UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
THE WHARTON SCHOOL
SPRING SEMESTER
2011

SYLLABUS

DIVERSITY AND THE LAW

LGST 218-401

PROFESSOR JOSÉ FELIPÉ ANDERSON
COURSE DETAILS

Professor: José Felipé Anderson
Time: Designated Mondays (see schedule of classes)

3:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m.
Office Hours: Mondays 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.
(or by appointment)
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Required:


Suggested materials for research papers


Orlando Patterson, *Slavery and Social Death* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1982).


COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course will examine the use of the law both to perpetuate and eradicate racial injustice in the United States from the inception and rise of slavery during the colonial period through the racial desegregation decision of the United States Supreme Court in *Brown v. Board of Education* in 1954 to the present. The goals of the course are to achieve an understanding of the role of law in its social context, especially with regard to the use of legal institutions and law in the creation and maintenance of systems of racial injustice; and, as a corollary, to examine the potential and limits of the use of law (especially litigation) as a tool for social change.

The course will begin with an examination of the analytical framework for the study of race and the law. Two subjects will be covered; racial prejudice and race classification.

The course will then focus on the role of law in the introduction and development of the slave system. The subsequent expansion and entrenchment of the institution of slavery in the new nation will be examined next through a case and statutory study of antebellum slavery law. Several cases from various northern courts will be studied as well. The major institutions focused upon will be the state courts and the state legislatures with regard to their role in the preclusion or allowance of traditional family relations, educational options, due process in the courts, and other "rights" for slaves and free blacks.

We will also explore the political debates and the handling of the slavery issue in the formulation of those documents central to the federal government, e.g., the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, and the Constitution. In addition, we will look at the federal judiciary's treatment of slavery and the status of blacks.

The foci will not be limited merely to the rules of law adopted by the courts or the legislatures. A major issue for exploration will be the values and priorities of the
individuals in power and a probing of how these values and principles affected their choice of options and the rules of law adopted. We will analyze the "prejudices which judges share" as suggested by Oliver Wendell Holmes when he wrote:

> The life of the law has not been logic: it has been experience. The felt necessities of the time, the prevalent moral and political theories, intuitions of public policy, avowed or unconscious, *even the prejudices which judges share with their fellow-men*, have had a good deal more to do than the syllogism in determining the rules by which men should be governed. (emphasis added)

During the latter-half of the course, we will follow the role of American law in the attempted eradication of racial segregation and discrimination against African Americans, Asian Americans, Latinos/as, and American Indians, concentrating predominantly on their treatment by the Congress and the Supreme Court. Thus, the inquiry will focus on the successes as well as the failures of American legal institutions during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries and includes examination of the passage and subsequent judicial interpretation of the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Amendments. Subjects covered include citizenship, sovereignty, transportation, housing, education, marriage, employment, business, voting, and the criminal justice system. By applying our understanding of the magnitude and nature of slavery gained from earlier study, students may better comprehend what the amendments were designed to eliminate and evaluate the nature and extent of the legal system's endeavors in this regard.

Next, the course will examine Supreme Court confirmation controversies involving race. The course will also examine ongoing controversies involving race with specific focus on the administration of justice, critical race theory, hate speech, and the Official English Movement.

The course will conclude with an examination of *Getting to the Promised Land*, a discussion of “hot topics,” and a summary session on race and the future of America.


COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Race Law is a three-credit Seminar Course. Class attendance is mandatory. Students who miss more than two class sessions, excused or unexcused, might not be permitted to submit a paper. Students are required to complete an examination or to write a research paper in partial fulfillment of the course requirements. The paper must have a length of not less than 20 pages plus endnotes and must be typed and double-spaced. Students may use endnotes or footnotes, whichever they prefer. Those using footnotes should take this into consideration in satisfying suggested page-length guidelines for their papers.

Students may write on any topic of their choice as long as it is within the scope of the subject matter of the course. Students must discuss their research topics with and get approval for them from Professor Anderson. Individual topic discussion meetings may be arranged and a list of possible topics will be made available. Generally, the assigned materials will be read by the entire class. However, for some specialized and more detailed inquiry, the class may be divided into four law firms. On various days the members of
each firm will represent a particular client or will comment on additional readings and their relevance to the materials being studied by the entire class.

Final grades will be based primarily on the quality of the research paper; however, class participation will be considered as well. Your final paper will count as 75 percent of the final grade. Class participation will count as 25 percent of the final grade.

