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The information was accurate at this time, and students are advised that information might change. The University of Manitoba has the health and safety of students, staff, and faculty members as its top priority.

What is the first-year curriculum?

First year full time students register for the following seven courses, for both Fall and Winter Terms:

- LAW 1102 - Contracts 5 credit hours
- LAW 1140 - Criminal Law & Procedure 5 credit hours
- LAW 1460 - Constitutional Law 5 credit hours
- LAW 1480 - Torts & Compensation Systems 5 credit hours
- LAW 1500 - Property 5 credit hours
- LAW 1530 - Legal Systems 2 credit hours
- LAW 1540 - Legal Methods 5 credit hours

TOTAL credit hours for Year 1: 32 credit hours

Half-time students are to email Rosa.Muller@umanitoba.ca to set-up an appointment.

How will we meet and ask questions from our professors?

Remote learning is different from distance education, where material is simply posted, and you have to go through it on your own and then write an exam.

Professors will have virtual office hours.

Classes will be structured so that you can interact with your Professors. Q & A Sessions and going over exercises.

How will Fall Term 2021 classes be structured?

There will be a mix of synchronous and asynchronous learning. Synchronous learning is where you and the Professor are interacting in real time, and asynchronous learning is where you are learning on our own schedule. Asynchronous learning will include reading.

In addition, there will be pre-recorded (asynchronous) lectures, posted on UM Learn, University of Manitoba's learning management system. For the synchronous learning, this will occur during class-time using video-conferencing software, likely through UMLearn. There will also be the opportunity to interact with your professors on a one-on-one basis, remotely during virtual office hours and/or scheduled appointments.

Will exams be online in December? What platform will we use?

Exams will be online in December. The platform that will be used is UM Learn. Professors and students will use UM Learn throughout the Term for course material and instruction. Use of UM Learn for exams will therefore be familiar to students.

Will courses be assigned a letter grade or pass/fail?

Courses will be assigned a letter grade (with the exception of Legal Methods). Please keep in mind, in first year law the courses are spanned from September through April. A final grade in a course will be assigned at the end of Winter Term 2022. Upper Year courses (second and third year) are one-term courses.

Will we have physical library access in Fall Term 2021? If not, what can we do to work around this?

- The short answer is you will likely not have physical access to the E.K. Williams Law Library in the fall of 2021. Please note that the Elizabeth Dafoe Library (Fort Garry campus) and Neil John Maclean Health Sciences Library (Downtown campus) are open for individual study space.
- Students can still access physical textbooks via the library's on-campus Pickup Lockers (think vending machines, but for books).
- The Law Library has also made over 350 core legal textbooks available online via a variety of free-to-use databases. For more information on Pickup Lockers or online textbooks, please contact our law librarian, Matthew Renaud at Matthew.Renaud@umanitoba.ca
- The E.K. Williams Law library is also able to provide students with access to hundreds of non-law textbooks via a digital platform called HathiTrust.
- Further, students will have the ability to request portions of books (or entire journal articles) be scanned by library staff.

What are the plans for Winter 2022 courses, will they be remote or in-person?

We will follow the guidelines set out by the local health authorities, provincial guidelines, and university administration. Our priority is the health and well-being of staff, students, and faculty.

Will attendance be required for online classes just as in-person classes would have?

Some of the most meaningful learning will occur during class time. Professors expect you will be available to attend and participate virtually during class time. Note: time zones will come into play!

How will class participation work?

- Class participation will depend on a few factors. If the lecture is with the entire class (1L classes are typically 36 students), there are several ways to raise your hand (digitally).
- Many professors will be dividing classes into smaller groups, which will meet during class time. For example, in a three-hour lecture, the class may be divided into groups of three, and your group might meet (virtually) with the professor for an hour. The professor will meet in sequence with each of the three groups and cover the same exercise.
- Generally, first year courses do not have a specific component of the grading scheme dedicated to participation marks.

What happens if I have technical difficulties and I am unable to attend the scheduled lecture?

Generally, “live” (synchronous) lectures will be recorded, so you can access them afterward if you have difficulties signing in while they are going on. If your internet connection or bandwidth is the problem, you can still participate by phone (You will be given a telephone number to use to call in).

Is there a minimum tech requirement I should consider for my computer?

Minimum recommended technology requirements can be found:

<https://centre.cc.umanitoba.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Student-Connectivity-Recommendations.pdf>

How will we purchase textbooks if we are not in Winnipeg?

