

# **Fall 2020 Seminar**

## **Course**

## **Descriptions**

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### **Law 746A SEM: Prof. Negligence**

**Credit:** 3

**Professor:** David Partlett

**Prerequisites:** none

**Enrollment:** Limited to those preselected initially, any remaining seats will be made available during Open Enrollment.

**Grading Criteria:** Paper

**Description:** This seminar will explore the liability of professionals for negligent conduct. It will cover professionals such as physicians, psychologists, dentists, and others whose actions risk bodily injury. It will also cover those whose professional activities risk property and economic losses, such as engineers, architects, lawyers, and accountants. The legal field of focus is the liability in the borderland between torts and contracts. The seminar will also engage the form and structure of business torts that are neglected in the curriculum yet loom large in commercial practice.

Particularly with respect of medical malpractice, compensation schemes to replace or supplement liability rules continue to be proposed. Their merits and demerits will be discussed. The seminar will also consider such fundamental issues as causation and remedies, where the liability of professionals is in question.

The seminar will consider such fundamental issues as causation and remedies when the liability of professionals is at stake. Materials will be distributed and discussion expected. Students will be required to prepare a paper that can be in satisfaction of the upper-level writing requirement. Students will orally present a final draft paper in class. This will form part of the final grade. In selection of the topic and in working through drafts, students will work closely with me.

**Attendance Policy:** See Professor

*Last Updated: Fall 2020*

# **Fall 2020 Seminar**

## **Course**

### **Descriptions**

#### **Law 811 SEM: Critical Race**

**Credit:** 3

**Professor:** Dorothy Brown

**Prerequisites:** Completion of 1st Year of law school

**Enrollment:** Limited to 15 Students, Class will not be open during Open Enrolment, must obtain Prof. permission to be enrolled.

**Grading Criteria:** Final Paper, participation, Attendance; weekly 1-2 page papers on reading assignments.

**Description:** Critical Race Theory centers race and racism at the center of American law. This class will examine racial biases in judicial decisions, particularly those covered in the first year of law school: Torts; Contracts; Criminal Procedure; Criminal Law; Property; and Civil Procedure.

**Attendance Policy:** Students are expected to attend every class given that it meets only once per week.

*Last Updated: Fall 2020*

# **Fall 2020 Seminar**

## **Course**

### **Descriptions**

#### **Law 838 SEM: Products Liability**

**Credit:** 3

**Professor:** Frank Vandall

**Prerequisites:** N/A

**Enrollment:** Limited to those preselected initially, any remaining seats will be made available during Open Enrollment.

**Grading Criteria:** Paper

**Description:** This seminar provides an opportunity for a student to write a paper on a developing aspect of products liability theory. Topics considered and materials will vary from year to year.

**Attendance Policy:** See Professor

*Last Updated: Fall 2020*

# **Fall 2020 Seminar**

## **Course**

### **Descriptions**

#### **Law 821 SEM: Corporate Governance**

**Credit:** 3

**Professor:** George Georgiev

**Prerequisites:** BA or an equivalent introductory course in corporate law

**Enrollment:** Limited to those pre-selected, remaining seats will NOT be made available during Open Enrollment.

**Grading Criteria:** Seminar paper, participation and presentation, shorter writing assignments

**Description:** Corporate governance is in a state of tremendous flux as a result of the global financial crisis of 2008-09, the corporate accounting scandals of the early 2000s, heightened public scrutiny of corporate conduct, the rise of shareholder activism, and the intensification of debates over corporate purpose. This seminar will provide an overview of the main academic theories of corporate governance and then focus on select topics, including: the structure and composition of the board of directors, executive compensation, the role of institutional investors, shareholder activism, the role of proxy advisory firms, the financial crisis, corporate social responsibility, and the nexus between SEC disclosure obligations and corporate governance practices.

