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

Enter the Canadian legal market with confidence.

osgoodepd.ca/foundations
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**
Get the best of both worlds with classes held in two locations: downtown Toronto, and at York University’s Keele Campus. 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 in the world 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  
Professor, Osgoode Hall Law School

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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.

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.

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]

Get started with our on demand information sessions

Our Study Law in Canada and Practise Law in Canada on demand information sessions are designed to help you better understand our program offerings and provide you with the confidence to choose the program that best fits your background and interests. Visit osgodepd.ca/foundations-info
Tuition and Fees

Tuition for the full-time, Winter 2023 diploma program is $9,900 CAD for domestic students and $18,711 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

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Get Started
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