

WHAT DOES JUSTICE MEAN TO YOU?



LAW, JUSTICE AND SOCIETY

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Marion McCain Arts and Social Sciences Building
Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada B3H 4R2

902.494.1440

dal.ca/ljso

LAW, JUSTICE AND SOCIETY

The **LAW, JUSTICE & SOCIETY** (LJSO) program provides an interdisciplinary learning experience for students who are interested in the study of law and justice as subjects of historical, philosophical, political, or socio-anthropological inquiry, or as an avenue for work in criminal justice, public policy, legal research, or human rights advocacy.

Drawing on a wide range of relevant courses from several different disciplines, the program offers students the opportunity to deepen their understanding of the role of law in relation to other social institutions. It also facilitates the understanding of the historical development, political uses, and place in philosophical traditions of concepts and practices of law and justice. The program will also help students critically evaluate, apply, and engage in research and analysis focused on law and justice.

Our graduates pursue a **wide variety of career paths**, including careers in community leadership and development, social services, policy analysis, human rights advocacy, legal education, and criminal justice.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MULTI-FACETED LEGAL STUDIES:

- Study law from an **interdisciplinary perspective** and gain a perspective on how law shapes society and how social and political forces inform the law, from experts in fields as diverse as **History, Political Science, Sociology, and Philosophy**.
- Explore your interest in human rights and how the law comes into play in the protection or violation of the rights of different groups in varying contexts.
- Discover how restitution programs and **restorative justice** are working—or not—in various situations, from post-genocide Rwanda to the aftermath of the Residential Schools program for Indigenous children here in Canada.
- Understand the role of both governmental and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in assessing human rights performances and achieving law reform.
- Learn about the historical evolution of laws and their relation to political and cultural events.

YOU'LL PARTICIPATE IN A WIDE RANGE OF DISCUSSIONS, DEBATES, AND ACTIVITIES:

- Participate in a courtroom simulation, arguing opposing sides in hypothetical legal dispute.
- Contribute to critical debates that aim at understanding why our political and financial systems allow poverty to exist.
- Find out how the regulation of alcohol, drug, and tobacco consumption, pulp fiction and comics, sports, and

gambling, contribute to our social understanding of appropriate forms of recreation.

- Watch films and participate in discussions and debates on current topics of local, national and international interest, such as human rights, political economy; development, and environmental sustainability
- Examine the role of practical reason and formal argumentation in answering complex and sometimes controversial moral questions related to law and policy making, on topics such as euthanasia, abortion, pornography, sexual preferences, gender identity, racial profiling, and other contemporary issues.
- Participate in **experiential learning** and **practicum placement courses**

PROGRAM OPTIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

Students may choose the **Minor, Major** or **Honours BA degree option**.

Entry into the LJSO Program begins in the students' second year. Students will have a solid core of common courses at the second- and third-year levels, with one each in philosophy, sociology, political science, and history, plus one in both second and third year taught by scholars with backgrounds in law (JDs and/or practice).

Core courses for this program include:

- Introduction to Law
- Sociology of Law
- Processes of Justice

Elective options will allow students to tailor their programs to their own interests or to develop particular strengths in one or another area of socio-legal studies.

Students in both the Honours and the Major programs will also have the opportunity to study a number of specialized topics in seminar settings, selecting from a range of small fourth-year seminars in their particular areas of interest in their final year of study.

Visit dal.ca/ljso for more details

QUESTIONS?

Contact: ljso@dal.ca

To learn more about Dalhousie's academic program offerings, visit: dal.ca/academics

To learn more about programs offered through the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, visit: dal.ca/fass