

## Brief Course Outline

**Course Title:** **Freedom of Religion and Religious Accommodation in Canada**

**Course Number and Section**

RELSTUD

5134A 550

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Disclaimer: Information in the brief course outline is subject to change. The syllabus posted on OWL is the official and authoritative source of information for the course.

### Course Description:

This course will introduce students to the relationship between religion, the Canadian Constitution and human rights. Students will explore the origins and constitutional basis for freedom of religion in Canada as well as the legal and social discourse around state religious neutrality and secularism. Students will then move on to an examination of how religious practices or “creed” are protected under the human rights framework. Students will examine the various statutory duties expected of service providers and employers to accommodate religious beliefs and practices to the point of undue hardship. Judicial and political responses to competing rights will also be explored.

As these issues continue to arise and evolve, class discussions and analysis will necessarily draw from both past and current cases and social debates.

### Learning Outcomes: one outcome per entry

What are the dimensions and limits of the concept of Freedom of Religion as enshrined in the Charter of Rights and Freedoms?

An understanding of the landmark Supreme Court of Canada decisions that established the first principles of Freedom of Religion jurisprudence.

How common religious accommodation cases involving dress codes, prayer space and religious leaves requests have been decided by Canadian courts and tribunals.

What are the religious freedoms of religious institutions in a religiously neutral state?

A deeper understanding of current social discourse and debate around policies and laws relating to religiosity and faith in the public sphere.

### Textbooks and Course Materials:

Richard Moon, Freedom of Conscience and Religion, Second Edition, University of Toronto Press, 2024. Toronto : Irwin Law, 2014.

Other readings to be uploaded to Brightspace.

## Methods of Evaluation: one assignment per entry

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
Attendance		10
Readings Journal		20
Written decision summary and analysis	10/11/24	20
Case Study Presentation		20
Take Home Exam		30

In solidarity with the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton peoples on whose traditional treaty and unceded territories this course is shared.

Friday, August 23, 2024

# Huron Theology Brief Course Outline