

Course Outline

COURSE:	LAWS 2105D – Social Justice and Human Rights
TERM:	WINTER 2020
PREREQUISITES:	LAWS 1000 (no longer offered) 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: Thursdays, 6:05 – 8:55 pm Room: Please check with Carleton Central for current room location
INSTRUCTOR: (CONTRACT)	Anita Grace
CONTACT:	Office: B442 Loeb Building Office Hrs: Tuesdays 12:30 – 2:00 am or by appointment Telephone: 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 ask what social justice and human rights mean in our current context of the rise of populism and the far right. How do we talk about social justice in a polarized socio-political 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, the refugee crisis, as well as Black Lives Matter, Idle No More, and #MeToo. Students will be expected to contribute to discussion about these movements, particularly contemporary ones.

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

- Demonstrate an understanding of the history of the ideal 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

Young, Iris Marion. 1990. *Justice and the Politics of Difference* (Princeton: Princeton University Press)
ISBN/ISSN/Product Number: 978-0-691-02315-8

Available for purchase at the Campus Bookstore

SUPPLEMENTARY TEXTS

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

Required readings not available online (such as ebooks through MacOdrum) will be available in cuLearn.

Students will also be required to read one of the following five books, available through the Ottawa Public Library, MacOdrum Library or in various bookstores around town:

- *Writing my Wrongs*, Shaka Senghor
- *Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City*, Matthew Desmond
- *Indian Horse*, Richard Wagamese
- *In Order to Live*, Yeonmi Park

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

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 on Mondays at noon and will close on Fridays at noon. There will be a timed quiz each week, excluding the first class for a total of 11 quizzes. However, students only have to complete 10 quizzes to receive full marks (10 quizzes, worth 1 point each = 10%). Quizzes will be composed of multiple choice, true/false or short answer questions and you must get at least 50% correct in order to get full credit. Missed quizzes cannot be made up.

Mid-term examination - Feb 13

30%

Close book format during the lecture hours of Week 6. This examination covers the content of all lectures and mandatory readings from week 1 to 5. It includes true/false questions, multiple choice questions, and short-answer questions. Must be completed in 3 hours.

Book analysis and reflection proposal - Mar 4

20%

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 right 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 - Apr 2

40%

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.

SCHEDULE

- Jan 9** **Introduction: Human Rights & Social Justice**
- Jan 16** **Human Rights, Empathy & the American and French Revolutions**
Hunt, Lynn. 2007. *Inventing Human Rights*, pp. 15-69
- Jan 23** **International & Contemporary Human Rights**
Hirsh, David. 2003. *Law Against Genocide: Cosmopolitan Trials*, pp. 23-56.
Fields, A. Belden. 2003. *Rethinking Human Rights for the New Millennium*, pp. 35-72.
- Jan 30** **The right to have rights**
Arendt, Hannah. 1966. "The Decline of the Nation-State and the End of the Rights of Man," in *The Origins of Totalitarianism*, pp. 267-302
Lipschutz, Ronnie. 2004. *People Out of Place: Globalization, Human Rights, and the Citizenship Gap*, pp 29-52.
- Feb 6** **Protecting human rights**
Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, 1982
Canadian Human Rights Act, 1985
Hunt, Lynn. 2007. *Inventing Human Rights*, pp. 176-214.
- Feb 13** **Mid-term exam**
- Feb 17 – 21 Winter Break
- Feb 27** **Oppression & Social Justice**
Young, Iris Marion. 1990 *Justice and the Politics of Difference*. pp. 15-65.
- Mar 4 Book Analysis due
- Mar 5** **Colonialism & Idle No More**
Newhouse & Belanger. 2016. 'The 'Canada Problem' in Aboriginal Politics' in *Visions of the Heart*, edited by David Long and Olive Patricia Dickason, pp. 51-79.
The Final Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, Vol 5, 3-10; 185-192
[Podcast](#): The Henceforward Episode 6: Movement Building Beyond the Moment: On Getting Free Together
- Mar 12** **War on Terror & the Refugee Crisis**
Pratt, Anna, 2006. *Securing Borders: Detention and Deportation in Canada*, pp. 109-160.
- Mar 19** **Politics of Identity and of Difference, Black Lives Matter**
Young, Iris Marion. 1990 *Justice and the Politics of Difference*. pp. 122-191.
[Documentary](#): "A Human Rights Crisis": In Unprecedented Move, Amnesty International Sends Monitors to Ferguson
- Mar 26** **Gender violence, #MeToo**
Young, Iris Marion. 1990 *Justice and the Politics of Difference*. pp. 192-225
Merry, Sally Engle. 2006. *Human Rights and Gender Violence: Translating International Law into Local Justice*. pp.179-218.
- Apr 2 Final paper due
- Apr 2** **How to talk about social justice?**

Young, Iris Marion. 1990 *Justice and the Politics of Difference*. pp. 226-256.

Apr 7

Winter term ends

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

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:

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) 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. *More information on the University's Academic Integrity Policy can be found at:* <http://carleton.ca/studentaffairs/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: 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. <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.

<http://carleton.ca/law/current-students/>