

FEMINIST LEGAL STUDIES QUEEN'S WORKSHOP
LAW 692/693
Fall/Winter

FALL PRIMARY CONTACT:

Professor Bitu Amani
Office Hours: Fridays 11:30-12:30
Office: 518 Macdonald Hall
Email: amanib@queensu.ca

WINTER PRIMARY CONTACT:

Professor Kathleen Lahey
Office Hours: M & Th 11:30-12:30
Office: 503 Macdonald Hall
kal2@queensu.ca

Course Description

The Feminist Legal Studies Workshop course is designed to enable students to work closely with faculty in analyzing and discussing with leading feminist theorists and scholars visiting Queen's Faculty the topics of the speakers' papers.

The Feminist Legal Studies Workshop course is offered for one course credit per term. In the fall term, it is designated as Law 692; in the winter term, it is designated as Law 693.

Students may enroll for one credit in the fall term, or for one credit in the winter term, or for a total of two credits in both terms combined. This course can also be combined with an ISP for students who may wish to carry out in-depth independent supervised work in relation to one or more of the areas discussed in this workshop. ISPs can be for varied amounts of credits, and for one term or both; when it is both, the final paper is due in the spring.

Pedagogy

This is a workshop course. It does not assume any previous knowledge or background in the field, but assumes that all students will bring with them a keen curiosity, sense of passionate scholarly interest, and investment of the self that are de rigueur to academic investigations. Participants of this class should expect to embrace diverse and interdisciplinary approaches to their learning, beyond the conventional lecture format and to be alive and attentive to the potential scope of legal application through engagement with guest speakers and the substantive work they present.

The speakers and those attending the speaker events will be our community for engaging in the discussions, and so participation at the organized events is expected and is reflected in the course requirements and forms of evaluation. Beyond the scheduled speakers, students may be asked to meet from time to time as a unit (at least once at the beginning of each term). If you have any questions, concerns, or conflicts in scheduling, or simply want to bounce some paper ideas off of either or both of us, the best way to reach either of us is by email for an appointment (during office hours preferably or outside of them at a mutually convenient time).

Evaluation Format: Students will —

1. Attend all the speakers events (4/term or a minimum of 7 for the full year);
2. Prepare by completing advance reading for the first session of each term
3. Prepare two advance questions for the rest of the speakers in that term (1-2 pages of briefing notes after each session, 60% of course credit);
4. Participate in the discussion at the speakers visit (10% of course credit);
5. Write and submit a short term paper (approx. 10-12 pages on a topic that relates to any one of the speaker events, 30% of course credit).

Note: the paper component may be extended by ISP and if so, may be considered for the substantial paper requirement for graduation from the J.D. program.

The evaluation method seeks to allow students different opportunities to demonstrate their knowledge and engagement with the course content and is described in further detail below.

I. Attendance at the Scheduled Speakers' Events

Students are expected to attend at least 4 of the scheduled sessions per term (or 7 if enrolled for the full year). If you are unable to do so for any of the organized speakers, with prior permission of either instructor, you may instead write on any of the panels from the FLSQ conference held in Kingston in Feb.-Mar., treating each panel or keynote address as a separate speaker for purposes of advance reading and sets of briefing notes. If that is not a feasible alternative for scheduling reasons, then the student may select an appropriate speaker event from university or community offerings, and treat that as a substitute speaker.

II. Advance Reading, Advance Questions, and Briefing Notes

The advance questions should be electronically submitted by email at least 24 hours in advance of the session to which they pertain. Briefing notes are due two weeks after the specific talk/event. Together, these will help us to assess the student's questions for investigation, and the post-talk knowledge-acquisition, comprehension, and reflection on the materials and speakers to which they have been exposed. The briefing notes should be descriptive of the readings or talks and critically reflective of them. For both terms, please send them to Professors Amani and Lahey and copy Professor Amani's assistant, Melissa Howlett (Mhowlett@queensu.ca) for fall term work and Professor Lahey's assistant, Megan Hamilton (Megan.Hamilton@queensu.ca) for winter term work. Briefing Notes are evaluated on a scale of 1 to 10.

