

EDUCATION 485-4 (SPECIAL TOPICS)

THE LEGAL CONTEXT OF TEACHING: CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

Regular Semester, 1987
May 4 - July 31
Wednesday, 5:30-9:20

Instructor: Terri Sussel
Location: MPX 8651
Phone: 291-4570

Prerequisite: Education 401/2 or the equivalent of a first year practicum.

Course Description:

This course is designed to provide education students, teachers, counsellors, and school administrators with a comprehensive understanding of the legal issues and potential legal liabilities encountered in the B.C. public school system. Special attention is devoted to the legal dimensions and consequences of routine classroom and administrative activity. The following issues will be explored:

- 1) Private Lifestyles and Community Standards
- 2) Negligence and Supervisory Activity
- 3) Educational Malpractice
- 4) Responsibility for Curriculum Fulfillment
- 5) Discipline and Corporal Punishment
- 6) Liability Outside School Hours
- 7) Sexual Harrassment in the Workplace
- 8) Sexual Abuse by School Board Employees
- 9) The AIDS Controversy and the Role of the School

The course also provides a basic introduction to the legal terminology used in the lectures and seminars and does not require prior knowledge of the Canadian legal system or the law.

Course Requirements:

Students will be evaluated on the basis of one in-class presentation, a 10-15 page research project, and class participation.

Required Texts:

T.A. Sussel. Issues in Law and Education: A Reader on the Legal Context of Teaching, (to be distributed in class).

Books on Reserve in Library:

Wayne MacKay. Education Law in Canada. (Toronto: Emond Montgomery, 1984).

Mike Manley-Casimir & Terri Sussel. Courts in the Classroom. (Calgary, Detselig Press, 1986).