

McGill Law Virtual Orientation 2020

	August 31
10:30 – 10:50 am	Dean Robert Leckey Welcome Speech
10:50 – 11 am	Beatrice Courchesne-Mackie (LSA President) Welcome Speech
11 – 11:30 am	Meet the Student Affairs Office (SAO)/Career Development Office (CDO) /Local Wellness Advisors (LWAs)
11:30 am – 12 pm	Break
12 – 12:30 pm	Katarina Daniels - Library Info Session
12:30 – 1:30 pm	Kakwiranoron Cook - Indigenous Perspective

	September 1
10:30 – 11 am	Cara Piperni- Financial Aid Services and Support
11 am– 12 pm	Bianca Tetrault – Sexual Violence Response
12 – 12:45 pm	Break
12:45 – 2:15 pm	Small-Group Discussion
2:15 – 2:30 pm	Break
2:30 – 4:30 pm	Prof. Richard Gold - IP Masterclass (Optional)*

*Masterclass in Law and Policy: Intellectual Property and Science Literacy

In this Masterclass, open to all incoming McGill Law students, the Centre for Intellectual Property Policy (CIPP) and the Faculty of Law offers an introduction to law and policy through the prism of intellectual property and science literacy. No expertise in science is needed.

As we walk through our days – at home, at school, with friends, or online – we are surrounded by legal rights that condition our choices of what we see, use or listen to on what machine and how we create new artifacts. This is the domain of intellectual property law and policy that shapes the objects, music, vaccines, software and visual landscape that surround us. In the first session of the Masterclass, Professor Richard Gold, Director of the CIPP, will

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introduce the central tension in intellectual property law: encouraging people to bring new things and services that we actually need to us, while making sure we can access and afford them.

In the second session, Dr. Gold, joined by Profs. Jaye Ellis and Sébastien Jodoin, will examine the increasing importance of understanding science, risk and data to those practicing law or developing policy. Judges, lawyers and policy-makers make decisions based on their understanding of the world around them. Increasingly, this includes information derived from science. In doing so, they have to make sense of scientific studies that often contradict or modify the conclusions of the last study. In this panel discussion, the three McGill Law professors – with appointments in Medicine and in the School of the Environment – highlight the challenges of doing so. How can one assess the validity of a study? How ought we to make sense of contradictions? Most importantly, how do we make decisions when the science is incomplete or evolving? What can we do when governments or businesses ignore or deny scientific evidence? How can we enhance science literacy in society and restore public confidence in the institutions and processes of science?