III. Class Participation

Students are expected to attend and actively participate in each session.

IV. Final Paper

The final paper should be an analytical paper, between 10-12 pages in length. We encourage you to prepare a proposal (1 page) with a preliminary list of sources for approval. The earlier you submit it, the more time you will have to reflect on any feedback. Final paper submissions should be sent electronically to both of us and to each of our assistants.

Due date for winter term: Any time in the last week of classes, before 4:30 pm Apr. 2, 2015. There is an automatic class extension for those who want it, without penalty or permission, until Apr. 9, 2015, before 4:30 pm. If any problem in meeting the latter date emerges, please contact the relevant instructor.

Administrative Details

All work should be typed in 12 point font, double spaced, on white 8 1/2" x 11" paper.

Scheduling Details

The workshop speakers will be scheduled for the regular visitor slots on Mondays and Fridays, which run from 1 to 2:30 pm. If other meetings are needed, they will be scheduled around everyone's class and other commitments. Speaker dates and locations are listed on the FLSQ website. Please check the FLSQ website from time to time for updates on speakers and any changes to the schedule:

<http://femlaw.queensu.ca/Law692Law693/law693Winter2015.html>

Fall Term 2014 Lectures

Friday, September 26, 2014

1pm-2:30pm, location TBA

Kimberly Brooks

Dean and Weldon Professor of Law, Dalhousie University Schulich School of Law, Halifax

Topic TBA

Monday, September 29, 2014 [Co-sponsored with Faculty of Law Speaker Series]

Dr. Monique Cardinal

Associate Professor of Islamic Studies, Faculté de théologie et de sciences religieuses, Université Laval, Quebec

[Working title] Gender and Judging

Friday, October 3, 2014

1-2:30pm, location TBA

Patricia Allard

Associate, Justice Strategies, Brooklyn, and Queen's University Faculty of Law graduate 1996

[Working title] Promoting Alternatives to Criminal Justice and Immigration Reform: The Situation of Incarcerated Women with Children

Friday October 24, 2014

1-2:30pm, location TBA

Dr. Adelle Blackett

Associate Professor and William Dawson Scholar, Faculty of Law, McGill University

[Working title] International Law and the Right to Decent Work

Friday October 31, 2014

1-2:30pm, location TBA

Judith Resnick

Arthur Lipman Professor of Law, Yale Law School

Winter Term 2015 Lectures

Friday, Jan. 16, 2015

1-2.30 pm, Macdonald Hall, room 202 [Faculty of Law building]

Dr. Anna Dolidze

Assistant Professor, The University of Western Ontario, Faculty of Law; former President, Georgian Young Lawyers' Association, the largest legal advocacy organization in the Republic of Georgia

Talk to Her: Feminist Civil Society Organizations and Gender-related Discourse in International Criminal Tribunals

Friday, Feb. 27, 2015

1-2.30 pm, Macdonald Hall, room 202 [Faculty of Law building]

Sudabeh Mashkuri

Arbitrator, Financial Services Commission of Ontario; previously Adjudicator, Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada; Senior Staff Lawyer, Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic; Counsel, Equity Initiatives, Law Society of Upper Canada

Topic tbd

Friday, Mar. 6, 2015

7-8.30 pm, Sutherland Hall, room 202 [Policy Studies, next door to Faculty of Law]

Dr. Attiya Waris

Senior Lecturer, Department of Commercial Law, School of Law, University of Nairobi; Visiting Lecturer, Law School, National University of Rwanda; Vice Chair, Tax Justice International

International Human Rights Law, Tax Justice, and Gender

Friday and Saturday, Mar. 6-7, 2015

9 am-5 pm (Fri.) and 9-4 pm (Sat.)

FLSQ/Women for Tax Justice/FemTax Int'l's International Women's Day Conference,
Women and Tax Justice at Beijing+20: Taxing and Budgeting for Sex Equality

Law 693 students are expected to select any panel or keynote event from the sessions scheduled over the course of these two days – each panel or keynote will count as one of the four lectures attended this term; other sessions or keynote events from these sessions can also be selected as substitutes for any other scheduled lecture that may have been missed during the term