

CONSTITUTIONAL LAW AND GOVERNMENT

Public law plays a central role in the modern U.S. legal system. Statutes have displaced common law regulation in many areas, and supplement it in nearly all. Constitutional law issues, while not central in the daily practice of most lawyers, sporadically arise in nearly all areas of law. And, of course, constitutional law is fundamental to understanding the place of law in our society. As lawyers, you should have a fair understanding of the basic structure of the Constitution and the rights it guarantees.

Basic courses in the field are outlined below. (The basic course in *Administrative Law*, described in the "Administrative Law, Legislation, and Governance" cluster, is an important complement to study of constitutional law and government.)

The field of constitutional law and government allows students to examine the role of statutes and the Constitution in modern law. First year students study some aspects of constitutional structure in *Constitutional Law I* and in the courses in Curriculum B. Students interested in civil rights and civil liberties should take *Constitutional Law II* as soon as they find convenient. In addition, the course in *Federal Courts and the Federal System* provides a systematic introduction to constitutional litigation in our federal system. Students interested in, or having obtained, judicial clerkships (both state and federal) should be sure to take the Federal Courts course. (Many students and faculty members think it best to take the Federal Courts course in the third year, and preferably after having taken *Constitutional Law II*.) Specialized courses deal with different aspects of government operations. In general, students should select such courses based on their interests and career plans; none is more basic than any other.

The basic course *Lawmaking: Introduction to Statutory and Regulatory Interpretation* introduces students to issues about how the statutes are created and interpreted that are at the foundation of many other statutory courses (including tax and government regulation courses).

Students interested in civil rights law (broadly understood) will find several courses in this cluster dealing with statutory protection of civil rights. The course in *Civil Rights* gives an overview of statutory protection of civil rights. It will be useful to students interested in a survey course and to students who, while interested in the field in general, may not have enough background to make them comfortable in immediately choosing among the specialized courses. Depending on the instructor's interests, these courses may emphasize the connection between civil rights law and constitutional law, or between civil rights law and questions of statutory creation and interpretation. Again, choices among the specialized courses are best made on the basis of a student's interests and plans, rather than on a judgment that some specialized course is more important than another.

Local Government Law integrates issues of administrative, land use, and constitutional law, and questions of civil rights, tax, and labor law. It focuses on issues of state and local power that pervade nearly every lawyer's practice.

A number of advanced courses and seminars offer more historical and theoretical perspectives on constitutional law and government. As with all advanced courses, these augment students' understanding of the field in general. Students interested in pursuing academic careers with a primary or secondary focus on public law should seriously consider

taking one of the courses offering such perspectives. Similarly, students interested in international law should consider seminars dealing with the constitutional dimensions of foreign affairs or comparative constitutional law.

The clinic and practicum courses in this cluster provide students with opportunities to learn about the process of adopting and interpreting legislation by engaging in it, through litigation or legislative advocacy. Students interested in the practical and theoretical aspects of this field are encouraged to combine a relevant clinic, practicum, or externship with a combination of the basic courses in the field and some advanced offerings.

Search Constitutional Law and Government Courses (https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?cluster=cluster_8)

LAW 1861 v00 A Friend of the Court: Tools for Effective Amicus Advocacy ([https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1861 v00](https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%201861%20v00))

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours

Litigating Liberty introduces students to the practice of public interest litigation under 42 U.S.C. § 1983. The class will examine cases from the perspective of the lawyers who fight constitutional battles and explore topics like how to select the right client, identify the right claims, and file in the right jurisdiction. The class will also discuss how to choose the right moment in history to bring suit and how to effectively utilize the media. There will be particular emphasis on teaching real-world litigation skills, such as how to approach motions to dismiss and discovery. Students will then act as the practitioners themselves and fight for their cases on summary judgment, giving students practical experience in the day-to-day life of a constitutional litigator.

LAW 1849 v00 Abolitionism and the Law Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1849 v00>)

J.D. Seminar | 2-3 credit hours

This seminar will cover the history and present of abolitionist movements in the United States and the role of law in resisting or hastening abolition, mainly of slavery, but also of prisons and policing today. The first half of the course will present a legal history of abolitionism. Students will learn about the founding constitutional accommodations to slavery and the role of the Supreme Court in enforcing those constitutional protections of enslavers prior to the Civil War. They will also learn about the modes of abolitionist resistance to slavery, including freedom suits by enslaved persons and legal challenges on behalf of fugitives as well as abolitionists' petitions to state and federal legislatures to end slavery. They will read and engage with iconic primary abolitionists texts from the colonial, revolutionary and pre-Civil War eras to understand the moral, constitutional, and political arguments levelled against slavery. They will also read and understand the original intentions of the drafters of the Reconstruction Amendments and engage with their conception of "abolition democracy," that is, the democratic society they hoped to create to ensure freedom and equality for the formerly enslaved. The second half of the course will engage with abolition now, particularly the legal and social movements for abolition of modern slavery, prisons, and endemically violent policing. Students will read excerpts from signature works on contemporary abolitionism, including key law review articles on prison and policing abolition and on "abolitionist constitutionalism." They will grapple with the relevance of abolitionist thought to modern aspirations concerning individual freedom, equality, and democracy.

Learning Outcomes: (1) Students will learn about the role of abolitionists and abolitionist thought in shaping American law and guarantees of freedom and equality. (2) Students will demonstrate an ability to produce an original, high quality research paper. (3) Students will demonstrate an ability to give constructive feedback on the work of their peers. (4) Students will engage in critical analysis of the gap between our professed founding ideals of freedom and the reality for historically and presently subordinated persons and develop concrete ideas in their papers on what to do about it.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for this seminar and Reconstruction and Civil Rights Seminar.

Note: This seminar requires a paper. J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2 credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

LAW 1716 v00 Advanced Constitutional Law Seminar: Challenges to Liberal Democracies (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1716 v00>)

J.D. Seminar | 2-3 credit hours

This seminar examines the challenges to constitutional democracies from illiberalism, i.e. the concentration of power that relies on elections, limits judicial independence, and abuses the rule of law in the name of the people. Many so-called democracies have serious flaws in their election systems, limited judicial independence, and elected leaders who are not held in check by functioning rule of law processes/checks and balances.

In the United States, efforts have been made to change rules for voting, draw electoral districts to give extreme partisan advantage, and use federal government agencies as weapons to thwart checks and balances.

In this seminar we apply a multidisciplinary approach to the American situation, putting legal (in particular constitutional) transformation in the center. Specific topics include constitutional amendment, limitations on judicial independence, control over the media, takings and other restrictions of the free market, voter suppression and gerrymandering, plebiscites (e.g., Brexit), and threats to fundamental rights.

In addition to considering Turkey and the countries of East Central Europe, where voters have chosen autocratic leaders, we will also examine the Russian approach which has served as a model for many emerging illiberal regimes as well as a financial and intellectual support for illiberal movements from France to Italy and elsewhere, to better understand developments in the U.S. In addition, the course will consider how crises, such as public health issues or civil unrest, are used as justification for limiting true democracy.

In addition to examining the legal structures that permit this abuse of the democratic form, this course will also address the critical question of whether a democracy is sustainable in the face of ethno- or religious populism. Are there sources of constitutional resilience to save the remaining constitutional regimes?

Recommended: Prior or concurrent enrollment in Constitutional Law I: The Federal System.

Note: This seminar requires a paper. J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2 credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

LAW 1265 v00 Advanced Constitutional Law Seminar: The Creation of the Constitution (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1265 v00>)

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2-3 credit hours

Few events have had as much impact on American history than the framing and ratification of the Constitution. This seminar is designed to offer students with serious interests in history, political theory, and constitutional law an opportunity to learn more about these events by reading some of the best scholarship on the creation of the Constitution and by writing an original research paper on an appropriate topic of their choosing. The seminar will examine how the Constitution was framed, ratified, and implemented during both the founding of the Republic and the "Second Founding" during and after the Civil War. Special attention will be given to founding-era controversies involving slavery, federalism, and implied powers, and to how these issues influenced the adoption and interpretation of the Reconstruction Amendments.

Prerequisite: Constitutional Law I: The Federal System (or Democracy and Coercion).

Note: J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the two-credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

LAW 1712 v00 Advanced Evidence (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1712 v00>)

J.D. Course | 3 credit hours

This course will take an in-depth look at issues involving the law of evidence. The topics discussed will likely fall into three categories. This first category concerns constitutional limitations on evidence rules such as the Confrontation Clause, a criminal defendant's constitutional right to present a defense, and the impeachment of jury verdicts. The second category concerns advanced problems involving character, hearsay, experts, and privileges. The third category concerns the process of proof in civil and criminal cases and will focus on topics such as burdens and standards of proof, evidentiary presumptions, and judicial notice.

Prerequisite: Evidence.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for this course and Advanced Evidence Seminar.

LAW 1712 v01 Advanced Evidence Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1712 v01>)

J.D. Seminar | 2 credit hours

This course will take an in-depth look at issues involving the law of evidence. The topics discussed will likely fall into three categories. This first category concerns constitutional limitations on evidence rules such as the Confrontation Clause, a criminal defendant's constitutional right to present a defense, and the impeachment of jury verdicts. The second category concerns advanced problems involving character, hearsay, experts, and privileges. The third category concerns the process of proof in civil and criminal cases and will focus on topics such as burdens and standards of proof, evidentiary presumptions, and judicial notice.

Prerequisite: Evidence.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for this seminar and Advanced Evidence.

LAW 168 v00 Advanced Evidence: Supreme Court and the Constitution Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 168 v00>)

J.D. Seminar | 3 credit hours

This seminar examines advanced subjects in evidence that were not treated or not treated in depth in the basic Evidence course but are important to trial practice.

Prerequisite: Evidence.

LAW 277 v02 Aging and Law Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 277 v02>)

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours

This seminar explores, through lecture, discussion, role playing, and problem solving, the range of legal challenges and public policy issues affecting older adults. Subject areas include health care benefits (Medicare, Medicaid); long-term services and supports (nursing homes, home and community-based services, long-term care insurance, state-based programs); income security programs (Social Security, SSI); aging and autonomy, including elder abuse, neglect and exploitation and advance planning related to incapacity (powers of attorney, guardianship and its alternatives, choices regarding life-sustaining medical treatment); housing and consumer issues affecting older adults; and ethical issues in representing older adults. Coursework will address systemic inequities faced by older adults of color, older women, LGBTQ older adults, older adults with disabilities, and older adults who are immigrants or have limited English proficiency. The seminar is both practice- and policy-oriented and integrative with respect to other coursework and related disciplines.

Recommended: Prior or concurrent enrollment in one or more of the following courses: Administrative Law; Family Law I: Marriage and Divorce; Constitutional Law II: Individual Rights and Liberties; Professional Responsibility.

LAW 1771 v00 Arguing Free Speech in the 21st Century Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1771 v00>)

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2-3 credit hours

This course will explore cutting-edge issues in First Amendment doctrine, policy, and scholarship, through a pedagogical method that emphasizes structured debate and moot court oral arguments. Among the substantive issues we will address include: the effect of social media on free speech; campaign finance reform; compelled speech; data as speech and data privacy; hate speech; student online speech; commercial speech; and speech on campus. The class will feature a mixture of traditional seminar conversation and moot courts or structured debates. Each student will have the opportunity to be an oralist and to be a questioner or judge. Writing requirements will include the preparation of questions for the moot courts/structured debates, and an in-depth analysis of one of the issues we have discussed in class.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for this course and Contemporary Free Speech Problems.

Note: LL.M. STUDENTS: THIS COURSE REQUIRES DEPARTMENTAL PERMISSION TO ENROLL. LL.M. students cannot register or put themselves on the waitlist for this course through GU Experience. Students interested in taking this course should send an e-mail to lawgradprog@georgetown.edu.

This seminar requires a paper. J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2 credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

LAW 090 v00 Capital Punishment Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 090 v00>)

J.D. Seminar | 2-3 credit hours

This seminar focuses on the substantive law of capital punishment and on the procedural aspects of post-conviction proceedings. The course will include an examination of the history of death penalty jurisprudence, habeas corpus, recent U.S. Supreme Court cases, public policy issues, and state and federal death penalty statutes. The writing requirement offers students an opportunity to write on a topic of their choice pertaining to the death penalty.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for this course and The Death Penalty in America Seminar or the Death Penalty Litigation Practicum.

Note: This seminar requires a paper. Students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2 credit section will not fulfill the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

LAW 1079 v00 Child Welfare Law and Practice in the District of Columbia (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1079 v00>) (Fieldwork Practicum)

J.D. Practicum | 4 credit hours

In fieldwork practicum courses, students participate in weekly seminars and conduct related fieldwork at outside organizations. This practicum course will focus on the workings of the child welfare system in the District of Columbia. Students will participate in a two hour/week seminar and also undertake 10 hours/week of fieldwork at a child welfare-related organization.

SEMINAR: Students will study Supreme Court and District of Columbia cases defining the fundamental nature of the parent/child relationship and setting forth when state intervention is warranted to protect the best interests of the child. Students will gain an understanding of the various stages of child protection proceedings and the different roles, responsibilities and professional relationships of the attorneys representing the government, the child and the parents at each stage. Issues concerning interracial and gay adoption will be discussed, as will the overrepresentation of poor and minority youth in the child welfare system. Students will engage in simulation exercises, give an in-class presentation on a topic of their choosing, and will write a final paper.

FIELDWORK: Students will participate in fieldwork with a child welfare-related organization and share their experiences with the class and through written reflection memos. Some fieldwork sites require students to undergo police/background clearances, and others do not. If this is a concern for a student, the student should reach out to the professor before the beginning of the semester to discuss field placement options.

Note: F-1 and J-1 international students must consult with an international student advisor before enrolling in this course. Please email lawcentervisa@georgetown.edu.

Prerequisite: J.D. students must complete the required first-year program prior to enrolling in this course. Part-time and interdivisional transfer students may enroll prior to completing Constitutional Criminal Procedure (formerly Criminal Justice), Property, or their first-year elective.

Recommended: Family Law I: Marriage and Divorce or Family Law II: Child, Parent, and the State; Evidence.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not concurrently enroll in this practicum and an externship or a clinic or another practicum course.

Note: This practicum course is open to LL.M. students, space permitting. Interested LL.M. students should email the Office of the Registrar (lawreg@georgetown.edu) to request admission.

This course is suitable for evening students who can commit to attending class and working 10 hours/week (during business hours) with their field placements. This is a four credit course. Two credits will be awarded for the two-hour weekly seminar and two credits for approximately 10 hours of fieldwork per week, for a minimum of 11 weeks, to be scheduled with the faculty. The fieldwork must be completed during normal business hours. The two credit seminar portion of this practicum will be graded. The two credits of fieldwork are mandatory pass/fail. Students will be allowed to take another course pass/fail in the same semester as the field work. Students who enroll in this course will be automatically enrolled in both the seminar and fieldwork components and may not take either component separately. After Add/Drop, a student who wishes to withdraw from a practicum course must obtain permission from the faculty member and the Assistant Dean for Experiential Education. The Assistant Dean will grant such withdrawal requests only when remaining enrolled in the practicum would cause significant hardship for the student. A student who is granted permission to withdraw will be withdrawn from both the seminar and fieldwork components. Default attendance rule for all practicum courses (unless the professor indicates

LAW 286 v02 Church-State Law Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 286 v02>)
J.D. Seminar | 2-3 credit hours

This seminar focuses on the major themes in church-state law over the past decades and key issues the Supreme Court will face in the next several terms. It will analyze and evaluate the various theories proposed by the sitting Justices on both free exercise and establishment clause jurisprudence and place those theories in the historical context of church-state law in America. The seminar will deal with such issues as tensions between the free exercise and establishment clauses, public aid to religious institutions, religion and public education, accommodating religious minorities, and church institutional autonomy. It will also examine tension between demands for religious accommodation and demands for gender and sexual equality, protection of public health, and other social norms. Throughout, current litigation strategies related to these issues will be explored.

Recommended: Constitutional Law II: Individual Rights and Liberties.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for this seminar and Religious Liberty on Trial Seminar.

Note: This seminar requires a paper. J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2 credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

LAW 1684 v00 Civil Rights and Violence Against Women (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1684 v00>) (Project-Based Practicum)

J.D. Practicum | 4 credit hours

This practicum aims to finalize and publish research on civil remedies for sexual assault, harassment and battering. The issue has become more timely given recent Supreme Court opinions suggesting that state tort law (the subject of two of our memos) may be the only viable remedy for survivors. Three prior practicums have produced three memos, with important empirical findings on the limited availability of civil remedies, in the federal and state systems, for our partner organization, Legal Momentum (formerly NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund). This evidence was cited in testimony before the House of Representatives in favor of the Equal Rights Amendment, but has yet to be finalized or published. Students seeking to learn how to publish academic work may find this practicum course particularly useful, as we will seek to publish our end product. Advance approval of the instructor is required: please send the instructor a resume, a transcript, and a paragraph explaining why the student seeks to take this class. *Students should not take this practicum if they do not want to do significant research, writing, and blue-booking.*

Prerequisite: J.D. students must complete the required first-year program prior to enrolling in this course. Part-time and interdivisional transfer students may enroll prior to completing Constitutional Criminal Procedure (formerly Criminal Justice), Property, or their first-year elective.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not concurrently enroll in this practicum and a clinic or another practicum course. Students may concurrently enroll in this course and an externship.

Note: THIS COURSE REQUIRES PROFESSOR PERMISSION TO ENROLL. Students must submit a resume and one page statement of interest to Professor Victoria Nourse (vn@georgetown.edu) by 5:00 pm on Tuesday, June 13, 2023. After June 13, if seats remain open in the course, students will be admitted on a rolling basis.

This course is suitable for evening students; project work does not need to be completed during business hours. This is a four credit course. Two credits will be awarded for the two-hour weekly seminar and two credits will be awarded for approximately 10 hours of supervised project work per week, for a minimum of 11 weeks. Both the seminar portion and the project work will be graded. Students who enroll in this course will be automatically enrolled in both the seminar and fieldwork components and may not take either component separately. After Add/Drop, a student who wishes to withdraw from a practicum course must obtain permission from the faculty member and the Assistant Dean for Experiential Education. The Assistant Dean will grant such withdrawal requests only when remaining enrolled in the practicum would cause significant hardship for the student. A student who is granted permission to withdraw will be withdrawn from both the seminar and fieldwork components. Default attendance rule for all practicum courses (unless the professor indicates otherwise): Regular and punctual attendance is required at all practicum seminars and fieldwork placements. Students in project-based practicum courses are similarly required to devote the requisite number of hours to their project. If a student must miss seminar, fieldwork, or project work, he or she must speak to the professor as soon as possible to discuss the absence. Unless the professor indicates otherwise, a student with more than one unexcused absence from the practicum seminar (out of 13 total seminar sessions), or one week of unexcused absences from the fieldwork or project work (out of a total of 11 weeks of fieldwork or project work), may receive a lower grade or, at the professor's discretion, may be withdrawn from the practicum course.

LAW 528 v02 Civil Rights Clinic (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 528 v02>)

J.D. Clinic | 12 credit hours

Please see the Civil Rights Clinic website (<https://www.law.georgetown.edu/experiential-learning/clinics/civil-rights-clinic/>) for more detailed information about the program.

For registration-specific supplemental materials, please see the Civil Rights PDF (<https://georgetown.app.box.com/s/s6vcvb0c1z40mvkvic15ba6mu7xw6de4/>).

For information about clinic registration generally, please see the Clinic Registration Handbook (<https://georgetown.app.box.com/s/kaax2p1h16z2hiwdsbuzlshe16le5s/>).

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not concurrently enroll in this clinic and an externship or a practicum course.

LAW 1322 v00 Civil Rights Statutes and the Supreme Court Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1322 v00>)

J.D. Seminar | 2 credit hours

This seminar will examine recent litigation in the Supreme Court involving the modern civil rights statutes: Title VII, Title IX, RFRA, the ADEA, the ADA, the Fair Housing Act, and Sections 2 and 5 of the Voting Rights Act. Toward that end, we will read recent cases decided by the Court interpreting these statutes, and the cases that form the backdrop for those decisions. We will also examine briefs and oral arguments in some of these cases. Finally, we will examine civil rights cases that are scheduled to be heard in the upcoming term, or that may make their way to the Court in the near future. There will be one writing assignment, a paper of approximately 25 pages in length. Two-thirds of the grade will be based on the paper, and one-third will be based on class participation.

Recommended: Constitutional Law II: Individual Rights and Liberties.

LAW 1865 v00 Civil Rights: Section 1983 & Police Accountability (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1865 v00>)

J.D. Course (cross-listed) | 3 credit hours

This course will provide an overview of remedies (including damages and injunctive relief), and key civil rights doctrines (including municipal liability, qualified immunity, and supervisory liability). The course will focus heavily on 42 U.S.C. § 1983 (The Civil Rights Act of 1964). Required readings will include state and federal court opinions, academic and media articles, and a recent book about civil rights lawsuits against law enforcement: *Shielded, How the Police Became Untouchable*, by Joanna Schwartz. The materials covered are applicable to a wide range of civil rights litigation, but the focus of the course is on civil litigation against law enforcement officers and agencies. In addition to classroom discussion of assigned readings, the course will include visits from practitioners with experience in the topics covered by this course. Throughout the course, students will be challenged to think critically about the law's claim to neutrality and its differential effects on subordinated groups. This approach is essential to understanding why Section 1983 has been interpreted as it has over time, and how this impacts the legal arguments and strategic decisions lawyers practicing in this area should make.

Learning Objectives:

- an understanding of doctrines critical to the litigation of civil rights cases brought against law enforcement agencies and officers; both the ways in which the doctrines have been broadly defined by the Supreme Court and some examples of lower court applications of the doctrine;
- an understanding of the policy goals that animate civil rights doctrines, and the ways in which those doctrines further and inhibit those goals;
- an understanding of how facially neutral doctrines shield law enforcement and agencies from accountability in ways that disproportionately disadvantage subordinated groups, including those identified by race, gender, indigeneity, and class;
- an understanding of the ways in which lawyers deploy procedural rules as part of their litigation strategy, and the consequences of various strategic choices;
- the ability to think strategically about how to frame and pursue a police misconduct civil rights action;
- hone ability to read, analyze, and explain your understanding of a court opinion;
- improve ability to apply black letter law and case holdings to novel factual scenarios;
- the ability to constructively participate in and lead discussions of complex issues related to policing, including issues regarding structural racism and state violence; and,
- the ability to work collaboratively with classmates on exercises exploring various aspects of civil litigation.

Prerequisite: Constitutional Criminal Procedure (formerly Criminal Justice) or Democracy and Coercion (or equivalent from another school for transfer students).

LAW 1841 v00 Civil Rights: The Ensuing Pursuit of Justice (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1841 v00>)

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2-3 credit hours

By providing a rich historical introduction to the histories of various groups of color in the United States and their encounters with white Europeans and their descendants, we will explore the themes of race and racism in a variety of doctrinal contexts. We will examine federal and state cases and legislation, which have defined the scope and limitations historically faced by minorities over time from the point of slavery to modern day. We will also examine how early social and economic realities have shaped society's and thus the court's view of the role of minorities in America. Finally, we will study major cases leading to systemic change and the advancement of equal justice and at times retrenchment. The overall themes and reading assignments for this course are directly related to Georgetown's Institutional Learning Outcomes (ILO). Specifically, this course provides students the ability to think critically about the connections between race, history, and legal doctrine or law, and the differential effects that has on minority groups.

Learning Objectives:

This course will enable students to enhance their critical thinking skills, examine and analyze legal precedents, and develop or improve their advocacy skills and legal writing.

