

POLI 4P01/5P01 Philosophy of Law

Seminar: Tuesday 1-4pm

Professor: Dr. Laura Harris

Office hours: Monday 10-11

Course objectives: To gain a richer understanding of the theoretical underpinnings of law, justice and punishment.

Textbook:

Keith Culver eds. *Readings in the philosophy of law*, 3rd edition. (Broadview Press, 2017)
Available in bookstore

Additional readings will be available on SAKAI

Course components:

Seminar Participation:

35%

Essay Journal: (First half due February 13th in seminar, second half due April 3rd)

35%

Take-home exam: (To be handed out in class April 3rd, due 1 week later)

30%

Seminar participation: Students are expected to come to class prepared to discuss the weekly material in a thorough and thoughtful way. Contributions should be meaningful and contribute to the discussion.

Each week a student will be responsible for preparing a short 10-15 minute discussion of the week's readings to launch our larger seminar. This should consist of a short summary of the readings along with a critical reflection drawing upon the students own thoughts. The presentation will conclude with between 3-5 questions for discussion.

** Graduate students will receive 25% of their seminar grade for seminar participation and 10% for a short article review.

Essay Journal: This is a written assignment consisting of a weekly journal reflecting upon the seminar readings as well as our class discussion. Each journal entry should be approximately two pages double spaced. Each entry should begin with a brief summary of the key themes and questions in the readings along with a synopsis of our seminar discussion. The first half of the

journal is due Tuesday February 13th while the final project containing all journal entries is due on Tuesday April 3rd.

Late penalties:

Late penalties will not be applied on a per day basis in this course, rather any assignment handed in after its due date will not receive written feedback from the instructor. Any assignments handed in two weeks (or more) after the due date will receive a grade of zero.

Weekly Schedule:

Week 1: January 9th, Introduction

Week 2: January 16th, Natural Law Theory- Chapter 1

Week 3: January 23rd, Legal Positivism- Chapter 2

Week 4: January 30th, Integrity- Chapter 3

Week 5: February 6th, Legal Realism- Chapter 4

Week 6: February 13th, International Law- Chapter 9

Reading week February 20th

Week 7: February 27th, Law and liberty, Chapter 7

Week 8: March 6th, Constitutional law, Chapter 6

Week 9: March 13th, Critical jurisprudence: Sex and Race, Chapter 5

Week 10: March 20th, Crime and punishment, TBD

Week 11: March 27th, Law, responsibility, virtue, Chapter 8

Week 12: April 3rd, Journal due. Take home exam handed out

Academic Integrity:

Statement for undergraduate courses

Academic misconduct is a serious offence. The principle of academic integrity, particularly of doing one's own work, documenting properly (including use of quotation marks, appropriate paraphrasing and referencing/citation), collaborating appropriately, and avoiding misrepresentation, is a core principle in university study. Students should consult Section VII, "Academic Misconduct", in the "Academic Regulations and University Policies" entry in the Undergraduate Calendar, available at <http://brocku.ca/webcal> to view a fuller description of prohibited actions, and the procedures and penalties.

Plagiarism software:

If plagiarism software is used (Turnitin.com), a statement to that effect must be included on the outline including an option to opt out.

Sample statement regarding Turnitin.com

This course may use Turnitin.com, phrase-matching software. If you object to uploading your assignments to Turnitin.com for any reason, please notify the instructor to discuss alternative submissions.

Intellectual Property Notice:

All slides, presentations, handouts, tests, exams, and other course materials created by the instructor in this course are the intellectual property of the instructor. A student who publicly posts or sells an instructor's work, without the instructor's express consent, may be charged with misconduct under Brock's Academic Integrity Policy and/or Code of Conduct, and may also face adverse legal consequences for infringement of intellectual property rights.

Academic Accommodation:

As part of Brock University's commitment to a respectful work and learning environment, the University will make every reasonable effort to accommodate all members of the university community with disabilities. If you require academic accommodations related to a documented disability to participate in this course, you are encouraged to contact Services for Students with Disabilities in the Student Development Centre (4th floor Schmon Tower, ex. 3240). You are also encouraged to discuss any accommodations with the instructor well in advance of due dates and scheduled assessments.

Academic Accommodation due to Religious Obligations:

Brock University acknowledges the pluralistic nature of the undergraduate and graduate communities such that accommodations will be made for students who, by reason of religious obligation, must miss an examination, test, assignment deadline, laboratory or other compulsory academic event. Students requesting academic accommodation on the basis of religious obligation should make a formal, written request to their instructor(s) for alternative dates and/or means of satisfying requirements.

Medical Exemption Policy:

The University requires that a student be medically examined in Health Services, or by an off-campus physician prior to an absence due to medical reasons from an exam, lab, test, quiz, seminar, assignment, etc. The Medical Certificate can be found at: <http://www.brocku.ca/health-services/policies/exemption>

