

FACULTY OF LAW, UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA
2024-25 COURSE REGISTRATION - PRELIMINARY COURSE INFORMATION (PCIS)¹

COURSE	LAW 320 Wills, Estates and Succession Planning
UNIT VALUE	1.5 Units (3 hours of instruction per week)
INSTRUCTOR	Stephen Lyons
TERM OFFERED	Fall 2024
CLASS TIMES	See Schedule
PREREQUISITES/COREQUISITES	LAW 319 Trusts is a recommended pre- or corequisite for this course.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

LAW 320 offers an overview of common law principles applicable to succession and estate planning as well as relevant statutes relating to representation agreements, powers of attorney, and other incapacity planning. It touches on trust law, insurance law, and taxation issues only as they relate to estates and estate administration. LAW 320 will focus on the law of British Columbia.

Class attendance, while not mandatory, is important and encouraged.

General topics to be covered include: incapacity planning (powers of attorney, representation agreements, and committeehip); intestate succession; wills, variation and revocation of wills; and equitable doctrines.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- To explore the common law and statutory issues and requirements relating to incompetency, succession, and estate planning.
- To consider the role of lawyers involved in planning for incompetence and death, estate administration and litigation.
- To become familiar with general principles and processes relating to estate planning.

COURSE MATERIALS

The course materials contain the statutory and case law for the course. Students should carefully review the assigned legislation and other materials as directed in the material, as much of the specific content will not be conveyed in lectures. Brightspace may be utilized to provide an overview of the subject matter. Case material should also be read carefully, not only as a statement of the present state of the law in that area, but to identify the court's approach to the issue and the general principles expressed.

Other materials may be made available on reserve in the library.

COURSE METHODOLOGY

Teaching method will be primarily lectures with possible planned guest lectures. Class discussion and questions are encouraged. Students are expected to have read and be ready to discuss the assigned readings.

The final grade for this course will be based on a cumulative final exam for 100% of the final grade.

A limited number of students may be permitted to write a research paper of 7,500 words in length which may qualify for fulfilment of the major paper requirement. For students a writing research paper, the final exam and paper will be equally weighted at 50% of the final grade.

June 2024

¹ The information in this document is provided for course registration purposes only and is **subject to change**. More detailed course information about course content and evaluation will be provided upon the commencement of the course. Students seeking additional information about the course prior to its commencement may contact the instructor or, if no instructor is listed, the Manager, Academic Administration and Student Services (lawmaass@uvic.ca).