We will examine throughout the semester why and how the law uses racial identifications in theory and in practice, which will require students to think critically about the powerful and ingrained modes of thinking about race and the impact that has on the law's claim to neutrality. We will begin with a discussion on implicit bias and how it provides a background for understanding the twists and turns over the years of the notions of race in America. Students will then use this understanding throughout the remainder of the course to think critically about the role of implicit bias in the law as it pertains to race, ethnicity, and culture.

Note: This seminar requires a paper. J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2 credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

LAW 528 v01 Communications and Technology Law Clinic (IPR) (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 528 v01>)

J.D. Clinic | 10 credit hours

Please see the Communications and Technology Law Clinic (IPR) website (<https://www.law.georgetown.edu/experiential-learning/clinics/communications-technology-law-clinic-ipr/>) for more detailed information about the program.

For registration-specific supplemental materials, please see the Communications and Technology Law Clinic (IPR) PDF (<https://georgetown.app.box.com/s/9c157301gvrlhhhe8woa9qjn8ov7wi1/>).

For information about clinic registration generally, please see the Clinic Registration Handbook (<https://georgetown.app.box.com/s/kaax2p1h16z2hiwdsuubzlshe16le5s/>).

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not concurrently enroll in this clinic and an externship or a practicum course.

LAW 091 v11 Comparative Constitutional Law (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 091 v11>)

J.D. Course (cross-listed) | 3 credit hours

How do we lose and save a constitutional democracy? How can democratic backsliding be prevented? What should we consider in designing a constitution? Can constitutions exist without constitutionalism? What is an authoritarian constitution? How do constitutions transitions and change occur? What forms of judicial review do courts employ? Is it possible to have an unconstitutional constitutional amendment? How do courts across the world interpret constitutions? Can constitutions be employed abusively?

Comparative constitutional law has exploded in contemporary constitutional practice and as a field of study. Events around the world—from Asia and the Middle East to Europe and Latin America—underscore the importance of understanding how constitutional democracies are born and how they can collapse. In this course, we will explore constitutions in global perspective, examining issues of constitutional structure and rights across comparative constitutional systems. We will cover topics like constitution-making, constitutional change, constitutional amendment, judicial review, and constitutional adjudication. Drawing on examples across the world, we will also examine individual rights issues, such as freedom of religion and freedom of expression, as well as constitutionalism in times of emergency and during the COVID-19 pandemic. We will also consider how constitutions can be abused and the question of whether and how constitutionalism might be able to endure in fragile democracies.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for both this course and the Comparative Constitutional Law Seminar.

LAW 1946 v00 Comparative Constitutional Law - Free Expression
(<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1946 v00>)

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2-3 credit hours

This seminar considers issues of free expression as they have been dealt with by constitutional courts around the world. Every session will include treatment of U.S. law on the week's topic; other nations considered include Canada, Colombia, Hong Kong, Germany, Israel, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom (as well as the European Court of Human Rights). Topics covered include seditious speech, speech said to cause lawbreaking, national security, demonstrations in public spaces, false statements that harm reputation (libel), criticism of the judiciary, false statements as such, campaign finance, and regulation of the internet. We will discuss different doctrinal approaches, including balancing, proportionality, and categorical rules, and will consider the effects of politics, the legal culture, and culture more broadly on the shape of doctrine. Some previous knowledge of free expression law in one or more jurisdictions is recommended but not required.

Learning Objectives:

The objectives of the course are to:

1. Provide students with an understanding of key theories of free speech, particularly in modern democracies
2. Examine selected aspects of free speech law in a number of developed countries, including the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, and Singapore
3. Familiarize students with canonical free speech cases

Prerequisite: Constitutional Law I: The Federal System.

Recommended: Constitutional Law II: Individual Rights and Liberties.

Note: This seminar requires a paper. J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2 credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

LAW 091 v10 Comparative Constitutional Law Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 091 v10>)

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2-3 credit hours

How to lose and save a constitutional democracy? How to prevent democratic backsliding? How to design a constitution? Can constitutions exist without constitutionalism? What is an authoritarian constitution? How do constitutions transitions and change occur? What forms of judicial review do courts employ? Is it possible to have an unconstitutional constitutional amendment? How do courts across the world interpret constitutions? Can constitutions be employed abusively?

Comparative constitutional law has exploded in contemporary constitutional practice and as a field of study. Events around the world—from Asia and the Middle East to Europe and Latin America—underscore the importance of understanding how constitutional democracies are born and how they can collapse. In this course, we will explore constitutions in global perspective, examining issues of constitutional structure and rights across comparative constitutional systems. We will cover topics like constitution-making, constitutional change, constitutional amendment, judicial review, and constitutional interpretation. Drawing on examples across the world, we will also examine individual rights issues, such as freedom of religion, as well as constitutionalism in times of national emergency and in fragile democracies.

J.D. students who wish to write a fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement must register for the 3-credit section of the seminar. J.D. or LLM students taking the seminar for 2-credits will not need to write a paper. There are no prerequisites for taking the class.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for both this course and the Comparative Constitutional Law course.

Note: This seminar requires a paper. J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2 credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

LAW 080 v00 Computer Crime Law (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 080 v00>)

J.D. Course (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours

This course will explore the legal issues that judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, and policymakers confront as they respond to the recent dramatic increase in computer-related crime, such as computer hacking, ransomware, and online threats. In particular, we will consider how modern online crime and electronic evidence increasingly challenge our traditional approaches to investigating, prosecuting, and defending crimes in the physical space. Topics will include: the Fourth Amendment online, the law of electronic surveillance, computer hacking and other computer crimes, the First Amendment and the Internet, artificial intelligence, and special issues in transnational and national security cyber investigations

Recommended: Criminal Law or Criminal Procedure or Constitutional Criminal Procedure (formerly Criminal Justice) recommended but not required. Although much of this class involves computer and internet technology, no prior technical background or knowledge is required.

LAW 309 v02 Congressional Investigations Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 309 v02>)
J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours

This seminar deals with Congress' powers to conduct oversight and investigations of the Executive branch. This seminar will cover the scope of Congressional inquiries and investigations, Congress' subpoena powers, grant of immunity powers as well as hearing and rulemaking powers, the use of select committees, the GAO, and other special investigative techniques. The course will examine the use of prehearing depositions, rights of witnesses, preparation of witnesses, the role of the press and the interaction between Congress and prosecutorial functions including investigations conducted by special and independent counsel statute. In addition to the traditional use of lectures, class discussions and outside speakers, the course will be built around mastering the subject matter and surfacing ethical issues by working on complex problems. Students will be expected to work in small groups on contemporary issues to simulate the work of Committee members, Committee Staff, White House Counsel Staff and members of the news media.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for both this seminar and Congressional Oversight of the Executive Branch.

Note: Students may not withdraw from this class after the add/drop period ends without the permission of the professor.

LAW 309 v03 Congressional Investigations Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 309 v03>)
J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours

This seminar explores the range of issues involved in congressional investigations, with special attention paid to the differing perspectives of the major players, both inside and outside of Congress, in a congressional investigation. Congressional investigations involve a unique interplay of legal and political issues. Legal issues – involving such matters as the rights of private institutions and private citizens who may be implicated in a congressional investigation, the legal and political ability of the Executive Branch to resist congressional probes, the authority of the Judicial Branch to interfere with or limit the conduct of congressional investigations, and the relationship of congressional investigations to related criminal and civil inquiries conducted by other governmental entities – must be factored into the political calculus of the contending political forces involved in a congressional investigation. Political determinations – which underpin such issues as the scope and duration of an investigation or whether witnesses should be interviewed, deposed or called to testify live at a hearing – may have significant legal ramifications. This seminar will address these issues at both the practical and the theoretical levels. As part of the course, class members will be asked to participate in mock problems concerning different aspects of the process.

Recommended: Constitutional Criminal Procedure (formerly Criminal Justice) or Democracy and Coercion or Criminal Procedure.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for both this seminar and Congressional Oversight of the Executive Branch or Congressional Investigations and the Modern Government Inquiry.

LAW 1486 v01 Congressional Oversight of the Executive Branch (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1486 v01>)

LL.M Seminar (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours

"Quite important as lawmaking is vigilant oversight of administration."

"The informing function of Congress should be preferred even to its legislative function."

Woodrow Wilson¹

The above quotes capture the central theme for this seminar, which explores Congress' oversight of the Executive Branch. Oversight and investigation are one of Congress' primary means of asserting its role in the Constitutional scheme of separated powers. Historically, this assertion creates tensions that forces interplay among the three coordinate branches of government: legislative, executive, and judicial. This course will examine these issues as well as review the tools Congress uses to execute its powers. This includes the full range of Congress' compulsory powers through the issuance of subpoenas, grants of immunity, contempt rulings, and enforcement actions in civil and criminal court. Students will use major investigations as case studies to demonstrate these processes. Students will be asked to assume roles as various actors in the process, which includes members of Congress and their staffs; officials in the executive branch, and the judiciary.

¹Woodrow Wilson, *Congressional Government*, (Boston: Houghton, Mifflin, 1885), 303

Learning Objectives:

1. Students will understand the interplay among the three coordinate branches as a result of our constitutional structure, and how these structural relationships impact law and policy-making.
2. Students will understand the tools at Congress's disposal to effect legislative oversight and congressional investigations. To borrow a phrase from one of our texts, "you will learn how the worlds of lawmaking, law-implementing, law-interpreting, and law-enforcing connect."

Prerequisite: Constitutional Law I: The Federal System; prior or concurrent enrollment in Constitutional Law II: Individual Rights and Liberties.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for both this seminar and Congressional Investigations Seminar or Congressional Investigations and the Modern Government Inquiry.

LAW 089 v00 Constitutional Aspects of Foreign Affairs Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 089 v00>)
J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 3 credit hours

This seminar deals with the distribution of powers between the president and Congress in the areas of war, diplomacy, international organizations, foreign assistance, commerce, money, etc. as well as the distribution of powers between the national and state governments. Such related matters as the impact on individual rights and the political question doctrine in this context are also discussed.

Prerequisite: Constitutional Law I (or Democracy and Coercion).

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for both this seminar and Foreign Relations Law.

Note: FIRST CLASS ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY. All enrolled and waitlisted students must be in attendance at the start of the first class session in order to be eligible for a seat in the class.

A student who no longer wishes to remain enrolled will not be permitted to drop the class but may request a withdrawal BY PROFESSOR PERMISSION ONLY.

LAW 1601 v00 Constitutional Impact Litigation Practicum (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1601 v00>) (Project-Based Practicum)
J.D. Practicum | 5 credit hours

This project-based practicum course will give students the unique opportunity to be part of the constitutional litigation and policy work of Georgetown Law's Institute for Constitutional Advocacy and Protection (ICAP). Led by attorneys with deep experience in trial and appellate advocacy, national security law, and federal prosecution, ICAP pursues strategic litigation in federal and state courts at all levels to defend constitutional rights and values while working to restore confidence in the integrity of our governmental institutions. Recent work includes safeguarding rights to free expression, assembly, and democratic participation; combating threats from unlawful private militias and political violence; fighting the criminalization of poverty and other forms of criminal legal system overreach; defending the rights of young people and marginalized communities; and preserving fundamental separation-of-powers principles. ICAP often works in close partnership with non-profit organizations, pro bono teams of law firms, and law school clinics. Students will participate in a two-hour weekly seminar and carry out an average of 15 hours per week of work with ICAP and its partners on strategic litigation and litigation-adjacent policy development.

SEMINAR: Drawing on experience from ICAP's cases as well as prominent historical and current examples of impact litigation, the seminar will focus on the history of public and social justice litigation and its uses, criticisms, and obstacles. Seminar participants will discuss with the practicum's Professors and other lawyers on the ICAP team strategies for bringing impact litigation, including identifying and selecting plaintiffs, test cases, venues, and legal theories, as well as engaging the public. Students will receive specific instruction on how to prepare research memoranda useful to litigators exploring which cases to take and which arguments to make; on what makes for successful, persuasive briefing of constitutional arguments; and on how to explain complicated legal issues to the public, in forms such as short op-eds and other public education materials.

PROJECT WORK: Students will work an average of 15 hours per week on constitutional litigation and related projects handled by ICAP. Work flow will depend on litigation deadlines and demands. Students should not expect the workload to be even from week to week, and some weeks may require a significantly greater number of hours while others may require very few. Students' roles may include providing litigators with memoranda conveying research on relevant legal issues; drafting portions of briefing materials; mooted oral advocates for argument; drafting press releases and/or op-eds relevant to ICAP's litigation; and assisting with litigation-adjacent policy development. Students also may be involved in fact gathering related to ICAP's litigation, including reviewing and analyzing publicly available data.

Prospective students should review ICAP's website (<https://www.law.georgetown.edu/icap/>) for examples of previous work. Examples include obtaining injunctions against unlawful private paramilitary activity by far-right extremists and militias; challenging bail practices and fines and fees that unconstitutionally discriminate against indigent defendants; representing "sanctuary cities" against challenges to their policies; obtaining an injunction against anti-protest legislation designed to chill First Amendment rights; representing the U.S. House of Representatives Select Committee to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol in obtaining presidential records relevant to its investigation; suing the Wisconsin fraudulent electors and the attorneys who conceived of the scheme; and representing homeless residents of Grants Pass, Oregon, in challenging the enforcement of a law seeking to criminalize their existence in the community. Students will undertake multiple projects over the course of the semester, engaging with not only the Professors, but also with ICAP's other litigators. Students will be

LAW 1609 v00 Constitutional Interpretation Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1609 v00>)

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours

Analyzing text is a deeply important part of legal practice in public law, whether statutory or constitutional law. It cuts across a wide variety of subject matter areas, from very basic aspects of the Constitution to any statutory topic imaginable. Whatever the subject matter, whether health care law, presidential emoluments, or internet privacy, certain problems of legal analysis recur. How should courts analyze legal texts? Where should judges go to look for meaning when the text is vague or ambiguous? Should texts be updated to reflect current norms? What does it mean to look for the drafter's intent? Should approaches toward statutory and constitutional text be symmetrical or not? This seminar will introduce students to these problems and provide essential skills for reading both constitutional and statutory text. Materials will be provided by the instructor or invited guests. Students will be graded on short reaction papers due every two weeks. *Given the theoretical nature of the topic, law review students are especially encouraged.*

LAW 1880 v00 Constitutional Issues in Corruption & Election Crime Enforcement (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1880 v00>)

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours

This course will explore constitutional limits on legislative and prosecutive efforts to prohibit corrupt conduct involving payments to public officials, excessive or prohibited campaign contributions and independent expenditures, fraudulent fundraising by SuperPACs, and false statements by government employees. Students will review the historical evolution of relevant statutes, applicable constitutional principles, and Supreme Court and lower court decisions addressing constitutional limits on legislative and enforcement efforts.

The course will be organized chronologically within specified topics. The primary topics will include: Constitutional Principles; Bribery & Extortion; Fraud & Misapplication; Election Crimes; and Constitutional Privileges. The topics will span several consecutive classes with relevant case law assigned as the primary reading material.

Prerequisite: Constitutional Criminal Procedure (formerly Criminal Justice) or Criminal Procedure and Constitutional Law I: The Federal System.

Recommended: Criminal Law.

LAW 004 v00 Constitutional Law I: The Federal System (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 004 v00>)

J.D. Course | 3 credit hours

This course addresses questions concerning the role of the Supreme Court in resolving legal problems that arise under our fundamental law, as well as issues concerning the Constitution's distribution of power between the national and state governments and among the branches of the national government.

LAW 004 v01 Constitutional Law I: The Federal System (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 004 v01>)

J.D. Course | 3 credit hours

This course is the basic course on United States constitutional law. The course explores the architecture of the United States Constitution and focuses on topics illustrating three core structural aspects of American constitutionalism: (1) the tradition of constitutional review by the judicial branch; (2) the configuration, interaction, and powers of the three branches of the national government; and (3) the Constitution's distribution of power between the federal and state governments.

Note: This is a required course for first year students only.

LAW 215 v00 Constitutional Law II: Individual Rights and Liberties (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 215 v00>)

J.D. Course (cross-listed) | 4 credit hours

This course focuses primarily on the First, Fifth, and Fourteenth Amendments (free speech, due process, and equal protection) and the role of the Supreme Court as ultimate interpreter and guardian of the Bill of Rights.

In addition, students should acquire knowledge of pertinent substantive and procedural law; the ability to engage in legal analysis, including the analysis of pertinent case law, constitutions, statutes and regulations, legal instruments and sources, and the application of law and theory to fact; and the ability to engage in critical and strategic thinking.

Note for Professor Barnett's Fall section: As a way to understand the structure of current doctrines, Professor Barnett's course will stress how and why the doctrines evolved from the Founding through the Civil War, Reconstruction, the Progressive Era, the New Deal, the Warren and Rehnquist Courts to the Roberts Court today. The course will also stress the effect that slavery had on the original Constitution and the Reconstruction Amendments. Coverage will include the Second and Ninth Amendments. **Professor Barnett's section will consist of a 3-hour unit consisting of two 85 minute class sessions and a 1-hour unit consisting of video presentations on the theory and practice of originalism that students can view at their convenience at any time before or during the semester.** Internet access on any device is not allowed during class; **all laptop use is disallowed in Professor Barnett's course** (unless necessary to conduct Zoom instruction).

Learning goals for Professor Spann's section

The primary goal of the course is to teach students how to manipulate the doctrinal rules and underlying policy considerations that govern the topics in the course, and to get students to confront the normative implications raised by such vast amounts of doctrinal indeterminacy. Students will hopefully acquire the ability to think critically about the law's claim to neutrality and its differential effects on subordinated groups, including those identified by race, gender, indigeneity, and class.

Note: Note for students in Professor Goodwin's Spring section (LAWJ-215-07): Laptops may not be used during class sessions.

LAW 215 v05 Constitutional Law II: Individual Rights and Liberties
 (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 215 v05>)

J.D. Course (cross-listed) | 4 credit hours

This course focuses primarily on the First, Fifth, and Fourteenth Amendments (free speech, due process, and equal protection) and the role of the Supreme Court as ultimate interpreter and guardian of the Bill of Rights.

LAW 1881 v00 Constitutional Law: Federal Courts Tackle the Digital World
 (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1881 v00>)

J.D. Course (cross-listed) | 1 credit hour

For more than a century, court decisions have lagged advances in technology. The advent of the Internet and developments in artificial intelligence, particularly generative artificial intelligence, have accelerated this gap. This course explores how federal courts are tackling disruptive technologies and digital challenges. The focus will be on a few select areas, including speech, Section 230 of the Communications in Decency Act, privacy, and artificial intelligence, though in reality the lines are blurred between these topics. We will look at cases that serve as the analytical foundation for these issues and consider contemporary judicial efforts to address the shifting legal and digital landscape in an ambiguous environment. Students will have an opportunity to engage in structured, in-class debates and exercises to highlight conflicting views in this arena. The course will also address how judges are engaging with technology in their chambers and courtrooms and how this engagement may impact the decision-making process.

Recommended: Constitutional Law

Note: UPPERCLASS WEEK ONE COURSE. This course is mandatory pass/fail and will not count toward the 7 credit pass/fail limit for J.D. students.

ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY AT ALL CLASS SESSIONS. Enrolled students must be in attendance at the start of the first class session in order to remain enrolled. Waitlisted students must be in attendance at the start of the first class session in order to remain eligible to be admitted off the waitlist. All enrolled students must attend each class session in its entirety. Failure to attend the first class session in its entirety will result in a drop; failure to attend any subsequent class session in its entirety may result in a withdrawal. Enrolled students will have until the beginning of the second class session to request a drop by contacting the Office of the Registrar; a student who no longer wishes to remain enrolled after the second class session begins will not be permitted to drop the class but may request a withdrawal from an academic advisor in the Office of Academic Affairs. Withdrawals are permitted up until the last class for this specific course.

LAW 1538 v00 Constitutional Law: The First and Second Amendments
 (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1538 v00>)

J.D. Course | 1 credit hour

This course will provide students the opportunity for intense and detailed study of cutting-edge issues arising under the Free Speech Clause of the First Amendment and the right to keep and bear arms under the Second Amendment. Students will be required to read foundational Supreme Court cases in full (including concurrences and dissents) to enable them to discuss and debate the decisions and the analytical approaches used to reach them.

Learning Objectives:

By the end of the week, I hope you will have learned to:

1. Understand more deeply First and Second Amendment jurisprudence;
2. Appreciate how difficult it is for the Supreme Court to decide close cases;
3. Express your thoughts clearly and concisely and to disagree with colleagues without being disagreeable;
4. See virtue in reading cases in their entirety, rather than in excerpt form;
5. Recognize different judicial philosophies in Supreme Court opinions;
6. Identify premises justices use as starting points for their analyses; and
7. Write an exam that reflects command of First and Second Amendment cases.

Prerequisite: Constitutional Law II: Individual Rights and Liberties.

Note:

UPPERCLASS WEEK ONE COURSE. This course is mandatory pass/fail and will not count toward the 7 credit pass/fail limit for J.D. students. The course will have a take-home exam that must be completed during the week of Friday, January 16th through Friday, January 23th, 2026.

ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY AT ALL CLASS SESSIONS. Enrolled students must be in attendance at the start of the first class session in order to remain enrolled. Waitlisted students must be in attendance at the start of the first class session in order to remain eligible to be admitted off the waitlist. All enrolled students must attend each class session in its entirety. Failure to attend the first class session in its entirety will result in a drop; failure to attend any subsequent class session in its entirety may result in a withdrawal. Enrolled students will have until the beginning of the second class session to request a drop by contacting the Office of the Registrar; a student who no longer wishes to remain enrolled after the second class session begins will not be permitted to drop the class but may request a withdrawal from an academic advisor in the Office of Academic Affairs. Withdrawals are permitted up until the last class for this specific course.

LAW 1512 v00 Constitutional Litigation and the Executive Branch
<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1512 v00>

J.D. Seminar | 2 credit hours

Seminar Description

This seminar will explore the practice and strategy of constitutional litigation through a close study of high-profile constitutional challenges to Executive Branch action in recent years.

We will begin with an introductory session focused on recent trends in constitutional litigation against the Executive Branch. Over the rest of the semester, we will closely study a series of cases, examining the course of each litigation and exploring key strategic judgments made by parties, amici, and judges. Students will leave the course familiar with every stage of a constitutional case, from the initial announcement of an Executive Branch policy, to the decision to file suit and the drafting of a complaint, to litigation at every level of the Judiciary and in the court of public opinion, to emergency applications in appellate courts, to the varied challenges that may follow a successful lawsuit. Along the way, we will consider the strategies and incentives of different litigants—including civil rights groups, private parties, cities, states, and legislators. We will also study the goals and strategies of lawyers charged with defending Executive Branch action (notably including the Office of the Solicitor General). In addition to mastering how constitutional litigation unfolds, we will seek to develop a clear-eyed view of how lawyers approach the most important judgment calls involved in prosecuting and defending constitutional claims.