COURSE OUTLINE AND READING ASSIGNMENT

OVERVIEW: Discussion of the course subject-matter and requirements (Syllabus pp. 1-20; Race Law (Dedication, Foreword, Preface, History Timeline, and Introduction), pp. v-vi, xxxi-xliv, 3-4, 775-783. Please read this material prior to the initial session)

PART ONE — ANALYSIS AND FRAMEWORK

THE RACIAL PREJUDICES THAT JUDGES SHARE

State v. Mann (1829)
(Race Law pp. 4-26) (read carefully pp. 5-7) (please read this material prior to the initial session)

Session #2: RACE CLASSIFICATION

The Nature of Race, Definitions of Race, and Myths of Racial Purity (Race Law pp. 26-71)

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People v. Hall (1854)
(Race Law pp. 72-99) (read carefully pp. 75-78)

PART TWO — SLAVERY

Session #3: THE COLONIAL EXPERIENCE WITH SLAVERY AND FREE BLACKS
The Earliest Protest Against Slavery (1688)
(Race Law pp. 751-752)

SLAVERY, FREE BLACKS, AND THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Declaration of the Causes and Necessity of Taking Up Arms (1775)
(Race Law pp. 752-753)

Declaration of Independence (1776)
(Race Law pp. 753-756)

SLAVERY, FREE BLACKS, AND THE CONSTITUTION

The Articles of Confederation (1781)
(Race Law pp. 756-757)

The Constitution (1789)
(Race Law pp. 101-114, 736-737, 740, 743) (read carefully pp. 102-106)

Session #4: THE NORTHERN APPROACH TO FREE BLACKS

Crandall v. The State of Connecticut (1834)
(Race Law pp. 114-129, 743) (read carefully pp. 120-129)

Roberts v. The City of Boston (1850)
(Race Law pp. 129-136) (read carefully pp. 133-135)

THE SOUTHERN APPROACH TO SLAVERY AND FREE BLACKS (Virginia)

Hudgins v. Wrights (1806)
(Race Law pp. 136-141; 146-148) (read carefully pp. 138-140)

Souther v. The Commonwealth (1851)
(Race Law pp. 141-145) (read carefully pp. 142-144)

Slave Auction Handbill (1852)
(Race Law pp. 145-146)

Session #5: SLAVERY, FREE BLACKS, AND THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT

United States v. The Amistad (1840)
(Race Law pp. 149-157) (read carefully pp. 154-157)

Prigg v. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (1842)
(Race Law pp. 157-175, 203-205) (read carefully pp. 162-165)
Dred Scott v. Sandford (1857)
(Race Law pp. 175-209) (read carefully pp. 180-192)

Northwest Ordinance (1787)
(Race Law pp. 757-759)

Fugitive Slave Act (1793)
(Race Law pp. 759-760)

The Missouri Compromise (1820)
(Race Law pp. 760-761)

The Fugitive Slave Act (1850)
(Race Law pp. 761-762)

THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF SLAVERY

The Case of John Brown (1859)
(Race Law pp. 209-216)

PART THREE — RECONSTRUCTION, CITIZENSHIP, AND SOVEREIGNTY

Session #6:  THE SUPREME COURT’S BETRAYAL OF RECONSTRUCTION

The Emancipation Proclamation (1863)
(Race Law pp. 762-763)

The Freedmen’s Bureau (1865)
(Race Law pp. 763-764)

Apology for Slavery (2009)
(Race Law pp. 771-773)

The Slaughterhouse Cases (1873)
(Race Law pp. 217-252) (read carefully pp. 238-246)

United States v. Cruikshank (1875)
(Race Law pp. 252-274) (read carefully pp. 270-272)

The Black Code (1865)
(Race Law pp. 764-767)

The Civil Rights Cases (1883)
(Race Law pp. 274-291) (read carefully pp. 274-282)
Session #7:  RACE AND CITIZENSHIP

Ozawa v. United States (1922)
(Race Law pp. 291-300) (read carefully pp. 296-300)

United States v. Bhagat Singh Thind (1923)
(Race Law pp. 300-305) (read carefully pp. 301-304)

People v. De La Guerra (1870)
(Race Law pp. 305-308)

Elk v. Wilkins (1884)
(Race Law pp. 308-318) (read carefully pp. 310-315)

Chae Chan Ping v. United States (1889)
(Race Law pp. 318-322) (read carefully pp. 319-321)

United States v. Wong Kim Ark (1898)
(Race Law pp. 322-326) (read carefully pp. 323-325)

