



# UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

**Summer 2022**

FACULTY OF ARTS

Department of Sociology

Department of Sociology Website: <https://soci.ucalgary.ca/>

<b>COURSE TITLE: Socio-legal Issues in Contemporary Liberal Societies</b>			
<b>Course Number</b>	LWSO 415		
<b>Pre/Co-Requisites</b>	LWSO 413, 60 units and admission to the LWSO program  Credit for Law & Society 415 and 412 will not be allowed.		
<b>Instructor Name</b>	Dr Kirsten Kramar	<b>Email</b>	kirsten.kramar@ucalgary.ca
<b>Instructor Email Policy</b>	Feel free to contact me over email at any time. Please put your course number – LWSO 415 – in your email’s subject line, and include a proper salutation, your full name, student ID, and a proper closing in the body of your email. Emails will be answered within one business day. I generally do not answer emails over the weekend, but I will check during busier times. If you have a course-related question, please check the course outline or the content section in the course website on D2L first. Please do not use e-mail as a replacement for a meeting, if there is something you want to discuss. Questions about the course content and readings, concerns about grades, or any other personal issues should be dealt with during my office hours. <i>Please note the proper spelling of my name</i> , there are members of the University of Calgary community with names very similar to mine so please ensure you are sending your correspondence to the correct email address.		
<b>Office Location</b>	SS 936	<b>Office Hours</b>	M/W 13:00 – 14:00 or by appointment
<b>Telephone No.</b>			
<b>Class Dates</b>	Monday June 27 – Wednesday August 10, 2022		
<b>Class Times</b>	M/W 9:00 – 11:45 a.m.		
<b>Class Location</b>	EDC 388		

### **COURSE CALENDAR STATEMENT**

An examination of the ways in which fundamental premises of legal liberalism, such as fairness, equality, and individual liberty, intersect with each other and with other key social values and premises. May include privacy, the nature of the rights attached to property, the different understandings of democracy operating in different countries, and the extent to which the state should support religion.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Lecture based course. Students are to gain an understanding of contemporary socio-legal issues in liberal democracies including Canada, the US and the UK. Throughout the term students are asked to demonstrate understanding of the conceptual socio-legal frameworks used in liberal democracies to justify 'states of exception' and other conceptual tools used by governments to bend the rule of law.

### **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

An understanding of the national security state-technocratic nexus, how law is used to justify states of exception, the use of law to enhance the surveillance-industrial complex, privacy rights, bulk data collection, warrantless surveillance, and the erosion of press freedoms.

### **LEARNING RESOURCES**

Choice of any one of the following books for written assignment:

Melzer, Nils. (2022). *The Trial of Julian Assange*. Verso Press (available on Amazon in hardcover or Kindle format)

Snowden, Edward. (2019) *Permanent Record*. Picador Books (available on Amazon in a variety of formats)

Greenwald, Glenn. *No Place to Hide: Edward Snowden, the NSA and the US Surveillance State*. Metropolitan Books, Henry Holt. (available on Amazon in a variety of formats)

Levine, Yasha. (2018). *Surveillance Valley: The Secret Military History of the Internet*, Hachette Book Group. (available on Amazon in a variety of formats).

All other readings and course materials are available on the D2L site for this course.

Supplementary and recommended resources posted in each weekly folder in D2L. Case studies, journal articles, and assigned audio-visual materials are posted in weekly folders. There you can also find a schedule of readings/activities as a single separate document.

### **LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES AND REQUIREMENTS**

There is a D2L site for this course which contains required readings and other relevant class resources and materials (see [d2l.ucalgary.ca](https://d2l.ucalgary.ca)).

### **CLASS SCHEDULE**

See Weekly Folders in D2L for course schedule, weekly readings, legal cases and other supplementary reading materials.

