Law, Letters, and Society

Program of Study

The program in Law, Letters, and Society is concerned with law in civilian and customary legal systems, both historically and contemporaneously. The program is designed to develop the student’s analytical skills to enable informed and critical examination of law broadly construed. The organizing premise of the program is that law is a tool of social organization and control, not simply an expression of will or aspiration, and that it is best understood by careful study of both rhetorical artifacts and empirical consequences of its application. Program requirements are constructed to support the organizing premise, and, because of the nature of the requirements, transfer students are not eligible to register as Law, Letters, and Society majors.

The program requires course work in three areas, although there is a reasonably broad latitude both expected and permitted in satisfaction of the distributional requirement. There is a substantial writing requirement for all majors; majors are expected to produce substantial written work (sometimes called ‘the BA Paper’) under the close supervision of a faculty member whose area of scholarly concern is related to the broad objectives of the program.

Application to the Program

Students will apply in their second year. Application materials will be made available electronically on Friday of third week of Winter Quarter and must be submitted by noon on Friday of the fourth week of Winter Quarter. Admitted students will be notified of the Selection Committee’s decision by Friday of the sixth week of Winter Quarter. Students are evaluated on the basis of the application statement and previous performance in the College. Because of the nature of the requirements of the program, a limited number of students can be admitted per year.

Once admitted to the program, students may declare their major officially by meeting with their College adviser.

Program Requirements

Course work is required in three areas. After successfully completing the Introductory Course, students must take two courses in Letters and two courses in Society. In addition, students must complete six other courses that, while not necessarily offered or listed formally under either rubric, are substantively supportive of the topics, areas, skills, or concerns of the two areas. Courses satisfying the additional requirement are identified on a quarterly basis, and final approval of additional required course work is made by consultation between the student and either the Associate Director or the Faculty Director.

LLSO courses completed during first and second year will count toward the major.

The Introductory Course

The Introductory Course establishes the intellectual moorings of the program. The importance of the Introductory Course lies not in its content (indeed, its precise focus and scope may be different from time to time) but on its approach to the nature of law. Recently, for example, the Introductory Course has been LLSO 24200 Legal Reasoning, a study, based primarily on cases, of the classic conventions of legal argument in the Anglo-American legal system. In other years, the Introductory Course might be Roman Law or Greek Law, Medieval Law, or a text-based course on ancient legal philosophy, or a comparison of modern legal categories and policies with those of former societies and cultures. The objective is not so much to establish a historical foundation for modern studies as to demonstrate that legal systems are culturally rooted; that urgent, present concerns may obscure important characteristics of legal ideas and behavior; and that many recurrent themes in Western legal thought are shaped or driven by both common and uncommon features. Unlike many legal studies programs that attempt to orient study of the law primarily in contemporary debates, usually in the field of American constitutional law, the program seeks to organize its exploration of law as a system rather than as a forum or an instrument.

Other Course Work

Students must also take two courses each in the Letters and Society divisions of the program, plus six other courses complementary to the required work, as outlined previously (the other six courses may be ones cross listed in the program or may be from other disciplines). Letters and Society are not meant as fixed or self-defining fields, but instead as organizational categories emphasizing two fundamental modes of examining law in a systemic fashion. Courses under the rubric of Letters (whether based in the program or in English, philosophy, or political theory) tend to be based on the study of literary and historical artifacts, such as cases, tracts, conventional literature, or other texts, and emphasize the ways in which law formally constitutes itself. Questions of interpretative and normative theory, rhetorical strategy, and the like are central to such courses. Society serves to organize studies from a variety of different disciplines (including history, political science, economics, and sociology) that try to measure, with different techniques and at different times, the effect of law on society. The combined objective is to treat law as an intellectual activity and as a phenomenon, and to emphasize that both occur in contexts that help to shape them, whether ancient or modern.
RESEARCH

In addition to satisfying the course requirements, each student in the program must produce evidence of sustained research in the form of a substantial research paper during either the junior or senior year and obtain approval of a member of the faculty, although not necessarily a member of the program faculty. Papers may be written in conjunction with Law, Letters, and Society courses, under the auspices of reading and research courses, or in a Research Seminar. (The paper is an independent requirement, however, and need not be accomplished in conjunction with enrollment in a specific course.) The scope, method, and objective of the paper, as well as its length, are subject to negotiation between the student and the instructor.

Summary of Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LLSO 24200</td>
<td>Legal Reasoning (Introductory Course)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two Letters courses</td>
<td></td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two Society courses</td>
<td></td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Six Complementary courses*</td>
<td></td>
<td>600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Units</td>
<td></td>
<td>1100</td>
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* Complementary courses are courses from other departments that support work done in the major. Some students prefer to concentrate their work on a specific issue or problem, e.g., urban politics and policy, historic societal discrimination, or the role of international institutions in policy implementation. Other students prefer to examine a series of discrete topics that are not directly related but that concern the operation of regimes of social control. Lists of pre-approved complementary courses are published quarterly, and students who believe that a course not so listed nonetheless supports work in the major may petition the program chair for approval at any time while enrolled in the course or within one quarter of completing the course. Courses taken in Autumn Quarter of the second year simultaneously with the Introductory Course may count as Complementary courses.

HONORS

Students who wish to be considered for honors must notify the Faculty Director, Associate Director, and their faculty supervisor in writing no later than two quarters before the quarter in which they expect to receive their degree. Eligible students must maintain a GPA of at least 3.50 both overall and in the major, and they must write a distinguished research paper. The paper must be submitted by noon on Friday of fifth week in the quarter of proposed graduation (other papers must be submitted by noon on Friday of seventh week), and the student’s faculty supervisor and a second reader must agree that honors are merited. It should be noted that honors are awarded sparingly.

Students are not able to choose which courses count toward their major GPA.

READING AND RESEARCH COURSES

For students with a legitimate interest in pursuing study that cannot be met by means of regular courses, there is an option of devising a reading and research course to be supervised by a member of the faculty and taken for a quality grade. Such courses may not be used to satisfy the requirements of either the two-course Letters or two-course Society requirements, but may be used to satisfy part of the other six required courses, with the written permission of the Faculty Director or the Associate Director obtained in advance of initiation of the work. Only two research courses may be used within the major. LLSO 29400 BA Seminar I may also be used as one of the six Complementary Courses.

GRADING

Two of the six complementary courses required in the program may, with consent of instructor, be taken for Pass/Fail grading. Students who enroll in LLSO 29400 BA Seminar I, offered annually, beginning Autumn 2010, are graded on a P/F basis, and the seminar counts as one of the two P/F-graded complementary courses.

ADVISING

Students who wish to major in Law, Letters, and Society must register for LLSO 24200 Legal Reasoning in Autumn Quarter of their second year. This requirement is not negotiable. Students should note that, as an interdisciplinary major, the program has a strictly limited enrollment and that registration for the Introductory Course is determined during the preceding Spring Quarter. Upon deciding to major in Law, Letters, and Society, students should arrange to consult with the Faculty Director and the Associate Director on their course of study in the program. Students should continue to consult with their College advisers on general education degree requirements.

Please refer to the quarterly Class Search (http://registrar.uchicago.edu/classes/) for the most up-to-date list of course offerings.
**Law, Letters, and Society Courses**

**LLSO 18901. Inequality, Politics, and Government in US History. 100 Units.**
This class explores the relationship between social inequality and political democracy in US history. How have American political institutions dealt with and reflected the contradictions of "all men are created equal"? What is the meaning of political citizenship in a socially stratified society? How have social movements and conflicts shaped the institutions of state and the meaning of citizenship? The class touches on slavery and freedom; land and colonialism; racial discrimination; labor relations; gender and sexuality; social welfare policy; taxation and regulation; urban development; immigration; policing and incarceration. Assignments: One primary document analysis (2-3 pages), one secondary reading paper (3-5 pages), and a final paper analyzing a particular political movement, conflict, or policy (10-12 pages).

