

► Professor  
Cynthia Nicoletti  
won the 2018 Cromwell  
Book Prize for "Secession  
on Trial: The Treason  
Prosecution of  
Jefferson Davis."

# Legal History



CONTACT

**LEGAL HISTORY**

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**Legal history has long been a curricular priority at the Law School and a strength of its faculty.**

**UVA's curriculum** places the development of the law in historical context so that students can better understand both the past and present legal landscape.

With 20 scholars in the Law School and 15 scholars in the Corcoran Department of History all teaching or doing work in legal history, UVA offers an unparalleled variety of lecture courses, seminars and clinics in the field.

**J.D.-M.A. in Legal History**

The heart of the program is the J.D.-M.A. Program in Legal History, which enables law students to earn an M.A. in history during the same three years they are earning their J.D. As part of the program, J.D.-M.A. candidates present drafts of their theses to faculty. Several veterans of the combination-degree program have gone on to successful careers in legal academia, and recent graduates have clerked for U.S. Supreme Court justices.

**Global Legal History**

UVA is an international leader in opening global legal history to serious study worldwide. The Law School's Legal History Program is affiliated with GLH@UVA, a cross-disciplinary enterprise focusing on global legal history based in UVA's Corcoran Department of History. GLH@UVA aims to broaden awareness of the history of legal life around the globe.

**LAW SCHOOL FACULTY**

**Kenneth S. Abraham**  
history of torts, insurance law

**Charles Barzun**  
history of legal thought

**Michael G. Collins**  
legal history, procedure, federal courts

**Thomas Frampton**  
historical context of criminal law, inequality

**Alison Gocke**  
environmental legal history

**Risa Goluboff**  
legal history of civil rights

**John C. Harrison**  
constitutional history

**Leslie Kendrick**  
torts and freedom of speech

**Edmund W. Kitch**  
legal and economic history

**Jessica Lowe**  
18th- and 19th-century American legal history

**Julia D. Mahoney**  
property and constitutional law

**Joy Milligan**  
law and inequality

**Caleb E. Nelson**  
federal courts, statutory interpretation

**Cynthia L. Nicoletti**  
American legal history

**Saikrishna B. Prakash**  
separation of powers, presidential power

**George Rutherglen**  
civil rights history, admiralty

**Lawrence B. Solum**  
constitutional originalism, legal theory

**Richard Schragger**  
local government, property, church and state

**G. Edward White**  
American legal history, Supreme Court, history of torts

**UVA HISTORY FACULTY**

**Fahad Bishara**  
economic and legal history of the Indian Ocean and Islamic world

**Emily Burrill**  
20th-century West African history, history of gender and sexuality in the French empire

**Indrani Chatterjee**  
history of South Asia

**Christa Dierksheide**  
early American history, with an emphasis on empire, race and slavery

**Paul D. Halliday**  
(with law joint appointment)  
British legal history

**Justene Hill Edwards**  
African American history, American economic history, history of American slavery

**Andrew Kahl**  
social, political and environmental history of land use, real estate and racial inequality

**S. Deborah Kang**  
history of U.S. immigration

**Christian W. McMillen**  
history of pandemics

**Elizabeth A. Meyer**  
Greek and Roman political and social history

**Sarah Milov**  
20th-century American history

**Neeti Nair**  
18th-20th century South Asian history

**Brian P. Owensby**  
19th- and 20th-century Brazil, legal/imperial history of 17th-century Mexico

**Jeffrey Rossman**  
Russia, modern Europe

**Joshua M. White**  
early modern Ottoman Empire, Mediterranean social, legal and diplomatic history

**COURSES AND SEMINARS**

American Legal History Seminar

An American Half-Century

Civil War and the Constitution

Constitutional Law II: Poverty

English Legal History to 1776

Federalism

Founders and Foes

Global Legal History

History of American Federalism

History of the American Administrative State

Jewish Law Jurisprudence: From the Bible to the Rabbis

Law in American History: 20th Century

Monetary Constitution Seminar

Property, the Police Power and Emergencies

Race and Slavery on UVA's North Grounds

Roman Law

School Desegregation, School Integration

Supreme Court Justices and the Art of Judging

The Constitution, Ottoman Empire, and U.S. History

The Great Wit

The Institutional Supreme Court

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