

**LWSO 413-01  
Liberalism  
Fall 2014  
T/R 9:30-10:45  
MS 211**

**Instructor:** Lyndsay Campbell  
**Contact:** 403 220 8889 / lcampbe@ucalgary.ca  
**Office:** SS 650; MFH 4341

**Office Hours:** Wednesdays 12-1, Thurs. 11-12 in SS 650 or by appointment

### **Course Description**

This course examines the conceptions of rights and freedoms in the liberal tradition, beginning with J.S. Mill and moving on to discuss the critiques and new directions that have been put forward by John Rawls and other more recent scholars. We examine the implications of these theories for contemporary socio-legal problems around such issues as expression, religion, campaign finance, intellectual property and educational opportunities for the disabled.

### **Objectives of the Course**

Students are to gain a detailed understanding of liberalism and its workings in Canada, with some comparisons to other jurisdictions. They will enhance their analytical skills and craft thoughtful, coherent, creative arguments about liberalism and its real-world manifestations.

### **Textbooks and Readings:**

Edited versions of cases will be available on the course website, as will links to other materials. The following books will be used:

- John Stuart Mill, *On Liberty* (1859) – available on the internet, with links identified on the course website; some used copies will also be available at the bookstore
- John Rawls, *Justice as Fairness: A Restatement*, ed. Erin Kelly (Belknap Press, 2001) – also available through the library

### **Assignments and Evaluation**

- Midterm 1: Tues. Oct. 16, 2014 – Mill (20%), closed book
- Midterm 2: Thurs. Nov. 6, 2014 – Rawls (20%), closed book

- Student-led class presentations (10%) – see below
- Participation / feedback (10%) – see below
- Final exam (40%) – registrar-scheduled final exam period, closed book

Student-led class presentations:

The content of this course will be delivered through approximately 11 classes led by the instructor and 10 led by groups of students. Each student will be part of a team of four or five students who will lead discussion in one student-led class. The group will be responsible for submitting a detailed written text of approximately four pages that outlines what they will be presenting. This text will be due 48 hours before the class in question, to enable the instructor to provide feedback on it. Members of the group will also lead the class discussion, through lecturing and asking good questions. All team members will normally receive the same grade. Ten percent (10%) of the course grade will come from the student-led class presentation.

On the D2L website for this course, each class date has its own module. Each student-led class has a dropbox for the group presentation. Please use this dropbox for your submission, rather than sending email or submitting hard copies.

Participation / feedback:

Each student will also be required to provide written feedback of 250-500 words on each of four classes, two delivered by the instructor and two by other students. This feedback will be used to generate the participation grade and, as such, will not be evaluated per se, other than to make sure that it makes a comprehensible, constructive comment that signals that the writer was present and paying attention. It is perfectly fine to describe what you learned and what questions you were left asking.

A dropbox is contained within each module for the feedback. Please use these dropboxes for your feedback, rather than sending email or submitting hard copies.

The grade for the course and whether or not a student passes it will be based on the student's accumulated score and will not depend on passing any particular component of the course.

The main Sociology Department office does not deal with any course-related matters. Please speak directly to your instructor.

**Registrar-scheduled Final Examination: Yes**

Please note: If your class is held in the evening, the Registrar's Office will make every attempt to schedule the final exam during the evening; however, there is NO guarantee that the exam will NOT be scheduled during the day.

**Policy for Late Assignments**

Assignments submitted after the deadline may be penalized with the loss of a grade (e.g.: A- to B+) for each day late.

## **Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act**

This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP). As one consequence, **students should identify themselves on all written work by using their ID number. Anything that requires handing back will be returned directly to students in class or during the instructor's office hours. The main Sociology Department office does not receive or return assignments or tests. If students are unable to pick up their work from the instructor, they should provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the work.**

For more information see also <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>.

## **Grading System**

The following grading system will be used:

	Grading Scale
A+	96-100
A	90-95.99
A -	85-89.99
B+	80-84.99
B	75-79.99
B-	70-74.99
C+	65-69.99
C	60-64.99
C-	55-59.99
D+	53-54.99
D	50-52.99
F	0-49

## **Schedule of Lectures and Readings**

The schedule of lectures and readings will be posted on the course website prior to the commencement of classes.

## **Ethical Research**

Students are advised that any research with human subjects – including any interviewing (even with friends and family), opinion polling, or unobtrusive observation – must have the approval of the Departmental Ethics Committee. In completing course requirements, students must not undertake any human subjects research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required. It is not anticipated that any research involving human subjects will be performed in this course.

## **Deferrals**

If possible, please provide advance notice to the instructor if you are unable to write an exam or complete an assignment on time. All health-related requests for deferrals must be accompanied by written documentation as outlined in the University Calendar and should be obtained while the student has the health issue rather than after recovery. Deferrals will be allowed for illness, domestic affliction or religious conviction. Travel arrangements and misreading of the syllabus are not valid reasons for requesting a deferral. If you have missed a test for a legitimate reason, the instructor can require you to write a “make up” test as close in time to the original test as possible or can choose to transfer the percentage weight to another course component. If the instructor schedules a “make up” test for you, its date and location will be at the convenience of the Department of Sociology.

Deferred Final Exams: Please note that requests to defer a Registrar-scheduled final exam are dealt with through the Registrar’s Office. Further information about deadlines, and where paperwork should be taken, is available on the form, which can be found at: [http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/Sp\\_Su\\_DFE\\_App.pdf](http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/Sp_Su_DFE_App.pdf)

Deferred Term Work: Deferral of term work past the end of a term also requires filling out a form. The form is available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/defTW.pdf> . Once new due date has been agreed to between instructor and student, the form should be taken to the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (SS 110) for approval by an Associate Dean (Students).

## **Plagiarism**

Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possibly suspension or expulsion from the university.

You must document not only direct quotations but also paraphrases and ideas where they appear in your text. A reference list at the end is insufficient by itself. Readers must be able to tell exactly where your words and ideas end and other people’s words and ideas begin. This includes assignments submitted in non-traditional formats such as Web pages or visual media, and material taken from such sources.

Please consult your instructor if you have any questions regarding how to document sources.

## **Internet and Electronic Device Information**

Students may use their computers in class for taking notes, following the PowerPoint outlines of lectures, and other purposes related to the class. You may not record the class without the instructor’s permission. Cell phones are not to be used for calls, texting or purposes unrelated to the class.

## **Academic Misconduct**

For information on academic misconduct and the consequences thereof please see the current University of Calgary Calendar at the following link:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

## **Academic Accommodation Policy**

If you are a student with a disability who may require academic accommodation, it is your responsibility to register with Student Accessibility Services (formerly the Disability Resource Centre) at MC 452 (or phone 403-220-8237). Please provide your academic accommodation letter to your instructor as soon as possible and no later than two weeks after the course begins. For further information, please see

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/drc/node/46>

## **Emergency Evacuation and Assembly points**

Please note the evacuation points for this particular classroom. All classrooms on campus exit to specific places in case of emergency. The emergency assembly points differ depending upon where your classroom is located. For information on the emergency evacuation procedures and the assembly points see

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

## **"SAFEWALK" Program**

Campus Security will escort individuals day or night – call 220-5333 for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot booths.

## **Student Representation**

The 2014-15 Students' Union VP Academic is Hana Kadri ([suvpaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:suvpaca@ucalgary.ca)).

There are four Arts reps, who may be contacted at [arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), or [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca). Please contact them if you have questions related to Students Union matters, events, or concerns.

You may also wish to contact the Student Ombudsperson for help with a variety of University-related matters: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds/role>.

## **Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources**

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca).

You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.

- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.