

Carleton University

Department of Law and Legal Studies

Course Outline

COURSE	LAWS 5663F/6003F — Human Rights, Citizenship, and Global Justice
TERM	Fall 2018
PREREQUISITES	None
LECTURE	Day & Time: Thursday, 2:35 to 5:25 Room: Please check Carleton Central for current room location
INSTRUCTOR	Professor Umut Özsu
CONTACT	Office: Loeb Building D498 Office Hours: Friday, 10:00 to 2:00 Telephone: 613-520-2600 ext. 3682 Email: Umut.Ozsu@carleton.ca

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

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

Pregnancy Obligation: Please contact 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: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

Religious Obligation: Please 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: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre (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 as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please visit the PMC website for their deadline to request accommodations for the formally scheduled exam (if applicable): www.carleton.ca/pmc

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one's own. Plagiarism includes reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else's published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one's own without proper citation or reference to the original source. Examples of sources from which the ideas, expressions of ideas or works of others may be drawn from include but are not limited to: books, articles, papers, literary compositions and phrases, performance compositions, chemical compounds, art works, laboratory reports, research results, calculations and the results of calculations, diagrams, constructions, computer reports, computer code/software, and material on the Internet. Plagiarism is a serious offence.

Survivors of Sexual Violence: As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support

Accommodation for Student Activities: Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor 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: <http://carleton.c/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit: <https://students.carleton.ca/course-outline/>

Department Policy: The Department of Law and Legal Studies operates in association with certain policies and procedures. Please review these documents to ensure that your practices meet our Department's expectations. For more details, visit: <http://carleton.ca/law/current-students/>

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This seminar is organized around the close reading and collaborative analysis of a select group of “canonical” texts in the radical tradition. Each text raises foundational questions about human rights and citizenship, and each offers ambitious answers to these questions. What are human (or natural) rights? From which sources do their advocates purport to derive their normative force and conceptual content? How did the class of entitlement claims to which we now ascribe the status of “human rights” come to arise? How have the various hierarchies and taxonomies that have been developed in order to organize the field of human rights prioritized some racial and gender-related claims at the expense of others? Perhaps most importantly, what are the political and economic underpinnings and consequences of actually existing human rights projects? Similarly, how ought we to understand citizenship? What are the structural relations between modern modes of formal citizenship and earlier forms of subjecthood? How should we evaluate the rights and duties that accompany individual citizenship in light of broader claims to collective emancipation, such as those that inspire self-determination, working class, and national liberation struggles? And when all is said and done, what concrete distributions of power and wealth do modern regimes of legal citizenship presuppose and generate? These are among the many questions with which we will grapple in this seminar.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Karl Marx, “On the Jewish Question” [1843] in Karl Marx, *Early Writings* (London: Penguin, 1992) 211.

Karl Marx, “The Eighteenth Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte” [1852] in Karl Marx, *Later Political Writings*, ed. Terrell Carver (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1996) 31.

Rosa Luxemburg, “The National Question and Autonomy” [1908–9] in Rosa Luxemburg, *The National Question: Selected Writings*, ed. Horace B. Davis (New York: Monthly Review, 1976) 101.

Cedric J. Robinson, *Black Marxism: The Making of the Black Radical Tradition* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2000 [1983]).

Angela Davis, *Women, Race, & Class* (New York: Random House, 1983 [1981]).

Samuel Moyn, *Not Enough: Human Rights in an Unequal World* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2018).

Please note that multiple copies of each book are available for purchase at Octopus Books (116 Third Avenue, Ottawa). However, if you would prefer not to purchase them and are willing to work with PDF documents or online versions, please note that some of them are available online. See, for example, the following links:

<https://libcom.org/library/karl-marx-early-writings>

<https://libcom.org/library/late-political-writings-karl-marx-cambridge-university-press-translations>

<https://www.marxists.org/archive/luxemburg/1909/national-question/>

<https://libcom.org/library/black-marxism-making-black-radical-tradition-cedric-j-robinson>

<https://archive.org/details/WomenRaceClassAngelaDavis>

EVALUATION

There are four formal evaluation components to this course:

Research paper: 40% (due by midnight on Thursday, 6 December 2018)

Presentation: 25%

Class participation: 25%

Outline of research paper: 10% (due by midnight on Thursday, 8 November 2018)

These evaluation components operate as follows:

1. Research paper

You are required to prepare a research paper. The paper must be no less than 4000 words in total (excluding notes). It must have a clear thesis, be driven by a structured argument, and provide a sustained analysis of at least one of the books, issues, debates, or questions that we have examined in the course. While you must engage with at least some of the literature that we have studied, you will, of course, be expected to conduct independent research. For detailed guidelines, including information on stylistic and structural matters, please consult the “Advice on Writing Assignments” document with which you have been provided alongside this syllabus. (This document is also available on cuLearn.)