## ASSESSMENT COMPONENTS

### 1. Weekly Learning Checks (best 6 out of 7): 60%

Wednesdays @ 11:00 a.m. (open for 24 hours)

Dates:

June 29

July 6

July 13

July 20

July 27

Aug 3

Aug 10

Learning checks can be found in the weekly test folders in D2L. Each learning check will then be available on Wednesdays beginning at 11:00 a.m. (I will leave the link active until 11:00 a.m. the following day to allow for flexibility). You may access and begin your learning check anytime for 24 hours after they are posted in D2L. Learning checks are “open book” (though you should not need the resources if you have studied!) but they are not “open friend.” Once you begin the learning check you will have 30 minutes to complete 25 randomized multiple-choice and true/false questions presented sequentially. The learning checks will be available to begin for 24-hours to allow for flexibility. The learning checks consist of key questions and cover the readings and lecture materials for each relevant week (pro-tip: look for overlap between readings and my narrated slides). The good news: You may miss one learning check for any reason without penalty to your grade, including illness, personal schedule conflicts, or personal affliction because only 6 of the 7 learning checks count towards this component of the course (I will drop the lowest score). There is no need to inform your instructor that you will skip a learning check. If you complete all 7 learning checks, the lowest learning check grade will be dropped. If you are affected by illness or domestic disruption and are not able to complete your readings, attend lectures or perform the learning checks please do not hesitate to contact me. **NB**: If for some unforeseen reason you are not able to complete the learning check during the 24-hour window please contact the instructor – I am able to accommodate reasonable unforeseen issues that may arise by providing a short extension to your individual timeframe for the tests.

### 2. Critical book review (40%) (2000-2500 words)

**Due: August 10, 2022 @ 9:00 a.m.**

For a description of a critical book review or article critique see here:

<https://advice.writing.utoronto.ca/types-of-writing/book-review/>

More detailed instructions are posted in D2L. For a list of book options see above.

## GRADING SCALE

This is the Sociology Department’s grading scale:

Grade	Percent range	Grade Point Value	Description
A+	96 – 100%	4.0	Outstanding performance
A	90 – 95.99%	4.0	Excellent performance
A-	85 – 89.99%	3.7	Approaching excellent performance

<b>B+</b>	80 – 84.99%	3.3	Exceeding good performance
<b>B</b>	75 – 79.99%	3.0	Good performance
<b>B-</b>	70 – 74.99%	2.7	Approaching good performance
<b>C+</b>	67 – 69.99%	2.3	Exceeding satisfactory performance
<b>C</b>	63 – 66.99%	2.0	Satisfactory performance
<b>C-</b>	59 – 62.99%	1.7	Approaching satisfactory performance
<b>D+</b>	55 – 58.99%	1.3	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject
<b>D</b>	50 – 54.99%	1.0	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
<b>F</b>	<50%	0	Failure. Did not meet course requirements.

Your final grade is calculated by adding the scores on each of the weighted components of the course.

### EXPECTATIONS FOR WRITING

2000-2500 word critical book review that evaluates the author's thesis and evidence. Links book content to broader course themes. Link to critical book review instructions and expectations found in D2L .

### GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS

The main Sociology Department office does not deal with any course-related matters. Please speak directly to your instructor.

1. **Protection of Privacy:** The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPP) legislation does not allow students to retrieve any course material from public places. Anything that requires handing back will be returned directly during class or office hours. If students are unable to pick up their assignments from the instructor, they can provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary
2. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology Department. They are only available online.

### ABSENCES AND DEFERRALS

Students who are absent from class assessments (tests, participation activities, or other assignments) should inform their instructors as soon as possible. Instructors may request that evidence in the form of documentation be provided. If the reason provided for the absence is acceptable, instructors may decide that any arrangements made can take forms other than make-up tests or assignments. For example, the weight of a missed grade may be added to another assignment or test. For information on

possible forms of documentation, including statutory declarations, please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html>

**Deferred Final Exam Form:** Please note that requests to defer a Registrar scheduled final exam are dealt with through the Registrar's Office. Further information can be found at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>

**Deferred Term Work Form:** Deferral of term work past the end of a term requires a form to be filled out by the student and submitted, along with any supporting documentation, to the instructor. The form is available [here](#).

Once an extension date has been agreed between instructor and student, the instructor will email the form to the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre ([ascarts@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca)) for approval by the Associate Dean.

## CONDUCT

Students, employees, and academic staff are also expected to demonstrate behaviour in class that promotes and maintains a positive and productive learning environment. As members of the University community, students, employees, and academic staff are expected to demonstrate conduct that is consistent with the University of Calgary Calendar, the Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures, which can be found at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

**Section 2 Scope.** The Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy applies to Students' actions, interactions and behaviours that take place a) in or on University Facilities; **b) off University Facilities, including online, including through social media, online communication platforms, remote work applications, or other online means, where such actions, interactions or behaviour have a negative impact on a member of the University Community such that it materially interferes with their University learning, working or living environment;** c) when participating in a University club or organization, or a student club or organization, including student clubs or organizations sanctioned by the Students' Union or Graduate Students' Association; or d) at a University Event.

