

## Brief Course Outline

**Course Title:** Law in Global Relations and Languages of Power

**Course Number and Section:**

CGS

3523G 550

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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:

This course is focused on a consideration of ways in which human beings establish their relations with one another in the world and with the world itself through law. In some very important ways, one might argue that human beings give to themselves a world or worlds through law, as a way of developing understanding and knowledge of themselves and others as partaking in a world or worlds with one another. Moreover, in any cultural or social tradition, law functions as an interpretive guide and fundamental language through which the unknown and difference in the world is brought into terms of understanding and knowledge. Law is something that we produce to make the world, as unlimited phenomena and encounters that go far beyond the experience of any one of us, thinkable and relatable. As a consequence, law is also formed as languages that speak to relations of power, between human beings, between humans and other beings, and between humans and the broader material world and its dynamics. Through law, we establish relations of power, as forms of respect but also as forms by which inequalities are created and formalised.

### Learning Outcomes:

Students in this course will learn how to recognise law as a feature of their studies in multiple programs of interdisciplinary inquiry. They will understand how law forms and is re-formed in social and material relations. They will gain understanding of their own functions and responsibilities as agents of law and law-making.

As a second set of learning objectives, this course provides students with strong conditions in which they may learn to closely read, interpret, and analyse scholarly writings. As well, it is the aim of this course to help students learn how to prepare and write thoughtful, substantial, effectively written, and critically-oriented essays, based on research and theoretical analysis.

### Textbooks and Course Materials:

books:

- John Borrows (Kegeponce), *Drawing Out Law: A Spirit's Guide* (University of Toronto Press, 2010).

- Andreas Philippopoulos-Mihalopoulos, ed., *Routledge Handbook of Law and Theory* (Routledge, 2019).

journal articles:

- Caskey Russell, "The Paradox of Sovereignty: Contingencies of Meaning in American Indian Treaty Discourse," *American Indian Culture and Research Journal* Vol. 32, No. 1 (2008), pp. 1-17
- Vito De Lucia, "Rethinking the Encounter Between Law and Nature in the Anthropocene: From Biopolitical Sovereignty to Wonder," *Law and Critique* Vol. 31 (2020), pp. 329-346
- Justine Poon, "How a Body becomes a Boat: The Asylum Seeker in Law and Images," *Law and Literature* Vol. 30, No. 1 (2017), pp. 105-119
- Jillian Kramer, "(Re)mapping Terra Nullius: Hindmarsh, Wik and Native Title Legislation in Australia," *International Journal of Semiotics in Law* Vol. 29 (2016), pp. 191-210
- Illan rua Wall, "The Ordinary Affects of Law," *Law, Culture and the Humanities* (2019), pp. 1-19
- Alida Cantor, Kelly Kay, and Chris Knudson, "Legal geographies and political ecologies of water allocation in Maui, Hawai'i," *Geoforum* Vol. 110 (2020), pp. 168-177
- João Vitor Cardoso and Millaray Rayen Pacheco-Pizarro, "Water rights, indigenous legal mobilization and the hybridization of legal pluralism in Southern Chile," *Legal Pluralism and Critical Social Analysis* Vol. 54, No. 1 (2022), pp. 117-139
- Liz Charpleix, "The Whanganui River as Te Awa Tupua: Place-based law in a legally pluralistic society," *The Geographical Journal* Vol. 184 (2018), pp. 19-28
- Salina Abji and Lindsay Larios, "Migrant justice as reproductive justice: birthright citizenship and the politics of immigration detention for pregnant women in Canada," *Citizenship Studies* Vol. 25, No. 2 (2021), pp. 253-266
- Amanda Heffernan, "Pregnancy in United States immigration detention: the gendered necropolitics of reproductive oppression," *International Feminist Journal of Politics* Vol. 25, No. 1 (2023), pp. 30-45
- Brittany R. Leach, "At the Borders of the Body Politic: Fetal Citizens, Pregnant Migrants, and Reproductive Injustices in Immigration Detention," *American Political Science Review* Vol. 116, No. 1 (2022), pp. 116-128
- Nina Sahraoui, "Midwives and Humanitarian Bureaucracy: Managing Migration at a Postcolonial Border," *International Political Sociology* Vol. 15 (2021), pp. 272-290
- E. Tendayi Achiume and Devon W. Carbado, "Critical Race Theory Meets Third World Approaches to International Law," *U.C.L.A. Law Review* No. 67 (2021), pp. 1462-1502
- Justin Desautels-Stein, "A Prolegomenon to the Study of Racial Ideology in the Era of International Human Rights," *U.C.L.A. Law Review* No. 67 (2021), pp. 1536-1578
- Christopher Gevers, "'Unwhitening the World': Rethinking Race and International Law," *U.C.L.A. Law Review* No. 67 (2021), pp. 1652-1685
- Darryl Li, "Genres of Universalism: Reading Race Into International Law, With Help from Sylvia Wynter," *U.C.L.A. Law Review* No. 67 (2021), pp. 1686-1719

- Madeleine Fagan, "On the dangers of an Anthropocene epoch: Geological time, political time and post-human politics," *Political Geography* Vol. 70 (2019), pp. 55-62
- Emily Jones, "Posthuman international law and the rights of nature," *Journal of Human Rights and the Environment* Vol. 12 (2021), pp. 76-101
- Tikli Loivaranta, "Post-human lawscapes of Indigenous forests in Central India," *The Geographical Journal* No. 186 (2020), pp. 288-297
- Blanche Verlie, "Climate justice in more-than-human worlds," *Environmental Politics* Vol. 31, No. 2 (2022), pp. 297-314

**Methods Of Evaluation:**

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
10 weekly short written assignments	weekly	30
participation	ongoing	15
Research Assignment, Part I	February 16	10
Research Assignment, Part II	March 22nd	15
Research Assignment, Part III	April tbd	30

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

Monday, December 11, 2023