

Many professors are **U.S. Supreme Court experts or former SCOTUS clerks**, and several have argued before the court, including six resident faculty members since 2010.

In its most recent term, the justices cited UVA Law professors 18 times.

► Professor Risa Goluboff testified in her personal capacity at Senate Judiciary Committee hearings on the nomination of Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson to the U.S. Supreme Court. Goluboff has known Jackson personally and professionally since 1998.



# Constitutional Law

With more than 30 faculty members who are experts in constitutional law, Virginia offers an unparalleled variety of lecture courses, seminars and clinics in the field.

**COURSES** cover topics such as the **First Amendment**, administrative law, presidential power, federal courts, police and the law, election law, civil rights, separation of powers, race and the law, and more.



► Rachel Bayefsky, who writes about constitutional law, federal courts, civil procedure and legal theory, explores dignity in the legal process.

► Michael D. Gilbert teaches and writes about election law, legislation, and law and economics, as well as misinformation and corruption.

► Deborah Hellman focuses on equal protection and its philosophical justification, and the relationship between money and legal rights.

► Leslie Kendrick is an expert on freedom of expression who teaches courses in torts, property and constitutional law.



► David S. Law's expertise is in the comparative study of public law and courts; he is a pioneer in the application of empirical social science methods to the study of legal texts.

► Caleb E. Nelson teaches civil procedure, federal courts and statutory interpretation, and is the author of a casebook on legislation.

► Daniel R. Ortiz, a constitutional law and elections expert, has argued seven cases before the U.S. Supreme Court.

► A frequent commentator on the Supreme Court, Richard M. Re's work focuses on criminal procedure, federal courts and constitutional law.



► Bertrall Ross is focused on democratic responsiveness and accountability, as well as the inclusion of marginalized communities in administrative and political processes.

► Frederick Schauer is one of the nation's leading legal scholars and the author of numerous books on constitutional law, free speech and legal theory.

► Micah J. Schwartzman's work focuses on law and religion, jurisprudence, political philosophy and constitutional law.

► Lawrence B. Solum is an internationally recognized legal theorist who works in constitutional theory, procedure and the philosophy of law.



► Payvand Ahdout focuses on modern uses of judicial power through the lens of federal courts, and recently won the Yale Law Journal's inaugural Emerging Scholar of the Year Award.



► Professor Aditya Bamzai made his debut at the U.S. Supreme Court after a rare decision by the justices to hear argument from him as an independent amicus curiae.

**RELATED CENTERS**

Several centers at the Law School connect to topics relating to legal and constitutional history, and also serve as hubs for faculty scholarship and intellectual life for their respective fields.

- **The Karsh Center for Law and Democracy** promotes civil discourse, civil engagement, ethics and integrity in public office, and respect for the rule of law.
- **The Center for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties** focuses on issues at the intersection of the equal protection clause, civil rights statutes, the First Amendment and more.
- **The Center for Criminal Justice** explores paths for reform via faculty efforts and features robust clinical and curricular opportunities.
- **The Center for the Study of Race and Law** helps students fully understand the American legal landscape by promoting events and scholarship exploring the impact of race.

**CLINICS**

Several clinical courses offer students experience litigating constitutional questions.

- **Appellate Litigation Clinic**  
Students appeal actual cases in various state and federal appellate courts.
- **Civil Rights Clinic**  
Students provide legal support to people and communities harmed by the criminalization of poverty and other forms of discrimination or deprivation of rights.
- **First Amendment Clinic**  
Students gain practical legal experience involving timely free-speech and press issues.
- **Project for Informed Reform**  
Students collaborate with outside organizations to produce research and data supporting criminal justice reform proposals.
- **Supreme Court Litigation Clinic**  
Students handle actual cases, from petitioning for Supreme Court review to briefing on the merits.

**COURSES AND SEMINARS**

- Administrative Law
- Advanced Administrative Law
- Advanced Topics in Federal Courts Seminar
- Advanced Topics in the First Amendment (Religion Clauses)
- After *Dobbs*
- Agencies in Court

- Appellate Litigation Clinic
- Business and Governmental Tort Liability
- Civil Rights and Antidiscrimination Law
- Civil Rights Litigation
- Civil War and the Constitution
- Climate and Debt
- Comparative Constitutional Law
- Comparative Freedom of Speech Law Seminar

- Congress, Oversight and the Separation of Powers
- Constitutional Law and Economics
- Constitutional Law II: Freedom of Religion
- Constitutional Law II: Freedom of Speech and Press
- Constitutional Law II: Poverty
- Constitutional Law II: Survey of Civil Liberties

- Constitutionalism: Nation, Culture and Constitutions
- Courts
- Criminal Adjudication
- Criminal Investigation
- Criminal Procedure Survey
- Designing Democracy: Participation
- Designing Democracy: Representation
- Education Law Survey

- Federal Courts
- Federal Sentencing
- Federalism
- Founders and Foes
- History of American Federalism
- History of the American Administrative State
- International Arbitration
- Law and Inequality Colloquium
- Law and Riots

- Law of the Police I: Rules, Rights and Regulation
- Law, Inequality and Education Reform
- Legislation
- Legislation and Regulation
- Litigating the 2024 Presidential Election
- Monetary Constitution Seminar
- Monument Litigation
- Native American Law

- Organizational DEI Programs
- Pain and the Law
- Parental Choice in K-12 Education
- Perspectives on Sovereignty - Native American Law
- Practical Perspectives on Policing: Fair and Effective Policymaking by Law Enforcement
- Privacy

- Privacy Law and Theory Seminar
- Privacy Torts
- Property, the Police Power and Emergencies
- Public Law Colloquium
- Race, Education and Opportunity
- Racial Justice and Law
- Regulation of Political Advocacy Seminar
- Regulation of the Political Process

- Regulatory Law and Policy
- Religious Freedom and Reproductive Rights
- Religious Freedom: Current Challenges
- Reproductive Rights and Justice
- School Desegregation, School Integration
- SCOTUS: Opacity and Privilege
- Second Amendment and Gun Violence Colloquium

- Separation of Powers in the Federal Courts Seminar
- State Attorneys General
- State Constitutionalism
- Supreme Court Justices and the Art of Judging
- Supreme Court: October Term
- The Constitution, Democracy and U.S. History

- The Executive Branch: Comparative and Political Aspects
- The Great Writ
- The January 6th Investigation and How Courts Can Shape Congress' Power to Investigate
- The Institutional Supreme Court
- The Mueller Report and the Role of the Special Counsel
- The Right to Protest

**CLINICS**

- Appellate Litigation Clinic
- First Amendment Clinic
- Project for Informed Reform Clinic
- State and Local Government Policy Clinic
- Supreme Court Litigation Clinic

These courses represent the 2022-25 school years. Not all courses are offered every year.