Instructor(s): G. Winant Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): History in the World courses use history as a valuable tool to help students critically exam our society, culture, and politics. Preference given to 1st- and 2nd-yr students.
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 18901, AMER 18901, CRES 18901, GNSE 18901

**LLSO 20001. Theories of Sexuality and Gender. 100 Units.**
This is a one-quarter, seminar-style course for undergraduates. Its aim is triple: to engage scenes and concepts central to the interdisciplinary study of gender and sexuality; to provide familiarity with key theoretical anchors for that study; and to provide skills for deriving the theoretical bases of any kind of method. Students will produce descriptive, argumentative, and experimental engagements with theory and its scenes as the quarter progresses.

Instructor(s): C. Riley Snorton Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): Prior course experience in gender/sexuality studies (by way of the general education civilization studies courses or other course work) is strongly advised.
Equivalent Course(s): CHDV 20001, GNSE 20001, SOCI 20290, ENGL 20001

**LLSO 20019. Mesopotamian Law. 100 Units.**
Ancient Mesopotamia—the home of the Sumerians, Babylonians, and Assyrians who wrote in cuneiform script on durable clay tablets—was the locus of much of history's firsts. No development, however, may be as important as the formations of legal systems and legal principles revealed in contracts, trial records, and law collections (codes), among which The Laws of Hammurabi (r. 1792-1750 BC) stands as most important for understanding the subsequent legal practice and thought of Mesopotamia’s cultural heirs in the Middle East and Europe until today. This course will explore the rich source materials of the Laws and relevant judicial and administration documents (all in English translations) to investigate topics of legal, social, and economic practice, including family formation and dissolution, crime and punishment (sympathetic or talionic eye for an eye, pecuniary, corporal), and procedure (contracts, trials, ordeals).

Instructor(s): M. Roth Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): NEHC 30019, NEHC 20019, SIGN 26022

**LLSO 20116. Global-Local Politics. 100 Units.**
Globalizing and local forces are generating a new politics in the United States and around the world. This course explores this new politics by mapping its emerging elements: the rise of social issues, ethno-religious and regional attachments, environmentalism, gender and life-style identity issues, new social movements, transformed political parties and organized groups, and new efforts to mobilize individual citizens.

Instructor(s): T. Clark Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): GEOG 30116, SOCI 30116, PBPL 27900, HMRT 30116, HMRT 20116, GEOG 20116, SOCI 20116

**LLSO 20301. Childhood and Human Rights in the Twentieth Century. 100 Units.**
How and when did we come to embrace the idea that children are innocent and defenseless? What are the implications of framing children’s rights as human rights? In this course, we will explore key historical transformations in the legal, social, and cultural construction of childhood in modern Western societies. We will examine children's own experiences and how adults rendered them the subjects of study and state regulation. Topics of discussion will include: work, leisure, education, sexuality, criminality, consumerism, and censorship. Throughout, we will discuss how ideas about race, gender, class, and age have shaped the way that the public and the state had defined childhood—who was entitled to a protected period of nurture, care, and play; who was allowed to be disobedient, or even lawless, and still avoid legal consequences. We will explore how and why some children have been and continue to be excluded from this idealized vision.

**LLSO 20601. American Revolution, 1763 to 1789. 100 Units.**
This lecture and discussion course explores the background of the American Revolution and the problem of organizing a new nation. The first half of the course uses the theory of revolutionary stages to organize a framework for the events of the 1760s and 1770s, and the second half of the course examines the period of constitution making (1776-1789) for evidence on the ways in which the Revolution was truly revolutionary.

Instructor(s): E. Cook Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 25300, HIST 35300
LLSO 20602. Early American Political Culture, 1600-1820. 100 Units.
This colloquium examines the culture and practice of political participation in early America, with a comparative look at early modern England. It traces the formation of a deferential, nonpartisan politics in the colonies, and its replacement in the Revolutionary era with politics that increasingly used political party as a means of democratic participation.
Instructor(s): E. Cook Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 28301, HIST 38301

LLSO 20775. Jewish Law from the Hebrew Bible to Jesus. 100 Units.
This course explores the key role of law in the development of Second Temple Judaism and the place of Jesus traditions within this charged sphere. Debates concerning the interpretation and purpose of biblical law, as well as the issues of tradition, revelation and authority shaped the image of Jewish society and marked the dividing lines between ideological parties (e.g. Pharisees, Sadducees and Essenes). The emergence of distinct legal ideologies nurtured the development of both rabbinitic Judaism and the Jesus movement towards the end of the period. The course will consist of three sections: (1) Survey of the history of legal discourse during this period and acquaintance with the relevant works on law from Qumran (2) A thorough investigation of scholarly trends on Jesus and the law and close readings of major sources on law in the Gospels (3) Introduction to the study of early rabbinitic literature and its relevance for the study of Second Temple traditions. Meetings will consist of introductory lectures, discussions of scholarship and readings of select ancient sources (in translation).
Instructor(s): Yair Furstenberg (staff) Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): HIJD 30175, RLST 20175

LLSO 20803. Aristophanes's Athens. 100 Units.
The comedies of Aristophanes are as uproarious, biting, and ribald today as they were more than 2,400 years ago. But they also offer a unique window onto the societal norms, expectations, and concerns as well as the more mundane experiences of Athenians in the fifth century BCE. This course will examine closely all eleven of Aristophanes’s extant plays (in translation) in order to address topics such as the performative, ritual, and political contexts of Attic comedy, the constituency of audiences, the relationship of comedy to satire, the use of dramatic stereotypes, freedom of speech, and the limits of dissent. Please note that this course is rated Mature for adult themes and language.
Instructor(s): J. Hall Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 30803, HIST 20803, FNLD 23608, CLAS 33608, CLCV 23608, ANCM 33900

LLSO 21001. Human Rights: Contemporary Issues. 100 Units.
This interdisciplinary course presents an overview of several major contemporary human rights problems as a means to explore the use of human rights norms and mechanisms. The course addresses the roles of states, intergovernmental bodies, national courts, civil society actors including NGOs, victims, and their families, and other non-state actors. Topics are likely to include universalism, enforceability of human rights norms, the prohibition against torture, U.S. exceptionalism, and the rights of women, racial minorities, and non-citizens.
Equivalent Course(s): HMRT 31001, HMRT 21001, HIST 29304, LACS 21001

LLSO 21002. Human Rights: Philosophical Foundations. 100 Units.
Human rights are claims of justice that hold merely in virtue of our shared humanity. In this course we will explore philosophical theories of this elementary and crucial form of justice. Among topics to be considered are the role that dignity and humanity play in grounding such rights, their relation to political and economic institutions, and the distinction between duties of justice and claims of charity or humanitarian aid. Finally we will consider the application of such theories to concrete, problematic and pressing problems, such as global poverty, torture and genocide. (A) (I)
Instructor(s): B. Laurence Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 29319, MAPH 42002, HMRT 21002, INRE 31602, HIST 39319, PHIL 21002, PHIL 31002, HMRT 31002

LLSO 21100. How Things Get Done in Cities and Why. 100 Units.
Innovation. Prosperity. Democracy. Diversity. Cities long have been lauded as unique incubators of these social features. In contrast to the national level, the smaller scale and dense diversity of cities is thought to encourage the development of civic solutions that work for the many. But cities are inhabited by distinct groups of people with divergent interests and varied beliefs about how to address countless urban issues, such as creating jobs, delivering education, ensuring safe neighborhoods, promoting environmental sustainability, and taking care of the vulnerable. Many groups and organizations have an interest in the outcomes of these processes. Some take action to try to shape them to their own advantage, while others have few chances to make themselves heard. This course examines the social and political dynamics that undergird possible avenues for creating social change in cities, including interest representation, decision-making, and inclusion/exclusion. We will draw insights from multiple disciplines and explore a variety of substantive areas, such as housing, public safety, economic development, education, and the provision of social welfare. This course is part of the College Course Cluster program: Urban Design.
Terms Offered: TBD
Equivalent Course(s): SOCI 20294, SSAD 21100, ENST 25006, PBPL 25006
LLSO 21301. Global British Empire to 1784: War, Commerce, and Revolution. 100 Units.
This course traces the origins, development, and revolutionary transformation of the British Empire. Students will explore the English Civil War, King Philip's War, Bacon's Rebellion, the development of slavery, the Revolution of 1688, the making of British India, the rise of Irish discontent, the Scottish Jacobite Rebellions, the causes of the American Revolution, and the transformation of the British Empire into an authoritarian state. Students will read selections from Locke, Defoe, Swift, Franklin, Burke, and many others.
Instructor(s): S. Pincus Terms Offered: Winter
Note(s): History Gateways are introductory courses meant to appeal to 1st- through 3rd-yr students who may not have done previous course work on the topic of the course; topics cover the globe and span the ages.
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 11301

