

► Professor
Cynthia Nicoletti
won the 2018
Cromwell Book Prize for
"Secession on Trial: The
Treason Prosecution
of Jefferson
Davis."

Legal History



*Legal history has long been a curricular priority
at the Law School and a strength of its faculty.*

UVA's curriculum places the development of the law in historical context so that students can better understand both the past and present legal landscape.

With 20 scholars in the Law School and 15 scholars in the Corcoran Department of History all teaching or doing work in legal history, UVA offers an unparalleled variety of lecture courses, seminars and clinics in the field.

Dual-Degree J.D.-M.A. in Legal History

The heart of the program is the Dual-Degree (J.D.-M.A.) Program in Legal History, which enables law students to earn an M.A. in history during the same three years they are earning their J.D. As part of the program, J.D.-M.A. candidates present drafts of their theses to faculty. Several veterans of the dual-degree program have gone on to successful careers in legal academia, and recent graduates have clerked for U.S. Supreme Court justices.

Global Legal History

UVA is an international leader in opening global legal history to serious study worldwide. The Law School's Legal History Program is affiliated with GLH@UVA, a cross-disciplinary enterprise focusing on global legal history based in UVA's Corcoran Department of History. GLH@UVA aims to broaden awareness of the history of legal life around the globe.

- LAW SCHOOL FACULTY**
- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| Kenneth S. Abraham
history of torts, insurance law | A. E. Dick Howard
constitutional history, Supreme Court | Cynthia L. Nicoletti
American legal history |
| Charles Barzun
history of legal thought | Jessica Lowe
18th- and 19th-century American legal history | Saikrishna B. Prakash
separation of powers, presidential power |
| Michael G. Collins
legal history, procedure, federal courts | Leslie Kendrick
torts and freedom of speech | George Rutherglen
civil rights history, admiralty |
| Thomas Frampton
historical context of criminal law, inequality | Edmund W. Kitch
legal and economic history | Lawrence B. Solum
constitutional originalism, legal theory |
| Risa Goluboff
legal history of civil rights | Julia D. Mahoney
property and constitutional law | Richard Schragger
local government, property, church and state |
| Alison Gocke
environmental legal history | Joy Milligan
law and inequality | G. Edward White
American legal history, Supreme Court, history of torts |
| John C. Harrison
constitutional history | Caleb E. Nelson
federal courts, statutory interpretation | |
- UVA HISTORY FACULTY**
- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| Fahad Bishara
economic and legal history of the Indian Ocean and Islamic world | Justene Hill Edwards
African American history, American economic history, history of American slavery | Neeti Nair
18th-20th century South Asian history |
| Emily Burrill
20th-century West African history, history of gender and sexuality in the French empire | S. Deborah Kang
history of U.S. immigration | Brian P. Owensby
19th- and 20th-century Brazil, legal/imperial history of 17th-century Mexico |
| Christa Dierksheide
Early American history, with an emphasis on empire, race and slavery | Christian W. McMillen
history of pandemics | Bradly W. Reed
late imperial and modern China |
| Paul D. Halliday
(with law joint appointment) British legal history | Elizabeth A. Meyer
Greek and Roman political and social history | Jeffrey Rossman
Russia, modern Europe |
| | Sarah Milov
20th-century American history | Joshua M. White
early modern Ottoman Empire, Mediterranean social, legal and diplomatic history |

- COURSES AND SEMINARS**
- American Legal History Seminar
 - An American Half-Century
 - Barbarian Law
 - Cause Lawyers in American History
 - Civil War and the Constitution
 - Constitutional Law II: Poverty
 - English Legal History to 1776
 - Federalism
 - Founders and Foes
 - Global Legal History
 - History of American Federalism
 - Law and Inequality Colloquium
 - Law and Riots
 - Law in American History: 20th Century
 - Law Reform and Impact Litigation Seminar
 - Monetary Constitution Seminar
 - Race and Slavery on UVA's North Grounds
 - The Institutional Supreme Court
 - Virginia and the Constitution
 - World War I

These courses represent the 2020-23 school years. Not all courses are offered every year.

CONTACT

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