

# LAW AND SOCIAL THOUGHT

## Interdisciplinary Major

Renee Heberle, Co-Director, Advisor  
 Jerry Van Hoy, Co-Director, Advisor  
 Sam Nelson, Pre-Law Advisor

Degrees Offered: Law and Social Thought (LST) offers a program for a bachelor of arts.

LST's curriculum is strictly interdisciplinary. It provides students with tools for the appraisal of U.S. and other legal systems and the policies, practices and philosophies that underlie them. It encourages reflection on the values that shape citizenship in contemporary democracy. It also focuses on issues of law in relation to morality, politics, language and the arts of critical and creative thinking. LST students are given the responsibility of determining their path through LST, with hands-on advising from the co-directors, and are consulted on questions of program direction and course selection. Upper Division Seminars are selected by students in collaboration with faculty.

## Degrees Offered

- B.A. in Law and Social Thought (<https://catalog.utoledo.edu/undergraduate/arts-social-sciences-education/interdisciplinary-studies/law-social-thought/ba-law-social-thought/>)
- Minor in Law and Social Thought (<https://catalog.utoledo.edu/undergraduate/arts-social-sciences-education/interdisciplinary-studies/law-social-thought/minor-law-social-thought/>)

### LST 2010 Law And Social Thought

[3 credit hours]

This course examines the function and force of law in society in an interdisciplinary context. Students are given the opportunity to think about law in relationship to society, morality, politics, language, history and power. Readings may include perspectives from philosophy, literature, psychology, sociology, history, anthropology and opinions of the court.

**Term Offered:** Spring, Fall

### LST 2030 Cultural Geography

[3 credit hours]

A learning-through-writing course. Systematic applications of the concepts of culture and cultural diversity to geographical themes and case studies.

**Term Offered:** Spring, Fall  
 Multicultural Non-US Diversity

### LST 2500 Proseminar I

[1 credit hour]

For sophomore and junior majors in LST: discussion among faculty and students of the interdisciplinary study of law and LST program development. Topics vary, may be repeated for credit.

**Prerequisites:** LST 2010 with a minimum grade of D-

**Term Offered:** Spring, Fall

### LST 2640 Race, Class, And Gender

[3 credit hours]

Introduction to the study of race, class and gender as factors in American stratification.

**Term Offered:** Spring, Summer, Fall

Core Social Sciences, Multicultural US Diversity, OT36 Social Science

### LST 2700 Principles of Political Theory - WAC

[3 credit hours]

This course investigates core concepts in the history of political theory such as justice, liberty, and equality. We discuss how and why the influence of certain authors and ideas persists. Contemporary issues are interpreted using these authors and ideas in order to strengthen critical thinking skills and broaden students' thinking about politics.

**Prerequisites:** LST 2010 with a minimum grade of D-

**Term Offered:** Spring, Fall

### LST 2980 Special Topics

[3 credit hours]

Special topics in Law and Social Thought. Topics vary by instructor, may be repeated for credit.

**Prerequisites:** LST 2010 with a minimum grade of D-

**Term Offered:** Spring, Summer, Fall

### LST 3050 Economics Of Gender

[3 credit hours]

Analysis of labor market outcomes and income distribution characteristics resulting from gender differences; gender-related economic outcomes: the "feminization of poverty," persistent male-female wage differential, expanding proportions of female-headed and same sex households.

**Term Offered:** Spring, Summer, Fall

Multicultural US Diversity

### LST 3060 U.S. Disability History

[3 credit hours]

This course provides a historical overview of the lived experiences of people defined as disabled and changing historical definitions of disability in the region that became the United States of America. We will consider how major historical forces such as capitalism, industrialization, colonialism, and democratic ideals have impacted and been shaped by people with disabilities.

**Term Offered:** Spring, Fall

### LST 3080 Economics Of Crime

[3 credit hours]

Study of crime as an economic activity; costs of crime to the community; economic approach to crime reduction.

**Term Offered:** Spring, Fall

### LST 3500 Proseminar II

[1 credit hour]

For Junior and Senior majors in LST: discussion among faculty and students of the interdisciplinary study of law and LST program development. Topics vary, may be repeated for credit.

**Prerequisites:** LST 2010 with a minimum grade of D-

**Term Offered:** Spring, Fall

**LST 3510 Constitutional Law I**

[3 credit hours]

Examines the political and institutional role of the U.S. Supreme Court in the development of the American legal system, the separation of powers between the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of the federal government, and the relationship between the federal government and the states. The course focuses on the analysis of Supreme Court cases as well as political science and legal scholarship.

**Term Offered:** Spring, Fall**LST 3520 Constitutional Law II**

[3 credit hours]

The development of the American legal system and the implications of judicial decisions affecting the institutions and powers of government, the federal system and the relationship of the individual to government.

**Prerequisites:** PSC 1200 with a minimum grade of D-**Term Offered:** Spring, Fall**LST 3550 Principles Of Law**

[3 credit hours]

An overview of the politics of law. We examine such questions as the sources and existence of law, the legal process in civil and criminal cases, the nature of rights and the search for justice through participation in the legal system. Addresses specific issues such as plea bargaining and jury trials, personal injury lawsuits, national security and police powers, and the nomination and confirmation of federal judges.

**Term Offered:** Spring, Summer, Fall**LST 3710 Psychology And The Law**

[3 credit hours]

Emphasizes the utilization of theoretical and empirical notions of psychological science as they apply to both civil and criminal law.

**LST 3750 Social And Political Philosophy**

[3 credit hours]

A study of classic and contemporary treatments of justice, authority, the relations between individual and community, the meaning of freedom and equality, power and violence, and race and gender.

