



LWSO 201 (INTRODUCTION TO LEGAL STUDIES)			
Pre/Co-Requisites	None		
Instructor:	Lorna Ferguson	Lecture Location:	Virtual – D2L Site
Email:	lorna.ferguson1@ucalgary.ca	Lecture Days/Time:	Asynchronous
Office:	Virtual	Office Hours:	By appointment via Zoom
Instructor Email Policy	<p>Feel free to contact me over email at any time. All emails will be returned within 48 business hours unless announced otherwise. This means that you may not receive a response during the evening or the weekend. Please put your course number (LWSO 201) <i>and</i> course section 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. Make sure your tone and correspondence in all communication are professional. Also, please only use your UCalgary email account to communicate with me – All other emails from alternative email addresses will not be responded to.</p>		

Course Description

This course will provide an interdisciplinary and comprehensive introduction to the role of law in society, focusing specifically on the Canadian context. It has two objectives. The first objective is to provide basic knowledge of the ideological foundations of law in history and philosophy. This context will be extended by looking at the law in practice in Canadian society. The second objective of the course is to provide students with the tools to begin to think critically about the role of law in Canadian society. Students will thus be introduced to different theoretical approaches concerning the law, including Marxism, feminism, critical legal studies and critical race theory. Ultimately, students will examine the relationship between law and social change.

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will have developed new knowledge and perspectives on the role of law in society, including:

1. Having a basic understanding of the law’s theoretical foundation;
2. Being able to critically evaluate legal, philosophical, and theoretical texts and a variety of other materials;
3. Being comfortable with discussing the ways in which the law and society influence each other;
4. Recognizing the relationship between law and social change.

Required Textbooks, Readings, Materials, Electronic Resources

All course materials will be made available to students on the course D2L site and will be listed on the schedule of lectures and readings posted online.

Students are not required to purchase any textbooks for this course.

Learning Technologies and Requirements

Technologies:

There is a D2L site for this course which contains required readings and other relevant class resources and materials, including weekly pre-recorded lectures, PowerPoint slides, assignment materials, and selected readings. Please see d2l.ucalgary.ca.

[Google Chrome](#) or [Mozilla Firefox](#) are the preferred browsers to use D2L optimally; update your browsers frequently. Using the right browser is essential, especially when using different features integrated with D2L. You can seek support on the [D2L support page](#) if you need assistance. Alternatively, you can get in touch with [UService](#).

As our course is entirely online, in order to successfully engage in this course, students are required to have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser (see details above);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external) or headset with microphone. The microphone is only necessary in the case that we have meetings about the course and is not required to access the weekly course materials and sit the exams;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Broadband internet connection – Students interested in evaluating their internet speed, please click [here](#).

Please note: Most current laptops will have a built-in webcam, speaker, and microphone.

How to Be Successful in this Class:

Students enrolled in this class should understand the level of autonomy and self-discipline required to succeed in online learning environments. Here are some tips and tricks:

1. Invest in a planner or application to keep track of your courses. Populate all your deadlines at the start of the term and schedule time at the beginning of each week to organize and manage your time.
2. Make it a daily habit to log into our D2L course site to ensure you have seen everything posted to help you succeed in this class.
3. Follow weekly checklists created on D2L or create your own to help you stay on track.

4. Take notes as you go through the lesson material. Treat this course as you would a face-to-face class. Keeping handwritten notes or even notes on a regular Word document will help you learn more effectively than just reading or watching the videos.
5. Do not be afraid to ask questions. If you are struggling with a topic, contact me or your TA as soon as possible.
6. Reward yourself for successes. It seems easier to motivate ourselves, knowing that something is waiting for us at the end of the task.

Schedule of Lectures and Readings

Please see the schedule of lectures and readings on our D2L course site.

Methods of Assessment and Grading Weights

COMPONENT	WEIGHTING	DUE DATES/DAY
Online Midterm	50%	Oct 19-20
Online Final Exam	50%	TBD (As scheduled by the Registrar)
Total	100%	

General Details on the Exams:

This course will consist of two closed-book online exams (midterm and final) occurring via the D2L course site. The detailed format of the exams, including information on the questions, the integrated content, and what to expect, will be provided before the exam date on the D2L course site. All of this will also be discussed in the weekly lectures leading up to the exams. Instructor and TA support will be provided before, during, and after the exams too. More details are noted below, but as mentioned, further information will be provided closer to the date of each exam.

Online Midterm Exam (50%):

On October 19-20, students will complete an online midterm exam consisting of sixty (60) questions that will be a mixture of multiple choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, and/or short answer questions. It is closed book. The midterm exam questions will pertain to all course materials and content from our first day of class until the week ending October 16, from Week 1 to Week 6. Students will have 24 hours to access the exam, starting at 9:00 AM on October 19. **Please note that the midterm exam is time-limited – once students begin, they will have three hours to complete it** before responses are automatically submitted and recorded.

