COURSE DETAIL

LEGAL PHILOSOPHY AND SOCIOLOGY OF LAW
Country Italy
Host Institution University of Bologna
Program(s) University of Bologna
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Legal Studies
UCEAP Course Number 188
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title LEGAL PHILOSOPHY AND SOCIOLOGY OF LAW
UCEAP Transcript Title LEGAL PHIL & SOCLGY
UCEAP Quarter Units 12.00
UCEAP Semester Units 8.00

Course Description

This course is part of the Laurea Magistrale degree program and is intended for advanced level students. Enrollment is by permission of the instructor. The course is divided into three parts:

A) The first part (Sociology of Law) is delivered in person. The students survey the main classic and contemporary approaches to the sociology of law: the focus is on the classic integration theories and theories of conflict: in particular, the Durkheimian, Weberian, and Marxist approaches are analyzed.

B) In the middle part, which takes place online, the students explore topics such as: recent theories on moral reasoning, affective primacy, and confirmative thought as keys to understand the human behavior in the digital dimension; aggressivity in the online arena against the individual (e.g. cyberbullying, revenge porn) and against groups (e.g. call out culture, hate speech, and use of memes); polarization and echo chambers.

C) In the last part, which is delivered in person again, the three main conceptions developed in the philosophy of law—namely, natural law theory, legal positivism, and legal realism—are presented, emphasizing their theoretical implications; then, some contemporary trends (such as legal feminism) are introduced and discussed, also in connection with the traditional views.

At the end of the course, students: know the history of legal philosophy thanks to the development, during the course unit, of a thematic analysis centered on fundamental theoretical problems and argumentative patterns designed to resolve those issues also under a perspective approach; know the classical and contemporary theoretical-sociological debate on the function of law, the relationship between social and legal norms, the social nature of the concepts of status and role; are capable to deal with problems of theoretical and legal nature, in a logical manner and by relying on a solid argumentation, and to discuss those problems in an interactive way by efficiently communicating the advantages of multiple their multiple structures and issues.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
91375,91391

Host Institution Course Title
LEGAL PHILOSOPHY AND SOCIOLOGY OF LAW

Host Institution Course Details
https://www.unibo.it/en/study/phd-professional-masters-specialisation-schools-a…

Host Institution Campus
BOLOGNA

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree
LM in LEGAL STUDIES

Host Institution Department
LEGAL STUDIES

Course Last Reviewed
2024-2025

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