

Course Schedule

Important: **ALL TIMES EASTERN** - Please see the [University Policies](#) section of your Course Outline for details

Week	Module	Content	Activities and Assessments	End/Due Date	Weight (%)
			Introduce Yourself		
Week 1	Module 0: Course Overview and Foundational Knowledge	0a. Constitution of Canada & the Charter of Rights and Freedoms 0b. Common Law Versus Civil Law 0c. Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission	Review Writing Tips		Ungraded
Week 2		1a. Classical Natural Law 1b. Contemporary Natural Law			
Week 3	Module 1: What is Law?	1c. Classical Legal Positivism 1d. Contemporary Legal Positivism	Quiz 1	Friday, June 2, 2023 at 11:55 PM	5%
			Check which group you are in	Friday, June 9, 2023 at	

for [Reflection 1](#)

Week 4	1e. Legal Realism		4:30 PM Friday, June 9, 2023 at 11:55 PM	20%
		Assignment 1: Theories of Law		
Week 5	2a. Justice, Fairness, Equality	Reflection 1	Friday, June 16, 2023 at 11:55 PM	
	Module 2: Why Law?			
Week 6	2b. Power, Violence, and Social Norms	Reflection 1	Friday, June 23, 2023 at 11:55 PM	20%
Week 7	3a. Marxist Jurisprudence	Quiz 2	Friday, June 30, 2023 at 11:55 PM	5%
Week 8	3b. Feminist Legal Theory and Intersectionality – Part 1	Quiz 3	Friday, July 7, 2023 at 11:55 PM	5%
	Module 3: Whose Law? Capitalism. Patriarchy. Colonialism			
	3c. Feminist Legal Theory and Intersectionality – Part 2			
Week 9	3d. Colonialism and Sovereignties of Law – Part 1			
	3e. Colonialism and Sovereignties of Law – Part 2	Quiz 4	Friday, July 14, 2023 at 11:55 PM	5%
	3f. Colonialism and Sovereignties			

of Law – Part 3

Week 10

4a. Spaces of Law

4b. Spatial Justice

Week 11

[Module 4: Where is Law?](#)

4c. Law's Environment

[Reflection 2](#)

Friday, July 28, 2023 at 11:55 PM 10%

Week 12

4d. The Study of Law: What? Why? Who? Where? Complete the Confidentiality Agreement and Statement of Academic Honesty Quiz to unlock the **Take Home Final Exam Dropbox**

Opens: Monday, July 31, 2023 at 8:00 AM Ungraded

Opens: Tuesday, August 8, 2023 at 1:00 PM

Week 13

[Take Home Final Examination](#)

30%

Due: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 at 12:55 PM

Contact Information

Announcements




You are expected to check **Announcements** on the **Course Home** page on a regular basis. To ensure you are viewing the complete list of announcements, you may need to click **Show All Announcements**.

Discussions

Discussion topics can be accessed by clicking **Connect** and then **Discussions** on the course navigation bar above. A [General Discussion](#) topic has also been made available to allow students to communicate with peers in the course. Your instructor may drop in at this discussion topic.

Contact Us

Who and Why	Contact Details
<p>Instructor and TA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course-related questions (e.g., course content, deadlines, assignments, etc.) • Questions of a personal nature 	<p>Post your course-related questions to the Ask the Instructor discussion topic. This allows other students to benefit from your question as well.</p> <p>Questions of a personal nature can be directed to your instructor or your TA.</p> <p>Instructor: Patrick Watson pwatson@uwaterloo.ca</p> <p>TA: TBD tbd@uwaterloo.ca</p> <p>Your instructor checks email and the Ask the Instructor discussion topic frequently and will make every effort to reply to your questions within 24–48 hours, Monday to Friday.</p>

<p>Technical Support, Centre for Extended Learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Technical problems with Waterloo LEARN	<p>learnhelp@uwaterloo.ca</p> <p>Include your full name, WatIAM user ID, student number, and course name and number.</p> <p>Technical support is available during regular business hours, Monday to Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM (Eastern Time).</p> <p>IST Knowledge Base: For Students</p>
<p>Learner Support Services, Centre for Extended Learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• General inquiries• Examination information	<p>Student Resources </p> <p>extendedlearning@uwaterloo.ca  </p> <p>Include your full name, WatIAM user ID, student number, and course name and number.</p>

