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Office Hours: MW 10:00-10:30; 3:00-4:00
Other times by appointment/ CLASS MEETS MW 10:30-11:45
Spring 2003

AJ 132
WOMEN, MINORITIES AND THE LAW

COURSE DESCRIPTION

History of legal issues and definitions of individual and institutional discrimination. Laws relating to women, ethnic and cultural minorities, gays and lesbians and the disabled in education, labor market, criminal justice system and family relations. Recent court decisions on affirmative action and reverse discrimination. Solutions explored for structured equality and inequality in the U.S.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

AT THE TIME OF THE FINAL STUDENTS SHOULD BE ABLE TO:

1. Define concepts of different cultural/social identities and theories of prejudice and discrimination from a multidisciplinary and multicultural perspective

2. Describe the legal history and current legal context of minority group and gender discrimination

3. Identify the structural sources of inequality and equality in major societal institutions; family, education, labor market, criminal justice, and religion, and how these inequalities and equalities are reflected in the law

4. Analyze case law and constitutional guidelines in reviewing claims of discrimination by women and men, by racial/ethnic and religious minority groups, by the aged, the disabled, and by persons of different sexual orientation

5. Analyze competing legal rights of men and women in domestic relations including marriage, reproduction, adoption, child custody and divorce.

6. Analyze legal and social developments in issues relating to sexual harassment, hate crimes, and affirmative action/reverse discrimination

7. Identify social and political movements offering solutions to structured inequality between people of different race, ethnicity, gender, class, religion, age, sexual orientation and ability

8. Recognize your own and others' attitudes towards racism, sexism and discrimination of all groups
9. Recognize and appreciate constructive interactions between people from different cultural and social groups and identities in the U.S.

10. Gain greater competence in research and writing skills

11. Gain greater verbal articulation skills, and ability to communicate with people of different background and identities

REQUIRED TEXTS


6 ADDITIONAL ARTICLES WILL BE ON RESERVE IN THE LIBRARY

CLASS REQUIREMENTS

Three exams are required; two midterms and final administered in class during the final examination period. A total of 3500 words of writing is required for credit in the class. Each exam is 2/3’s essay (approximately 500-600 words) and 1/3 multiple choice. A research paper 8-10 pages in length (2000-2500) words is also required for a total of 3500 or more words. A handout on the paper will be provided outlining topics, research requirements, format, outlines, due date and grading procedures. We will conduct a library tour outside class time if necessary. Instructor will provide extensive feedback on research paper drafts submitted at least two weeks before paper due date. Additionally, two in class structured written assignments are required. They will be based on videos, and will be a review of major concepts of equality and inequality. Small group discussions based on the Cyrus readings will be spaced every 3-4 weeks. Participation in the group will be evaluated by the instructor and points distributed. Students will also review major issues discussed in their research in a class presentation.

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

Regular class attendance is expected. Outstanding class participation may result in the improvement of the final grade by 1/2 grade point. Readings must be completed prior to the class meeting to promote understanding and informed class discussion. Students must Bring the appropriate text--Rothenberg if small group discussions; Lindgren if case law discussion. Check the greensheet to ensure you are prepared. If you are absent you must rely on classmates for notes. Do not ask the instructor for her notes. Missed exams and in class assignments may only be made up for compelling reasons. They will be administered during finals week, but the instructor must have received notice of the absence!

EVALUATION

Midterm #1 25% includes in class writing assignment #1
Midterm #2 25% includes in class writing assignment #2
Final 25%
Research Paper 25%
Extra Credit

Exams will receive a letter grade and a point distribution will illustrate class standing.
Extra credit may be generated based on additional readings provided by the instructor.
Please speak to the instructor if you are interested. PLEASE DO NOT BE LATE FOR ANY EXAM!

COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK 1
I INTRODUCTION-MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACH
A. Concepts of identity, race, gender, ethnicity, class.
   Readings: Rothenberg: intro.pgs.5-10, Part I articles 1, 3, 7,
   Part II articles 2, 3, 4, Part III articles 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 11, 16.
B. Hate Crimes; video Shadow of Hate.
   Class notes only

WEEK 2
C. Discrimination and the law
   Historical context: Rothenberg: Part V article 1
   Lindgren: cp. 2- pg. 51-90
D. Small group discussion on Rothenberg readings
E. Theories of Prejudice and Discrimination handout
   (1998)Half & Half, writers on growing up Biracial and
   Bicultural; reflection paper format(3-10 pts)

WEEK 3
II HISTORICAL CONTEXT OF DISCRIMINATION
A. Native Americans
   Readings: Rothenberg; Part VI, articles 1, 15
B. Video Ishi, in class writing assignment.
   Extra credit: Silko(1977) Ceremony; Reflection paper
   10 points, Louise Erdrich-any of her novels-see instructor,
   Sherman Alexie, The Toughest Indian in the
   World, reflection paper 10 points.

