COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE: LAWS 3908 B - Legal Studies Methods and Theory II
TERM: Winter 2009-10
PREREQUISITES: LAWS 2908 & 3rd year honours standing
CLASS: Day & Time: Tuesday, 2:35 pm - 5:25 pm
        Room: Please check with Carleton Central for current room location
INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Clinton Timothy Curle
CONTACT: Office: Loeb D582
         Office Hrs: Tuesday, 12:30-2:30 and by appointment
         Telephone: 613-520-2600 x3746
         Email: clint_curle@carleton.ca

"Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must contact a coordinator at the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities to complete the necessary Letters of Accommodation. After registering with the PMC, make an appointment to meet and discuss your needs with me in order to make the necessary arrangements as early in the term as possible, but no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first test requiring accommodations. For further information, please see: http://www.carleton.ca/pmc/students/accom_policy.html. If you require accommodation for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodation to PMC by March 12, 2010 for April examinations.

For Religious and Pregnancy accommodations, please contact Equity Services, x. 5622 or their website: www.carleton.ca/equity

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Building on the practical research skills students acquired in LAWS 2908, this course will focus on the following themes:
* the role of theory in informing critical analysis,
* interdisciplinary approaches to research,
* relating theory to method, and
* research design.

We will go beyond the study of traditional sources of law (cases & statutes) and consider what is involved in a more comprehensive and intersectional engagement with a legal topic. The study of genocide as a feature of contemporary international humanitarian law will provide the leitmotif for this exploration. Why genocide? Since the invention of the term "genocide" as a crime against humanity in 1944, the ways we study genocide have overspilled the legal categories to incorporate perspectives informed by disciplines such as history, political science, sociology, psychology and theology. At the same time, the study of genocide has firmly retained its association with international humanitarian law. As such, it forms an excellent field in which to reflect on interdisciplinary research theory and method within the parameters of legal studies.

REQUIRED TEXTS


NOTE: The above book is available in the Carleton bookstore, or you can purchase a license to read the book online (not downloadable) at http://ebookstore.transactionpub.com/home/main.mpx

2. Regular weekly readings posted on Web-CT.
COURSE REQUIREMENTS & GRADING

** You must complete ALL components of the course to receive a passing grade. **

1. Participation 10%
   Students are expected to both attend class and also to participate in an enthusiastic and informed manner in our class and small group discussions. The assigned readings should be thoughtfully read prior to each class. The participation grade is based on attendance (5%, taken at the beginning of each class) and quantity and quality of discussion contributions (5%).

2. Class Quizzes 10%
   To encourage class attendance and careful reading of texts, I will be administering several “pop quizzes” over the course of the term. These quizzes will cover the readings for the day in question, be mostly multiple-choice, and will be administered at the beginning of our class time.

3. Short Papers (25% x 2) 50%
   Students will submit two 5-page analytical papers on research theory and method. Each paper will be based on the recommended readings from a week of the student’s choice, and will take up an autobiographical essay from *Pioneers of Genocide Studies* and the accompanying essay by the same author. In each analytic paper you will bring the author’s essay into conversation with their autobiographical reflections on their own scholarly perspective. Your analysis will include but go beyond mere summaries or personal reactions. Your focus in these short papers will be on the ways that personal experiences, questions, theories, and methods interact in the research process. Each response paper is worth 25% of the final grade. A rubric for these short papers will be distributed in class. **Your first short paper must be submitted on or before Feb. 9, 2010. Your second short paper must be submitted on or before March 23, 2010.**

4. Final Take-home Examination (30%)
   You will be given a take-home open book final examination at the end of the semester. This exam will consist of essay-style questions based on the course readings and lectures. Your answers should be approximately 10 pages in total (typed, double-spaced, 12-point font). **The take-home exam will be handed out on the last day of class, and is due by 4 pm on Monday, April 12, to be submitted to the Law department drop box.**

LATE POLICY
Late assignments will be penalized 4% per day that they are late. Late assignments are to be submitted to the Law Department’s drop box (Loeb C473) unless otherwise noted. Email is **not** considered an acceptable means of assignment submission without express permission.

PLAGIARISM AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONAL OFFENCES:
The University’s policy concerning plagiarism and other instructional offences is outlined in the Undergraduate Calendar. In particular, students should note that a student commits an instructional offence is he or she “submits substantially the same piece of work to two or more courses without the prior written permission of the instructors from all courses involved. Minor modifications and amendments, such as changes of phraseology in an essay or paper, do not constitute a significant and acceptable reworking of an assignment.” Students should also note that it is an instructional offense to commit plagiarism, which is using the words or thoughts of another person without expressly acknowledging it.

CLASS SCHEDULE

1. Jan 5  COURSE INTRODUCTION

2. Jan 12  REVIEW OF LAWS 2908
   Required Reading
3. Jan 19  INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH, INTERSECTIONALITY & GENOCIDE

Required Reading

4. Jan 26  GENOCIDE AND LEGAL INQUIRY

Required Reading


Recommended Reading

5. Feb 2  GENOCIDE AND QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH

Required Reading
- Michael Mann, "Were the Perpetrators of Genocide 'Ordinary Men' or 'Real Nazis'? Results from Fifteen Hundred Biographies" (2000) 14(3) Holocaust and Genocide Studies 331.

Recommended Reading
- Irving Horowitz, "Gauging Genocide: Social Science Dimensions and Dilemmas," Pioneers ch. 15.

6. Feb 9  GENOCIDE AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

Required Reading

Recommended Reading
- R. J. Rummel, "From the Study of War and Revolution to Democide: Power Kills," Pioneers ch. 10.

* Feb 16 * READING WEEK *

7. Feb 23  GENOCIDE AND HISTORY

Required Reading

Recommended Reading
8. Mar 2  GENOCIDE AND RACE
   Required Reading

   Recommended Reading

9. Mar 9  GENOCIDE AND GENDER
   Required Reading
   - Doris Buss, "Rethinking ‘Rape as a Weapon of War” (2009) 17(2) Feminist Legal Studies 145.

   Recommended Reading

10. Mar 16  GENOCIDE AND PSYCHOLOGY
    Required Reading
    - Israel Charny, "A Passion for Life and Rage at the Wasting of Life," Pioneers ch. 21.
    - Israel W. Charny, "Genocide and Mass Destruction: Doing Harm to Others as a Missing Dimension in Psychopathology" (1986) 49(2) Psychiatry 144.

    Recommended Reading

11. Mar 23  GENOCIDE AND THEOLOGY
    Required Reading

    Recommended Reading
    - Steven Leonard Jacobs, "From Holocaust to Genocide: the Journey Continues,” Pioneers ch. 23.

12. Mar 30  COURSE REVIEW