LLSO 21310. Water: Economics, Policy and Society. 100 Units.
Water is inextricably linked to human society. While modern advances in technology and new economic and policy mechanisms have emerged to address water stressors from overconsumption, development pressures, land use changes and urbanization, challenges continue to evolve across the globe. These problems, while rooted in scarcity, continue to become more complex due to myriad human and natural forces. In addition to water quality impairments, droughts and water shortages persist, putting pressure on agricultural production and urban water use, while the increased frequency and severity of rainfall and tropical storms, already being experienced globally, are only projected to grow in intensity and duration under climate change. Students will explore water from the perspective of the social sciences and public policy, with attention on behavioral dimensions of water use and water conservation. Qualitative and quantitative approaches to examining how humans use and affect water will be considered, and a case study using visualizations of campus water data will be conducted by students in the course.
Instructor(s): Sabina Shaikh Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): No prerequisites but the following courses are recommended prior to enrollment in ENST 21310: one economics course and ENST/MENG 20300: The Science, History, Policy, and Future of Water (Winter 2020)
Equivalent Course(s): ENST 21310, PBPL 21310, GLST 21310, ECON 16510

LLSO 21403. The British Empire on Trial: Corruption, Scandal, Dissent. 100 Units.
Throughout the long nineteenth century, British empire building remained a contentious pursuit. It threatened to shatter Britons' moral compasses, destabilize social hierarchies, squander tax revenue, and inflict untold miseries upon foreign populations. To legitimize their expansionism, colonial policy makers claimed that they were introducing benighted regions to the benefits of a universal rule of law. This course will examine how this legalistic form of governing actually functioned by probing the trials of three classes of offenders: ‘insurgent’ and nationalist agitators, reformist critics of colonial misrule, and despotic officials themselves. Focusing on cases in England, the Caribbean, India, and Egypt, readings will reveal the shortcomings of the British judicial apparatus and identify the loopholes that enabled a proudly ‘free’ nation to subjugate and silence dissidents with near impunity. By participating in mock trials, students will gain familiarity with historical legal processes and the rhetorical tactics that actors employed both in the courtroom and in the public sphere.
Instructor(s): Z. Leonard Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): SALC 26612, HIST 21403

LLSO 21404. Britain in the Age of Steam 1783-1914. 100 Units.
Britain in the Victorian era rose to global dominance by pioneering a new fossil fuel economy. This course explores the profound impact of coal and steam on every aspect of Victorian society, from politics and religion to industrial capitalism and the pursuit of empire. Our historical investigation also serves a second purpose by helping us see our own fossil-fuel economy with fresh eyes through comparison with Victorian energy use. Assignments include short essays based on energy ‘field work’ and explorations in material culture.
Instructor(s): F. Albritton Jonsson Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): ENST 21404, HIST 21404, CHSS 31404, HIPS 21404, HIST 31404

LLSO 21701. The Carceral State in Modern America. 100 Units.
In this course, we will examine the origins of mass incarceration in the United States—a country that only accounts for five percent of the world’s population but nearly a quarter of its prison population. We will trace the ideologies and state apparatuses that have shaped the American carceral state from the post-Civil War era to the twenty-first century. Central themes will include: the criminalization of racialized and marginalized communities; the rise of new policing regimes, along with new methods of surveillance and confinement; and the connection between welfare programs and penal policies. Over the course of this quarter, we will also discuss the emergence of social movements that have advocated for the rights of incarcerated people, as well as the eradication of prison labor and the abolition of prisons altogether.
LLSO 22209. Introduction to Black Chicago, 1893 to 2010. 100 Units.
This course surveys the history of African Americans in Chicago, from before the twentieth century to the
near present. In referring to that history, we treat a variety of themes, including migration and its impact, the
origins and effects of class stratification, the relation of culture and cultural endeavor to collective consciousness,
the rise of institutionalized religions, facts and fictions of political empowerment, and the correspondence
of Black lives and living to indices of city wellness (services, schools, safety, general civic feeling). This is a
history class that situates itself within a robust interdisciplinary conversation. Students can expect to engage
works of autobiography and poetry, sociology, documentary photography, and political science as well as more
straightforward historical analysis. By the end of the class, students should have grounding in Black Chicago’s
history and an appreciation of how this history outlines and anticipates Black life and racial politics in the
modern United States.
Instructor(s): A. Green Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 27705, AMER 27705, CRES 37705, CRES 27705, HIST 37705, AMER 37705

LLSO 22214. The Legal Tender of Gender: Paradigms of Equality & Realities of Inequality in Gender & the
Law. 100 Units.
This course will provide an introduction to the concrete legal contexts in which issues of gender and sexuality
have been articulated and contested. Students will be asked to think critically about the intersections of law,
society, and gender while considering both the potential and the limitations of our legal system. Students will
explore how gender constructs law, and how law constructs gender. Through engaging with readings that span
law and society, feminist legal theory, constitutional scholarship, and case law, students will be able to identify,
situate, and debate some of the basic premises of what constitutes justice and equality in a liberal democracy.
Readings will draw from primary and secondary resources related to gender & law in the US. While some
court cases/case law will be read, our focus is on the broader relationship between law and society (no technical
legal knowledge is required). We will study the evolution of our legal system’s stance on topics including
marriage/divorce, violence, discrimination, contraception-abortion, sexual orientation, privacy, Title IX, and
more. Students will be invited to bring to bear a variety of feminist, queer, critical race, and intersectional tools
on our discussions of the historical evolution of these issues and their current trends. Students will develop an
original research paper, which will be workshoped throughout the quarter and will culminate in a symposium
of students’ original research on gender & law.
Instructor(s): Lara Janson Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 22213

LLSO 22401. Topics in Judicial Studies. 100 Units.
This seminar examines three topics in current judicial studies: the appointment process, judicial reputation, and
ideological ‘drift.’ Two short papers are required.
Instructor(s): Dennis Hutchinson Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): Consent only

LLSO 22403. Free Speech and the First Amendment. 100 Units.
This course will examine the Supreme Court’s First Amendment jurisprudence, focusing on such issues as speech
critical of the government, the hostile audience, classified information, libel, commercial advertising, obscenity,
symbolic expression, campaign finance regulation and the freedom of the press
Instructor(s): Geoffrey Stone Terms Offered: TBD

LLSO 22710. Electoral Politics In America. 100 Units.
This course explores the interactions of voters, candidates, the parties, and the media in American national
elections, chiefly in the campaign for the presidency, both in nominating primaries and in the November
general election. The course will examine how voters learn about candidates, how they perceive candidates,
how they come to turn out to vote, and how they decide among the candidates. It will examine the strategies
and techniques of electoral campaigns, including the choices of campaign themes and the impact of campaign
advertising. It will consider the role of campaign contributors and volunteers, the party campaign organizations,
campaign and media polls, and the press. Finally, it will assess the impact of campaigns and elections on
governing and policymaking.
Instructor(s): M. Hansen Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): AMER 22710, PLSC 22710

