



Ph.D. course University of Bergen

Effects of Lawfare: Courts and law as battlegrounds for social change

With an option of specialization in Effects of Lawfare concerning
Gender & Sexuality

Thursday 17 August – Friday 25 August 2017

Location: CMI, Just Faaland seminar room, 3rd floor
Jekteviksbakken 31, Bergen, Norway

The past three decades has seen an accelerating juridification and judicialisation of societies and politics. In all parts of the world and at all levels, from the global to the local, increasingly complex webs of legal norms and institutions regulate our societies and lives. Courts and law have become increasingly important as arenas for political struggles. Constitutional reforms and international treaties aim to transform social dynamics from above, among others through new and stronger protection of citizens' rights, while individuals and groups engage in legal mobilization from below to seek justice for their cause. In either case dense networks of international activists and experts are ready to engage with and aid local actors, creating a dense global network of actors, legal norms, and adjudicative institutions. In this context, it is urgent to better understand law as a political field. Does this turn to rights and law have a transformative potential? Does it provide institutional spaces for the voices of marginalized groups to be heard and tools that can provide political leverage? Or does it, rather demobilize and depoliticize struggles in ways that exacerbate unequal power-relations and marginalization dynamics? These are urgent issues on which there are deep disagreements in the literature. The course offers an introduction to the scholarly debates on the potential and limits of law as an instrument of social change, and

opportunities to engage with some of the foremost scholar in the field, and international research projects currently seeking more compelling answers to these questions.

The course combines lectures specifically designed for the course and participation in lectures, panels, round-tables, and workshops of *the Bergen Exchanges on Law & Social Transformation*.

This year, the course will – provided sufficient interest - offer two tracks.

- Track one takes a broad focus **on the strategic use of law across a range of fields** (transitional justice; gender and sexuality; health; land, water, criminal law, child rights).
- Track two emphasizes the use of law as a tool in contestations over issues of **gender & sexuality**.

The two tracks will meet together for much of the course, but with occasion separate sessions, including for the presentations and discussion of the students' own work, and will have some separate readings. For the Gender & Sexuality specialization, more of the readings will have a gender or sexuality focus, including for some of the joint and public (Bergen Exchanges) sessions where the topic is not gender or sexuality, but where this is nevertheless relevant.

Readings and access to online resources will be distributed two months before the course starts and online discussion forums will allow students to discuss the course readings with their peers and course leaders.

Students will receive 3 ECTS for participating in the course (80% of seminars), submission of paper abstract (150-300 words), and presentation of their own work to the other participants. Students who submit a publishable journal article (4,000-6,000 words, with an additional reading list of 500 pages, which can be from the elective reading list) by 15 October 2017 are awarded an additional 7 ECTS. (Postdoctoral researchers and MA level students will be accepted if space permits).

The PhD course is free of charge and open to applicant from Norwegian and international institutions on a first-come first serve basis. Participants do, however, have to cover their own travel and accommodation costs, as there unfortunately are **no scholarships available**.

Course leaders: Camila Gianella (Comparative Politics UoB/CMI); **Bruce Wilson** (Professor, University of Central Florida/CMI); **Siri Gloppen** (Professor Comparative Politics, UoB & *LawTransform* Director) **Lecturers: Malcolm Langford** (University of Oslo/CMI) **Jeroen van der Slujs** (Philosophy of Science, UoB)

PhD course 17-26 August 2017
Effects of Lawfare:
Courts and law as battlegrounds for social change

Thursday 17 August: 9:00 – 17:00 (Registration, Coffee, from 8:30)

<i>8:30 - 9:00</i>	<i>Arrival, registration, coffee & tea</i>	
9:00 - 10:00	Welcome, introductions & course overview Introducing format for student presentations	Camila Gianella Siri Gloppen Bruce Wilson
10:00- 12:00	Introducing Lawfare: Concepts, approaches	Siri Gloppen
<i>11:00- 11:15</i>	<i>Coffee & Tea Break</i>	
<i>12:00 - 13:00</i>	Lunch	
13:00 - 14:30	Social movement theory: legal mobilization	Bruce Wilson
<i>14:30 - 15:00</i>	<i>Coffee & Tea Break</i>	

Friday 18 August: 8:45 – 17:00

<i>8:30 - 8:45</i>	<i>Coffee & Tea</i>	
8:45 - 9:00	Recap & introduction to the day	Camila
09:00 - 10:00	Conceptualizing lawfare effects – introduction lawfare effects: material, political and symbolic	Siri
<i>10:00-10:15</i>	<i>Coffee & Tea Break</i>	
10:15 - 12:00	Studying Lawfare Effects Quantitative, qualitative and experimental methods for studying different types of lawfare effects (including discussion of media content analysis through web-scraping/script-writing/Nvivo sessions)	Camila & Bruce
<i>12:00 -13:00</i>	Lunch	
13:00 – 14:15	Responsible evidence appraisal	Jeroen van der Slujs (Philosophy of Science, UoB)
14:30 – 16:30	Student presentations in separate groups for Track 1 and Track 2.	Camila & Bruce

Sunday 20 August: 9:00 – 15:00 + social event (Coffee from 8:30)

Lectures and student presentations in separate groups for Track 1 and Track 2.

<i>8:30 - 9:00</i>	<i>Coffee & Tea</i>	
9:00-11:00	<p>Studying Lawfare Effects continued</p> <p>Track 1: Examples – and challenges - from different fields</p> <p>Backlash and how to study it (political determinants)</p> <p>Track 2: Examples – and challenges – from the field of gender and sexuality</p> <p>Backlash and how to study it (political determinants)</p>	Bruce Wilson & Malcolm Langford
<i>11:00 -11:15</i>	<i>Coffee & Tea</i>	
11:15- 12:00		
<i>12:00 -13:00</i>	<i>Lunch</i>	
13:00- 115:00		
<i>15:00 – 22:00</i>	<i>Nature walk and informal social event (optional)</i>	<i>15:00 – 22:00</i>

Monday 21 August - Friday 26 August

Follow program for the Bergen Exchanges on Law & Social Transformation 2016 with some special PhD sessions - (see separate program)

There will be **Ph.D. course sessions most afternoons** where the two tracks normally will meet separately to follow up the sessions of the day and continue with the Ph.D. Student presentations.

The course will close with an evaluation session in the afternoon of **Friday 26 august**