Korematsu v. United States (1944)
(Race Law pp. 322-326) (read carefully pp. 328-330)

Restitution For Internment (1988)
(Race Law p. 771)

RACE, AMERICAN INDIANS, AND SOVEREIGNTY

Johnson and Graham’s Lessee v. McIntosh (1823)
(Race Law pp. 336-344) (read carefully pp. 339-343)

Indian Removal Act (1830)
(Race Law pp. 767-768)

The Cherokee Nation v. The State of Georgia (1831)
(Race Law pp. 344-363) (read carefully pp. 345-347)

PART FOUR — SEGREGATION

Session #8:  CREATING THE SEPARATE BUT EQUAL DOCTRINE

Strauder v. West Virginia (1880)
(Race Law pp. 365-370) (read carefully pp. 366-369)

Plessy v. Ferguson (1896)
(Race Law pp. 371-386) (read carefully pp. 374-379)
EXPANDING THE SEPARATE BUT EQUAL DOCTRINE

Berea College v. Commonwealth of Kentucky (1908)
(Race Law pp. 386-402) (read carefully pp. 389-391)

Session #9: LIMITING THE SEPARATE BUT EQUAL DOCTRINE: RACIAL SEGREGATION AND HOUSING

Buchanan v. Warley (1917)
(Race Law pp. 402-415) (read carefully pp. 410-413)

LIMITING THE SEPARATE BUT EQUAL DOCTRINE: RACIAL SEGREGATION AND INTERSTATE COMMERCE

Morgan v. Commonwealth of Virginia (1946)
(Race Law pp. 415-425) (read carefully pp. 416-421)

LIMITING THE SEPARATE BUT EQUAL DOCTRINE: RACIAL SEGREGATION AND STATE ACTION

Shelley v. Kraemer (1948)
(Race Law pp. 425-432) (read carefully pp. 427-431)

INTERPRETING THE SEPARATE BUT EQUAL DOCTRINE

Cumming v. County Board of Education (1899)

Gong Lum v. Rice (1927)
(Race Law pp. 445-450, 452-453) (read carefully pp. 447-449)

Shades of Freedom
(Chapter 9, pp. 115-17)

Hernandez v. Texas (1954)
(Race Law 450-452)

Session #10: APPLYING THE SEPARATE BUT EQUAL DOCTRINE

Missouri ex rel. Gaines v. Canada (1938)
(Race Law pp. 464-476) (read carefully pp. 471-473)

McLaurin v. Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (1950)
(Race Law pp. 476-478)
**Sweatt v. Painter** (1950)  
(Race Law pp. 478-481)

**ENDING STATE-MANDATED SEGREGATION**

*Brown v. Board of Education (Brown I)* (1954)  
(Race Law pp. 482-494) (read carefully pp. 486-490)

**APPLYING THE BROWN RATIONALE**

*Loving v. Virginia* (1966)  
(Race Law pp. 494-503) (read carefully pp. 497-500)

**PART FIVE — ATTEMPTED ERADICATION OF INEQUALITY**

**Session #11: RACE-CONSCIOUS REMEDIES**
Shades of Freedom  
(Chapter 2, pp. 7-17)

Executive Order 8802 (1941)  
(Race Law pp. 768-769)

*Brown v. Board of Education (Brown II)* (1955)  
(Race Law pp. 505-511) (read carefully pp. 507-508)

(Race Law pp. 511-528) (read carefully pp. 519-522)

Civil Rights Act (1964) (Public Accommodations)  
(Race Law p. 769)

Civil Rights Act (1964) (Federally Assisted Programs)  
(Race Law p. 769)

Fair Housing Act (1968) (Housing)  
(Race Law pp. 770)

(Race Law pp. 528-540) (read carefully pp. 533-536)

(Race Law pp. 540-559) (read carefully pp. 543-554)

Session #12: MAINTAINING RACIAL INEQUITY

*Washington v. Davis* (1976)
(Race Law pp. 582-586) (Firms A and B)

Shades of Freedom
(Chapter 11, pp. 127-51)

(Race Law pp. 587-594) (read carefully pp. 588-592) (Firms A and B)

(Race Law pp. 594-610) (read carefully pp. 554-560)

Voting Rights Act (1965)
(Race Law pp. 769-770)

*Shaw v. Reno* (1993)
(Race Law pp. 610-620) (read carefully pp. 612-615)

(Race Law pp. 620-640) (read carefully pp. 621-630)