LLSO 23100. Environmental Law. 100 Units.
This course will examine the bases and assumptions that have driven the development of environmental law, as
well as the intersection of this body of law and foundational legal principles (including standing, liability, and
the Commerce Clause). Each form of lawmakership (statutes, regulations, and court decisions) will be examined,
with emphasis on reading and understanding primary sources such as court cases and the laws themselves. The
course also analyzes the judicial selection process in order to understand the importance of how the individuals
who decide cases that determine the shape of environmental law and regulations are chosen.
Instructor(s): R. Lodato Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): Third- or fourth-year standing, or consent of instructor
Equivalent Course(s): PBPL 23100, ENST 23100
LLSO 23103. East Central Europe, 1880-Present. 100 Units.
The past 150 years have brought democratization, mass politics, two violent world wars, and no less than four different political regimes to the lands between Germany and the Soviet Union. The focus of this course will be on the forces that have shaped Eastern European politics and society since the 1880s. How and why was a multinational and multilingual empire transformed into self-declared nation states? How has mass migration reshaped Eastern European societies? What were the causes and consequences of ethnic cleansing in East Central Europe? How did the experience of total war transform the states and societies? How did citizens respond to and participate in the construction of socialist societies after the Second World War? And finally, what changes and challenges has the transition from socialism to capitalism brought to the region since 1989? The course will focus on the Habsburg Monarchy and its successor states, particularly Czechoslovakia, Poland, and Hungary, with occasional discussion of the former Yugoslavia and Romania. Assignments: Three short papers (5-6 pages).
Instructor(s): T. Zahra Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 23103, HIST 33103

LLSO 23420. The Civil Rights Movement in the United States, 1865-Present. 100 Units.
This class examines the history of the African American Freedom Struggle in the United States from emancipation to the present. Although the course will move chronologically, our emphasis will be thematic, covering such topics as voting rights and political participation, sex and marriage rights, criminal justice reform, the role of courts, and the relationship between law and social movements. A series of research papers will be required for this class (20-25 pages). Participation may be considered in final grading.
Instructor(s): Jane Dailey Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): None

LLSO 24102. Environmental Politics. 100 Units.
Politics determines not only which particular faction holds power, but the parameters upon which contests for power are conducted. At present, the desirability of economic growth is the universal consensus principle that actors across the political spectrum and national borders agree upon despite their disagreement on the shape that this should take and the beneficiaries of it. This principle overrides any other consideration, including environmental protection and restoration, regardless of the political beliefs of the leader or party in question. This course undertakes a term-long discussion of how the assumptions and practices of politics, policy, and activism would be changed if the protection of the environment was the central organizing principle of the international system, with particular attention to theories that challenge conventional ways of organizing society, economics, and politics.
Instructor(s): R. Lodato Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): PBPL 24102, ENST 24102

LLSO 24106. Introduction to Environmental Ethics. 100 Units.
This course will examine answers to four questions that have been foundational to environmental ethics: Are religious traditions responsible for environmental crises? To what degree can religions address environmental crises? Does the natural world have intrinsic value in addition to instrumental value to humans, and does the type of value the world has imply anything about human responsibility? What point of view (anthropocentrism, biocentrism, theocentrism) should ground an environmental ethic? Since all four of the above questions are highly contested questions, we will examine a constellation of responses to each question. During the quarter we will read texts from a wide variety of religious and philosophical perspectives, though I note that the questions we are studying arose out of the western response to environmental crises and so often use that language. Some emphasis will be given to particularly influential texts, thinkers, and points of view in the scholarship of environmental ethics. As the questions above indicate, the course prioritizes theoretical issues in environmental ethics that can relate to many different applied subjects (e.g. energy, water, animals, climate change) rather than emphasizing these applied issues themselves. Taking this focus will give you the background necessary to work on such issues.
Instructor(s): Sarah Fredericks Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): ENST 24106, PBPL 20702, RETH 30702, RLST 24106, KNOW 20702, KNOW 30702

LLSO 24200. Legal Reasoning. 100 Units.
This course introduces legal reasoning in a customary legal system. The first part examines the analytical conventions that lawyers and judges purport to use. The second part examines fundamental tenets of constitutional and statutory interpretation. Both judicial decisions and commentary are used, although the case method is emphasized.
Instructor(s): David Lyons Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): Open only to second-year students who are beginning the LLSO major.

LLSO 24711. Lincoln: Slavery, War & the Constitution. 100 Units.
This course is a study of Abraham Lincoln’s view of the Constitution, based on close readings of his writings, plus comparisons to judicial responses to Lincoln’s policies.
Instructor(s): Dennis Hutchinson Terms Offered: Autumn
Note(s): Consent Only
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 27102, FNDL 24411
LLSO 24901. U.S. Environmental Policy. 100 Units.
Making environmental policy is a diverse and complex process. Environmental advocacy engages different governmental agencies, congressional committees, and courts, depending on the issue. This course examines how such differentiation has affected policy making over the last several decades.
Instructor(s): R. Lodato Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): PBPL 24701, ENST 24701

LLSO 25005. Inequality at Work: The Changing Nature of Jobs and Prospects for Improvement. 100 Units.
This course will consider sources of inequality in the labor market and in workplaces. Empirical evidence and theory on labor markets and job conditions will be analyzed to provide insights into the changing nature of work and workplace inequality for the majority of Americans -- who do not hold a four-year college degree. Although the course will consider ways to ready workers for good jobs in the economy, the emphasis will be on improving jobs themselves, through voluntary employer behavior, collective action, and public policy. The assignment for the course involves observing and/or interviewing workers in an occupation chosen by the student.
Instructor(s): Susan Lambert Terms Offered: TBD
Equivalent Course(s): PBPL 25005, SSAD 25005

LLSO 25215. The American Presidency. 100 Units.
This course examines the institution of the American presidency. It surveys the foundations of presidential power, both as the Founders conceived it, and as it is practiced in the modern era. This course also traces the historical development of the institutional presidency, the president's relationships with Congress and the courts, the influence presidents wield in domestic and foreign policymaking, and the ways in which presidents make decisions in a system of separated powers.
Instructor(s): W. Howell Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): PLSC 35215, AMER 25215, PBPL 25216, PLSC 25215

LLSO 25411. Not Just the Facts: Telling About the American South. 100 Units.
The great jurist Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. once observed: 'The main part of intellectual education is not the acquisition of facts but learning how to make facts live.' This course concerns itself with the various ways people have striven to understand the American South, past and present. We will read fiction, autobiography, and history (including meditations on how to write history). Main themes of the course include the difference between historical scholarship and writing history in fictional form; the role of the author in each and consideration of the interstitial space of autobiography; the question of authorial authenticity; and the tension between contemporary demands for truthfulness and the rejection of 'truth.'
Instructor(s): J. Dailey Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): Open to upper-level undergraduates.
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 27006, AMER 37006, HIST 37006, AMER 27006

LLSO 25610. Authority, Obligation, and Dissent. 100 Units.
What is the basis of political authority? What, if anything, makes it legitimate? Under what conditions are we obliged to follow the laws and orders of government authorities? Under what conditions can we legitimately disobey such laws or orders, or even engage in violent rebellion? How have some of the most influential political thinkers answered such questions historically and which of their theories are most helpful for illuminating these issues for us today? Readings include classic writings by Plato, Hobbes, Locke, Burke, Paine, Kant, Thoreau, Gandhi, Fanon, and Martin Luther King, Jr.
Instructor(s): S. Muthu Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): PLSC 25610

LLSO 25630. Poverty, Work, and Family Policy. 100 Units.
This course examines contemporary policy questions regarding the dual spheres of work and family life, with a particular focus on economically impoverished families and communities. Students will analyze the relative merits of different policies designed to improve the conditions of work and family life and mitigate the effects of poverty on children's wellbeing. Throughout the ten-week quarter, we will consider demographic, labor market, and policy trends contributing to family poverty and income inequality in American society; interrogate policy debates concerning the responsibility of government, corporate, and informal sectors to address these critical social problems; and examine specific policy and program responses directed at (1) improving employment and economic outcomes and (2) reconciling the competing demands of employment and parenting. Although our primary focus will be on policies that promote the wellbeing of low-income families in the United States, relevant comparisons will be made cross-nationally, across race/ethnicity, and across income. This course is part of the Inequality, Social Problems, and Change minor.
Equivalent Course(s): CRES 25630, SSAD 25630
LLSO 25904. America in the Twentieth Century. 100 Units.
This is a thematic lecture course on the past 115 years of US history. The main focus of the lectures will be politics, broadly defined. The readings consist of novels and nonfiction writing, with a scattering of primary sources. Assignments: Three 1,500-word papers.
Instructor(s): J. Dailey Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): History Gateways are introductory courses meant to appeal to 1st- through 3rd-yr students who may not have done previous course work on the topic of the course; topics cover the globe and span the ages.
Equivalent Course(s): AMER 17805, HIST 17805

