RESEARCH PORTFOLIO
My research portfolio showcases my research achievements in the areas of Law and the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning.

It begins with my research agenda, which summarizes my research programs on (i) Space Law, (ii) International, Comparative, and Criminal Law, and (iii) the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning. Then, it lists all my publications. I have published 2 books, 8 book chapters, and around 40 journal articles. It also highlights the impact which my research and publications has had in the scholarly community across the world. It lists academic books, journal articles, and theses that rely upon and cite my works. This alone shows a very high level of recognition of my work among scholars in –and beyond- my field. The research portfolio also records a representative list of the courses around the world that have included my books and articles as part of their required and recommended bibliography. As an example of the impact that my publications have on
students from other universities and Law Schools, the portfolio also includes some of the works carried out by students of those courses which are based upon my publications.

Then, it lists all my conference presentations since I assumed my current position at Algoma University. It also enumerates all the grants which I have received. Finally, my research portfolio includes a compilation of the journal articles, books, and research grants which I have reviewed.

The portfolio shows, among other aspects, that I am a very productive scholar and a worldwide authority in several areas of Space Law, including the development of national space legislation, criminality in outer space, and transponder agreements. The portfolio is also evidence of the high degree of acceptance that my publications on convergence of civil law and common law have had in the Criminal Law and Comparative Law fields. My publications on Teaching and Learning have also achieved a relatively high degree of acceptance, even if I have embraced the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning relatively recent in my academic career. The research portfolio also shows how legal scholars in Canada and abroad value my research by trusting their manuscripts and grant applications to me for their review.
RESEARCH AGENDA SYNOPSIS
LAW

I focus the study of legal issues from a cross-cultural standpoint and from a multitude of jurisprudential perspectives. My aim is to analyze legal issues in different legal traditions, and to look at problems from international and transnational perspectives.

Space Law

- The development of a regulatory framework for the regulation of private commercial activities.
- Industrial self-regulation of space activities

- **International, Comparative, and Criminal Law**
  - Crimes in Space: A comprehensive Criminal Law, Criminal Justice, and Criminology approach to criminal acts and deviant behavior in the International Space Station.
  - Convergence of common law and civil law.
My research on the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning centers on the promotion of deep learning, particularly through the development of academic skills in Higher Education such as media literacy and academic reading. It gives me the opportunity to understand my own teaching and to improve my students’ learning. The nature of my agenda is essentially transformational as my aim is to improve teaching effectiveness and student learning, and to promote a culture of deep learning within the Higher Education community.

- **Media Literacy and Deep Learning**
  - Media literacy: The importance of teaching media literacy skills at the University level.

- **Academic Skills**
  - Academic reading and deep learning.
  - Mature, Anishinaabee, and other non-traditional students: academic skills and retention.
a. The development of a legal framework for the regulation of private commercial activities.

The objective of my research program on Space Law is to contribute to the development of the discipline by examining International and domestic Space Law which needs reformulation due to its inadequacy to regulate private commercial activities in outer space.

In the first decades of the space age, military and state security motivations indicated the direction of national space programs. At present, private sector-driven commercial endeavors in outer space have been increasing exponentially and have experienced a significant quantitative growth over the last years. Existing International Space Law, created during the Cold War through the search for minimum consensus between the then world superpowers, has proved inadequate to deal with the complex and sophisticated endeavors of private firms in outer space. Similarly, the existing domestic legal framework in many countries does not provide an appropriate regulatory solution to govern these activities.

My research agenda aims at elaborating the legal basis for a comprehensive legal framework to regulate private and other non-governmental space activities, including, space launch services, satellite telecommunications, space insurance, and remote sensing. I have been engaged in the examination of Space Law for nearly two decades. My research has already resulted in the publication of two books, several book chapters, and scores of journal articles. My publications enjoy wide acceptance and recognition. Legal scholars around the world have regularly relied upon them. Even some governments and international organizations have resorted to the main arguments and ideas of my publications to design regulatory actions in the space field.
At present, I am particularly interested in the exploration of alternatives to the mainstream law-making process for the enactment of domestic space laws.

b. Industrial self-regulation of space activities

I have been analyzing the structure and language of the main contracts used in the space industry for over two decades. I have been analyzing space launch services agreements, space insurance, satellite purchase agreements, transponder agreements, and remote sensing contracts. I have pioneered in the analysis of transponder agreements and space launch vehicle insurance. My publications on transponder agreements have been the source of numerous books and articles which have been based almost entirely on my ideas. My analysis of alternative risk management strategies has also received wide recognition among legal scholars and practitioners.

