

RACE and Law

LAWYERS CANNOT FULLY UNDERSTAND THE AMERICAN LEGAL LANDSCAPE WITHOUT STUDYING THE IMPACT OF RACE.

The Law School founded the Center for the Study of Race and Law in 2003 to provide opportunities for students, scholars, practitioners and community members to examine and exchange ideas related to race and law through lectures, symposia and scholarship.

The center also coordinates with the Law School to offer a concentration of courses on race and law, and serves as a resource for faculty whose teaching or scholarship addresses subjects related to race.



PROFESSOR KIM FORDE-MAZRUI leads the CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF RACE AND LAW. His scholarship focuses on equal protection, especially involving race and sexual orientation, and has addressed issues such as affirmative action, remedies for past discrimination, racial profiling, and the role of race in juries and adoption.

CURRICULUM Virginia offers courses in civil rights and anti-discrimination law, but equally important is a wide array of courses in constitutional law and history. These offerings reflect the ways in which the struggle for civil rights shaped — and continues to shape — our country and institutions.

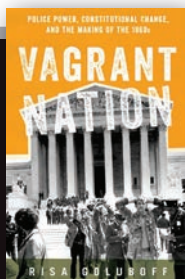
EACH YEAR **THE CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF RACE AND LAW** BRINGS A VISITING PROFESSOR TO TEACH A SHORT COURSE. PAST VISITORS INCLUDE:

- RICHARD BANKS**, JACKSON ELI REYNOLDS PROFESSOR OF LAW, STANFORD LAW SCHOOL
- DEVON CARBADO**, PROFESSOR OF LAW AND FORMER VICE DEAN OF THE FACULTY, UCLA SCHOOL OF LAW
- ADRIENNE DAVIS**, PROFESSOR OF LAW AND VICE PROVOST AT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS
- MICHAEL KLARMAN**, KIRKLAND & ELLIS PROFESSOR OF LAW, HARVARD LAW SCHOOL
- MARI MATSUDA**, PROFESSOR OF LAW, UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA WILLIAM S. RICHARDSON SCHOOL OF LAW

DEAN RISA GOLUBOFF

has written two books that address the hidden history of the Civil Rights Movement. In "The Lost Promise of Civil Rights," she explores the fight for black economic and labor rights from the 1930s until the 1954

U.S. Supreme Court decision *Brown v. Board of Education*. After that ruling, looking at race through the lens of integration in education led to an inability to resolve the troubling legacy of racial economic inequality that remains today, she argues. In her second book, "Vagrant Nation: Police Power,



Constitutional Change and the Making of the 1960s," she examines the revolution in the

nation's vagrancy laws that shifted the balance of power between police and individuals. "This is a story that's always going to be relevant, because there's always going to be a tension between how much power the police have and how much liberty individuals have," she said. "You didn't actually have

to engage in any particular conduct in order to be arrested and convicted for vagrancy. You had to be a certain kind of person, and there was an enormous discretion in the eyes of the police as to whether a particular person was a vagrant, and who counted in that category."



THE CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF RACE AND LAW

and other Law School organizations often host speakers and discussions that touch on race and law.



EXPLORING RACE THROUGH DISCUSSION

UVA LAW RECENTLY HONORED THE LEGACY OF ITS FIRST BLACK STUDENT, GREGORY SWANSON, with a ceremony and the creation of the Gregory H. Swanson Award, which recognizes students with traits that Swanson embodied, including a commitment to justice within the community. Jah Akande '19 and Toccara Nelson '19, pictured with Dean Risa Goluboff, were the inaugural recipients.



UVA HISTORY PROFESSOR JOHN MASON AND UVA LAW VICE DEAN LESLIE KENDRICK WERE

among those to discuss the events surrounding the Aug. 11-12 "Unite the Right" rally in Charlottesville. Throughout the year at UVA Law in various fora, community members gathered to understand the violent rallies and how to move forward, and promote allyship with the Black Law Students Association.



