

Women and the Law Program

FALL 2009 COURSES IN GENDER & LAW

637-001 Domestic Violence

Kohn

This course will provide students with an introduction to the justice system's response to domestic violence. Students will examine the evolution of civil and criminal justice system interventions; the legal and psychosocial theory informing domestic violence responses; the evidentiary challenges facing domestic violence victims in the courtroom, and the future directions of domestic violence law and policy. This course will focus on the following questions: How has intimate partner violence been defined, raised, and addressed as a problem in and for the U.S. legal system? What role should the victim/survivor have in the justice system response to domestic violence? Is the justice system an effective and appropriate response to intimate partner violence?

795-001 Gender, Labor & the Global Economy

Chuang

This course explores the interplay of gender, labor, and migration in response to globalizing trends and examines the role of international law and institutions in addressing the effects of this dynamic. Topics covered include: human trafficking, theories on the social construction of demand for women's labor, the feminization of poverty, and the feminization of migration for work; and analyses of international and regional legal frameworks to address labor market discrimination against women, gender-based violence in the workplace, and treatment of women migrant workers.

795-004 Reproduction and the Law

Bridgewater

This course is a socio-legal survey of the regulation and protection of reproductive decision-making and practices in America from the colonial era to the present.

795-008 Gender Perspectives Across the World

Kraiem

Gender Perspectives Across the World is an introduction to gender and international and comparative law. Students organize site visits, make class presentations, and lead discussions on subjects such as women's property rights, gender and religious law, integrating a gender perspective into international law and development policy, sexuality, reproductive freedom, the status of ethnic minority women and women's political participation around the world. Students develop research projects that address international or comparative law approaches to protecting and promoting women's rights or the rights of sexual minorities.

815-001 a/b Feminist Jurisprudence

Shalleck

Feminist Jurisprudence provides students an opportunity to study the different strands of feminist theory. The course examines the relationship of law to the experiences of women situated differently in the world; the relationship of sex and gender as reflected in and influenced by law; cultural images of women and men that both shape and are shaped by the law; and institutional and social structures and practices that perpetuate inequality or subordination. The course also considers the interaction of feminist theories with other critical traditions, including Critical Race Theory, Social Theories of Power and Wealth, Cultural Studies, and Clinical Theory. Students may take the course for two or three credits, depending upon the scope of the project/paper they undertake.

978-001 Women and Conflict: Int'l. Law Responses

SáCouto

Crimes committed disproportionately or exclusively against women and girls in times of conflict have traditionally been largely ignored, or at most, treated as secondary to other crimes. However, in the past decade, and particularly since 1998, there has been an incredible transformation in the treatment of sex-based and gender-based violence in the fields of international humanitarian law and international criminal law. This course, designed to be a two-credit research seminar, aims to provide an overview and evaluation of international humanitarian law (IHL) and international criminal law relating to women and conflict. Specifically, the course will explore how women in times of conflict are treated under the various categories of the laws of war, such as civilians, combatants, detainees, refugees and internally displaced persons, but also question whether these laws are sufficient to encompass the considerable variety of ways women are affected by conflict. In particular, the course will examine feminist critiques of IHL and consider the links between conflict and issues such as women's inequality and inequitable economic and social conditions, and query whether these conditions lead to new and different types of discrimination against women in times of conflict. The course will also look at the developing jurisprudence dealing specifically with gendered violence from the ad hoc international criminal tribunals for Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia and the "hybrid" or internationalized courts, as well as the provisions specifically relating to women in the Rome Statute and the practice of the International Criminal Court in implementing these provisions. We will also examine from a critical feminist perspective, the consequences, both intended and unintended, of the prosecution of sex-based and gender-based by these courts and tribunals.

979-001 Women's Legal History**Clark**

This course examines the history of women's legal status and experiences in the United States from the colonial era to the 1970s. For each period, we will consider the legal status and experiences of women (including advocacy for reform of women's legal status) with regard to citizenship, suffrage, education, marriage and divorce, domestic violence, rape, reproductive autonomy, parenthood, labor and employment, and property, as relevant. In addition, we will consider topics particular to each period, including prevalent ideologies and/or social movements. Finally, the course charts the history of women in legal education and the legal profession throughout this period. The course concludes with a research roundtable in which students explore issues in their research with colleagues by, *inter alia*, commenting on one another's drafts.

987-001 Gender, Inequality and the State**Kraiem**

This seminar examines gender, inequality and social policy in the United States. We will examine the feminization of poverty, as well as how the welfare bureaucracy, tax policy, the health care system and other government programs reinforce gender, class and racial inequality. We will discuss in detail some of the significant public policies and social welfare programs that affect the lives of women and their families, including welfare, job training, unemployment, Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, long-term care, health insurance, child protective services, taxes, credit, housing, food stamps, and community economic development. The course will emphasize the role that public interest lawyers, pro bono attorneys, government policy makers and advocates can play in shaping responses to the challenges faced by low and middle income families in the current economic crisis.

Courses Including a Gender Component

626-001	Human Rights	Rodriguez- Pinzon/ Martin
636-001	Family Law	Polikoff
636-002	Family Law	Rebouché
923-001	Employment Discrimination: A Case Model Approach	Ugelow/Both
927-001	Trafficking in Persons	Chuang
967-001	Immigration Issues: Employment & Family	Lawrence

Faculty Integrating a Gender Perspective

606-001	U.S. Legal History I	May
609-001	U.S. Trademark Law	Farley
618-001	International Environmental Law	Hunter
619-001	Comparative Law	Nicola
623-001	Copyright	Jaszi
663-001	Jurisprudence	Dodd
657-001	International Trade Law I.	Ala'i
664-001	Empl&Lbr Law: The Employment Relationship	Carle
682-001	Critical Race Theory	Hutchinson
697-002	Wills, Trusts, Estates	Bridgewater
719-002	Health Law: Bioethics	Gertner
719-003	Health Law: Legislative & Regulatory Process	Parver/Klepper
742-001	Law and Poverty	Rosser
795-002	Sem: History of Civil Rights	Carle

* Not all courses may be applied towards LL.M. in International Legal Studies, Specialization in Gender and International Law or the LL.M. in Law & Government, Specialization in Gender and Law. Please check with your program for qualifying courses.

Compiled by the Women and the Law Program

Visit us at www.wcl.american.edu/gender/wlp

Please consult the Office of the Registrar for updates.