Currently, I am interested in examining the effects of the fluctuations in the space insurance market on space contracts, particularly with respect to exclusions, deductibles, and coverage periods.

INTERNATIONAL, COMPARATIVE, AND CRIMINAL LAW RESEARCH AGENDA


The International Space Station is one of the most ambitious and transcendental projects of humanity. It will permit the cohabitation of human beings of a mosaic of nationalities and backgrounds in a football-field size platform at several hundred miles from earth in outer space. The International Space Station by its very nature is bound to reproduce conflicts of human behavior in outer space. Due to the isolation conditions and the hostile
environment, it is expected that these conflicts will have a high rate of occurrence as has been corroborated in recent multi-culturally diverse experiences in outer space. All these conflicts will have enormous criminal implications.

I have been conducting research on outer space and criminality over the past 10 years. I began my research in this area with an examination of the way in which laws are adopted in outer space where I focused on the problems derived from following an expert conception of law reform that neglects to consider the importance of participation of those affected by the law reform. This approach produced a criminal justice system on the International Space Station that is inadequate to deal with deviance and criminality. I also examined the Criminal Law regime engineered for the International Space Station, where I investigated its inadequacy to deal with criminality in outer space. In a seminal work, I examined the main criminological theories to determine if any could explain criminal and deviant acts in outer space. In another work, I conducted a criminological analysis of astronauts’ criminal behaviour on Earth, which attributes their criminality on Earth to the conditions astronauts experience in outer space. I recently completed another work, where I researched the shortcomings of the ISS criminal regime over perpetrators of non ISS partner states and the shortcomings arising from the lack of uniformity in the determination of substantive criminal offences.

At present, I am expanding these past research projects by redefining international Space Law to adapt to a new scenario of human settlements in outer space, and by examining the role of coercion in outer space and its connection to outer space criminality –an innovative approach never attempted by the criminological or Space Law literature before.

This research project aims at analyzing the most significant criminological theories to see which one –if any- may be applicable to criminal and deviant behaviour in outer space. The guiding hypothesis is that the unique characteristics of the space environment, together with the exceptional social factors of all involved actors, demand new and specific theories to explain criminal and deviant behavior in the International Space
Station. This research project has already resulted in the publication of three articles and a book chapter on different criminological aspects of criminality in outer space. At present, I am on the analysis a comprehensive legal and Criminal Justice regime to deal with possible criminal behaviour on the International Space Station and other long-term human missions in outer space based on an empirical analysis of the causes of space criminality and the examination of the existing international Space Law framework and the ISS regime for criminal acts.

Second, it will contribute to advance criminological theory by examining how coercive experiences in long-term space human endeavours, such as the International Space Station, can lead to deviant and criminal behaviour in outer space—a task never attempted so far. The research results will shed light on how astronauts react to experiences of personal and impersonal coercion and how this can influence deviance and criminality in outer space. By examining the relationship between coercion and crime, the program will expectedly redefine Colvin’s conception of coercion and contribute to refine Colvin’s typology of control.

b. Convergence of common law and civil law

Convergence constitutes the evolution of the legal institutions of different legal systems where the legal institution of one system resembles the other and the legal norms, principles, and scholarly comments of both are used in equal measure and even regarded with equal authority. Unlike harmonization, which implies a deliberate and negotiated process aimed at producing a legislative or other conventional act, convergence constitutes a natural, or unconscious, common development of legal institutions through mutual interest. Convergence is the result of a tendency in similar nations to have similar problems and to arrive at similar ways of perceiving and dealing with them.

The purpose of this research program is to show that there are several legal areas where there is a clear convergence between common law and civil law jurisdictions. Underlying the premise behind this research program is my conception that despite the view of the
majority of authors, common law, especially as applied in the United States and Canada, and civil law, particularly as applied in Western Europe and Latin America, present remarkably common features owed both to their common historical sources – Roman law and northern natural law and late scholastics school- and to similar fundamental social policy objectives, which are slowly and gradually taking them toward convergence.

The findings of this work, which already produced the publication of three articles, are expected to shed some light on future research on civil law and common law traditions.
THE SCHOLARSHIP OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

Media literacy: The importance of teaching media literacy skills at the University level

The revolution in media and global communications in the last few decades has transformed the very basic foundations of knowledge and education. Global citizens of today and tomorrow need to be equipped with the necessary skills to both interpret and produce media texts. North American universities, with a teaching philosophy built during an exclusively print-centered era, have not yet fully opened their classroom doors to media literacy. In order to foster the development of global citizens, we need to teach our students the conventions of media language so that they can be effective interpreters and producers of media texts.

