

**LWSO 415-01**  
**Sociolegal Issues in Contemporary Liberal Societies**  
**Winter 2014**  
**T/R 9:30-10:45**

**Instructor:** Lyndsay Campbell  
**Contact:** 403 220 8889 / lcampbe@ucalgary.ca  
**Offices:** SS 910; MFH 4341  
**Office Hours:** Tuesdays 11 am – 12 noon in SS 910;  
Wednesdays 11 am – 12 noon in MFH 4341

**Additional Information**

Together with LWSO 413, this course replaces LWSO 412.

**Course Description**

This course starts where LWSO 413 left off, starting with John Rawls and more recent scholars working in the liberal tradition. We examine the implications of these theories for contemporary socio-legal problems around such issues as privacy, campaign finance, and the relationships among liberty, equality and property.

**Objectives of the Course**

Students are to gain a detailed understanding of liberalism and its workings in Canada, with some comparisons to other jurisdictions. They will enhance their analytical skills and craft thoughtful, coherent, creative arguments about liberalism and its real-world manifestations.

**Textbooks and Readings:**

Edited versions of cases will be available on Blackboard, as will links to other materials. The following book will be used:

- John Rawls, *Justice as Fairness: A Restatement*, ed. Erin Kelly (Belknap Press, 2001)
- Martha C. Nussbaum, *Frontiers of Justice: Disability, Nationality, Species Membership* (Cambridge, MA: Belknap Press, 2006)

**Assignments and Evaluation**

- Midterm: Rawls (30%/25%)\* – Tues. Feb. 6 – closed book
- Nussbaum assignment (30%) – Thurs. Mar. 13
- Final exam (40%/45%)\* – in the final exam period – closed book

\* NOTE: The midterm and final exam will be weighted so as to give students the benefit of their higher mark. If your higher mark is on the midterm, the midterm will count for 30% and the final for 40%. If your higher mark is on the final, the midterm will count for 25% and the final for 45%.

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.

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

Note: Please hand in your essays directly to your instructor if possible. If it is not possible to do so, please submit your work electronically, either using the Blackboard dropbox or through email. It is my practice to acknowledge receipt promptly of all work submitted electronically – if you do not receive such an acknowledgement, ask me for it. Use the telephone and leave a message if email queries do not result in a response.

### **Registrar-scheduled Final Examination: Yes**

Please note: If your class is held in the evening, the Registrar's Office will make every attempt to schedule the final exam during the evening; however, there is NO guarantee that the exam will NOT be scheduled during the day.

### **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.

### **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**

The following grading system will be used:

	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

Assignments graded with a letter will – for computation purposes – be assigned a numerical value that is the midpoint of the band.

### **Schedule of Lectures and Readings**

The schedule of lectures and readings will be posted on Blackboard prior to the commencement of classes.

### **Research Involving Human Subjects**

It is not anticipated that your term papers in this class will involve any interaction with human subjects, such as interviews. Research involving human subjects requires special approvals. Information on the process is available here:  
<http://arts.ucalgary.ca/research/for-researchers/ethics>.

### **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.

### **Using the Internet and Electronic Devices**

Students may use their computers in class for taking notes, following the PowerPoint outlines of lectures, and other purposes related to the class. You may not record the class without the instructor's permission.

### **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 Disability Resource Centre (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/drc/node/46>

### **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 220-5333 for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot booths.

### **Student Representation**

There are four Arts reps, with the email addresses [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), and [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto: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**

- For program advising and student information, contact the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC). Drop in at SS110, call 403-220-3580 or email [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto: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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.