

Collaborative Graduate Program with a Specialization in

Political and Legal Thought MA and LLM

Why Graduate Studies in Political and Legal Thought?

The Graduate Program in Political and Legal Thought (PLT) is a 12-month collaborative degree program that allows students to specialize in social, political, and legal theory.

Graduate students complete either an MA in the Department of Philosophy or Political Studies, or an LLM in the Faculty of Law.

Students can choose from a broad range of designated courses across all three disciplines, which, in any given year, will cover topics such as global justice, jurisprudence, ethics and animals, just war theory, feminism and the law, bio-ethics, egalitarianism, and human rights.

The only course of study of its kind in Canada, the PLT Program builds on the close connections that exist at Queen's between the Departments of Philosophy and Political Studies and the Faculty of Law. It also provides an exciting opportunity for interdisciplinary engagement with leading scholars in a lively intellectual community. In addition to their other courses in Political and Legal Thought, students will normally participate in the Colloquium in Legal and Political Philosophy.

The Colloquium is a highly distinctive course centered on seminars delivered by some of the world's leading legal and political theorists. Students are also encouraged to participate in the Political Philosophy Reading Group, which meets every two weeks to discuss important contemporary writings, some written by faculty and graduate students in Philosophy, Political Studies, or Law.



Why Queen's?

This 12-month program is an exciting opportunity to work intensively in an important interdisciplinary field with leading scholars in a lively intellectual community. The MA and LLM programs are intimate and friendly, which means our graduate students can enjoy meaningful, ongoing relationships with their supervisors, faculty members and, most importantly, each other. While our programs are small, the scope of expertise among our faculty is large and multifaceted. Our faculty, ranging from world-renowned scholars in their fields, to rising stars, represent a great wealth of knowledge and experience with which graduate students find opportunities to engage.

Program Structure

- MA with Specialization in Political and Legal Thought (12 months, full time). 6 courses (4 of these in PLT) plus Major Research Paper.

- LLM with Specialization in Political and Legal Thought (12 months, full time), 2 mandatory graduate courses (LAW 880 & 881), 4 additional courses (3 of these in PLT), plus a graduate paper.

Research Areas

- Bioethics, End-of-Life & Public Health Ethics
- Contractualism & future Generations
- Critical Social Theory & Political Theory
- Distributive Justice, Public Reason
- Ecology, Animals, Environmental Ethics
- Equality & Egalitarianism
- Feminisms, Gender & Sexuality
- Global Justice
- Hermeneutics & Education
- Human Rights
- Identity Politics
- International Criminal Law
- International Political Theory
- Jurisprudence
- Justice & Ethics
- Legal & Political Philosophy
- Political liberalism & Libertarianism
- Theories & Ethics of Territory



Faculty Research and Supervision

PHILOSOPHY

- **Kerah Gordon-Solmon** (Practical Ethics, Political Philosophy)
- **Jacqueline Davies** (Feminisms, Critical Social Theory, Gender and sexuality)
- **Lisa Guenther** (Critical Prison Studies, Political Philosophy)
- **Will Kymlicka** (Animals and Political Theory, Multiculturalism, Citizenship)
- **Udo Schüklenk** (Bioethics, End-of-life, Public Health Ethics)
- **Mick Smith** (Environmental Ethics, Ecology, Social and Political Theory)
- **Rahul Kumar** (Moral Psychology and Moral Theory)
- **Paul Fairfield** (Hermeneutics and Education)
- **Christine Synnnowich** (Egalitarianism and Philosophy of Law)
- **Dalitso Ruwe** (Intellectual History of Africana Philosophy, Anti-Colonial Theory, Africana Legal History)
- **Meena Krishnamurthy** (Social & Political Philosophy, Africana and Indian Philosophy)
- **Dolleen Tisawii'ashii Manning** (Anishinaabe Ontology, Phenomenology, Critical Theory)

POLITICAL STUDIES

- **Margaret Moore** (International Political Theory, Global Justice, Territorial Rights, Intergenerational Justice)
- **Andrew Lister** (Distributive Justice, Democracy, Public Reason and Libertarianism, Intergenerational Justice)
- **Colin Farrelly** (Justice and the Biomedical Sciences, Ideal/Non-Ideal Theory)
- **Paul Gardner** (Judicial Decision-Making, Empirical Constitutionalism)
- **Danielle Delaney** (Indigenous Rights)

LAW

- **Benjamin Ewing** (Criminal Law Theory)
- **Darryl Robinson** (International Criminal Law)
- **Jean Thomas** (Private Law Theory, Philosophy of Rights, Equality and Discrimination)
- **Sabine Tsuruda** (Workers' Rights, Egalitarianism)
- **Ashwini Vasanthakumar** (Migration, Citizenship and Transnational Politics)
- **Grégoire Webber** (Colloquium in Legal and Political Philosophy)
- **Jacob Weinrib** (Political Philosophy, Constitutional Theory)

Application FAQs

What do I need to know to Apply?

Students seeking to enrol in the Collaborative Program in Political and Legal Thought must first be accepted into one of the Graduate Programs in Philosophy, Political Studies, or Law.

Students are encouraged to contact the appropriate Program Graduate Assistant to indicate their interest in enrolling in the graduate program prior to submitting the online application.

ELIGIBILITY

Please review the admission requirements of the appropriate home department for a list of academic prerequisites and the documentation necessary for application and entry into the desired graduate program.

What about Funding?

Most students admitted to the program will be offered a funding package to help support their graduate education. We encourage students to apply for external scholarships.

For admission into the Collaborative Program in Political and Legal Thought, apply to the Department of Philosophy, the Department of Political Studies, or the Faculty of Law through the [School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs website](#).

For more information on awards and scholarships, consult the School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs' website.

Contact Information

For more information, contact the representative of the Department that is best aligned with your research interests.

- **LAW**
Graduate Program Coordinator
lawgrad@queensu.ca
law.queensu.ca/graduate-program
- **PHILOSOPHY**
Graduate Assistant
gradphil@queensu.ca
queensu.ca/philosophy/students/graduate-program
- **POLITICAL STUDIES**
Graduate Assistant
gradpols@queensu.ca
queensu.ca/politics/graduate/master-arts