

COURSE OUTLINE

LWSO 415 – L02 (WINTER 2016)

SOCIO-LEGAL ISSUES IN CONTEMPORARY LIBERAL SOCIETIES

MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS – 9:00 – 9:50AM

CLASS LOCATION: MS 211

INSTRUCTOR: EMMANUEL KOFI OWUSU

OFFICE LOCATION: SS 942

OFFICE HOURS: WEDNESDAYS 10 – 12 PM, BY APPOINTMENT

EMAIL: ekowusu@ucalgary.ca

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course continues where LWSO 413 left off starting off with recent works in the liberal tradition. We then examine these theories and those discussed in LWSO 413 in critical narrative scholarship. The authors of these scholarly books analyze and critique various liberal values existing currently in liberal democracies.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the end of this course,

1. Students will gain an understanding of theoretical liberalism, its benefits and limitations
2. Students will enhance their critical reasoning and analytical skills by critiquing liberal theories.
3. Students will be able to apply liberal theories and formulate creative, thoughtful and well-structured arguments about liberalism in modern democracies.

TEXTBOOKS AND READINGS

Required;

1. Kenji Yoshino. *Covering: The Hidden Assault on our Civil Rights*
Published in the United States by Random House Trade Paperbacks, 2006
2. Jude Fong Bates. *The Year of Finding Memory*
Published in Canada by Vintage Canada, 2011
3. Martha Nussbaum. *Frontiers of Justice: Disability, Nationality and Species Membership*
Published by the Belknap Press of Harvard University Press

4. Sue Donaldson and Will Kymlicka. *Zoopolis: A Political Theory of Animal Rights*
Published by Oxford University Press, 2011.
5. Chloe Atkins. *My Imaginary Illness*
Published by ILR Press/Cornell University Press, 2011
6. Roz Chast. *Can't We Talk about Something More Pleasant?*
Published by Bloomsbury USA, 2014
7. Sandra Steingraber. *Raising Elijah*
Published by Da Capo Press, a member of the Perseus Book Group, 2011

Additional articles from journals and other sources will be added.

EVALUATION

(1) PARTICIPATION (ATTENDANCE & CONVERSATIONAL INSIGHT) – 10 %

With regard to class participation, attendance is obviously key to obtaining a portion of this mark. However, mere attendance is NOT enough. Students need to demonstrate a familiarity with the reading materials IN CLASS and be able to engage in thoughtful discussions. (Mere verbosity is also not satisfactory if a student's conversation lacks coherent thought or relevant commentary.) As such, the class participation grade is thus a combination of attendance (which will be taken each class) and cogent participation.

(2) STUDENT LED CLASSES - 30%

Students will be put in groups and on scheduled days will lead class discussions on critical narrative scholarship. These discussions must employ the use of theories discussed in LWSO 413 and the LWSO 415. Marks will be awarded based on (i) organization of the discussion (ii) A clear understanding of the narrative scholarship (iii) the use of various works discussed in both LWSO 413 and 415

(4) MID-TERM – 30% - MARCH 18TH, 2016

(5) FINAL PAPER– 30% - APRIL 13TH, 2016 by 5PM

Students must submit a paper at the end of the semester. The paper should be typed in Times New Roman with font 12 and double-spaced. The paper should not exceed 1500 words. The paper is due on **APRIL 13TH, 2016 BY 5PM** through a drop box submission on D2L. An outline for the paper must be **DISCUSSED WITH THE COURSE INSTRUCTOR** by **MARCH 11TH**.

NB: It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment. **ALL ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE COMPLETED IN ORDER TO RECEIVE A PASSING FINAL GRADE.**

GRADING SCALE

A+	96-100
A	90-95.99
A-	85-89.99
B+	80-84.99
B	75-79.99
B-	70-74.99
C+	65-69.99
C	60-64.99
C-	55-59.99
D+	53-54.99
D	50-52.99
F	0 - 49

POLICY FOR LATE ASSIGNMENTS

For example: Assignments submitted after the deadline may be penalized with the loss of a grade (e.g.: A- to B+) for each day late.

DEFERRALS

When possible, please provide advance notice if you are unable to write an exam or complete/turn-in assignments on time. All requests for deferral of a course component due to health reasons must be accompanied by written documentation as outlined in the University Calendar and should be obtained while the student has the health issue rather than after recovery. Deferrals will be allowed in the following circumstances: illness, domestic affliction or religious conviction. Travel arrangements, misreading the syllabus, and scheduling conflicts with other classes or employment are not valid reasons for requesting a deferral. Deferrals will not be granted if it is determined that just cause is not shown by the student.

If you have missed a test for a legitimate reason, the instructor can require you to write a “make up” test as close in time to the original test as possible or can choose to transfer the percentage weight to another course component. If the instructor schedules a “make up” test for you, its date and location will be at the convenience of the Department of Sociology.

DEFERRED FINAL EXAM FORM: Please note that requests to defer a Registrar scheduled final exam are dealt with through the Registrar's Office. Further information about deadlines, and where paperwork should be taken, is available on the form, which can be found at: http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/Sp_Su_DFE_App.pdf

DEFERRED TERM WORK FORM: Deferral of term work past the end of a term also requires a form to be filled out. It's available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/defTW.pdf>

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP). As one consequence, students should identify themselves on all written work by using their ID number. Also you will be required to provide a piece of picture identification in order to pick up an assignment or look at a final exam.

For more information see also <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip>

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

For information on academic misconduct and the consequences thereof please see the current University of Calgary Calendar at the following link: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

PLAGIARISM

Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possibly suspension or expulsion from the university. You must document not only direct quotations but also paraphrases and ideas where they appear in your text. A reference list at the end is insufficient by itself. Readers must be able to tell exactly where your words and ideas end and other people's words and ideas begin. Please consult your instructor if you have any questions regarding how to document sources.

INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICE INFORMATION

Students may use laptops and tablets in class to take notes in class and, to search the internet **when asked to do so by the instructor**. In general, Phones, Smartphones and Music devices **MUST** be turned off or placed "on silent."

When used in a manner that is directly related to student learning, electronic devices are generally acceptable subject to the following conditions:

1. its use does not distract the student and/or those students seated nearby,
2. any student who uses an electronic device may be asked to leave the class immediately if his or her conduct with the device becomes unacceptable or distracting and;
3. ALL electronic devices will NOT be permitted during in class tests.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION POLICY

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf

EMERGENCY EVACUATION AND ASSEMBLY POINTS

Please note the evacuation points for this particular classroom. All classrooms on campus exit to specific places in case of emergency. The emergency assembly points differ depending upon where your classroom is located. For information on the emergency evacuation procedures and the assembly points see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

"SAFEWALK" PROGRAM

Campus Security will escort individuals day or night -- call 403-220-5333 for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot booths.

STUDENT REPRESENTATION

There are now four Arts reps because of the amalgamation, with the email addresses being arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, and arts4@su.ucalgary.ca. Please contact if you have questions related to Students Union matters, events, or concerns. For help with any university related issue, please contact your student ombudsperson at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds/role>

FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Faculty of Arts Student's Centre is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS102, call 403-220-3580 or email ascarts@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.

- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them on the 3rd Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210- 7625 or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block visit their website <http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/contact>