LAW B568/JSIS 599 Field Seminar in Law, Rights, and Governance

Hilary A. Soderland Ph.D. J.D.
William H. Gates Hall
hsoderla@uw.edu

Meeting Time
Thursday 1:30-4:20

Meeting Location
Mary Gates Hall 082A

Office Hours
Monday 3:00-4:30 and By Appointment

Faculty Assistant
Morgan W. Tubby
William H. Gates Hall Room 422, (206) 616-2583,
mt53@uw.edu

Seminar Objective
The purpose of this seminar is to introduce students to a selection of key works across the social sciences and humanities in the Law, Rights, and Governance (LRG) field. This field exposes students to theoretical and policy debates about the causes and consequences of legal evolution, rule of law, rights, and a broad range of governance concerns in world affairs. Through a survey of the major concepts, theories, and controversies in these debates, the seminar will help graduate students gain a solid appreciation of international approaches to LRG-related works.

Course Description
Each week students will be responsible for that week’s required reading, which will feature a single book. These will be discussed in class. Successful graduate seminars require active discussion of the materials and students are expected to be fully prepared for course meetings. Students will choose five of the weekly required reading assignments over the quarter and will write an essay of about 1000 words due before each of the respective five classes. Once per quarter, each student also will write a 2500-3000 word essay covering both that week’s required and supplementary readings. Neither the short nor the longer papers should be just summaries of the readings, but essays that discuss what is useful in each set of readings, what is not, and what use these readings can be put to in understanding the main themes of the course. Submission of all essays must be completed by 4:00pm on the Monday prior to class by upload to the course electronic platform.

Students will be required to give a class presentation on their long essay. This way the entire class will be exposed to some of the supplementary reading by hearing these reports and everyone will read at least one week’s worth of the supplementary readings.
Working with the professor and others, doctoral students also should use that opportunity to begin firming up a reading list concurrent with presenting their long essay that can strengthen their Ph.D. General Exam preparation and other dissertation-related work.

**Course Grading**

Each of the five short essays will make up 10% of the course grade, the longer essay will count as 30% of the course, and the quality of each student’s class discussion will make up the other 20%. Class attendance is mandatory and grades will be lowered for unexcused absences.

**Required Text and Supplemental Reading**

Students are required to purchase one text: Eve Darian-Smith, *Laws and Societies in Global Contexts: Contemporary Approaches*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2013. Copies are available at the Bookstore. All required and supplementary readings are available either on reserve at the M.G. Gallagher Law Library or on the course electronic platform.

**Course Policies**

Students must attend all classes. Full participation in the seminar is essential and expected. Participation requires **preparation** for class, **timely submission** of essays, **active involvement** in class discussion, and **effective presentation** of the long essay.

If a documented illness or other extenuating circumstance arises, students are responsible for: (1) contacting me in advance of class, if possible; (2) getting notes from classmates before the next class, if possible; and, (3) asking whether anything additional may be required.

Students may not make audio or video recordings of class sessions. Cell phones are not permitted and must be turned off at all times. Laptops may be used for course purposes only. Please bring your laptop on May 22 in order to complete the course evaluation.

**Disability-Related Needs**

The UW is committed to ensuring that students with physical, mental, learning, and/or sensory disabilities have equal access to its facilities and programs. To request accommodations due to a disability, please contact Disability Resources for Students (DRS), # 011 Mary Gates Hall, (206) 543-8924 (V), (206) 543-8925 (TTY), dso@u.washington.edu. If you have a letter from DRS, then please make an appointment so we can discuss any accommodations you may need.
Writing an Essay or Analytic Précis

(1) When writing a critical review of a book, assume that the reader of your essay has not read the book and will decide whether or not to read the book on the basis of your assessment.

(2) A critical review has four main components: first, you must introduce the book to the reader by telling the reader what the book is about and summarizing the author’s main arguments; second, you must describe the book in enough detail to convey the story the author tells, what the author wants the reader to understand, what the author’s conclusions are, and how the author goes about convincing the reader that the story being told is both powerful and “right”; third, you must criticize the book—tell the reader what in your view the book’s weaknesses are (if any), whether the book’s facts and/or arguments are in fact convincing, and whether the book’s conclusions are justified; and, last, you must offer your own broad conclusion in which you summarize your overall opinion of the book and tell the reader whether, overall, you think it is a good book or not, and why.

WEEKLY TOPICS AND READINGS

WEEK ONE: INTRODUCTION


WEEK TWO: THE RULE OF LAW


WEEK THREE: HUMAN RIGHTS


WEEK FOUR: ECONOMICS AND MARKET RULE


WEEK FIVE: JUSTICE AND ORDER


WEEK SIX: GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE & CLIMATE CHANGE


WEEK SEVEN: GLOBAL RULES AND EXCEPTIONALISM


WEEK EIGHT: LEGAL CONFLICTS OVER COMMERCE


**Course Evaluation**: Please bring your laptop to class.

**WEEK NINE: MIGRATION MANAGEMENT**


**WEEK TEN: COSMOPOLITAN LAW AND GLOBALIZATION FROM BELOW**


RESERVOIR READING LIST

The syllabus below identifies a “reservoir” reading list, which doctoral students can draw upon to advance and deepen their general knowledge of the LRG field in preparation for the Ph.D. General Examination. This seminar and its readings serve as a gateway for further study in more specialized graduate course offerings within the LRG field. In consultation with the professor of record and/or their advisors, doctoral students are advised to use and supplement the required, supplemental, and reservoir reading lists to further explore theories, concepts, and controversies that may be of more specialized interest to advancing their General Exam preparation and their dissertation work. The reservoir reading list also identifies works and topics that may not necessarily appear on the required syllabus in a given quarter.


Malcolm Feeley, Terry Halliday, and Lucien Karpik (eds), Fighting for Political Freedom (Hart, 2007).


Judith L. Goldstein, Miles Kahler, Robert O. Keohane, and Anne-Marie Slaughter (eds), Legalization and World Politics (MIT Press, 2001).


David Held, Cosmopolitanism: Ideals and Realities (Polity Press, 2010).


Boaventura de Sousa Santos, *Toward a New Legal Common Sense: Law, Globalization, and Emancipation* (Butterworths, 2002).
