FALL 2015 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ELECTIVE COURSES

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW - LAW 631
This course introduces the growth and development of administrative law and procedure. Topics include constitutionality and delegation of power, discretion, policy, regulatory and adjudicative functions, rules, orders, jurisdiction, investigative functions, procedures, due process and judicial review.

ADVANCED TORTS - LAW 684
This course provides an in-depth coverage to a number of classic torts cases including Palsgraf, U.S. v. Carroll Towing, MacPherson Buick and others. It also covers the torts of defamation and invasion of privacy.

APPLIED LEGAL REASONING - LAW 889
This class is the bridge between the three-year law school curriculum and the two months of bar review following graduation. The course teaches much of the law tested on the bar exam, yet focuses primarily on thinking skills and test-taking strategies. Extensive coverage is given to the most difficult part of the bar exam: the Multistate Bar Examination (MBE), the 200-question multiple-choice test that is part of the bar exam of every state except Louisiana. The course also covers essay and performance test writing techniques. The Fall Semester will cover Torts, Evidence, Criminal Law, & Criminal Procedure. The spring course will cover Contracts, Property, & Constitutional Law. The Fall Semester course is not a formal prerequisite for the Spring Semester, but is highly recommended.

BANKRUPTCY - LAW 784
This course covers the basic principles of individual and business bankruptcies. The course will first cover the core bankruptcy principles that are generally applicable to every type of bankruptcy, including the automatic stay, the bankruptcy estate, and the rights of creditors. These provisions of the Bankruptcy Code are found in Chapters 1, 3 and 5. The course will then cover the basic principles of individual bankruptcies. This part of the course will focus on Chapters 7 and 13 of the Bankruptcy Code. The course will then cover the basic principles of business bankruptcies. This part of the course will focus on Chapter 11.

BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS - LAW 635
This course surveys and analyzes the various forms of business enterprises. Organizations include sole proprietorships, partnerships, and corporations. Topics include the legal relationships between the corporation and its directors, officers, stockholders, and creditors; risk reduction devices; formation, dissolution, and termination; and agency relationships and responsibilities. Consideration is given to cases, statutes, model acts, and securities laws.
BUSINESS PLANNING - LAW 808
Business Planning involves the consideration of the business and tax issues associated with the formation, operation and restructuring of business enterprises. Utilizing a problem approach, the course will include a consideration of partnership law, corporate law and federal tax law as well as a consideration of selected issues of securities law, finances, ethics and accounting that are associated with the formation and operation of business enterprises. Federal Income Taxation is a prerequisite.

CONFLICTS OF LAWS - LAW 737
Callie from California and Max from Massachusetts get into a car accident with each other in the parking lot of Disney World (Florida). Max returns home to Massachusetts and sues Callie and Disney World in Massachusetts state court. Does the Massachusetts court have jurisdiction over Callie and/or Disney World? If so, what law would a Massachusetts court apply to the dispute – Massachusetts law? California law? Florida law? If Max obtains judgment against Callie and Disney World, are these judgments enforceable in California and Florida? If Callie moves to France and obtains a declaratory judgment there that she is not liable to Max for the car accident, would this French judgment be recognized by a Massachusetts court to preclude Max’s lawsuit? These are the questions to be explored in this Conflict of Laws course. The course will focus on three broad questions: 1. Jurisdiction: When does a court have jurisdiction over a dispute? 2. Choice of Law: What law will a court apply to a dispute? 3. Enforcement of Judgments: When will a judgment from a foreign court (U.S. state or foreign country) be recognized and/or enforced? The approach taken is a mix between academic and practical. The ultimate goal is to have students not only understand the doctrines that comprise the conflict of laws, but be able to apply and manipulate them to achieve a desired result.

ELDER LAW - LAW 715
Elder Law is a rapidly growing and intellectually challenging practice area. This course will focus on the legal issues and client situations most frequently encountered by Elder Law attorneys. The course will begin with an overview of how Elder Law differs from a traditional trusts and estates practice, including a review of the particular ethical challenges faced by the Elder Law practitioner. An examination of the major substantive law competencies needed by the Elder Law practitioner will follow. The course will conclude with an analysis of how the practitioner serves elders facing challenges such as diminished capacity and the need for long-term care.

EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION - LAW 819
An analysis of selected problems in the law of employment discrimination. Topics will be selected that address the historical, economic, and social dimensions and implications of the problem of employment discrimination. Included will be coverage of federal statutory prohibitions of discrimination in employment, the procedures for enforcement, standards of proof, and remedies for violation of applicable law.

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW - LAW 672
The regulation and control of water, air and land is the broad subject matter of this course. The emphasis is on federal statutory and regulatory law but international issues and state and local regulation will be reviewed in areas in which they have broad relevance.
**FEDERAL INCOME TAX - LAW 647**
This course provides a survey of the federal income tax system as it relates to individual and business activity. Topics include code, regulation, and case analysis; tax policy, economics, and public finance; and tax legislation. Specific concepts included are income, exclusions, deductions, credits, tax accounting, and tax procedure.

**IMMIGRATION LAW - LAW 772**
This course provides a survey of U.S. immigration law. The course will review the constitutional basis for regulating immigration into the United States, and, to some extent, the constitutional rights of noncitizens in the country; the contours of the immigration bureaucracy, including the roles played by various federal agencies in immigration decisions; the admission of nonimmigrants (i.e., temporary visitors) and immigrants into the U.S.; the deportation and exclusion of nonimmigrants and immigrants; refugee and asylum law; and citizenship and naturalization.

**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY - LAW 740**
This course offers a broad survey of intellectual property law. The course focuses on the rights and obligations of those who possess and use property in the form of patents, copyrights, and trademarks. Depending on time constraints, the course also touches on subsidiary areas, such as trade secrets, the rights of publicity, and unfair competition. International as well as federal and state controls and policies will be studied.

**INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS - LAW 792**
This course is designed to introduce students to fundamental legal problems encountered by U.S. enterprises engaged in international business. The course will focus on some major legal problems encountered in commercial and financial business ventures that cross national borders, analyzing basic international business transactions and the effects of U.S. law, specific foreign law, and treaties on the conduct of the parties involved. Topics include an introduction to: commercial law, formation of contracts, choice of law, international sale of goods (including the CISG), letters of credit, foreign direct investment, the organization and operations of international (World Trade Organization) and regional trade institutions (European Union), international dispute resolution, and corporate social responsibility. The goal of the course is for students to develop an understanding of the laws applicable to private international transactions and an awareness of the risks inherent in doing business in or with other countries and their nationals.

**LAND USE PLANNING - LAW 743**
This course explores the relatively evolving field of land use law, seeking to understand the theoretical basis for such regulation, the effects (intended, unintended or perhaps unconsciously intended) of such regulation and the practicalities of land use and development within the legal framework. Among the major issues this course will examine are the law of zoning, the constitutional constraints on land use regulation, the establishment and enforcement of subdivision and land development controls, and other development regulations. The course will examine several current topics in land use regulation, including climate change, environmental regulations, smart growth, historic preservation and renewable energy. Students will approach the course material from both theoretical and practical vantage points, and will be required to conduct research on how land use regulations are implemented in "real world" situations.
LAW OF THE SEA - LAW 795
This course reviews the basic principles of International law, both customary and treaty-based, that apply to the territorial sea, the high seas, continental shelf, seabed, and ocean floor. The course analyzes the allocation of jurisdictional powers among individual states and the international community over the various maritime zones involved; the use and management of ocean resources, such as regional and global fisheries regimes and seabed mining; marine environmental protection and pollution control; military uses of the ocean; and freedom of navigation.

MARITIME PRACTICE & PROCEDURE - LAW 782
This course examines the procedural aspects of maritime practice. It focuses on the jurisdictional and legal basis of actions *in rem, quasi in rem, and in personam*. Special emphasis is on the Supplemental Rules for Certain Admiralty and Maritime Claims.

MASSACHUSETTS CIVIL PRACTICE - LAW 671
This course will cover Massachusetts civil procedure from the commencement of a lawsuit through final adjudication. Topics will likely include the discovery process, the trial process, alternative dispute resolution, equitable remedies, and recent developments in Massachusetts law.

