Course content/Course objectives

This course will introduce students to a variety of new, innovative legal technologies that are changing the way law is practiced and how the legal system is accessed. Students will engage with technologies through live demos, hands-on exercises, and class discussions.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students should:

- be comfortable using new legal technologies;
- be able to critically analyse these new technologies, and in particular, be able to draw their own conclusions regarding:
  - the usefulness of these technologies;
  - how these technologies affect the practice of law; and
  - how these technologies affect access to justice.

Instructional Method

This class will be taught through a combination of interactive lectures, class discussions, live demos, and problem-based learning. A short set of required and optional readings will be available via MyCourses three weeks prior to the start of class.

Note: A laptop is highly recommended in order to get the most hands-on experience. Students who do not have access to a laptop can still register for this course and work in groups.

Assignments & evaluation:

- Active participation in class discussions and practical exercises (50%).

- A short article (approx. 1000 words), written in English, French, or both English and French, to be submitted via MyCourses at the latest by March 2, 2019 at 4:00pm (50%). The article should refer to at least one of the legal technologies discussed in class, as well as at least one legal technology not introduced in class, and reflect on some of the themes of the course.

The best assignments will be published in the Blogue du CRL du Jeune Barreau de Montréal, Chroniques du CTI in the days leading up to the Young Bar of Montreal’s annual Legal.IT conference, being held on March 22, 2019. Note: Due to the publishing guidelines of the CRL, the final blog post will be co-signed by the course lecturer, who will work on final edits with the students.

Evaluation will be on a pass-fail basis.
Access to the instructor:

Professor's coordinates: My office is located on the 2nd floor of the Nahum Gelber Law Library. Office hours to be confirmed.

Preferred method of communication: katarina.daniels@mcgill.ca

MCGILL POLICY STATEMENTS

1. "McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore, all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures (see www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/ for more information). (approved by Senate on 29 January 2003)

2. “In accord with McGill University’s Charter of Students’ Rights, students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French any written work that is to be graded.” (approved by Senate on 21 January 2009 - see also the section in this document on Assignments and evaluation.)

3. Absences, extensions or any other academic accommodation must be directed to the SAO for approval.