Law, Letters, and Society

Department Website: https://llso.uchicago.edu

Program of Study

The program in Law, Letters, and Society (LLSO) is an interdisciplinary major in the Social Sciences Collegiate Division. LLSO is designed to develop analytical skills and enable informed and critical examination of law broadly construed. The organizing premise of the program is that law is a semi-autonomous domain with its own internal logic, norms, and practices but is also embedded in the broader culture and operates as a tool of social organization. Rather than situating the study of the law solely in contemporary debates in the field of American constitutional law, LLSO seeks to organize its exploration of law through the broader terms of “letters” and “society.” Some LLSO courses approach law primarily as a matter of “letters,” drawing from disciplines like English, philosophy, and political theory. Law is studied as a literary, philosophical, or historical artifact, and questions of interpretation, normative theory, and rhetorical strategy are foregrounded. Other LLSO courses fall more under the general rubric of “society” and make use of the methods of social scientific disciplines, including history, political science, economics, and sociology. Such courses analyze law as a means of social ordering and in terms of cause and effect. They examine law as an element in explanations of both historical events and patterns of social stability and change.

Application to the Program

Students apply to LLSO in their second year. All second-years will be notified by email when the application opens. Application information will also be updated on the program website. Students are evaluated on the basis of their application statement and previous performance in the College. Only 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

There are five required core LLSO courses: LLSO 28040 Introduction to Law, Letters, and Society; LLSO 24200 Legal Reasoning; one Junior Colloquium; and the two-quarter BA Seminar track (LLSO 29400 BA Seminar I and LLSO 29401 BA Seminar II). In addition, students must complete a four-course Focus Field and two Electives. Courses completed before declaring the LLSO major can be counted towards major requirements. Students doing a double major are permitted to count courses being counted in other majors also towards LLSO-required courses. Students admitted to LLSO prior to Autumn Quarter 2020 can adhere entirely to the old program requirements or opt entirely into the new requirements.

Introduction to Law, Letters, and Society

LLSO 28040 Introduction to Law, Letters, and Society establishes the intellectual moorings of the program. The course has three main objectives. First, it aims to introduce students to the wide range of methodological perspectives by which law can be approached as an object of study, as well as to the broad assortment of substantive questions that can motivate research. Second, the course aims to demonstrate that, despite this variety, there are recurrent themes, patterns, practices, and problems that make law a distinctive social and conceptual phenomenon endowed with coherence as an object of scholarly attention. Third, the course is intended to show that the study of law can and should extend beyond an exclusive orientation towards contemporary practice, and that overly narrow focus on urgent present concerns may obscure important characteristics of legal thought and behavior. Moreover, the assumptions, implications, and stakes of current legal controversies may often be better understood once situated in broader social, political, historical, and philosophical contexts. Students are strongly encouraged to take Introduction to LLSO in the Autumn Quarter of either their first or second year prior to applying to LLSO. Successful completion of the course is an important factor of an application, but it does not guarantee acceptance into the program.

Legal Reasoning

The purpose of LLSO 24200 Legal Reasoning is to introduce students to the legal materials and modes of interpreting them used in contemporary legal scholarship and practice. The course is also meant to offer students a sense of the pedagogical norms and curricular arrangements of postgraduate legal education. Legal Reasoning will draw from a variety of legal sources, but the primary focus will be on legal doctrine, and the case method will be emphasized. The course is particularly geared towards students who are considering law school or a career in law. The precise content of LLSO 24200 Legal Reasoning may vary, but the focus on legal doctrine and the adoption of the practices of legal pedagogy will abide.

Junior Colloquium

In their third year, LLSO students must take one of the available Junior Colloquia. Each Junior Colloquium offers sustained engagement with a topic central to the themes of the LLSO program. What Colloquia are available will vary from year to year. The Junior Colloquium includes a significant writing requirement. This is designed to give students experience with sustained independent research and writing in preparation for the BA Thesis.
FOCUS FIELD

An undergraduate major in legal studies open to the investigation of law from the perspectives of both “letters” and “society” must be interdisciplinary and wide-ranging. This vital curricular openness must be balanced against the need for a major to have disciplinary integrity. The courses a student takes should complement each other and add up to sustained treatment of a coherent subject. LLSO uses Focus Fields to offer students in the program wide latitude to pursue their particular interests, while ensuring that each student engages in a coherent course of study. During the Autumn Quarter of their junior year, LLSO students have the option of designing their own independent research programs. These Focus Field plans are developed in consultation with and must be approved by the LLSO program administration. The Focus Field is centered around a basic theme or topic developed by the student. This theme or topic (a) must be related to law, broadly understood, and fall within the substantive bounds of LLSO; and (b) must be sufficiently focused and coherent. This Focus Field plan will consist of four courses that the student has taken or plans to take, which may be drawn from available offerings throughout the University of Chicago. It is not necessary that every course included in the Focus Field have a clear or explicit legal focus, but all courses included in the plan must clearly fit within the overarching topic or theme of the Focus Field (which itself must be related to law). Coursework completed before admission to LLSO may be counted as part of the Focus Field. Students who do not wish to develop an independent research program may instead opt to make “LLSO” their Focus Field. They can satisfy the Focus Field requirement by completing any four LLSO-listed courses that are not being counted to fulfill other LLSO requirements (such as the two Electives). Only courses with an LLSO designation may be counted in these “LLSO” Focus Fields.

ELECTIVES

Students must take two additional courses registered in LLSO. Any LLSO-registered course not being counted to fulfill another LLSO requirement can be used to satisfy the Elective requirement. Junior Colloquia not already being counted for the core requirement may be used towards satisfying the Elective requirement.