WEEK 4
C. African-Americans
   Readings: Rothenberg: Part VI, articles
   2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 16, 19, caselaw handout
   Reflection paper 10 pts.
D. Eyes on the Prize, Vol 2 Desegregation; Brown v Board
   Of Education (1955) Optional: Separate But Equal
   (Video) available at local video stores/library.
FIRST MIDTERM EXAM; essay take home/objective in
class; MARCH 5
SCANTRON & BLUEBOOK; PAPER TOPICS DUE
AND APPROVED BY INSTRUCTOR
WEEK 5  
E. Hispanics  
Readings: Rothenberg: Part V, article 6,7, 8,  

WEEK 6  
F. Asians  
Rothenberg: Part V, articles 2,3,4 Part VI, article 18,  

G. Video Japanese Internment; in class writing assignment: FRED KOREMATSUE STORY

WEEK 7  
H. Religious Minorities  
Review Hate Crimes  
Mormons, Jehovah Witnesses, Amish  
Readings: class notes; reserve readings

DRAFTS OF PAPER DUE

WEEK 8  
III STRUCTURED EQUALITY AND INEQUALITY  
A. Gender Discrimination/Patriarchal tradition  
Legal discrimination  
Readings: Lindgren Cp. 1; stop on page 35  
Rothenberg: Part II, article 5  
Small group discussion/review for midterm  
RESEARCH PAPERS DUE!

B. SECOND MIDTERM EXAM APRIL 9

WEEK 9  
C. Education/Title 9  
Lindgren: cp. 6 pg.276-292

D. Labor Market  
Readings: Lindgren Cp. 4 cases only  
Rothenberg: Part IV, articles 2, 6

WEEK 10  
E. Sex Harassment  
Reading: Lindgren Cp. 5 pg. 201-222; Cp. 6 pg. 314-322

WEEK 11  
F. Justice System: Women Offenders/ Victims  
Readings: Cyrus: articles 77,79,80,81  
Lindgren pg. 345-350; Cp. 9 pg. 508-516

WEEK 12  
IV POWER AND CLASSISM  
A. Family Relations including Gays/Lesbians  

B. Reproductive Choices  
Lindgren: Cp. 8, skp pages 434-440 & baby M.
WEEK 13
D. Affirmative Action/Reverse Discrimination
   Reading: Handout
   Small group discussions

E. Homelessness
   Reserve Reading

F. Disabilities & Law
   Reserve readings
   Rothenberg, Part V, article 18

WEEK 14
V CULTURAL PLURALISM & EQUALITY
CHALLENGES FOR OUR FUTURE
A. CONCLUSIONS/REVIEW/SUGGESTIONS
   Readings: Rothenberg, Part VIII, articles 4,8,9,11; Class
   survey: ESSAY PORTION OF FINAL DISTRIBUTED

WEEK 15
REVIEW FOR FINAL/ORAL PRESENTATIONS

LAST DAY OF INSTRUCTION MAY 12

FINAL EXAM: OBJECTIVE PORTION;
TUESDAY MAY 20 9:45-12:00 DON’T BE LATE!

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RESEARCH PAPER REQUIREMENTS
Students must complete a research paper to receive credit in this course. The paper must be a
total of (8)eight typed pages, 12 font, 27 lines per page. A bibliography using APA format
and citation must be included. Footnoting may appear at the end of the paper on a separate
page from the bibliography or incorporated at the bottom of the page which is the preferred
method. The paper must be stapled or bound in a folder with a title page including name,
section, professor and semester. Students are advised to keep a record of their research and
final paper on disk. There are many research or thesis writing manuals available for students
requiring direction. Please refer to one of these manuals if questions arise on format. A draft
of the paper may be submitted for correction. Please refer to the greensheet for that date. Late
papers will lose 5 points each day late. Note: College papers should never contain gratuitous
profanity, even if it’s a quote!

Research: Each student is to pick a topic from the curriculum in the areas of racial, ethnic,
gender identity, discrimination (against a certain group), structured inequality or power and
classism. Examples will follow. The goal of the research is to access a minimum of eight
scholarly journals—a list a suitable sources will be supplied) along with secondary sources
such as field interviews, internet (sites will be supplied) research and
Professional journals. The students analysis will include at the outset, definition of the issue—
whether it be the proliferation of hate groups in the U.S, sex harassment on college campuses
or failure of a minority group to achieve entrance/graduation from college. Why is this issue
significant—is this an example of structural inequality?, discrimination not yet addressed by
the Judiciary or state law? Etc. Students will also do some introspection as they answer why this issue is significant to them. As the research is developed, an historical background will be included to give perspective, and the current situation will be described. What will likely happen in the future regarding this issue must also be included. The conclusion is extremely important; solutions to this problem/issue must be identified and analyzed. In the example of Hate Crimes, is more uniform prosecution required? More expanded culpability? More groups included in the protected class?

