



## COURSE DESCRIPTION - FACULTY OF LAW

---

**COURSE NUMBER:** LAW 456: B4

**COURSE NAME:** Professional Responsibility

**PREREQUISITE COURSES:**

**PREREQUISITE FOR:**

**CREDITS:**

**HOURS PER TERM:**

**TERM:**

**MAXIMUM ENROLLMENT:**

---

**PROFESSOR:** Ross McLeod

**METHOD OF PRESENTATION:**

LECTURE

SEMINAR X OTHER

---

### **METHOD OF EVALUATION:**

Students will be graded with 75% of the mark assessed for an essay. The length of the paper will be 16 – 20 pages. Time will be allotted to discuss essay topics and students are invited to consider submitting an outline proposal for discussion with the instructor. Class participation and exercises will count for 25% of the mark.

---

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** A daily class schedule will be posted in TWEN.

The objective of this course is development of an ethical reflex, an unconscious competence in professionalism. Students should expect to discuss a framework for ethical reasoning as well alternatives for practical action.

Topics will include:

- Professionalism and the factors affecting ethical decisions: What makes good lawyers good and bad lawyers bad; how ethical decisions are different from business decisions.
- A thorough introduction to the new Alberta Code of Conduct, expected November 1, 2011.
- The importance of an independent self-governing profession will be examined in the context of the “three Cs” – competence, character and conduct.

- 
- The classic topics of conflicts of interest, confidentiality, trust conditions, civility, ethics in advocacy and in advising clients are covered with a balance of lecture and scenario problem solving. The class will act as an ethics committee.
  - Legal Advertising in a New Century will call on students to form firms and present marketing plans, including a web page and catchy jingles, for the appraisal of fellow students.
  - Money and the ethics of legal fees. Lies and the ethics of negotiation.
  - Interesting, knowledgeable guests will be invited to share their special expertise in other areas, for example, the intersection of Privacy Law and Privilege and Continuing Professional Development,, the Business Case for Pro Bono.

---

**\*SPECIAL COMMENTS:**

EVENING CLASS:

SPECIAL ATTENDANCE:

OTHER:

**REQUIRED TEXTS (IF ANY):**

Materials will be determined in Aug 2011. Most likely, materials will be posted in TWEN with the objective of minimizing cost to students.