
Legal 250 | Introduction to Legal Studies

Alan Gaitenby

4 credits

TuTh | 1:00pm – 2:15pm

+ Discussion Section

Gen Ed: SB and DU

Interdisciplinary exploration of basic issues of law's relationship to contemporary society, in which law affects almost all human activity. Topics include the nature as well as historical and social functions of law; the culture and role of major actors in the legal system (lawyers, judges, juries, police, technology); tension between ideals and realities in law; role of law in addressing contemporary social problems. This general education course, based on the assumption that "law is too important to be left to lawyers," is intended to foster analytical and critical skills and to discuss broad, interdisciplinary questions of individual responsibility, social morality, and justice.

Legal 297J | Critical Approaches to Law and Justice

Instructor TBD

3 credits

TuTh | 2:30pm – 3:45pm

The purpose of this course is to introduce the students to the basic concepts for the critical study of Law and Justice, both in US and in the international context. The course carries out a philosophical analysis of the main contemporary theories of law and justice. Philosophical and socio-legal debates on the "function and nature" of law in contemporary societies are exposed, with special interest in the US's case. At the same time, the relationship between law and politics, morals, economics, colonialism and, above all, justice is evaluated. Thus, the course constitutes a critical reflection on the possibility of justice in our time.

Legal 297LL | Law, Literature, and History: The American Experience

Marissa Carrere

3 credits

MW | 2:30pm – 3:45pm

How do writers grapple with legal questions? How does the law respond to issues raised in the realm of cultural or popular expression? Taking an interdisciplinary approach, this survey course will examine the legal history of the mid-nineteenth to early twentieth centuries against a larger historical frame which includes literature, film, journalism, and other forms of cultural expression. The turn of the last century was a period of tremendous change in the United States: we entered an age of imperialism, the nation experienced tremendous industrial growth, technological advances required new laws and understandings of privacy and property, and the nation grappled with the meanings of citizenship in the face of immigration, post-bellum emancipation, and the agitation of women for the vote. Significantly, many precedents set during this time of change and development still resonate in our culture today. Using the critical viewpoint that historical analysis facilitates, we will examine an array of different topics and wonder about the role of legislation in the creation of culture and society, and simultaneously, the role of culture and society in the creation of legislation.

Legal 391C | No Place to Hide: Law and Politics of Information/DATA

Alan Gaitenby

3 credits

TuTh | 10:00am – 11:15am

Surveillance, databases, privacy, and the production of data images are the backdrop for this course. The social and political implications of various data images, and the law's role in structuring the terrain and the ways in which data images can be manipulated and acted upon, is the focus. Potential topics include: Data images and identity; Data matching and mining in the construction of those images; Demographic / profiling industry and how it relates to marketing, public policy, and policing - security; National IDs; Workplace bio-metric and background checks; Private and state surveillance.

Legal 391E | Rules of War**W | 1:25pm – 3:55pm****Charli Carpenter****4 credits**

This course evaluates the role of international ethical norms in regulating the practice of organized political violence. We will begin by considering how to think analytically about the effects of ethical norms on international policy-making. We next consider the origins and evolving dynamics of the laws of war, explore why political actors so often violate these rules and the conditions under which they follow them, and examine the political and ethical dilemmas involved in enforcing them. Specific topics covered include weapons bans, terrorism, protection of noncombatants, and war crimes tribunals. The course will conclude with an assessment of continuity and change in global security norms post 9/11.

Legal 391SV | Sexual Violence, Justice, and Law**MW | 4:00pm – 5:15pm****Meredith Loken****3 credits**

This course explores the ambitious and complicated relationship between sexual violence and the legal system. We will investigate the concept of “justice,” examine the law as a justice-seeking mechanism, and identify the benefits and drawbacks of legal approaches. Topics include the feminist push for legal and criminal retribution in sexual violence cases; unequal race, class, gender, and status distribution of legal access; institutionalized abuse in militaries and prisons; responses to conflict-related sexual violence; and extra-legal modes of justice-seeking including restorative justice and vigilantism.

