

The Game of Law: Rules, Fools, and Cheats

The 12th Annual Carleton University Graduate Legal Studies Graduate Conference
Thursday, March 23, 2017, Carleton University
Unceded and Unsurrendered Algonquin Territory

Call for Papers

Canada's adversarial legal system features two parties in contest with one another. One way of viewing this system is as a game bound by a series of rules. These rules regulate not only individual players such as the Judge or the Crown, but society more broadly. As with all games, there are those who follow the rules and those who break them. We would like to take this opportunity to invite interdisciplinary proposals to analyze and discuss the many auspices of law and its game-like nature. How can the metaphor of a game aid us in thinking outside the box on legal, political, and social problems? How does understanding individuals as pieces in a larger game impact our understanding of governing subjects, their subjective experiences, and the affects of the law more broadly? What parallels can be drawn between seeing law as a game and aspects of criminalization and justice?

To facilitate this interdisciplinary exchange we encourage participants from a wide variety of disciplinary backgrounds to play a round with us by presenting on the similarities between games and law and the players involved in them. Paper topics may include, but are not limited to:

- Games as allegory (*Monopoly, Clue, Papers Please, Her Story, etc.*)
- Socio-legal analysis of video, board, or any other medium of games
- Making and breaking rules
- Playing with representations of crime, criminals, and justice
- Advocacy, solidarity, playmates, and queer theory
- Unboxing international law
- Policing and the enforcement of rules
- Games of governance and regulation
- Ludonarrative dissonance and affect in games of law

Submission Guidelines

Please include a paper title, an abstract with a maximum of 250 words, and up to five keywords that best describe your proposed presentation. Be sure to also include your full name, institutional affiliation, email address, and a brief background of yourself. Presentations will be allocated 15 minutes with a brief question period at the end of each panel. Please email your abstract in doc/docx format to either megan.longergan@carleton.ca or garrett.lecoq@carleton.ca with [The Game of Law] in the subject line **on or before February 20th 2017**. Organizers will indicate whether your paper has been accepted within a couple of weeks after the deadline.



Department of
Law and Legal Studies
CARLETON UNIVERSITY



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