Course Description and Learning Outcomes

Course Description

This interdisciplinary course examines the origins of modern legal systems and legal thinking, to consider the impact of law on society, and society on law. This course will introduce students to the study of law and legal studies by looking at modern law's structures, sources, and scope from a critical, cross-cultural, and mixed-media perspective. We will do this by exploring the historical, political, economic, and cultural context under which law arises and functions within modern Western society, and its effect on people, institutions, diversity and life.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate familiarity with key terms, debates, and theoretical approaches in the field of legal studies.
2. Identify and analyse popular and scholarly conceptions of law, and the roles law plays in society.
3. Identify the different forms law takes in daily life and the ways different people experience the law.
4. Critically discuss major themes and debates in legal studies. This may include the relationship between law and justice; law and economics; law and culture, race and gender; law and environment; how law is used as a tool of the powerful and by those that are marginalized; and the way the study and analysis of law has evolved alongside social, cultural, political, and economic change.

About the Course Instructor and Author

Course Instructor — Patrick Watson



© Patrick Watson

Patrick has taught socio-legal studies at St Jerome's since 2016. He is a passionate instructor, and seeks to use his teaching to inform his students of their democratic rights and privileges. Teaching socio-legal studies, for Patrick, involves informing students on how to operate through the federal legal system, but also how to seek and demand change from elected officials and the public bureaucracy. Patrick is an active researcher, and is the principal investigator on several SSHRC funded projects studying policing and police oversight. Most recently, Patrick was awarded an Open Research Area grant, and he leads a partnership with researchers based in Canada, the United Kingdom, France and Germany, studying how video images are used to train and adjudicate police conduct.

Course Author — Dr. Anastasia Tataryn



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I joined the faculty at St Jerome's University, at the University of Waterloo in January 2020. Prior to that, I lived in the UK for 10 years. I first moved to London, UK, to complete my PhD in Law at Birkbeck, University of London. One thing led to another and after finishing my PhD, I taught at the University of Warwick for a year, then landed a permanent position as a Lecturer in Law at the University of Liverpool. Moving back to Canada right before the pandemic was quite a transition, but I am glad to be closer to my family and to re-familiarise myself with the country. I was drawn to study and further a career in legal research because of law's incredible power and potential to touch on, and affect, so many aspects of our life and world. My research explores intersections between labour & work, migration, ecology, and how we define or think about the limits within communities, our ideas and knowledge. I am always interested in exploring questions through new and creative approaches, not just academic but through different art forms including dance and movement.


<https://www.anastazyataryn.net/>

Materials and Resources

Textbook

There is no required textbook for this course.

Course Reserves

[Course Reserves for Students](#)  are used in this course. Course Reserves can be accessed using the **Library Resources** widget on the **Course Home** page.

Resources

- Library services for [Co-op students on work term and students taking online courses](#) 

Grade Breakdown

The following table represents the grade breakdown of this course.

Activities and Assessments	Weight
Introduce Yourself	Ungraded
Quizzes (4 x 5% each)	20%
Assignment 1: Theories of Law	20%
Reflection 1	20%
Reflection 2	10%
Take Home Final Examination	30%

Official Grades

Official Grades and Academic Standings are available through [Quest](#) .

Course and Department Policies

Course Policies

Late Assignments

An assignment submitted any time after the time specified as the due date and time will lose 5%. The assignment will continue to lose 5% on every additional day it is late until the Dropbox closes (one week after the deadline).

Assignment Submissions

Assignments are to be submitted by LEARN Dropbox ONLY.

Department Policies

Policy on Extenuating Circumstances

Students are expected to take responsibility for making appropriate judgments to ensure that their assignments are submitted by the due date. It is also students' responsibility to back up their work electronically. Please alert the instructor or technical support to any difficulties that you may be experiencing with course work in a timely manner so that we can provide appropriate assistance.

