

3L SEMINARS - 2014-15

Law 300/301 Seminars satisfy the 3L writing requirement. There are eight (8) seminars and each has limited enrollment. Second year students may enroll in a seminar, if space is available, but they must register it as Law 490 Independent Reading & Research. The Independent Reading & Research project will **not** satisfy the 3L writing requirement that is to be completed in the third year. Law 676/677 Law Review, and Law-726 Federal Judicial Externships also satisfy the 3L writing requirement.

FULL-YEAR SEMINAR

POVERTY LAW - PROFS. BODENSTEINER (FALL) AND MOSKOWITZ (SPRING)

Law #300-A1 and 300-A2, 1 cr. hr. counted in each semester - you must take both semesters

This course will survey important legal issues (e.g., housing, health care, education, public benefits, wages, incarceration, etc.) affecting the 20% of the U.S. population who are poor. The role of the law and lawyers in efforts to address the impact of deepening economic inequality provides coherence to the various specific topics. Student papers will focus on these issues.

FALL SEMESTER ONLY

NATIONAL SECURITY LAW - PROF. BLOMQUIST

Law #301-A, 2 cr. hrs.

This seminar will meet once a week during the fall semester for two periods for the first part of the course. Students will be assigned topics for presenting during this time from among multiple topics. These issues of national security law include the following: theoretical approaches to national security and world order; the international law of conflict management; the use of force in international relations; war crimes' tribunals; the control of international terrorism; drugs as a national security issue; international arms restraint by treaty law, and policy; international human rights; the law of the sea; outer space law; the constitutional framework for division of national security among Congress, the President, and the Courts; intelligence and counterintelligence; domestic terrorism; national security violations; immigration law and national security; homeland security; and environmental law and national security. Students will spend the second part of the course writing two drafts of a 30 page paper on a topic of national security law that they propose with the professor's approval. An oral presentation of a summary of their papers will serve as a capstone for the seminar.

ADVANCED CONSTITUTIONAL LAW: RELIGIOUS FREEDOM - PROF. GAFFNEY

Law #301-B, 2 cr. hrs.

During the first half of the course, we will explore materials to understand both why America is so religious and why it is so pluralistic. These two features of American life are reflected in (1) the *free exercise principle*, which guarantees that people are free -- within limits -- to honor sacred duties even when they conflict with generally applicable norms, and (2) the *nonestablishment principle*, which requires the government to be neutral in religious matters, that is, to minimize the extent to which it either encourages or discourages religious belief or disbelief, practice or nonpractice, observance or nonobservance. We will also try to understand the fundamental unity of these two principles, as well as the relationship of religious freedom to other civil liberties (speech, press, assembly, petition) secured in the First Amendment. Each student must have a topic for research approved by September 15, and a working draft ready for discussion in the seminar by the end of October. The final draft will be due a week before the end of the semester, so that you can concentrate on the final exams during that period. Materials: Noonan and Gaffney, *The Believer and the Powers That Are* (2d ed. 1998).

SHAKESPEARE AND THE LAW - PROF. NUECHTERLEIN

Law #301-C, 2 cr. hrs.

This seminar will read, discuss and discern legal themes found in three of Shakespeare's plays. Students will research, write and orally present an academic research paper on an interdisciplinary topic using Shakespeare's works to enlighten an area of law.

LAW AND LITERATURE - PROF. COLEMAN

Law #301-D, 2 cr. hrs.

In this seminar we will read and discuss three works of literature that have influenced/analyzed/critiqued the legal system. Students will each select an outside work(s) of literature, to be read outside the class. Students will be required to write an original and unique seminar paper incorporating some facet of the literature selected by the student. Following completion of the first draft, students will be required to present their papers to the entire class, rewrite the draft and submit a final version of the paper.

SPRING SEMESTER ONLY

AMERICAN CONSTITUTIONAL HISTORY - PROF. GAFFNEY

Law #301-A, 2 cr. hrs.

This seminar will cover selected topics in constitutional history.

COMPARATIVE ISLAMIC LAW - PROF. KUTTY

Law #301-B, 2 cr. hrs.

This course will provide a contextualized and critical introduction to Islamic law. The course will examine the origins and sources of Islamic law, the development of the classical schools of jurisprudence, the impact of colonialism and modernity on Islamic legal discourse and then focus on the most contested and pressing issues facing contemporary manifestations of Islamic law. The issues and tensions will be highlighted through the exploration of the following areas of Islamic law: family law and the status of women; Islamic constitutionalism and the Islamic state; international law; jihad; human rights; minority rights; freedom of expression; and Islamic finance. Each of these areas will be examined with attention to the substantive law and questions revolving around how it is currently implemented by states and viewed by Muslim jurists from diverse perspectives. The course will also touch upon the contexts of the existing rules, critiques from within and from outside the tradition, and the prospects for and the dynamics and contexts around the calls for reform. The course will wrap up with a discussion of how Islamic law is observed by Muslims in North America and how it interacts with and impacts upon our domestic laws.

INTERCOLLEGIATE SPORTS LAW - PROF. STRAUBEL

Law #301-D, 2 cr. hrs.

This seminar will cover, in a traditional classroom format, the subjects of intercollegiate regulatory authority and structure; enforcement authority, structure, and process; penalties; judicial challenges; and, institutional compliance practices. Then, each student will research, write on, and present to the class on one of the subjects covered during the classroom format of the seminar.