Although this list is subject to change in light of ongoing developments, we likely will cover many of these topics:

- President Trump's "travel ban" policies
- President Clinton's adoption of a "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy for military service
- President Trump's exclusion of transgender persons from military service
- President Trump's threats to revoke federal funds from "sanctuary cities"
- President Trump's "Remain in Mexico" policy
- A motion filed by the Trump Administration's Solicitor General asking the U.S. Supreme Court to sanction the ACLU in a suit concerning requests by juvenile undocumented migrants to exercise abortion rights
- President Trump's compliance with the Emoluments Clauses
- President Trump's practice of blocking critics on Twitter
- President Trump's exclusion of selected CNN and Playboy reporters from the White House
- The first impeachment of President Trump
- The sexual assault and defamation lawsuit against former President Trump by E. Jean Carroll
- Former President Trump's assertion of an "absolute immunity" defense to criminal prosecution in federal court.
- The Biden Administration's COVID-19 vaccination-or-test policies
- The Biden Administration's student debt relief policies
- Challenges to the FDA's decisions concerning mifepristone
- Challenges to the Biden Administration's interactions with social media companies

Each week, students will study relevant court filings and opinions (from district courts all the way to the Supreme Court), complemented by contemporaneous legal commentary.

We will expect all students to prepare for—and participate in—classroom discussion.

LAW 1972 v00 Contemporary Civil Rights Issues at the Supreme Court
<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1972 v00>

J.D. Seminar | 2 credit hours

This course will examine the U.S. Supreme Court's evolving role in shaping civil rights law, combining a focus on landmark decisions with broader discussions about the strategic and procedural dynamics of litigating civil rights issues at the Court. Each session will pair a substantive civil rights topic—such as voting rights, affirmative action, reproductive rights, and immigrants' rights—with a discussion of key Supreme Court litigation considerations, including case and client selection, whether and when to appeal, and the ethical tension between representing clients and advancing a social cause. We will also explore the broader implications of civil rights litigation, such as its potential to shape public opinion, influence legislative policy, and address systemic inequalities.

Students will engage with primary source materials, including Supreme Court opinions, briefs, and oral argument transcripts, alongside scholarly commentary to deepen their understanding of the Court's decision-making processes and its broader societal impact. Guest speakers—ranging from seasoned litigators who argued seminal cases to advocates working on emerging civil rights issues—will provide insight into the realities of Supreme Court practice.

Prerequisite: Required: (1) Civil Procedure or Legal Process and Society and (2) Constitutional Law I: The Federal System.

Recommended: Recommended: Constitutional Law II: Individual Rights and Liberties.

Note: This course is only open to J.D. students.

LAW 1915 v00 Contemporary Free Speech Problems (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1915 v00>)

J.D. Course (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours

Congress shall make no law . . . abridging the freedom of speech" commands the First Amendment. This course explores how that charge has played out in practice by analyzing some of the most challenging free speech issues of our day, with a particular focus cases involving competing First Amendment rights. Topics include: incitement, threats, hate speech, protests, boycotts, aiding and abetting, campus speech, coercion and/or retaliation by public officials, jawboning, doxxing, anonymous speech, compelled speech, associational rights, the rights of "platforms," and speech about abortion post-Dobbs. Students will delve into the relevant legal doctrine, as well as its theoretical and analytical underpinnings, while also developing skills as advocates by applying that doctrine to actual cases. Students will be expected to make meaningful contributions to class discussion.

Recommended: Constitutional Law.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for this course and Arguing Free Speech in the 21st Century Seminar.

LAW 1805 v00 Courts and Congress (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1805 v00>)

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours

This course examines the relationship between the federal judiciary and the Congress, and its role in shaping the administration of justice. How do lawmakers exercise effective and appropriate oversight while fostering a system of federal courts that discharges the judicial power of the United States? How does the Judiciary manage self-governance within a system in which Congress has so many controls over the Third Branch?

How can the two branches work together to sustain and strengthen the federal courts as an essential part of our government?

Anticipated session topics include: the Judicial Conference of the United States, legislative cooperation, appropriations, judgeships, confirmations, and oversight. Most seminar meetings will include discussion with practitioner guests.

Grading will be based on: (1) class attendance and appropriate contributions to seminar discussions, including written questions for guests submitted in advance of each class meeting; (2) mid-term quiz; and (3) a capstone paper and presentation, plus response to a classmate's paper.

LAW 512 v01 Criminal Defense and Prisoner Advocacy Clinic (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 512 v01>)

J.D. Clinic | 14 credit hours

Please see the Criminal Defense & Prisoner Advocacy Clinic website (<https://www.law.georgetown.edu/experiential-learning/clinics/criminal-defense-prisoner-advocacy-clinic/>) for more detailed information about the program.

For registration-specific supplemental materials, please see the Criminal Defense and Prisoner Advocacy Clinic PDF (<https://georgetown.app.box.com/s/q294cdzsz64mbykmdw92uzf872pk48uz/>).

For information about clinic registration generally, please see the Clinic Registration Handbook (<https://georgetown.app.box.com/s/kaax2p1h16z2hiwdsbzljjshe16le5s/>).

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not concurrently enroll in this clinic and an externship or a practicum course.

LAW 512 v00 Criminal Justice Clinic (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 512 v00>)

J.D. Clinic | 14 credit hours

Please see the Criminal Justice Clinic website (<https://www.law.georgetown.edu/experiential-learning/clinics/criminal-justice-clinic/>) for more detailed information about the program.

For registration-specific supplemental materials, please see the Criminal Justice Clinic PDF (<https://georgetown.app.box.com/s/pxijbaqckznh2laq9de8a3kf25oc834r/>).

For information about clinic registration generally, please see the Clinic Registration Handbook (<https://georgetown.app.box.com/s/kaax2p1h16z2hiwdsbzljjshe16le5s/>).

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not concurrently enroll in this clinic and an externship or a practicum course.

LAW 128 v01 Criminal Procedure (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 128 v01>)

J.D. Course | 2 credit hours

An examination of the basic Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Amendment principles that govern the interaction of the police and suspects in the investigation of crime. From stop and frisks to coerced confessions, the course will examine the constitutional doctrines developed to regulate police behavior and the admissibility of evidence. The core concepts will include the definition of a "search," the meaning of probable cause and reasonable suspicion, the requirement of a search warrant and the many exceptions to the warrant requirement, Miranda and related limits on interrogation, and the pre-trial right to counsel. The course will also focus on the role of the courts in enforcing the constitutional guarantees, particularly through the exclusionary rule.

Learning Objectives:

1. Thorough Understanding of the Primary "Substantive" Fourth Amendment Issues in Criminal Cases and Certain Civil Cases
2. Thorough Understanding of Primary "Remedial" Fourth Amendment Issues in Criminal Cases
3. Thorough Understanding of the Primary "Substantive" Fifth Amendment Issues Related to Interrogations and Confessions
4. Thorough Understanding of the Primary "Remedial" Fifth Amendment Issues Related to Interrogations and Confessions
5. Thorough Understanding of the Sixth Amendment Issues Related to Uncounseled Confessions and Pretrial Line-ups
6. Thorough Understanding of Sixth Amendment Issues Related to the Effective Assistance of Counsel

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for both this course and Constitutional Criminal Procedure (formerly Criminal Justice) or Democracy and Coercion.

Note: This course is offered only to transfer students from other law schools who have not had a first year course in constitutional criminal procedure.

LAW 1848 v00 Critical Issues Facing the Department of Justice: DOJ's Mission, the Rule of Law, Exercise of Discretion, Enforcement Policy Priorities, and Seeking Justice: Role of Defense Counsel (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1848 v00>)

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours

The Department of Justice is one of the most important and powerful executive branch departments in government. DOJ prosecutors make decisions that have a profound impact on the lives of individuals and the ongoing success of business entities. In this and recent, past administrations, the actions of DOJ have been the subject of intense public and congressional scrutiny resulting in difficult questions being raised as to the future role of the Department.

Drawing on my experiences as an Assistant U.S. Attorney, in senior leadership positions at DOJ (including Acting Deputy Attorney General, Chief of Staff to the Attorney General, and Deputy Assistant Attorney General in both the Civil and Criminal Divisions) and my work as a defense attorney in private practice, this course will focus on many, critically important issues confronted by the Department and defense bar. It will review significant roles played by DOJ including its responsibility as a prosecutorial and civil enforcement agency, as legal advisor to the President and government agencies, litigator to defend federal statutes, regulations and programs, and as policymaker in areas related to its mission. This course will consider DOJ's organizational structure, the importance of the rule of law, the senior leadership's decision-making process, and exercise of prosecutorial discretion, and the longstanding norms that guide DOJ's operations across a wide range of duties. Issues confronted by DOJ attorneys, in both civil and criminal arenas, many times present some of the most consequential legal and policy questions facing this nation.

This course will also consider the increasing criticism by political actors and the media that DOJ has been "weaponized" as well as the vital importance of DOJ acting with integrity and independence free of political influence in the face of this criticism. This will also include a discussion of the power of the President to direct the Attorney General to initiate a specific criminal investigation and prosecution as addressed in the July 1, 2024 Supreme Court decision in *Trump v. United States*.

This course, in part, will examine the principles of federal prosecution, the vital work of the Solicitor General's Office, the Office of Legal Counsel, the National Security Division, the role of DOJ in international affairs and the roles of DOJ law enforcement agencies including the FBI, DEA, ATF&E, and U.S. Marshal's Service. It will examine the unique role of the Attorney General as a member of the President's Cabinet including the White House Communications policy. This course will also review the line between enforcement policy driven by the President's agenda and a commitment to independent, objective law enforcement with a goal of seeking justice. Readings will include DOJ prosecutorial guidelines, policy memoranda, case law, Office of Legal Counsel opinions, speeches by DOJ's senior leadership and news articles.

Recommended: Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Constitutional Law

LAW 1795 v00 Critical Race Theory (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1795 v00>)

J.D. Course | 3 credit hours

Critical Race Theory places race and racism at the center of American law. This course will describe the origin story of Critical Race Theory along with the current anti-Critical Race Theory backlash. It will examine the role that race plays in creating legal doctrine. The course will examine racial biases in judicial decision making in many courses covered in the first year of law school, but not exclusively those courses. Legal doctrines covered in the following subjects will be analyzed: Civil Procedure; Torts; Contracts; Criminal Procedure; Criminal Law; and Property. The course will also consider whether Critical Race Theory has influenced judicial precedent and what Critical Race Theory judicial opinions might look like.

COURSE GOALS

By the end of the semester, students will:

1. Understand the role that racism has played in shaping American Legal doctrine in first year subjects.
2. Be equipped to critically evaluate the role of racism in shaping other areas of law.
3. Enhance their critical reading skills.
4. Enhance their critical thinking skills.
5. Enhance their ability to have difficult conversations about racism in a productive manner. Self-reflection is a key ingredient here.

Note: This course is a first-year elective. First-year day students select an elective offered in the spring.

LAW 1708 v00 Death Penalty Litigation Practicum ([https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1708 v00](https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%201708%20v00)) (Project-Based Practicum)

J.D. Practicum | 4 credit hours

This is a project-based practicum that will involve students in ongoing death penalty cases and teach them the legal framework for death penalty litigation. Professor Sloan has been active in death penalty litigation and representation, including two Supreme Court victories on behalf of a death row inmate in Texas: *Moore v. Texas*, 137 S. Ct. 1039 (2017) and *Moore v. Texas*, 139 S. Ct. 666 (2019).

In their project work, students will work on legal research related to ongoing death penalty litigation on behalf of death penalty defendants and inmates. Students also may have the opportunity to draft, or contribute to, briefs and motions related to ongoing death penalty litigation. Students will work with organizations and practitioners litigating death penalty cases. Among the organizations and individuals that have partnered with this practicum are the Southern Center for Human Rights, the Miami-Dade Public Defender, the Federal Public Defender, and individual death penalty litigation practitioners. Other organizations and individuals are likely partners as well.

In the seminar, students will develop an understanding and appreciation of the ongoing debates on death penalty issues – both broad jurisprudential issues (such as the meaning of the Eighth Amendment and relevant state constitutional provisions) and specific doctrinal topics (such as intellectual disability, insanity, and mitigating evidence in the death penalty litigation context). It also will be helpful to students to understand the experiences of death penalty litigators. Readings on these subjects will be woven into the seminar.

Prerequisite: Constitutional Criminal Procedure (formerly Criminal Justice) or Democracy and Coercion or Criminal Procedure.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for this course and Capital Punishment Seminar or The Death Penalty in America Seminar. Students may not concurrently enroll in this practicum course and a clinic, or another practicum course. Students may concurrently enroll in this practicum course and an externship.

Note: This practicum course is open to LL.M. students, space permitting. Interested LL.M. students should email the Office of the Registrar (lawreg@georgetown.edu) to request admission.

This is a four-credit course. Two credits will be awarded for the two-hour weekly seminar and two credits will be awarded for the 10 hours/week of project work. Both the seminar and project work will be graded. Students who enroll in this course will be automatically enrolled in both the seminar and practicum components and may not take either component separately. After Add/Drop, a student who wishes to withdraw from a practicum course must obtain permission from the faculty member and the Assistant Dean for Experiential Learning. The Assistant Dean will grant such withdrawal requests only when remaining enrolled in the practicum would cause significant hardship for the student. A student who is granted permission to withdraw will be withdrawn from both the seminar and project components. **Default attendance rule for all practicum courses (unless the professor indicates otherwise):** Regular and punctual attendance is required at all practicum seminars and fieldwork placements. Students in project-based practicum courses are similarly required to devote the requisite number of hours to their project. If a student must miss seminar, fieldwork, or project work, he or she must speak to the professor as soon as possible to discuss the absence. Unless the professor indicates otherwise, a student with more than one unexcused absence from the practicum seminar (out of 13 total seminar sessions), or one week of unexcused absences from the fieldwork or project work (out of a total of 11 weeks of fieldwork or project work), may receive a lower grade or, at the professor's discretion, may be withdrawn

LAW 1783 v00 Decentering the Police in Community Safety Practicum ([https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1783 v00](https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%201783%20v00)) (Project-Based Practicum)

J.D. Practicum | 5 credit hours

In a project-based practicum course, students participate in a weekly seminar and work on a project under the supervision of their professors. This practicum will focus on actionable steps to decenter the role of policing in community safety efforts in order to make cities and neighborhoods safer and reduce the harms of policing. Students will participate in a weekly two-hour seminar and carry out approximately 15 hours of project work each week under the direction of the course professor.

SEMINAR: Nationwide, high-profile police killings and the documentation of patterns of police misconduct have brought about broad-based movements for change. There is a growing recognition that even lawful policing causes unnecessary harm and that we have over-relied on policing to meet community safety needs. A modern, evidence-informed approach to community safety requires decentering the role of police to make space for entities that can better carry out some responsibilities currently delegated to police. The seminar portion of this course will provide students an understanding of the history of policing and explore theories of why policing has evolved as it has. We will take close looks at particular harms and inefficiencies of the current public safety system that over relies on policing to meet a broad array of social challenges, from drug addiction and homelessness, to mental health crisis, trauma, and preventing violence. During seminars, students will hear from a broad spectrum of actors and stakeholders in the public safety system.

PROJECT WORK: Through this practicum, students will work on projects that explore and implement innovative approaches to community safety. Projects may involve research to enhance understanding of what is needed to make communities safe; implementing ideas that broaden the scope of who is involved in creating and maintaining community safety; or working directly to reduce the harms of current policing. Students will gain the skills and knowledge lawyers need to play an effective role in the effort to transform policing, community safety, and our criminal legal system. Student projects may be completely individual or in pairs, and may involve working with Georgetown Law's Center for Innovations in Community Safety on projects currently underway.

Prerequisite: Constitutional Criminal Procedure (formerly Criminal Justice) or Democracy and Coercion or Criminal Procedure. Second year evening students can take Constitutional Criminal Procedure (formerly Criminal Justice) concurrently. Transfer students can take Criminal Procedure concurrently.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not concurrently enroll in this practicum course and a clinic or another practicum course.

Note: THIS COURSE REQUIRES PROFESSOR PERMISSION TO ENROLL. Interested students should submit a résumé and written statement (maximum of 300 words), articulating their interest in the practicum and noting any relevant academic, work, or other experiences, especially in the field of policing, criminal legal system reform, and/or civil rights, to Professor Tahir Duckett (tahir.duckett@georgetown.edu). Students are encouraged to apply as soon as possible, as Professor Duckett is admitting students on a rolling basis.

This is a five-credit course. Two credits will be awarded for the two-hour weekly seminar and three credits will be awarded for approximately 15 hours of supervised project work per week. Students who enroll in this course will be automatically enrolled in both the seminar and practicum components and may not take either component separately. After Add/Drop, a student who wishes to withdraw from a practicum course must obtain permission from the faculty member and the Assistant Dean for Experiential Learning. The Assistant Dean will grant such withdrawal

LAW 1921 v00 Designing Data Privacy Laws Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1921 v00>)

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2-3 credit hours

This is a class about regulatory design, using the modern shaping of data privacy laws as a case study.

Imagine you are the benevolent dictator of a country, and your population wants a new personal data privacy law. You are then tasked to design such a policy from scratch. This seminar discusses the many relevant decisions policymakers should make when shaping data privacy regimes.

In particular, this seminar covers: (i) what are the economic and non-economic reasons to regulate data privacy; (ii) what different bundles of rights are usually found in different data privacy laws, and how they interact with one another; (iii) the trade-offs involved in adopting a single comprehensive regime versus many sector-specific regimes; (iv) what are enforcement options to ensure that parties follow the laws on the books; and (v) how privacy laws interact with competition, innovation, national security, and other policies.

This seminar will focus on consumer/citizen data privacy laws. It complements rather than substitutes for Information Privacy Law (LAW 342). The seminar is not a general survey of black letter information privacy law, nor will it cover U.S. Fourth Amendment privacy and other similar topics. Ideally, students should have some prior exposure to privacy/data protection law before enrolling. We will cover the key privacy laws that you need to know in the initial class sessions.

Students will be encouraged to think about law as institutional engineers—that is, thinking critically about whether given legal provisions make sense and help further laws' stated goals. Data privacy is a field in flux, so class readings will be a mixture of privacy laws from different jurisdictions and academic articles in fields such as law, economics, computer science, and others.

Learning Objectives:

- Exposure to an array of doctrinal, statutory, regulatory, and policy landscapes in privacy law, and the complex interrelationships among them.
- Exposure to privacy compliance considerations that confront both private- and public-sector organizations.
- Awareness of international differences in the treatment of information privacy issues and comparative exposure to European data protection law in particular.
- Refinement of analytical and writing skills.

Recommended: Information Privacy Law or The GDPR: Background, Development, and Consequences.

Note: This Seminar allows students to write a paper. J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. 2 section students will be required to prepare an end-of-the-course presentation that does not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

LAW 131 v02 Disability Discrimination Law (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 131 v02>)
J.D. Course | 3 credit hours

This course focuses on the Americans with Disabilities Act, the landmark civil rights statute that prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in employment, state and local government programs and services, and by public accommodations (most private businesses). The course will take a pragmatic approach to exploring the rights and responsibilities and available defenses under the statute, with students learning to recognize and advocate for what makes or dooms a case—legally and/or factually. We will first look at the ADA's employment provisions, which reach both private and public employers—addressing, e.g., whether and when a person has a disability under the statute, what makes an individual “qualified” for a position and the statute's protections, employers' obligations to provide reasonable accommodations to applicants and employees, when medical exams and disability-related inquiries are permissible, and protections against retaliation. We'll then turn to the ADA's protections against disability discrimination by state and local governments and by private businesses—with a focus on the ADA's potential to effectuate systemic change in those spheres. Along the way we'll address emerging issues, e.g., the impact of algorithmic decision making, and emerging challenges to maximizing the ADA's promise in a post-Chevron landscape. While the course will focus on the ADA, students will also become familiar with the “alphabet” of other federal laws with complementary protections, e.g., the Rehabilitation Act, the Fair Housing Act, the IDEA, the Air Carrier Access Act, and more.

LAW 1794 v00 Domestic Violent Extremism Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1794 v00>)

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 1 credit hour

This seminar is designed to provide an overview of the threat posed by domestic violent extremism (DVE) and the complex legal and policy issues raised by efforts to counter the threat. Although not a new threat, in recent years domestic violent extremists increasingly have organized themselves into paramilitary units, committed racially and politically motivated violence, intimidated people seeking to exercise their constitutional rights, and threatened government officials fulfilling their responsibilities. The increased threat on one side of the political spectrum has at times prompted corresponding threats from the opposing side.

Addressing domestic violent extremism raises a host of complex questions relating to law enforcement, national security, constitutional rights, and the appropriate scope of counterterrorism operations. This course will introduce students to these issues, enhance their ability to engage in rigorous analysis of them, and enable them to formulate practical responses consistent with the rule of law and in respect of civil rights and civil liberties. This analysis will be informed by an understanding of the history, nature, and sources of DVE, as well as the organizational and associational structures that it may take.

The learning objectives for this course are for students to:

- (1) Become familiar with the history, nature, sources, and structure of DVE in the United States and its global connections;
- (2) Understand and be able to analyze the wide range of constitutional issues that policymakers and lawyers must assess in attempting to address DVE;
- (3) Understand and be able to analyze the statutory and common law legal considerations that are relevant in addressing DVE;
- (4) Appreciate the policy considerations that should inform analysis of DVE; and
- (5) Formulate potential responses to DVE at the federal, state, and local level that appropriately weigh competing considerations based on rigorous analysis of the issues described above.

Assessment

This seminar is intended to be interactive and thought-provoking. I expect students to have read the assigned materials before each class session and to come prepared to participate in discussion on the relevant topic. It is likely that students will have different viewpoints on some of the topics covered, and we must all be respectful and courteous to each other, as well as to any guest speakers, during our in-class discussions. Thirty percent of the grade will be based upon contributions to class discussions.

Seventy percent of the grade for the course will be based upon a 2,500- to 3,000-word paper analyzing a legal or policy issue related to DVE and proposing an option or options for addressing it. The paper should not be a summary of an issue or rehash the work of others, but should demonstrate thoughtful analysis and creative, legally sound proposals.

Note: This course will meet in Spring 2026 on the following Mondays, 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm: 1/12, 1/26, 2/2, 2/9, 2/19 (Monday classes meet), 2/23, and 3/9.

LAW 195 v05 Election Law: Voting, Campaigning and the Law (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 195 v05>)

J.D. Course (cross-listed) | 3 credit hours

This course examines federal and state law regulating the conduct of elections and the financing of campaigns. Included are aspects of federal and state constitutional law on speech, association, and equal protection; and particularly problems of apportionment, gerrymandering, race-conscious districting under the Voting Rights Act, and barriers to voting. With respect to campaign finance, we consider how much and what kinds of legal regulation are constitutionally appropriate regarding parties, candidates, independents, political action committees, corporations, unions, and individuals.

Strongly Recommended: Constitutional Law II: Individual Rights and Liberties.

LAW 150 v04 Employment Discrimination (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 150 v04>)

J.D. Course | 3 credit hours

This course explores the legal mandate for equal employment opportunity in relation to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability and other traits. The focus is principally upon Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and also includes the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Post Civil War Civil Rights Acts, and state analogues to Title VII, such as the District of Columbia Human Rights Act. The course also discusses the evolution of employment discrimination law to address such traits as sexual orientation and transgender status. The course examines the doctrinal and theoretical aspects of employment discrimination law through a rigorous analysis of court decisions, statutes and regulations; explores the public policy issues underlying the law of employment discrimination; and discusses the strategic and tactical approaches a practicing attorney will consider in actually utilizing these laws to represent clients.

Recommended: Prior or concurrent enrollment in Evidence and Professional Responsibility.

LAW 150 v05 Employment Discrimination (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 150 v05>)

J.D. Course | 3 credit hours

This course explores the legal mandate for equal employment opportunity in relation to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, and other protected categories. The course examines the doctrinal and theoretical aspects of employment discrimination law through a rigorous analysis of court decisions, statutes and regulations. The primary focus will be on Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, the Equal Pay Act, and related state and local laws. Legal readings will be supplemented with perspectives from psychology, sociology, and economics. We will also discuss the strategic and tactical approaches a practicing attorney will consider in actually utilizing these laws to represent clients.