NATIONAL SECURITY - LAW 794
This course is a survey of the major legal components of national security, including counter-terrorism; the Law of Armed Conflict; war powers issues; emergency powers of government and their relationship to civil liberties; counter-intelligence, surveillance, intelligence gathering and other covert operations; the role of international and war crimes tribunals; and analysis; and issues pertaining to access to and release of national security information. Particular emphasis will be placed on legal issues relevant to the events of September 11, 2001 and their aftermath, including recent counter-terrorism legislation and the war in the Middle East.

OCEAN & COASTAL LAW - LAW 674
The areas in which oceans and their branches and land masses meet are the source of many relationships largely peculiar to those areas. Sea level rise, global warming and effects on our oceans, coastal resilience and retreat options from mega storms like Sandy and Katrina, wetlands protection, environment and ecological issues, the position of the area in terms of industry and commerce including such international rules as those governing fisheries, whaling and other trapping and hunting, are a part of the special problems facing this zone and the areas of water and land nearby. The course examines the various legal regimes with a consideration of policy issues that are involved in the complex relationships generated in these areas.

REMEDIES - LAW 738
The remedies course surveys what a court can do for a claimant who has been, or might be, wronged by the defendant. We will address the principal remedies: damages; injunctions (orders to do or refrain from doing certain conduct); restitution (including the possibility of recovering the defendant's gains from a wrongful act, even if the gains exceed the amount of the plaintiff's loss); remedies that simply declare the rights of the parties; pre-judgment remedies before a determination of liability; and the various means of enforcing remedies (including contempt and
Throughout the course, we will discuss which of the several remedies are best for the plaintiff, and how to determine the extent of the remedy that the plaintiff may obtain.

**SALES - LAW 652**
This course provides an introduction to the law related to the sale of goods (moveable personal property) under Article 2 of the Uniform Commercial Code ("UCC"). Topics to be covered include: formation, terms, performance, risk of loss, express and implied warranties, disclaimers, breach, and remedies of the aggrieved buyer and seller. The course assumes familiarity with basic contract principles, though core concepts will be reviewed.

**SECURED TRANSACTIONS - LAW 653**
This course surveys Article 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code and focuses on financing and creation of a security interest in personal property and fixtures.

**SECURITIES REGULATIONS - LAW 832**
This course covers the important federal securities laws and corresponding Securities & Exchange Commission ("SEC") rules and regulations interpreting the securities laws. The overall objective of the course is to make the students conversant in the “language” of securities laws, the major statutory provisions and rules and how these all play out in corporate American today. Special attention is paid to applying the “theory” behind securities law to practical situations leveraging the Professor’s extensive in-house experience with a Fortune 300 public company. As such, many of the materials used in the course are taken from securities matters which the professor was personally involved with. Business Organizations is a prerequisite. Students who have taken the M&A course especially useful and relevant.

**STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT LAW – LAW 768**
An introduction to and overview of legal issues faced by attorneys advising or representing American state and local governmental agencies as well as those doing so for clients who have dealings with such agencies. The approach will be partially problem driven. Some classes may include guest participation by Rhode Island and Massachusetts attorneys practicing in the field.

**SEMINARS**

**COPYRIGHT LAW - LSM 815**
This class provides an in-depth study of copyright law, which grants a limited monopoly to authors of creative works, and related state law doctrines such as unfair competition law. The course will focus on the constitutional basis for copyright, the statutory requirements for copyright protection, the scope of rights granted to copyright owners, the elements of a copyright infringement action, related state law claims, and licensing issues related to copyright. Discussion and readings will encompass topics of current interest in copyright law, including the impact of the internet, digital copying capabilities, new technologies, and the information-based economy.

**DEATH PENALTY - LSM 877**
This seminar will examine legal issues surrounding the death penalty in America from a variety of perspectives. After a review of the goals of punishment and their relation to capital punishment, the course will explore: constitutional challenges to the imposition of the death
penalty, focusing on claims relating to equal protection, due process and cruel and unusual punishment; race, gender and the death penalty; special offenders, including juveniles, the mentally retarded, and the insane; modes of punishment and ethical issues; the impact of international law; procedural issues in trials for capital offenses, as well as post-conviction proceedings; and perspectives from the families of victims and families of capital offenders.