Legal 391U | Due Process in the Criminal Trial**MW | 4:00pm – 5:15pm****Judd Carhart****3 credits**

The course will focus on the impact of the Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Amendments in criminal trials. The course will study the historical perspective, the current application and the likely future applications of the amendments. A fundamental understanding of the criminal trial process is required.

Legal 393LG | Law and Global Migration**TuTh | 11:30am – 12:45pm****Rebecca Hamlin****3 credits**

This course explores the ways in which law affects and is affected by the movement of people across borders. An estimated three percent of the world's population are migrants, and while the United States has long been a "nation of immigrants," countries across Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Middle East are all becoming host to large numbers of non-citizens. We will examine the various ways in which states approach migration law-making, studying migration law as a form of national identity, a means of social control, and a way of reproducing racial hierarchies. We will learn about how domestic and international migration laws assign migrants to various categories and statuses, some of which lead to rights and privileges and some of which do not. Finally, we will ask how the realities of global migration patterns challenge legal categories and conceptions of citizenship.

Legal 394BI | American Courtroom Dramas**TuTh | 2:30pm – 3:45pm****Rebecca Hamlin****3 credits****Integrative Experience**

This course treats America's obsession with courtroom drama (real and fictional) as a window onto American culture. We will examine courtroom drama as a recurring trope in American literature, film, and television, and as a reflection of our expectations about what justice should look like. We will explore how real-life trials such as The Scopes Monkey Trial, The Scottsboro Case, The People vs. OJ Simpson, and the recent trial of George Zimmerman became focal points of public fascination and outrage. We will discuss the ways in which media coverage of courtroom drama filters and distorts national conversations about race and class. We will also use social science research and our own courtroom observations to understand the more mundane and routine way in which the American legal system typically operates. Thus, this course is a highly interdisciplinary investigation of American law and society. Satisfies the Integrative Experience requirement for BA-Legal major.

Legal 394CI | Law, Crime, and Society**M | 2:30pm – 5:00pm****Jamie Rowen****3 credits****Integrative Experience**

This course explores the interplay between law, crimes, and social institutions like the family, the state, and political economy. More broadly, Law, Crime, & Society is an introduction to the uses of theory in the social sciences and the ways in which it relates to the world beyond the classroom. This class shows students how to employ abstract concepts as tools for explaining contemporary real world situations, and pushes them to reflect on and synthesize the full arc of their undergraduate learning experience in preparation for the demands of life after the University

Legal 395A | Constitutional Amendment Workshop**TuTh | 1:00pm – 2:15pm****Diane Curtis****3 credits**

What if a Constitution drafted in the 18th century is inadequate to the needs of a 21st century nation? How should we amend it? In this hands-on course blending team-based learning and discussion-based classes, students will jointly identify a small number of perceived deficiencies in the US Constitution, research the history, interpretation, and application of the operative provisions, explore alternative models from other constitutions, and develop proposed amendments for presentation to and discussion by the entire class.

Legal 397CR | Conflict Resolution Through the Trial Courts**TuTh | 8:30am – 9:45am****Judd Carhart****3 credits**

The course will deal with issues that are unique to each of the respective trial courts. Case studies will address the manner in which disputes are resolved by trial or settlement. Some of the issues to be examined are sex offender registration requirements, termination of parental rights, sexually dangerous person proceedings and administrative agency appeals. The course will also focus on the equitable jurisdiction of the courts as well as an introduction into real property rights including the right, or lack thereof, to access beachfront property. The course will also cover the resolution of civil claims through the jury trial process.

Legal 397K | Human Trafficking**W | 2:30pm – 5:00pm****Lauren McCarthy****3 credits**

This course involves in-depth study of the topic of human trafficking, often referred to as "modern day slavery." The course will explore the definition of the crime of human trafficking in the United States and internationally, and study the debates surrounding anti-trafficking laws and policies. We will examine the similarities and differences between slavery and human trafficking in the popular imagination and the law. Readings will focus on recent debates among scholars, activists, and policy makers over the nature and meaning of choice, coercion, and victimization in exploitative labor situations, migration, and commercial sexual activities. We will also discuss how the phenomenon of human trafficking is measured and quantified, how victimhood is defined and understood by various constituents, and how law enforcement officers investigate and respond to trafficking in persons.