BA SEMINAR AND THESIS

Every LLSO major must produce an original piece of scholarship that is animated by a question about law. This question will generally emerge out of the topics and themes explored by the student in the Focus Field coursework. The LLSO BA Thesis is the typical length of an article in the student’s primary field of research, which in most cases will be between 10,000 and 12,000 words. The minimum length is 8,000 words. An electronic copy of the Thesis must be submitted to the Program Administrator by noon on Friday of the third week of the quarter in which the student expects to graduate.

Students are guided through the process of developing a research project and writing a Thesis in the program’s two-part BA Seminar, which is offered annually during the Autumn and Winter Quarters. Participation in both parts is required. While the BA Seminar is typically taken in the fourth year, students who plan to graduate early should enroll in the third year instead. A letter grade is assigned at the end of LLSO 29400 BA Seminar I based on the student’s performance in the Autumn Quarter. The grade for LLSO 29401 BA Seminar II reflects the student’s performance in the Winter Quarter as well as the quality of the Thesis, and for this reason it will remain blank until the Thesis has been evaluated.

Students who intend to write a single Thesis to fulfill the requirements of two majors may be excused from the LLSO BA Seminar if they enroll in equivalent coursework in another department. These students must submit a petition to write a joint thesis to the LLSO Program Administrator by the first day of the quarter in which they would otherwise begin the LLSO BA Seminar.

The BA Thesis may be written under the supervision of a faculty adviser whose area of expertise is relevant to the student’s research. The adviser can be a member of any department and should be asked to sign the program’s Adviser Consent Form upon agreeing to serve in this role. Working with a faculty adviser does not excuse a student from the BA Seminar. The Adviser Consent Form may be obtained from the Program Administrator.

SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR IN LAW, LETTERS, AND SOCIETY

<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</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LLSO 28040</td>
<td>Introduction to Law, Letters, and Society</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>One Junior Colloquium</td>
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<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Four Focus Field Courses</td>
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<td>400</td>
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<td>Two Elective Courses</td>
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<td>LLSO 29400</td>
<td>BA Seminar I</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>LLSO 29401</td>
<td>BA Seminar II</td>
<td>100</td>
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<td>Total Units</td>
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HONORS

To be eligible for Honors, students must maintain an overall GPA of at least 3.50 and 3.80 in the major. Of these students, those whose GPA in the major places them in the top 15 percent of their cohort will be considered
for Honors. The program’s Honors Committee determines and confers honors on a distinguished BA Thesis. Students who wish to be considered for Honors are required to register in the two-quarter BA Seminar course offered in the major (LLSO 29400 BA Seminar I and LLSO 29401 BA Seminar II). Students who meet these criteria will be automatically considered. Students who decide not to register in the program’s BA Seminar sequence and decide to write a joint thesis in another department and wish to be considered for Honors in the program must submit their thesis advisor’s brief recommendation along with their BA Thesis to the Program Administrator in the third week of their graduating quarter.

GRADING

One Focus Field course may be taken Pass/Fail. One Elective course may be taken Pass/Fail. The five required core LLSO courses must all be taken for a quality grade.

READING AND RESEARCH COURSES

For students with interests in pursuing relevant study that cannot be met by means of regular courses or in serving as a research assistant, there is an option of devising an LLSO Reading and Research course, LLSO 29600, to be supervised by a faculty member at the University of Chicago. A maximum of one Reading and Research course may be taken for credit and applied to the LLSO Elective requirement. Research and Reading courses must be pre-approved by the LLSO program administration and must be taken for a quality grade. Students must submit a College Reading & Research Course Form (https://humanities-web.s3.us-east-2.amazonaws.com/college-prod/s3fs-public/documents/fillable-reading-research-form.pdf) for LLSO 29600 to the Registrar’s Office and a copy of it to the LLSO Program Administrator.

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 17808. Reforming America: Social & Political Change from the Gilded Age to the New Deal. 100 Units.
At the beginning of the twentieth century, the American state was a creaking, antiquated apparatus struggling to manage the social and economic changes that had occurred in the previous fifty years. From the turn of the century through World War II, the country underwent a profound program of political change earning this period the name “the age of reform.” In this class we examine the relationship between social and economic upheaval (industrialization, urbanization, immigration, depression, war) and political movements and activism (agrarian populism, the Ku Klux Klan, the early civil and women’s rights movements, organized labor) in order to explain how government in America was transformed for new conditions.
Instructor(s): J. Sparrow 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): HIST 17808, CRES 17808, GNSE 17818

LLSO 18001. The United States in the Age of Total War. 100 Units.
From the Civil War to WWI and II to the Cold War, and through the War on Terror, mobilization for total war has profoundly shaped the foundations of American life. Yet it is oddly underrepresented, bracketed, or omitted altogether in most treatments of domestic US history. This is an odd distortion of the past. Indeed, emergency and security have become such overriding concerns that it is impossible to identify any period of US history that may be designated “peacetime” after 1939. And before that, endemic violence flowing from battles over emancipation, continental empire and “Indian removal,” class conflict, and offshore empire, all suffused the United States with militaristic patterns of power relations. Endless mobilization for existential conflict was powerfully transformative, reworking basic frameworks of law (including constitutionality and citizenship), politics (from infrastructure to loyalty), economics (including defense spending, foreign aid, and new technologies like atomic power), culture (from “wars” on disease to vice to fears of subversion), and society (from the regulation of sexuality and the construction of gender roles to the reconfiguration of regional, national, and global space). This lecture course will introduce students to the neglected history of total war as it remade the United States over a century and a half.
Instructor(s): J. Sparrow Terms Offered: Autumn
Note(s): Assignments: short essays, active discussion-thread contributions, and a curated digital exhibit pertaining to total war
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 18001

