1. **Title of the module**

LAWS5700 (LW570) Law and Social Change

1. **School or partner institution which will be responsible for management of the module**

Kent Law School

1. **The level of the module (e.g. Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 or Level 7)**

Level 6

1. **The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents**

15 credits (7.5 ECTS Credits)

1. **Which term(s) the module is to be taught in (or other teaching pattern)**

Spring term

1. **Prerequisite and co-requisite modules**

None

1. **The programmes of study to which the module contributes**

All single and joint honours Law programmes

1. **The intended subject specific learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**
   1. Employ a range of theoretical approaches to understanding law, morality, and social change, by exploring diverse perspectives, and selected case studies.
   2. Demonstrate independent, critical thinking on the history, and social and political character of legal change.
   3. Reflect upon and analyse the moral and ethical content and impact of law as it impacts on social change.
   4. Demonstrate advanced research and writing skills
   5. Engage in a critical discussion of the nature, function and effects of law as it has been, is, ought to and/or might be expressed in the bringing about of social change
   6. Undertake explorations, demonstrations, critical evaluations and engagements in the context of moral discourse, social struggle, conflict resolution and social integration
   7. Demonstrate an awareness of the economic, political and/or social implications of legal forms and remedies in the pursuit of social change.
2. **The intended generic learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**
   1. Devise and sustain an argument and present relevant knowledge and understanding in the form of reasoned argument.
   2. Carry out further research from a variety of sources including scholarly reviews and primary sources to inform a sustained and detailed argument.
   3. Identify and evaluate legal and policy problems according to their historical, political and legal context.
   4. Analyse critically detailed conceptual current and historical material, and recognize and comment on the different positions that are taken in the literature surveyed.
3. **A synopsis of the curriculum**

This module investigates the relationship between law and social change, and explores the political, economic and social dynamics that affect this relationship over time. The module will consider questions such as:

* Why is the law a terrain of social struggle?
* How does the law respond and/or contribute to social change?
* How do the values or worldviews that the law incorporates affect the legal advancement of social change?
* How does the character of the law change in relation to different political, economic and social contexts?
* What are the obstacles and limitations to the law contributing to and creating social change? How is the context in which the law operates important in this analysis?
* How can we engage with the law to pursue change towards social justice?

The first part of the module examines the relationship between law and social change as addressed by key classical and contemporary social theorists. This exploration is then extended with an analysis of how and to what extent social movements can affect legal reform and eventually contribute to social change. The second part of the module investigates a number of concepts and areas in relation to which the approaches and ideas explored in the previous part can be applied, questioned, reframed or expanded. These concepts and areas are morality, democracy, globalisation, rights and citizenship, and the role of legal professions in social change.

1. **Reading List (Indicative list, current at time of publication. Reading lists will be published annually)**

* S. L. Roach Anleu, ‘Law and Social Change’, Sage; 2nd Ed; 2010
* R. Mawani, ‘Law and Colonialism: Legacies and Lineages’ (chapter 27) in A. Sarat and P. Ewick (eds.) ‘The Handbook of Law and Society’, Malden: Wiley-Blackwell, 2015.
* S. L. Cummings, ‘Empirical Studies of Law and Social Change: What is the Field? What are the Questions?’, Wis. L. Rev. 171, 2013.
* S. Falk Moore, ‘Law and Social Change: The Semi-Autonomous Social Field as an Appropriate Subject of Study’, Law and Society Review 7(1), 1972.
* P. Fitzpatrick, ‘Being Social in Socio-Legal Studies’ 22(1), Journal of Law and Society, 1995.
* S. M. Sterett, ‘What is Law and Society? Definitional Disputes’ (chapter 1) in A. Sarat and P. Ewick (eds.), ‘The Handbook of Law and Society’, Malden: Wiley-Blackwell, 2015.
* B. Z. Tamanaha, ‘A General Jurisprudence of Law and Society’, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001.
* A. Sen, ‘What is the Role of Legal and Judicial Reform in The Development Process?’, World Bank Legal Conference, Washington DC, 5 June 2000
* B. Z. Tamanaha, ‘Law and Society’ in Dennis Patterson (ed.) ‘A Companion to Philosophy of Law and Legal Theory’, Malden: Wiley-Blackwell, 2010.
* M. Travers, ‘Introduction’ in Understanding Law and Society’, London: Routledge, 2010.

1. **Learning and Teaching methods**

Total study hours: 150

Contact hours: 20

Private study hours: 130

1. **Assessment methods.**

13.1. Main assessment methods

Research Essay (6000 words) (100%)

13.2. Reassessment methods

Reassessment instrument: 100% project

1. **Map of Module Learning Outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to Learning and Teaching Methods (section 12) and methods of Assessment (section 13)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module learning outcome** | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 | 8.5 | 8.6 | 8.7 | 9.1 | 9.2 | 9.3 | 9.4 |
| **Learning / teaching method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Lecture | X | X | X |  |  |  |  |  | X |  |  |
| Seminar |  |  |  |  | X | X | X | X |  |  | X |
| Private Study |  |  |  | X |  |  |  |  |  | X |  |
| **Assessment method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Research Essay | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |

1. The School recognises and has embedded the expectations of current equality legislation, by ensuring that the module is as accessible as possible by design. Additional alternative arrangements for students with Inclusive Learning Plans (ILPs)/declared disabilities will be made on an individual basis, in consultation with the relevant policies and support services.

The inclusive practices in the guidance (see Annex B Appendix A) have been considered in order to support all students in the following areas:

**a) Accessible resources and curriculum**

1. Preference will be given to electronic resources that meet minimum accessibility standards and support the use of assistive technologies.
2. Module outlines will be made accessible at least four weeks before the module starts.
3. Prioritised reading lists will be made available sufficiently in advance to accommodate the provision of alternative formats and support those with a slow reading speed.
4. Lecture/seminar slides/outlines will be made available in electronic format in advance to allow all students to prepare (particularly students with notetaking difficulties).
5. In accordance with the KLS school-level statement on Lecture Capture, lectures will be recorded to assist notetaking unless one or more of the lectures contains sensitive material. The module convenor will notify students in advance of any lectures that will not be recorded.

**b) Learning, teaching and assessment methods**

The inclusive practices in the guidance (Annex B Appendix A, section b(1) and (2)) have all been considered in order to support all students in their assessments on this module.

1. **Campus(es) or Centre(s) where module will be delivered:**

Canterbury

1. **Internationalisation**

The subject matter of law and social change is inherently internationalised. The module examines *inter alia* the work of an assortment of classical and contemporary social theorists and explores the relationship between classical Western theories, and theories of law and social change at a more global level. The module also examines e.g. global social movements using the law as a means of emancipation and legal reform. The module is supported throughout by wide readings from a range of domestic and international authors.

**FACULTIES SUPPORT OFFICE USE ONLY**

**Revision record – all revisions must be recorded in the grid and full details of the change retained in the appropriate committee records.**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date approved | Major/minor revision | Start date of the delivery of revised version | Section revised | Impacts PLOs (Q6 & 7 cover sheet) |
| 18/04/16 | Minor | September 2016 | 11,12 | No |
|  |  |  |  |  |