Carleton University

Department of Law and Legal Studies

Course Outline

COURSE: LAWS 5000 | Theories of Law and Social Transformation

TERM: Fall 2013

Prerequisites: None

CLASS: Day & Time: Wednesday 8:30am - 11:30am

Room: Please check with Carleton Central for current room location

INSTRUCTOR: Stacy Douglas

CONTACT: Office: Loeb D496

Office Hrs: Monday 12:00pm - 2:00pm
Telephone: 613.520.2600 x. 8028

Email: Stacy_Douglas@carleton.ca

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/

Religious obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your *Letter of Accommodation* at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (*if applicable*). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (*if applicable*) at http://www2.carleton.ca/pmc/new-and-current-students/dates-and-deadlines/

You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will advance your knowledge of theoretical approaches to the study of law and social transformation, and, in so doing, contribute to the shaping of your MA or MRP project. While there are many theoretical texts that explore the important juncture between law, the social, and transformation, this course is designed to highlight the rich debates over the meaning of and relationship between the terms themselves. As such, the course is split into three parts: i) what is law?, ii) what is the social?, and iii) what is transformation? The exploration of these questions through an array of thinkers will help you develop thoughtful approaches and robust methodologies in your own projects.

REQUIRED TEXTS (Available at: Octopus Books, 116 Third Ave., 613-233-2589)

Foucault, Michel (1977) Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison. New York: Vintage.

Schmitt, Carl (1985) *Political Theology: Four Chapters on the Concept of Sovereignty*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Fanon, Frantz (2005) Wretched of the Earth. New York: Grove Press.

SUPPLEMENTARY TEXTS

Bell, Derrick (2004) *Silent Covenants: Brown v. Board of Education and the Unfulfilled Hopes for Racial Reform.* London: Oxford University Press.

Brown, Wendy and Janet Halley (Eds.) (2002) Left Legalism/Left Critique. Durham: Duke University Press.

Butler, Judith (1997) Psychic Life of Power: Theories in Subjection. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press.

Cornell, Drucilla (2008) *Moral Images of Freedom: A Future for Critical Theory*. New York: Rowman and Littlefield.

Dworkin, Ronald (1986) Law's Empire. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

Fitzpatrick, Peter (1992) The Mythology of Modern Law. London: Routledge.

Habermas, Jurgen (1996) Between Facts and Norms. Cambridge, UK: Polity Press.

Hart, H.L.A. (1961) The Concept of Law. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Rawls, John (1999) A Theory of Justice. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

Stoler, Ann (1995) *Race and the Education of Desire: Foucault's History of Sexuality and the Colonial Order of Things.* Durham: Duke University Press.

Sugarman, David (Ed.) (1983) Law, Ideology, and the State. New York: Academic Press.

Weber, Max (1978) *Economy and Society: An Outline of Interpretive Sociology*. Guenther Roth and Claus Wittich (Eds.). Berkley: University of California Press.

Williams, Patricia (1992) *The Alchemy of Race and Rights: Diary of a Law Professor*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

EVALUATION

All components must be completed in order to get a passing grade.

Assignment	Weight	Due Date
Weekly Assignments	18%	Nine due throughout term
Participation	12%	Weekly
Presentation	15%	Student must sign up
Discussant	5%	Student must sign up
Proposal	15%	Friday 22 November
Final Paper	35%	Monday 9 December

Weekly Assignments (18%)

Every week you are required to submit a two to three page critical reflection on the primary reading (double-spaced, with proper references). Submitted assignments must include the following three elements, in sentence form:

- 1) A description of the author's central thesis:
- 2) A description of the author's supporting points, <u>as well as</u> a reflection on the strength of these points (are they well-supported and if so, how? etc...). Please note that this is <u>not</u> a request for your personal opinion on the piece;
- 3) A reflection on what the piece says about its respective category (i.e., 'law', 'the social', or 'transformation').

These must be handed in at the start of every class so remember to print two copies or keep a secure back up for your own records. Each assignment is worth 2%. You have two 'grace' weeks where you can choose <u>not</u> to submit an assignment without penalty. Therefore, by the end of the course you will have submitted nine weekly assignments. You may also choose to submit more than nine assignments and I will count your nine highest marks.

Participation (12%)

Students are expected to participate in seminar in an engaged and thoughtful manner every week.