The objective of this research project is to examine the importance of helping students develop media literacy at the University level and to explore some student-centered strategies in order to foster their media literacy skills.

Academic skills

a. Academic reading and deep learning

Research studies show that most university students today take a surface approach to reading and learning. A surface approach to reading is the tacit acceptance of information contained in the text. Students taking a surface approach to reading usually consider information as isolated and unlinked facts. This leads to superficial retention of material for examinations and does not promote long-term understanding. In contrast, a deep approach to reading is an approach where the reader uses higher-order cognitive skills such as the ability to analyze, synthesize, solve problems, and thinks meta-cognitively in order to negotiate meanings with the author and to construct new meaning from the text.
The surface reading phenomenon occurs because of a myriad of factors—both at the course and institutional levels. The former includes course misalignment, emphasis on evaluation on students’ retention of facts and principles conveyed in lectures, the fact that teachers usually lecture the texts, and lack of teaching academic reading categories of analysis. The institutional factors include emphasis on assessment and grades, lack of trained faculty, lack of adequate support for innovative teaching practices, and the fact that universities have not yet moved from the teaching to the learning paradigm.

The objective of this research project is to examine the teaching and learning strategies that lead students to take a deep approach to reading and learning. This project has already resulted in the publication of several articles, the presentation of conference papers, and the invitation to give workshops. At present, I am working on the examining whether students who have shown to take a deep approach to reading in a course that promotes deep reading continue to do so in courses where instructors do not specifically encourage students to read critically and do not promote deep learning. I want to find out if students incorporate deep academic reading skills into their learning or if this approach to reading is lost when students take courses where deep learning is not actively encouraged.

b. Mature, Anishinaabee, and other non-traditional students: academic skills and retention

Success at the university level mainly depends on existing pre-entry college attributes, including the mastery of some fundamental academic skills. These include—reading, writing, critical thinking, oral presentation, and media and online literacy. Despite the importance of these skills for academic success, professors seldom teach them. They generally take them for granted, as they tend to presuppose that all students already acquired these skills either as part of their secondary education or during their first years of college. The reality is that many mature, Anishinaabe, and other non-traditional students lack these skills, so they find themselves at a disadvantage. According to
research findings, lack of basic academic skills is one of the main causes of university attrition.

The project aims at improving mature, Anishinaabee, and other non traditional students’ academic success by investigating the strategies to help these students to acquire some of the fundamental academic skills necessary to thrive in university.

This project is inserted within a general goal of achieving retention and promoting academic success of non-traditional students. A widely accepted theoretical model on student retention views academic success as dependent on the extent to which students become integrated into the University’s formal and informal academic and social systems. The research literature exhibits two competing theoretical approaches to implementing measures to achieving student retention under this model. The predominant approach centers on what institutions do to fit students into their existing academic cultures. Based upon this perspective, universities have been offering a wide array of both academic and non academic programs and services to ease student transition into the academic and social university environment. These include academic support services bridging, access, and mentoring programs. These programs contribute to changing some of the individual pre-entry college attributes identified as determinants of success in the Tinto Model of retention/attrition. A competing approach to achieving retention suggests that university cultures should adapt to better fit the needs of increasingly diverse students. Under this perspective, student success is the result of how well the university values students’ cultural attributes, and how differences between their cultures of origin and immersion are bridged. Within this perspective, rather than requiring students to adapt to what is often an alien culture and requesting that they leave their own, universities develop ways to affirm students’ identities and incorporate them into the university’s culture.

This project does not see these two approaches as necessarily competing and incompatible, but rather believes that retention and academic success depend on working on both aspects of the student retention model. Universities must provide students with
academic and social skills to adapt to the demands of the university life and, at the same time, universities should embrace and value the cultures of minority students. Research has shown that the highest rates of non-traditional student academic success take place when universities foster dual socialization, i.e., when they encourage and support both mainstream and non mainstream cultures.
PUBLICATIONS
PUBLICATIONS

I have published 2 books, 8 book chapters, and around 40 journal articles. I have pioneered in the publication of many Space Law areas such as transponder agreements, criminality in outer space, legal aspects of space risk management, and the law making process in the development of domestic space laws. Taken together, these publications examine virtually every aspect of the regulation of Space Law under its new –commercial space age- paradigm.

In the International and Comparative Law fields, I have been publishing a series of articles that intend to show that common law and civil law are gradually marching toward convergence. I have drawn examples from Criminal Law theory and commercial contracts to advance my thesis on convergence. I have also been opening up the Comparative Law discipline to the comparison of legal institutions in traditionally unexplored areas and jurisdictions. This is tied to my Criminal Law publications, where I have been trying to offer new ideas for the development of a general theory of offence in Canadian Criminal Law. Unlike civil law countries, Canadian Law lacks a general theory of offence and general principles that apply to all offences.