LAW 1970 v00 Executive Accountability Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1970 v00>)

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2-3 credit hours

This course covers the constitutional, legal, and society measures to hold the President accountable to the rule of law. Presidents are vested with enormous powers and responsibilities under Article II of the Constitution.

The Framers desired an energetic and effective presidency, but designed a system of checks and balances to defuse power, preserve liberty, and ensure accountability. Over the Nation's history, this constitutional framework has been tested time and again by aggressive assertions of presidential power.

This course will examine the various mechanisms deployed to check Executive authority. These include the Supreme Court's constitutional definition of the separation of powers; the use of independent and special counsels to investigate and prosecute crime; the force of internal checks within the executive branch from career and politically appointed lawyers; congressional checks through inquiries and impeachments; and the influence of the press, elections, and civil society. Through examination of cases, guest speakers, and role-play class exercises, the class will seek to provide a holistic understanding of the web of constraints on presidential power designed to provide accountability to the legal system.

Learning Objectives:

This class has three complimentary objectives:

First, students will learn the fundamental structural features of the constitutional and legal system that constrain the presidency. The primary texts for understanding these boundaries are the Constitution itself and Supreme Court opinions interpreting it. But the course will also explore the dynamic between judicial decisions, internal processing of the law by the executive branch itself, and the interaction between social and political developments and enforcement of the rule of law. This understanding will be enhanced by visits from participants in these enterprises by, for example, present or former Justice Department official or members of the press.

Second, the class will feature role-play exercises that call on students to take on advocacy, judicial, or congressional roles in simulations of proceedings that enforce or apply accountability norms. These could include simulated courtroom arguments, impeachment hearings, internal DOJ debates, or the like. These exercises will enhance students' ability to transform the materials they are studying into tools of advocacy. Students will develop their capacity for concise, respectful, and effective dialogue in a variety of settings.

Third, the final writing assignment will provide students with an opportunity to combine research into discrete areas of executive accountability with creative thinking about these enduring constitutional challenges. Students might, for example, research and write about the effectiveness of impeachments or special counsels and recommend reforms. The extended writing opportunity will develop the essential skills of stating and elaborating clear and well sourced arguments.

Prerequisite: Constitutional Law I: The Federal System.

Note: LL.M. STUDENTS: THIS COURSE REQUIRES DEPARTMENTAL PERMISSION TO ENROLL. LL.M. students cannot register or put themselves on the waitlist for this course through GU Experience. Students interested in taking this course should send an e-mail to lawgradprog@georgetown.edu.

This seminar requires a paper. J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2 credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing

LAW 1922 v00 Expelled from Democracy: A Legislative and Contemporary Analysis of Voting Rights and Incarceration (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1922 v00>)

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours

This course provides a comprehensive examination of the history of voting rights in the United States, with a specific focus on the disenfranchisement of incarcerated individuals. Beginning with an exploration of the foundational principles of voting rights in America, students will trace the evolution of suffrage from the founding era to the present day, analyzing key legislative and judicial developments at the federal and state levels. The course will then shift its focus to the disenfranchisement of incarcerated individuals, exploring the historical origins, rationales, and legal frameworks underlying this practice. The course will challenge the students' ability to think critically about the law's claim to neutrality and its differential effects on incarcerated individuals as members of subordinated groups, including those identified by race, gender, indigeneity, and class. Through case studies, legislative analysis, and guest lectures, students will examine the disparate impact of disenfranchisement policies on marginalized communities and explore contemporary efforts to restore voting rights to incarcerated individuals. By the end of the course, students will develop a nuanced understanding of the intersection of voting rights and incarceration, gain practical insights into legislative advocacy and reform efforts, and be equipped to critically engage with issues of democracy, equality, and justice in the modern era.

LAW 178 v02 Federal Courts and the Federal System (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 178 v02>)

J.D. Course (cross-listed) | 3-4 credit hours

This course addresses the role of the federal courts in our system of government, focusing on relevant constitutional and statutory provisions and jurisdictional doctrines and concepts. Representative topics include justiciability, congressional power to regulate the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court and lower federal courts, Supreme Court review of state court judgments, sovereign immunity, abstention, and habeas corpus.

Recommended: Constitutional Law II: Individual Rights and Liberties.

LAW 178 v03 Federal Courts and the Federal System (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 178 v03>)

J.D. Course | 4 credit hours

This course addresses the constitutional and statutory provisions, as well as the jurisdictional doctrines and concepts, that shape and limit the role played by the federal courts in our governmental system. Representative topics include Congressional power to curtail federal jurisdiction, limitations on the ability of the federal courts to enjoin state court proceedings, federal common law, the Eleventh Amendment/state sovereign immunity, federal habeas corpus, and the prerequisites for Supreme Court review of state court judgments. The primary emphasis of the course is on a critical analysis of these jurisdictional doctrines, although some time is spent on litigation aspects.

LAW 213 v01 Federal Indian Law (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 213 v01>)

J.D. Course | 2 credit hours

This course examines the body of law dealing with the status of the Indian tribes, their special relationship to the federal government, and the governmental policies underlying it. It will also focus on the legal interrelationships among tribal, state, and federal governments, tribal gaming and economic development, and tribal rights to natural resources.

LAW 530 v00 Federal Legislation Clinic (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 530 v00>)
J.D. Clinic | 10 credit hours
Please see the Federal Legislation Clinic website (<https://www.law.georgetown.edu/experiential-learning/clinics/federal-legislation-clinic/>) for more detailed information about the program.

For registration-specific supplemental materials, please see the Federal Legislation Clinic PDF (<https://georgetown.app.box.com/s/pi8c1dth2ufxkw48iaujc6o9zzlo56mj/>).

For information about clinic registration, please see the Clinic Registration Handbook (<https://georgetown.app.box.com/s/kaax2p1h16z2hiwdsbuzljshe16le5s/>).

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not concurrently enroll in this clinic and an externship or a practicum course.

LAW 1631 v00 Federal Practice Seminar: Contemporary Issues (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1631 v00>)

J.D. Seminar | 2 credit hours

This seminar will explore selected topics in Civil Procedure, Federal Courts, and Administrative Law in depth. The seminar will focus on topics that have recently gained attention in the Supreme Court or that may arrive in the Supreme Court in the near future. Each class will relate to only one or two such topics. Examples of possible topics include nondelegation, federal preemption, arbitration clauses and the Federal Arbitration Act, personal jurisdiction, *Chevron* or other doctrines of deference to agencies, congressional power over Tribes and/or States, Dormant Commerce Clause limits on congressional power, class action scope and limits, and the major questions doctrine. Depending on the topic, we may read Supreme Court decisions, scholarly literature, or Supreme Court briefs. There will be one major writing assignment: a paper of approximately 20-25 pages in length that addresses a topic in civil procedure, federal courts, or administrative law. The grade in the course will be based substantially on the final paper, but may be adjusted upward or downward one-half grade based on class participation. (NB: This two-credit course does not fulfill the J.D. Writing Requirement.)

Recommended: We recommend but do not require completion of or simultaneous enrollment in Administrative Law or Federal Courts.

LAW 175 v00 Federalism in a Changing Legal Landscape Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 175 v00>)

J.D. Seminar | 3 credit hours

The so-called “federalism revolution” of the past 30 years, reflected in a series of controversial Supreme Court decisions, has engendered reams of commentary and provoked widespread litigation challenging a range of federal statutes under constitutional provisions including the Commerce Clause, the Spending Clause, and the Tenth and Eleventh Amendments, as well as nondelegation principles and other related doctrines.

Rarely has so complex a body of interrelated law developed so quickly. The seminar will trace the development of the Court’s recent federalism jurisprudence both from a doctrinal perspective and as a study in the dynamics of judicial decision-making. A critical aim of the course will be to understand the values underlying the federalism debate, and to observe judges and justices of all persuasions seeking to reconcile those values with other priorities and with the institutional limitations of the courts. We also will consider the extent to which the Court’s recent jurisprudence, including new limitations on the federal administrative state, has altered the dynamics of federal-state relations and whether future decisions are likely to do so.

We will use the developing nature of the federalism jurisprudence as an opportunity to develop advocacy skills. Students will satisfy the writing requirement by writing a 25-page appellate brief in one of the cutting-edge cases designated on the syllabus or comparable academic paper. We will work closely with each student in developing the structure and argument of the brief or paper, and in moving from draft to final product. To develop oral advocacy skills and liven our discussions, the seminar will include a number of informal moot courts and debates.

LAW 1514 v00 Federalism in Practice: The Role of Governors and State Executives in Advancing Public Policy (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1514 v00>) (Fieldwork Practicum)

J.D. Practicum | 5 credit hours

In fieldwork practicum courses, students participate in weekly seminars and conduct related fieldwork at outside organizations. This fieldwork practicum course explores the legal and practical dimensions of policy making at the state level, with a focus on the role of governors and other state executives (e.g., attorneys general, legislators, secretaries of state). Students will participate in a two hour/week seminar and also undertake 15 hours/week of fieldwork with the National Governors Association, National Association of Attorneys General, National Conference of State Legislatures, or other state and local stakeholder group.

SEMINAR: This seminar will provide an overview of the constitutional underpinnings of federalism and the legal frameworks applicable to policy development and implementation (e.g., in healthcare, homeland security, emergency response, infrastructure and transportation); case studies on the challenges and opportunities of federal, state, and local cooperation; and practical guidance on the operation of governors' offices and state agencies. It will also examine the role of the "Big Seven" associations in driving state and local interests at the federal level, and in facilitating the adoption of best practices across government. Students will be trained in written and oral communication for an audience of policymakers, and become skilled at distilling complex legal issues into actionable recommendations for executives. During the semester, students will hear from guest speakers who serve or have served in governors' offices and state agencies, or who otherwise offer unique insight and expertise in topical issues. By the end of the course, students will understand how "good" public policy (ethical and effective) happens in the real world and the practical ways in which research/science, politics, ideology, tradition, and the law help to shape it.

FIELDWORK: Depending on students' interests and the organization's needs, students may be placed in NGA's Center for Best Practices or one of the other "Big Seven" state/local associations, such as the National Conference of State Legislatures, National Association of Attorneys General, National District Attorneys Association, or Council of State Governments. Students will work with the organization's staff and state officials as they resolve legal questions and develop recommendations for state policymakers, such as: (1) writing a model cyber vulnerability disclosure policy for state agencies; (2) providing guidance on the legal implications of health reform; (3) constructing a model framework for addressing citizen privacy in homeland security policy; (4) updating legal and procedural guidance for governors' legal counsel; and (5) developing advocacy strategies for federal legislation that affects state interests.

Prerequisite: J.D. students must complete the required first-year program prior to enrolling in this course. Part-time and interdivisional transfer students may enroll prior to completing Constitutional Criminal Procedure (formerly Criminal Justice), Property, or their first-year elective.

Recommended: No other courses are required, but background coursework in constitutional law, administrative law, and statutory interpretation may be helpful.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not concurrently enroll in this practicum and an externship or a clinic or another practicum course.

Note: This practicum course is open to LL.M. students, space permitting. Interested LL.M. students should email the Office of the Registrar (lawreg@georgetown.edu) to request admission.

This course is suitable for evening students who can attend the weekly seminar and conduct 15 hours of fieldwork/week during normal business hours. This is a five-credit course. Two credits will be awarded for the two-hour weekly seminar and three credits for approximately 15 hours

LAW 390 v00 First Amendment (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 390 v00>)

J.D. Course | 3 credit hours

This course offers a survey of the First Amendment of the United States Constitution, particularly with respect to freedom of speech, freedom of association, and religious freedom. By the end of the course, students should have a thorough understanding of what activities receive First Amendment protection, and what government justifications must be demonstrated to rebut such protection.

Recommended: Constitutional Law II: Individual Rights and Liberties.

Note: Laptops may not be used during class sessions.

LAW 390 v01 First Amendment (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 390 v01>)

J.D. Course | 3 credit hours

This course studies the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. The course analyzes past and present debates on freedom of speech, freedom of association, freedom of religion, freedom of the press, and freedom of petition to the government. The course includes a review of cases, oral arguments, and historical records. The course pays attention to historical perspectives as well as those formed in contemporary time.

LAW 089 v03 Foreign Relations Law (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 089 v03>)

LL.M. Course (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours

This is an advanced course on constitutional principles bearing on U.S. foreign relations: primarily, separation of powers, federalism and judicial review of Executive acts and Congressional legislation. It focuses on some of the most challenging issues that have divided the American polity from the inception of the Republic and continue to do so today, e.g., the allocation of foreign affairs power between the Executive and Congress; the scope of Presidential power to protect the nation in times of danger; and the proper role of the courts in deciding legal issues relating to national security. We will study historical materials that inform the legal arguments on both sides of current controversies over Presidential and Congressional power and discuss foreign relations issues under judicial review in 2025. We also study the power to make treaties and executive agreements, the Supremacy clause and application of customary international law by U.S. courts.

Recommended: There are no prerequisites, but familiarity with basic principles of U.S. government is important.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for this course and the J.D. courses, Constitutional Aspects of Foreign Affairs Seminar or U.S. Foreign Relations and National Security Law.

Note: FIRST CLASS ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY. Enrolled students must be in attendance at the start of the first class session in order to remain enrolled. Waitlisted students must be in attendance at the start of the first class session in order to remain eligible to be admitted off the waitlist.

LAW 052 v01 Fourteenth Amendment Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 052 v01>)
J.D. Seminar | 3 credit hours

This seminar is designed to encourage students to think critically and creatively about the appropriate constitutional role for the principles of equality and liberty and, more broadly, about the manner in which Supreme Court functions as an institution. These goals will be accomplished by "reinventing" fourteenth amendment jurisprudence, free from the constraints imposed by the actual decisions of the Court. At the beginning of the semester, students will be assigned to individual "courts," which will meet to decide cases assigned every other week throughout the semester. The "courts" will be expected to vote on how the cases should be decided and to prepare written majority, dissenting, and concurring opinions as appropriate. Each student will be graded in part on the basis of the quality of any opinion that the student agrees to sign. By citing as authority only those cases previously decided by that court, each court will develop a body of hypothetical case law over the semester that must be distinguished, amplified, or, if necessary, overruled in dealing with the next set of cases. Students will be encouraged to remain in role and to attempt to develop a consistent judicial philosophy. Every two weeks, two of the "courts" will become "law firms," which will analyze the case law developed by a third court, write briefs, and conduct an oral argument before the third court. Although little reading will be required for this seminar, students will be expected to produce a substantial amount of written work and to devote a substantial amount of time to meeting with other members of their court.

Note: FIRST CLASS ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY. Enrolled students must be in attendance at the start of the first class session in order to remain enrolled. Waitlisted students must be in attendance at the start of the first class session in order to remain eligible to be admitted off the waitlist. All enrolled students must attend each class session in its entirety. Failure to attend the first class session in its entirety will result in a drop; failure to attend any subsequent class session in its entirety may result in a withdrawal.

Students are not permitted to withdraw from the course after the first class, except for students who receive permission to withdraw from the professor.

LAW 196 v03 Free Press (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 196 v03>)
J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours

"Congress shall make no law . . .," the First Amendment commands, "abridging the freedom . . . of the press." But Congress, the Executive Branch, and the courts have promulgated a host of laws governing both print and electronic media. This survey of mass media law explores such current topics as prior restraints on publication, defamation, privacy, newsgathering liability, media liability for unlawful conduct of third parties, compelled disclosure of sources, and access to information. Practical aspects of representing media clients are examined along with public policy implications of existing legal doctrines and proposals for change. Much of the course is discussion-based, and students will be expected to make meaningful contributions to that discussion, with class participation forming the basis for one-fourth of the grade for the semester.

Recommended: Constitutional Law II: Individual Rights and Liberties.

LAW 1812 v00 Free Speech on Campus: Law and Policy (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1812 v00>)
J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2-3 credit hours

Our society's intense polarization has had serious consequences for our campuses, in no arena more significant than freedom of expression. In today's toxic environment, how can students and faculty, and the numerous other stakeholders, pursue liberal, rational, open learning? How can they speak up without fear? How can campus administrators ensure safety and maintain civility? What speech is protected and what speech is deemed to be hateful? What legal redress can there be for threatening speech? What are the effects on all of us of a lack of free inquiry and civility on campus?

This course seeks to answer those questions as it considers the contours of free expression on campus. We will cover the distinctions between public and private colleges and universities, religion and free expression, and the relationship among free expression, academic freedom, shared governance, and freedom of association. We will consider the limits on expression, and where behavior crosses over the line from being protected to become the proper subject of disciplinary action or removal from the institution. We will also address the way in which the boundaries of free expression are foundational to institutions of higher learning. To say that expression is protected is a threshold issue, not the end of the discussion, bringing us to a compelling topic for the nation generally, and academia particularly: the relationship between free expression and civility in the public square.

Learning Objectives:

Our goal throughout the course will be to understand the breadth of issues faced by higher education institutions in their mission to further free and open debate and discussion, and also maintain a safe and appropriate learning environment for all members of the community. We will focus on applicable legal doctrines as well as the philosophical underpinning of free inquiry and academic freedom. Whether or not students seek to serve as a University Counsel, all need to understand the laws underpinning the fundamental freedom of expression. Our campuses are the places where knowledge is created and transmitted, and therefore what happens on campus matters beyond its confines.

There is also a skill-oriented aim of this course. Students will often be in the position of the college or university's general counsel, or other members of the administration, having to articulate the standards that apply to the institution, making or recommending decisions in particular cases, or formulate campus policy. Students taking the course for 3 credits, who will write a significant research paper, will have the opportunity to develop their skills in legal research and writing as applied to a particular issue and will present their papers at the final class meeting.

Note: This seminar requires a paper. J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2 credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

LAW 1272 v00 Gender and Sexuality (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1272 v00>)

J.D. Course (cross-listed) | 3 credit hours

This course will provide an introduction to the legal contexts and theoretical debates surrounding sex, gender, sexuality, and their intersections. We will explore the way gender and sexuality have been debated, defined, and redefined in the contexts of gender identity and performance, sexual pleasure, reproductive rights, sexual violence, marriage, family organization, work, and education. In these contexts we will consider the evolution of the law, the discursive effects of law, and the ways feminist and queer theorists have challenged and reimagined prevailing legal rules and cultural norms. In short, the class will probe the ways that law is gendered, sexualized, and raced, and with what overall effects on social institutions and practices.

Key topics will include:

- The Mutual Influence of Identitarian Politics and Law
- Constitutional Law of Sex Equality, Liberty, and Religious Objection
- Regulation of Sexual Conduct
- Regulation of Reproduction
- The Evolving Meanings of Marriage & Family
- Sexual Harm & Consent
- Gender & Sexuality at Work, School and other Institutions

Strongly Recommended: Constitutional Law II.

LAW 202 v00 Government Contracts (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 202 v00>)

J.D. Course (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours

This course analyzes the basic considerations in contracting with the federal government, including the sovereign's power to contract, the applicable statutes, regulations and executive orders, and sovereign immunity. Material covers methods of acquisition: sealed bidding or negotiation (competitive proposals); requests for quotations; Multiple Award Schedule (MAS) contracting; as well as the authority of government agents to contract. The materials also focus on the problems of contract performance, including changes; delays and suspensions of work; contract termination either for contractor default or for government convenience; and equitable adjustments and allowable costs. There is emphasis throughout the course on the practical as well as the substantive problems, including the dispute procedures before the boards of contract appeals and appeals to the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, as statutorily mandated by the Contract Disputes Act of 1978; extraordinary rights and remedies, including recovery for defective pricing and fraud; and bid protest proceedings before the agencies, Government Accountability Office (GAO), and the U.S. Court of Federal Claims. The course also includes a discussion of the changes to the government contracting process, to allow for "commercial item" contracting, as a result of the Federal Acquisition Streamlining Act of 1994 and the Federal Acquisition Reform Act of 1996.

Prerequisite: Contracts (or Bargain, Exchange, and Liability).

LAW 3181 v00 Government Contracts and National Security M&A (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 3181 v00>)

LL.M. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours

The phrase "National Security Law" typically brings to mind images of lawyers locked in a SCIF at the NSA. And while those types of national security lawyers do exist, there are career paths outside of the public sector, largely because the Defense Department and intelligence agencies outsource much of their work to government contractors. Government contractors are one of the most regulated categories of businesses, and understanding the varying regulatory landscapes at play is crucial for government contractors' success and continued engagement with their government customers. It should come as no surprise, then, the significant role in-house attorneys and outside counsel play in the government contracting world.

The past few years have seen a significant uptick in the amount of M&A deals involving government contractors. Whether it is private equity funds, commercial contractors, or government contractors acquiring other government contractors, interest in this area is a key area of interest across the board. Deal lawyers handle the standard aspects of the transaction review, but government contracts lawyers are the subject matter experts brought in for their unique insights.

LAW 627 v00 Health Justice Alliance Law Clinic (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 627 v00>)

J.D. Clinic | 10 credit hours

Please see the Health Justice Alliance Law Clinic website (<https://www.law.georgetown.edu/experiential-learning/clinics/health-justice-alliance-clinic/>) for more detailed information about the program.

For registration-specific supplemental materials, please see the Health Justice Alliance Law Clinic PDF (<https://georgetown.app.box.com/s/b88f0yk7boxy9z4kosqam9be8f95yax2/>).

For information about clinic registration generally, please see the Clinic Registration Handbook (<https://georgetown.app.box.com/s/kaax2p1h16z2hiwdsbuzljshe16le5s/>).

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not concurrently enroll in this clinic and an externship or a practicum course.

LAW 311 v01 Higher Education and the Law Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 311 v01>)
J.D. Seminar | 2-3 credit hours

Higher education plays a singular role in our society. Colleges and universities are complex organizations and institutions with unique missions to discover, create and transmit knowledge, and to further social mobility. Higher education intersects with the law in a myriad of ways. This course examines the legal issues that shape higher education, particularly in the United States. The course covers the distinctions between public and private colleges and universities, religion and higher education, accessibility to and financing of higher education, academic freedom, shared governance, admissions, free expression, privacy and freedom of association, campus safety with a particular focus on sexual assault, and issues of race, disability, gender and sexual orientation. We will consider student rights and responsibilities, faculty issues concerning research ethics and the classroom, and the roles of presidents, governing boards, and university general counsels. Materials include relevant statutes and cases as well as readings from related fields. Our goal throughout the course will be to understand the breadth of issues faced by higher education in the United States in pursuing its mission, and the ways in which legal rules and norms relate to these issues.

Recommended: Prior or concurrent enrollment in Constitutional Law II: Individual Rights and Liberties.

Note:

Students may take this seminar for either 2 or 3 credits. All members of the seminar are required to write a number of short reaction papers. Students taking the seminar for 3 credits are also required to write a research paper. J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

LAW 037 v00 Immigration Law and Policy (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 037 v00>)
J.D. Course (cross-listed) | 3 credit hours

This course will examine the U.S. immigration system through legal and policy perspectives. We will explore the source, scope and constitutional limits of congressional power to regulate immigration; the executive branch implementation of immigration legislation, particularly procedures for entry and removal, and the extent of, as well as constitutional constraints on, Presidential power; and the administrative and judicial review of executive branch action. Close attention will be paid to how membership laws and policies are established and implemented: What laws and policies govern U.S. citizenship? Who is eligible to become a legal immigrant? How are annual admissions numbers set? How and why are family and employment priorities created? How does the U.S. protect refugees? With respect to the arrival of unaccompanied children from abroad, we will consider the laws and policies that govern how the U.S. government treats them. Unauthorized migration will also be examined to understand why some migrants do not use the legal route into the U.S. and what laws and policies the U.S. has in place to deter such unlawful movements at the border and control unlawful presence in the interior. We will analyze the impact of the major 1996 immigration control legislation and its implementation, with particular attention to detention and removal. We will closely examine the role of the Justice Department's Immigration Courts, with special attention to access to justice issues. We will explore the extraordinary need for, and challenges of, immigration law reform, as well as the particular situation of the Dreamers, children without lawful immigration status brought to and raised in the United States by their parents. Finally, we will assess the various changes implemented by the Trump and Biden Administrations, particularly in connection with the treatment of asylum seekers at the U.S.-Mexico border, the resettlement of refugees from abroad, and the removal of unauthorized immigrants.