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 examine our society, culture, and politics. Preference given to 1st- and 2nd-yr students.
Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 18901, CRES 18901, AMER 18901, HIST 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): Paula Martin 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

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 many 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): Martha Roth Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): NEHC 20019, NEHC 30019, SIGN 26022

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
Note(s): Assignments: three short papers.
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 rabbinic 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 rabbinic 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 Forstenberg (staff) Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): RLST 20775, HIJD 30175

LLSO 20902. Empires and Peoples: Ethnicity in Late Antiquity. 100 Units.
Late antiquity witnessed an unprecedented proliferation of peoples in the Mediterranean and the Middle East. Vandals, Arabs, Goths, Huns, Franks, and Iranians, among numerous others, took shape as political communities within the Roman and Iranian empires or along their peripheries. Recent scholarship has undone the traditional image of these groups as previously undocumented communities of “barbarians” entering history. Ethnic communities emerge from the literature as political constructions dependent on the very malleability of identities, on specific acts of textual and artistic production, on particular religious traditions, and, not least, on the imperial or postimperial regimes sustaining their claims to sovereignty. The colloquium will debate the origin, nature, and roles of ethno-political identities and communities comparatively across West Asia, from the Western Mediterranean to the Eurasian steppes, on the basis of recent contributions. As a historiographical colloquium, the course will address the contemporary cultural and political concerns—especially nationalism—
have often shaped historical accounts of ethnogenesis in the period as well as bio-historical approaches—such as genetic history—that sometimes sit uneasily with the recent advances of historians.

Instructor(s): R. Payne Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): Open to advanced undergraduates and graduate students.
Equivalent Course(s): MDVL 20902, HIST 30902, NEHC 30802, CLCV 23718, NEHC 20802

LLSO 21001. Human Rights: Contemporary Issues. 100 Units.
This course examines basic human rights norms and concepts and selected contemporary human rights problems from across the globe, including human rights implications of the COVID pandemic. Beginning with an overview of the present crises and significant actors on the world stage, we will then examine the political setting for the United Nations’ approval of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights in 1948. The post-World War 2 period was a period of optimism and fertile ground for the establishment of a universal rights regime, given the defeat of fascism in Europe. International jurists wanted to establish a framework of rights that went beyond the nation-state, taking into consideration the partitions of India-Pakistan and Israel-Palestine— and the rising expectations of African-Americans in the U.S. and colonized peoples across Africa and Asia. But from the beginning, there were basic contradictions in a system of rights promulgated by representatives of nation-states that ruled colonial regimes, maintained de facto and de jure systems of racial discrimination, and imprisoned political dissidents and journalists. Cross-cutting themes of the course include the universalism of human rights, problems of impunity and accountability, notions of “exceptionalism,” and the emerging issue of the “shamelessness” of authoritarian regimes. Students will research a human rights topic of their choosing, to be presented as either a final research paper or a group presentation.

Instructor(s): Susan Gzesh, Senior Lecturer, (The College) Terms Offered: Autumn Spring Winter
Equivalent Course(s): SOCS 21001, CHST 21001, CRES 21001, HMRT 21001, HIST 29304, LACS 21001

LLSO 21002. Human Rights: Philosophical Foundations. 100 Units.
In this class we explore the philosophical foundations of human rights, investigating theories of how our shared humanity in the context of an interdependent world gives rise to obligations of justice. We begin by asking what rights are, how they are distinguished from other part of morality, and what role they play in our social and political life. But rights come in many varieties, and we are interested in human rights in particular. In later weeks, we will ask what makes something a human right, and how are human rights different from other kinds of rights. We will consider a number of contemporary philosophers (and one historian) who attempt to answer this question, including James Griffin, Joseph Raz, John Rawls, John Tasioulas, Samuel Moyn, Jiewuh Song, and Martha Nussbaum. Throughout we will be asking questions such as, "What makes something a human right?" "What role does human dignity play in grounding our human rights?" "Are human rights historical?" "What role does the nation and the individual play in our account of human rights?" "When can one nation legitimately intervene in the affairs of another nation?" "How can we respect the demands of justice while also respecting cultural difference?" "How do human rights relate to global inequality and markets?" (A) (I)

Instructor(s): B. Laurence Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): HMRT 21002, HIST 39319, HIST 29319, INRE 31602, MAPH 42002, PHIL 21002, HMRT 31002, PHIL 31002

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: Autumn
Note(s): Assignments: one short paper, a classroom presentation, and one longer research-based paper.
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, with particular applications to Chicago and the Great Lakes region.

Instructor(s): Sabina Shaikh Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): One economics course (ECON 19800, PBPL 20000, ENST 21800 or equivalent)
Equivalent Course(s): ECON 16510, PBPL 21310, GLST 21310, CHST 21310, ENST 21310
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.
In the Victorian era, Britain 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. Such historical investigation also serves a second purpose by helping us see our own fossil-fuel economy with fresh eyes through direct comparison with Victorian energy use. Assignments include short essays based on energy “field work” and explorations in past and present material culture.
Instructor(s): F. Albritton Jonsson
Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): HIPS 21404, CHSS 31404, ENST 21404, HIST 21404, HIST 31404, KNOW 31410

LLSO 22106. America in the Nineteenth Century. 100 Units.
This lecture course will examine major conflicts that shaped American life during the nineteenth century. Focusing on contemporaries’ attempts to seize upon or challenge the nation’s commitment to the ideals of liberty and equality, we will examine pivotal moments of contestation, compromise, and community building. Central questions that will frame the course include how were notions of freedom negotiated and reshaped? What were the political and socioeconomic conditions that prompted the emergence of reform movements, including antislavery, women’s rights, temperance, and labor? How did individuals mobilize and stake claims on the state? How were the boundaries of American citizenship debated and transformed over the course of the century?
Instructor(s): N. Maor
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): AMER 18804, HIST 18804, CRES 18804, GNSE 18804