Students must follow the assigned format:

Bibliography..............................................................10 points  
Footnotes/citations.................................................. 10 points

I  The Issue
   -definition..............................................................10 points  
   -significance........................................................10 points  
   -why chosen.........................................................10 points

II  Development
   -historical development...........................................10 points  
   -currently happening.............................................10 points  
   -likely in the future...............................................10 points

III  Conclusion
   -suggestions/approaches which will not benefit
     this issue..........................................................10 points  
   -suggestions/approaches which will benefit
     this issue..........................................................10 points

       total 100 points

Topic Suggestions:

**Race/ethnic/gender identity:**
Bicultural children--how do they identity?  
Interracial marriage--issues for adoption/affirmative action  
Gender identification--gay/lesbian legal rights/ the boy who was raised as a girl  
(John Colapinto, *As Nature Made Him*)

**Historical context of Discrimination**
Hate crimes--minorities, lynching, native americans, gays/lesbians/religious groups  
KKK-its reemergence  
Hispanics: Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, Zoot Suit Riots, Bracero Programs, Bilingual Education in Pubic Schools  
Asians: Chinese labors/immigration restriction/paper sons, importance of Chinatown,
Concubines, footbinding, patriarchal society, Japanese/American experience during WWII—civil rights deprivations during internment/USSC response
Religious Minorities—how First Amendment protects, and discrimination which still exists

Structured equality and inequality
Legal restrictions for women in the workplace/professions
Educational disabilities/harassment/graduate school admissions disparity
Labor market discrimination—ethnic groups consigned to certain professions/prejudice within professions
Sex harassment within labor market and educational system
Justice system: driving while black, women in prison-issues with their children/ trial of Matt Shepard/Vincent Chen

Power and Classism

Family law: new domestic laws-partnerships, covenant marriages, community property
Child custody—gays/unmarried, etc.
Reproductive choices: abortion, fertility control in the 19th century, new reproductive technology-menopausal moms? Frozen embryos, stem cell research.
Affirmative action/reverse discrimination—is it still needed? Race verses Class as determinants, whites left out? Asian reverse discrimination for being model minority?

Students may be creative in their choices for their research papers. The more enthusiastic they are about their topics, the more successful the paper! All topics must be approved by instructor by date on greensheet!

RESEARCH SOURCES

SEE RESEARCHING ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE ISSUES HANDOUT

Scholarly journals may be found in our library or online and should be distinguished from professional journals which are published by organizations such as police chiefs, lawyers, etc. They usually contain advertisements and the articles lack bibliographies and citations. These are fine as secondary sources. Scholarly journals are edited by University Scholars, the most commonly known in our field is Journal of Criminal Justice. Often the use of abstracts if published with the journal facilitates research. The instructor will demonstrate how abstracts work in class. A separate tour of the library will be conducted if desired by the class.

WEB SITES OF INTEREST

-Literature on Race, ethnicity, multiculturalism
  http://ethics.neusd.edu/race.html

-Hall of Multiculturalism: Resource Center
  http://www.tenet.edu/academia/multi.html

-Chicana Studies Web Page
http://clnet.ucr.edu/women/womenHP.html

- HandsNet: Welfare Reform Watch
  http://www.handsnet.org/index.htm

- Distinguished Women Past & Present
  http://www.wnetsrq.com/~dbois/

- Gender Studies Indexes, Abstracts, Bibliographies
  http://info.lib.uh.edu/indexes/gender.htm

RESEARCHING ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE ISSUES

Topic Ideas
  See handout
  Instructor ideas
  Periodical Indexes (Criminal Justice Periodical Index)

Finding Books and Periodicals
  OPAC-Online Public Access Catalog
  Locate books by author, title, subject, keyword searches
  Locate periodicals by title of periodical

Finding Journal/Periodical Articles
  Professional Practice (Police Chief)
  Scholarly Journals (Journal of Criminal Justice)
  Journals in other disciplines: Family Violence, Criminal Law Review etc.

Published Indexes: Criminal Justice Periodicals (HV 8183,c75x)
  Criminal Justice Abstracts (HV 6001.c67)

Online Indexes: Expanded Academic ASAP
  Sociological Abstracts
  Lexis/Nexis Academic Universe
  NCJRS Abstracts
  Social Sciences Index

Government Publications
  GPO Access-available Online through Government Publications
  FBI homepage

Statistical Sources
  U.S. Statistical Abstract
  Uniform Crime Reports
  Sourcebook for CRJ Stats
  Bureau of CJ Statistics

Agency Reports
  Santa Clara Probation, SJPD, SC Sheriff

Interlibrary Loan-takes approx. 2 weeks-decide topic quickly!