

**2022-2023 Law courses for MA / LLM specialization in Political and Legal Thought**  
**Departments: Law, Philosophy, and Political Studies**

Graduate students who are taking Law courses that are evaluated on the basis of an examination may write a paper or series of papers as an alternative form of evaluation and in satisfaction of course requirements. Students should consult with the course instructor before registering in a course to confirm details of course-specific requirements and discuss the course of evaluation with the instructor.

## FALL and WINTER 2022-2023

**LAW 850A / 850B**      **Feminist Legal Studies Workshops (Kathy Lahey / Bitu Amani)**  
**Location: TBD**      **Day/Time: TBD**

**Graduate students must take both workshops (Law 850A – Fall term and Law 850B – Winter term) in order to receive full credit (3 credits).**

The Feminist Legal Studies Workshops are designed to enable students to work closely with faculty in analyzing and discussing, with leading feminist theorists and scholars visiting Queens Faculty of Law, the topics of the speakers' papers.

**FALL 2022**

**LAW 916\* / 240\* Colloquium in Legal and Political Thought (Grégoire Webber / Jean Thomas)**  
**Location:** Law Building, Rm 515 **Day/Time:** Monday 2:30pm-5:30pm

Departments of Philosophy (PHIL 809) and Political Studies (POLS 858) have different course codes

This Colloquium course explores new work in legal and political philosophy. Once every two weeks, a legal, moral, or political philosopher will present a paper falling within the general boundaries of the Colloquium's ambit. In alternate weeks, students will meet with the Colloquium convenors to prepare for the forthcoming session, examining the paper in depth.

## WINTER 2023

**Law 809\* / 410\* International Criminal Law (Noah Weisbord)**  
**Location: Law Building, Rm 211** **Day/Time: Tuesday 1:00pm-2:30pm**  
**and Thursday 1:00pm-2:30pm**

This course explores the rapidly developing discipline of international criminal law (ICL), i.e. international efforts to prosecute individuals responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes. We will examine: the major institutions, the politics that shaped them, and how they in turn shape politics; definitions of crimes; principles and defenses; issues of transitional justice, amnesties and truth and reconciliation; and the major controversies and perspectives on ICL. The course supplements traditional instruction methods with considerable emphasis on active and interactive learning. Accordingly, seminars will include lecture, interactive discussion, exercises and simulations.

**Law 814\* / 263\* Jurisprudence (Sabine Tsuruda)**  
**Location: Law Building, Rm 515** **Day/Time: Monday 10:00am-1:00pm**

This course provides a critical introduction to central issues in general jurisprudence, that is, the theory of law in general. Our overarching question is deceptively simple: 'What is law?' To attempt to answer this question, we will explore: the functions and types of laws; authority; legal rights and obligations; legal reasoning and argument; the connections between law and morality; among other topics.

The aim of the course is to introduce you to thinking philosophically about the law and to methodological and normative questions concerning law; to provide you with knowledge of some of the most influential legal and political philosophies and their theses on law; to encourage and enable you to think about doctrinal legal questions from a philosophical perspective; and to help you develop legal reasoning skills by training you in constructing abstract, philosophical arguments. Our approach is philosophical, but no prior background or training in philosophy is necessary.

**Law 844\* / 407\* Criminal Law Theory (Benjamin Ewing)**  
**Location: Law Building, Rm 002** **Day/Time: Tuesday 2:30pm-5:30pm**

Criminal law is among the most theoretically rich areas of law. It raises fundamental questions about human agency, moral responsibility, the rule of law, and the limits of legitimate state coercion. In this course we will study the theoretical underpinnings—conceptual, moral, and political—of both the institution of criminal justice as a whole and various criminal offences and defences. Potential topics include (but are not limited to): the justifying aims and moral limits of punishment; the criminal law's conception of moral responsibility; the limits of legitimate criminalization; punishment versus alternative modes of behavioural regulation; the theory of possessory offences, attempts, and hate crimes; the foundations of justification and excuse in general; and the structure of specific defences such as self-defence, provocation, duress, and entrapment.