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 workshopped 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 22310. The Commons: Environment and Economy in Early Modern Europe. 100 Units.
Drawing on case studies from Europe and the Atlantic world, this course will track changes in land use and property rights over the early modern period (ca. 1500-1800), inviting students to reflect on the relationship between natural environments (woodlands, waterways, pasture) and histories of state formation, economic growth, rebellion, and colonialism. Organizing concepts and debates will include the tragedy of the commons, moral economies, sustainability and scarcity, the “organic economy” of the old regime, primitive accumulation, and economic takeoff. Readings will encompass classic works in agrarian, environmental, and social history (i.e., Marc Bloch, E. P. Thompson, Silvia Federici, James Scott, Carolyn Merchant) as well as primary documents and contemporary texts (i.e., More, Bacon, Smith, Paine, Babeuf). We will also reflect on how these histories bear on debates about land use and natural resources in the present day.
Instructor(s): O. Cussen
Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): ENST 22310, HIPS 22310, HIST 22310
Everybody knows that ours is an information age. No previous generation ever enjoyed access to the mass of material made available by Google, iTunes, Amazon, and the like. At the same time, however, no previous generation ever had its reading, listening, and traveling so thoroughly tracked, recorded, data-mined, and commercialized. Information thus shapes our culture for both good and ill, and it is up to us to understand how.

This course provides students with the materials to do that. It ranges across centuries to trace how information has been created, circulated, and controlled. In short, it tells us how our information age came into being, and why it has generated the issues with which it now confronts us.

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: Winter
Prerequisite(s): Consent only

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

From its publication in 1748, "The Spirit of the Laws" has been interpreted, among other things, as a foundational work of method in historical jurisprudence; a paean to the English constitution and an inspiration for that of the future United States; a precocious call for penal reform and the abolition of slavery; a monument to the Enlightenment’s capacity for cultural relativism that laid the groundwork for the discipline of sociology; a historical treatise on the rise of globalized commerce and its political effects in Europe; and a manifesto for a reactionary feudal aristocracy. We will read "The Spirit of the Laws" with attention to these and other possible interpretations. This course is mainly an exercise in close reading, but we will also think about the contexts for the writing and reception of this landmark work of Enlightenment social and political thought.

Instructor(s): P. Cheney Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): Completion of one of these Core sequences: "Classics of Social and Political Thought," “Power, Identity, Resistance" or "Self, Culture, and Society."

Note(s): Assignments: in-class presentation, short papers, and a long paper.
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 23008, FNDL 23008

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 lawmaking (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): Ray Lodato Terms Offered: Winter. not offered in 2022-23
Prerequisite(s): 3rd or 4th year standing, or consent of instructor
Equivalent Course(s): ENST 23100, PBPL 23100

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 East 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

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

This course examines 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

This course provides students with the materials to do that. It ranges across centuries to trace how information has been created, circulated, and controlled. In short, it tells us how our information age came into being, and why it has generated the issues with which it now confronts us.

Instructor(s): A. Johns Terms Offered: Spring
Students are encouraged to understand the life cycle of public policy from its initial arrival on the public agenda to how environmental issues and challenges in the United States are addressed is subject to abrupt changes and reversals caused by extreme partisanship and the heightened significance of the issues for the health of the planet.

LLSO 24102. Environmental Politics. 100 Units.
Politics determines not only what particular faction holds power, but the parameters upon which contests for power are conducted. Competing political factions may diverge in the details of the policies they favor, but may agree on a central organizing principle upon which their policy differences are contested. This course acknowledges that such principles exist and structure politics, economics, and social arrangements, but also challenges the notion that these are immutable, and argues that other principles could be substituted which would drastically change these arrangements. The course introduces students to alternative theories of economics, politics, and environmental policy that challenge mainstream notions of what is acceptable under the current structural and institutional constraints, including how the retreat to notions of realism and practicality place limits on changes necessary to preserve and protect the natural environment.

Instructor(s): R. Lodato Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): ENST 24102, PBPL 24102

LLSO 24200. Legal Reasoning. 100 Units.
Statutory law comprises the vast majority of American law today, and cases involving how to interpret statutes are the basis of most modern legal practice. This legal reasoning course is an introduction to the legal doctrines and theories of statutory interpretation. This introduction comprises an overview of the modern regulatory state-of legislation, administrative implementation, and statutory interpretation by judges and agencies. The course draws from a variety of legal materials, although the case method is emphasized.

Instructor(s): David Lebow Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): Open only to second-year students who are beginning the LLSO major.

LLSO 24506. The Rights of Immigrants and Refugees in Practice. 100 Units.
This course employs an interdisciplinary approach to examine the work of social justice advocacy for and by non-citizens in the U.S. including asylum seekers, immigrant workers, women as migrants, migrant children, and the undocumented. Our readings will place selected case studies in their local, national, and international context. We will draw on sources from law, history, sociology, political science, and the arts. Texts, films, and guest speakers will address the history of immigrants’ rights advocacy in the Chicago and the U.S., with selected global examples. Topics will include the rights of asylum seekers, the problems of migrant workers (guest-workers and the undocumented), women and children as migrants, and the impact of the global pandemic on migration in general. The case studies will illuminate the role of immigrants as leaders and the relationship between impacted communities and the state. We will meet with journalists, elected officials, organizers, academics, artists, and immigrant community leaders to discuss distinct approaches to migrants’ rights advocacy.

