



UNSW Course Outline

LAWS8193 State Crime, the Law and Civil Society - 2024

Published on the 12 May 2024

General Course Information

Course Code : LAWS8193

Year : 2024

Term : Term 2

Teaching Period : T2B

Is a multi-term course? : No

Faculty : Faculty of Law and Justice

Academic Unit : School of Law, Society and Criminology

Delivery Mode : In Person

Delivery Format : Standard

Delivery Location : Kensington

Campus : Sydney

Study Level : Postgraduate

Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

Research into State Crime has developed extensively over the past 25 years and draws on a range of disciplines including Criminology, International Criminal Law, International Human Rights Law, Political Science and International Relations. This course reflects this inter-

disciplinary approach and introduces students to a range of perspectives on state organised human rights abuses. Topics covered include: theoretical approaches to state crime; genocide; colonial genocide; war crimes; torture; refugees; whistleblowers; and civil society resistance. One of the main questions posed by this course is: How and why do serious human rights abuses occur? Answers to this question are framed by looking at the roles of governments, perpetrators, victims and bystanders. The roles of the Law, post-conflict Tribunals and Civil Society organisations in identifying, responding and preventing State Crime are also considered.

Course Aims

Research into State Crime has developed extensively over the past 25 years and draws on a range of disciplines including Criminology, International Criminal Law, International Human Rights Law, Political Science and International Relations. This course reflects this interdisciplinary approach and introduces students to a range of perspectives on state organised human rights abuses. Topics covered include: theoretical approaches to state crime; genocide; colonial genocide; war crimes; torture; refugees; whistleblowers; and civil society resistance. One of the main questions posed by this course is: How and why do serious human rights abuses occur? Answers to this question are framed by looking at the roles of governments, perpetrators, victims and bystanders. The roles of the Law, post-conflict Tribunals and Civil Society organisations in identifying, responding and preventing State Crime are also considered.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Demonstrate advanced oral communication skills by discussing and debating theoretical propositions, methodologies and legal problems
CLO2 : Engage in advanced critical analysis of key themes, emerging trends and practical problems in State Crime research by successful completion of an extended research essay
CLO3 : Engage in advanced critical analysis of the historical and social significance of international law with consideration of emerging trends through an extended research essay
CLO4 : Demonstrate an ability to utilise research principles and methods in the context of intersecting areas of law.
CLO5 : Demonstrate ability to discuss key concepts related to the evolution of state crime theory and law

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Demonstrate advanced oral communication skills by discussing and debating theoretical propositions, methodologies and legal problems	• Class Participation
CLO2 : Engage in advanced critical analysis of key themes, emerging trends and practical problems in State Crime research by successful completion of an extended research essay	• Research Essay
CLO3 : Engage in advanced critical analysis of the historical and social significance of international law with consideration of emerging trends through an extended research essay	• Research Essay
CLO4 : Demonstrate an ability to utilise research principles and methods in the context of intersecting areas of law.	• Research Essay
CLO5 : Demonstrate ability to discuss key concepts related to the evolution of state crime theory and law	• Book Review

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

Learning and Teaching in this course

Consult Moodle.

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Class Participation	20%	
Research Essay	50%	
Book Review	30%	

Assessment Details

Class Participation

Assessment Overview

Class Participation - 20%

Further assessment details will be made available on the Moodle page.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Demonstrate advanced oral communication skills by discussing and debating theoretical propositions, methodologies and legal problems

Detailed Assessment Description

Consult Moodle.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This is not a Turnitin assignment

Research Essay

Assessment Overview

Research Essay (4,500 words) - 50%

Further assessment details will be made available on the Moodle page.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO2 : Engage in advanced critical analysis of key themes, emerging trends and practical problems in State Crime research by successful completion of an extended research essay
- CLO3 : Engage in advanced critical analysis of the historical and social significance of international law with consideration of emerging trends through an extended research essay
- CLO4 : Demonstrate an ability to utilise research principles and methods in the context of intersecting areas of law.

Detailed Assessment Description

Consult Moodle.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Book Review

Assessment Overview

Book Review - 30%

Further assessment details will be made available on the Moodle page.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO5 : Demonstrate ability to discuss key concepts related to the evolution of state crime theory and law

Detailed Assessment Description

Consult Moodle.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

General Assessment Information

Consult Moodle.

Grading Basis

Standard

Requirements to pass course

Consult Moodle.

