



ORIGINAL COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: December 1977
 REVISED COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: January 2025
 COURSE TO BE REVIEWED (six years after UEC approval): August 2030
 Course outline form version: 26/01/2024

OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE FORM

Note: The University reserves the right to amend course outlines as needed without notice.

Course Code and Number: PHIL 230	Number of Credits: 3 Course credit policy (105)										
Course Full Title: Philosophy of Law Course Short Title: Philosophy of Law											
Faculty: Faculty of Humanities	Department (or program if no department): Philosophy										
Calendar Description: Introduces major issues in philosophy of law such as natural law, legal positivism and its critics, law and liberalism, legal punishment, Indigenous legal traditions, feminist critiques of law, and critical legal studies.											
Prerequisites (or NONE):	15 university-level credits.										
Corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):	None.										
Pre/corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):	None.										
Antirequisite Courses <i>(Cannot be taken for additional credit.)</i> Former course code/number: Cross-listed with: Equivalent course(s): <i>(If offered in the previous five years, antirequisite course(s) will be included in the calendar description as a note that students with credit for the antirequisite course(s) cannot take this course for further credit.)</i>	Course Details Special Topics course: No <i>(If yes, the course will be offered under different letter designations representing different topics.)</i> Directed Study course: No <i>(See policy 207 for more information.)</i> Grading System: Letter grades Delivery Mode: May be offered in multiple delivery modes Expected frequency: Every other year Maximum enrolment (for information only): 28										
Typical Structure of Instructional Hours <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 5px;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">Lecture/seminar</td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: center;">45</td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Total hours</td> <td style="text-align: center;">45</td> </tr> </table>		Lecture/seminar	45							Total hours	45
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Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) PLAR is available for this course.											
Transfer Credit <i>(See bctransferguide.ca.)</i> Transfer credit already exists: Yes Submit outline for (re)articulation: Yes <i>(If yes, fill in transfer credit form.)</i>											
Department approval	Date of meeting: May 3, 2024										
Faculty Council approval	Date of meeting: May 31, 2024										
Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval	Date of meeting: August 29, 2024										

Scheduled Laboratory Hours
 Labs to be scheduled independent of lecture hours: No Yes

Learning Outcomes *(These should contribute to students' ability to meet program outcomes and thus Institutional Learning Outcomes.)*

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Describe major theories in philosophy of law such as naturalism, legal positivism, retributivism, legal moralism, and critical legal theory.
2. Evaluate conflicting philosophical positions related to law and the legal system.
3. Articulate reasoned responses to theoretical issues in philosophy of law.
4. Apply major theories to current Canadian and international legal issues.
5. Formulate well-reasoned responses to practical dilemmas in law and legal theory.

Recommended Evaluation Methods and Weighting *(Evaluation should align to learning outcomes.)*

Quizzes/tests:	20%	Assignments:	50%	%
Final exam:	20%	Holistic assessment:	10%	%

Details:

Assignments may include:

- Argumentative essays (40%)
- Options of class presentation, editorial assignment, video presentation, digital storytelling, or poster presentation (10%)

Holistic assessments may include:

- Reflections on learning
- Reflections on class participation
- Reading reflections

NOTE: The following sections may vary by instructor. Please see course syllabus available from the instructor.

Typical Instructional Methods *(Guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.)*

Texts and Resource Materials *(Include online resources and Indigenous knowledge sources. [Open Educational Resources](#) (OER) should be included whenever possible. If more space is required, use the [Supplemental Texts and Resource Materials form](#).)*

Type	Author or description	Title and publication/access details	Year
1. Textbook	K. Culver & M. Giudice (Eds.)	Readings in the Philosophy of Law – Third Edition. Broadview Press.	2017
2. Textbook	K. Culver & M. Giudice (Eds.)	Canadian Cases in the Philosophy of Law – Fifth Edition. Broadview Press.	2018
3. Textbook	Mark Tebbit	Philosophy of Law: An Introduction. Routledge.	2017
4. Textbook	John Burrows	Law's Indigenous Ethics. University of Toronto Press.	
5. Article	John Burrows	With or Without You: First Nations Law (in Canada) 41:3 McGill Law Journal, online: <lawjournal.mcgill.ca/article/with-or-without-you-first-nations-law-in-canada/>.	1996

Required Additional Supplies and Materials *(Software, hardware, tools, specialized clothing, etc.)***Course Content and Topics**

- Legal positivism
- Natural law
- The relationship between law and morality
- Obedience to law
- Human rights
- Law, individual freedom, paternalism
- Legal responsibility
- Legal punishment
- Critical legal theory
- Feminist legal theory
- Indigenous approaches to law
- International law