The paper is due by midnight on Thursday, 6 December 2018. It must be submitted electronically via cuLearn in advance of this deadline. Please do not submit a hard copy to the Department of Law and Legal Studies’ general office.

Do not submit the research paper late. A grade reduction of 10% will apply for every 24 hours that the paper is late. (This includes weekends.) Extensions will be accorded only under extreme circumstances, such as severe illness or death of a family member. Whenever applicable, appropriate documentation must accompany requests for extensions. Computer failure, conflicts with work schedule, or similar problems are not a valid excuse for failing to submit your paper on time.

2. Presentation

You are required to deliver a fifteen- to twenty-minute-long presentation. Your presentation must relate to one of the pieces of assigned literature that we will be reading and discussing. (You will choose the piece of assigned literature on which you will be presenting during our first or second session.) You will be expected not simply to outline the text's central argument and theoretical orientation but to discuss its various strengths and weaknesses and pose questions for general class discussion.

3. Class participation

Class participation will be assessed on the basis of your consistent attendance in class, your demonstrated familiarity with the assigned readings, and the frequency with which you engage in serious and sustained discussion.

This course requires a significant amount of reading—roughly one hundred pages per week. As a seminar, it also requires that you prepare for class and engage actively in discussion. If you are not prepared to complete the readings and participate in class discussion, you should not take the course.

4. Outline of research paper

You are required to prepare an outline of the research paper that you intend to submit in this course. There is no strict word count for the outline; it must be at least 1000 words (excluding notes and bibliography), but you may use as many words as you wish. I will provide extensive feedback on this outline in order to assist you with the research paper.

The outline is due by midnight on Thursday, 8 November 2018. It must be submitted electronically via cuLearn in advance of this deadline. Please do not submit a hard copy to the Department of Law and Legal Studies' general office.

SUPPLEMENTARY NOTE

Please note that there will be *no* “make-up” or “grade-booster” assignments under any circumstances. Deferrals are granted by the Registrar's Office.

Please also note that standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Department and of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Department and the Dean.

COMMUNICATION

The primary means of communication outside of class will be cuLearn. However, I am always happy to answer any questions you may have or to discuss your research and writing. If you

would like to talk to me in person, please stop by my office during office hours. If you would like to communicate via email, please note that I make every effort to respond to email queries within 48 hours.

SCHEDULE

Session I [6 September 2018]

Marx, “Jewish Question”

Session II [13 September 2018]

Marx, “Eighteenth Brumaire”

[No class will be held on 20 September 2018]

Session III [27 September 2018]

Luxemburg, “National Question”, chs. 1, 2, and 3

Session IV [4 October 2018]

Luxemburg, “National Question”, chs. 4 and 5

Session V [11 October 2018]

Robinson, *Black Marxism*, chs. 1, 2, and 3

Session VI [18 October 2018]

Robinson, *Black Marxism*, chs. 4, 5, 6, and 7

[Due to the fall break, no class will be held on 25 October 2018]

Session VII [1 November 2018]

Robinson, *Black Marxism*, chs. 8, 9, 10, and 11

Session VIII [8 November 2018]

Robinson, *Black Marxism*, ch. 12; Davis, *Women, Race, & Class*, chs. 1, 2, and 3

Session IX [15 November 2018]

Davis, *Women, Race, & Class*, chs. 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8

Session X [22 November 2018]

Davis, *Women, Race, & Class*, chs. 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13

Session XI [29 November 2018]

Moyn, *Not Enough*, introduction and chs. 1, 2, and 3

Session XII [6 December 2018]

Moyn, *Not Enough*, chs. 4, 5, 6, and 7