LAW 037 v02 Immigration Law and Policy (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 037 v02>)
LL.M. Course (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours

This class will cover the constitutional and political framework for the U.S. Immigration System, enforcement and adjudication agencies, immigrants, nonimmigrants, removals and deportations, detention and bond, immigration hearings, judicial review, grounds for removal and inadmissibility, "crimmigration," immigration reform, "Chevron" deference, refugee and asylum status and other international protections. It will also include reading and analyzing major immigration cases like *INS v. Cardoza-Fonseca*, 480 U.S. 421 (1987) (well-founded fear) and *Matter of Kasinga*, 21 I&N Dec. 357 (BIA 1996) (female genital mutilation).

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for both this course and National Security Law Through an Immigration Framework.

Note: Withdrawals are permitted up until the last class for this specific course.

LAW 1519 v00 Immigration Policy across the Branches (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1519 v00>)

J.D. Seminar | 2-3 credit hours

Who can enter the United States as a visitor or an immigrant? Who will get asylum? Who will wait in a detention center? And when, according to immigration laws passed by Congress, over ten million migrants in the United States are unauthorized, who will actually be deported? American immigration law is the product of presidential policy, Congressional command, and various discretionary decisions made by executive officials including immigration judges and Border Patrol officers. This course will examine the relationships between these various decision-makers. We draw on examples from immigration policy throughout the years—from the Chinese Exclusion Act to former president Trump's travel ban—to illustrate these issues. We also use case law from the Supreme Court, the Board of Immigration Appeals, and various federal circuits to understand how courts have evaluated these issues. Finally, secondary sources from historians and legal scholars help illustrate how various players the immigration system interact in practice. We will use this information to assess critiques of the immigration system and proposals for reform. These readings also introduce students to immigration related legal concepts including asylum, mandatory detention, and the use of the categorical approach to determining the significance of a migrant's criminal history. Students will develop a familiarity with immigration practice as well as a more nuanced understanding of the legal and political issues that vex immigration law scholars.

Learning Objectives:

- Develop a better understanding of the historic development of immigration law and policy.
- Become familiar with legal concepts concerning asylum, immigration detention, and executive power over admissions and removal.
- Understand different policy-making options and the tension between discretionary decision-making and compulsory enforcement.
- Appreciate the choices and limitations facing various decision-makers in the immigration context, as well as the experience of migrants and asylum seekers in the immigration system.
- Assess separation of powers concerns using examples from the immigration field.
- Make a nuanced assessment of popular news stories and debates about immigration law, paying special attention to the role of various decision-makers at play.
- Summarize and critically analyze various proposals for reform of the immigration adjudications, deportation proceedings, and the asylum process.
- Master a substantive legal issue related immigration by producing a paper and/or presentation on a legal debate in the area. Develop writing and presentation skills by participating in this exercise.
- Practice critical reading of law review articles and cases.

Recommended: Immigration Law and Policy.

Note: This course requires a paper. Students must register for the 3 credit section of this course if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2 credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

LAW 342 v03 Information Privacy Law (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 342 v03>)

J.D. Course (cross-listed) | 3 credit hours

This course provides an introduction to information privacy law both on the books and on the ground. Topics covered include the common law, constitutional, and statutory foundations of U.S. information privacy law; philosophical bases for privacy protection; first amendment constraints on privacy law; information privacy compliance, enforcement, and regulatory practice; the European approach to privacy and data protection; privacy constraints on law enforcement activities; cybersecurity; and cross-border data flows. Special attention will be paid to issues raised by the information economy.

Learning goals for this course: Critical mastery of the existing doctrinal, statutory, regulatory, and policy landscapes and the complex interrelationships among them; critical mastery of the privacy compliance considerations that confront both private- and public-sector organizations; introduction to European information privacy and data protection law and the relationship between privacy and global information flows.

LAW 1626 v00 Internet Law (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1626 v00>)

J.D. Course | 3 credit hours

Everything we do, we do at least some aspect of it online. From commerce to speech, internet companies intermediate our daily activities. In the process, internet companies are changing how we live. Is the internet a free speech zone protected by the U.S. Constitution's First Amendment, or does it heed hate speech or political speech regulations from abroad? Can copyright law survive the worldwide copying machine of the internet? Is privacy dead when corporations know where you are and what you are doing nearly 24/7? Focusing on U.S. case law and statutes, this course examines the evolving law regulating internet enterprises.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for this course and Digital Law & Policy (CCTP-658-01), which is offered by the Communications, Culture & Technology department on the Main Campus.

LAW 730 v00 Introduction to U.S. Constitutional Law (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 730 v00>)

LL.M. Course | 2 credit hours

This course provides an overview of the major constitutional cases over the last 200 years. A portion of the course focuses on how the Constitution affects the fundamental structure of American government. Particular attention will be paid to the critical balances of power between the Federal and state governments (federalism) and among the three branches of the Federal government. The rest of the course will focus on individual rights, with particular emphasis on individual rights in the areas of equal protection, and substantive due process.

Note: This course is only open to foreign-educated LL.M. students (i.e., those students who do not have a U.S. J.D. degree).

For the Fall sections, FIRST CLASS ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY. Enrolled students must be in attendance at the start of the first class session in order to remain enrolled. Waitlisted students must be in attendance at the start of the first class session in order to remain eligible to be admitted off the waitlist.

LAW 730 v05 Introduction to U.S. Constitutional Law (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 730 v05>)
LL.M. Course | 3 credit hours

This course provides an overview of the major constitutional cases over the last 200 years. A portion of the course focuses on how the Constitution affects the fundamental structure of American government. Particular attention will be paid to the critical balances of power between the Federal and state governments (federalism) and among the three branches of the Federal government. The rest of the course will focus on individual rights, with particular emphasis on individual rights in the areas of equal protection, and substantive due process.

Note: This course is only open to foreign-educated LL.M. students (i.e., those students who do not have a U.S. J.D. degree).

For the Fall sections, FIRST CLASS ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY. Enrolled students must be in attendance at the start of the first class session in order to remain enrolled. Waitlisted students must be in attendance at the start of the first class session in order to remain eligible to be admitted off the waitlist.

LAW 1778 v00 Judicial Politics: The Role of the White House, Congress, and Outside Groups in Selecting Judges and Justices (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1778 v00>)

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours

Federal judges wield enormous power in our democracy, influencing nearly every aspect of American life. Recent years have seen increasing numbers of decisions on some of the most salient issues of our time, including civil rights, abortion, guns, economic regulation, and religious liberty. As a result, the political parties, progressive and conservative organizations, and business groups, devote substantial resources and energy for control over the judicial selection process. Debates over the confirmation of judicial nominees are often highly visible and contentious and are used as platforms to articulate views about what the law should be. Sometimes, the hearings serve to elevate issues such as sexual harassment and racial justice into the public domain for the nation to consider and debate.

This seminar will provide an overview of presidential nominations to the lower federal courts and Supreme Court since George Washington, with an emphasis on the years since the early 1980's when the Reagan Administration dramatically altered the selection of judges. It will compare and contrast the processes used by different presidents in picking judges, explore the role of outside groups and the parties, and examine the ways in which failed nominations set the stage for bitter partisanship. Reliance by the Biden Administration on demographic and experiential diversity will be highlighted as well as recent discussions related to structural reform of the Supreme Court. The seminar will conclude with an assessment of the impact that politicization of the federal judiciary has had on American life and society. During the semester, a number of outside speakers from the Senate, White House, and organizations will share their experiences and insights.

Learning Objectives: Students will gain an understanding of the reasons why, and consequences of, increasing polarization of the process of selecting federal judges. They will learn about the process used by past administrations, the changes that have occurred over the years, and the impact of those changes on the process. Students will also be exposed to the different eras in American politics as seen through public debates around judicial nominations. They will have the opportunity to review and debate several aspects of the process as well as proposals to reform the Supreme Court.

LAW 1106 v02 Judicial Review of Military Justice Proceedings: Current Issues and Constitutional Perspectives (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1106 v02>)

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 1 credit hour

This seminar will address the relationship between courts-martial and civilian judicial proceedings, focusing on the allocation of responsibilities in the military justice system to commanders, judges, and lawyers. Specific topics will include the contemporary debates regarding sexual misconduct and combat-related offenses. The assigned readings will utilize materials available on the internet, including judicial decisions, legislative and regulatory materials, and law review articles. The seminar paper will take the form of a draft judicial opinion based upon topics covered in the course. The seminar is designed for students interested in national security, judicial review, and the constitutional allocation of legislative, executive, and judicial powers.

Learning Objectives:

- Identify the key features of military legal practice, the distinctions between military and civilian jurisprudence, and the primary factors considered by Article III courts in reviewing cases arising in the military justice system.
- Assess the impact of congressional legislation and oversight, as well as the role of the President in the military justice system.
- Enhance research skills through analysis of briefs and source materials.
- Enhance writing skills by preparing a judicial opinion.

Recommended: Constitutional Law I and either Constitutional Criminal Procedure (formerly Criminal Justice) or Democracy and Coercion or Criminal Procedure.

Note: This seminar will be held on the following days, 1:00 - 4:20 p.m.: January 23 and 24th and February 6th and 7th. This course is mandatory pass/fail and will not count toward the 7 credit pass/fail limit for J.D. students.

ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY AT ALL CLASS SESSIONS. Enrolled students must be in attendance at the start of the first class session in order to remain enrolled. Waitlisted students must be in attendance at the start of the first class session in order to remain eligible to be admitted off the waitlist. All enrolled students must attend each class session in its entirety. Failure to attend the first class session in its entirety will result in a drop; failure to attend any subsequent class session in its entirety may result in a withdrawal. Enrolled students will have until the beginning of the second class session to request a drop by contacting the Office of the Registrar; a student who no longer wishes to remain enrolled after the second class session begins will not be permitted to drop the class but may request a withdrawal from an academic advisor in the Office of Academic Affairs. Withdrawals are permitted up until the last class for this specific course.

LAW 532 v02 Juvenile Justice Clinic (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 532 v02>)

J.D. Clinic | 9 or 14 credit hours

Please see the Juvenile Justice Clinic website (<https://www.law.georgetown.edu/experiential-learning/clinics/juvenile-justice-clinic/>) for more detailed information about the program.

For registration-specific supplemental materials, please see the Juvenile Justice Clinic PDF (<https://georgetown.app.box.com/s/nkvpe37yzntfzq6z7wn93a5zgi57puvq/>).

For information about clinic registration generally, please see the Clinic Registration Handbook (<https://georgetown.app.box.com/s/kaax2p1h16z2hiwdsbuzlshe16le5s/>).

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not concurrently enroll in this clinic and an externship or a practicum course.

LAW 1813 v00 Keeping Government Honest: The Role of Inspectors General and Other Oversight Entities in Promoting Government Accountability (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1813 v00>)

J.D. Seminar | 2 credit hours

This course will explore the role and responsibilities of inspectors general and other government oversight entities in promoting accountability and effectiveness in government operations. Students will first examine the history of inspectors general, their mission, their legal authorities, and their relationships with their agencies and other branches of government. Students will also explore the role of other government oversight entities, such as the Office of Special Counsel, the Government Accountability Office, and congressional committees, in pursuing government accountability. Students will examine the relationship between inspectors general and these other entities, and the challenges in providing independent oversight of government operations. Students will hear from current and former inspectors general and leaders of oversight organizations, who will come to the second hour of the class to talk about the challenges they face, as well as the satisfaction and benefits of public service.

LAW 1792 v00 Law and Authoritarianism (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1792 v00>)

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2-3 credit hours

Three decades after the end of the Cold War, authoritarianism remains a major political force across the world. This seminar considers the relationship between authoritarianism and law. It mixes theoretical works with historical and contemporary case studies, drawing on insights from social science, political philosophy, and law. The course will address: the roles of constitutions, courts, lawyers, and legal activists in authoritarian societies; the growing use of digital technologies by autocratic governments; authoritarianism's challenges to American and international law; and the relationship between law and democratic erosion. This course is intended to be inviting to all students, and does not assume any specific knowledge of foreign legal systems.

Note: This seminar requires a paper. J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2 credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

LAW 045 v03 Law and Multiculturalism Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 045 v03>)

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 3 credit hours

The aim of this course is to introduce the students to the ways in which liberal constitutionalism deals with the fact of difference (religious, ethnic, or national). After general theoretical introduction to various issues (such as law, culture and difference, politics of recognition and politics of redistribution, the risks of politics of identity, the liberal and feminist critiques of multicultural politics, the analytical problem of group rights), the course will survey the ways that liberal democracies deal with the claims of several groups within society to be different. We will read cases and materials from the United States, Canada, France, Israel, India, and Germany.

LAW 1433 v00 Law and Religion (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1433 v00>) (Fieldwork Practicum)

J.D. Practicum | 4 credit hours

In fieldwork practicum courses, students participate in weekly seminars and conduct related fieldwork at outside organizations. This fieldwork practicum course is designed to give students familiarity with the field of law and religion. Students will participate in a two hour/week seminar and undertake 10 hours/week of fieldwork with organizations that work on issues related to religious freedom.

SEMINAR: President Obama called religious freedom "central to the ability of peoples to live together." Professor Martha Nussbaum observes, "America now contains a religious diversity unparalleled in its history."

This seminar will examine society's ability to enable those with the deepest of differences to live in community peaceably. Substantively, it will promote an understanding of the law that governs the relationship between religion and government, defines protections for the free exercise of religion, and provides the framework for civic life among people of all religions and none. Although law and religion will be the uniting theme of our work, there is a broad range of modalities that we can pursue in this field—litigation in workplace disputes, amicus briefings for the Supreme Court, researching the effect of public policy initiatives—providing a myriad of opportunities to hone professional legal skills.

Seminar participants will gain doctrinal competency in current religious freedom law, engage in a principled examination of religious freedom as an essential Constitutional and basic international human right, and gain experience interacting on a "hot topic" issue in a professional manner by focusing on common ground and building principled consensus.

Interested students who have any questions or would like more information about the seminar or field placements should feel welcomed emailing Professor Inks directly at sci2@law.georgetown.edu.

FIELDWORK: Students will work under the supervision of an attorney mentor for 10 hours/week with organizations that focus on issues related to religious freedom. Some examples include: the ACLU, the ADL, The Interfaith Alliance, Americans United for the Separation of Church and State, Congress, Government agencies, The Christian Legal Society, The Native American Rights Fund, and Alliance Defending Freedom among others.

Note: F-1 and J-1 international students must consult with an international student advisor before enrolling in this course. Please email lawcentervisa@georgetown.edu.

Prerequisite: J.D. students must complete the required first-year program prior to enrolling in this course. Part-time and interdivisional transfer students may enroll prior to completing Constitutional Criminal Procedure (formerly Criminal Justice), Property, or their first-year elective.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not concurrently enroll in this practicum and an externship, clinic, or another practicum course.

Note: Both enrolled AND waitlisted students are encouraged to e-mail Prof. Inks as soon as possible (but a CV is not necessary) to let her know if they have any preferences in where they want to work or the kind of work they would like to do. Students are NOT required to find their own work placements. If a student has a specific request or pre-existing relationship with an organization, every attempt to accommodate that will be made. No special previous experience is required for this practicum.

This practicum course is open to LL.M. students, space permitting. Interested LL.M. students should email the Office of the Registrar (lawreg@georgetown.edu) to request admission. This course is suitable for evening students who can attend the weekly seminar and conduct at least 10 hours of fieldwork/week during normal business hours. This

LAW 1296 v00 Law of Religion (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1296 v00>)

J.D. Course (cross-listed) | 3 credit hours

This course will examine the way in which U.S. law—principally the Establishment and Free Exercise Clauses of the First Amendment, as well as the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA)—treats religious belief, religious exercise, and religious institutions. Topics will include: defining "religion" for purposes of constitutional law; governmental burdens on, and discrimination against, religious exercise; state aid for religious activities and to religious organizations, including pursuant to school voucher and "charitable choice" programs; the constitutionality of statutory exemptions for religiously motivated conduct, including in the context of laws prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation; the role of religion in public education and in the public square; and religious institutions' claims to legal autonomy.

LAW 1785 v00 Legal Philosophy Seminar: Legal Interpretation (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1785 v00>)

J.D. Seminar | 3 credit hours

This course will focus on theories of legal interpretation. Our primary focus will be on theories concerning the interpretation of statutes (e.g. textualism, purposivism) and the Constitution (e.g. originalism, living constitutionalism). But we will also consider perspectives on contract interpretation and treaty interpretation.

Learning Objectives: Students should become familiar with historical and modern debates about legal interpretation. This is a highly interdisciplinary course, introducing students to concepts and skill from analytic philosophy, linguistics, and empirical social science (e.g. competence in reading and evaluating empirical work related to legal interpretation). The course will also raise questions, particularly in our discussion of constitutional interpretation, about law's claim to neutrality and its impact on different populations, especially as concerns race, gender, native language, and class.

LAW 1800 v00 Legalities of U.S. Territorial Expansion: Puerto Rico to Greenland (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1800 v00>)

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2-3 credit hours

From the Louisiana Purchase to Puerto Rico to the Greenland Twitterverse, the uncertain legality of U.S. territorial expansion has long provoked constitutional controversy—even as it remains marginalized in mainstream legal theory and pedagogy. This seminar investigates how the acquisition and governance of territories have shaped, and often strained, the American constitutional experiment.

The course will explore how legal debates over American overseas expansion—whether in the Caribbean, the Pacific, or the Arctic—have forced courts, Congress, and the public to grapple with foundational questions: What is the relationship between territorial sovereignty and political membership? What obligations does the Constitution impose on the United States in its dealings with Indigenous nations and the peoples of its territories? And how has empire—both formal and informal—functioned within a constitutional framework ostensibly committed to democracy and self-rule?

By examining the often-overlooked legal architecture of territorial expansion and conquest, students will emerge with a deeper understanding of how American legal and constitutional ideas have been used to both justify and contest expansion—and how the legacies of those choices continue to reverberate in contemporary legal and political debates.

Recommended: Constitutional Law I

Note: This seminar requires a paper. J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2 credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

LAW 304 v06 Legislation (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 304 v06>)

J.D. Course | 3 credit hours

In the first-year curriculum, you are taught to “think like a lawyer.” Because of the predominance of common-law subjects in your first year, this means you are generally taught to think like a “common-law lawyer.” Moreover, you are taught to think this way at the same time that you are also trying to learn the doctrine in those particular areas.

In upper-level courses, however, you will likely turn from common law to law based in statutes and regulations. From tax law to the criminal code, virtually all of modern American law is based on materials produced by legislatures and agencies. Reading and interpreting these materials also requires you to “think like a lawyer,” but like a different lawyer—a “statutory lawyer.”

This course is about the method of statutory interpretation generally. You will not learn the doctrine of any specific type of law in this class. You will learn the process of how to approach a piece of statutory text, how to diagnose the interpretive problem in the text, and how to answer that problem. You will practice the observant reading of text; you will get a framework for breaking down and thinking about a legal question in any statutory case; and you will practice deploying interpretive tools to answer a question in the way that best “zealously advocates” for your client. This course will prepare you for summer legal work, as well as for upper-level courses that rely extensively on statutory law (such as tax, securities, environmental law, labor law, health law, copyright law, etc.)

The course has three overall goals:

- 1) To provide you with an understanding of the relationships among legislatures, courts, and agencies. The course will include some basic information on how legislation and regulations get created and on the ways in which power is shared in the “making of law.”
- 2) To teach you the full toolkit of statutory interpretation so that you can diagnose any interpretation question and bring the right tools to bear on answering that question. This toolkit includes elements of the plain text, canons of interpretation, analysis of intent and purpose, and deference to agencies. By unpacking and analyzing these tools used by courts in various decisions, you will learn how to wield them yourself in order to reach different results.
- 3) To expose you to the theoretical debates around statutory interpretation. The tools that a judge chooses to use often depend on the judge’s theoretical position on statutory interpretation. Starting with materials that will frame the theoretical debate early in the semester, you will return periodically to questions about theory as you become more proficient in the toolkit.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for both this course and the first year elective by the same name or the upperclass course, Statutory Interpretation.

LAW 304 v07 Legislation (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 304 v07>)

J.D. Course | 3 credit hours

Much of the “law” that lawyers work with is statutory. This course will examine both how legislatures go about doing their work (that is, legislative process) and how courts and others utilize legislative output (that is, statutory interpretation). We will begin with legislative process, focusing both on how laws are enacted and on the rules structuring legislative debate and behavior, including campaign finance regulation, lobbying regulation, the conduct of legislative oversight, and issues of “due process of lawmaking.” We will then devote substantial attention to theoretical and practical issues in statutory interpretation, including theories of interpretation generally, the canons of construction, and the use of legislative history.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for both this course and the first year elective by the same name or the upperclass course, Statutory Interpretation.

Note: Laptops may not be used during class sessions.

LAW 304 v08 Legislation (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 304 v08>)

J.D. Course | 3 credit hours

Lawyers spend a lot of their time analyzing – and sometimes drafting – statutes. In this class, we will focus on the actual process of how a bill becomes a law (e.g., legislative process) but also how those laws are reviewed by courts and other actors (e.g., statutory interpretation). Starting with legislative process, we will take a deep dive into how legislatures go about their work, including the procedural rules that govern debate, with an eye to how laws are enacted and the rules structuring legislative debate and conduct. In addition, the course will examine campaign finance and lobbying rules as well as the “due process of lawmaking.” Later in the course, we will turn to both theory and practice in statutory interpretation, including theories of interpretation generally, canons of construction, and the debate over legislative history. I plan to interweave some of my empirical observations from a career on Capitol Hill, on campaigns, as a lobbyist, and commentator on politics and policy.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for this course and the first year elective course by the same name.

Note: J.D. Students: Registration for this course will be open to Evening Division students only during the initial J.D. student registration windows. Full-time Day Division students will be able to add or waitlist this course beginning at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, November 9, 2023.

LAW 304 v09 Legislation (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 304 v09>)

J.D. Course | 3 credit hours

This course is foundational to almost every upper-level class—from tax to securities to environmental law. Not only will you learn about the basic institutions of our government, but you will learn a very important skill. Reading statutes is the lifeblood of every American lawyer’s living—for a criminal lawyer, a bankruptcy lawyer, a public interest lawyer or an appellate lawyer, any lawyer. *It is little known, but true, that the Supreme Court’s docket is full of cases about statutes and regulations, and these far, far outnumber constitutional cases.*

Most of your law school career, up until now, has been spent learning how to read cases to find the “common law” rule. This tends to focus you on courts. But democracy is made up of two other important institutions that are the primary lawmakers: Congress and the President. This course focuses you on those entities as authors of statutes and regulations. We will learn key ways in which courts are different from the elected branches. And we will also learn an important skill every lawyer needs: reading statutes. Shifting from cases to statutes is not as easy as it looks, but it is essential to any practicing lawyer.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for this course and the upperclass course by the same name.