**Term Offered:** Fall**LST 3760 Crime And Punishment**

[3 credit hours]

A philosophical study of topics such as crime, responsibility, justice and punishment. Special attention is paid to current practices in the criminal justice system.

**Term Offered:** Spring, Fall**LST 3770 Art and Disease - WAC**

[3 credit hours]

This WAC course considers how objects of material culture (film, photography, painting, sculpture, etc.) have intersected with disease while studying disease-related texts and histories of contagion (e.g., AIDS). Web-assisted course.

**Prerequisites:** LST 2010 with a minimum grade of D-**LST 3800 Sexual Politics**

[3 credit hours]

This course examines sexual politics through studying canonical literature of Western political theory, feminism and postmodern theory.

**Term Offered:** Spring, Fall**LST 3810 Political Geography**

[3 credit hours]

An examination of geopolitical and geostrategic issues at the nation-state and international level.

**Term Offered:** Spring, Fall**LST 3820 Contemporary Political Ideas**

[3 credit hours]

Surveys trends in 20th century political and social thought, including critical theory, post-structuralist theory, feminism and anti-racist politics. Particular issues addressed include bureaucracy, mass society, state and civil violence, and identity politics.

**Term Offered:** Spring**LST 3980 Special Topics**

[3 credit hours]

Special topics relating to issues in Law and Social Thought. Topics vary by instructor, may be repeated for credit.

**Prerequisites:** LST 2010 with a minimum grade of D-**Term Offered:** Spring, Summer, Fall**LST 4000 Global Issues in Disability Studies**

[3 credit hours]

In this course students will learn about perspectives on and contemporary issues about disability around the world. We will explore the cultural differences, power imbalances, and politics in the global disability landscape, thinking through disability's relationship to topics such as war, industrialization, colonialism, development, and immigration. Geopolitical area of focus may vary based instructor expertise. \*Writing Across the Curriculum

**Term Offered:** Spring, Fall**LST 4010 Islamic Law and Society**

[3 credit hours]

This course will survey Islamic law in historical and comparative modern contexts. This course will provide (a) basic introduction to the sources and methods of classical Islamic legal interpretation, (b) survey of the most pressing areas in which traditional Islamic norms remain relevant today—criminal law, family law, and commercial law, (c) the challenges and transformations introduced by colonialism, modernity, and the nation-state, and (d) comparison with the American law and the constitution, highlighting comparative interpretive methods such as originalism versus progressivism, and innovative dimensions of Islamic law such as legal pluralism, wide room for local custom, religious diversity, and restorative justice.

**Term Offered:** Spring**LST 4550 Issues In Contemporary Law**

[3 credit hours]

Examination of contemporary approaches to the analyses of law and the judicial system with special focus on current issues facing the courts.

**Term Offered:** Spring, Fall**LST 4590 Law, Policy And The Politics of Sexuality**

[3 credit hours]

This course explores the public policies that affect the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities in the United States and in other countries. It examines the factors that affect policymaking in this area.

**Term Offered:** Spring, Fall

**LST 4640 Disability Law and Human Rights**

[3 credit hours]

Explores the intersections between disability rights and human rights by examining the development, the ideological framework, and the legal contexts of disability law in the U.S. and global contexts. Recommended: DST 2020, 3020, 3030, or 3060.

**Term Offered:** Spring, Fall**LST 4710 Criminology**

[3 credit hours]

Crime and criminal behavior: nature, types and extent of crime, societal reactions; problems in research and theory, prevention, control and treatment.

**Term Offered:** Summer**LST 4840 Ecotourism: Studies of the Africana World**

[3 credit hours]

Introduce students to the field of ecotourism studies and specific challenges of community development and sustainability. The course covers ecotourism in the Africana world of Africa, the Caribbean, and Latin America.

**Prerequisites:** LST 2010 with a minimum grade of D-**LST 4900 International Organization**

[3 credit hours]

A study of the background, general concepts and problems of international organizations including the United Nations, regional organizations and non-governmental organizations. Issues covered include war, security, human rights, trade, international law, and global health.

**Term Offered:** Fall**LST 4940 Field Experience**

[1-6 credit hours]

Community work, internship, or field study relating to law and society. May be repeated for credit.

**Prerequisites:** LST 2010 with a minimum grade of D-**Term Offered:** Spring, Summer, Fall**LST 4980 Special Topics**

[3 credit hours]

Advanced seminar in Law and Social Thought. Topics vary by instructor, may be repeated for credit. Required of LST majors.

**Prerequisites:** LST 2010 with a minimum grade of D-**Term Offered:** Spring, Summer, Fall**LST 4990 Capstone in Law and Social Thought**

[3 credit hours]

The Capstone course in Law and Social Thought is an interdisciplinary, collaboratively taught seminar thematically organized around a topic in the study of law.

**Prerequisites:** LST 2010 with a minimum grade of D-**Term Offered:** Spring, Summer, Fall

Majors in Law and Social Thought are strongly encouraged to pursue program honors. In order to earn program honors, the student must:

1. Have a minimum LST GPA of 3.4 and a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.3.
2. Submit two papers from different, advanced LST courses to the Program Directors. These courses will also satisfy the LST elective or upper division seminar requirements.

3. Write a thesis under the direction of an LST-affiliated faculty member. Students must enroll in Honors Thesis in Law and Social Thought. Participation in the University Honors College is not required for those seeking program honors.
4. Honors Thesis in Law and Social Thought (3 hours) will count as an elective course in the required courses for the major.