Presentation (15%)

On the first day of class you must sign up to present on one of the scheduled primary readings. This presentation should be approximately 15 minutes in length (no more than 20 mins.), and include (but is not limited to):

- 1) A brief overview of the author's argument;
- 2) A contextual situating of the author's contribution (i.e., how the chosen selection relates to the longer text, other works by this author, etc...);
- 3) A reflection on what the piece says about 'law', 'the social', or 'transformation';
- 4) A critical analysis of the argument that includes insights from recommended and other secondary texts (see 'Additional Readings');
- 5) An in-depth exploration of one central idea or concept from the reading (consider using examples from outside the text to illustrate).

Students who miss or are late to their presentations will see this reflected in their marks.

Discussant (5%)

On the first day of class you must sign up to act as a discussant for one seminar. As discussant you will be responsible for arriving to class with:

- 1) An in-depth understanding of the primary text;
- 2) Some understanding of critical reflections on the primary text (see 'Additional Readings');
- 3) A set of 3-4 thoughtful questions for further reflection on the primary text;
- 4) A commitment to engaging with and an ability to constructively respond to the presentation for that week;
- 5) A commitment to engaging with and an ability to stimulate group discussion on the text and your questions.

Students who miss or are late to the presentations for which they are intended to act as discussants will see this reflected in their marks.

Proposal (15%)

An electronic copy of your proposal is due to me by 12pm (noon) on **Friday 22 November** – there will be no extensions. This should be a well-researched, in-depth outline of your final paper. Your proposal must be <u>no more</u> than 5 pages, double-spaced, properly referenced, formatted in Word (.doc), and include:

- 1) A clearly chosen thinker or approach that reflects on theories of law and social transformation. You are strongly encouraged to choose one thinker or approach that we have studied in the course. However, you may also choose a thinker or approach that we did not explore as a class but must consult with me about this choice no later than **Wednesday 20 November**;
- 2) A clearly defined thesis that advances an argument;
- 3) A substantial outline of <u>your entire argument</u>, including evidence and references to <u>primary and</u> secondary sources;
- 4) Reflection on how your thinker or approach may be applied to analyse the meaning of 'law', 'the social', or 'transformation' regarding an issue relevant to your scholarly interests;
- 5) A bibliography.

Final Paper (35%)

A physical copy of your final paper is due at 12pm (noon) on **Monday 9 December** – there will be no extensions. Your paper must be approximately 20-25 pages, double-spaced, and properly referenced. This paper must demonstrate your in-depth engagement with one author or approach to law and social transformation that we have examined in the course (or that you have cleared with me by Wednesday 20 November). As made clear in the outline of your proposal, your engagement will draw on both primary and secondary sources, and reflect on what contribution this approach makes to the study of law and social transformation for an issue relevant to your scholarly interests. This assignment will help to advance your knowledge of one particular theoretical approach to law and social transformation, and, in so doing, contribute to shaping your MA or MRP project.

GRADING

The following percentage equivalents apply to all final grades at Carleton:

A+	90-100	B+	77-79	C+	67-69	D+	57-59		
A	85-89	В	73-76	C	63-66	D	53-56	F	0-49
A-	80-84	B-	70-72	C-	60-62	D-	50-52		

When I grade your assignments I will be marking with the following criteria in mind:

Style

Has the author taken care in their formatting, grammar, attention to word count, and appropriate referencing? Where appropriate, have they attempted to infuse their work with creative flourish?

Structure

Has the author laid out a clear and effective argument for their reader? In particular did the author begin with a clear introduction and overview of their supporting points, and use signposting throughout? Is it a convincing argument overall?

Content

Has the author understood the material and conveyed it effectively to their reader? Have they supported their interpretations with page references and other academic sources?

Research

Has the author demonstrated a thoughtful and meticulous approach to their research? Have they been intellectually honest about their sources by seeking out primary material and bolstering their interpretation with appropriate secondary sources?

Critical Analysis

Has the author been able to understand the material, communicate about it clearly, **and** use their critical reading and writing skills to analyze the material? A demonstrated depth of critical analysis will be key for achieving high marks on essays.

REFERENCING

The Law Department recommends that you follow the Legal Style set out here:

http://www1.carleton.ca/law/ccms/wp-content/ccms-files/legal_style_sheet.pdf

However, if you prefer another referencing style, you may use it provided that you are consistent throughout and the style is academically recognized (e.g. Harvard, MLA, Chicago). If you are unsure about the proper format of a particular referencing style, please consult a referencing style guide from the library.

The Academic Writing Centre and Writing Tutorial Services provide students and faculty assistance with the teaching and learning of academic writing. Please contact them in advance and make use of their services:

Tips for avoiding plagiarism:

- Give yourself enough time to work on your assignment, so you are not tempted to copy text from other sources.
- Take notes carefully so that you include specific sources and page numbers. Be sure to clearly identify which ideas are your own and which come from your sources.
- Reference as you write, rather than leaving all the referencing to the end. Even if you just use shorthand as your write (i.e. note the author's last name and page number), you can then go back and do the formatting later. But it is always better to reference as you go it will save you time in the long run and you are less likely to forget something.
- Consult a referencing guide! If you are unsure about referencing format or procedure, check a referencing style guide. There are plenty available in the library and online.