**INTERNATIONAL LITIGATION - LSM 862**

This course is intended to prepare a student for practice that increasingly involves a cross-border element, such as foreign parties, transactions, or events occurring outside the US. The course focuses on contemporary problems raised in international private dispute resolution, including civil litigation of international cases in US courts, with a look at comparative procedure in European Union law and practice and to a lesser extent also international arbitration. The course includes the following topics: jurisdiction over foreign parties; extraterritorial application of US law; service of process abroad; discovery/obtaining evidence abroad; proof of foreign law in US courts; choice of forum issues, including both federal and state courts, here and abroad; parallel litigation and *forum non conveniens*; choice of law in the international context; enforcement of foreign judgments; foreign sovereign immunity and Act of State doctrine.

**SELECTED ISSUES IN TORT LAW - LSM 742**

We will look at a number of important issues in this seminar, and where possible, supplement discussion with a video that puts the given issue in high relief. Among the topics covered will be Media Law in the Internet era (including liability for “revenge porn,” cyberstalking, the liability of reviewing sites like Yelp, and whether bloggers can assert the “reporters’ privilege”); Tort Reform (the movie “Hot Coffee”); causation (the movie “Merchants of Doubt”); Products Liability (the movie “The Insider”); Alternative Compensation Systems (interview with Ken Feinberg who administered 9/11 and BP compensation plans); and Medical Malpractice (the movie “The Verdict”). Students will have the option to write a major paper to satisfy the “Graduation Writing Requirement” or 4 shorter “reaction papers” to materials we cover in class. Class participation will also be part of the final grade.

**COURSES THAT MEET THE UPPER-LEVEL LEGAL PRACTICE REQUIREMENT**

**CRIMINAL LITIGATION: DRAFTING & ADVOCACY - LAW 750**

While less than one percent of all criminal cases go to trial, every criminal case involves a necessary knowledge of criminal pleadings and motions. This course will focus on pleadings, motions and related documents in all stages of a criminal case – from the arraignment through pre-trial, trial and post-conviction proceedings. Students will learn how to review, draft and argue criminal pleadings and motions from both the prosecution and defense perspective. The course is designed for prospective criminal defense attorneys, prosecutors, appellate attorneys, and judicial law clerks in state and federal courts. Completion of, or concurrent enrollment in, Criminal Procedure: Adjudication or Criminal Procedure: Investigation, is considered helpful.

**CONTRACT DRAFTING AND TRANSACTIONAL LAWYERING - LAW 756**

This course teaches students the fundamentals of drafting contracts. Students learn how to understand a client's business deal, and how to translate the deal into contract concepts, the
building blocks of contracts. Students learn the process for drafting the contract concepts in clear and unambiguous provisions in a well-organized complete contract that reflects accurately the parties' deal. Students learn how to add value to a client's deal by drafting and recognizing nuances in language that change the deal and shift risk between the parties. Students learn how to analyze and comment on a contract that another lawyer has drafted. Students will learn the best drafting style and usage techniques necessary to enhance clarity and avoid ambiguity.

**INTERVIEWING & COUNSELING – LAW 640**
This skills course develops the craft of the lawyer in client interviewing and counseling. The course provides a theoretical framework for and experience with simulated interviewing and counseling in the legal setting. Skills are introduced and honed through lecture, demonstrations, discussion, role playing, simulations, practical exercises and critiques.

**LEGAL PRACTICE III - LAW 646**
This course is designed to provide in-depth instruction in legal writing and analysis, and to help prepare students for legal practice. Students will complete a series of in-class and take-home exercises and will receive feedback on their writing throughout the semester. In addition, students will meet individually with their professor to discuss assignments, and to enhance their writing and analytical skills.

**LEGISLATIVE DRAFTING & ADVOCACY - LAW 757**
Our lives are bordered by statutes. This course will teach the fundamentals of enacting statutes from policy concept to enacted legislation at the State level. Topics to be covered include bill and resolution drafting; effective Committee presentations; ethical and regulatory reporting issues; and campaign finance. Students will draft bills, advocacy pieces to legislators, reports to clients, and grassroots issue coordination plans.

**MEDIATION - LAW 733**
When parties are unable to resolve their dispute through discussion or negotiation, a logical next step is to seek the assistance of a third party mediator to facilitate communication and the search for a solution. This course is intended to familiarize students with the norms of the mediation process and to develop the skills that will enable students to either serve as mediators or to better represent clients in this increasingly important form of ADR. Attention is given to both facilitative and evaluative styles of mediation. Significant emphasis is placed on role playing exercises and on the legal consequences of the mediation process.

