



# Legal Marginalia

## An Interdisciplinary Colloquium organized by the E-SRT in Law, Literature and Language

Thursday April 2, 2015

Academic Conference Room, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor, Cheng Yu Tung Tower, University of Hong Kong

This colloquium examines elements which are often considered 'marginal' in/to the law. The notion of the margin is a diverse and dynamic one. In some political regimes, scholars embed their criticism of government policies in endnotes and footnotes, such that their 'core' arguments can only be discerned by looking at the 'margins' of the text. In other instances, communities previously in the margins of the legal framework now receive renewed attention in human rights discourse. Finally, the humanities are at times considered 'marginal' to legal studies, but the interdisciplinary turn in legal scholarship has underscored the contribution that humanistic inquiry can make to the study of law. The papers in this colloquium collectively explore the multiple manifestations and meanings of the legal margin, and investigate what is at stake in the very act of designating a text, a concept or a discipline as marginal.

### Schedule

**10:00am - 11:15am**

Chris Munn (HKU)

Janny Leung (HKU)

Christopher Hutton (HKU)

**11:15am - 11:30am**

**11:30am - 12:45pm**

Andrew Counter (KCL)

Frederick Blumberg (HKU)

Yi-Hsin Hsu (Academica Sinica, Taiwan)

**12:45pm - 2:00pm**

**2:00pm - 3:00pm**

Daniel Matthews (HKU)

Emilios Christodoulidis (Glasgow)

**3:00pm - 3:15pm**

**3:15pm - 4:15pm**

Simon Stern (Toronto)

Shulamit Almog (Haifa)

**4:15pm - 4:30pm**

**4:30pm - 6:00pm**

### **Marginalized Figures in the Courtroom**

Margins of Justice in Colonial Hong Kong: *Li Hong Mi v. The Attorney General and Others*, 1917-1920

Missing Populations in Language Rights Cases

Law and its Categories: Is There Ever a Right to Classify Oneself?

### **Coffee Break**

### **Literary Engagements with Legal Marginality**

Balzac on the Wrong Side of the Law

Obscenity and Marginality

Poetics of Legal and Political Marginalia: Oaths, Constancy, and the Law of Flux in Dryden's Post-Revolutionary Plays

### **Lunch**

### **Philosophical Explorations of Legal Marginality**

Jurisdictions of the Common

Title (tba)

### **Coffee Break**

### **Visual Dimensions of Legal Marginality**

Margins of Authority: Precedent and Citation in Coke's *Institutes*

Marginalized Law in Israeli War Films

### **Coffee Break**

### **Plenary Lecture:**

#### **Melancholegalism: Black Letter Theory and the Temporality of Law**

Peter Goodrich (Cardozo Law School and Sin Wai-Kin Distinguished Visiting Professor in the Humanities, HKU)

Online registration: [Legal Marginalia](#)

For enquiries, please contact Lydia Bute at [LBUTE@hku.hk](mailto:LBUTE@hku.hk)



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