Note: This course is a first-year elective. First-year day students select an elective offered in the spring.

LAW 304 v10 Legislation (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 304 v10>)

J.D. Course | 3 credit hours

Today, statutes enacted by legislatures form an important part of nearly every area of law—from health law, to consumer law, to tax law, to criminal law—and much legal work involves closely reading and interpreting statutes. This course provides an introduction to the production and interpretation of statutes, with the overarching goal of improving students’ ability to work with statutes in law school and their careers.

The course introduces the federal legislative process, the administrative state, and historical developments in American interpretive theory and practice. It also devotes significant attention to current developments in statutory interpretation—including the new textualism, originalism in statutory interpretation, the uses of linguistics in legal interpretation, and the major questions doctrine—and we will study several Supreme Court cases from 2017-2024. The course’s main text is Manning & Stephenson eds., *Legislation and Regulation*, 4th Edition (Foundation Press 2021). Supplementary materials will be uploaded to Canvas.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for this course and the first year elective by the same name.

LAW 1739 v00 Legislation Colloquium: Advanced Topics in Statutory Interpretation (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1739 v00>)

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2-3 credit hours

This colloquium provides an exciting opportunity for students to engage with the theoretical debates and methodology underlying the judicial interpretation of statutes. As students in the survey Legislation course learn, the tools that a judge chooses to use when construing a statute often depend on the judge's theoretical position on statutory interpretation. In this colloquium, we will explore in depth different scholarly takes on how courts should interpret statutes, including but not limited to critiques of the U.S. Supreme Court's current approach to statutory interpretation and suggestions for how that approach could be improved.

After roughly two introductory classes discussing the themes of the course, the professor will invite six outside legal scholars to present papers. For each presentation, some or all of the class will write short "reaction papers" analyzing the presenter's work. Students will also work on an independent research paper of their own involving a statutory interpretation topic of their choosing. Please note that the reading load for the course is significant, and students must be prepared for every class session – but it is also a rewarding and fun experience.

Note: Laptops may not be used during class sessions.

This seminar requires a paper. J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2 credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

LAW 508 v02 Policy Clinic (Harrison Institute for Public Law) (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 508 v02>)

J.D. Clinic | 8 or 14 credit hours

Students in the Policy Clinic provide services to make democracy work several policy themes. Recent projects include:

- *Community equity* – Combat gentrification and displacement in low-income communities of color, develop a community support fund, develop a community resilience hub.
- *Health and food* – Organize a consortium to improve working conditions in university food supply chains, expand access to oral health services, reinvent a better food chain for institutions (universities, hospitals, schools, and shelters), analyze social determinants of health (housing, food security, etc.) for state health officials.
- *Labor and human rights* – Organize a consortium to improve working conditions in university food supply chains (same as health above), protect worker rights in global supply chains for the FIFA World Cup and other mega-sporting events.
- *Trade and climate* – Develop mutually supporting climate and trade policies, develop options for international cooperation on climate policies through "climate clubs," recommend strategies to decarbonize steel production without violating WTO rules, and identify strategies for reducing greenhouse gas emissions while preserving manufacturing jobs.

Please see the Policy Clinic website (<https://www.law.georgetown.edu/experiential-learning/clinics/the-policy-clinic-climate-health-food-human-rights-and-trade-harrison-institute/>) for more detailed information about the program.

Learning outcomes for this clinic: Students are supervised, evaluated and graded on three skill sets, each of which has specific evaluation criteria in the Policy Clinic Operations Guide. (<https://www.law.georgetown.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/2021-22-Policy-clinic-operations-8-12-21-v3.docx>)

1. *Management and professionalism* – includes "managing up" with supervision meetings, initiating self-evaluation, managing effort and deadlines, collaborating, and expectations in a professional culture.
2. *Analysis and strategy* – covers legal, policy and strategic analysis. It includes identifying issues that require analysis, learning the context efficiently, using diverse sources to avoid bias, explaining analytic methods, using a logical framework, and drawing conclusions that meet client needs.
3. *Communication, writing and speaking* – includes organizing documents and presentations, meeting audience needs for context and decision-making, relating analysis through stories and examples, presenting visual information, and editing for plain language, clarity, and English style.

Recommended: Legislation and Administrative Law. Also, for climate projects: Local Government Law; and for trade or human rights projects: International Law I, International Trade (various titles), World Trade Organization: Law, Policy and Dispute Settlement, and International Human Rights.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not concurrently enroll in this clinic and an externship or a practicum course.

LAW 408 v03 Poverty Law and Policy (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 408 v03>)
(Fieldwork Practicum)

J.D. Practicum | 8-10 credit hours

As a society, we strongly believe in certain myths about the adequacy and fairness of our legal system. Among those beliefs are that our laws and policies make the American dream available to everyone and provide an adequate safety net to prevent people from falling into the type of destitution we associate with less developed nations. We take pride in having a legal system that we believe is fair and treats people equally, regardless of income, race, and other characteristics.

The reality is that our legal system makes promises it does not keep. We do not have the laws and policies we need to protect the poor and other vulnerable groups, and the laws and policies we do have are often inadequate at best and pernicious at worst. The result is a system where the poor and other subordinated groups are too often left unprotected and routinely feel victimized by the government agencies charged with assisting them.

A key goal of this course is for students to examine poverty-related laws, policies, and programs and understand how and why our system so routinely fails to protect the most vulnerable members of our society. As part of this analysis, students will think critically about how and why those laws, policies, and programs have such detrimental impacts on vulnerable groups including people of color, women, children, individuals with disabilities, immigrants, and others. The class will explore the history of poverty policy and the evolution of safety net programs, both of which are inextricably intertwined with racism, gender discrimination, and bias toward certain groups. It will also examine key Supreme Court cases that shaped poverty law and policy, looking in particular at how the evolution of jurisprudence in the 1960s and 1970s dashed the hopes of anti-poverty advocates that the Court would establish the legal foundation required to truly protect the indigent. Throughout the course, we will also discuss the politics, the key leaders and thinkers, the noteworthy state and local innovations, and the data with an eye to understanding why our legal system repeatedly fails to live up to its promise, what innovations have been successful, and where we go from here.

SEMINAR: Classes in the fall will cover the definition of poverty, the history of antipoverty policy, welfare, work supports, and safety net issues. Spring classes will feature guest lecturers covering education, health, housing, homelessness, juvenile justice, and child welfare. Students will be involved in participatory exercises in the course of both semesters: in the fall, mock press conferences, testimony to Congress, and meetings with public officials; and in the spring, a group project on developing a plan for neighborhood transformation, using materials studied through the year. A final paper will be required. Students will earn four graded credits for the seminar (two credits each semester); one grade will be provided at the end of the year.

FIELDWORK: In the four, five, or six-credit, mandatory pass-fail, fieldwork portion of the practicum, students will work with a public interest law organization that deals with issues connected to poverty. Students may work for either 10 or 15 hours in both the fall and spring, 10 hours in the fall and 15 hours in the spring or vice versa, or 30 hours/week in one semester only. If students complete their fieldwork hours for this practicum entirely in one semester, they may be eligible to enroll in a clinic for the other semester. The host organization may work from either a national or a local perspective on issues connected to poverty. Placements might involve a focus on poverty per se or "poverty and..." e.g., civil rights, women, education, housing, health, juvenile and criminal justice, child welfare or immigration. Depending on the organization, activities at placements could include assisting lawyers with litigation and/or policy advocacy, including governments on all levels and in either the executive branch or the legislative. Students may propose and arrange their own placements; these must be approved by Professor

LAW 635 v00 Power of the Purse: Budget Process and Appropriations Law (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 635 v00>)

J.D. Course (cross-listed) | 3 credit hours

The federal budget is where the nation's priorities are expressed.

It allows the federal government to operate and shapes what the government will do. It is also an important source of revenue for state and local governments and thus affects their own policy choices. This course provides an introduction to the laws, rules, and practices that govern how the federal budget is put together and how the budget is executed. We will study both traditional "regular order" and contemporary realities. We will pay particular attention to sites of contestation and control with respect to the key institutional players of the legislative branch (including different committees within both the House and Senate, party leadership, the Congressional Budget Office, and the Government Accountability Office) and the executive branch (including the President, the Office of Management and Budget, agencies, and inspectors general). We will also study the role of the courts in appropriations law.

Note: No accounting or budget background is needed.

LAW 1493 v00 Prison Law and Policy (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1493 v00>)

J.D. Course | 3 credit hours

This course focuses on the back end of the criminal justice system. In this class, we will be focusing on the law and policy of incarceration. We will study why the United States is so punitive, how government officials manage prisons, and what protections are in place to prevent harm to prisoners while incarcerated. We will also study whether our current penal system is successful in reducing the recidivism rate of those coming out of prison. These topics are particularly urgent given that the United States leads the world in the rate it imprisons its citizens. Topics to be covered include: the history of prisoners' rights litigation; the scope of prisoners' constitutional rights; inmate access to the courts; First Amendment protections for prisoners; the prison disciplinary process; conditions of confinement; medical care; the problems of prison rape and overcrowding. There will also be a focus on legal practice—how lawyers litigate prisoners' rights suits. There will be a take-home final examination.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for both this course and the Prison Reform Advocacy and Litigation practicum.

LAW 586 v00 Race and American Law (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 586 v00>)

J.D. Course | 4 credit hours

With such watershed events in the civil rights movement as *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954) and the civil rights acts of the 1960s, the eradication of racial subordination in America seemed an achievable goal. Yet, in America today, racial minorities continue to experience social and economic disadvantages, and race relations remain strained in many respects. Whether law has aided or impeded the cause of civil rights in the past and the extent to which law can help to resolve racial issues in the present and future are questions of considerable controversy. This course will examine the response of law to racial issues in a variety of legal contexts. Topics will likely include the meaning of race and racial discrimination, intimate relationships, child placement, employment, education and integration, policing and criminal punishment, free expression, and political participation. Classes will center on candid discussion and participatory exercises about the issues raised by the assigned material. The course will cover most of the seminal "race" cases decided by the U.S. Supreme Court.

Recommended: Constitutional Law II: Individual Rights and Liberties.

LAW 1894 v00 Race and Democracy in the Nation's Capital (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1894 v00>)

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2-3 credit hours

Emblematic of the ongoing tensions between America's expansive democratic promises and its enduring racial realities, Washington often has served as a national battleground for contentious issues, including slavery, segregation, civil rights, the drug war, and gentrification. But D.C. is more than just a seat of government. The city has a rich history of local activism as Washingtonians of all races have struggled to make their voices heard in an undemocratic city where residents lack full political rights.

Tracing D.C.'s massive transformations—from a sparsely inhabited plantation society into a diverse metropolis, from a center of the slave trade to the nation's first black-majority city, from "Chocolate City" to "Latte City"—the course offers students an opportunity to experience the city in which they have decided to attend law school at a deep and meaningful level. The historical narrative explored during the course is peppered with unforgettable characters, a history of deep racial division, but also hope, resilience, and interracial cooperation.

Students will develop a critical legal framework for understanding the role of law in shaping the racialized democracy of America. They will do so by engaging law cases touching on segregation, disenfranchisement, urban renewal, and the drug war—all ways in which the law was weaponized to disproportionately impact Black people in Washington, D.C.

Learning Objectives:

- Gain familiarity with the geography, history, and current issues defining city politics, economy, and culture
- Acquire analytical tools to frame and understand the dynamics of race, politics, and power in the nation's capital

Note: J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the two-credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

LAW 1335 v00 Race, Inequality, and Justice (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1335 v00>)

J.D. Course | 2 credit hours

Course Organization and Overview

This course explores the law's response to the problem of economic inequality. By 2015, the political and economic conversations have recognized the stark and unacceptable wealth and economic differences that underlie growing political and social instability. We will approach the subject from an interdisciplinary perspective that includes sociology, psychology, history and cultural studies. The course offers an introduction to the work of classic economic thinkers such as Adam Smith, and contemporary economists and legal scholars including Milton Friedman, Gary Becker, Richard Posner and Ian Ayres. The primary focus of the course however will be an exploration of the limits and failures of conventional rational choice approaches to explaining the questions arising from economic inequality for members of groups who have experienced pervasive race, gender and other forms of cultural subordination.

We will explore the conceptual framework of marketplace distribution of commodities, the cultural determinants of market value, and the claims of subordinated communities for economic equality. We will develop an understanding of the silence of the Constitution on questions of economic inequality. We will draw upon the insights of a wide range of social science research to map the consequences of the lack of a coherent legal framework to govern questions of distributive justice.

This course *does not* require a technical background in quantitative economics. The primary material will be drawn from sociology, history, psychology, narrative economics, and critical race theory.

Theme

The case study for this seminar this year will be the economic and social conditions of the city of Baltimore, Maryland. We will explore the impact of the cumulative economic and social deficits of that city. We will take advantage of our course discussion and research to investigate this dramatic example of economic and social inequality in America. This recent example of the explosive combination of police abuse and the underlying condition of wealth and income inequality is just the most recent example of long term neglect. We will try to figure out what factors surround the anger at the criminal justice process of stop and frisk and the implementation of the "broken windows theory" of police enforcement practices that have created police estrangement from many low wealth communities of color. The Freddy Grey Riots and the long-term political, economic and sociological dynamics of Baltimore provide an important to delve more deeply into the connection between police practices and the economic death of cities such as Baltimore.

We will ask are there important counter examples to Baltimore and Ferguson.

LAW 1728 v00 Reading the Police Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1728 v00>)

J.D. Seminar | 2 credit hours

During this seminar our class will read six books about policing in the United States. We will spend two weeks on each book. The first week we will discuss the book with each other. The second week the author will visit the class to discuss the book. Some author visits will be in person; others will visit via video conference.

Through studying these books and speaking with their authors we will learn how theories of policing have changed over time; how policing is influenced by, and in turn influences, law, politics and culture; the role that factors like race, gender, sexual-orientation, disability, indigeneity, age and class, have played in shaping how policing happens; the connection of policing to mass incarceration and its attendant harms; and we will probe some of the biggest challenges facing policing currently.

Reflection and Summaries: All students are required to submit a 750 word reflection paper on each book after we have read the book and before we have discussed it with the author. Reflection papers will be graded and late papers will be penalized. In addition, all students will submit at least two discussion questions on Canvas before the first week's discussion of each book. Discussion questions will be graded pass/fail.

Grading:

Your grade for the class will be based upon: 1) attendance and the quality of your participation; 2) reflection papers for each book; and 3) discussion questions for each book.

Prerequisite: Constitutional Criminal Procedure (formerly Criminal Justice) or Democracy & Coercion or Criminal Procedure or Instructor Approval. (LL.M.s are welcome).

LAW 430 v01 Recent Books on the Constitution Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 430 v01>)
J.D. Seminar | 2 credit hours

This seminar will study six recent scholarly books about constitutional theory and history. The class will spend two weeks on each book. For the second session, the author will discuss the book with the class. This fall, the books will be (in this order):

- Randy Barnett, *Freedom and Flourishing: A Refined Libertarianism for the 21st Century* (in progress)
- Jonathan Gienapp, *Against Constitutional Originalism: A Historical Critique* (2024)
- Zachary Price, *Constitutional Symmetry: Judging in a Divided Republic* (2024)
- Neil Siegel, *The Collective Action Constitution* (2024)
- Yuval Levin, *American Covenant: How the Constitution Unified Our Nation—and Could Again* (2024)
- Stephen Vladek, *The Shadow Docket: How the Supreme Court Uses Stealth Rulings to Amass Power and Undermine the Republic* (2023)

There is no exam or research paper for this seminar. Grades will be based on class participation and a 5500 character "thought paper" for each book. In addition, students will submit a one-page summary of the reading — graded pass/fail — for the first and second week's discussion of each book. All thought papers must be submitted electronically by Monday at noon, so they can be made available to the authors and graded by the following day. Grades for papers submitted late will be lowered.

Prerequisite: Constitutional Law I: The Federal System or Democracy and Coercion in Curriculum B.

Recommended: Prior or concurrent enrollment in Constitutional Law II: Individual Rights & Liberties.

Note: Internet access on any device is not allowed during class; all laptop use is disallowed (unless necessary to conduct Zoom instruction).

FIRST CLASS ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY. Enrolled students must be in attendance at the start of the first class session in order to remain enrolled. Waitlisted students must be in attendance at the start of the first class session in order to remain eligible to be admitted off the waitlist.

LAW 1928 v00 Reconstruction and Civil Rights Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1928 v00>)

J.D. Seminar | 3 credit hours

Reconstruction and Civil Rights shifts the focus of post-Civil War constitutional history from the Supreme Court to Congress. It explores the meaning of the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Amendments in the context of the civil rights legislation that flowed from them, including the Freedmen's Bureau Bills of 1865 and 1866, the Civil Rights Act of 1866, the Enforcement Acts of 1870 and 1871, and the Civil Rights Act of 1875. It recovers the political lives and ideas of members of Congress who inspired, drafted, and shepherded major pieces of legislation, including James Ashley, John Bingham, William Fessenden, Jacob Howard, Thaddeus Stevens, Charles Sumner, and Lyman Trumbull. It incorporates the influential perspectives of abolitionists, including Frederick Douglass and William Lloyd Garrison, and women's rights advocates, including Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton. We will read and discuss the work of leading Reconstruction historians and law professors. We will write primary source research papers about the legislation, people, and events that led to the civil rights revolution of 1865 to 1876. Our goal is to explore how Reconstruction-era politicians and political thinkers changed the Constitution and attempted to make good on Sumner's idea of "equality before the law."

This seminar is focused on understanding Reconstruction Era history but not history for its own sake. It is inspired by the lack of debate about the history of the Fourteenth Amendment during the Supreme Court's oral argument and in its majority opinion in *Students for Fair Admissions v. Harvard & UNC* and by the importance of history in our current constitutional discourse. In the future, advocates, legislators, and policymakers will benefit from a deep knowledge of post-Civil War history in unleashing the power of the Reconstruction Amendments to protect civil rights.

Learning Objectives:

Explore the passage of the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Amendment in the social and political context of Reconstruction and in relation to other pieces of federal legislation.

Analyze how members of Congress passed major pieces of federal civil rights legislation and overrode the veto of President Andrew Johnson to protect the rights of formerly enslaved people and free blacks.

Delve into the political lives and ideas of members of the Reconstruction Congress.

Discuss the impact of abolitions and women's rights advocates on these Reconstruction Era debates over amendments and civil rights legislation.

Identify the different schools of Reconstruction Era history from the Dunning School to the present.

Debate cutting-edge historical and legal scholarship on Reconstruction Era legislation, amendments, and political figures.

Employ primary source research methodology after attending workshops led by the Georgetown Law Library and/or Library of Congress Manuscript Division archivists.

Research and write publishable quality papers based on the primary sources including the Congressional Globe, nineteenth-century newspapers, manuscripts, diaries, and electronically available sources.

Prerequisite: Constitutional Law II: Individual Rights and Liberties.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for this seminar and Abolitionism and the Law Seminar or Thirteenth Amendment.

LAW 399 v00 Religious Liberty on Trial Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 399 v00>)

J.D. Seminar | 3 credit hours

This course will consider the Supreme Court's jurisprudence with regard to religious liberty. We will look at the Free Exercise Clause and consider how the Court has answered the question "Does the Constitution mandate religious exemptions from neutral and generally applicable laws that incidentally burden religious belief and practice?"

We will look at the Establishment Clause and consider how the Court has answered the question "To what extent does the Constitution allow accommodations on the basis of religious belief and practice?" This review of Supreme Court case law will highlight the tension between a robust definition of religious rights and the interests of a democratic and pluralistic society. Today, the legacy of seminal Court cases—particularly, *Smith* and *Lemon*—is being seriously called into question as the Court charts a future jurisprudence more solicitous of religious claims. The doctrinal debate continues—and continues to generate as much heat as light—because the real question is not what standard courts use to review the constitutional validity of laws that affect religious belief and practice. Rather, the question is, what is the proper role of religion in our civic life? In other words, the real debate is, at its core, about what kind of social order we want to promote. Thus, this seminar is not only about the historical treatment of the Religion Clauses and their future consideration, but also about the nature and direction of our civic order. As with any other constitutional law seminar, the debate between proponents of some form of originalist interpretation and proponents of some form of living constitutionalism will always be in the forefront of our attention. (As with any other seminar, preparation for and engagement in class discussion is essential.)

Tentative schedule:

Week 1. Religious Liberty and Democratic Pluralism: Background Texts (Milton to Madison)

Week 2: What Is a Religion, Constitutionally Speaking?

Weeks 3: The Road to *Smith*

Week 4: Religious Liberty Post-*Smith*

Week 5: RFRA and RLUIPA

Week 6: Is *Smith* Dead? Should It Be? What Lies Beyond?: Critical Perspectives

Week 7: The Establishment Clause

Week 8: Is *Lemon* Dead?: Should It Be? What Lies Beyond?: Critical Perspectives

Week 9: Religious Liberty and the Family

Week 10: Religious Liberty and Public/Private Education

Week 11: Religious Liberty and the Workplace

Weeks 12 & 13: Student presentations

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for both this seminar and Church-State Law Seminar.

Note: FIRST CLASS ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY. Enrolled students must be in attendance at the start of the first class session in order to remain enrolled. Waitlisted students must be in attendance at the start of the first class session in order to remain eligible to be admitted off the waitlist. All enrolled students must attend each class session in its entirety. Failure to attend the first class session in its entirety will result in a drop; failure to attend any subsequent class session in its entirety may result in a withdrawal.

LAW 712 v00 Rethinking Securities Regulations & the Role of the SEC
<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 712 v00>

LL.M. Course (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours

Crisis often brings change. The stock market crash of 1929 prompted Congressional hearings that eventually produced revolutionary legislation: the Securities Act of 1933, which regulated U.S. securities offerings; and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, which regulated securities markets and established the SEC. Like the financial meltdown 80 years ago, the recent financial crisis has sparked a critique of the U.S. financial regulatory system. Having witnessed a Ponzi scheme of unprecedented magnitude and the near decimation of venerable Wall Street firms, scholars, lawmakers, regulators, and investors have questioned the appropriateness of our current regulatory framework and the role of the SEC.

The first part of the course will focus on understanding the events that prompted the 1933 Act, the 1934 Act, the Investment Company of 1940, the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, and the establishment and growth of the SEC. Perhaps not surprisingly, many of those same policy considerations are driving current discussions within the Commission, in Congress, and in the Administration. The second part of the course will examine particular aspects of securities regulation from both substantive and organizational viewpoints, including the regulation of public companies, investment companies, and investment advisors, with an emphasis on the inner workings of the SEC. We will study the current functions played by the Commission's various divisions and offices as we explore the pros and cons of the existing regulatory architecture and the initiatives under consideration at the SEC and within Congress. The final segment of the course will focus on the future of the SEC and financial regulation in the U.S. We will review reform proposals and other ideas for reorganizing the system. We will have speakers including present and former senior officials from the SEC and the financial industry.

This course is open to both JD and LLM students and is recommended for students who wish to gain a deeper understanding of the SEC or may be considering an externship with the Commission.

Prerequisite: Prior or concurrent enrollment in Securities Regulation.

