Children's Rights in Canada Winter 2024

SDS 210R / LS 273

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Class Schedule

Course	Meet Days	Meet Time	Location	Instructor(s)
SDS 210R / LS 273 081 [LEC]			ONLN - Online	C. Briggs *clbriggs@uwaterloo.c…*

schedule data automatically refreshed daily

Instructor & TA (Teaching Assistant) Information

Use the LEARN Course Discussions forum to communicate with your instructor and classmates. Discussion topics can be accessed in LEARN by clicking **Connect** and then **Discussions** on the course navigation bar.

For questions of a personal nature, please email your instructor:

- Instructor: Dr. Catherine Briggs
  clbriggs@uwaterloo.ca (mailto:clbriggs@uwaterloo.ca)

Your instructor checks email and the Ask the Instructor discussion topic in LEARN frequently and will make every effort to reply to your questions within 24–48 hours, Monday to Friday.

Course Description

> *Calendar Description for LS 273 / SDS 210R:*
>
> This course examines children's rights from a moral and comparative legal perspective. Students explore the welfare and developmental interests of children; the corresponding duties of parents, custodians, educators, and social workers; and the nature and scope of public educational authority in the common law jurisdictions of Canada.

In keeping with the Socratic tradition, this course will be taught as a series of interactive lecture sessions. Each week will include at least one documentary excerpt to facilitate class discussion and individual student reflection.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course students should be able to critically examine and reflect upon:

the moral and legal status of children;
the welfare and developmental interests of children;
the educational responsibilities of parents and the state;

the nature of custody and purposes of custodial authority;
the impact of the American concept of 'parental rights';
the parens patriae doctrine as applied in Canada;
the UNCRC as interpreted and applied in Canada; and
a range of topical issues in children's rights.

Tentative Course Schedule

Please see the Course Schedule in LEARN for complete details.

Texts / Materials

Title / Name	Notes / Comments	Required
Covell, K. and Howe, R.B., and Blokhuis, J.C. (2018). The Challenge of Children's Rights for Canada, 2e. Waterloo, ON: Wilfrid Laurier University Press.	Please note that the first edition of the required textbook (from 2001) is out of date and is NOT acceptable for use in this course.	Yes

A free library eText is available at www.lib.uwaterloo.ca (https://lib.uwaterloo.ca/web/) .

For textbook ordering information, please contact the W Store | Course Materials + Supplies (https://wstore.uwaterloo.ca/) .

Course reserves for students (https://uwaterloo.ca/library/services/course-reserves-students) are used in this course. Course Reserves can be accessed using the **Library Resources** widget on the **Course Home** page in LEARN.

Student Assessment

Component	Value
Introduce Yourself	Ungraded
Module 1: Discussion Participation (4 x 1% per week)	4%
Module 2: Discussion Participation (4 x 1% per week)	4%
Module 3: Discussion Participation (4 x 1% per week)	4%
Reflective Learning Diary Assignment Options (6 x 8% each)	48%
Final Examination	40%

Assignment Screening

Text matching software (Turnitin) will be used to screen assignments in this course. This is being done to verify that use of all material and sources in assignments is documented. In the first week of the term, details will be provided about the arrangements for the use of Turnitin and alternatives in this course. See Administrative Policy below for more information and links.

Course Policies

Late Policy

Late work will not be accepted unless and until accommodations for documented illness, special needs, or extenuating circumstances have been granted in accordance with University policy. Extensions are not available for optional assignments.

Assignment Submission

Please do not email your work to the Instructor. All work should be submitted through the relevant Dropbox in LEARN in PDF format.

Citations

In this course, in-text citations must include page numbers. Please use the following format for your in-text citations: (Author, Year: Page).

Territorial Acknowledgement

The University of Waterloo acknowledges that much of our work takes place on the traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishinaabeg and Haudenosaunee peoples. Our main campus is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land granted to the Six Nations that includes six miles on each side of the Grand River. Our active work toward reconciliation takes place across our campuses through research, learning, teaching, and community building, and is centralized within the Office of Indigenous Relations. (https://uwaterloo.ca/indigenous)

University Policy

Academic integrity: In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. [Check the Office of Academic Integrity (https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/) for more information.]

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of their university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70, Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4 (https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70) . When in doubt, please be certain to contact the department's administrative assistant who will provide further assistance.

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity to avoid committing an academic offence, and to take responsibility for their actions. [Check the Office of Academic Integrity (https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/) for more information.] A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about "rules"

for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course instructor, academic advisor, or the undergraduate associate dean. For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71, Student Discipline (https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-71) . For typical penalties, check Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties (https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/guidelines/guidelines-assessment-penalties) .

Appeals: A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70, Student Petitions and Grievances (https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70) (other than a petition) or Policy 71, Student Discipline (https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-71) may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes they have a ground for an appeal should refer to Policy 72, Student Appeals (https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72) .

Note for students with disabilities: AccessAbility Services (https://uwaterloo.ca/accessability-services/) , located in Needles Hall, Room 1401, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with AccessAbility Services at the beginning of each academic term.

Turnitin.com: Text matching software (Turnitin®) may be used to screen assignments in this course. Turnitin® is used to verify that all materials and sources in assignments are documented. Students' submissions are stored on a U.S. server, therefore students must be given an alternative (e.g., scaffolded assignment or annotated bibliography), if they are concerned about their privacy and/or security. Students will be given due notice, in the first week of the term and/or at the time assignment details are provided, about arrangements and alternatives for the use of Turnitin in this course.

It is the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor if they, in the first week of term or at the time assignment details are provided, wish to submit alternate assignment.