

William S. Richardson School of Law  
**J-Term Course Descriptions**  
January 6-10, 2020

**RIGHTS OF AMERICAN INDIAN TRIBES IN THE AGE OF TRUMP LAW546J**, Pevar (Stephen) – ACLU

Federal Indian Law has been shaped by history, political expediency, and racism. The subject is controversial, complex, fascinating, and often appalling. This introductory course includes a review of laws, treaties, and court decisions as well as the underlying and often changing attitudes that helped shape the relationship between the original inhabitants of mainland United States and those who came later. Virtually every major principle in Federal Indian Law will be discussed, although some in more depth than others given the condensed nature of this course.

Friday class (CLE/public): The Supreme Court recently decided three very important cases involving tribal treaty rights, state taxation in Indian country, and tribal hunting and fishing rights. We will examine all three cases, discussing both the underlying facts and the principles announced. In addition, this class will discuss two of Congress's most significant laws involving tribal sovereignty: the Indian Civil Rights Act of 1968, the only law ever passed that places curbs on tribal self-government, and the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978, the single most important statute ever passed designed to protect Indian children, Indian families, and the future of Indian tribes.

**PROTECING RIGHTS IN A POLARIZED WORLD: THE CANADIAN EXPERIENCE LAW546E**, Abella (Rosie) - Sp Ct Canada

To be provided.

**THE ETHICAL LAWYER IN THE TRUMP ERA: PARTISAN ADVOCATE, MORAL ACTOR, TRUSTEE OF JUSTICE? LAW546-I**, Wizner (Stephen) – Yale

What does it mean to be an “ethical lawyer” in a legal world in which the standard lawyer’s role as a zealous partisan advocate in the adversary system, as prescribed or authorized by the Rules of Professional Conduct, may justify morally questionable actions and unjust results?

The ethical issues we will consider in the assigned readings and class meetings involve basic rules of professional responsibility set forth in the Rules of Professional Conduct, including loyalty to clients, client control of legal objectives, confidentiality, best interests of clients, fairness to adversaries and third parties, candor to courts, and other ethical duties of lawyers.

The course is open to all law students, whether or not they have taken the course in Professional Responsibility.

Required readings will include cases and articles posted on the course website. Students must attend the five class meetings, will be expected to participate in class discussions, and are required to write a short paper based on the readings and class discussions.

**FOURTH AMENDMENT JURISPRUDENCE OF THE ROBERTS COURT LAW546G,**  
Crespo (Andrew) – Harvard

This seminar engages students in close readings of some of the most significant Fourth Amendment precedents issued by the Supreme Court over the past fifteen years, during the first decade and a half of the Roberts Court. The course has two primary goals. First, we will aim to identify and discuss cross-currents, tensions, and themes that emerge when one juxtaposes opinions spanning a given body of law that have been issued over a substantial period of time by a single court with a stable core of jurists. Second, we will discuss the nature of Supreme Court decision making, the craft of judicial opinion writing, and the ways in which the Justices interact with one another within the confines of a single case. To accomplish this latter goal, we will employ an unusual pedagogical approach: Rather than read excerpts of selected opinions, we will read each assigned case in its entirety, including all concurring and dissenting opinions, without any edits or omissions. We will read only two cases per class session, and will thus have ample time to dive deeply into each opinion.

**STARTUP COMPANY GOVERNANCE: TAMING UNICORNS LAW546C,** Jones (Renee)  
- Boston College

This seminar provides an overview of the process of financing a startup company, including the corporate and securities laws that govern these transactions. We will look at the financing process from the perspective of the founders, investors and employees. We will study the business and legal challenges a company faces as it moves through each stage of financing. After reviewing the legal parameters that govern financing transactions, we will examine governance problems that arise at unicorns, large private companies valued at \$1 billion or more. We will review proposals to further deregulate private securities markets and consider the impact of these changes on unicorn investors and employees. Prior coursework in business associations or securities law will be helpful for the course.

Friday's class will focus on Unicorn Governance and the Impact on Unicorn Employees.

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