

Course Outline

COURSE: LAWS 5000 G – Theories of Law and Social Transformation

TERM: Fall 2008/09

CLASS: Day & Time: Wednesday – 2:35-5:25 pm
Room: B454 LA (Loeb)

INSTRUCTOR: Professor Alan Hunt

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COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The course will focus on the connection between law and social change. It will approach this broad issue by considering the implications of a selected range of theories. They will be examined for what they contribute to an understanding of the social, economic and political place of law in modern society.

COURSE ORGANIZATION:

This is a 3 hour class. Each class will start with a lecture-style presentation followed by discussion. During the first half of the course the second part of each session will be devoted to discussion of assigned texts. In the second half of the course each participant will give a seminar presentation on the topic of their Term Paper.

COURSE EVALUATION:

Evaluation will be based primarily on one Term Paper; 80% will be allocated to the final paper submitted; 20% will be allocated for seminar participation and written course assignments preparatory for the term paper.

Term paper: The paper should normally be between 6,000 - 10,000 words. You will be given a number of assignments to assist in planning your paper. Papers should be word-processed and printed, with title page, paginated and with footnotes at the bottom of the page, and list of works cited at the end. The Harvard or 'in-text' style of citation is recommended. Papers should be handed to me personally or deposited in the Departmental Drop-Off Box. Papers should be submitted by **Monday 8th December 2008**. (You are advised to keep a copy of your paper). Please note that I reserve the right to conduct an oral examination on papers submitted if there is a suspicion of plagiarism (see 'Graduate Calendar' for details).

COURSE TEXTS:

There is no course textbook aside from the course readings. However, you may find that my *Explorations in Law and Society: Toward a Constitutive Theory of Law* Routledge: New York, 1993 provides an overview of the course themes. Roger Cotterrell *Introduction to the Sociology of Law* Butterworths: London, 1984 gives a sophisticated introduction which belies its character as a 'textbook'. The early reading of either of these is strongly recommended.

Alan Hunt
September 2008