THE LAW SCHOOL CO-HOSTED "HEALING HATE: A PUBLIC HEALTH PERSPECTIVE ON CIVIL RIGHTS IN AMERICA"

with the School of Medicine in 2020. Among the speakers were Angela Harris of the University of California, Davis School of Law.

COURSES AND SEMINARS

Civil Rights Litigation
The Civil War and the Constitution
Criminal Adjudication

Criminal Investigation
Criminal Procedure Survey
Critical Race Theory
Education Law Survey
Employment Discrimination
Family Law

Immigration Law
Immigration Law and Policy: Business and Family
International Human Rights Law
Land Use Law
Law of Place and

Place of Law
Law, Inequality and Education Reform
Legal History of U.S. Civil Rights Movement
Native American Law
Poverty in Law, Literature, and Culture

Race and Criminal Justice
Race, Education and Opportunity
Race, Law, and the Southern City
Racial Justice and Law
Social Science in Law
Urban Law and Policy

CLINICS

Civil Rights Clinic
International Human Rights Law Clinic

These courses represent the 2018-'21 school years. Not all courses are offered every year.



FIGHTING FOR EQUITY IN EDUCATION

PROFESSOR KIMBERLY JENKINS ROBINSON has edited a new book that examines whether all children should be guaranteed a federal right to education.

"A Federal Right to Education: Fundamental Questions for Our Democracy," features contributions from leading constitutional law and education experts.

Robinson is also a nationally recognized expert on how federal and state law and policy can close educational opportunity gaps. Her focus includes civil rights and the federal government's role in education.

The book explores arguments for — and some against — a federal right to education, potential pathways to federal recogni-

tion and what such a right might entail.

In Robinson's view, federal intervention is a must because states have failed to address the educational opportunity gap for K-12 students.

"We set children up for failure, generation after generation," she said.

There are 17 states that routinely provide less funds to their high-pov-

erty school districts. Robinson pointed to research showing that such districts receive about \$1,000 less per student per year nationally, while districts with high concentrations of students of color receive about \$1,300 less.

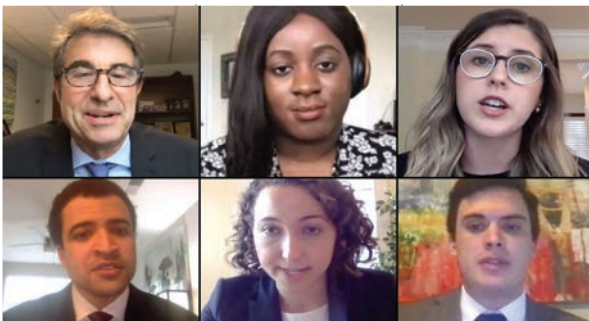
"Because of that, you're setting these districts up to be behind consistently," Robinson said.

WORKING TOWARD SOLUTIONS ON RACIAL DISPARITIES

RACIAL DISPARITIES,

especially in the areas of housing, education, criminal justice and voting, were the focus of a presentation UVA Law students recently delivered virtually to the Virginia Governor's Commission to Examine Racial Inequality in the Law.

Gov. Ralph Northam created the commission in 2019 to look at laws and regulations in Virginia that were ei-



FROM TOP LEFT CLOCKWISE: Professor Andrew Block, Trust Kupupika '22, Kelsey Massey '21, Wes Williams '22, Juliet Buesing '21 and Chris Yarrell '22 presented to the Governor's Commission to Examine Racial Inequality in the Law.

ther explicitly racist or had negative and disparate impacts on people of color.

Five students

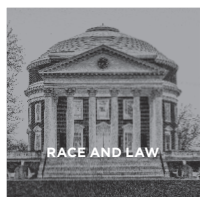
worked on the project as research assistants under Professor Andrew Block, who also is

the commission's vice chair. Block, the director of the Law School's State and Local Government

Policy Clinic, previously served as the head of the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice.

Law student Christopher Yarrell '22 said the experience was a unique opportunity.

"As a Black man and first-generation law student, having the opportunity to support the commission's important work was truly an honor," Yarrell said.



law.virginia.edu/race

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