

Brief Course Outline

Course Title: **Rule of Law**

Course Number and Section:

GGB

2300F 550

Instructor Name(s): Peter Sabo

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Disclaimer: Information in the brief course outline is subject to change. The syllabus posted on OWL is the official and authoritative source of information for the course.

Course Description:

Why is necessary or important to have a system of law? What are the origins of the very idea of “rule of law,” that all citizens are accountable to the same law? From where does any given system of law derive its authority? Are law systems a result of “natural law,” principles derived from nature and reason, or are they always human constructs based on a certain context? To what degree do law systems inevitably contain the biases of the powerful social groups that enforce and maintain them? In this course, we will read a selection of important and thought-provoking works that grapple with, and seek to answer, these questions.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will learn to read and think critically.
2. Students will gain the ability to analyze ideas and situations, make considered decisions and form coherent, reasoned and fact-based judgements.
3. Students will become familiar with a selection of influential literature on law and its related topics.
4. Students will learn to be clear and concise writers.
5. This course will prepare students for further courses in Global Great Books.

Textbooks and Course Materials:

Aeschylus, *The Oresteia*. Translated by Robert Fagles. Penguin Classics, 1984.

Franz Kafka, *The Trial*. Translated by Mike Mitchell. Oxford University Press, 2009.

Louise Erdrich, *The Round House*. Harper/HarperCollins, 2012.

Methods Of Evaluation:

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
Preparation and Participation		10

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
Quizzes and Homework		15
2 Writing Assignments		40
Class Presentation		15
Final Exam		20

In solidarity with the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton peoples on whose traditional treaty and unceded territories this course is shared.

Thursday, August 29, 2024