LLSO 26000. Law and Society in Early America, 1600-1800. 100 Units.
This colloquium considers law, legal institutions, and legal culture within the lived experience of colonial and revolutionary America. It will emphasize the interaction of social development and legal development and will explore the breadth of everyday experience with legal institutions like the jury, with courts as institutions for resolving disputes, and with the prosecution of crime.
Instructor(s): E. Cook Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): Upper-level undergraduates and early state graduate students.
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 27001, HIST 37001

LLSO 26201. Economics and Environmental Policy. 100 Units.
This course combines basic microeconomic theory and tools with contemporary environmental and resources issues and controversies to examine and analyze public policy decisions. Theoretical points include externalities, public goods, common-property resources, valuing resources, benefit/cost analysis, and risk assessment. Topics include pollution, global climate change, energy use and conservation, recycling and waste management, endangered species and biodiversity; nonrenewable resources, congestion, economic growth and the environment, and equity impacts of public policies.
Instructor(s): S. Shaikh Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): ECON 19800 or higher, or PBPL 20000
Equivalent Course(s): ECON 16520, ENST 21800, PBPL 21800

LLSO 26409. Revolution, Dictatorship, & Violence in Modern Latin America. 100 Units.
This course will examine the role played by Marxist revolutions, revolutionary movements, and the right-wing dictatorships that have opposed them in shaping Latin American societies and political cultures since the end of World War II. Themes examined will include the relationship among Marxism, revolution, and nation building; the importance of charismatic leaders and icons; the popular authenticity and social content of Latin American revolutions; the role of foreign influences and interventions; the links between revolution and dictatorship; and the lasting legacies of political violence and military rule. Countries examined will include Guatemala, Cuba, Chile, Argentina, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Peru, Venezuela, Bolivia, and Mexico. Assignments: Weekly reading, a midterm exam or paper, a final paper, participation in discussion, and weekly responses or quizzes.
Instructor(s): B. Fischer Terms Offered: Winter
Note(s): Some background in Latin American studies or Cold War history useful.
Equivalent Course(s): LACS 26409, HIST 26409, HIST 36409, LACS 36409

LLSO 26500. History of Mexico, 1876 to Present. 100 Units.
From the Porfiriato and the Revolution to the present, this course is a survey of Mexican society and politics, with emphasis on the connections between economic developments, social justice, and political organization. Topics include fin de siècle modernization and the agrarian problem; causes and consequences of the Revolution of 1910; the making of the modern Mexican state; relations with the United States; industrialism and land reform; urbanization and migration; ethnicity, culture, and nationalism; economic crises, neoliberalism, and social inequality; political reforms and electoral democracy; violence and narco-trafficking; the end of PRI rule; and AMLO’s new government. Assignments: Class presentations, take-home midterm, and final essays.
Instructor(s): E. Kourí Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): LACS 26500, HIST 26500, HIST 36500, LACS 36500

LLSO 26509. Law and Citizenship in Latin America. 100 Units.
This course will examine law and citizenship in Latin America from the nineteenth to the twenty-first centuries. We will explore the development of Latin American legal systems in both theory and practice, examine the ways in which the operation of these systems has shaped the nature of citizenship in the region, discuss the relationship between legal and other inequalities, and analyze how legal documents and practices have been studied by scholars in order to gain insight into questions of culture, nationalism, violence, inequality, gender, and race.
Instructor(s): B. Fischer Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): Some background in either Latin American studies or legal history.
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 26509, LACS 36509, HIST 36509, LACS 26509
LLSO 26615. Democracy’s Life and Death. 100 Units.
How are democracies founded and maintained? What are their advantages and disadvantages with respect to stability, security, liberty, equality, and justice? Why do democracies decline and die? This course addresses these questions by examining democracies, republics, and popular governments in both the ancient and modern worlds. We will read and discuss primary texts from and social scientific analyses of Athenian democracy, the Roman Republic, the United States, and modern representative governments throughout the globe.
Instructor(s): J. McCormick, D. Kasimis Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): PLSC 26615

LLSO 26703. Political Parties in the United States. 100 Units.
Politicians and pundits frequently allege that aggressive partisanship is to blame for our contemporaneous political ills. American voters are similarly jaundiced. Public opinion polls routinely show that citizens, regardless of their ideology, take a dim view of political parties. Using the tools of social science, we will analyze the role that parties have played in politics throughout American history. Over the course of the seminar, we will begin to answer the following questions. What are parties and why do we have them? How do parties structure policymaking? Is too much partisanship really a problem? What is polarization, what causes it, and why does it matter?
Instructor(s): R. Bloch Rubin Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): PLSC 26703

LLSO 26802. Public Opinion. 100 Units.
What is the relationship between the mass citizenry and government in the U.S.? Does the public meet the conditions for a functioning democratic polity? This course considers the origins of mass opinion about politics and public policy, including the role of core values and beliefs, information, expectations about political actors, the mass media, economic self-interest, and racial attitudes. This course also examines problems of political representation, from the level of political elites communicating with constituents, and from the possibility of aggregate representation.
Instructor(s): J. Brehm Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): CRES 22400, PLSC 22400

LLSO 26901. African American History to 1883. 100 Units.
A lecture course discussing selected topics in the African American experience (economic, political, social) from African origins through the Supreme Court decision invalidating Reconstruction Era protections of African American civil rights. Course evaluations via online quizzes and take-home essays.
Instructor(s): T. Holt Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 27200, HIST 37200, CRES 27200, CRES 37200

LLSO 26920. Freedom, Justice and Legitimacy. 100 Units.
In this course we will explore two main questions, which are central to both contemporary political theory and political discourse: (1) how different concepts and conceptions of freedom ground different theories of social justice and political legitimacy and (2) how to understand the relationship between justice and legitimacy. To what extent are justice and legitimacy separate ideas? Does legitimacy require justice? Are just states necessarily legitimate? We will critically analyze and normatively assess how different contemporary theories have answered, whether explicitly or implicitly, such questions. The course will focus on five major contemporary theories: liberal-egalitarianism as represented by the work of John Rawls; libertarianism, as represented by the work of Robert Nozick, neo-Lockean theories as represented by the work of John Simmons, neo-republicanism as represented by the work of Philip Pettit, and neo-Kantian theories as represented by the work of Arthur Ripstein.
Equivalent Course(s): PLSC 36920, PLSC 26920

LLSO 27100. Human Rights II: History and Theory. 100 Units.
This course is concerned with the theory and the historical evolution of the modern human rights regime. It discusses the emergence of a modern ‘human rights’ culture as a product of the formation and expansion of the system of nation-states and the concurrent rise of value-driven social mobilizations. It proceeds to discuss human rights in two prevailing modalities. First, it explores rights as protection of the body and personhood and the modern, Western notion of individualism. Second, it inquires into rights as they affect groups (e.g., ethnicities and, potentially, transnational corporations) or states.
Instructor(s): TBA Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 29302, INRE 31700, HMRT 20200, CRES 29302, HIST 39302, HMRT 30200

LLSO 27101. Democracy and the Information Technology Revolution. 100 Units.
The revolution in information technologies has serious implications for democratic societies. We concentrate, though not exclusively, on the United States. We look at which populations have the most access to technology-based information sources (the digital divide), and how individual and group identities are being forged online. We ask how is the responsiveness of government being affected, and how representative is the online community. Severe conflict over the tension between national security and individual privacy rights in the U.S., United Kingdom, and Ireland will be explored as well. We analyze both modern works (such as those by Turkle and Gilder) and the work of modern democratic theorists (such as Habermas).
Instructor(s): M. Dawson Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): PLSC 23100
LLSO 27250. **The Trials of Religion. 100 Units.**
The rhetoric and practice of ‘trial’ -- as testing and as adjudication -- is central to religious thought and religious practice. This course will examine the idea and the act of ‘trial’ comparatively, via the classics of the religious literatures of Judaism and of Christianity (Genesis 22, Job, the Gospel of Mark, ‘The Pilgrim’s Progress,’ Kafka), and also cinema (Dreyer’s ‘Joan of Arc,’ R. & S. Elkkabetz’s ‘Gett’).
Instructor(s): Richard Rosengarten
Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): RLST 27250