Course Schedule

Attendance Requirements

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and review lecture recordings.

General Schedule Information

Consult Moodle.

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

Consult Moodle.

Recommended Resources

Consult Moodle.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
	Tariro Mutongwizo					No	Yes

Other Useful Information

Academic Information

Upon your enrolment at UNSW, you share responsibility with us for maintaining a safe, harmonious and tolerant University environment.

You are required to:

- Comply with the University's conditions of enrolment.
- Act responsibly, ethically, safely and with integrity.
- Observe standards of equity and respect in dealing with every member of the UNSW community.
- Engage in lawful behaviour.
- Use and care for University resources in a responsible and appropriate manner.
- Maintain the University's reputation and good standing.

For more information, visit the [UNSW Student Code of Conduct Website](#).

UNSW Law & Justice Assessment Policy

It is essential that all students undertaking this course read and abide by the [UNSW Law & Justice Assessment Policy & Student Information](#). This document includes information on Class Attendance, Late Work, Word Limits, Marking, Special Consideration, Workload, and Academic Misconduct & Plagiarism. More information can also be found at [Assessment & Exam](#)

Information

Information regarding Course Outlines are subject to change and students are advised to check updates. If there is a discrepancy between the information posted here and the handbook or the UNSW Law & Justice website, please contact [Student Services via The Nucleus Hub](#) for advice. UNSW Law & Justice reserves the right to discontinue or vary such courses or staff allocations at any time. If your course is not here, please visit [Handbook](#) for information.

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

As a student at UNSW you are expected to display [academic integrity](#) in your work and interactions. Where a student breaches the [UNSW Student Code](#) with respect to academic integrity, the University may take disciplinary action under the Student Misconduct Procedure. To assure academic integrity, you may be required to demonstrate reasoning, research and the process of constructing work submitted for assessment.

To assist you in understanding what academic integrity means, and how to ensure that you do comply with the UNSW Student Code, it is strongly recommended that you complete the [Working with Academic Integrity](#) module before submitting your first assessment task. It is a free, online self-paced Moodle module that should take about one hour to complete.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Before submitting assessment items all students must read and abide by the [UNSW Law & Justice Assessment Policy & Student Information](#).

Special consideration

Special consideration is primarily intended to provide you with an extra opportunity to demonstrate the level of performance of which you are capable. To apply, and for further information, see Special Consideration on the UNSW [Current Students](#) page.

Feedback

UNSW Law & Justice appreciates the need for students to have feedback on their progress prior to the last date for withdrawal without failure. All courses will therefore provide feedback to students prior to this date, as well as throughout the course. However, students should note that feedback does not take the form only of formal grades and written comments on written

assessments. Rather, formative feedback, which helps students to self-assess, to identify misunderstandings, and to identify areas requiring further work, will occur during class and possibly online. For example, where a teacher asks the class a question, all students should think about how they might answer. Even though not all students will necessarily be able to respond orally, everyone can reflect on their tentative answer in light of the teacher's response and subsequent class discussion. If you are struggling to understand what is being asked in class, or if your tentative answers prove incorrect and subsequent discussion does not clear things up, then you should continue to ask questions (of yourself, your peers or your teacher). Similarly, you can get a sense of your ability in a course through peer feedback during group work, your teacher's responses to your in-class contributions, and your own response to in-class problems and examples (whether or not you are called on to relay your answer to the class) and also your online activities and responses by others to those activities. Students enrolled in this course may check their Moodle course page for details on the specific feedback used in this course.

Faculty-specific Information

Additional support for students

- Student support: <https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/support>
- Academic Skills and Support: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/academic-skills>
- Student Wellbeing, Health and Safety: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/wellbeing>
- Equitable Learning Services: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/els>
- UNSW IT Service Centre: <https://www.myit.unsw.edu.au>

Course improvement

Student feedback is very important to continual course improvement. This is demonstrated within the Faculty of Law & Justice by the implementation of the UNSW online student survey myExperience, which allows students to evaluate their learning experiences in an anonymous way. myExperience survey reports are produced from each survey. They are released to staff after all student assessment results are finalised and released to students. Course convenors will use the feedback to make ongoing improvements to the course. Students enrolled in this course may check their Moodle course page for details on the actions taken in response to evaluation feedback in Student Survey.

School Contact Information

Please contact [Nucleus Student Hub](#) for all enquiries. The Nucleus acts as a central communications hub for UNSW and will distribute your enquiry to the best person to respond.