

Course Outline

COURSE:	LAWS 2105B – Social Justice & Human Rights
TERM:	Fall 2021
PREREQUISITES:	1.0 credit from LAWS 1001, LAWS 1002, PSCI 1100, PSCI 1200 or HUMR 1001 [1.0] or PAPM 1000 [1.0].
CLASS:	Day & Time: Tuesday, 11:35 – 2:35, in-person Room: Please check Carleton Central for current Class Schedule.
INSTRUCTOR:	Dr. Anita Grace
CONTACT:	Office: B442 Loeb Building Office Hrs: Online by appointment, via Big Blue Button Email: anita.grace@carleton.ca

CALENDAR COURSE DESCRIPTION

Theories and practices of law and social justice. Issues examined may include: civil democracy and repression; global governance and the rule of law; democratic movements and social power; human rights instruments, regimes and remedies; armed conflict; and humanitarian intervention.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course explores how people in different times and places have enacted the ideals of social justice and human rights, and asks what social justice and human rights mean in our current context. By using a variety of media (novels, non-fiction, podcasts, images, film, etc.) in addition to academic texts, this class will explore how individuals and groups have worked to influence debates and shape practices of human rights and social justice.

Classroom lectures and discussion will focus on specific instances and events that illustrate how people tried to define, and advance, human rights and social justice. Examples will include discussions of the American and French Revolutions, Western colonialism and the rise of Western humanitarianism, World War II and the Holocaust, the war on terror, Indian Residential Schools and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, as well as Black Lives Matter. Students will be expected to contribute to discussion about these movements, particularly

contemporary ones. Lectures will be primarily in-person, but guest speaker engagements and some class participation and discussion will be held online. This is done in order to allow student engagement while respecting COVID-19 protocols.

By the end of this course, you will be expected to be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the history of the discourse of human rights;
- Identify key mechanisms and institutions that have been implemented to define and protect human rights in Canada and abroad;
- Examine the claims and efforts of contemporary social movements in the context of human rights and social justice; and
- Convey an understanding of the intersecting factors impacting the interpretation of, and discussions about, human rights and social justice.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Hunt, Lynn. 2007. *Inventing Human Rights: A History*. (New York: W.W. Norton & Company). ISBN: 978-0-393-33199-8

Students can purchase the book at the Carleton store during opening hours, order a print copy from the bookstore's website (www.carletonshop.ca), or purchase the e-text.

Students will also be required to read one of the following four books, available through the Ottawa Public Library, MacOdrum Library, Octopus Books or other bookstores around town:

- *Writing my Wrongs*, Shaka Senghor
- *Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City*, Matthew Desmond
- *Five Little Indians*, Michelle Good
- *In Order to Live*, Yeonmi Park

Additional course material will be made available through Brightspace.

EVALUATION

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.

Reading Quizzes - weekly

10%

Reading is extremely important in this course and as such, students are expected to do all of the weekly required readings before each class. Quizzes on each week's reading will be posted between classes (so it will be posted by Tuesday evening, and will close the following Tuesday at 11 a.m.). Quizzes are timed (20 minutes). There are a total of 10 quizzes, 5 questions in each.

Quizzes will be mostly composed of multiple choice, true/false. Missed quizzes cannot be made up.

Mid-term examination - Oct 19

20%

Closed book format during the lecture hours of Week 6 (October 19). This exam covers the content of all lectures and mandatory readings from week 1 to 5. It includes true/false questions, multiple choice questions, and short-answers questions. It must be completed in 3 hours.

Book analysis and reflection proposal - Nov 4

10%

Students are required to select one of four books to read this term, and reflect on how the topic of the book relates to human rights and social justice issues. For this assignment, students will identify the book they are reading, the rights and issues they are addressing, and the sources they are using to write their paper. Feedback will be provided to help students build their proposal into their final paper.

Book analysis and reflection final paper – Dec 6

30%

Students will build on their proposals to develop a final paper that reflects on the book they have read and relevant human rights and social justice issues.

Final exam – Formally scheduled during the exam period

30%

Closed book format. This exam covers the content of all lectures and mandatory readings from the course, with emphasis on the second half of term. It includes true/false questions, multiple choice questions, and short-answers questions. It must be completed in 3 hours

LATE PENALTIES AND REQUESTS FOR EXTENSIONS

The granting of extensions is determined by the instructor who will confirm whether an extension is granted and the length of the extension. For requests for extensions lasting less than 7 days, please complete the form at the following link and submit it to the instructor prior to the assignment due date: <https://carleton.ca/registrar/wp-content/uploads/self-declaration.pdf>.

Extensions for longer than 7 days will normally not be granted. In those extraordinary cases where extensions lasting longer than 7 days are granted, the student will be required to provide additional information to justify the longer extension (up to a maximum of 14 days).

EMAIL POLICY

Students can contact the instructor by email at anita.grace@carleton.ca with personal questions and issues, such as requests for extensions. You can expect a response within 12-24

hours, not including weekends. All questions about upcoming assignments and exams, as well as course content, should be posted in the Brightspace discussion group and will be responded to there.