LLSO 27606. **American Revolutions. 100 Units.**
In 1750, ‘British America’ was a diverse and fractious collection of colonies huddled along the eastern seaboard, on the margins of the churning waters of the Atlantic world. Forty years later, thirteen of those remote American settlements had become, through rebellion and war, into a revolutionary nation. The traumatic passage of this transformation established the world’s first modern republic and set in motion an age of democratic revolutions that reverberated in Europe, the Caribbean, Latin America, and western North America. This course explores this remarkable epoch in early American history. Topics include the first global military struggle (the Seven Years War); the transformation from scattered urban riots against taxes into a rebellion against the world’s strongest imperial power; the everyday experience of occupation, insurgency, and civil war; Black and Native American struggles for independence; experiments in women’s rights, radical democracy, and religious freedom; the fragility of the new union and the ragged road toward a federal nation-state; and the revolutionary idealism that inspired revolutions in France, Haiti, and the Americas, with consequences that shaped the early United States and all its diverse peoples. Grades will be based on three short papers and one final paper. This lecture course is open to non-History majors and does not presume any previous history coursework.
Instructor(s): M. Krueer
Terms Offered: Autumn
Note(s): History Gateways are introductory courses meant to appeal to 1st- through 3rd-yr students who may not have done previous course work on the topic of the course; topics cover the globe and span the ages.
Equivalent Course(s): AMER 17606, HIST 17606, CRES 17606

LLSO 27815. **Politics and Public Policy in China. 100 Units.**
This course offers a historical and thematic survey of Chinese politics and of salient issues in China’s public policy. We review the patterns and dynamics of political development or lack thereof in the Mao and reform eras, including the Great Leap Forward, the Cultural Revolution, and the politics of reforms. Later sections of the course look at China’s political institutions, leadership, as well as various issues of governance and public policy, including state-society relations, the relationship between Beijing and the provinces, corruption, population and environment. Emphasis is on how institutions have provided the incentives for change as well as how institutions have been transformed.
Instructor(s): D. Yang
Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): PLSC 27815

LLSO 27906. **Capitalism, Gender, and Intimate Life. 100 Units.**
What is the relationship between the capitalist economy and the gendered organization of society and identity of individuals? Are these two systems, or one? This class pursues these questions, seeking to understand capitalism as an everyday and intimate experience. How have markets and production shaped and been shaped by personal identity, and in particular gendered identity? We examine the historical interrelationships among practices of sexuality, marriage, family, reproduction, labor, and consumption and trace the economic dimensions of masculinity and femininity over time, focusing largely but not exclusively on US history. Assignments: Midterm paper (8-10 pages) applying a theoretical reading to a secondary text, and a final paper (15 pages) based on secondary research.
Instructor(s): G. Winant
Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 37906, GNSE 30106, GNSE 20106, HIST 27906

LLSO 27950. **The Declaration of Independence. 100 Units.**
This course explores important intellectual, political, philosophical, legal, economic, social, and religious contexts for the Declaration of Independence. We begin with a consideration of the English Revolution, investigating the texts of the Declaration of Rights of 1689 and Locke’s Second Treatise and their meanings to American revolutionaries. We then consider imperial debates over taxation in the 1760s and 1770s, returning Benjamin Franklin’s Autobiography to its original context. Reading Paine’s Common Sense and the letters of Abigail Adams and John Adams we look at the multiple meanings of independence. We study Jefferson’s drafting process, read the Declaration over the shoulders of people on both sides of the Atlantic, and consider clues to contemporary meanings beyond the intentions of Congress. Finally, we briefly engage the post-revolutionary history of the place and meaning of the Declaration in American life. (1650-1830, 1830-1940) This is a 2018-19 College Signature Course.
Instructor(s): Eric Slauter
Terms Offered: Winter
Note(s): This was a 2018–19 College Signature Course.
Equivalent Course(s): HMRT 17950, SIGN 26039, FNDL 27950, HIST 17604, ENGL 17950
LLSO 28000. United States Labor History. 100 Units.
This course explores the history of labor and laboring people in the United States. It will consider the significance of work from the vantage points of law, culture, and political economy. Key topics will include working-class life, industrialization and corporate capitalism, slavery and emancipation, the role of the state and trade unions, race and sex difference in the workplace. The course is intended for freshmen through seniors, as well as majors in history and in other disciplines.
Instructor(s): A. Stanley Terms Offered: Autumn
Note(s): History Gateways are introductory courses meant to appeal to 1st- through 3rd-yr students who may not have done previous course work on the topic of the course; topics cover the globe and span the ages.
Equivalent Course(s): HMRT 28600, GNSE 28603, HIST 18600

LLSO 28020. American Conservatism since 1945. 100 Units.
American conservatism was at a low ebb in the early 1950s. It was politically irrelevant and, perhaps worse, boasted no coherent intellectual movement. Yet the conservative movement’s path from the height of the (supposed) midcentury consensus through the rise of Reagan, the Tea Party, and Trump stands at the heart of America’s modern political history. And conservative politicians could draw upon a vast new network of economists, lawyers, think tanks, and other organizations for support. This course will explore the American right’s emergence from the wilderness to success at the ballot box, in public-policy debates, and in the courtroom. It will draw upon primary sources as well as the history and social science literatures to analyze conservatism as an intellectual, sociopolitical, and legal movement. We will examine the different traditions making up the American right, the institutions that brought them together, and the movement’s history. Did conservatism represent a single coherent movement? What did it (aim to) conserve? What were the roles of corporate power, religion, libertarianism, populism, and racial bias in its ascendance? How did Chicago-School economists and the conservative legal movement shape the polity? The class will conclude with a unit exploring the present political moment. What are the origins of Trumpism? Is it a break with conservatism’s past or an evolution of the movement? What do current debates bode for the future of American politics?

LLSO 28030. Alcohol and American Society. 100 Units.
Contests about America’s political economy and legal regime had long been tied to alcohol policy and drinking culture when the Sons of Liberty made Boston’s Green Dragon Tavern their unofficial ‘headquarters of the Revolution.’ Americans’ drinking habits have remained a key battleground ever since. This class will explore major themes in the development of America’s political, economic, and sociocultural life and legal regime through its relationship with intoxicating beverages from the colonial era to the present. Topics covered will include rum’s role in empire; the legacy of the common law doctrines regulating public houses in civil rights law; the role of colonial tavern culture in the Revolution; persistent conflicts over taxation; ethnoreligious conflict surrounding the temperance movement; Prohibition and organized crime; the brewing industry’s roles in financing corporate consolidation, and labor struggles; the construction of homogenized consumer culture and the postmodern quest for ‘authenticity’; and the legal regime shaping craft brewers’ business environment. Through discussions drawing on primary sources as well as the history, social science, and law literatures, we will analyze how Americans defined the bounds of the political community, individual rights, and state power. Over the quarter students will incrementally build on these experiences toward their final projects: original research papers drawing on primary sources exploring these themes.

LLSO 28035. Marx, Revolution, and the Law. 100 Units.
To what extent can we change our world by changing our laws? We will explore this question through an intensive study of Karl Marx’s writings. Although Marx is most widely known for his arguments about political economy and revolution, his earliest scholarly energies were devoted to jurisprudence and throughout his life he frequently returned to questions about the law’s nature, possibilities, and limits. He did so not only in his analyses of the modern state and capitalism, but also in his efforts to document the goals, victories, and set-backs of democratic movements, labor unions, and political radicals as they navigated repressive legal systems, fought for legal reforms, and developed alternative visions of how to regulate social life. We will therefore draw on diverse genres of writing from across Marx’s life—including letters, newspaper articles, pamphlets, and speeches—as we explore the relationship between law and social transformation.