Instructor(s): Susan Gzesh Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): SOSC 24506, GLST 24506, CHST 24506, HMRT 26813

LLSO 24701. Human Rights: Migrant, Refugee, Citizen. 100 Units.
The fundamental principle underlying human rights is that they are inherent in the identity of all human beings, regardless of place and without regard to citizenship, nationality, or immigration status. Human rights are universal and must be respected everywhere and always. Human rights treaties and doctrines mandate that a person does not lose their human rights simply by crossing a border. While citizens enjoy certain political rights withheld from foreigners within any given nation-state, what ARE the rights of non-citizens in the contemporary world? Students will research a human rights topic of their choosing, to be presented as either a final research paper or a group presentation.

Instructor(s): Susan Gzesh, Senior Lecturer, (The College) Terms Offered: Autumn Winter
Prerequisite(s): A prior course in Human Rights or a migration-related topic would be desirable but not necessary
Equivalent Course(s): HMRT 24701, SOSC 24701, CRES 24701, LACS 25303, SSAD 44701, HMRT 34701

LLSO 24810. Politics of the U.S. Congress. 100 Units.
This course examines Congress from the perspective of the 535 senators and representatives who constitute it. It examines congressional elections, legislators’ relationships with their constituents, lawmakers’ dealings in and with committees, and representatives’ give-and-take with congressional leadership, the executive, and pressure groups.

Instructor(s): M. Hansen Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): PLSC 24810

LLSO 24901. U.S. Environmental Policy. 100 Units.
How environmental issues and challenges in the United States are addressed is subject to abrupt changes and reversals caused by extreme partisanship and the heightened significance of the issues for the health of the planet and all its inhabitants. The relatively brief history of this policy area, and the separate and distinct tracts in which public lands and pollution control issues are adjudicated, makes for a diverse and complex process by which humanity’s impact on the natural world is managed and contained. This course focuses on how both types of environmental issues are addressed in each branch of the Federal government, the states and localities, as well as theories of how environmental issues arrived onto the public agenda and why attention to them is cyclical. Students are encouraged to understand the life cycle of public policy from its initial arrival on the public agenda
to the passage of legislation to address adverse conditions, as well as how changes in the policy occur after the inevitable decline of intensive attention.

Instructor(s): R. Lodato Terms Offered: Winter
Note(s): This course counts towards the ENST 4th year Capstone requirement.
Equivalent Course(s): PBPL 24701, ENST 24701

LLSO 24903. Colloquium: History of Information. 100 Units.
TBD
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 44903, HIPS 24903, CHSS 44903

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): SSAD 25005, PBPL 25005

LLSO 25110. Empire and International Justice. 100 Units.
How did European thinkers from 1492 onward understand and evaluate the extraordinary developments by which some European countries came to rule over much of the non-European world? This seminar examines theories of international justice and global relations from the early sixteenth through the nineteenth centuries. Philosophers, theologians, and political actors in this period responded to the key issues of global politics in the modern age, including the seizure of non-European lands; the establishment of slavery and the slave trade; the religious and cultural conversion of colonized peoples; the emerging institutions and practices of global commerce; and the impact of these developments upon both European and non-European societies. Indeed, many dilemmas that confront citizens and states today about humanitarian intervention, national sovereignty, conquest and occupation, empire, and human rights in a global context have an intriguing and complex intellectual history. The readings are primary texts by influential thinkers from the period of the initial Spanish conquests of the Americas through the mid-nineteenth century, including Montesquieu, Diderot, Burke, Bentham, Adam Smith, Cugoano, Kant, Herder, Constant, Tocqueville, John Stuart Mill, and Karl Marx.
Instructor(s): S. Muthu Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): PLSC 25110

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 25215, AMER 25215, PBPL 25216

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; graduate students by consent of instructor.
Note(s): Assignments: three short papers.
Equivalent Course(s): AMER 37006, AMER 27006, HIST 27006, HIST 37006

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: Spring
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): SSAD 25630, CRES 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 25909. The United States since 1920. 100 Units.
This is a thematic lecture course on the past one hundred 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.
Instructor(s): J. Dailey Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): Assignments: two short papers and a podcast.
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 17809, AMER 17809

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
Note(s): Not offered in Autumn of the 2020-21 academic year.
Equivalent Course(s): ENST 21800, ECON 16520

LLSO 26250. Richer and Poorer: Income Inequality. 100 Units.
Current political and recent academic debate have centered on income or wealth inequality. Data suggests a rapidly growing divergence between those earners at the bottom and those at the top. This course seeks to place that current concern in conversation with a range of moments in nineteenth and twentieth century history when literature and economics converged on questions of economic inequality. In keeping with recent political economic scholarship by Thomas Piketty, we will be adopting a long historic view and a somewhat wide geographic scale as we explore how economic inequality is represented, measured, assessed and addressed. Charles Dickens, Richard Wright, HG Wells, will be among the writers explored. (Fiction, 1850-1940, Theory)
Instructor(s): Elaine Hadley Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 26250, SIGN 26004

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 dictatorial states 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 36409, LACS 26409, HIST 26409, HIST 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.

Instructor(s): M. Tenorio
Terms Offered: Winter

Note(s): Assignments: two essays

Equivalent Course(s): LACS 36500, HIST 26500, HIST 36500, CRES 26500, LACS 26500

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 some of the ways in which legal documents and practices have been studied by scholars in order to gain insight into questions of culture, nationalism, family, violence, gender, and race.

Instructor(s): B. Fischer
Terms Offered: Autumn

Prerequisite(s): Some coursework in Latin American studies, legal studies, and/or history.

Note(s): History graduate students may take Law and Citizenship in Latin America to fulfill a History colloquium requirement; undergraduates and other graduate students will have different requirements.

Equivalent Course(s): KNOW 36509, HIST 26509, LACS 26509, HIST 36509, LACS 36509

LLSO 26703. Political Parties in the United States. 100 Units.

Politicians and pundits frequently allege that aggressive partisanship is to blame for our contemporary 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: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): PLSC 26703

LLSO 26804. Insurgency, Terrorism, and Civil War. 100 Units.

