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## Acknowledgements and attributions

When we wrote the first edition of the book, we little thought that we would ever be writing a second. That we have been asked to is hopefully an indication that at least some students and teachers have enjoyed using the book and agree with its general approach to the subject. That said, we also received some constructive feedback on the first edition and we have been able to draw on this in putting the second edition together.

The main shape of the book remains the same. It is divided into three broad themes, which are themselves divided between the general and the advanced topics. We received some comments that in seeking to break with a certain approach to the teaching of jurisprudence, we had perhaps gone too far in not providing sufficient of an introduction to certain key theorists, such as HLA Hart, Hans Kelsen or Emile Durkheim, or that we had dealt with other topics of central importance, such as validity or justice, too quickly. We have accordingly sought to address these concerns. The content of the general sections has been rearranged, some sections rewritten to provide more systematic coverage, where necessary, and some issues which were perhaps a bit too complex have been moved into the advanced sections. There have also been changes made to the content of the advanced sections, with some new topics added, notably on law and deconstruction (in Part II) and on law and autopoiesis (in Part III).

As before we have benefited greatly from the generosity of friends, colleagues and students and we are pleased to acknowledge these debts. Some have contributed whole sections; others have assisted by updating or amending sections that were contributed to the first edition; and in some cases we have taken text from the first edition and reworked and updated this ourselves on the basis of feedback from students and colleagues. The more substantial contributions of certain colleagues are recognised in the attributions below.

In one instance the need to make updates ourselves has been forced upon us by circumstances. Neil MacCormick, who contributed enormously to the first edition by providing sections on sovereignty and the rule of law, died in April 2009. We have accordingly updated and lightly amended these sections as seemed necessary. More generally, though, Neil demonstrated through his life and work how jurisprudence could be seen as part of the project of government broadly conceived and he was always alert to the need to engage widely with political and social issues. It is in recognition of this spirit that we dedicate this second edition to him.

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