LAW 1450 v00 Segregation Seminar: History and Future for Education, Housing and Opportunity
<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1450 v00>

J.D. Seminar | 2-3 credit hours

The course will cover segregation in public accommodations, residences and education, historically and currently. Although the workforce, marriage, and access to citizenship and voting were segregated for centuries in the U.S., employment discrimination, anti-miscegenation, immigration and election law are beyond the scope of this course. Students will learn that the US is racially segregated in housing and education and that segregation is discriminatory. They will grapple with the fundamental question of why segregation exists and the role of law in creating and responding to segregation. Students will gain a historical perspective on the ideology of white supremacy that animates segregation. They will learn that the chief consequence of segregation is inequality, for everyone, people of color and whites. Among those consequences are mass incarceration, health and wealth disparities, wasted human capital due to lack of opportunity, racial hostility, militarized policing in certain neighborhoods (Ferguson & all its antecedents and successors), environmental degradation, and suburban sprawl. Students will also learn strategies for dismantling segregation and, hopefully, help develop innovative solutions in their research papers.

Note: This seminar requires a paper. J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2 credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

LAW 397 v02 Separation of Powers
<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 397 v02>

J.D. Course | 3 credit hours

This course will address the allocation of authority among the branches of the federal government. The course title is a bit of a misnomer, because those powers are not simply "separated" between the three departments. As Justice Jackson wrote, although "the Constitution diffuses power the better to secure liberty . . . it also contemplates that practice will integrate the dispersed powers into a workable government. It enjoins upon its branches separateness but interdependence, autonomy but reciprocity." *Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co. v. Sawyer*, 343 U.S. 579, 635 (1952) (Jackson, J., concurring)). A principal focus of the course will be to test Justice Jackson's description. Although we will examine some issues related to the federal judiciary and Article III, our primary focus will be on Articles I and II—in particular, on the President's independent powers and Congress's authority to regulate the Executive. This course will deal in greater depth with some of the separation-of-powers issues you studied in Constitutional Law I, but we will also closely examine current controversies, including the allocation of congressional and executive war powers, foreign affairs disputes, congressional oversight, presidential control over the execution of federal law, and constitutional interpretation within the political branches. The principal text will be the second edition of Shane & Bruff, *Separation of Powers Law* (2005), with some supplemental materials.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for this course and Separation of Powers Seminar with Professors Clement and Blatt. Students MAY receive credit for this course and Separation of Powers Seminar: Hot Topics in Scholarship with Professor Chafetz.

LAW 397 v00 Separation of Powers Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 397 v00>)

J.D. Seminar | 3 credit hours

This seminar addresses advanced issues raised by the interaction of the three branches of the federal government. In particular, the seminar will build on the separation of powers issues covered in the Constitutional Law I course by addressing some of those issues in greater depth and dealing with other separation of powers issues that tend to receive less attention because they do not result in justiciable controversies. Specific areas of study will include the political question doctrine, the invocation of executive privilege in Congress and the courts, executive immunity from the criminal and civil process, congressional subpoena power over executive branch documents, the effect of impeachment on the separation of powers, the issues raised by the executive branch's refusal to defend the constitutionality of acts of Congress, and judicial review of executive branch efforts to address foreign terrorism.

Students will be expected to prepare an outline, draft, and final version of a 25-page paper on a topic covered in the seminar and chosen in consultation with the instructor. Participation in class discussions will factor into final grades. Reading materials for the seminar will include cases, statutes, legislative hearings, interbranch correspondence and other materials.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for this course and Separation of Powers. Students MAY receive credit for this seminar and Separation of Powers Seminar: Hot Topics in Scholarship with Professor Chafetz.

LAW 1711 v00 Separation of Powers Seminar: Hot Topics in Scholarship (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1711 v00>)

J.D. Seminar | 3 credit hours

The nature and consequences of our constitutional separation of powers are topics of substantial debate, with significant implications for our system of government. This seminar examines recent scholarly discussions of various aspects of the separation of powers. Topics will include deep dives into each of the three branches, discussions of the interactions between those branches and other institutions, and selected thematic topics.

Note: Laptops may not be used during class sessions.

Students can take this course and Separation of Powers with Professor Lederman and Separation of Powers Seminar with Professors Clement and Blatt.

LAW 1353 v00 Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Sex Characteristics and International Human Rights Law (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1353 v00>) (Fieldwork Practicum)

J.D. Practicum | 4 credit hours

This fieldwork practicum course focuses on issues of sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics from an international and national human rights law perspective. The course will provide an overview of the main human rights issues in these fields, while affording students an opportunity to work with organizations that are addressing human rights violations of people based on sexuality, gender and sex characteristics, in various ways.

As such, students participate in a two-hour weekly seminar and work for 10 hours/week for at least 11 weeks during the semester at an outside organization.

Background: Every day, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQI) people are victims of multiple human rights violations, which are directly linked to the lack of acceptance (by society and the State) of their non-normative sexualities, gender identities or gender expressions. Some of the most common human rights violations of LGBTQI people include killings, torture, ill-treatment, "corrective" or punishing rape, "conversion therapy," discrimination in schools, in the workplace and in accessing health services, among many others. Intersex persons face human rights violations because of the general lack of acceptance of their bodies that differ from the socially accepted standards of "female" and "male" bodies. Because of their sex characteristics, intersex people often face human rights violations including irreversible non-consented and non-medically necessary genital surgery at the early stages of infancy and throughout childhood, as well as forced sterilization, among others.

SEMINAR: The course will take a close look at some of the human rights violations faced by lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer and intersex (LGBTQI) people, or other people perceived as such, as well as the corresponding States' obligations under international human rights law. The students will analyze landmark and recent decisions emerging from regional and international human rights monitoring bodies, which have developed standards around these categories. This analysis will provide a solid legal foundation for students to develop their projects for external partners.

FIELDWORK: Students will be placed with organizations working in the area of sexual and reproductive rights. Most likely, the work will be conducted remotely, as several of these organizations are not based in the Washington D.C. area. The work conducted for this portion of the course will be supervised by the external organization.

In the past, the work with external partners specific human rights issues faced by LGBTQI people, included collaborating on several policy and legal projects, including preparing shadow reports to present before international human rights bodies, conducting analysis of legislation or a related case, among others. External partners vary every year, and include international and domestic leading human rights organizations working on the promotion and protection of the rights of LGBTQI people at the international and domestic level.

Prerequisite: J.D. students must complete the required first-year program prior to enrolling in this course. Part-time and interdivisional transfer students may enroll prior to completing Constitutional Criminal Procedure (formerly Criminal Justice), Property, or their first-year elective.

Recommended: Experience or coursework in international human rights law, women's rights law, and/or gender and sexuality and the law is recommended.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not concurrently enroll in this

LAW 1909 v00 Slavery, Abolition, and the Constitution (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1909 v00>)

J.D. Course (cross-listed) | 3 credit hours

The primary aim of this course to familiarize students with (1) the history of slavery and racism in the United States and their roles in American law and society prior to the Civil War, (2) how slavery influenced the drafting and ratification of the Constitution and how slavery was both accommodated and challenged by later developments in constitutional law, (3) the growth and development of constitutional abolitionism in the United States before the Constitution was adopted and in the decades leading up to the Civil War, (4) the antislavery origins of the Fourteenth Amendment and the role of all three Reconstruction Amendments in constituting a “Second Founding” of the United States, and (5) the development of various notions of citizenship and civil rights in light of the nation’s history of slavery and racism.

While the main focus of the course will be on American slavery and the efforts of abolitionists to dismantle it, the course will also likely address two other topics that reflect patterns of oppression and exclusion in U.S. history: the role of women in the Early Republic and how American Indians lost their land. Finally, the course will likely conclude with a unit that examines the demise of Reconstruction and the emergence of the “separate but equal” doctrine in the late nineteenth century. While many of the assigned readings will consist of primary sources and historical accounts of slavery and abolition, we will also read most or all of the following landmark cases: *Somerset v. Stuart*, *The Quock Walker Case*, *Mima Queen and Child v. Hepburn*, *Johnson v. M’Intosh*, *The Antelope*, *State v. Mann*, *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia*, *Groves v. Slaughter*, *Prigg v. Pennsylvania*, *Dred Scott v. Sanford*, *The Civil Rights Cases*, *Chae Chan Ping v. United States*, and *Plessy v. Ferguson*.

Prerequisite: Constitutional Law I: The Federal System or its equivalent (e.g., *Democracy and Coercion* for Section 3 students).

LAW 410 v07 State and Local Governments in a Federal System: Laboratories of Democracy (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 410 v07>)

J.D. Seminar | 2-3 credit hours

States are the “laboratories of democracy” Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis said, and contemporary theories of localism argue that policy change can be driven by innovation at the municipal level. Given the gridlock in Congress, and a Supreme Court that has devolved a number of key choices, including political gerrymandering and reproductive freedom to the states, the role of state government, and of municipal governments in an intrastate federalism model, is increasingly salient. Each state has its own Constitution, its own court system, and its own legislative process. States and local governments enjoy substantial law-making and regulatory authority; bear significant responsibility for the financing and provision of most domestic public goods and services; and are key sites for political participation. This course surveys the legal environment, political values and policy debates that shape state and local governments in the United States. We will look at some specific case studies on the promise of state constitutions and challenges to innovation in state constitutional law as an alternative to U.S. Constitutional doctrine; consider the state separation of powers doctrines that govern interbranch conflict; examine how state governments substitute decisions for local choice; consider the opportunities and challenges of direct democracy approaches to policy innovation; and look at the impact of boundaries on who has access to public goods. After completing the course, students will be able to identify many of the key doctrinal principals and analyze how they apply to the socio-economic context of federalism and intrastate federalism today. The course will examine the role of governors and mayors as policymakers, and how horizontal federalism serves as a driver of national policy in areas including civil rights, immigration and climate change. The course also will challenge students to explore the tension between the historical movement toward greater local home rule and the modern trend to regional solutions. Finally, the course will enable students to exercise and develop skills of particular relevance to state and local decision-making: statutory interpretation, working effectively in groups, and understanding the dynamics and procedural context of state and local government proceedings.

Learning Objectives:

This course aspires to empower its students to:

- Recognize and apply several core legal doctrines that enable and constrain state governments and various local government entities.
- Describe how several prominent threads of American political theory have guided the historical development of state and local government law.
- Apply several constitutional principles and legal standards that regulate state and local government
- Explain the predominant funding mechanisms for state and local governments, and analyze how state and local policies can affect the viability of local government.
- Identify several state and federal policies that can impair the sustainability of local government; and federal policies that constrain the autonomy of states in performing their core functions.
- Develop and deliver principled arguments about how socio-economic policy issues relate to legal doctrine, intra-regional wealth, housing and land use policy and alternatives to local government.

Recommended: Although no prerequisites are required for this course, familiarity with constitutional law, property law and administrative law are helpful.

LAW 1784 v00 Statutory Interpretation (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1784 v00>)

J.D. Course | 3 credit hours
description forthcoming.

Note: This course is a first-year elective. First-year day students select an elective offered in the spring.

LAW 415 v00 Strategic Intelligence and Public Policy Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 415 v00>)
J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 3 credit hours

This seminar will explore several significant legal and policy concerns presented by the conduct of foreign intelligence activities in peace and war. To the extent possible we will focus on current or recent issues. We will discuss the role and history of Congress in authorizing, overseeing and regulating intelligence activities. We will also briefly review the constitutional authorities (primarily Art. II) of the President to undertake activities protecting the national defense in the absence of specific statutory authority, as well as the role of the federal courts in resolving national defense disputes.

More specifically we will discuss legal and structural issues associated with covert action, espionage, electronic surveillance for foreign intelligence purposes (the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act) and its impacts on privacy interests. We will consider the crimes of insurrection, conspiracy, and litigation issues involving the use of classified information in criminal and civil cases, including the use of secret evidence in criminal prosecutions. This discussion will include the state secrets privilege and the Classified Information Procedures Act (CIPA). We will examine unauthorized disclosures of classified information and whistleblower protections. And finally, we will briefly discuss the role of a free press in our democracy.

The overall approach of the seminar will be to have an open analysis and interesting discussion of these and possibly other related topics. Questions are welcome and can be addressed to Prof. Dyson at dd1117@georgetown.edu.

Note: The Summer 2025 sections of this course will enroll via waitlist. The Writing Requirement section (LAWJ-415-06) is open to J.D. students only and non-degree students may not enroll.

LAW 1174 v00 Supreme Court Institute Judicial Clerkship Practicum (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1174 v00>) (Project-Based Practicum)

J.D. Practicum | 3 credit hours

In a project-based practicum course, students participate in a weekly seminar and work on a project under the supervision of their professor. This project-based practicum course will operate in conjunction with Georgetown Law's Supreme Court Institute (SCI), which provides moot courts to Supreme Court advocates in virtually every case the Court hears each Term. Each moot court panel is composed of five "Justices," professors or practitioners with experience in Supreme Court and appellate advocacy. This practicum will enable eight J.D. students to function as "law clerks" who will help prepare "Justices" to serve on SCI moot court panels. Students will participate in a two hour/week seminar and carry out five hours/week of project work under the direction of the course professor.

SEMINAR: The seminar component of the practicum will explore the role and function of law clerks; the mechanics of writing a useful bench memo and draft opinion; and ethical dimensions of judicial clerkships, including confidentiality and influence. Seminar sessions will also feature guest speakers, including appellate judges and former judicial law clerks.

PROJECT WORK: Each student will be assigned a case scheduled for argument in the February or March sitting, for which he or she will prepare a "bench memorandum." Prior to the moot court, the student will submit the memorandum to the student's assigned moot "Justice" – a Georgetown Law professor or local practitioner who has volunteered to serve on the moot panel – and will meet with the Justice for a "case conference" to discuss the case in preparation for the moot. After attending the moot court, the student will attend the oral argument, read the argument transcript, or listen to the audio recording, and write a postmortem review describing the ways in which the moot resembled and differed from the argument.

Learning Objectives:

Writing, legal analysis, oral presentation, and other skills required to serve as an effective appellate law clerk; sensitivity to ethical issues such as confidentiality and influence on judicial decision-making.

Prerequisite: Students must complete the required first-year program prior to enrolling in this course. Part-time and interdivisional transfer students may enroll prior to completing Constitutional Criminal Procedure (formerly Criminal Justice), Property, or their first-year elective.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not concurrently enroll in this practicum course and a clinic or another practicum course. Students may concurrently enroll in this practicum course and an externship.

Note: This course is open to J.D. students only.

This course may be suitable for evening students who have sufficient flexibility in their day jobs to take time off to attend the weekly seminar (9:50 a.m. - 11:50 a.m. each Wednesday); conduct a case conference with their Justice/professor (roughly an hour, scheduled at the professor's convenience); and observe their assigned moot court (a two-hour session during the working day, scheduled to accommodate the needs of the advocate). THIS COURSE REQUIRES PROFESSOR PERMISSION TO ENROLL. Students must submit a transcript and Statement of Interest (one page double-spaced), explaining his or her interest in the course to Professor Debbie Shrager (des113@georgetown.edu) by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 2, 2024. After the October 4 application deadline, students will be admitted into open seats on a rolling basis. Any student who is offered a seat in this course will be directly enrolled in both the seminar and fieldwork components and may not take either component separately. The student will have one week only in which to drop the course. After that time, a student may only drop the course with the

LAW 469 v00 Supreme Court Litigation Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 469 v00>)
J.D. Seminar | 3 credit hours

This is a three credit course, and class meets for two hours and forty-five minutes each Thursday between 2:45 and 5:30 p.m. The course has five primary aspects:

- First, we will focus on the Supreme Court as an institution and how it differs from other American courts. This will include readings and discussion of topics of longstanding importance, including the certiorari process, merits briefing, the role of amicus briefs, and the Solicitor General's Office.
- Second, we will study in depth several cases being decided this Spring.
- Third, through two short (10-12 pages, double spaced) writing assignments and opportunities for extensive one-on-one discussion and comment, there will be a heavy emphasis on effective legal writing.
- Fourth, we will focus on effective oral advocacy, as practiced in the U.S. Supreme Court, including multiple opportunities to observe and participate in such practice arguments yourself. We will have three extra two hour sessions on Friday afternoons during the term to observe actual moot courts in pending cases conducted by the Supreme Court Institute.
- Finally, we will also spend substantial portions of many classes considering materials addressing events which have occurred over the last half century relating to the Court's role in constitutional interpretation, including how that role has changed greatly within the recent past as a result of changes in the make-up of the Court.

Because that Court itself plays a unique role in our legal system—to identify and resolve important disputed and recurring issues of federal law—the role of counsel in that Court is markedly different in many respects than it is in other appellate courts. These differences are most obvious in the certiorari process, by which the Court identifies the cases it will hear on the merits. That process demands that counsel on both sides persuade the Court that the case at hand either does or does not clearly present a legal issue of such moment and controversy as to demand the Court's attention. We will study the certiorari process, consider at some length the features of a case that enhance or detract from its chances for certiorari, and focus specifically on the tasks of drafting certiorari petitions, oppositions to certiorari, and reply briefs.

After the Court grants review of a case and it forward for decision on the merits, the selective nature of the Court's jurisdiction, and its focus on resolving recurring legal issues rather than simply deciding cases, shapes the lawyer's approach to the case in many important respects. These peculiar aspects of advocacy in the Supreme Court will be discussed in several class sessions dealing with the tasks of drafting merits briefs, including briefs of petitioners, respondents and reply briefs. We will also discuss the role of the amicus briefs and the ways in which they can contribute to the Court's decision.

The unique nature of the Supreme Court's decision making role is substantially reflected in the nature of oral advocacy as it is now practiced at the Court. We will deal with the nature and challenges of oral argument in the Supreme Court beginning with the first class, and then again more intensely in a number of class sessions. In addition to reading secondary sources addressing oral argument in the Court from a variety of perspectives, all students will participate as both advocates and judges in several moot courts of cases being decided by the Court this Spring.

We will also observe and discuss moot court arguments by advocates in upcoming cases in the Court. We will be attending three such arguments in sessions lasting two hours, each to be held on a Friday afternoon.

LAW 418 v00 Supreme Court Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 418 v00>)
J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours

This seminar examines the Supreme Court as an institution with emphasis on the ways in which the institutional forms and structures of the Court influence the law the Court makes. Topics studied include: appointments to the Court; the Court's jurisdiction and procedures for determining cases it will adjudicate; the internal deliberative process employed by the Justices; and the role of the advocates before the Court. Cases currently pending in the Supreme Court will be studied for illustrative purposes.

Prerequisite: Constitutional Law I: The Federal System (or Democracy and Coercion).

Strongly Recommended: Constitutional Law II: Individual Rights and Liberties.

LAW 1738 v00 Supreme Court Today (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1738 v00>)
J.D. Seminar | 2 credit hours

This course explores high-profile cases on the Supreme Court's current docket and approaches to advocacy before it. The current term presents an array of significant issues that have the potential to transform myriad areas of law. We will examine the briefing and arguments in selected cases and break down the different tools that sophisticated advocates use to persuade the Court. In addition to learning about the substance of cutting-edge issues, students will learn about and practice oral and written appellate advocacy — skills that translate well to any type of practice. Our analysis of specific cases also provides a springboard to consider broader questions about the Court's role in our system of government and how the Court manages the content and pace of its own docket. To gain additional perspectives on the Court and the appellate bar, we will hear from guests with varied experiences and roles in appellate advocacy. Past guests have included federal appellate judges, government officials, Supreme Court reporters, and experienced practitioners. The course is ideally suited to students interested in clerking after graduation or who seek to deepen their understanding of the Court's role in our legal system.

Recommended: Constitutional Law II: Individual Rights and Liberties or Federal Courts and the Federal System.

Note: ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY AT ALL CLASS SESSIONS. Enrolled students must be in attendance at the start of the first class session in order to remain enrolled. Waitlisted students must be in attendance at the start of the first class session in order to remain eligible to be admitted off the waitlist. All enrolled students must attend each class session in its entirety. Failure to attend the first class session in its entirety will result in a drop; failure to attend any subsequent class session in its entirety may result in a withdrawal.

LAW 1416 v00 Supreme Court Topics: The Role of Dissenting Opinions
(<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1416 v00>)

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 1 credit hour

In this course students will learn about the role of dissenting opinions in U.S. appellate courts generally, and the United States Supreme Court in particular, with a special focus on the writings and jurisprudence of the late Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. We will also briefly discuss the role dissents play in select foreign jurisdictions. Students will be evaluated based on their active and informed class participation, including a mini-moot during the final class session, and on the quality of their final written product, which will be a 5-10 page paper.

Recommended: Constitutional Law I: The Federal System or Democracy and Coercion.

Note: UPPERCLASS WEEK ONE COURSE. This course is mandatory pass/fail and will not count toward the 7 credit pass/fail limit for J.D. students.

ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY AT ALL CLASS SESSIONS. Enrolled students must be in attendance at the start of the first class session in order to remain enrolled. Waitlisted students must be in attendance at the start of the first class session in order to remain eligible to be admitted off the waitlist. All enrolled students must attend each class session in its entirety. Failure to attend the first class session in its entirety will result in a drop; failure to attend any subsequent class session in its entirety may result in a withdrawal. Enrolled students will have until the beginning of the second class session to request a drop by contacting the Office of the Registrar; a student who no longer wishes to remain enrolled after the second class session begins will not be permitted to drop the class but may request a withdrawal from an academic advisor in the Office of Academic Affairs. Withdrawals are permitted up until the last class for this specific course.

LAW 1706 v00 Surveillance and Civil Rights (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1706 v00>) (Fieldwork Practicum)

J.D. Practicum | 6 credit hours

If you have ever taken advantage of basic government services, your personal information is part of a massive trove of data that local, state and federal agencies share with one another through a variety of overlapping networks, databases and bureaucratic collaboratives. Large corporations also build and sell their own datasets to government agencies, along with powerful technologies – like face recognition and automated license plate readers – which operate on that data.

This surveillance infrastructure has been built over the course of the last 30 years, for the most part without any oversight or accountability, let alone transparency to the public. At the same time as we seem to be arriving at a moment of socio-political consensus about the need to fundamentally rethink our most brutal systems of social control, we are also on the verge of the total suffusion of these other invisible systems of coercion in our lives.

In this fieldwork practicum, students will be placed at one of several non-profit organizations working to expose and mitigate the impact of mass surveillance on historically marginalized communities. Potential hosts include national, regional and local organizations that focus on surveillance as an aspect of mass deportation, mass incarceration, social control, and/or conditions of work. Projects may include legal and policy research, litigation support, report writing, legislative drafting and analysis, public records requests, and oral advocacy with state and federal policy makers.

Weekly seminars will alternate between case rounds, where students workshop questions and problems drawn from their field work, and discussions or exercises based on assigned readings. Assigned readings will focus on (1) substantive legal and policy questions related to surveillance and civil rights, and (2) ethical and political questions related to the practice of law in contexts of social injustice.

Through seminar and fieldwork, students can expect to engage deeply with questions such as:

- Where does the authorization for large scale surveillance by federal immigration authorities come from? Do the Immigration and Nationality Act, the Department of Homeland Security authorizing statutes, or other federal and state surveillance statutes and case law, alone or taken together, actually provide legal grounding for the large scale, warrantless surveillance of immigrant communities?
- What are the civil rights implications of DHS's new mandatory DNA collection policy?
- What are the Fourth Amendment protections for geolocation information post-Carpenter?
- How does information sharing across law enforcement agencies of all types nationwide actually happen and what policy interventions can communities impacted by overpolicing advocate for?
- What is the extent of the federal government's dependence on corporate surveillance and what are the political implications of that dependence?
- What are some strategies for forcing corporate surveillance companies to disclose information about their products, practices, and contracts?
- What does it mean to lawyer ethically in a context of radical inequality and political corruption?

