2015-2016 Faculty At-Home Seminars (1 credit)

Fall 2015

LAW 7240 Faculty-at-Home Seminar: Capital Punishment and Popular Culture
J. Blume
This in-home seminar will examine how capital punishment is depicted in popular culture, including in novels, magazine articles, movies, television programs, and songs. Meetings will be held in the instructor’s home, on select Monday evenings. The first class meeting will be on Monday, August 31 from 6:00-7:30pm.

LAW 7241 Faculty-at-Home Seminar: Intro to Labor and Employment Law through a U.S. Supreme Court Case
A. Cornell
This in-home seminar will examine a timely labor or employment law topic that is pending before the United States Supreme Court. The participants will read the briefs in the case, as well as current literature such as *The Nine: Inside the Secret World of the Supreme Court* by Jeffrey Toobin. In addition, participants will travel to D.C. sometime during the semester to hear oral arguments in the case. The discussion of the case will continue on the six-hour drive to D.C., with debriefing on the return leg of the trip. An overnight stay will be required in D.C. An overview of the course will be provided on August 31 from 4:00-5:00pm in Room G81. The class will meet on Sept. 11 and Oct. 2, 6:00-9:00 and will be held in the instructor’s home. Subsequent meetings will be scheduled when the docket is set and we know the date of the oral argument.

LAW 7242 Faculty-at-Home Seminar: Legal Reform and Revolution in Film
O. Lienau & A. Rana
How are issues of legal reform and revolution remembered through the popular medium of narrative film? Through a close discussion of six seminal movies, this seminar will explore questions related to the politics and law of social change. How do repressive societies maintain control and induce support? How should we view either the legitimacy or the legality of armed resistance? And how do societies come to remember periods of change and upheaval? Each session will examine a specific film, which the participants will be expected to watch prior to class. Films discussed might include *The Battle of Algiers, The Wind that Shakes the Barley, Goodbye Lenin, The Lives of Others, The Hunger Games,* and *Selma.* Meetings will be held in the instructor’s home. The first class meeting will be on Thursday, August 27 from 4:15-5:55pm.

LAW 7243 Faculty-at-Home Seminar: Marriage Equality and Beyond
S. Hazeldean
This in-home seminar will examine the Supreme Court’s decision on same-sex marriage that is expected in June, 2015, and what will come next for the LGBT movement. Participants will discuss what led to the Supreme Court’s decision and what it means for the LGBT community. Does it mean that LGBT people have now achieved equality? What are the next most urgent law reform priorities for the LGBT community? Participants will discuss the possibilities, including employment discrimination, hate violence, transgender rights, preserving alternatives to
They will look at whether the marriage litigation has improved the prospects for those changes, or diminished them. The goal will be to tease out the likely impact and import of the SCOTUS decision, which will be a historic moment for the LGBT movement. Meetings on Thursdays at 6:00-8:00 pm in the instructor’s home. The first meeting will be on Thursday, August 27 from 6:00-8:00pm.

**LAW 7244 Faculty-at-Home Seminar: Women and Men in the Practice of Law**
E. Peck & B. Wendel
This in-home seminar will address issues in the practice of law such as equity in pay and the promotion-to-partner tournament (including the problem of “mommy tracking”); work/life balance; mentoring; alternative career trajectories, including those that involve leaving the law altogether; gender dynamics in the law school classroom and their effect on students and recent graduates; and portrayals of female lawyers in television (e.g. *the Good Wife*) and films. The objective is to get beyond dry academic discussion of these issues and to talk about what it is like for women and men in the legal profession today. Readings might include *Lean In* by Sheryl Sandburg, and perhaps excerpts from a law review article or two. However, they will be primarily drawn from the legal and popular press. If possible, roughly equal numbers of women and men are sought. The seminar will be held every other Thursday evening from 7:00-9:00 in the instructors’ home. The first class meeting will be on Thursday, August 27 from 7:00-9:00pm.

**Spring 2016**

**LAW 7245 Faculty-at-Home Seminar: Golf Law**
G. Hay
This in-home seminar will focus on certain legal aspects of the game of golf as well as how other branches of law (e.g., torts or patent) affect the game of golf. Interest in the game of golf is a pre-requisite; skill at the game is not. Meetings will be held in the instructor’s home on four Monday evenings from 7:00-9:00pm, and one additional session at a place and time TBD. The first class meeting will be on Tuesday, Jan 26 from 5:15-5:35pm in Room G85.

**LAW 7246 Faculty-at-Home Seminar: Legal Drama**
J. Chafetz
This in-home seminar will consider dramatic works that shed light on big questions central to the law. Works considered will include Aeschylus’s *Oresteia*, leading into a discussion on the origin and nature of legal institutions; Shakespeare’s *Merchant of Venice*, leading into a discussion of the nature of judging; Wole Soyinka’s *Death and the King’s Horseman*, leading into a discussion of how law can or cannot navigate conflicts between incompatible world views; and the (remade) TV series *Battlestar Galactica*, leading into a discussion of the trade-offs between civil liberties and security. The seminar will meet select Tuesday nights (roughly every third week) from 7:00-9:00 pm, in the instructor’s home. The first class meeting will be on Monday, Feb 1 from 6:00-7:00pm in Room 277.
LAW 7247 Faculty-at-Home Seminar: Let’s Blow Up the Pyramids: Who Owns World Culture?
G. Alexander
Did you know that Franz Kafka instructed his editor, who was also the executor of his estate, to burn all of his manuscripts when he died? The editor disobeyed that instruction, but the incident raises a set of interesting questions concerning resources that are privately owned but come to be regarded as world cultural heritage. Should the owners of such artifacts be able to do with them whatever they want? In fact, should such artifacts even be subject to private ownership? Who really owns the Pyramids? The Mona Lisa? The Statue of Liberty? This in-home seminar will explore these and other related questions, with the reading of awfully interesting essays along the way. The discussion and tone will be quite informal. Meetings will be every other Wednesday evening, 7:00-9:00 pm, in the instructor’s home. The first class meeting will be on Monday, Feb 1 from 6:00-7:00pm in Room 276. There will be no assignment of any kind for the first class meeting. We’ll discuss logistics—how to get to my house, readings, matters like that.

LAW 7248 Faculty-at-Home Seminar: The 2016 Election: Cases, Controversies, and the Campaign
J. Stiglitz
The Iowa caucuses fall shortly after our spring semester starts, and by the end of the semester most states will have held their caucuses or primaries. This informal, in-home seminar has two objectives: to read and discuss important recent decisions that have contributed to the prevailing campaign environment, and to discuss in “real time” the legal controversies as they unfold around the events of the election. The seminar will meet two Thursday evenings from 5:00-8:00 pm, and two Thursday evenings from 5:00-8:30 pm, in the instructor’s home.