In the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, I have also pioneered in publishing about the importance of teaching media literacy in the law school classroom. I have also published a series of articles on deep learning and deep reading as well as a series of methodological articles on visual pedagogy –a teaching methodology which I am contributing to introduce for teaching at the postsecondary level.
a. Books


b. Book Chapters


c. Refereed journal articles


33. Régimen jurídico de los aeropuertos construidos en islas artificiales, ALADA, 2006, p. 163.


37. La relación entre la Administración Pública y el personal contratado, with A. Elhauge, La Ley, 1992-A, p. 591.

RESEARCH IMPACT
RESEARCH IMPACT

Scholars around the world continuously cite my publications in peer-reviewed journals and books. Entire book chapters, articles, and presentations are based on my publications. They have been acknowledged in theses and policy documents. Both the quantity and the quality of the citations show that my publications have attained a very high degree of acceptance worldwide.

My works on convergence of civil law and common law enjoy remarkable recognition. For example, Richard Posner, who is undoubtedly one of the most—if not the most—prestigious legal scholars in the world, consulted and cited one of these articles for his works on strict liability for breach of contract in common law. He uses the main thesis of my article to support his argument that the no-fault regime of contract law in common law jurisdictions should not be changed. Dora Nevares-Muñiz, a very prestigious criminologist and legal scholar, also resorted to the same work to contextualize her analysis of Puerto Rican Penal Code and the struggle to keep an equilibrium between both civil law and common law. Andrea Carroll examines the US Supreme Court doctrine of riparians’s rights on non-navigable lakes. She claims that courts that accept the distinction between the civil law and common law approaches are perpetuating a false choice, because the civil law rule is exactly the same as that of the common law. She uses one of my articles to conclude that both civil law and common law place equal premiums on individual rights. She quotes me to put forward the notion that both traditions share fundamental similar objectives, which include the protection and encouragement of individual and personal rights.

My works on substantive Criminal Law enjoy similar recognition. Eric Johnson relies on my analysis and proposal of a theory of offence for his work on the mens rea for sexual abuse, emphasizing my argument that the social harm in sexual assault offences may take the form of an attendance circumstance element. He compares my argument with a more naïve idea put forward by Peter Westen. Similarly, Nevares-Muñiz relies on my argument
that common law’s lack of a general theory of offence has resulted in confusing and non-
mutually exclusive types of mens rea.

My proposal on the re-elaboration of the way national courts apply international law has also been widely cited. Authors that want to redefine the role of International Law have embraced my ideas and have taken them even further. For example, Richard Frimpong Oppong examines alternatives to re-imagine International Law by analyzing the trends in the reception of International Law into national legal systems in Africa. Karim Benyekhlef examines the globalization of legal norms and relies on my arguments on transjudicialism to discuss the globalization of individual rights in International Law.

Recognition of my Space Law works is equally remarkable. For example, there are practically no works on transponder agreements that do not cite my ground-breaking article on the analysis of transponder contracts. For example, Jeffrey Cowan opened up a new area of inquiry within Space Law—the taxation of income from space activities. In order to advance his proposal, he relied on my work on transponder agreements, which I pioneered together with a contemporaneous work by Craig Eadie. Cowan uses my definitions of transponder, my analysis of transponder lease agreements, the characterization of the obligations under the agreement, and the lack of transference of control to the lessee. Similarly, Bender based his whole chapter on transponder agreement on my work and Eadie’s. Both Cowan’s and Bender’s publications are highly regarded works, and they, in turn, have also been widely cited.

Several authors relied on my series of works on space risk management. These include virtually every scholar that examined this issue such as Valérie Kayser, Varlyn Vissepo, and Hörl. For example, Vissepo, who examined the legal aspects of reusable launch vehicles (RLVs), included a section on risk management and RLVs. He begins this section by borrowing my definition, notion, and characteristics of risk management in the space field. Vissepo then explores risk management for RLVs and concludes that the risk management process will be similar to that of the current expendable launch industry, for
which purpose, he again quotes my works verbatim. Kay-Uwe Hörl also uses my thesis on space risk management and applies it to an analysis of environmental risks.

Similarly, Michael Gerhard, Bernhard Schmidt-Tedd, and José Monserrat Filho cite my thesis on the development of domestic space legislation when they examine the development of European (EU), Ukrainian, and Brazilian law, respectively.

The following is a partial list of some of the articles, books, and theses that have cited my works.