SCHEDULE

- Sep 14** **Introduction: Human Rights & Social Justice**
- Sep 21** **History of Human Rights, 1st Era**
 Hunt, Lynn. 2019. 'Introduction,' and 'Torrents of Emotion: Reading Novels and Imagining Equality.' In *Inventing Human Rights*, 15-34; 35-69.
 American *Declaration of Independence*, 1776
 French *Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen*, 1789
- Sep 28** **History of Human Rights, 2nd Era**
 Hunt, Lynn. 2019. 'Bone of their bone.' In *Inventing Human Rights*, 70-112.
 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948
- Oct 5** **Securing human rights**
 Hunt, Lynn. 2007. 'They have set a great example,' and 'There will be no end of it.' In *Inventing Human Rights*, 113-145; 146-175.
 Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, 1982
- Oct 12** **The future of human rights**
 Hunt, Lynn. 2007. 'The Soft Power of Humanity.' In *Inventing Human Rights*, 176-214.
 Schabas, William. 2016. 'Human Rights in 2066.' TEDx Zurich. (Link on Brightspace)
 Canadian Human Rights Act, 1985
- Oct 19** **Mid-term exam**
- Oct 25-29 Winter Break
- Nov 2** **Oppression & Social Justice – on-line class**
 Young, Iris Marion. 1990. 'Five Faces of Oppression,' In *Justice and the Politics of Difference*, 39-65.
 Guest speaker: Eric Friesen, Book Clubs for Inmates

- Nov 4 Book Analysis Proposal due
- Nov 9 Colonialism – Economic, Social and Cultural Rights**
Indigenous learning bundle: Indigenous Legal Traditions and Human Rights
- Nov 16 Socio-economic inequality – Economic, Social and Cultural Rights**
United Nations Human Rights Council. 2018. Report of the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context. UNHRC/37/53
Dalwood, Charlotte. 2021. 'Why Canada needs universal public housing,' CBC July 15, 2021. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/road-ahead-why-canada-needs-universal-public-housing-1.6102492>
- Nov 23 Race and discrimination – Civil and Political Rights**
Omi, Michael and Howard Winant. 2011. 'Racial Formations.' In *The Social Construction of Difference & Inequality*, edited by Tracy Ore, 19-28. New York: McGraw-Hill.
Video: *Stay Woke: The Black Lives Matter Documentary* (40 minutes; Link on Brightspace)
- Nov 30 Gender and discrimination – Civil and Political Rights**
Connell, Raewyn and Rebecca Pearse. 2015. 'Gender relations and gender politics,' and 'Economies, states and global gender relations.' In *Gender: In World Perspective*, 3rd edition, 72-92; 130-150. Cambridge: Polity Press.
- Dec 6 Book Analysis and Reflection paper due
- Dec 7 Review – Social Justice and Human Right in Practice**
Gray, Charlotte. 2016. 'Establishing Our Rights: Bertha Wilson Champions the Charter.' In *The Promise of Canada*, 203-233. Toronto: Simon & Schuster.

Fall Term 2021 Sessional Dates and University Closures	
<i>Please find a full list of important academic dates on the calendar website: https://calendar.carleton.ca/academicyear/</i>	
September 6, 2021	Statutory holiday. University closed.
September 8, 2021	Fall term begins. Fall and fall/winter classes begin.
October 11, 2021	Statutory holiday. University closed.
October 25-29, 2021	Fall break, no classes.
November 26, 2021	Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade before the official examination period (see examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar).
December 10, 2021	Fall term ends. Last day of fall term classes. Classes follow a Monday schedule.
December 11-23, 2021	Formally Scheduled Final Exams may be held.
December 23, 2021	All take home examinations are due on this day, with the exception of those conforming to the examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar.
December 25, 2021 through January 1, 2022 inclusive	University closed.

COVID-19 PREVENTION MEASURES

All members of the Carleton community are required to follow COVID-19 prevention measures and all mandatory public health requirements (e.g. wearing a mask, physical distancing, hand hygiene, respiratory and cough etiquette) and [mandatory self-screening](#) prior to coming to campus daily.

If you feel ill or exhibit COVID-19 symptoms while on campus or in class, please leave campus immediately, self-isolate, and complete the mandatory [symptom reporting tool](#). For purposes of contact tracing, attendance will be taken in all classes and labs. Participants can check in using posted QR codes through the cuScreen platform where provided. Students who do not

have a smartphone will be required to complete a paper process as indicated on the [COVID-19 website](#).

All members of the Carleton community are required to follow guidelines regarding safe movement and seating on campus (e.g. directional arrows, designated entrances and exits, designated seats that maintain physical distancing). In order to avoid congestion, allow all previous occupants to fully vacate a classroom before entering. No food or drinks are permitted in any classrooms or labs.

For the most recent information about Carleton's COVID-19 response and required measures, please see the [University's COVID-19 webpage](#) and review the [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#). Should you have additional questions after reviewing, please contact covidinfo@carleton.ca

Please note that failure to comply with University policies and mandatory public health requirements, and endangering the safety of others are considered misconduct under the [Student Rights and Responsibilities Policy](#). Failure to comply with Carleton's COVID-19 procedures may lead to supplementary action involving Campus Safety and/or Student Affairs.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows: <https://students.carleton.ca/course-outline/>.

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 Department of Equity and Inclusive Communities (EIC): <https://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 Department of Equity and Inclusive Communities (EIC): <https://carleton.ca/equity/>.

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 consult the PMC Website for their deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable):

<https://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. More information on the University's Academic Integrity Policy can be found at:

<https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>.

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: <https://carleton.ca/studentssupport/svpolicy/>.

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. Read more here:

<https://carleton.ca/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/services/accommodation/>.

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: <https://carleton.ca/law/student-experience-resources/>.