

COURSE DETAIL

ANARCHY, AUTHORITY AND EVIDENCE: TOPICS IN PHILOSOPHY OF LAW

Country

United Kingdom - England

Host Institution

London School of Economics

Program(s)

London School of Economics

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Philosophy Legal Studies

UCEAP Course Number

119

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

ANARCHY, AUTHORITY AND EVIDENCE: TOPICS IN PHILOSOPHY OF LAW

UCEAP Transcript Title

PHILOSOPHY OF LAW

UCEAP Quarter Units

6.00

UCEAP Semester Units

4.00

Course Description

The course tackles philosophical questions about legal systems and criminal justice. The first half of the course typically discusses big picture questions about the purpose of law and what, if anything, the criminal justice system achieves. For example, students might consider the moral obligation to obey the law, the viability of political anarchism, the justification of punishment, dispute-resolution without the state, and the moral status of civil or violent disobedience. The second half of the course usually takes a closer, critical look at how criminal justice works in practice. For example, students might discuss questions like: What is the fairest way to evaluate allegations of sexual criminality? Should we use algorithms to make decisions about parole or punishment severity? Should we defer to juries or instead use professional judges? Does it make sense to treat a corporation as morally responsible? What alternatives are there to prisons?

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

PH239

Host Institution Course Title

ANARCHY, AUTHORITY AND EVIDENCE: TOPICS IN PHILOSOPHY OF LAW

Host Institution Course Details

https://www.lse.ac.uk/resources/calendar2025-2026/courseGuides/PH/2025_PH239.htm

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

Philosophy, Logic and Scientific Method

Course Last Reviewed

2025-2026

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