And students will develop the following skills:

- Creative techniques for researching surveillance technologies and the opaque procurement practices through which they are adopted;

LAW 1748 v00 The Death Penalty in America Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1748 v00>)

J.D. Seminar | 2-3 credit hours

This seminar will consider the past, present, and future of the death penalty in the U.S. Topics will include the Eighth Amendment framework; capital-eligible offenses and limitations; the role of race; intellectual disability, insanity, and mental status; juvenile offenders; procedural requirements in capital cases; actual innocence claims; methods of execution; juror qualification; and the allocation of issues between judge and jury. The course also will cover current abolition initiatives under state constitutional, legislative, and clemency initiatives.

Student learning goals: Students will gain both a jurisprudential understanding and practical insight into the death penalty and its administration. Students will intensively explore this challenging constitutional and legal area, and will write on an important selected issue.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for this course and Capital Punishment Seminar or the Death Penalty Litigation Practicum.

Note: This seminar requires a paper. J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2 credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

LAW 1663 v00 The Federal Courts and the World Seminar: History, Developments, and Problems (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1663 v00>)

J.D. Seminar | 2 credit hours

This course investigates the federal courts' role in United States foreign affairs. It is a commonplace that the courts take a backseat to the political branches on issues relating to foreign affairs. But that truism, though generally accurate, obscures more than it reveals, for the federal courts routinely adjudicate cases with significant implications for the United States' relations with the world—as they have since 1789. In this course, we will explore several fundamental questions: What kinds of foreign affair issues have the courts historically addressed? How has the courts' jurisdiction over cases implicating foreign affairs changed over time? How have the courts handled foreign and international law? What impact have separation of powers principles had on the courts' decision-making?

The course is organized thematically; in each two- or three-week unit we will focus on a particular issue, including the foreign affairs background to the establishment of federal courts under Article III of the Constitution; the status of international and foreign law in federal court; foreign states as litigants in federal court; and the reach of the courts' jurisdiction beyond U.S. territory. Each unit will be framed in historical perspective, exploring both the courts' past practice and their modern approach.

This is not a survey course on the law of U.S. foreign affairs; we will not address directly many of the topics that would be covered in such a course—including the allocation of foreign affairs responsibility between the Executive and Congress; the scope of Presidential war power; and treaty-making and executive agreements. Instead, the focus here is squarely on the courts and their interactions with the world.

By the end of the semester, students should be able to do the following:

- Demonstrate a general understanding of the various ways in which the federal courts address issues that have implications for the United States' relations with foreign nations.
- Recognize how the courts' role in foreign affairs has changed over time, and understand what has driven those changes.
- Draw connections between different doctrinal areas and historical periods to develop a broader understanding of the court's role in foreign affairs.
- Critically assess legal and historical scholarship on the courts' role in foreign affairs.
- Respond constructively to classmates' questions, comments, and ideas.

Recommended: Prior coursework in international law, national security, or the federal courts is not required, but interest in such issues is recommended.

LAW 1898 v00 The Law Governing the Use of Military Force (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1898 v00>)

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2-3 credit hours

It is commonly assumed that law imposes virtually no constraints on the President when he or she decides whether and when to use military force overseas. In fact, however, nothing could be further from the truth.

There is an enormously detailed and complex corpus of laws, foreign and domestic, that constrains and guides (and sometimes authorizes) the use of force. Therefore, the legal decision-making process within the Executive branch on such matters is as difficult and challenging as in virtually any other area of federal action. The purpose of this seminar is to introduce students to the most important of the myriad legal questions that confront decisionmakers and their attorneys whenever the Executive branch contemplates a possible use of force. The U.S. domestic laws we will examine include, among other things, the constitutional allocation of “war” and other military-related powers between Congress and the President; statutory authorizations and limitations; presidentially-imposed constraints; and covert action authorities and limitations. We will then examine the principal international-law limits on the use of force, with particular attention to the *jus ad bellum* (the prerequisites for the decision to use force in the first instance, particularly as prescribed by the United Nations Charter), and the *jus in bello* (a/k/a the “laws of war,” or international humanitarian law) that governs the *conduct* of fighting—that is, *how* force may be used. In light of the recent conflicts in Ukraine and in Israel and Gaza, we will almost certainly discuss the most pressing and vexing legal questions associated with those ongoing actions. We will also study “test” cases, such as the Cuban Missile Crisis, the 2000 NATO campaign in Kosovo, strikes by the United States in Syria in recent years, and the 2011 Libya campaign, to illustrate the complexity of the issues.

Learning Objectives:

Students should become familiar with the vast array of domestic- and international-law questions involving the use of force. They should also develop a rich understanding of the legal issues that government decision-makers and legal advisors must consider in the course of deciding whether and how the United States (and other nations) can and should use force abroad (and in the United States). Students will be expected to learn how to assess the reading materials critically, to identify unresolved questions, and to constructively respond to and critique views of their colleagues. Students who enroll for three credits will demonstrate an ability to produce an original research paper of high quality.

Note: This seminar requires a paper. J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2 credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

LAW 1495 v01 The Role of the State Attorney General (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1495 v01>)

J.D. Course | 3 credit hours

The office and work of state attorneys general both sit at the intersection of law, politics, and policy. No other legal actor has the same power and responsibility to identify and act in the public interest. Unlike private and other government lawyers, who work subject to ethical rules that defer decision making to agency “clients,” state attorneys general answer directly to the public interest. The course examines decisions by attorneys general that reflect their independent status, which is most often revealed when legislatures, other elected officials, state agencies or the federal government exceed their constitutional or statutory authority. In service to the people of their respective states, today’s state AGs are leading the way on issues from federalism to civil rights to workers and consumers rights to environmental protection to gun violence and more. The state attorneys general work within their respective states, across states in multistate coalitions, and both in cooperation and conflict with the federal government.

Since colonial times, three forces have molded the office of the Attorney General: state constitutions and state government codes, which specify the duties and responsibilities of the attorney general; legislative decrees altering the duties of the attorney general in response to specific state needs; and the personalities and ambitions of those who have served as attorney general. Attorneys general today deal with everything from common law and statutory authority; conflicting legal and policy demands; resource restriction; relationships with outside counsel; and hard-core partisan politics.

The Role of the State Attorney General has these overarching objectives:

- To examine the unique junction of law, policy, and politics at which the state attorney general operates and to consider whether and when each of these does or should feature in a state attorney general’s deliberations and decisions
- To explore issues of law and governance, especially to consider the role of the executive branch in tripartite democratic republics
- To consider how the state attorneys general figure in the current iteration of American federalism
- To showcase in concrete terms the actual workings and work of state attorneys general

The course will cover the day to day challenges faced by attorneys general and their staffs in delivering legal advice to guide state government in a constitutional and ethical manner. The course will also cover the relationship of attorneys general with the federal government, the private bar, and a range of advocacy organizations. It will focus on some of the prominent substantive areas in which state attorneys general work, such as consumer protection, criminal justice, and environmental law. Although each state is unique, the course will demonstrate the congruence that exists among state attorneys general when addressing similar challenges and issues.

The course materials include case materials and court documents, scholarly articles from a variety of sources, and some journalistic coverage. There is no separate text for this course. All materials will be available via a web portal to be designated by the professor.

Students will be evaluated on class participation (15%); the quality of a short writing assignment (20%), due approximately mid-way through the course; and a compact in-class exam (65%). The exam will be closed book. In addition to substantive content, the exam will be assessed according to the quality of the prose and organization of the discussion.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for this course and the seminar by the same name.

LAW 1893 v00 The Supreme Court and Constitutional Interpretation Today Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1893 v00>)

J.D. Seminar | 2-3 credit hours

Constitutional law has changed quite abruptly in the past three years. This course should be of interest to those trying to understand how the Justices justify these changes. This seminar will use current Supreme Court cases to consider questions about constitutional interpretation.

Students will learn about the kinds of tools used in constitutional interpretation: “originalism” in practice. We will see the focus on text and history, and consider what is left out by those modes of interpretation once thought quite legitimate legal reasoning. This is a course in reading Supreme Court opinions, although we will also learn “critical” skills to assess the strengths and weaknesses of originalist tools of analysis.

Some of these opinions are quite long, but that is a lawyer’s job. The professor will not provide edited versions, except in rare cases.

In the first 5 weeks of the semester, students will be taught a background in constitutional interpretation and the modern evolution of originalism, using some law review articles, but primarily Supreme Court cases. For the next 8 classes, students will debate cases now pending in the courts that involve questions of constitutional interpretation. The professor will introduce the background law in the first class, raise critical questions about method, and the students will debate in the second class. The three-credit writing requirement section is limited to 10 students and students must have their topic approved by the Professor in the first week of class.

Learning Objectives: Advanced knowledge in constitutional interpretation not taught in the average constitutional law course, but keenly important today.

Prerequisite: Constitutional Law I: The Federal System and Constitutional Law II: Individual Rights and Liberties.

Note: This seminar requires a paper. J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2 credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

LAW 1943 v00 The Supreme Court’s Docket (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1943 v00>)

J.D. Seminar | 2-3 credit hours

For all of the attention that we pay to the Supreme Court in law school classes, we spend very little time talking about the Court’s **docket**—about the specific types of cases that the justices have the power to decide; the cases that they choose to decide; their ability to resolve only specific issues **within** those cases; the full Court’s (and individual justices’) power to issue “emergency” and “extraordinary” relief; and Congress’s historical and contemporary role in shaping all of those categories. The goal of this seminar is to fill out this important but neglected topic through both a historical and contemporary study of the Court’s constitutional and statutory powers—and the behind-the-scenes details of how those powers are carried into execution. In our study, we will develop a better understanding not only of how the Court’s powers (and discretion) informs its ability to resolve different types of disputes, but how they shape the Court’s role in our constitutional system—defining, enabling, and sometimes constraining the Court’s relationship with each of the other institutions of American government.

Prerequisite: Civil Procedure and Constitutional Law I: The Federal System.

Note: This seminar requires a paper. J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2 credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

LAW 1768 v00 The Temporal Dimensions of Governmental Powers Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1768 v00>)

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2-3 credit hours

This course will study the respective temporal reaches of, and restrictions on, the legislative, judicial, and executive powers of American governments.

It is almost universally now thought that “retrospective laws are . . . generally unjust . . . and . . . neither accord with sound legislation nor with the fundamental principles of the social compact.” Joseph Story, *Commentaries on the Constitution*, §1398 (3d ed. 1858). But legislatures nonetheless do sometimes enact retroactive laws, and sometimes for quite benign and legitimate reasons. Furthermore, judicial and executive adjudicatory actions have retroactive effects; and, as with retroactive legislation, some of those adjudicatory actions may establish the legal basis for retroactive restrictions on conduct about which the regulated persons did not have prior notice – such as when the adjudicators construct manifestly new, yet binding, interpretations of ambiguous laws (i.e., when they “make” or “declare” law that will serve as “precedent”). Concomitantly, although often thought of as necessarily being retroactive, judicial and executive adjudicatory powers are sometimes exercised with only future effects – such as when courts or agencies have declined to apply their new interpretations of law retroactively, or have awarded relief that has only prospective effects (e.g., an injunction, a writ of mandamus, a declaratory judgment).

This course will explore these temporal issues. We will examine what legally differentiates “prospective” from “retroactive” governmental actions. We will study the presumption that legislation looks forward, not backward, as well as several of the constitutional constraints on retroactive legislative actions. From there, we will explore both the content of and rationale for the contrasting presumption that judicial action is retroactive in perspective and effect; and we will study the controversy about whether and when a judicial decision announcing a new principle of law – such as a judicial decision overruling an interpretation of law announced in a prior decision – may properly be applied only to conduct or events occurring after the date of that judicial decision. Finally, we will examine whether and how temporal limitations apply in the context of the exercise of executive powers (state and federal) and, concomitantly, how the discretion of the executive and its agents is often temporally insulated – through limits on the writ powers, the doctrine of qualified immunity, etc. – when there is not yet “clearly established” law on an issue.

Our goal is to better understand how the temporal reaches of, and limitations on, the separate powers of government inform the Rule of Law and American constitutional democracy. Such an understanding is relevant and important not only to those who want to study the operation of government and the constitutional limitations on government, but also to those who on behalf of clients – private, public interest, or governmental – seek to influence the temporal application or imposition of new legal restraints.

Prerequisite: Constitutional Law I: The Federal System and Administrative Law.

Note: This seminar requires a paper. J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2 credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

LAW 1782 v00 Theories of Statutory Interpretation Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1782 v00>)

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2-3 credit hours

This seminar will introduce students to the deeper theoretical questions and debates surrounding statutory interpretation: How should courts analyze statutory text? What interpretive tools should judges use to determine statutory meaning? Should those tools change when the text is vague or ambiguous? What role, if any, should legislative process materials or realities play in the interpretation of statutes? What is textualism and how has it changed over time? What are the most salient interpretive trends on the modern Supreme Court?

Students taking the two-unit version of the class will be graded on seven short reaction papers. Students taking the three-credit version must provide three reaction papers and satisfy the Law Center’s writing requirement. Given the theoretical nature of the topic, law review students are especially encouraged.

Learning Objectives: By the end of the semester, students in the course should understand and be able to evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of different interpretive methodologies and tools, such as corpus linguistics, legislative history, semantic canons, etc. They should also be able to describe and critique the U.S. Supreme Court’s current interpretive methodology. Last, students should have a strong understanding of how to use the different interpretive tools and canons to argue in favor of or against a particular statutory reading.

Strongly Recommended: A basic introductory course in Legislation is highly recommended, but not required.

Note: This seminar requires a paper. J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2 credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

LAW 1899 v00 Thirteenth Amendment ([https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1899 v00](https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%201899%20v00))

J.D. Course (cross-listed) | 3 credit hours

This course focuses on the Reconstruction Amendments, directing the core of its readings and class engagement to the Thirteenth Amendment. Students will study the amendment, the legislative history and debates leading to it, including early Colonial and American laws. Students will read cases as well as the writings of scholars, abolitionists, and persons most affected by American slavery, including people who were enslaved as well as those who enslaved. As well, we will examine the social climate during the Antebellum period, reading passages from diaries, news articles, and advertisements central to slavery and ultimately the ratification of the Thirteenth Amendment. The course will conclude with an examination of post-Thirteenth Amendment lawmaking in the United States.

Institutional Learning Outcomes and Goals:

Georgetown University Law Center is committed to providing all students an intellectually rich education that combines theory and practice, and embraces the values of cultural competence, social justice, serving the public good, and educating the whole person. This course provides knowledge of substantive and procedural law, including the influence of the administrative state, political institutions, and other academic discipline in the building of constitutional law and principles. A key value of the ILO is preparing students for an evolving legal landscape. As such, this course seeks to build upon those principles and establishes the following goals:

The goals of this course:

- *Introduce students to the Reconstruction and Amendments, name the Thirteenth Amendment.*
- *Introduce students to the study of the constitution and courts.*
- *Familiarize students with the social and legal literature on the Reconstruction.*
- *Engage students with practical as well as theoretical ideas in Thirteenth Amendment jurisprudence and history.*
- *Stimulate intellectual curiosity about the subject matter.*
- *Inspire thoughtful analysis.*
- *Encourage and facilitate discussions.*

Outcomes:

- *Students will gain the ability to engage in legal analysis, including the analysis of case law, constitutions, statutes and regulations, legal instruments, and other academic disciplines.*
- *Ability to engage in critical and strategic thinking.*
- *Ability to think critically about the law's claim to neutrality and its differential effects on subordinated groups, including those identified by race, gender, indigeneity, and class.*
- *Ability to use problem-solving and collaborative techniques in the legal context.*
- *Ability to communicate effectively in the legal context, orally and in writing.*

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for this seminar and Reconstruction and Civil Rights Seminar.

LAW 1454 v00 Topics in LGBTQ Civil Rights Seminar ([https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1454 v00](https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%201454%20v00))

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2-3 credit hours

This seminar will address aspects of the long and ongoing work to win LGBTQ freedom, equality, and inclusion. Topics likely will include the freedom to marry, challenges to so-called "sodomy" laws, the efforts to establish the rights of transgender individuals, LGBTQ parenting, and employment discrimination, as well as such matters as how the movement is structured, how political and legal groups and strategies interact, etc. The approach will be to talk not only about the development of the legal doctrine but also about the cultural and political context in which the struggle has taken place, and how that context contributed to the willingness or unwillingness of courts and politicians to embrace the cause. Readings will include briefs, case law, and selections from secondary sources. Students should finish the course with an understanding of how the law in this area has evolved, where it is going, and how the LGBT movement illustrates some more general aspects of how successful civil rights movements in this country operate.

Note: This seminar requires a paper. J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2 credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

LAW 1647 v00 Warren Court Legal History Seminar ([https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1647 v00](https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%201647%20v00))

J.D. Seminar | 3 credit hours

More than fifty years since Chief Justice Earl Warren's retirement, the Warren Court continues to dominate our legal and historical discourse. Liberals, especially ones who came of age during the 1960s, idealize it. Conservatives elected presidents who ran against it and who made a more conservative Supreme Court their number one priority. For years, lawyers and historians have debated whether the Warren Court went too far or whether it did not go far enough. Historians have identified three different Warren Courts: 1954–1962, 1963–1965, and 1966–1969. The Court featured dynamic justices: Hugo Black, William Brennan, William O. Douglas, Felix Frankfurter, Robert H. Jackson, John Marshall Harlan II, Thurgood Marshall, and Earl Warren. It decided landmark cases: *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954), *Cooper v. Aaron* (1958), *Mapp v. Ohio* (1961), *Baker v. Carr* (1962), *Gideon v. Wainwright* (1963), *New York Times v. Sullivan* (1964), *Reynolds v. Sims* (1964), *Griswold v. Connecticut* (1965), *Miranda v. Arizona* (1966), and *Loving v. Virginia* (1967). People have responded to the Warren Court's legacy in different ways. Some have defended it as the embodiment of the political philosophy heralded by footnote four of *Carolene Products* (1938) and a living Constitution. Devotees of legal process and originalism have attacked it. Its real legacy may be legal liberalism – the idea of the Supreme Court as an engine for social and political change. This class explores the Warren Court's jurisprudential triumphs and failings to understand its contributions to our current discourse and to the future direction of the Supreme Court.

This seminar looks at the Warren Court from a historical perspective. Guided by readings from legal historians and the decisions themselves, we will explore the Court's major cases and issues in their historical and political context: school desegregation, suspected Communists, denaturalization, the Little Rock school crisis, redistricting, freedom of the press, right to privacy/access to contraception, criminal justice, interracial marriage, and free speech. We will also discuss the strong personalities and jurisprudential philosophies of the justices and how alliances, conflicts, and new justices affected the Court's decisionmaking. During the semester, students will complete all the required reading, participate in all class discussions, and write an original research paper that which fulfills the Upper Class Writing Requirement.

Location, location, location. Writing original research papers will be easier for you than any other law students in the country. Many Warren Court justices – Black, Frankfurter, Douglas, Jackson, Burton (with diaries!), Warren, Brennan, White, Goldberg, and Marshall – donated their papers to the Library of Congress. The papers are open to the public (with a library card) and are rich sources of material. You'll receive an expert-led tutorial on how to do archival research, discover how much fun it is to read other people's mail, and learn how the justices' papers add to our understanding of the Court's decisionmaking process.

Win \$500 & get published. What other class can you win \$500 and get published? Each year, the *Journal of Supreme Court History* awards the Hughes-Gossett Prize for the best student paper. The prize comes with a \$500 award and a publication in the *Journal of Supreme Court History*. Think you can't win? One of my former law students at the University of Wisconsin, Jesse Bair, won the award for his article, "The Silent Man: From Lochner to Hammer v. Dagenhart, A Reevaluation of Justice William R. Day."

Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of the semester, all students should be able to (1) discuss major topics in the constitutional and legal history of the Warren Court; (2) make a historical argument; and (3) write an original research paper. All students are required to complete the Paper Proposal, Progress Report, first draft, and final drafts of the Research Paper. All research

LAW 1837 v00 Washington DC: Law and Policy for the Capital City ([https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1837 v00](https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%201837%20v00))

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 1 credit hour

The District of Columbia has a unique position as the seat of the United States government. Because it is not a state, it does not have a voting representative in the U.S. Congress. It has limited powers of home rule, and did not even receive its current form of home rule until a 1973 Act of Congress. Its power remains limited even as to matters affecting entirely local interests. Indeed, Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution vests Congress with the power to exercise exclusive legislation in all cases over the District, and it has done so for matters ranging from budget control to marijuana sales. DC has non-voting representatives in each Chamber of Congress who did not have a staff, offices on Capitol Hill, or budgets, and a Delegate to the House of Representative who can participate in hearings, but does not have a vote. In some respects, DC is like a U.S. territory, and yet, unlike territories, it does not have a clearly designated path to statehood. For many reasons, the residents of the District of Columbia have repeatedly sought statehood primarily in order to have representation and to have autonomy over its own laws, budget, and constituency, and each time the effort has failed.

At the same time, within the narrow ambit of its home rule power, DC is a vibrant, thriving city. It has overall high income levels, with DC taxes paying the highest per capita income taxes in the nation. It has a population of over 700,000 residents, most of them full-time, larger than the population of two American states, and larger than the population of at least one state when it was admitted to the Union. That DC is a "transient city" is a myth. In fact, until recently, DC had a majority-Black population, and has for over a hundred years been a center of culture and education for Black residents, nurturing institutions like Howard University and the U Street corridor.

DC has a unitary school district, its own metropolitan transit system, and its own Mayor, an elected Attorney General, a city Council, and its own court system. The DC Council is the legislative body in DC made up of 13 members – 8 Councilmembers each of whom represent one of the eight wards in the District, 4 of whom represent the city "at large", and one Chairman. It has a unique system of sublocal governance through its Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (ANCs). It has a police department, and a National Guard, but, as we saw on January 6, the Mayor cannot call up the Guard in the same way other Governors can on their own accord. We have also seen how the police powers of DC are constrained by the relationship with federal property and federal law enforcement agencies in the district.

DC also faces challenges in developing housing and infrastructure. Because of deep disparities in income, it has been subject, in some areas, to rapid gentrification. At the same time, through its Master Plan, and by dint of the efforts of Councilmembers, the construction of affordable housing and limiting the exodus of longtime residents is a policy priority. DC has also distinguished itself as a best practice model in two areas: its pursuit of local climate policy, including a commitment to net-zero carbon use; and its efforts to distinguish itself as a world-class city, with subnational diplomacy and networks with mayors both in the US and globally.

In this class, we will look at the unique structure of DC government within the contexts of our federalist system its governance structure and institutions, and some of the policy challenges it faces. We will discuss the movement for DC statehood, including its historical and justice-related underpinnings. The class is taught by Professor Chertoff, who studies state and local government. Several guest speakers are expected.

The assessment for the class will be a final paper; it will be based either on an in-class exercise we will participate in, based on a current issue in D.C. policy of D.C. federal relations, or a topic approved by the professor.

Recommended: Constitutional Law, Property Law and Administrative Law

Full-time and visiting faculty

Stephanie Barclay
Randy E. Barnett
Rosa Brooks
Sheryll D. Cashin
Josh Chafetz
David D. Cole
Laura Donohue
Michele Goodwin
Irv Gornstein
Michael H. Gottesman
Shon Hopwood
Neal K. Katyal
Martin Lederman
Christy Lopez
Allegra McLeod
John Mikhail
Victoria Nourse
Gary Peller
Nicholas Q. Rosenkranz
Mike Seidman
Cliff Sloan
Paul Smith
Brad Snyder
Girardeau A. Spann
Yvonne Tew
William Treanor
Carlos Manuel Vázquez
David Vladeck
Stephen Vladeck
Don Wallace