## USE OF INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES IN CLASS

The use of laptop and mobile devices is acceptable when used in a manner appropriate to the course and classroom activities. Please refrain from accessing websites and resources that may be distracting to you or for other learners during class time. Students are responsible for being aware of the University's Internet and email use policy, which can be found at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-electronic-resources-and-information-policy>

## Media Recording for Study Purposes (Students)

Students who wish to audio record lectures for personal study purposes need to follow the guidelines outlined in Section E.6 of the University Calendar. Unless the audio recording of lectures is part of a student accessibility requirement, permission must be sought by the course instructor to audio record lectures. Students are encouraged to make notes of classroom discussions, lectures, demonstrations, and performances in order to advance their own learning and to develop a record for purposes of private study. The ordinary process of taking notes is encouraged since this practice requires that students develop the ability to actively attend to the material under consideration and to quickly summarize pertinent information in a coherent manner. Electronic or mechanical recording of lectures discourages the development of these important skills. In addition, the presence of audio recording

devices may inhibit frank and open discussion of course material in the classroom, or otherwise interfere with the proper academic conduct of the class. See also Section K.1 Other Impermissible Conduct: The non-authorized media recording of lectures is inconsistent with the Code of Conduct and may result in discipline in accordance with the [Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy](#) and [Student Non-Academic Misconduct Procedure](#).

### **FREE EXPRESSION**

All members of the university have the right of free expression, which means the freedom to investigate, comment, listen, gather, challenge and critique subject to the law and, on our campuses, to university policies and procedures related to the functioning of the university.

In 2019, the University of Calgary published a statement committed to the principles of free expression: [ucalgary.ca/provost/sites/default/files/StatementonFreeExpression.pdf](https://ucalgary.ca/provost/sites/default/files/StatementonFreeExpression.pdf)

### **ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT**

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-non-academic-misconduct-policy>

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-non-academic-misconduct-procedure>

Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>.

### **ACADEMIC ACCOMODATION**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The Student Accommodations policy is available at

<https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations>.

Students needing an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/accommodation-students-disabilities-procedure>). Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than Disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/).

### **RESEARCH ETHICS**

(if applicable) Students are advised that any research with human participants – including any interviewing (even with friends and family), opinion polling, or unobtrusive observation – must have the approval of the [Conjoint Faculties Research Ethics Board](#) or the [Conjoint Health Research Ethics Board](#). In completing course requirements, students must not undertake any human subjects research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required. Some courses will include assignments that involve conducting research with human participants; in these cases, the instructor will have applied for and received ethics approval for the course assignment. The instructor will discuss the ethical requirements for the assignment with the students.

### **INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY**

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

### **COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION**

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>.

### **SEXUAL VIOLENCE POLICY**

The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary's sexual violence policy guides us in how we respond to incidents of sexual violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual violence, or those who are alleged to have committed sexual violence. It provides clear response procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain

circumstances. Please see the policy available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/sexual-and-gender-based-violence-policy>

### **Important Contact Information**

Campus Security and Safewalk (24 hours a day/7 days a week/365 days a year)  
Phone: 403-220-5333

Faculty of Arts Undergraduate Students' Union Representatives  
Phone: 403-220-6551  
Email: [arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca),  
[arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca)  
Students' Union URL: [www.su.ucalgary.ca](http://www.su.ucalgary.ca)

Graduate Students' Association  
Phone: 403-220-5997  
Email: [askgsa@ucalgary.ca](mailto:askgsa@ucalgary.ca)  
URL: [www.ucalgary.ca/gsa](http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa)

Student Ombudsman  
Phone: 403-220-6420  
Email: [ombuds@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ombuds@ucalgary.ca)

### **Campus Mental Health Resources**

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the following resources:

*SU Wellness Centre:* <http://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/>

*Student Wellness Services:*

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellness-services/services/mental-health-services>

*Campus Mental Health Strategy website:* <https://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>.