This course provides an introduction to asymmetric and irregular warfare. From Colombia to Afghanistan, non-state armed organizations are crucially important actors. We will study how they organize themselves, extract resources, deploy violence, attract recruits, and both fight and negotiate with states. We will also examine government counterinsurgency and counterterrorism policies, peace-building after conflict, and international involvement in internal wars. Case materials will be drawn from a variety of conflicts and cover a number of distinct topics. This course has a heavy reading load, and both attendance and substantial participation in weekly discussion sections are required.

Instructor(s): P. Staniland
Terms Offered: Winter

Equivalent Course(s): PLSC 26800

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 37200, CRES 27200, HIST 27200, CRES 37200

LLSO 27100. Human Rights: 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): Savitri Kunze, Pozen Center for Human Rights Social Science Teaching Fellow
Terms Offered: Spring
 LLSO 27103. American Revolution in Global Context. 100 Units.
What happens if one thinks about the American Revolution as an event in global rather than national history? This course will introduce students both to the literature on global history and the historiography of the American Revolution. The bulk of the class will focus on primary materials and introduces various contexts for understanding the American Revolution, such as the Corsican Revolt, the Irish Revolution, the first Falklands Crisis, and the Tupac Amaru Rebellion, and the creation of British India. The course will also think about the global consequences of the revolution. Did the American Revolution change the course of global history? What were its social, political, and intellectual consequences?
Instructor(s): S. Pincus Terms Offered: Winter
Note(s): Assignments: short historiography essay, classroom presentation, and a final research paper
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 37103, HIST 27103

 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. Elkabetz'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. Krueger 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): HIST 17606, CRES 17606, AMER 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 37815, 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.
Instructor(s): G. Winant Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 27906, GNSE 20106, HIST 37906

 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
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 were the origins of Trumpism? Was it a break with conservatism's past or an evolution of the movement? What do current debates bode for the future of American politics?
Instructor(s): Robert Kaminski Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 28811, AMER 28020, PLSC 28020

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 legal regime and its political, economic, social, and cultural life from the colonial era to the present through the nation's relationship with intoxicating beverages. Topics covered may include rum's role in empire; the role of colonial tavern culture in the Revolution; persistent conflicts over taxation; ethnoreligious conflict surrounding the temperance movement; the legacy of the common-law doctrines regulating public houses in civil-rights law; Prohibition and organized crime; the brewing industry's roles in financialization, corporate consolidation, and labor struggles; the construction of homogenized consumer culture and the postmodern quest for "authenticity;" and the laws shaping craft brewing. 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. Students will build on these experiences for their final research papers, which will use primary sources to explore a subject of their choice related to these themes.
Instructor(s): Robert Kaminski Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): AMER 28030, HIST 28305

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.
Instructor(s): Sarah Johnson Terms Offered: Spring. Not offered in spring 2022.
Equivalent Course(s): PLSC 28035

LLSO 28038. Karl Marx: Capital, Volume I. 100 Units.
In this seminar, we study Marx's mature critique of political economy through a close reading of Capital, vol. 1. Our primary concern is to clarify the aims, method, and basic concepts of the text. Enrollment is limited to undergraduates who have completed their SOSC requirement.
Instructor(s): Sarah Johnson Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): Social Sciences Core
Note(s): Enrollment is limited to undergraduates who have completed their SOSC requirement.
Equivalent Course(s): PLSC 28038, FNDL 21815

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.
Instructor(s): David Lebow Terms Offered: Autumn
LLSO 28050. The American Constitution. 100 Units.
This is a survey of the main themes of the American Constitution—popular sovereignty, separation of powers, federalism, and rights—and of the basic techniques of constitutional interpretation. The course introduces the history and doctrines of American constitutional law primarily through the analysis of cases.
Instructor(s): David Lebow Terms Offered: Winter

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): CHST 18806, AMER 18806, CRES 18806, HIST 18806

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. Kruer 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): HIST 18703, AMER 18703, CRES 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): CRES 27300, CRES 37300, HIST 37300, HIST 27300

LLSO 28802. United States Labor History. 100 Units.
This course will explore the history of labor and laboring people in the United States. The significance of work will be considered from the vantage points of political economy, culture, and law. Key topics will include working-class life, industrialization and corporate capitalism, slavery and emancipation, the role of the state and trade unions, and race and sex difference in the workplace.
Instructor(s): A. Stanley Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): Graduate students by consent of instructor
Note(s): Assignments: short papers and an in-class presentation
Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 28802, HIST 38802, HIST 28802

LLSO 28806. Introduction to Black Chicago, 1893-2010. 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: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): CHST 18806, AMER 18806, CRES 18806, HIST 18806

LLSO 29020. Resistance in Theory and Practice. 100 Units.
 Guerrillas, liberators, and oppressed groups of all kinds have appealed to resistance as an organizational strategy, political theory, and moral justification. Resistance is violent or non-violent, active or passive, individual or collective, bodily or intellectual. Often it involves breaking the law. This course explores the diverse histories of resistance in the modern world. Readings include H. D. Thoreau’s essay on civil disobedience; Angela Davis’s lectures on liberation; Rosa Luxemburg’s pamphlet on the mass strike; Frantz Fanon’s defense of anticolonial violence; Hannah Arendt’s critique of student violence; and Audre Lorde’s theses on intersectional feminist resistance. To provide context, we will discuss the international labor movement; decolonization; and the
contemporary politics of Black Lives Matter, Standing Rock, Antifa, and climate protest. Together we will test at least one hypothesis: To resist means to manipulate a regime of oppression, to subvert it from within, but never entirely to escape it.

