

# OSGOODE'S FULL-TIME GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN FOUNDATIONS OF CANADIAN LAW



Lara Merjane, LLM,  
Corporate Lawyer,  
The Ross Firm Professional Corporation



Enter the Canadian legal market with confidence.

# Gain the knowledge to succeed in your future academic and professional goals.

The Graduate Diploma in Foundations of Canadian Law is designed to provide students with an advanced understanding of the Canadian legal system. Delve into Canada's legal history and structure while developing your legal research and writing skills. The program focuses on the key areas of public and private law while providing a unique opportunity for you to specialize in your academic interests through elective courses.

## Program Benefits



### Designed with Your Goals in Mind

Enter the accreditation process and/or professional job market in Canada with confidence. The diploma provides excellent academic preparation and opens the doors to better career opportunities.



### Academic Support

Maximize your growth and success by taking advantage of academic advising services available to you.



### Study in Toronto, Canada

Immerse yourself in the hustle and bustle of one of the world's top-rated cities. Experience the culture, cuisine and social life that Toronto has to offer, and find out firsthand why the UN rates Canada as one of the best countries to live in.



### Top-Notch Instructors

Gain access to some of the leading minds in Canadian law and leverage their experiences to help your growth.



### Career Development Support

Attend seminars and workshops, or get one-on-one advice to update your CV/resume for the Canadian legal market. Receive feedback from senior legal professionals during mock interviews. Get the tools that will ensure your success in the Canadian legal environment.



### Build Your Network

Build relationships and study with professionals from around the globe right in your classroom. These are your future friends, clients, and colleagues.

“Osgoode’s Graduate Diploma in Foundations of Canadian Law is a new graduate diploma for students from outside of Canada who want to study or work in the Canadian legal market. Providing a robust foundation of knowledge in Canadian public and private law, the diploma will act as a bridge for those who want to pursue an LLM after completion.”

**Shelley M. Kierstead**  
Assistant Professor, Osgoode Hall  
Law School

Learn More

[osgoodepd.ca/foundations](https://osgoodepd.ca/foundations)



## Program Format

The full-time diploma will be delivered in seminar-style classes, in which students will participate in person. Students are required to complete 18 credits of course work, including 12 credits of required courses and then 6 credits of elective courses. Classes will be held from January to August at our downtown Toronto location and on the York University Keele Campus.

## Course and Course Descriptions

### Canadian Legal Research and Analysis

This course is designed to familiarize students with core Canadian legal research and analytical skills. You will work extensively with the legal problem-solving skills required within a common law regime, becoming familiar with the research and reasoning skills that are required to conduct legislative, case law, and theoretical legal research and analysis. The primarily assignment-based nature of this part of the course requires a significant and “steady” time commitment.

### Academic and Applied Legal Writing

This course is designed to familiarize students with core graduate-level legal academic writing skills. Students will learn the preferred style and organization of legal academic work products, as well as how to communicate legal analysis and critique in written form.

### Introduction to Canadian Public Law

This course will introduce students to the Canadian legal system and Canadian public law. It is designed to provide a broad understanding of how the law operates in Canada and to present foundational concepts and doctrines that will enable students to pursue more detailed inquiries and studies into Canadian law. The course will enable students to understand and explain the general structure of the Canadian legal and political system, including the three branches of government and their relationship to one another; the role of constitutionalism in Canada; the three primary topics

of Canadian constitutional law (federalism, civil liberties and Aboriginal and Indigenous rights); as well as the basic doctrines and applications of administrative law.

### Introduction to Canadian Private Law

This course provides students with an introduction to private law in Canada, including Contracts, Torts, Property and Business Organizations. In addition to traditional style lectures, the course is designed for students to critically engage with the material through participation in class exercises.

## Elective Courses

Students will take 6 credits in elective courses giving them the opportunity to study topics that are relevant to their academic and professional goals and interests.

Complete descriptions for the following sample electives are available on our website.

- Canadian Criminal Law [6 credits]
- Canadian Constitutional Law [6 credits]
- Business Associations [6 credits]
- Contract Law [6 credits]
- Family Law [6 credits]
- Real Estate Transactions [6 credits]
- Canadian Immigration Law [6 credits]

## Attend an Information Session



Sign up for a live information session to have your questions answered by a member of our staff. [osgoodepd.ca/foundations-info](https://osgoodepd.ca/foundations-info)



## Instructors

### Sherry Darvish

Deputy Judge of the Small Claims Court of Ontario

### Shelley M. Kierstead

Assistant Professor, Osgoode Hall Law School

### Germán Morales Farah

International Business Counsel and Legal Advisor

### David Tortell

Legal Counsel, Ontario Ministry of the Attorney General, Toronto



## Tuition and Fees

Tuition for the full-time, Winter 2022 diploma program was \$9,900 CAD for domestic students and \$17,820 CAD for international students, plus supplementary and additional fees.

Please visit the *Tuition and Fees* section on our website for up-to-date details on fees, including payment schedules.

## Program Starts

| Term   | Application Open               | Application Deadline             |
|--------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Winter | February 1<br>(preceding year) | September 15<br>(preceding year) |

Get Started

[osgoodepd.ca/foundations](https://osgoodepd.ca/foundations)



Osgoode Professional Development  
Ignat Kaneff Building, York University  
4700 Keele Street  
Toronto, ON M3J 1P3 Canada

 [osgoodepd.ca/foundations](https://osgoodepd.ca/foundations)

 [Contact Us](#)

 416.673.4670

 [@OsgoodePD](#)