LLSO 28040. Introduction to Law, Letters, and Society. 100 Units.
This is an introductory lecture course intended for freshman and sophomores considering the Law, Letters, and Society (LLSO) major. The course will introduce major frameworks, themes, and methods in the study of law as a social, philosophical, and doctrinal object. Topics surveyed include: systems of legal practice; substantive areas of law; sources of lawmaking and tiers of law; paradigms of jurisprudence; constitutional structure and rights; controversies in legal interpretation; legal history; law and society; and the law/politics relation.
LLSO 28101. Democracy in America? 100 Units.
This course will explore the unlikely career of democracy in US history. Throughout its past, the United States has been defined by endless and unpredictable struggles to establish and extend self-government of one kind or another—even as those struggles have encountered great resistance and relied on the exclusion or subordination of some portion of society to underwrite expanding freedom and equality for those enjoying the fullest benefits of citizenship. American democracy has also relied on a conceptual separation between state and society that has necessarily broken down in practice, as political institutions produced and sustained economic forms like slavery or the corporation, social arrangements like the family, and cultural values such as freedom—even as private interests worked their reciprocal influence over public institutions. Over the course of the quarter we will explore this contested history of democracy in America through a close reading of classic texts, including Tocqueville’s famous study, contextualized by the most current historical scholarship. Small, incremental writing assignments and individual presentations will culminate in a final essay that can emphasize philosophical/theoretical or historical/empirical questions according to students’ interests. Students will also have the option of conducting their own original research to satisfy some portion of the coursework, which may lead to subsequent internship opportunities with relevant faculty.
Instructor(s): J. Sparrow Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): History in the World courses use history as a valuable tool to help students critically exam our society, culture, and politics. Preference given to 1st- and 2nd-yr students.
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 18101

LLSO 28204. Histories of Racial Capitalism. 100 Units.
What is the relationship between race and capitalism? This course introduces students to the concept of racial capitalism, which rejects treatments of race as external to a purely economic project and counters the idea that racism is an externality, cultural overflow, or aberration from the so-called real workings of capitalism. Spanning the colonization of North America to the era of mass incarceration, topics include the slave trade, indigenous dispossession, antebellum slavery, the Mexican-American War, ‘new imperialism,’ the welfare state, and civil rights. This class neither presumes a background in economics, nor previous coursework in history.
Instructor(s): D. Jenkins Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): AMER 18202, HIST 18202, CRES 18202

LLSO 28703. Early America, 1492-1815. 100 Units.
This course explores the development of American culture, society, and politics from the first contact between Native Americans and Europeans to the emergence of a stable American nation by the end of the War of 1812. It emphasizes the diverse experiences of the many kinds of Americans and the different meanings that they attached to the events in their lives. Topics include the meeting of Indigenous, African, and European peoples, the diversity of colonial projects, piracy and the Atlantic slave trade, the surprising emergence of a strong British identity, the coming of the American Revolution, the range of Americans’ struggles for independence, and the role of the trans-Appalachian West in shaping the early republic. This lecture course is open to nonmajors and does not presume any previous history coursework. Assignments: Two papers.
Instructor(s): M. Krue Terms Offered: Autumn
Note(s): History Gateways are introductory courses meant to appeal to 1st- through 3rd-yr students who may not have done previous course work on the topic of the course; topics cover the globe and span the ages.
Equivalent Course(s): CRES 18703, HIST 18703, AMER 18703

LLSO 28800. African American History since 1883. 100 Units.
A lecture course discussing selected topics in the African American experience (economic, political, social) from Reconstruction Era protections of African American civil rights through social and political movements in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries seeking their restoration. Course evaluations via online quizzes and take-home essays.
Instructor(s): T. Holt Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 37300, HIST 27300, CRES 27300, CRES 37300

LLSO 28806. Introduction to Black Chicago, 1893-20. 100 Units.
This course surveys the history of African Americans in Chicago, from before the twentieth century to the near present. In referring to that history, we treat a variety of themes, including migration and its impact, the origins and effects of class stratification, the relation of culture and cultural endeavor to collective consciousness, the rise of institutionalized religions, facts and fictions of political empowerment, and the correspondence of Black lives and living to indices of city wellness (services, schools, safety, general civic feeling). This is a history class that situates itself within a robust interdisciplinary conversation. Students can expect to engage works of autobiography and poetry, sociology, documentary photography, and political science as well as more straightforward historical analysis. By the end of the class, students should have grounding in Black Chicago’s history and an appreciation of how this history outlines and anticipates Black life and racial politics in the modern United States.
Instructor(s): A. Green Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 18806, CRES 18806, AMER 18806
LLSO 29030. Totalitarianism, Law and Revolution. 100 Units.
In the final chapter of her seminal The Origins of Totalitarianism, Hannah Arendt argued that, far from being a lawless form of government, totalitarianism is an attempt to impose some notion of ultimate law directly on the world, with no mediation through positive law and no regard for the lived particularity of human communities. In this course we will examine some seminal attempts at theorizing about totalitarianism, as well as primary sources and some secondary sources on the history of totalitarian movements, all with an eye toward understanding what relationship totalitarianism bears both to forms of legality and to attempts at overturning prior legal, social, and political regimes.
Instructor(s): David Lyons Terms Offered: Not offered in 2020-21
Prerequisite(s): None

LLSO 29040. Wars of Religion and Regimes of Toleration. 100 Units.
There is a standard narrative that the brutality and instability of the sixteenth and seventeenth-century wars of religion gave rise to regimes of religious toleration and, eventually, separation of church and state. This narrative continues, arguing that the civil peace enjoyed today in much of the developed world depends upon barring religious commitments from the political sphere. This course will seek to interrogate this narrative and its assumptions through readings and discussions of primary sources, classic and contemporary historiography, and works of political and social theory. In doing so, students will be exposed not only to alternative understandings of the wars of religions and the origins of regimes of toleration, but will also be asked to consider some possible limits to and blind spots of liberal democracy.
Instructor(s): David Lyons Terms Offered: Not offered in 2020-21
Prerequisite(s): None
Equivalent Course(s): RLST 29040

This course explores how legal institutions protect and punish children in the United States. We will spend the first part of the course exploring the child welfare system, which purports to protect children from abuse and neglect through various mechanisms including foster care and the termination of parental rights. We will spend the second part of the course exploring the juvenile justice system, which purports to prosecute and rehabilitate children for their criminal acts in a system separate from the criminal justice system. In the final part of the course, we will consider special topics in this area of law and policy including ‘cross-over youth’ (i.e. children involved in both systems), unaccompanied immigrant children, homeless and runaway youth, and the so-called ‘school-to-prison-pipeline.’ This course will place special emphasis on the judges, lawyers, law enforcement officers, and social workers that comprise these legal institutions.
Terms Offered: Not offered in 2020-21
Prerequisite(s): Course limited to 3rd and 4th year students only.
Equivalent Course(s): PBPL 29050, HMRT 29050

LLSO 29060. Freedom of Religion. 100 Units.
This course will consider the place of religious freedom in the modern pluralistic liberal order and introduce students to some of the interpretive issues and legal doctrines associated with the Religion Clauses of the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Readings will come from a mixture of classical writings from Hobbes to Tocqueville on the relationship between religion and civil government, more recent scholarly works on the place of religious commitments and religious diversity in the liberal political order, scholarly works on the Religion Clauses, and U.S. case law on the freedom of religion.
Instructor(s): David Lyons Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): none
Equivalent Course(s): RLST 29060