10. Luis F. Castillo Argañarás, Telecomunicaciones satelitales y solución de controversias internacionales, ED 206-808.

44. Memorial for the Joint Applicants, Team 2 “Case Concerning the Continued Provision of Lifeline Satellite Services to Countries in the Face of Satellite Operator Insolvency” On Submission to the International Court of Justice, Manfred Lachs Moot Court Competition, 2008.

45. Memorial for the Joint Applicants, Team 2 “Case Concerning the Continued Provision of Lifeline Satellite Services to Countries in the Face of Satellite Operator Insolvency” On Submission to the International Court of Justice, Manfred Lachs Moot Court Competition, 2008.


The following is a partial list of the publications that cite and reproduce my articles on the scholarship of teaching and learning. I also receive letters and emails from professors and other scholars who read my works. They come from literally everywhere; and they let me know their reactions and comments about my publications.

• Teach Program, Texas Tech University, Teaching, Learning, and Technology Center, Texas, US, March 25, 2009.

• Hawaii Pacific University, Honolulu, Hawai'i, USA.

• Tomorrow’s Professor Blog, MIT and Stanford University, USA.
• Susan E. Elliott-Jones, “Strategies for Increased Understanding: Promoting Active Engagement with Assigned Reading” Opportunities and New Directions Conference, A Research Conference on Teaching and Learning, University of Waterloo, May 9, 2009.


• K-Gray Engineering Pathway Digital Library - Engineering Education.
I also receive letters and emails from professors and other scholars who read my books and articles. They come from literally everywhere. They let me know their reactions, and comments about my publications. As an example, below is an email from Rt Hon Sir Kenneth Keith from the Supreme Court of New Zealand, who has been a candidate for the International Court of Justice.

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16 August 2004

Dr Julian Hermida
Dept of Sociology & Social Anthropology
Dalhousie University
Halifax, Nova Scotia
CANADA B3H 3J5 julian.hermida@Dal.Ca

Dear Dr Hermida

Since from time to time I have been in cases in which treaties are in issue, I have read your article in the latest Waikato Law Review with interest.

I certainly agree with the basic thrust which I understand to be that the treaty should be given its international meaning and not some idiosyncratic national one. (I can recall writing about that in a note ages ago in the ICLQ on a Warsaw Convention case, also about the forms.) The question then is of course how best is that to be done in national litigation. One critical point is of course the court's mindset. Another, more practical one is access to the relevant jurisprudence and commentary, something which now is greatly
facilitated by electronic sources and the work of secretariats and others who bring together that material. A further step which is sometimes taken is allowing the relevant international agency (such as the UN High Commissioner for Refugees) to be represented in the litigation; other intervenors (such as civil liberty groups) may also alert the court to the relevant information. A broader need is to ensure that the education of lawyers from the outset stresses the international. How many law courses have international law as a compulsory subject or include it in introductory legal system or legal method courses?

I wonder about the practicality of your interesting proposal when I think of the many times in this small jurisdiction that the ICCPR (with its 150 plus parties) and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (192) are cited each year. And how often would the recipients respond? Consider the very limited responses of States when they receive the notice under article 63 of the ICJ Statute.

Thank you again for your stimulating article.

Yours sincerely
K J Keith

Regards

Brenda Watson
Associate to Rt Hon Sir Kenneth Keith
Supreme Court of New Zealand
PO Box 61
Wellington, New Zealand
Ph 64 4 918 8441
Fx 64 4 918 8495
Your Paper Makes SSRN Top Ten List

management@ssrn.com [management@ssrn.com]

Sent: Friday, July 03, 2009 9:30 AM
To: Julian Hermeta

Dear Julian Hermeta:

Your paper entitled, "The Need for Teaching Media Literacy at the University Level: The Case of Legal Education" was recently listed on SSRN’s Top Ten download list for LRL: Legal Information & Legal Education (Topic) and LRL: Legal Information & Academic Disciplines (Topic). To view the top ten list for the journal click on its name LRL: Legal Information & Legal Education (Topic), Top Ten and LRL: Legal Information & Academic Disciplines (Topic), Top Ten and to view all the papers in the journal click on these links LRL: Legal Information & Legal Education (Topic), All Papers and LRL: Legal Information & Academic Disciplines (Topic), All Papers.

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If you have any corrections or additions please use the email form available on your author page to send them to us.

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My papers are available on SSRN at: http://ssrn.com/author=1267785

To view the Top Authors Lists:
http://ssrn.com/TopAuthors

Thank you for your participation in the Social Science Research Network. We welcome any comments or suggestions and hope you will submit additional papers to the SSRN eLibrary.