Instructor(s): Terence Renaud Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 28306

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 29035. Religion, Secularism, and Democracy. 100 Units.
This course will introduce the student to some seminal texts and more recent interventions in the ongoing debate over how to conceptualize, articulate, and structure relations between the modern state and the plurality of religious and other philosophical commitments that obtain in modern liberal democracies. Readings will be drawn from political theory, anthropology, sociology, comparative religion, and theology; and authors will include John Rawls, Richard Rorty, Saba Mahmood, Talal Asad, Craig Calhoun, Tomoko Masuzawa, Jose Casanova, Jurgen Habermas, Joseph Ratzinger, William Cavanaugh, and Isaiah Berlin.

Instructor(s): David Lyons Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): RLST 29035

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

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: Winter
Prerequisite(s): none
Equivalent Course(s): RLST 29060

LLSO 29065. Early Theories of Capitalism. 100 Units.
The "Theories of Capitalism" sequence introduces students to classic texts in the history of economic thought. Students may take just one of the two courses: Early Theories of Capitalism or Twentieth-Century Theories of Capitalism. Enrollment in both is strongly encouraged but not required. Across the two courses, we examine diverse accounts of the forces that govern capitalist societies and the distinctive problems that emerge within them. As we do this, we also look closely at how the economists who developed these theories demarcated the economic domain of human life and we consider how their efforts to understand it were shaped by a rich body of intellectual resources. Early Theories of Capitalism focuses on the theoretical and practical concerns that animated economic writing in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Among these are questions about the origins of wealth and value, the effect of machines on the production process, the role of the state in economic life, and the condition and fate of the working class. Readings may include texts by Adam Smith, David Ricardo, John Stuart Mill, Karl Menger, and Alfred Marshall.

Instructor(s): Sarah Johnson Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): PLSC 23065

LLSO 29066. Twentieth-Century Theories of Capitalism. 100 Units.
The "Theories of Capitalism" sequence introduces students to classic texts in the history of economic thought. Students may take just one of the two courses: Early Theories of Capitalism or Twentieth-Century Theories of Capitalism. Enrollment in both is strongly encouraged but not required. Across the two courses, we examine
diverse accounts of the forces that govern capitalist societies and the distinctive problems that emerge within them. As we do this, we also look closely at how the economists who developed these theories demarcated the economic domain of human life and we consider how their efforts to understand it were shaped by a rich body of intellectual resources. Many of the questions that we explore in the first part of the sequence reappear in Twentieth-Century Theories of Capitalism. Yet, in this course, we also attend to new preoccupations that emerged as capitalism continued to evolve. Among these are questions about the role of uncertainty in economic processes, the nature of a competitive economic order, and the effects of private wealth accumulation on society and individuals. Readings may include works by Thorstein Veblen, Frank Knight, John Maynard Keynes, Friedrich Hayek, and John Kenneth Galbraith.

Instructor(s): Sarah Johnson Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): PLSC 29066

LLSO 29067. Christianity Confronts Capitalism: Natural Law, Economics, and Social Reform. 100 Units.
Christianity’s relationship with commerce was fraught long before the industrial era. After all, it upheld property rights alongside the poor’s beatitude. And, even as Marx declared religion “the opium of the masses,” Christian thinkers popularized ideas of social justice and the Social Gospel to critique laissez faire’s limits. This course will combine intellectual, social, and legal history to examine how various Christian traditions have grappled with liberal capitalism and its revolutionary critics. We will explore these traditions’ competing visions of a moral political economy, how their adherents attempted to put them into action, and where these attempts placed them vis-à-vis society and civil authorities. After a brief unit on key Judeo-Christian texts bearing on political and economic activity, we will consider various churches’ alternatives to liberal capitalism and revolutionary movements’ materialism including Catholic Social Thought from 1891’s Rerum novarum to Pope Francis’s Laudato si’ and Abraham Kuyper’s neo-Calvinist tradition. We will put these in dialogue with practical efforts from Social Gospel reformers, Catholic Workers, and Latin American devotees of Liberation Theology to Hobby Lobby or Chick-Fil-A’s attempt at Evangelical business. Throughout, students will consider questions about the relationships between church and state, doctrine and practice, and natural law and the law of the market.

Instructor(s): Robert Kaminski Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): RLST 29067, HIST 27118

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
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 27016

LLSO 29072. American Political Development. 100 Units.
This course is a survey of American Political Development (APD), a subfield of political science, which endeavors to understand political change and continuity across time in the United States. APD examines how political culture, ideology, and the structures of government are both causes and effects of the development of political conflict and public policy. APD identifies discrete eras with distinguishing modes of political ordering and pinpoints critical turning points in history. The big questions of APD include: Are American ideas and institutions “exceptional”? What is the American state and how was it built? What has been the special significance of class and race in institutional development? This course will explore these questions alongside analyses of critical periods in American political history from the founding to the present.

Instructor(s): David Lebow Terms Offered: Winter

LLSO 29075. Neoliberalism in Europe. 100 Units.
This course will survey the theory and practice of neoliberalism in Europe, with particular attention to its intellectual architects and critics. Readings are subject to change, but may include Hayek, Röpke, Foucault, Dardot & Laval, Streeck, and Slobodian.