For more help see: http://www.library.carleton.ca/help/citing-your-sources

Remember: Using another person's work without acknowledgment, or using work in a way that may mislead or deceive your reader is plagiarism. It does not matter whether you deliberately intended to deceive or not; it still counts as plagiarism and is subject to the university's policies and penalties on academic misconduct. Plagiarism is not only dishonest, but it undermines the integrity of academic scholarship and is not acceptable.

ALL INSTANCES OF PLAGIARISM WILL BE REPORTED DIRECTLY TO THE DEAN.

SCHEDULE

LAWS 5000 Course Overview							
11 September	Seminar One	Law, the Social, and Transformation					
PART I: WHAT IS LAW?							
18 September	Seminar Two	General Theory of Law and Marxism					
25 September	Seminar Three	Law's Theological Inheritances					
2 October	Seminar Four	The Rise of Disciplinary Power					
9 October	Seminar Five	The Autopoetic Form of Law					
PART II: WHAT IS THE SOCIAL?							
16 October	Seminar Six	Contaminating the Political					
23 October	Seminar Seven	The (Im)possibility of Socio-legal Studies					
30 October		Reading Week					
6 November	Seminar Eight	Reassembling the Social?					
13 November	Seminar Nine	The Problem of Community					
PART III: WHAT IS TRANSFORMATION?							
20 November	Seminar Ten	Violence & Law as Symbolic Other					
27 November	Seminar Eleven	Reading It In, or the Potential of Recognition					
4 December	Seminar Twelve	The (Disciplinary) Power of Rights					

SEMINAR ONE

Law, the Social, and Transformation (11 September)

Introduction

Douzinas, Costas and Adam Gearey (Eds.) (2005) Chapter One and Five. In: *Critical Jurisprudence: The Political Philosophy of Justice*. Oxford: Hart Publishing, 3-42 and 140-161. (60 pages). [**PDF circulated to all registered students by email on Monday 19 August**].

Additional Readings:

See "Supplementary Texts" above.

PART I: WHAT IS LAW?

SEMINAR TWO

General Theory of Law and Marxism (18 September)

Pashukanis, Evgeny (1980) Introduction, Chapter One, Two, Three, and Four. In: General Theory of Law and Marxism. Selected Writings on Marxism and Law, P. Beirne and R. Sharlet (Eds.), Peter Maggs (Trans.), London: Academic Press, 32-131. (99 pages).

Available at: <www.marxists.org/archive/pashukanis/1924/law/>.

Additional Readings:

Wendy Brown (1994) "Rights and Identity in Late Modernity: Revisiting the 'Jewish Question'". In: *Identity, Politics and Rights.* Austin Sarat and Thomas Kearns (Eds.). Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 85-130.

Cain, Maureen and Alan Hunt (1979) Marx and Engels on Law. London: Academic Press.

Marx, Karl and Frederick Engels (1969) "The Manifesto of the Communist Party". In: *Marx/Engels Selected Works (Vol. 1)*, Moscow: Progress Publishers, 98-137. (39 pages). Available at: http://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/download/pdf/Manifesto.pdf>.

Poulantzas, Nicos (1978) Introduction and Part One. In: *State, Power, Socialism*. London: Verso, 9-122. (113 pages).

Warrington, Ronnie (1983) Pashukanis and the Commodity Form. In: *Law, Ideology, and the State*. Ed. David Sugarman. New York Academic Press, 43-68. (25 pages).

SEMINAR THREE

Law's Theological Inheritances (25 September)

Schmitt, Carl (1985) *Political Theology: Four Chapters on the Concept of Sovereignty*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. (66 pages).

Available at: http://townsendlab.berkeley.edu/sites/all/files/Schmitt-Political%20Theology%20I.pdf.

Additional Readings:

Kahn, Paul (2011) Introduction: Why Political Theology Again? In: *Political Theology: Four New Chapters on the Concept of Sovereignty*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1-30. (29 pages).

Mouffe, Chantal (1998) Schmitt and the Paradox of Liberal Democracy. In: *Law as Politics: Carl Schmitt's Critique of Liberalism*. Ed. David Dyzenhaus. Durham: Duke, 159-178. (19 pages).

