Department of History
Graduate History Course Descriptions
Summer 2019

His 8002-030   **Slavery in American Culture**
Dr. Judy Giesberg
M 6:10-8:50 p.m.
This course examines how Americans have represented and remembered U.S. slavery from the mid nineteenth century to the present. It explores how various groups have sought to capture the experience of slavery through images and words, how they critiqued it and defended it, and then sought to "remember" slavery and emancipation in a variety of ways. By exploring, among other things, narrative accounts, novels, speeches, and films, students will consider how popular culture has influenced and shaped the how we "remember" slavery.

HIS 8002-030   **Topic: U.S. Legal and Constitutional History**
Summer Session 3
T 6:10-8:50 p.m.
Dr. Emil A. Ricci
Over the past twenty-five years, American legal history has become a dynamic and popular field of academic study. Many historians study the history of American law in order to better understand contemporary social, cultural, economic, and political questions. Similarly, historians examine the origins and development of American law to offer innovative interpretations which may help lawyers and judges resolve current legal disputes. As a result, a growing historiography has developed studying how legislatures, courts, administrative agencies, and constitutional debates have shaped American society and politics.
Our graduate seminar, therefore, will focus upon how law has been an important part of American society. Beginning with the first English colonies in America, the colonists developed a set of laws and legal institutions which gradually changed to meet the conditions of a new social and political order. English common law initially served as the foundation for governing the lives and social relations of colonial Americans, although it was not the only source of law in the new world. After the American Revolution, common law was still important, but by the early nineteenth century federal and state constitutional law, statutory law, federal and state court decisions, and rules enacted by government agencies created a distinctive legal culture.
Beginning with colonial society, our course will examine the development of American law and constitutional development through the vast economic, political, and social changes of the nineteenth century: industrialization, slavery, the Civil War, Reconstruction, labor unrest, and the rights of newly freed African-Americans. The twentieth century looks at the impact of the progressive movement, greater economic regulation, the New Deal and Franklin Roosevelt's plan to change the federal judiciary, especially the Supreme Court, the Supreme Court under Earl Warren and Warren Burger, and the Civil Rights and feminist movements. Attention is also given to developments during the Rehnquist Court and the current Court under Chief Justice John Roberts. Topics such as statutory development, constitutionalism, property law, due process, equal protection of the law, and the importance of federal and state court decisions will be discussed.

Required Readings:

1. The Magic Mirror: Law in American History, Second Edition by Kermit L. Hall and Peter Karsten. Oxford University Press. This is the foundation al textbook for the course. Paperback.
2. The Great Chief Justice: John Marshall and the Rule of Law, by Charles F. Hobson. University Press of Kansas. Paperback.
3. A Legal History of the Civil War and Reconstruction: A Nation of Rights, by Laura F. Edwards. Cambridge University Press. Paperback.
4. The Slaughterhouse Cases: Regulation, Reconstruction, and the Fourteenth Amendment, by Ronald M. Labbe and Jonathan Lurie. Abridged Edition. University Press of Kansas. Paperback.
5. Supreme Power: Franklin Roosevelt v.s The Supreme Court, by Jeff Shesol. W. W. Norton & Company. Paperback.
6. The Blessings of Liberty: A Concise History Of The Constitution Of The United States. by Michael Les Benedict. Third Edition. Wadsworth, Cengage Learning Publishers.

In addition, selected articles will be assigned from the *American Journal of Legal History, Law and History Review, The Journal of Supreme Court History, and The American Historical Review.*

Research Report
A research report of 25 pages on a topic of choice is required. All research reports must be prepared according to the current edition of Kate L. Turabian, A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, University of Chicago Press. Both hard copies and online versions of this style manual are available. Students will write initial drafts of papers to be submitted to the instructor for review and comment. At the same time, students will "peer review" and critique each other's papers. Students are required to use some primary sources for this assignment. These need not be manuscript sources, but printed primary materials. Ultimately, the seminar should offer the class the opportunity to engage in critical analysis and discussion of the history and development of the American legal order.

HIS 8900-030   **Topics in Digital History**
W 6:10–8:50 p.m.
Dr. Michelle Moravec
Digital history is a convenient shorthand for the many ways that widespread access to the internet and personal computers have influenced the discipline of history. Digital history refers to a wide range of activities, including, but not limited to, putting primary source documents, historical essays online, and interpretive exhibitions online to reach a broader audience to using computer programs to aid the historian in researching the past. This course, conducted as a collaborative lab, introduces students to computational analysis of primary sources in order to produce historical interpretations. Students will learn new digital tools related to text mining, network analysis, and data visualization.