Sincerely,

Michael C. Jensen
Chairman
Social Science Research Network
IMPACT ON UNIVERSITY EDUCATION

I publish my articles on Space Law as well as International, Comparative, and Criminal Law for the legal scholar community. I do not write for students, as Space Law is a discipline rarely taught at Law Schools or universities. Nonetheless, my articles and books are part of Law courses around the world, including McGill’s Faculty of Law’s very prestigious master’s program in Air and Space Law. Higher Education professors and Teaching and Learning Centers are also beginning to include my works on the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning in their courses and workshops.

Below there is a very partial list of some of the courses that use my publications. They are used in Canada, the US, Europe, Africa, and South America. As a mere example, it includes the course syllabus of a course taught at McGill University that uses one of my books and several of my articles as course bibliography. It also includes some selected pages from the master’s theses of some students that took that course. Those pages –as well as their entire theses- show how the students relied on my publications included in that course to produce their theses on different areas of commercial Space Law. This clearly demonstrates that professors recommend my publications, and that students use them to produce new knowledge in the discipline.

Additionally, some works on the teaching of Space Law have borrowed ideas and suggestions from my publications. Some of these works have been sponsored by United Nations agencies that aim at fostering educational development in developing countries. For example, Justine White published an article on how to foster the teaching of Space Law in Africa, and suggests including my book on the legal basis for the development of national space legislation in Space Law courses.
• McGill University, Faculty of Law, LL.M. program in Air and Space Law. Course: Government regulation of space activities. Professor Ram Jakhu.

• University of Witwatersrand School of Law (Nigeria). Course: Space and Satellite Law. Professor Justine White.

• Universidad Nacional de Lomas de Zamora, Argentina. Course: Derecho de la Navegacion. Professor Dante Richiutti.

• Universidad Católica de Santa Fe, Facultad de Derecho. Course: Derecho del Transporte. Professors Luis Costamagna and Mariano Alzueta.

• Moscow State Institute of International Relations, Russian Federation. Course: International Air Law. Professor: Ю. Малеев.

• Universidad Nacional de La Plata, Facultad de Ciencias Economicas. Course: Private Law II. Professor Augusto Mallo Rivas.


GOVERNMENT REGULATION OF SPACE ACTIVITIES (G)

Instructor: Professor Ram Jakhu
Number: ASFL 659
Term: Winter 2009

Language of instruction: English  
Credits: 3

Course objectives: National public and private law and regulatory regimes governing space activities, particularly those that are carried out by private entities for commercial purposes.

Detailed Description: The course will focus on the national regulatory frameworks governing space activities, particularly those that are carried out by private entities for commercial purposes. Specific topics include: rationale for government regulation; licensing requirements for launch activities, licensing requirements for satellites for telecommunications and remote sensing purposes; introduction of competition in domestic and international satellite telecommunication services as well as launch services; intellectual property rights under domestic laws; national export controls on space products; risk management; law and contracts related to satellite procurement, launch services, leasing of capacity, financing of space ventures, space insurance, as well as contractual relationship between space agencies and space industry, etc. The relevant laws and appropriate regulations of certain selected countries are discussed (e.g. Australia, Canada, Russia, Sweden, South Africa, the United Kingdom and the United States)

Course materials:

Mandatory texts:

- Canada: Canadian Space Agency Act, Chapter C-23.2 (1990, c. 13).


- Dula, A., Private Sector Activities in Outer Space, 19 International Lawyer, 1985 159 et seq.


- van Fenema, Peter, The International Trade in Launch Services: the Effect of U.S. laws, policies and practices on its development, 1999.


General Information:

*Companion courses in the faculty of law: Communications Law in Canada.*

Prerequisites: None (however, some knowledge of General Principles of Space Law and/or Law of Space Applications is assumed)

Seminar: Yes
GRANTS
GRANTS

I have obtained the following grants since I assumed my current position at Algoma University.

- **Laurentian University Research Fund (LURF)**

  **Project:** "Coercion and Criminality in Outer Space"

  Amount awarded: $3300.

  **Abstract:** Long-term human endeavours in outer space play a significant role in the new space scenario that emerged with the end of the Cold War. The International Space Station—the first permanent civil settlement of human beings located in low-earth orbit at an altitude of approximately 386 kilometres— is the most ambitious and transcendental project of human settlements in outer space. Despite the fact that none of the reasons usually identified by the Criminology literature are present in space missions or their crewmembers, criminal and deviant conflicts are expected to occur in long-term human missions in outer space, as has been corroborated in recent multi-culturally diverse space experiences.