PART SIX — SUPREME COURT CONFIRMATION CONTROVERSIES

Session #13: RACE, VALUES, AND JUSTICE THOMAS

The Jurisprudence of Justice Clarence Thomas
(Race Law pp. 641-671)

Supplemental Readings:
Jill Abramson, *Strange Justice*

RACE, VALUES, AND JUSTICE ALITO

The Jurisprudence of Justice Samuel Alito
(Race Law pp. 671-680)

RACE, VALUES, AND JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR

The Jurisprudence of Justice Sonia Sotomayor
(Race Law pp. 680-683)

PART SEVEN — ONGOING CONTROVERSIES (If time permits)
Suggested Paper Topics

1. Do a critique and analysis of the ten precepts of slavery or of any one precept of slavery. Focus on any southern state other than Virginia. For a list of the ten precepts, see 1990 University of Illinois Law Review pp. 821-823 or Shades of Freedom pp. 3-6.

2. Manumission, freedom suits, colonization and emancipation. Examine and analyze the law of any southern state other than Virginia. Focus upon freedom suits, manumission by deed or will, and emancipation or colonization by legislative act (prior to 1865). What options were available through the legal system for slaves seeking their freedom? What limitations and restrictions were placed on the slaveowner who wished to free his or her slaves? What limitations and restrictions on emancipation were mandated by abolitionist legislation? Who favored colonization, why did they favor it, and how was it encouraged?

3. The free black in the northern states prior to the Civil War. Analyze one aspect of the circumstances – either with respect to economic, political, or criminal laws – of the free black in comparison with whites in Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Connecticut, or any other northern state.

4. Religion and slavery. Examine the influence of religion on the rights and treatment of slaves. For example, compare the influence of Catholicism on slavery in Brazil with the influence of Protestantism on slavery in the United States. Alternatively, compare the Quaker influence on slavery law in Pennsylvania with the Catholic influence in Maryland.

5. Slave uprising and rebellion in any southern state other than Virginia. What factors made revolt possible or impossible during the particular period you are considering? Discuss the laws curtailing slaves’ freedom of movement as one of the factors. How did the law respond to rebellion?

6. Focusing on one legal subject area – such as criminal law, property law, or family law – and one time period, analyze and discuss the role of the judiciary in the system of slavery in any southern state other than Virginia.

7. Discuss housing discrimination against blacks or other racial, religious, or ethnic groups in one of six states: Pennsylvania, Virginia, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, or North Carolina. The paper should discuss discrimination in housing from 1890 to the present providing statistics and other relevant data on the type.
and quality of housing and the various methods used to discriminate. Particular attention should be focused on residential segregation ordinances, restrictive covenants, red lining, and other real estate practices and intimidation. In view of what you find, how should the impact of *Shelley v. Kraemer* and *Buchanan v. Warley* be evaluated?

8. Housing discrimination and the Federal Fair Housing Act. What has been the impact of this Act on the quality and availability of housing for racial minorities? How has the Act been implemented and what has been its impact on discrimination? What does this history lead you to conclude about the earlier impact of *Buchanan v. Warley* and *Shelley v. Kraemer*?

9. Disparities in education between blacks or other racial minority groups and whites. Students may prepare papers on disparities in education for any of the following eight jurisdictions: Virginia, Maryland, North Carolina, Georgia, Kentucky, Delaware, South Carolina, and the District of Columbia. Particular attention should be paid to the type of education, resources, availability, and quality. Students may choose to compare the disparities either for pre-*Brown* education or post-*Brown* education.

10. Analyze and compare the confirmation process of Justice Clarence Thomas and the confirmation process of Justice Thurgood Marshall, or compare the confirmation processes of any of the recent justices, or of Justice Brandeis, with the confirmation process of either Thurgood Marshall or Clarence Thomas.

11. Compare the non-race relations positions of any of the justices on the Supreme Court in the last 20 years with the non-race relations positions of Thurgood Marshall.

12. Analyze the positions of Southern senators and/or conservative senators in the confirmation processes of Sonia Sotomayor, Thurgood Marshall, Clarence Thomas, Stephen Breyer, or David Souter.

13. Analyze the administration of justice in the Rodney King incident. What role did race play in the legal process? What were the responses of the various legal, political, religious, racial, and law enforcement communities?

14. The reconstruction amendments. Examine the meaning of the thirteenth or fourteenth amendments. What was the purpose of the amendments and what limitations should be placed upon congressional authority enacted under them? Focus on the jurisprudence of Justice Bradley and Justice Harlan.