**NEGOTIATION - LAW 736**
Over 90% of civil and criminal cases never get before a jury. They are resolved by other means, often by a negotiated settlement. Business transactions, for their part, are most often created through negotiation. As law schools place more emphasis on the skills required to be an effective lawyer, this Negotiation course is a hands-on exploration of preventing or solving conflict or variances in agreement whether the discordancy is a transaction or litigation. We will discuss theory only as it relates to a fuller understanding of the practical aspects of techniques,
strategies and tactics as well as the ethical restraints and responsibilities of the lawyer. Students will negotiate weekly with a wide variety of fact patterns followed by a review and critical analysis of what was done and what might have been done more effectively.

**TRIAL ADVOCACY - LAW 641**
The trial advocacy course employs a learning-by-doing approach. Thus, most of the course will involve the practice of trial skills including direct and cross examination, opening statements, closing arguments, and jury selection, in a simulated courtroom environment. During the last two weeks of the course, each student will participate as co-counsel in a full-length simulated civil or criminal trial with a sitting Rhode Island judge or professor presiding. **Evidence is a prerequisite but may be taken concurrently with the permission of the Trial Advocacy instructor.**

**CLINICS & EXTERNSHIPS**

**COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CLINIC - LAW 869**
The Roger Williams University Community Economic Development Clinic, our newest clinical offering, is scheduled to open in the fall semester of 2013. The focus of the clinic will be to provide services to small, low-income businesses and not-for-profit organizations in Rhode Island and Southern Massachusetts. Students enrolled in the clinic will work with small business owners or operators in determining and facilitating their legal needs. This will include determining the best legal entity choice, assisting with the filing of organizational documents, creating agreements, and creating leases and other contracts. The primary goal of the clinic will be to teach the practice of transactional lawyering while providing service to under-served entrepreneurs and organizations. **Business Organizations is a prerequisite.**

**CRIMINAL DEFENSE CLINIC - LAW 860**
Students represent indigent criminal defendants in Rhode Island District Court, Traffic Tribunal, and/or Superior Court from arraignment through to final trial or other disposition. **Trial Advocacy is a prerequisite.**

**IMMIGRATION CLINIC - LAW 870**
Students enrolled in the immigration clinic represent noncitizens in their applications for relief from removal before the Immigration Court in Boston, prepare applications for benefits under the immigration laws and represent noncitizens in their interviews for such benefits before the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services in Providence. Types of cases typically include asylum and other relief based on fear of persecution in the country of removal, waivers of deportation for long-term residents of the U.S., adjustment of status for noncitizens with U.S. citizen or permanent resident family members and relief for noncitizen victims of domestic violence. Students also conduct “Know Your Rights” presentations for the immigrant communities in Rhode Island and for immigration detainees in New England, conduct intake interviews following these presentations and provide consultations under the supervision of the Clinic Director. In class, students learn trial skills and discuss substantive, ethical and policy issues relating to the practice of immigration law.

**CORPORATE COUNSEL CLINICAL EXTERNSHIP - LAW 797**
Students are assigned to in-house corporate offices of prominent for-profit and not-for-profit entities in and around Rhode Island and southern New England. Students will conduct legal research, write memoranda of law, draft legal documents, and engage in other activities as assigned. Students will be exposed to the various ways in which law is practiced in-house and for corporate clients. The program requires the devotion of substantial amounts of time both in and out of the assigned office and must be taken in conjunction with Seminar: Corporate Counsel.

**JUDICIAL CLINICAL EXTERNSHIP - LAW 796**

Students are assigned to selected judges in Rhode Island and federal trial and appellate courts. The student externs conduct legal research, prepare memoranda of law, observe trial and appellate proceedings, participate in discussions with the court, and perform the duties of a judicial law clerk under the supervision of the assigned judge and a faculty member. The program requires the devotion of substantial amounts of time both in and out of the judge's chambers and must be taken in conjunction with Seminar: Judicial Process.

