

SOCIOLOGY OF LAW

Coordinating Professor: Professor Eduardo Vera-Cruz Pinto

Lectures: Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 9am to 9.50am @ Classroom 12.32

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Seminars: Wednesdays 10am-11h40am @ Classroom TBA | Zoom ID: 232 711 5501

Class No.	Summary	Date
0	Introduction to the class.	March 1st
1	Workshop: How to write a paper.	March 8 th
	To define Sociology of Law and a sociological definition of Law:	
	Concept, limits, positive and negative definitions.	
	Assignment: Bring the definition of sociology of Law you find more	
	accurate to the class. <u>Discuss</u> : Can there be a sociological view of Law?	
2	The founding father of SL: AUGUSTE COMTE. Social Darwinism:	March 15 th
	HERBERT SPENCER.	
	Assignment: Watch Lord of the flies (1963). Discussion: Is there Law	
	without society?	
3	ÉMILE DURKHEIM: Social Facts, Law and Solidarity.	March 22 nd
	Objectivism and subjectivism in Sociology of Law. Jurists as the	
	observers and the observed. The myths of analytical legal theory.	
	<u>Discussion</u> : Can social scientists be neutral? Is Law a social science?	
Deadline	Submission of research question (e-mail, until 11AM)	March 26 th
4	MAX WEBER and the rationalization of Law. Power, domination and	March 29 th
	obedience. PIERRE BOURDIEU and how Law is compelling.	
	<u>Discussion</u> : What is the purpose of Law? <i>Who</i> is Law <i>for</i> ?	
No class	Easter/Spring Break (April 1st – April 10th, inc.)	April 5 th
Deadline	Submission of research project (e-mail, until 11AM)	April 9 th
5	Individual Review of Research Projects.	April 12 th
6	NIKLAS LUHMANN and systemic functionalism. <u>Discussion</u> : Is Law an	April 19 th
	autopoietic system?	
	Transcending Legal Sociology: Critical Legal Theory and progressive	
	alternatives in Law. Assignment: Comment ROBERTO MANGABEIRA	
	UNGER on VideoAnt https://ant.umn.edu/ayryuqrdtp (100 min)	April 26 th
7	ROSCOE POUND and sociological jurisprudence. Judicial Activism.	
	Assignment: Black Mirror (Netflix, S03E01 Episode Nosedive).	
8	<u>Discussion</u> : Is Law (or are laws) a tool of social engineering?	May 3 rd
	KARL LLEWELLYN and legal realism. Sociology of legal professions. <u>Assignment</u> : <i>Your Honor</i> (HBO, 2021). (At least first 3 episodes)	
	<u>Assignment</u> . <i>Tour Honor</i> (HBO, 2021). (At least first 3 episodes) <u>Discussion</u> : Can we trust judges and legislators?	
9	Debate: Eichmann in Jerusalem: Part I: a sociological defense.	May 10 th
No class	Reading Week. Office hours throughout the week via Zoom.	May 17 th
Deadline	Final deadline for the submission of papers (via e-mail until 11AM)	May 18 th
10	Debate: Eichmann in Jerusalem: Part II: a legal defense. Debrief.	May 24 th
11	Self-assessment, end-of-term review, grading. Portuguese hospitality.	May 31 st
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