Instructor(s): David Lebow Terms Offered: Summer

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: Autumn
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 29202. The Secret Side of International Politics. 100 Units.
This course introduces students to the secret side of international politics. The class features weekly lectures and "research/writing lab" meetings. The lecture and associated readings survey a wide range of theoretical approaches for describing and analyzing the causes and consequences of conducting international politics "behind closed doors." We will cover intelligence analysis, secret alliances, secrecy in crisis decision-making, and covert wartime military operations. We will draw on political science but also organization studies, psychology, and anthropology. Questions we will address include: What agreements do diplomats negotiate privately and why? For what ends do state use secrecy in wartime? What do covert cooperative partnerships look like and when do they succeed? What espionage practices do states use and how have they changed over time? The core assignment is an original research paper that draws on archival/declassified materials, due from each student at the end of term. Regular check-point assignments will take place during the quarter. In the weekly lab meetings, students will receive guidance in the research and writing process, including how to access relevant archival materials, how to organize your research materials, how to effectively prepare to write, and how to write well. This course is intended for advanced undergraduates (political science majors and non-majors welcome) with a large reading load and a challenging paper assignment.
Instructor(s): A. Carson Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): PLSC 29202

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): Sarah Johnson and Evelyn Atkinson Terms Offered: Autumn
Note(s): Offered in Autumn

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.
Instructor(s): Sarah Johnson and Evelyn Atkinson Terms Offered: Winter

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 Zdenecanovic Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): None
Note(s): Not offered in 2020-21
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 Zdenecanovic Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): None
Note(s): Not offered in 2020-21
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, HLTH 29507, HIPS 27507, PBPL 29507

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.
Instructor(s): C. Cordelli & J. Levy
Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): Consent of instructors. Course is eligible as selection for LLSO Junior Colloquium.
Note(s): Assignments: short papers.
Equivalent Course(s): CCCT 29528, HIST 29528

LLSO 29600. Law, Letters, and Society Reading & Research Course. 100 Units.
For students with interests in pursuing relevant study that cannot be met by means of regular courses or in serving as a research assistant, there is an option of devising an LLSO Reading and Research course, LLSO 29600, to be supervised by a faculty member at the University of Chicago. A maximum of one Reading and Research course may be taken for credit and applied to the LLSO Elective requirement.
Terms Offered: Autumn Spring Summer Winter

LLSO 29700. 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 29701. Law and Political 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: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): GLST 29091

LLSO 29702. Feminist Theory and Political Economy. 100 Units.
This course has two related aims: to consider how the regulation of economic life-from the household to the global economy-has figured as an object of analysis within feminist thought; and to examine how this analysis, together with the conceptual resources of political economy, has informed feminist theories of domination, freedom, equality, rights, and justice. Readings may include works by Simone de Beauvoir, Angela Davis, bell hooks, Iris Marion Young, Catharine MacKinnon, Nancy Fraser, and Aihwa Ong. The course includes a substantial research requirement, which invites students to draw upon the insights of these theorists as they use archival sources to conduct their own analyses of economic life.
Instructor(s): Sarah Johnson
Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): Enrollment is limited to undergraduates who have completed their Social Sciences Core requirement.
Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 20117, PLSC 25068

LLSO 29703. Captivity. 100 Units.
The premise for this course is that anthropology, as well as other domains of social inquiry, have unacknowledged and unredeemed debts to captivity as structure, experience, and event, from the penal colony to the slave plantation. This course is an attempt to begin to think about those debts through readings in anthropology, history, and philosophy.
Instructor(s): Darryl Li
Terms Offered: Spring. Spring 2022
Prerequisite(s): Open only to 3rd and 4th year students in the College, with some preference for majors in Anthropology & LLSO.
Note(s): Advanced undergraduate seminar.
Law, Letters, and Society

LLSO 29704. United States Legal History. 100 Units.
This course focuses on the connections between law and society in modern America. It explores how legal doctrines and constitutional rules have defined individual rights and social relations in both the public and private spheres. It also examines political struggles that have transformed American law. Topics to be addressed include the meaning of rights; the regulation of property, work, race, and sexual relations; civil disobedience; and legal theory as cultural history. Readings include legal cases, judicial rulings, short stories, and legal and historical scholarship.
Instructor(s): E. Atkinson Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 27605, HIST 27605, CRES 27605, AMER 27605, HMRT 27061

LLSO 29706. Race Law. 100 Units.
Race Law takes the law of race as a distinct body of study. It examines how statutes, cases, and other legal materials create racial categories, and how the legal definitions of race are used to reinforce and establish social hierarchies and to exclude certain categories of persons from full rights-bearing legal personhood. This class explores legal cases and primary sources from colonial America to the present to map out the legal construction of race over time. Although incorporating non-legal sources to highlight that the law is not a "black box", the class focuses on the role of law in crafting our understanding of what race means. "Race Law" will be a small junior colloquium geared at students interested in pursuing the topic of law and race for their senior thesis.
Instructor(s): Evelyn Atkinson Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): Junior Colloquium in Law, Letters, and Society
Equivalent Course(s): CRES 29706

LLSO 29708. Neoliberalism and its Critics. 100 Units.
In recent years, "neoliberalism" has been increasingly adopted as a catchall explanatory framework (and often also critical epithet) naming an ensemble of ideologies, political economic structures, and governance practices that have arguably been hegemonic since the late twentieth century. Despite contestation about its meaning-and even its existence-interested scholars have frequently associated neoliberalism with economic phenomena like financialization, the asset economy, globalization, and deregulation as well as political and social transformations including novel state-market relations, the extension of the market logic across society, and the production of economically rational subjects. In this seminar, we will examine neoliberalism as theorized by both proponents and critics; neoliberalism as a collection of economic, political, social, and cultural practices and institutions; and the neoliberal era as a historical period of innovations, transformations, developments, crises, and events. Our survey of neoliberal theories, practices, effects, and possibilities will cross disciplinary boundaries and draw from fields such as economics, political science, sociology, law, history, and anthropology.
Terms Offered: Autumn

LLSO 29722. Democratic Failure in Greece and Rome. 100 Units.
The course will study processes of democratic erosion and collapse in classical Athens and republican Rome.
Assignments: in-class presentations and a long paper.
Instructor(s): C. Ando Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 30602, CLCV 21222, CLAS 31222, HIST 20602