Students must provide appropriate documentation to support requests for extensions. If you miss a deadline, you must notify the professor within one week of the submission date to request permission to submit under extenuating circumstances. These will only be considered if there are legitimate medical, compassionate, or religious grounds. In the case of medical grounds, you must provide a University of Waterloo Verification of Illness Form or documentation from AccessAbility Services. In the case of compassionate grounds, you must provide documentation. In the case of religious grounds, a due date or test date must conflict with an important UW-recognized religious holiday on your religious calendar, and you must tell the professor within the first four weeks of the course. Documentation must be

submitted to the professor. Extensions will not be granted due to travel, employment, weddings, or other personal commitments.

Please note that requests for extensions and extenuating circumstances must go directly to the instructor.

Privacy and Permissions

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The course author maintains copyright over this course (recordings, syllabus included). It is not to be copied or reproduced for any purposes without explicit permission.

University Policies

Submission Times

Please be aware that the University of Waterloo is located in the **Eastern Time Zone** (GMT or UTC-5 during standard time and UTC-4 during daylight saving time) and, as such, the time that your activities and/or assignments are due is based on this zone. If you are outside the Eastern Time Zone and require assistance with converting your time, please try the [Ontario, Canada Time Converter](#) .

Short-Term Absences

Review the University of Waterloo's [Accommodations](#) policy for more details.

Additionally, undergraduate students have the option to self-declare a short-term absence during the formal lecture period by following the [Undergraduate student short-term absences](#) process outlined by the Registrar's Office.

Please follow the instructions above and contact your instructor for applicable accommodations.

Academic Integrity

In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. **If you have not already completed the online tutorial regarding academic integrity you should do so as soon as possible.** Undergraduate students should see the [Undergraduate Academic Integrity Module](#) and graduate students should see the [Graduate Students and Academic Integrity](#) website.

Proper citations are part of academic integrity. Citations in CEL course materials usually follow CEL style, which is based on APA style. Your course may follow a different style. If you are uncertain which style to use for an assignment, please confirm with your instructor or TA.

For further information on academic integrity, please visit the [Office of Academic Integrity](#).

Turnitin

Turnitin.com: Text matching software (Turnitin®) may be used to screen assignments in this course. Turnitin® is used to verify that all materials and sources in assignments are documented. Students' submissions are stored on a U.S. server, therefore students must be given an alternative (e.g., scaffolded assignment or annotated bibliography), if they are concerned about their privacy and/or security. Students will be given due notice, in the first week of the term and/or at the time assignment details are provided, about arrangements and alternatives for the use of Turnitin® in this course.

It is the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor if they, in the first week of term or at the time assignment details are provided, wish to submit the alternate assignment.

[Turnitin® at Waterloo](#)

Discipline

A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity to avoid committing an academic offence, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about "rules" for group work/collaboration, should seek guidance from the course instructor, academic advisor, or the undergraduate Associate Dean. For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71 - Student Discipline . For typical penalties, check Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties .

Appeals

A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances , (other than a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline , may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes he/she has a ground for an appeal should refer to Policy 72 - Student Appeals .

Grievance

A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read [Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances](#) , Section 4. When in doubt please be certain to contact the department's administrative assistant who will provide further assistance.

Final Grades

In accordance with [Policy 46 - Information Management](#) , Appendix A - Access to and Release of Student Information, the Centre for Extended Learning does not release final examination grades or final course grades to students. Students must go to [Quest](#) to see all final grades. Any grades posted in Waterloo LEARN are unofficial.

AccessAbility Services

[AccessAbility Services](#) , located in Needles Hall, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodation to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with AccessAbility Services at the beginning of each academic term and for each course.

Accessibility Statement

The Centre for Extended Learning strives to meet the needs of all our online learners. Our ongoing efforts to become aligned with the [Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act \(AODA\)](#) are guided by University of Waterloo accessibility [Legislation](#) and policy and the [World Wide Web Consortium's \(W3C\) Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(WCAG\) 2.0](#) . The majority of our online courses are currently delivered via the Desire2Learn Learning Environment. Learn more about [Desire2Learn's Accessibility Standards Compliance](#) .

Use of Computing and Network Resources

Please see the [Guidelines on Use of Waterloo Computing and Network Resources](#) .

Copyright Information

UWaterloo's Web Pages

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Other Sources

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If there are any questions about this notice, please contact the University of Waterloo, Centre for Extended Learning, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, N2L 3G1 or extendedlearning@uwaterloo.ca (<mailto:extendedlearning@uwaterloo.ca>).

University of Waterloo

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