Legal 397LE | Law and Economic Crises**TuTh | 4:00pm – 5:15pm****José Atilés Osoria****3 credits**

Newspapers, media-outlets, and online platforms inform us, almost every day, of the declaration of a state of emergency, the imposition of exceptional measures or the activation of the martial law to deal with economic, social, environmental and political crises, or to tackle scenarios of political violence. In short, the normalization of this dispositive in contemporary democracies has produced a broad understanding of what it is and how it is implemented. However, this course would argue that the paradigm of the state of exception remains underdeveloped. The purpose of this course is to introduce the students to the debates on law, exceptionality and economic crises, both in the US and in the international context. Therefore, the course will be looking at: the foundational debates on the concept of the state of exception, law and sovereignty; critiques of the work of Giorgio Agamben; approaches to the living experiences of those whom suffer the state of exception and economic crises; and, the uses of the state of exception as technic of economic crises managements.

Legal 397RA | The Law and Politics of Indigenous Resistance in the Americas

TuTh | 10:00am – 11:15am

Angelica Bernal

3 credits

This course examines the contemporary indigenous struggle in the Americas. Themes discussed in the course include historical and contemporary colonialism, sovereignty claims, indigenous social movements and modes of resistance, and legal and political frameworks shaping indigenous struggles from national to international law. The course will also focus on specific case studies including:

anti-globalization resistance and autonomous governance by the Zapatistas; grassroots and legal struggles against genocide in Guatemala; and indigenous resistance surrounding natural resource extraction from Standing Rock Water Protectors to indigenous activists in the Amazon.

Legal 397SC | Sex and the Supreme Court

Tu | 2:30pm – 5:00pm

Jennifer Nye

3 credits

This course focuses on the U.S. Supreme Court and its rulings regarding sex and sexuality. What has the Court said about what type of sexual activity or sexual relationships are constitutionally protected and how and why has this changed over time? What is or should be the Court's role in weighing in on these most intimate issues? We will examine several hot button issues such as reproduction (sterilization/contraception/abortion); marriage (polygamous/interracial/same sex); pornography/obscenity; sodomy; sexual assault on college campuses; and sex education in public schools. We will consider how the Court and advocates framed these issues, used or misused historical evidence, and how the argument and/or evidence changed depending on the audience (i.e. the Court or the general public). Students will write several short argumentative essays, learn how to read and brief Supreme Court cases, and present an oral argument based on one of their argumentative essays. Prior law-related coursework is helpful, but not required.

Legal 450 | Legal Research and Writing

TuTh | 11:30am – 12:45pm

Marissa Carrere

3 credits**Junior Year Writing**

This course is designed to help students improve their ability to analyze and write about complicated legal issues. You should expect to do a lot of writing in this course. You will learn how to read and understand court opinions and how to find your way around a law library. Writing assignments include your own resume and a job application letter, case briefs, memoranda, OP-ED essays, and a research paper. These assignments are written from the perspective of a lay person writing to another lay person.

Legal 482 | The Irish Peace Process

Th | 4:00pm – 6:30pm

Leah Wing

3 credits

This course will examine the complex origins and manifestations of the conflict and peace on the island of Ireland with a concentration on the north of Ireland/Northern Ireland between 1969 and the present. We will explore the enduring elements of this protracted conflict and the multiple avenues through which peace and justice have been constructed. The mediation process which resulted in the 1998 Belfast Agreement (Good Friday Agreement) will be examined in depth from the perspective of the parties as well as the mediator. We will explore the present-day challenges to reconstruct an economy, create a shared future and deal with the legacy of the past in the wake of decades of violence and in the context of a newly implemented powersharing government. 'Post-conflict' conflict transformation at the 'coalface' as well as in the social fabric and governmental structures will be the focus of the latter part of the semester.

Legal 494DI | Environmental and Public Policy Dispute Resolution

Tu | 4:00pm – 6:30pm

Leah Wing

3 credits**Integrative Experience**

This course examines multiparty disputes involving topics such as land use management, water rights, e-healthcare, and pollution remediation. We explore dispute resolution's role in enhancing democratic participation in decision making of public import.