Vatter, Miguel (2011) "Introduction: Crediting God with Sovereignty". In: *Crediting God: Sovereignty and Religion in the Age of Global Capitalism*. Migeul Vatter (Ed.). New York: Fordham University Press, 1-28. (27 pages).

SEMINAR FOUR

Law as Disciplinary Power
(2 October)

Foucault, Michel (1977) Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison. New York: Vintage. (308 pages).

Additional Readings:

Burchell, Graham, Colin Gordon and Peter Miller (1991) *The Foucault Effect: Studies in Governmentality*. Chicago: Chicago University Press.

Foucault, Michel (1990) *The History of Sexuality, Volume 1*. New York: Vintage.

Hunt, Alan and Gary Wickham (1994) Foucault and Law: Towards a Sociology of Law as Governance. London: Pluto Press. Available online at: http://web2.uvcs.uvic.ca/courses/lawdemo/webread/HUNT3.htm

Mitchell, Dean (2009) Governmentality: Power and Rule in Modern Society. London: Sage.

SEMINAR FIVE

The Autopoetic Form of Law (9 October)

Luhmann, Niklas (2004) Chapter One, Two, and Three. In: *Law as a Social System*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 53-172. (119 pages).

Additional Readings:

Christodoulidis, Emilios (1998) *Law and Reflexive Politics*. Dordrecht: Kluwer.

Nobles, Richard and David Schiff (2004) Introduction. In: *Law as a Social System*. Oxford: OUP, 1-52. (51 pages).

PART II: WHAT IS THE SOCIAL?

SEMINAR SIX

Contaminating the Political (16 October)

Arendt, Hannah (2006) Chapter One and Chapter Two. In: *On Revolution*. London: Penguin, 11-105. (94 pages).

Additional Readings:

Christodoulidis, Emilios (2011) "Depoliticizing Poverty: Arendt in South Africa". *Stellenbosch Law Review*, 22(3), 501-520. (19 pages). [Not available through Carleton library. Ask Professor Douglas for a copy].

Honig, Bonnie (1991) "Declarations of Independence: Arendt and Derrida on the Problem of Founding a Republic." *American Political Science Review*, 85(1), 97-113. (16 pages).

Pitkin, Hannah (1998) The Problem of the Blob. In: *The Attack of the Blob: Hannah Arendt's Concept of the Social*. Chicago: Chicago University Press, 1-18. (17 pages).

Schell, Jonathan (2006) Introduction. In: *On Revolution*. London: Penguin, xi-xxix. (18 pages).

Scott, David (2004) Epilogue. In: *Conscripts of Modernity: The Tragedy of Colonial Enlightenment*. Durham: Duke University Press, 209-222. (13 pages).

SEMINAR SEVEN

The (Im)possibility of Socio-legal Studies (23 October)

Constable, Marianne (2005) Prologue, Chapter One, and Chapter Two. In: *Just Silences: The Limits and Possibilities of Modern Law*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1-73. (73 pages).

Additional Readings:

Berlant, Lauren (2002) "The Subject of True Feeling: Pain, Privacy, and Politics". In: Left Legalism/Left Critique. Durham: Duke University Press, 105-133. (28 pages).

Brown, Wendy (2005) "Freedom's Silences". In: *Edgework: Critical Essays on Knowledge and Politics*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 83-97. (14 pages).

Butler, Judith (1997) Introduction and Chapter One. In: *Excitable Speech: A Politics of the Performative*. London: Routledge, 1-70. (69 pages).

Nietzsche, Friederich (1998) Twilight of the Idols. Duncan Large (Trans.). Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Sarat, Austin (1994) "Leading Law Into the Abyss: What (If Anything) Has Sociology Done to Law?" *Law and Social Inquiry*, 19(3), 609-624. (15 pages).

READING WEEK

No seminar (30 October)

SEMINAR EIGHT

Reassembling the Social? (6 November)

Latour, Bruno (2005) Introduction and Part One. In: *Reassembling the Social: An Introduction to Actor Network Theory*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1-158. (157 pages).

Additional Readings:

Bromberg, Svenja (2013) "The Anti-Political Aesthetics of Objects and Worlds Beyond". *Mute Magazine*, 3(4). Available at: http://www.metamute.org/editorial/articles/anti-political-aesthetics-objects-and-worlds-beyond.

Cloatre, Emilie and Nick Wright (2013) "A Socio-legal Analysis of an Actor-World: The Case of Carbon Trading and the Clean Development Mechanism". *Journal of Law and Society*, 39(1), 76-92. (16 pages).

Latour, Bruno (2011) The Making of Law: An Ethnography of the Conseil d'Etat. London: Polity.