  The objectives of this research project are threefold. First, this project will contribute to advance criminological theory by examining how coercive experiences in long-term space human endeavours, such as the International Space Station, lead to deviant and criminal behaviour in outer space. The research results will shed light on how astronauts and other members react to experiences of personal and impersonal coercion and how this influences deviance and criminality in outer space. The results of this project will also contribute to the development of a more appropriate Criminal Law and Criminal Justice system for the International Space Station and other long-term human missions in outer space.

  Another objective of this study is to use the results to prepare for a SSHRC standard research grant application, which will examine criminality in the International Space
Station from a multidisciplinary perspective – Space Law, Criminology, and Criminal Justice. The SSHRC grant will aim at proposing a comprehensive Criminal Justice regime for the International Space Station and other long-term human missions in outer space.

Another equally important objective of this research is to train undergraduate students in conducting quantitative and qualitative research in the Criminology field. This will enhance the opportunities for Algoma University College students to acquire research skills.

- **Algoma University Research Fund.**

**Project: A Deep Learning Approach to Academic Reading**
Amount: $380

**Abstract:** Research studies show that most university students today take a surface approach to reading and learning. A surface approach to reading is the tacit acceptance of information contained in the text. Students taking a surface approach to reading usually consider information as isolated and unlinked facts. This leads to superficial retention of material for examinations and does not promote long-term understanding (Hermida, 2009). In contrast, a deep approach to reading is an approach where the reader uses higher-order cognitive skills such as the ability to analyze, synthesize, solve problems, and thinks meta-cognitively in order to negotiate meanings with the author and to construct new meaning from the text. The deep reader focuses on the author’s message, on the ideas she is trying to convey, the line of argument, and the structure of the argument. The reader makes connections to already known concepts and principles and uses this understanding for problem solving in new contexts.

Research studies show that the surface reading phenomenon occurs because of a myriad of factors – both at the course and institutional levels. The former includes course misalignment, emphasis on evaluation on students’ retention of facts and principles conveyed in lectures, the fact that teachers usually lecture the texts, and lack of teaching
academic reading categories of analysis. The institutional factors include emphasis on assessment and grades, lack of trained faculty, lack of adequate support for innovative teaching practices, and the fact that universities have not yet moved from the teaching to the learning paradigm.

Research studies reported in the literature, particularly at Dalhousie University and Algoma University, show that when teachers design and implement an aligned course that places academic reading at the forefront of the course, when the selected teaching and learning activities encourage students to use higher-order cognitive skills to construct meaning from the text, and when teachers implement assessment tools aimed at evaluating whether students use such skills to read academic texts, the result is that students tend to take a deep approach to reading and learning.

However, most of these studies have focused on single courses and there has been no follow up in subsequent courses, particularly where a deep approach to reading is not one of the main intended learning outcomes of those other courses. Those few studies that have analyzed a cohort of students in more than one course show non conclusive results.

The main objective of this research project is to evaluate whether students who have shown to take a deep approach to reading in a course that promotes deep reading continue to do so in courses where instructors do not specifically encourage students to read critically and do not promote deep learning. The goal is to determine if students incorporate deep academic reading skills into their learning or if this approach to reading is lost when students take courses where deep learning is not actively encouraged.

- Aboriginal Education and Training Strategy grant.

Project: Anishinaabee Students and the Improvement of Academic Skills.

Amount: $ 2500

Abstract: Success at the university level mainly depends on existing pre-entry college attributes, including the mastery of some fundamental academic skills. These include – reading, writing, critical thinking, oral presentation, and media and online literacy.
Despite the importance of these skills for academic success, professors seldom teach them. They generally take them for granted, as they tend to presuppose that all students already acquired these skills either as part of their secondary education or during their first years of college. The reality is that many Anishinaabe students lack these skills, so they find themselves at a disadvantage. According to research findings, lack of basic academic skills is one of the main causes of university attrition. The project aims at improving Anishinaabee students’ academic success by creating a video documentary and an accompanying booklet, specifically designed to help Anishinaabee students acquire one of these fundamental academic skills—academic reading.

- **Canadian Council of Law Deans travel grant.**

  **Project:** Deep Learning in the Law School Classroom  
  **Amount:** $750.  
  **Abstract:** Deep learning is an approach to learning, where students use higher-order thinking and meta-cognitive skills in order to construct life-long understanding. It involves the critical analysis of new ideas, linking them to already known concepts and principles so that this understanding can be used for problem solving in new and unfamiliar contexts. Research shows that most University and Law School students today take only a surface approach to learning. They receive information, answer questions, and develop strategic mechanisms to write essays and to solve cases without actually changing the way they act, think, and feel. In this interactive and energetic workshop, Dr. Julian Hermida will share the findings of his action research project on deep learning in the Law School context. He will show some short videos on deep learning and propose thought-provoking questions and activities to discuss what we can do to promote deep learning in the Law School classroom.

