop the capacity for analysis and synthesis of legal issues, as well as critical thinking.

Teaching Methods

This course will be held in person. The course will mostly be given in the form of lectures and discussions. An active participation is expected from all students. Readings should be completed prior to attending class.
Evaluation Method

Class participation (10%)

Active participation will be evaluated, meaning doing the work assigned, arriving prepared for class, participating in class, contributing constructively, etc. Please note that students will not be penalized for unforeseen absences (e.g., illness, family emergency). Simply send an email in advance (if possible) to the professor explaining the reason for your absence. More than two absences that are not justified will result in a grade of 0 in class participation.

2 Quiz (10% each)

There will be two 30-min quiz during the semester (one on law of persons and one on family law). Closed books.

Midterm exam (30%)

Final exam (40%)

Both the midterm and the final exams are closed-book, which mean that only a Civil Code of Québec, and French-English dictionaries are allowed. Other references and personal notes will not be permitted. The Civil Code of Québec can be slightly annotated, such as references to other provisions of the Code or of the Act or other laws. Only the following information is allowed on student-added-tabs:

- The designations of titles, chapter or sections;
- The article or section numbers and other titles appearing in bold in the text.

All students are subject to university regulations pertaining to academic integrity. It is the student’s responsibility to understand and comply with the regulations. Please consult the website to familiarize yourselves with the rules and your responsibilities: http://web5.uottawa.ca/mcs-smc/academicintegrity/home.php

Reading Material

Civil Code of Québec (mandatory)

All readings will be available on Brightspace.