



UNIVERSITY OF NICOSIA ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΛΕΥΚΩΣΙΑΣ

University of Nicosia, Cyprus

Course Code LAW-411	Course Title Jurisprudence I	ECTS Credits 6
Department Law	Semester Fall	Prerequisites One from, either LAW-324/6 or LAW-392, and LAW-384
Type of Course Major Requirement	Field Law	Language of Instruction English
Level of Course 1 st Cycle	Year of Study 4th	Lecturer(s) Dr Tim Potier
Mode of Delivery Face-to-face	Work Placement N/A	Co-requisites None

Objectives of the Course:

Jurisprudence I will emphasise a period in the development of legal theory which is often overlooked: from the Ancient Greeks to the end of the Enlightenment. This period is dominated by the various branches of the school of natural law. Beginning with the pagan era, its dramatic transformation during the 'Age of Faith', social contract theory (after the Reformation), and concluding with the natural rights theory of Edmund Burke and Thomas Paine.

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

1. Explain the important role played by philosophers in the conceptualization of legal theory during antiquity.
2. Analyse the adaptation of the notion of justice amongst the ancients, its Christianisation during the Middle Ages and secularization on account of the Enlightenment.
3. Appraise the contribution of Christianity to the development of the 'just war' theory.
4. Explain the impact of scholasticism on jurisprudential discourse.
5. Assess the impact that the constitutional upheaval in England during the seventeenth century had on the emergence of social contract theory.
6. Assess the role legal and political theory had in fostering the American and French revolutions.
7. Discuss the emergence of natural rights theory.
8. Evaluate philosophical underpinnings in the law.

Course Content:

During the course, the student will study the following books:

1. Plato: The Republic
2. Plato: The Laws
3. Aristotle: The Politics
4. Aristotle: The Nicomachean Ethics
5. Cicero: On the Commonwealth
6. Cicero: On the Laws
7. St Augustine: City of God
8. St Thomas Aquinas: On Law
9. Niccolo Machiavelli: The Prince
10. Thomas Hobbes: Leviathan
11. John Locke: Second Treatise of Government
12. David Hume: A Treatise of Human Nature
13. Baron de Montesquieu: The Spirit of the Laws
14. Jean-Jacques Rousseau: The Social Contract
15. Immanuel Kant : Critique of Pure Reason
16. Edmund Burke : Reflections on the Revolution in France
17. Thomas Paine: Rights of Man

The class will also be given three additional sets of notes, titled: (Plato) Early Dialogues, Middle Dialogues, and Later Dialogues.

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Interactive lectures, tutorials, written examinations and assignments

Assessment Methods:

One written assignment, mid-term exam, final exam

Required Textbooks/Reading:

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year
M.D.A. Freeman (ed.)	Lloyd's Introduction to Jurisprudence (eighth edition)	Sweet & Maxwell	2008
N.E. Simmonds	Central Issues in Jurisprudence: Justice, Law and Rights (third edition)	Sweet & Maxwell	2008

Recommended Textbooks/Reading:

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year
Wayne Morrison	Jurisprudence: from the Greeks to post-modernism	Cavendish	1997
James Penner	McCoubrey & White's Textbook on Jurisprudence (fourth edition)	Oxford	2008
Raymond Wacks	Understanding Jurisprudence: An Introduction to Legal Theory (second	Oxford	2009

	edition)		
Brian H. Bix	Jurisprudence: Theory and Context (fifth edition)	Sweet & Maxwell	2009
Jules Coleman and Scott Shapiro (ed.s)	The Oxford Handbook of Jurisprudence and Philosophy of Law	Oxford	2002
Howard Davies and David Holdcroft	Jurisprudence: Texts and Commentary	Butterworths	1991
James Penner, David Schiff and Richard Nobles	Introduction to Jurisprudence and Legal Theory: Commentary and Materials	Butterworths	2002