**Attendance Policy:** Regular attendance is required.

*Last Updated: Fall 2020*

# **Fall 2020 Seminar**

## **Course**

### **Descriptions**

#### **Law 844 SEM: Judicial Behavior**

**Credit:** 3

**Professor:** Joanna Shepherd

**Prerequisites:** none

**Enrollment:** Limited to those pre-selected, remaining seats will NOT be made available during Open Enrollment.

**Grading Criteria:** Class Discussions & Final Paper

**Description:** How do judges decide cases? Some argue that judges primarily rely on legal factors to make their decisions, while others contend that judges decide cases in order to advance their own policy preferences. More recent studies of judicial behavior have concluded that judges may also be influenced by an aversion to reversal, an attempt to reduce their workload, and efforts to stay on the bench or attain a promotion. An understanding of judicial behavior is critical in policy debates about judicial selection methods, recusal rules, campaign finance reform, removal standards, and many other procedural rules and institutional norms. It is also an important factor in predicting litigation outcomes. In this class, we will explore theories of judicial behavior, examine the empirical evidence about how judges decide cases, and discuss the policy implications arising from the evidence. While some experience with empirical analysis would be helpful, it is not required.

**Attendance Policy:** N/A

*Last Updated: Fall 2018*

# **Fall 2020 Seminar**

## **Course**

### **Descriptions**

#### **Law 869 SEM: Corp. Accountability**

**Credit:** 3

**Professor:** Liza Vertinsky

**Prerequisites:** None, but recommended for ECGAR students.

**Enrollment:** Limited to those preselected initially, any remaining students will be made available during Open Enrollment.

**Grading Criteria:** Participation, presentation, & Final Paper

**Description:** This seminar will examine the relationships between corporations and their employees, their customers, their local communities, and the environment. It will cover a variety of contemporary topics in corporate governance and accountability that may include trends in regulatory strategies, executive compensation, board structures, the corporate social responsibility movement, corporate sustainability, shareholder activism and the use of alternative business models such as benefit corporations.

**Attendance Policy:** Attendance and preparation for class are required and your grade will reflect both. If you have to miss a class, you must inform your professor in writing before the class you will miss. In the absence of special circumstances approved by the professor, you may not miss more than two classes during the semester.

*Last Updated: Fall 2019*

# **Fall 2020 Seminar**

## **Course**

### **Descriptions**

#### **Law 816 SEM: Int'l Patent Law/Policy**

**Credit:** 3

**Professor:** Margo Bagley

**Prerequisites:** IP Survey, or Patent Law, concurrent enrollment is permissible. Relevant patent experience may be deemed a substitute with permission from Professor Bagley.

**Enrollment:** Must obtain Professor's permission to be enrolled.

**Grading Criteria:** Participation, Coursework, & Final Paper

**Description:** This course will provide an introduction to key aspects of U.S., international, and comparative patent law and the myriad policies at play in ongoing global patent harmonization conflicts. The value of patents is increasing in many areas while at the same time the scope of patent-eligible subject matter is in flux. We will explore the impact of these forces in the creation and implementation of international agreements concerning patents, such as the Paris Convention, Patent Cooperation Treaty, the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property, and various bilateral agreements.

Against the backdrop of the U.S patent system, we also will consider the importance of regional patent systems such as the European Patent Convention, as well as features of other major patent players such as India, Japan, and China, and emerging issues on the continent of Africa. A discussion of current issues such as access to medicines, protection of traditional knowledge, multinational patent litigation, and the patenting of controversial inventions will be an integral part of the course.

**Attendance Policy:** Class attendance and preparation are both mandatory and I reserve the right to take attendance, as well as the quality of classroom participation, into account in assigning final grades for the semester. This course is a seminar which only meets once per week; thus any student missing more than one (1) regularly scheduled class sessions, without a compelling justification for being absent (such as being sick or having an interview) is subject to being dropped from the course.

*Last Updated: Fall 2018*

# **Fall 2020 Seminar**

## **Course**

### **Descriptions**

#### **Law 829R SEM: Federalism**

**Credit:** 3

**Professor:** Robert Schapiro

**Prerequisites:** Constitutional Law

**Enrollment:** Limited to 16 Students!

**Grading Criteria:** Participation & Paper

**Description:** This seminar will explore the allocation of authority in the United States between the national government and the states. We will consider the constitutional, statutory, and policy dimensions of the federal system. Topics will include the historical evolution of federal-state relations, the values associated with federalism, and the recent revival of interest in federalism. We also will focus on the fiscal aspects of federalism, including the relative responsibility of the states and the national government in funding vital functions, such as education, health care, and income support. All students will write a research paper.

**Attendance Policy:** Attendance and participation are required.

*Last Updated: Fall 2020*

**Fall 2020 Seminar  
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**Wufoo Pre-selection Link:**

<https://emorylaw.wufoo.com/forms/lsr-fall-2020-seminar-preselection/>