There are several ways to acquire textbooks:

- The uManitoba bookstore will enable students to physically pick up books at a pick-up at the Bookstore refund window.
- Books can be ordered online from the uManitoba Bookstore (<http://umanitoba.ca/bookstore>), which can be shipped to the student (across Canada).
- Students may consider ordering books directly from publisher or Amazon (for example).

- In many cases, you can acquire electronic copies, either through the uManitoba Bookstore or through the publisher.
- In certain cases, you will not have to purchase a textbook at all. For example, if you are in Professor Curran's LAW 1102- Contracts course, the textbook is available through library system, and he will be posting the casebook on the UM Learn site.
- One other option you may want to consider (if possible) is checking out the Bookstore at your local university once you have the name, publisher and author of the textbook you are seeking.

The bilingual French program is a terrific opportunity to complete some of your JD courses in French.

- An email circulated earlier contains information as well as a FAQ attachment. You can also view this information on the Orientation Website
- Contact email: FrancaisJuridique@umanitoba.ca

Student Activities

Unfortunately, COVID has and will likely continue to limit your ability to experience the Robson Hall in person for a while. The Manitoba Law Student Association (MLSA) are working hard with Robson Hall administration to make as many great student activities happen as possible.

Are there any structures in place for us to meet our peers (virtually or in person) since we will not be together until Winter Term 2021? (i.e. - students usually rely on study groups etc.)

- Absolutely. The MLSA Facebook page, as well as the Class of 2024 Facebook page (see Q#19) and (eventually) your section-specific ones, are a great place to start.
- The various committees of the MLSA are hard at work planning things such as virtual study groups, hangouts, meet and greets, and the like.
- Take the initiative and organize your own section-by-section or year-by-year Zoom hangouts, or whatever is allowed under policy, and you are comfortable with.

Will we be able to make up for any missed networking opportunities due to Covid-19?

- Employers are looking at all possibilities, but for now and the near future we really are operating under a wait and see policy.

- For everyone involved, having patience, being flexible, and being prepared to network and interview remotely, will be required. Take this chance to brush-up on your (video) interview skills.

Will there be a Buddy System organized by the MLSA?

Absolutely, and the Buddy System is going to be crucial this year. We highly encourage you to contact the MLSA

The Buddy System is a way of familiarizing and acquainting incoming 1Ls with Robson Hall by matching them with a 2L or 3L student to create an ongoing mentorship relationship. This includes sharing of helpful tips and advice, notes (called outlines at Robson), creating genuine friendship, and getting to know people in the legal community.

Is the Class of 2023 Facebook page created? What about other social media?

It sure is: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/134445668748376>

MLSA Robson Hall <https://www.facebook.com/groups/386047631604428>

Instagram: @themlsa

MLSA website: www.robsonmlsa.com

Tell me about the Career Development Office (CDO).

1. The CDO works with students and provides assistance with resume writing and cover letters, job search in addition to polishing their interviewing and networking skills. The CDO facilitates a variety of workshops, information sessions, panel discussions, wine and cheese networking receptions, on-campus interviews, and works with the MLSA Professional Development Committee to host other events.

Here are a few examples of events we have held in the past: Resume and Cover letter workshop, mock interview night with Lawyers from different firms and departments, Small Firm wine and cheese reception, panel information sessions with different firms, departments, and students.

2. Many of these activities will have a different feel this year as we are under the restrictions of provincial health & safety guidelines. We will be holding discussions with firms and other employers about how they hope to approach their reception and networking events. Fingers crossed, there may be a chance for some off-campus, in-person events this Fall Term, however we all need to be prepared to network remotely. Stay tuned.

3. The CDO is planning a 1L information session for the end of September, beginning of October with further details about things you should expect, and things you may want to begin thinking about. It is important to begin to *'get your ducks in a row'* so you may have the best

experience possible during your time at Robson Hall. We strongly encourage you to attend these sessions. Keep your eyes on your email. You will be hearing from the CDO in the coming weeks/months.

If I have other questions:

For an appointment with Associate Dean JD email: Rosa.Muller@umanitoba.ca

Questions about registration and exams, email: Rosa.Muller@umanitoba.ca

Scholarships, Bursaries:

Career Development: Trina.Mcfadyen@umanitoba.ca and Lisa.Griffin@umanitoba.ca

MLSA President: Michael Badejo Michael.Badejo@umanitoba.ca

Orientation Week Website: <https://law.robsonhall.com/student-resources/orientation-week/>