**PROSECUTION CLINICAL EXTERNSHIP - LAW 801**

Through our Prosecution Clinical Externship Program, students can earn academic credit while working two to three days per week in a prosecution office on the federal, state or municipal level. Students are eligible to appear in court as student attorneys in our local federal court as well as in state courts in Rhode Island and Massachusetts. In this externship program students will gain valuable hands-on experience representing the government in criminal prosecutions. Students also participate in a weekly seminar with classmates who are working in a variety of prosecutorial settings and must be taken in conjunction with Seminar: Prosecution.

**PUBLIC INTEREST CLINICAL EXTERNSHIP - LAW 798**

Students are assigned to state or federal government agencies or to non-profit legal services organizations. The student externs conduct legal research, prepare memoranda of law, observe administrative, trial or appellate proceedings, participate in discussions with public officials, and perform the duties of a student attorney under the supervision of a supervising attorney and a faculty member. Students may also appear in court on behalf of the state or clients in limited types of proceedings. The program requires the devotion of substantial amounts of time both in and out of the assigned office and must be taken in conjunction with Seminar: Public Interest Lawyering.

**LEGAL PERSPECTIVES COURSES – LSM 856**

**Honors Enrollment**

**ELECTION LAW & CAMPAIGN FINANCE - LSM 856 AH1**

This seminar will explore political campaigns and elections in the United States. Selected topics in law and politics will include the right to vote, political participation, political parties, and campaign finance, as well as special attention to the issues arising in the 2012 elections. The goal of this seminar is to provide students with an overview of the basic principles of election law and campaign finance in this country.
THE STATE AND INDIVIDUAL CONSCIENCE - LSM 856 AH2
The course will examine the law’s response to conflicts between public policy and individual conscience. We will begin by reading excerpts from commentators on conscience and its relationship to society and the state: James Madison’s Remonstrances; Roger Williams’s The Bloody Tenent; Thoreau and King; Seneca; and more recently, Martha Nussbaum. We will then examine US Supreme Court decisions that have addressed the matter: the polygamy case; the conscientious objector cases; Wisconsin v. Yoder; Bob Jones University; and of course the background and consequences of Hobby Lobby. The overriding question is: When and to what extent should the state defer to the individual conscience?

IN DOUBT: THE PSYCHOLOGY OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROCESS - LSM 856 AH3
This course explores the cutting edge of the research into the cognitive psychology of the criminal justice process, from police investigations to trial, using Professor Dan Simon’s 2012 book, In Doubt, as the primary source. Specifically, the course will look at issues such as common interrogation techniques used by law enforcement and how they can be misleading; what leads to false confessions; how memory is affected by events and why eyewitness testimony is not always reliable; and ultimately what can and should be done to improve the process.

SIMPLE JUSTICE: THE HISTORY OF BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION - LSM 856 AH4
The text is the Pulitzer-Prize winning Simple Justice, by Richard Kluger. The book traces the line of cases from Plessy v. Ferguson to Brown v. Board of Education, blending constitutional and historical analysis with fascinating portraits of the lawyers (and their litigation strategy) and the judges (and their personal struggles with how to dispense justice a changing society) who were involved in the history-making journey from “separate but equal” to the death of state-sponsored racial segregation in public schools. The grade will be based on class participation and a take-home exam.

Open Enrollment

LAW OFFICE MANAGEMENT - LSM 856 A1
Law Office Management is a practical course to explore starting, running, and growing a law practice. Students will create a business plan and draft various documents essential to any law practice. A broad range of practice management topics will be discussed, including the choice of entity, practice specialization, business development, marketing, and various ethical issues.

MASS TORTS VS. TORT REFORM - LSM 856 A2
A mass tort is a civil action in which multiple plaintiffs are injured in a similar fashion by a defective product, hazardous substance or disaster. This course will review a selection of mass tort lawsuits, including tobacco, medical devices, environmental and occupational diseases. The class will take an in-depth look at the issues raised by complex mass tort lawsuits: issues of substantive tort law, civil procedure, litigation strategy, lawyer-client relationships, the economics of settlement, ethics, the judicial role, and societal impacts.
RACIAL PRIVILEGE AND POST-RACIAL POLITICS - LSM 856 A3
The course will examine the reality of continued race discrimination and racial privilege against the backdrop of a legal regime and political system that claim to foster a color blind meritocracy. The readings will be from several sources including the work of Tim Wise in Between Barack and A Hard Place: Racism and White Denial in the Age of Obama.