Online Final Exam (50%):

Students will complete a final exam during the final exam period, which will be scheduled by the Registrar. It will consist of sixty (60) questions that will be a mixture of multiple choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, and/or short answer questions. It is closed book and **not cumulative**; The final exam will only cover all course materials and content from the week beginning October 24, until the course end, so from Week 8 to Week 14. Students will have 24 hours to access the exam. **Please note that the final**

exam is time-limited – once students begin, they will have three hours to complete it before responses are automatically submitted and recorded.

Final Exam Information

Provide the following detailed information

Final Exam	Y
Length	60 questions in total, 180 minutes to complete
Format	<i>registrar scheduled</i>
Type	Fully online, 24 hours to begin, 180 minutes to submit once began, closed book. Questions are multiple-choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, and short answer.
Aids	Aids are allowed for those with accommodations. Otherwise, it is closed book, and no other aids are needed or allowed.

Grading Scale

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

Libraries & Cultural Resources

To contact your librarian or find out about the resources and services available to sociology students, go to the Sociology Library guide: <https://library.ucalgary.ca/guides/sociology>.

To access the main Library website, go to: <https://library.ucalgary.ca>.

IMPORTANT POLICIES AND INFORMATION

Absence From a Mid-term Examination

Students who are absent from a scheduled term test or quiz for legitimate reasons are responsible for

contacting the instructor via email within 48 hours of the missed test to discuss alternative arrangements. A copy of that email may be requested as proof of the attempt to contact the instructor.

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 at: https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/sites/default/files/teams/14/P22_deferral-of-term-work_lapseGrade.pdf

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) for approval by the Associate Dean.

Deferral of a Final Examination

Deferral of a final examination can be granted for reasons of illness, domestic affliction, and unforeseen circumstances, as well as to those with three (3) final exams scheduled within a 24-hour period. Deferred final exams will not be granted to those who sit the exam, who have made travel arrangements that conflict with their exam, or who have misread the examination timetable. The decision to allow a deferred final exam rests not with the instructor but with Enrolment Services. Instructors should, however, be notified if you will be absent during the examination. The Application for Deferred Final Exam, deadlines, requirements and submission instructions can be found on the Enrolment Services website at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>.

Reappraisal of Grades:

For Reappraisal of Graded Term Work, see Calendar I.2

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

For Reappraisal of Final Grade, see Calendar I.3

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

Academic Misconduct:

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior that compromises proper assessment of students' 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.

Student committing academic misconduct during the final exam will not receive a passing grade for the course.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy, Procedure and Academic Integrity, please visit: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html>

Plagiarism And Other Forms Of Academic Misconduct

Academic misconduct in any form (e.g. cheating, plagiarism) is a serious academic offence that can lead to disciplinary probation, suspension or expulsion from the University. Students are expected to be familiar with the standards surrounding academic honesty; these can be found in the University of Calgary calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>. Such offences will be taken seriously and reported immediately, as required by Faculty of Arts policy.

Recording of Lectures:

Recording of lectures is prohibited, except for audio recordings authorized as an accommodation by SAS or an audio recording for individual private study and only with the written permission of the instructor. Any unauthorized electronic or mechanical recording of lectures, their transcription, copying, or distribution, constitutes academic misconduct. See <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-6.html>.

Academic Accommodations:

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services. SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. 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. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/accommodation-students-disabilities-procedure>

Research Ethics

Students are advised that any research with human subjects – including any interviewing (even with friends and family), opinion polling, or unobtrusive observation – must have the approval of the Conjoint Faculties Research Ethics Board. In completing course requirements, students must not undertake any human subject research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required.

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 (FOIP) Act:

Personal information is collected in accordance with FOIP. Assignments can only be returned to the student and will be accessible only to authorized faculty and staff. For more information, see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/access-information-privacy>

Copyright Legislation:

See the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy> Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

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.

Evacuation Assembly Points

In the event of an emergency evacuation from class, students are required to gather in designated

assembly points. Please check the list found at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/risk/emergency-management/evac-drills-assembly-points/assembly-points> and note the assembly point nearest to your classroom.

Important Dates:

Please check: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html>.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS102, call them at 403-220-3580, or email them 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, including program planning and advice.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them in the MacKimmie Tower.

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, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca,
arts4@su.ucalgary.ca
Students' Union URL: www.su.ucalgary.ca

Graduate Students' Association
Phone: 403-220-5997
Email: askgsa@ucalgary.ca
URL: www.ucalgary.ca/gsa

Student Ombudsman
Phone: 403-220-6420
Email: 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/>.