- **Adult Learning Knowledge Centre**  
  **Project:** Developing Effective Methods for Welcoming Late-entry Learners to Colleges and Universities.  
  **Award:** $4850
Abstract: The project hosts a forum to develop effective methods for higher education institutions to integrate, and facilitate success of, adults who choose to upgrade their formal education at a later stage in their lives. This two-day roundtable brings together researchers, educators, college administrators, and mature adult learners from Northern Ontario and across Canada to exchange knowledge about late-entry learners’ experiences in colleges and universities and to gain knowledge about the resources and strategies needed to develop effective methods for welcoming late-entry learners into the world of formal postsecondary education. As a result of the insight gained from the roundtable, the researchers will produce a video and a booklet in order to disseminate among adult literacy stakeholders the best methods and practices for helping late-entry learners adapt to postsecondary institutions, as well as an interactive website to communicate with late-entry learners and exchange knowledge among relevant adult learning stakeholders.
RECENT CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS
RECENT CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

The following is a list of conference presentations since I assumed my current position at Algoma University. A complete list of all my presentations can be seen on my website.


- “Deep Learning in the Law School Classroom”, Canadian Association of Law Teachers, held in conjunction with the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, May 28 - 31, 2009, Carleton University, Ottawa.

- “Academic reading and deep learning. How to encourage students to read deeply” Fostering a Culture of Teaching and Learning in College and University, Inter-Institutional Conference (Sault College, Algoma University, Lake Superior State University), May 29 2009, Sault College of Arts and Technology.

- "The Importance of Teaching Academic Reading Skills in First-Year University Courses" 2008 AAU Association of Atlantic Universities "Teaching to Engage and Retain", October 25, 2008.
• “Legal Cultures in Liberal Arts Law Programmes”, Canadian Association of Law Teachers, McGill University, Montreal, May 28-29, 2008.


• “The Importance of Teaching Academic Reading Skills in First-Year University Courses” 2008 AAU Association of Atlantic Universities "Teaching to Engage and Retain", October 25, 2008.


• “The Need for Teaching Media Literacy at the University Level” 2008 Oklahoma Higher Education Teaching and Learning Conference, April 9-11, 2008.

• “Foreign Trained Immigrants and Access to their Professional Fields: The Case of Foreign Trained Lawyers” Metropolis, April 6, 2008.

INTERNATIONAL AND COMPARATIVE LAW ASPECTS OF CHILD SEX TOURISM

Dr. Julian Hermida, Assistant Professor, Department of Law and Politics, Algoma University, Canada discussed the "International and Comparative Law Aspects of Child Sex Tourism" on Wednesday October 15, 2008.

Dr. Hermida obtained his law degree in Argentina, followed by a Ph.D. in Law and Social Sciences, and a Ph.D. and a LLM in law at McGill University, Canada. Dr. Hermida has taught law courses in the United Kingdom, Canada, United States, and Argentina. Additionally, he has extensive research experience with a very strong publication record. Dr. Hermida has been a consultant for law firms, the Latvia Project on Criminal Justice in Canada, and the International Air Transport Association (IATA) in Canada. As an assistant professor at Algoma University, he teaches and conducts research in Criminal Law, Criminology and Criminal Justice, International and Comparative Law, Business Law, and the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning.

Dr. Hermida's talk focused on international child sex tourism, and the legal measures developed in different countries to combat the sexual exploitation of children.
PEER REVIEWER OF SSHRC GRANTS AND MANUSCRIPTS
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SSHRC GRANTS

The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) has asked me to serve as grant assessor of standard research grants in both Law and Criminology (Law, Criminology, and Socio-Legal Studies, Committee No. 23).

The following is a list of the applications I assessed.

- Space and Aviation Law Challenges in the 21st Century.
- Street youth crime and chronic offending.
- More access to less justice: efficiency in civil justice reform
- Le droit au développement comme droits de la personne : les défis de la protection des droits de l'enfant en Afrique.
- In search of justice: the prosecution of abuse involving child victims with disabilities.
- La refondation des concepts de base du droit pénal.

PEER REVIEWER OF BOOKS AND ARTICLES

The following is a very partial list of journal articles and book manuscripts which I have reviewed in the last few years.
• Doctoral Theses by Publication: building scholarly capacity whilst advancing new knowledge” submitted to the International Journal of Doctoral Studies.
• Criminal Justice: A Primer to be published by Thomson (book length: 10 chapters).