Mitchell, Timothy (2002) "Can the Mosquito Speak?". In: *Rule of Experts: Egypt, Techno-Politics, Modernity*. Berkley: University of California Press, 9-53. Available online at: http://climate.geo.msu.edu/lingkungan/RuleofExperts_Egypt_Techno-Politics-Modernity.pdf>.

SEMINAR NINE

The Problem of Community (13 November)

Nancy, Jean-Luc (1991) The Inoperative Community. In: *The Inoperative Community*. Peter Connor (Ed.) Simona Sawhney (Trans.). Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1-42. (41 pages).

<u>Additional Readings:</u>

Fynsk, Christopher (1991) Foreword: Experiences of Finitude. In: *The Inoperative Community*. Ed. Peter Connor. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, vii-xxxv. (27 pages).

Heidegger, Martin (2010) Introduction and Chapter One and Two from Part One. In: *Being and Time*. Joan Stambaugh (Trans.). Albany: SUNY Press, 1-62. (61 pages).

Hutchens, Benjamin (Ed.) (2012) Jean-Luc Nancy: Justice, Legality and World. London: Continuum.

Wall, Illan (2012) Chapter Eight and Nine. In: *Human Rights and Constituent Power: Without Model or Warranty*. London: Routledge, 142-176. (34 pages).

PART III: WHAT IS TRANSFORMATION?

SEMINAR TEN

Violence & Law as Symbolic Other (20 November)

PROPOSALS DUE ON FRIDAY 22 NOVEMBER AT 12PM (NOON)

Fanon, Frantz (2005) Wretched of the Earth. New York: Grove Press. (320 pages).

<u>Additional Readings:</u>

Benjamin, Walter (1978) Critique of Violence. In: *Reflections: Essays, Aphorisms, Autobiographical Writings*. Peter Demetz (Ed.). Edmund Jephcott (Trans.). New York: Schocken Books, 276-300. (24 pages).

Cornell, Drucilla (1995) *The Imaginary Domain: Abortion, Pornography and Sexual Harassment.* New York: Routledge.

Fanon, Frantz (1967) Chapter Five, Six, and Seven. In: *Black Skin, White Masks*. Trans. Charles Lam Markmann. New York: Grove Press, 109-222. (113 pages).

Lacan, Jacques (1994) The Mirror-phase as Formative of the Function of the I. In: *Mapping Ideology*. Ed. Slavoj Žižek. London: Verso, 93-99. (6 pages).

SEMINAR ELEVEN

Reading It In, or the Potential of Recognition (27 November)

Borrows, John (2002) Chapter One, Two, Three, Four, and Five. In: *Recovering Canada: The Resurgence Of Indigenous Law.* Toronto: University of Toronto, 3-137. (134 pages).

<u>Additional Readings:</u>

Bhandar, Brenna (2007) "Re-Covering The Limits Of Recognition: The Politics Of Difference And Decolonisation in John Borrows' 'Recovering Canada: The Resurgence Of Indigenous Law'". *Australian Feminist Law Journal*, 27, 125-151. (26 pages).

Coulthard, Glen (2007) "Subjects of Empire: Indigenous Peoples and the 'Politics of Recognition' in Canada". *Contemporary Political Theory*, 6(4), 437-460. (23 pages).

Cornell, Drucilla and Nyoko Muvangua (Eds.) (2011) *uBuntu and the Law: African Ideals and Postapartheid Jurisprudence*. New York: Fordham University Press.

Hsueh, Vicki (2010) *Hybrid Constitutions: Challenging Legacies of Law, Privilege, and Culture in Colonial America*. Durham: Duke University Press.

Rifkin, Mark (2012) *The Erotics of Sovereignty: Queer Native Writing in the Era of Self-Determination.* Minneapolis: University of Minnesota.

SEMINAR TWELVE

The (Disciplinary) Power of Rights (4 December)

Spade, Dean (2011) Introduction, Chapter One, Two, and Five. In: *Normal Life: Administrative Violence, Critical Trans Politics, and the Limits of Law.* Brookyln: South End Press, 19-100 and 171-204. (114 pages).

Additional Readings:

Arendt, Hannah (2004) The Origins of Totalitarianism. New York: Schocken Books.

Brown, Wendy (2002) "Suffering the Paradoxes of Rights". In: Left Legalism/Left Critique. Durham: DUP, 420-434. (14 pages).

Turner, Dale (2011) "Chapter One: White Paper Liberalism and the Problem of Aboriginal Participation". In: *This is Not a Peace Pipe: Towards a Critical Indigenous Philosophy*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 12-37. (25 pages).

FINAL PAPERS DUE: MONDAY 9 DECEMBER

No Extensions