LLSO 29070. Church-State Relations from the Roman Empire to the Early Modern Period. 100 Units.
This course will provide students with a survey of the history of how relations between the church and the secular authorities-loosely understood as the state-have been imagined, negotiated, and structured in the West from the period of the earliest Christian writings up to the threshold of modernity. During this period the features both of secular authority and the Christian Church changed repeatedly, and so, too, did the relations between the two. This course thus aims to make the complexities of these changing features and relations apparent. Topics to be covered include the posture of Christians and Romans toward each other in the first centuries of Christian emergence; the Church’s transformation from occasionally persecuted cult to licit religion to the official imperial religion; the dealings between the Church and the Germanic tribes and kingdoms that succeeded the western Empire; the conflicts between the Church and temporal rulers during the High Middle Ages; the relationship between the Inquisition and the secular authorities; the opportunities for both secular rulers and political radicalism opened up by the Protestant Reformation; and the emergence of Erastian forms of Christianity in the early-modern period. Readings will come from both primary and secondary texts, although the emphasis will be on the former.
Instructor(s): David Lyons Terms Offered: This course was not offered 2019-20
Prerequisite(s): None
Equivalent Course(s): MDVL 29070, RLST 29070
LLSO 29071. Great Books of the Founding Fathers: Revolution and Constitution. 100 Units.
In contemporary arguments about the meaning of the U.S. Constitution, participants often make claims about what the Framers of the Constitution and their opponents thought and said about topics like the powers of Congress and the President, the strengths and weaknesses of federalism, and the role of the judiciary in a republican form of government. This course will seek to provide students with the means of evaluating the strengths of such claims. To that end, we will examine the emergence of the U.S. Constitution in three phases. First, we will look at discussions of liberty and self-government in the imperial crisis of the 1760s and 1770s that led to the American Revolution. Second, we will look at the concerns that animated the calling of what became the Constitutional Convention of 1787 and read Madison’s Notes of Debates in the Federal Convention. Third, we will look at the debates over ratification of the Constitution between the Federalists and Anti-Federalists.
Instructor(s): David P. Lyons Terms Offered: Spring

LLSO 29080. Modernity and Its Discontents from Dawn to Decline. 100 Units.
One need look neither too long nor too hard before recognizing that the project of modernity seems to be under considerable strain: the stability and perhaps even the desirability of secularism, mass democracy, individualism, cosmopolitanism, and technological and bureaucratic rationalism have all been increasingly challenged by worldwide political events and processes as well as by postmodern, radical, conservative, and religious intellectuals. In this course we will read some classical statements of the project as a means of best understanding modernity and its features. We will then move on to a consideration of classical and more contemporary critiques of modernity with an eye toward both identifying the limits of the modern project and possible avenues for the retrieval and reconstitution at least some features of modernity.
Instructor(s): David Lyons Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): no prerequisites
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 26222, RLST 29080

LLSO 29090. Topics in International and Comparative Law. 100 Units.
Based in Paris, the three week course will explore historical and contemporary European institutions that focus on economy, law and globalization.
Instructor(s): Cliff Ando, Kimberly Kay Hoang Terms Offered: Summer
Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Paris September Program
Note(s): Instructor Consent

LLSO 29091. Governing the Global Economy. 100 Units.
How is the global economy governed? Through what institutions, legal mechanisms, and norms? What role do Anglo-American law, international law, and other legal regimes play in the flow of capital, goods, and people across state borders? Seeking to answer these questions, this three-week intensive course draws from history, law, economics, political science, and political philosophy in order to both understand the development of global economic governance over time and critically assess what paths it might take in the future.
Instructor(s): Jonathan Levy Terms Offered: Summer
Equivalent Course(s): GLST 29091

LLSO 29400. BA Seminar I. 100 Units.
This seminar guides students through the process of designing a BA thesis project. Through a series of weekly assignments and in-class workshops, students will develop a compelling and manageable research question, identify the sources and research methods that their project requires, and determine how their project contributes to existing scholarly debates. This work will help students to prepare a substantial BA thesis proposal by the end of the term.
Instructor(s): D. Hutchinson Terms Offered: Autumn
Note(s): Not Offered in 2019-20

LLSO 29401. BA Seminar II. 100 Units.
This seminar guides students through the process of writing and revising a BA thesis. Students will have multiple opportunities to present and receive feedback on their work in progress, including a complete draft of the thesis, which will be due at the end of the term. We will also discuss the novel challenges of writing a thesis, such as managing a large writing project and conveying specialized knowledge to non-expert readers.
LLSO 29421. Politics of Commemoration. 100 Units.
Most of the time we pass in front of the statues, commemorative museums, monuments, and flags that inhabit our cities without noticing them. In recent years, however, they (along with pre-college history curricula) have become controversial across the globe. This course addresses those controversies primarily in Europe and the United States, but also in Latin America, West Africa, and South Africa. Through a series of case studies we will analyze the conditions of the creation of statues, monuments, and museums. Who conceptualized them and lobbied for their creation? Who paid for them? For whom were they originally intended? What message did they convey? What happened over time? How did their message change? Did they provoke controversy at the moment of their planning or inauguration or later and, if so, from whom? Equal attention will be paid to scholars’ efforts to address the question of what these commemorative works actually do. If they really become unnoticeable, then why does the threat of their removal so often spark such intense controversy? Assignments: Active participation in class, one secondary text analysis, one analysis of a controversy, and one proposal for a monument, museum, or school curriculum.
Instructor(s): L. Auslander Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): JWSC 29421, CRES 29421, CRES 29421, ENST 29421, GLST 29526, HIST 29421, HIST 39421, ARCH 29421

LLSO 29505. Social Reform in the United States 1890-1980. 100 Units.
This seminar charts organized efforts to transform and reconfigure the social and economic fabric of American life through a focus on five distinct periods of reform: the agrarian Populist movement at the end of the nineteenth century; the Progressive movement in the early twentieth century; the New Deal during the 1930s and early 1940s; the Civil Rights movement and the Great Society in the 1960s; and the rise of the New Right in the postwar period. By looking at continuities, connections, and ruptures within and between these reform movements, we will explore a range of defining topics in twentieth century US history: capitalism and risk; gender and labor; economic citizenship and security; law and the state; immigration and ethnicity; and race and (in)equality.
Instructor(s): Ben Zdencanovic Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): None
Equivalent Course(s): AMER 29505, CRES 29505

LLSO 29506. Social and Economic Rights in History. 100 Units.
This seminar charts the historical development of social and economic rights - the right to healthcare, to education, to social security, to an adequate standard of living - from the French Revolution to our own era of austerity and market fundamentalism. Our focus will not only be on how social and economic rights have been theorized, codified, and contested, but also how social and economic rights have transformed politics, markets, and legal regimes in practice. In the process, we will explore how struggles over the meaning of social and economic rights have shaped some of the most defining historical themes of the past two centuries: slavery and emancipation; wage labor and unionization; communism and the welfare state; decolonization and civil rights.
Instructor(s): Ben Zdencanovic Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): None
Equivalent Course(s): HMRT 39507, AMER 29506, HMRT 29507

LLSO 29507. The Politics of Healthcare Policy in the United States, 1900 - 2020. 100 Units.
In the modern history of United States social politics, there have been few issues as enduring, divisive, and consequential as that of healthcare policy. This seminar examines the political, economic, legal, and social origins of the modern U.S. system of healthcare financing and delivery. Our discussion and analysis will be organized around a series of key turning points in the history of U.S. healthcare politics, from the first push for ‘workingmen’s insurance’ in the Progressive Era to the debate over Obamacare and ‘Medicare for All’ since 2008. We will learn to view healthcare policy as contested terrain fought over by labor unions, insurance companies, physicians, think tanks, policymakers, grassroots activists, trade associations, and corporate employers. In the process, we will explore themes such as the rise of the modern corporation, public interest law, welfare capitalism and business conservatism, and the politics of race- and class-based healthcare inequality.
Instructor(s): Ben Zdencanovic Terms Offered: Spring. Not offered in 2020-21
Prerequisite(s): None
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 25319, PBPL 29507, HLTH 29507, HIPS 27507

LLSO 29528. Property and the Public Interest. 100 Units.
In this colloquium, drawing from law, history, philosophy, and social science, we examine the conflicted relationship between property and the public interest. Topics include the basis and evolution of private property rights, reasons for the state, and the relationship between property rights and the public interest. Assignments: Two short essays and a final paper.
Instructor(s): J. Levy Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): Consent of instructor. Course is required of LLSO juniors.
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 29528