

LWSO 201-01
Introduction to Law and Society
WINTER 2015
M/W/F: 3:00 – 3:50 ST143

Instructor: Dr. Ted McCoy
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Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. .
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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 in many different formats. Both texts are also available in the University of Calgary library. Spend some time searching the catalogue to find an edition that is accessible.

Assignments and Evaluation

Assignment	20%
Midterm 1	20%
Midterm 2	20%
Final Exam	40%

Exam and Assignment Dates

Locke and Burke Assignment: Due on D2L, Friday January 30

Mid-Term Exam 1: Friday February 6

Mid-Term Exam 2: Friday March 20

Final Exam: Scheduled by the Registrar

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 Desire2Learn. Written responses will be submitted through a Desire2Learn quiz.

It is the student's responsibility to keep an electronic copy of the text of their assignment. Computer errors and human errors happen and you can help to prevent the loss of your work.

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: Chapter Four and Seven

Topic 4 The Law and Social Change: Chapter Nine

Topic 5 Critical Theory and First Nations People: Chapter 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 Topic 1 and 2, but are also linked to your first assignment, due October 12. Students should begin reviewing these texts immediately.

NOTES:

- 1. Grade Reappraisal:** Within two weeks of the date the exam/assignment is returned, students seeking reappraisal of examinations or assignments must submit a written response to the instructor explaining the basis for reconsideration of one's mark. The instructor will reconsider the grade assigned and will then book a time with the student to discuss his or her work and rationale. It should be noted that a reconsidered mark may be raised, lowered, or remain the same.
- 2.** The main Sociology Department office does not deal with any course-related matters. Please speak directly to your instructor.
- 3. Academic Misconduct:** Please refer to the website listed below for information on University of Calgary policies on Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2-1.html>
- 4. 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 provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment."

5. **Deferrals:** If possible, please provide advance notice to the instructor if you are unable to write an exam or complete/turn-in assignments on time. All requests for deferral of a course component due to health reasons must be accompanied by written documentation as outlined in the University Calendar and should be obtained while the student has the health issue rather than after recovery. Deferrals will be allowed in the following circumstances: illness, domestic affliction or religious conviction. Travel arrangements and misreading of the syllabus are not valid reasons for requesting a deferral. Deferrals will not be granted if it is determined that just cause is not shown by the student. If you have missed a test for a legitimate reason, the instructor can require you to write a "make up" test as close in time to the original test as possible or can choose to transfer the percentage weight to another course component. If the instructor schedules a "make up" test for you, its date and location will be at the convenience of the Department of Sociology. **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 about deadlines, and where paperwork should be taken, is available on the form, which can be found at: http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/Sp_Su_DFE_App.pdf

Deferred Term Work Form: Deferral of term work past the end of a term also requires a form to be filled out. It's available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/defTW.pdf>

Once an extension date has been agreed between instructor and student, the form should be taken to the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (SS 110) for approval by an Associate Dean (Students).

6. **Student Representation:** The 2014-15 Students' Union VP Academic's email is: Hana Kadri suypaca@ucalgary.ca. The Faculty of Arts has four SU representatives who may be contacted at any of the following email addresses: arts1@ucalgary.ca, arts2@ucalgary.ca, arts3@ucalgary.ca, and arts4@ucalgary.ca. You may also wish to contact the Student Ombudsperson for help with a variety of University-related matters: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds/role>

7. **Emergency Evacuation:** In the case of fire or other emergency evacuation of this classroom, please proceed to the assembly point at [*location*]. Please check these assembly point locations for your other classes at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

8. **Academic Accommodation:** Students who require academic accommodation, must register with Student Accessibility Services (formerly the Disability Resource Centre) at MC 452 (or phone 403-220-8237). Please provide

academic accommodation letters to the instructor as early in the semester as possible and no later than two weeks after the course begins.

9. All written assignments (including, although to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc) but also general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented.

If you need help with your writing, you may use the Writing Centre. Visit the website for more details: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>

10. **Grading System** The following grading system is used in the Faculty of Arts:

	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

Where a grade on a particular assignment is expressed as a letter grade, it will normally be converted to a number using the midpoint of the scale. That is, A- would be converted to 87.5 for calculation purposes. F will be converted to zero.

11. **Policy for Late Assignments** Assignments submitted after the start of class on the due date will be penalized with the loss of a full letter grade (e.g.: A- to B-) for each day late. This includes weekends.

12. **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>.

13. **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 or the Writing Centre (efwr.ucalgary.ca) if you have any questions regarding how to document sources.

14. **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>

UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENT NOTES

1. 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>.

2. "SAFEWALK" Program -- 220-5333

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.

3. Student Representation

There are 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>

4. Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, 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.