Constitutional LAW and Legal HISTORY

THE LAW SCHOOL’S CURRICULUM places the history of law and the ongoing story of the Constitution in context so that students can better understand both the past and present legal landscape.

With more than 25 faculty members in constitutional law and legal history, Virginia offers an unparalleled variety of lecture courses, seminars and clinics in the field.

J.D.-M.A. PROGRAM IN HISTORY
In cooperation with the University of Virginia’s Corcoran Department of History, the Law School allows students to obtain a J.D. and an M.A. in history in three years. 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.

MORE: law.virginia.edu/history

CHARLES W. McCURDY FELLOWSHIP IN LEGAL HISTORY
Offered through a partnership between the Jefferson Scholars Foundation and the Law School, the yearlong McCurdy Fellowship allows scholars to work in residence at the Law School while completing dissertations in legal and political history. The fellowship, which carries a $32,000 stipend, includes a mentorship program and the opportunity to coordinate and present work at the Law School’s legal history workshop and the Jefferson Fellows Conference.

EVENT PROGRAMMING
The program sponsors a series of monthly legal history lunch workshops in which scholars and Virginia faculty members present works in progress. Advanced J.D.-M.A. candidates participate in these workshops and even present drafts of their own M.A. theses. The program also sponsors a series of lectures and panel discussions in which authors of recent important books are invited to engage in discussions of their work with students and faculty. An informal legal history writing group allows faculty, law students and graduate history students to present works-in-progress over dinner at the homes of faculty members.

VIRGINIA’S PROGRAM ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL HISTORY creates a rich intellectual community of scholars and students with shared historical interests.

CLINICS

APPELLATE LITIGATION CLINIC
Students in this yearlong clinic engage in appellate litigation through actual cases before various federal circuit and/or state appellate courts of appeals.

CIVIL RIGHTS CLINIC
Students provide relief and legal support to people and communities that have been harmed by the criminalization of poverty and other forms of discrimination or deprivation of rights.

FIRST AMENDMENT CLINIC
The yearlong First Amendment Clinic gives students practical legal experience involving timely free speech and press issues.

SUPREME COURT LITIGATION CLINIC
Students in this yearlong clinic handle actual cases, from seeking Supreme Court review to briefing on the merits.
**COURSES AND SEMINARS**

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- **Twentieth Century Constitutional Law and Economics**
- **Constitutional Law I: Freedom of Speech and Press**
- **Constitutional Law II: Money and Constitutional Rights**
- **Constitutional Law III: Religious Liberty**
- **Constitutional Law IV: Survey of Civil Liberties**
- **Constitutionalism: History and Jurisprudence**
- **Constitutionalism: Nation, Culture and Constitutions**
- **Corporate Rights**
- **Criminal Procedure**
- **Survey**
- **Death Penalty**
- **Defamation**
- **Discrimination Theory**
- **Education Law and Policy**
- **Education Rights and Enforcement**
- **Federal Sentencing**
- **Government Secrecy**
- **Judicial Role in American History**
- **Land Use Law**
- **Law and Education**
- **Law of Armed Conflict**
- **Law of the Police**
- **Lawyering for In-House Counsel**
- **Legislation**
- **Legislation and Regulation**
- **LGBTQ Rights Before and After Obergefell**
- **Monetary Constitution Seminar**
- **Presidential Powers**
- **Racial Justice and Law Regulation of the Political Process**
- **Religious Liberty and the Scholarly Process**
- **Separation of Church and State**
- **Slavery and the Constitution**
- **Supreme Court from Warren to Roberts**
- **Supreme Court: Justice and the Art of Judging**
- **Supreme Court: October Term**
- **Tax Discrimination Seminar**
- **The U.S. President and Policymaking: History, Theory and Simulation**
- **Understanding Police Use of Force: Investigation and Litigation Concepts**
- **Virginia and the Constitution**
- **Appellate Litigation Clinic**
- **First Amendment Clinic**
- **Supreme Court Litigation Clinic**

**CONSTITUTIONAL LAW**

- **Comparative Constitutional Law**
- **Comparative Constitutional Design**
- **Comparative Constitutional Law Seminar**
- **Comparative Constitutional Crises**
- **Comparative Constitutional History I: American Revolution to 1865**
- **Comparative Constitutional History II: The Twentieth Century**

**LEGAL HISTORY**

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- **Global Legal History: Judicial Role in American History**
- **Law and American History: From the Colonial Years Through the Civil War**

**FACULTY**

Virginia’s faculty members have a broad range of expertise in constitutional law and legal history. Many are experts on the decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court and several have argued before the court, including four full-time faculty members since 2010. **OUR FACULTY INCLUDE:**

- **Professor Frederick Schauer**
  - One of the nation’s leading legal scholars and the author of numerous books on constitutional law, free speech and legal theory.

- **Dean Risa Goluboff**
  - Is the author of “Vagrant Nation: Police Power, Constitutional Change and the Making of the 1960s” and “The Lost Promise of Civil Rights.”

- **Vice Dean Leslie Kendrick**
  - Is an expert on the freedom of expression who teaches courses in torts, property and constitutional law.

- **Professor Saikrishna Prakash**
  - Is an expert in presidential power and separation of powers. He is the author of a book on the American presidency.

- **Professor G. Edward White**
  - A Pulitzer Prize finalist, is working on a three-volume series, “Law in American History.”