

PHIL 155_80

Philosophy of Law

Mondays, 3-5:45pm

Online Only (Synchronous Meetings)

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Is this an image depicting property, labor, or animal law? Or is it the flyer template's stock photo?
You'll have to take the course to find out!

This course is a rigorous but enjoyable introduction to topics in the philosophy of law such as:

- (i) Why do we have laws?
- (ii) At what types of goods (e.g., fairness, liberty, wealth) should the law aim?
- (iii) What are the philosophical and non-philosophical rationales behind particular laws?
- (iv) Are we ever obligated to follow (or oppose) the law?

We'll engage these topics primarily by looking at various answers to them, as well as the legal and philosophical arguments for those answers. By the end of the course, you should be able to understand arguments for and against various answers to the questions above, support your own answers to these questions with reasoned reflection, and apply your analytical skills to other subjects.

Assessment in the class will be based on discussion, written work of the kind you would encounter in law school, and creative projects.

Prerequisites: 3 units of philosophy or upper division standing or instructor permission