

**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY**  
**EDUCATION 448-4**  
**LAW IN THE CURRICULUM**  
**(E1.00)**

Spring Semester, 1994  
(January 4 - March 31)  
Tuesday, 16:30 - 20:20  
Location: MPX 8651/52

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*"There isn't a single act that any government can do that does not have to find its source in the legal system. It's just as important that our citizens have some appreciation of law as of English, French, literature or economics."*

*Former Chief Justice of Canada, Bora Laskin*

**PREREQUISITE:** 60 hours of credit.

### **OVERVIEW**

This is a methodology course which examines different ways that law (broadly defined) can be integrated into elementary and secondary classrooms. The course is appropriate for experienced and inexperienced teachers of law at all grade levels.

### **DESCRIPTION**

Law is an integral part of the school curricula. Legal concepts and skills are found in the new Primary, Intermediate, and Graduation programs, and in courses such as Language Arts, Social Studies, Family Life, Consumer Education, and Law 12. Teachers also convey notions about law through the hidden curriculum of their classrooms — in the way they handle decisions, manage conflict, and structure student activities.

In this course teachers and prospective teachers will explore law-related instructional strategies, review materials for use in their classrooms, examine community resources, and learn to tailor these ideas to particular students and groups. Students enrolled in the course are expected to participate in three or four off campus classes, including a mock trial held at the law courts, a community field study, and an institutional visit.

### **SAMPLE TOPICS**

- Rationale for teaching law in the schools
- Law in the formal and informal curriculum
- Law-related community resources (eg. notaries, ombudspersons, mediators)
- Law-related instructional strategies (eg. mock trials, moot appeals, case studies, storydrama)
- The law and youth
- Developing classroom materials

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

Report on a field study, participation in a mock trial or moot appeal, development of a classroom curriculum unit, preparation of a 4 page paper, attendance and participation in class.

### **REQUIRED TEXTS**

Source book of readings, available for purchase in class for \$20.00.

Coombs, et al. (Eds.). (1990). Ends in View: An Analysis of the Goals of Law-Related Education. Vancouver: UBC and SFU. Available for purchase in class for \$12.00.