

2009 ILP CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

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****Note that readings for week 2 will be provided shortly****

Learning to Make a Difference

Lecturer: Faisal Bhabha (course instructor)

This class will provide an introduction to the ILP course and will offer students helpful and practical tips about effecting social change across borders.

Readings:

Judith Shklar, "Misfortune and Injustice", chapter 2 in *The Faces of Injustice* (New Haven and London: Yale U. Press, 1990).

Lucie White, "The Transformative Potential of Clinical Legal Education" (1997) 35 Osgoode Hall L.J. 603.

** Every student must also bring a photograph of an image from the country in which they will be working that best captures or evokes what they feel to be injustice **

International Human Rights Law

Lecturer: Ope Badaru

Fellows will examine international human rights law framework and the various regional human rights mechanisms that apply to the work they will be doing. Students will review regional human rights instruments and tools, as well as critical IHRL issues in relevant themes for ILP fellowships [children's rights; HIV/AIDS; IDPs; education; juvenile justice]. Students will also have an opportunity to discuss some of the key themes in IHRL such as universality/particularity, and different approaches to guaranteeing human rights.

Readings:

Henry Steiner and Philip Alston, *International Human Rights in Context: Law, Politics, Morals* (3rd Edition)

Required:

On universality and particularism: 517 – 519

On treaties: 151 – 155 (ICCPR), 183 – 185 (CEDAW), 272 – 278 (ICESCR)

On non-treaty procedures: 737 – 742

Optional (on reserve at library)

On regional human rights systems: 933 – 934, 936 – 940 (Europe), 1062 – 1066 (Africa)

Public Interest Litigation

Lecturer: Nicole Chrolavicius

Students will gain an understanding of what is involved in public interest litigation, as Ms. Chrolavicius, a practitioner at Bakerlaw, will discuss some examples of cases, issues that commonly arise and tips going forward.

Law & Development

Lecturer: Professor Ruth Buchanan

This class will provide an overview of the historical development of the field of law and development and the various approaches that the field has taken throughout the past decades. The session will also provide students into the role of law and legal institutions in contemporary development policy and practice, including the role of multilateral institutions.

Comparative Law in a Globalized Context

Lecturer: Professor Peer Zumbansen

Fellows will engage with some excerpts from very famous writings on the aims and methods of Comparative law as well as the discipline's challenge through globalization, decolonization and an increased critique of 'legal transplants'.

Readings:

Kevin E. Davis & Michael J. Trebilcock, "The Relationship Between Law and Development: Optimists versus Sceptics" forthcoming in *the American Journal of Comparative Law*.

Annelise Riles, "Comparative Law and Socio-Legal Studies" in *The Oxford Handbook of Comparative Law*, Mathias Reimann and Reinhard Zimmermann, eds.

Optional:

Kerry Rittich, "Functionalism and Formalism: Their Latest Incarnations in Contemporary Development and Governance Debates" (2005) 55 *University of Toronto Law Journal* 853.

International Organizations & the Law

Lecturer: Professor Tom Johnson

Fellows will gain familiarity with the international major organizations that do work in international legal development and understand what role these organizations might play in the work they will be doing this summer.

Group Dynamics / Business Etiquette

This session will assist fellows in understanding the role of group dynamics in shaping team projects and also the ways in which it can create challenges to their work during the fellowships. The students will also learn about appropriate business etiquette in the context of international work.

Researching Foreign and International Law

Lecturer: Yemisi Dina

York librarian, Yemisi Dina, will familiarize student fellows with all the research tools at their disposal that will be relevant to their research work overseas. Effort will be made to make the session as practical as possible by providing projects specific resources where available.

Alternative Dispute Resolution

Lecturer: Bob Thompson

Given the recent emphasis on ADR as a less formal and more accessible means to solve legal disputes, students will gain a basic understanding of the various processes and approaches to this area of law; it is expected that many students will be exposed to various local systems of ADR while on their summer fellowships.

Intellectual Property Law

Lecturer: Pascale Chapdelaine

This session will provide all students with a basic understanding of international intellectual property law. With the breadth of legal issues that fall within IP, it will be useful for our students to gain some knowledge about IP trends across borders.

Managing your Internship & Risk Assessment

Lecturer: Larissa Strong

York International's Director of Project Development will speak to student fellows about the many risks that are involved with travelling and working overseas. She will lead the group in an exercise where potential risks will be identified and solutions to address the risks will be brainstormed collectively. The class will also give students tools and methods to be able to plan and evaluate the progress of their internships

Informed Consent for Academic Research

Lecturer: Janet Mosher

Associate Dean Mosher will discuss the ethical implications of conducting field research and the requirement of obtaining informed consent for such research. She will also speak to the practical issue of obtaining consent and strategies for effectively communicating the ethical implications of research to the research subjects.

Inter-Cultural Communication

Lecturer: Larissa Strong

This session will address issues that arise in the context of communicating through language and cultural barriers. Strategies will be provided to students for working through such barriers. This session will also discuss the theme of Global Citizenship in order to situate the work that the student fellows will be doing in a broader context.

Working in Developing Countries

Lecturer: Barbara Heron

This class will discuss the implications of working in developing countries and will speak specifically to the issues in power dynamics between foreign development workers and locals, and in particular, the power and privilege that come with the role of “foreign professional”

Legal Analysis from Race & Gender Perspectives

Lecturer: Fiona Sampson

Students will gain an understanding of the issues of race, class and gender as they apply to the law. This class will dovetail with the practical workshops offered on the issues of serving marginalized communities in a legal capacity but will focus on the gendered, raced and classed impacts of the law.

Professional Roles & Values

Lecturer Andrea Redway

The Canadian Bar Association’s Andrea Redway will provide insight into what it means to maintain a professional approach to the work that summer fellows will be doing. The session will focus on ethical practices as a Canadian law student. Oftentimes, foreigners are afforded greater deference than they should. This class will help students identify appropriate practices and strategies for working sensitively with various groups.

Public International Law

Lecturer: Paul Michell

Students will gain an understanding of the basic framework of public international law and what aspects of it relate to the work that they will be doing during their fellowships. This broad overview will familiarize students with sources of international law and the systems of international dispute resolution.

Working with Marginalized Populations

Lecturer: Jill McNall

Community Legal Worker Jill McNall (from the HIV/AIDS Legal Clinic of Ontario) will speak about what it means to provide legal services to marginalized populations and will provide insight based on her experience in this area of law. This session will be particularly useful for any fellows that will be working directly with the public in a clinical setting.

Law Across Borders: A Human Rights Perspective

Lecturer: Professor Obiora Okafor

This class will broaden the discussion of International Human Rights Law by incorporating a comparative perspective on human rights. In particular, students will benefit from learning about cross-cultural perspectives on human rights, and the evolution of human rights in post-colonial legal systems. This will expand the fellows' understanding of human rights to take into account different approaches adopted by other cultures and legal systems.

Networking

Lecturer: Chantal Morton

A key to success for fellows is to effectively and sensitively network in a different culture and context. This session is designed to familiarize students with the importance of networking and provide some practical "how to" tips for students to try while on their placement. The focus of this session will be networking in a foreign environment.