

LWSO 201-01
Introduction to Law and Society
Winter 2014
MWF: 15:00 – 15:50

Instructor: Dr. Ted McCoy
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Office Hours: Monday 10:00 – 12:00

Course Description

The course is designed to give students an introduction to the study of law in society. It is divided into three main parts. First, we will look at the ideological foundations of law in history and philosophy. Second, we will use this context to examine the law in practice in Canadian society. Finally, the course considers different theoretical approaches to the law, including Marxism, feminism, critical legal studies and critical race theory.

Objectives of the Course

By the end of the course students should be able to critically evaluate legal, philosophical, and theoretical texts and a variety of other materials. Students will also become more comfortable discussing the ways in which the law, politics, and society influence each other and how the law in Canada and other liberal democracies is made and reformed over time.

Textbooks and Readings:

Brian Burtch, *The Sociology of Law: Critical Approaches to Social Control*, second edition (Toronto: Thomson Nelson, 2003) – required.

Edmund Burke, *Reflections on the Revolution in France*, edited by J.G.A. Pocock (Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing, 1987) [originally published 1790] – required.

John Locke, *Second Treatise of Government*, edited by C.B. Macpherson (Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing, 1980) [originally published 1690] – required.

Note that the texts by Burke and Locke are also available for free online (link provided in Blackboard). You may use any edition of these two texts, but you should use the 2003 second edition of the Burtch book.

Assignments and Evaluation

Assignment	20%
Midterm	40%
Final Exam	40%

The grade for the course and whether or not a student passes it will be based on the student's accumulated score and will not depend on passing any particular component of the course.

Exam and Assignment Dates

Locke and Burke Assignment: Due In Class, February 7

Mid-Term Exam: In class, February 24 – closed book

Final Exam: Scheduled by the Registrar – closed book

Assignment: Locke and Burke Written Response

This assignment will involve critical responses to the assigned readings by John Locke and Edmund Burke. Context, direction, and guidance on both texts will be provided in the first lectures of the semester.

Students will respond to an assigned set of questions provided by the instructor on Blackboard. Written responses will be submitted in-class on February 7.

It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment.

Note: Please hand in your assignment directly to your instructor on the day it is due. No dropbox exists for late assignments, so alternate arrangements for their submission must be made with the instructor.

Policy for Late Assignments

Assignments submitted after the deadline may be penalized with the loss of a grade (e.g.: A- to B+) for each day late.

Reading Schedule

The schedule is organized by topic rather than by week. As we move from one topic to the next, it is your responsibility to keep up with the readings. The

reading assignment need not be completed before we move into each new area; you may read them at the same time as the lectures.

The chapter numbers here refer to chapters in Brian Burtch, *The Sociology of Law: Critical Approaches to Social Control*.

Topic 1 Liberalism: Chapters One and Two

Topic 2 Legal History: Chapter Three

Topic 3 The Constitution and the Charter: Chapters Four and Seven

Topic 4 The Law and Social Change: Chapter Nine

Topic 5 Critical Theory and First Nations People: Chapters Five and Six

Topic 6 Punishment: Chapter Eight

(note that depending on the speed of the course we may or may not engage with this topic. If we do not cover this area in lectures, the readings will not be assigned.)

Reading Locke and Burke

The Locke and Burke texts correspond to Topics 1 and 2, but are also linked to your first assignment, due February 7. Students should begin reviewing these texts immediately.

Electronic Devices Policy

Electronic devices are permitted in lectures so long as they do not disturb students or instructors. No electronic devices are permitted during mid-term or final exams.

Policy on Recording of Lectures

Recording shall be permitted for individual private study only at the discretion of the instructor. For any other use, whether by duplication, transcription, publication, sale or transfer of recordings, written approval must be obtained from the instructor for the specific use proposed. Any other use of recordings constitutes academic misconduct and may result in suspension or expulsion. For more information on recording of lectures please see:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-6.html>

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP). As one consequence, **students should identify themselves on all written work by using their ID number. Also you will be required to provide a piece of picture identification in order to pick up an assignment or look at a final exam.** For more information see also <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>.

Grading System

	Grading Scale
A+	96-100
A	90-95.99
A -	85-89.99
B+	80-84.99
B	75-79.99
B-	70-74.99
C+	65-69.99
C	60-64.99
C-	55-59.99
D+	53-54.99
D	50-52.99
F	0-49

Plagiarism

Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possibly suspension or expulsion from the university.

You must document not only direct quotations but also paraphrases and ideas where they appear in your text. A reference list at the end is insufficient by itself. Readers must be able to tell exactly where your words and ideas end and other people's words and ideas begin. This includes assignments submitted in non-traditional formats such as Web pages or visual media, and material taken from such sources.

Please consult your instructor if you have any questions regarding how to document sources.

Ethics

Whenever you perform research with human participants (i.e. surveys, interviews, observation) as part of your university studies, you are responsible for following university research ethics guidelines. Your instructor must review and approve of your research plans and supervise your research. For more

information about your research ethics responsibilities, see <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/research/for-researchers/ethics>. This course does not include any research involving human subjects.

Academic Misconduct

For information on academic misconduct and the consequences thereof please see the current University of Calgary Calendar at the following link: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Academic Accommodation Policy

If you are a student with a disability who may require academic accommodation, it is your responsibility to register with the Student Accessibility Services (220-8237) and discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of the course. For further information, please see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/>

Emergency Evacuation and Assembly Points

Please note the evacuation points for this particular classroom. All classrooms on campus exit to specific places in case of emergency. The emergency assembly points differ depending upon where your classroom is located. For information on the emergency evacuation procedures and the assembly points see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

"SAFEWALK" Program

Campus Security will escort individuals day or night -- call 403-220-5333 for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot booths.

Student Representation

There are now four Arts reps, with the email addresses being arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, and arts4@su.ucalgary.ca. Please contact them if you have questions related to Students Union matters, events, or concerns.

For your student ombudsman, please see

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS102, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them on the 3rd Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.