WOMEN'S STUDIES PROGRAM

FALL 1988

EVENING

LAURA WOOD

W.S. 302-3
WOMEN AND THE LAW

We will be examining the way that the law influences women's lives and the decisions we make. In particular, we will be discussing laws affecting the following areas:

1. the Canadian legal system, an introduction and overview of traditional and contemporary attitudes towards women as observers of and participants in the system.
2. women and family law - including marriage and divorce, maintenance for spouses and children, property division, adoption, legal standards of care for children, violence in the family, etc.
3. health - including our rights as patients, childbirth and midwifery, abortion, etc.
4. women and criminal law - including the criminalization of prostitution, sexual offences, violence against women, pornography and censorship, your rights as an accused person, women and prisons, etc.
5. women and the Charter of Rights and Freedoms - including abortion, pornography, equality, the Meech Lake Accord, affirmative action, fundamental freedoms, i.e. expression, association, conscience, etc.
6. women and employment including issues such as affirmative action, employment equity, sexual harassment, wrongful dismissal, daycare, occupational health, etc.
7. other issues of interest to the class members as time permits.

REQUIRED READING

Dymond, M.J. The Canadian Women's Legal Guide
Ridington, J. Freedom From Harm or Freedom of Speech
N.A.W.L. The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms: Not Just Words on Paper

ASSIGNMENTS

20% Written precis of assigned reading, 2 typed pages
20% Oral presentation, 10-20 minutes
15% Classroom participation
45% Paper, 10-12 typed pages, or equivalent

THIS COURSE MAY BE APPLIED AS UPPER DIVISION CREDIT TOWARD MAJORS IN CRIMINOLOGY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND CANADIAN STUDIES FOR STUDENTS WHO OBTAIN PERMISSION FOR THIS, FROM THOSE DEPARTMENTS.

Prerequisites: 60 credit hours