15. The case of *Plessy v. Ferguson*: its history and its legacy. Describe in detail the events leading up to and surrounding this historic case and the destructive consequences of the decision. Who was Plessy and what happened to him after the decision? What was “separate but equal,” how was it applied, and how was it
invalidated? Particular attention should be paid to segregation in transportation. Focus on one state such as Maryland, Virginia, or Georgia.

16. Lynchings. Provide an in-depth study of this form of behavior from its inception to its present use. Who were the victims, how widespread was its use, and how effective was its application? What efforts were made to prevent lynchings and by whom were they made? Focus on the role of the judiciary, the legislatures, and law enforcement agencies.

17. Racial minorities and the bar in Virginia (or any other state). Examine from a historical perspective black or other racial minority involvement in the legal profession. What restrictions were imposed, how were these restrictions enforced, and when were they invalidated?

18. Racial minorities in the military and the struggle for equal rights. Examine the role of blacks or other racial minorities in the military from the Civil War to the present and analyze the legal challenges to racial restrictions on equality of treatment.

19. Examine limitations on congressional power to prohibit racial discrimination. What are the limitations? Do they make sense? Analyze the relevant statutes and cases.

20. Examine the question of affirmative action in education, employment, or business; its success, its failure, its future. Discuss and analyze the relevant theories, statutes, and cases.

21. School desegregation and effective remedies. Analyze the remedies imposed by judicial decision with respect to their success and failure.

22. Race and voting rights. Is there racial discrimination in the exercise of the franchise and what should be done about it? Discuss and analyze the relevant statutes and cases.

23. Examine race and its impact on a particular aspect of the criminal justice system (sentencing, arrest, prosecution, jury selection, conviction, etc.). Analyze the relevant statutes and cases.

24. Rape and race. Examine the crime of rape and the impact of race in the administration of justice.

25. Racially motivated crime. Examine its origin, its development, and its future. Focus on one particular state such as New York, Maryland, Georgia, or Virginia.

26. Examine race and its impact on a particular aspect of family law (marriage, divorce, adoption, etc.). Discuss and analyze the relevant cases and any policy
implications as well.

27. Racial bias by the media. Is there bias in the media? Does such bias violate the law? Discuss and analyze the relevant cases and any policy implications as well.

28. Examine the legal scholarship or opinions of a leading academician or jurist relating to a specific area of civil rights litigation. Discuss and analyze the relevant theories, statutes, and cases.

29. Race and the environment. Is there racial discrimination in environmental practices and what should be done about it. Discuss and analyze the relevant statutes and cases.

30. Race and professional sports/the entertainment business. Is there racial discrimination in professional football, basketball, baseball, Hollywood, etc. and what should be done about it. Discuss and analyze the relevant statutes and cases.

31. Analyze the administration of justice in the *O.J. Simpson* case. What role did race play in the legal process?

32. Analyze the debate over welfare reform. What role did race place in the political process?

33. Race and employment. Is there racial discrimination in employment practices and what should be done about it. Discuss and analyze the relevant statutes and cases.

34. Race and public accommodations. Is there racial discrimination in public accommodation practices and what should be done about it. Discuss and analyze the relevant statutes and cases.

35. Race and private clubs. Is there racial discrimination in private club practices and what should be done about it. Discuss and analyze the relevant statutes and cases.

36. Compare the treatment by the federal government or by state governments of different racial minority groups concerning citizenship, criminal justice, segregation, economics, etc. What were the similarities and differences? What caused the different approaches?

37. Race classification. How was race defined? What racial categories existed? Is race classification still relevant? Focus on the federal government’s race classification scheme or a particular state’s approach.

38. Race and sex. What prohibitions existed? How were they enforced? What were the punishments? Focus on a particular state’s approach such Virginia or Maryland and a specific time period such as pre-Civil War or post-Civil War.
39. Racial profiling and law enforcement. How is racial profiling defined? Under what circumstances, if any, should racial profiling be permitted? Discuss and analyze the relevant theories, statutes, and cases.

40. Reparations. How are they defined? Under what circumstances, if any, should they be permitted? Discuss and analyze the relevant theories, statutes, and cases as they relate to African Americans, Native Americans, Japanese Americans, Jews, or others.

41. Racial segregation in the 21st century. Does racial segregation continue to exist? If so, in what areas does it manifest itself and how can such segregation be reduced or eliminated?

42. Race and heroes. Who were the heroes in the struggle for racial equality in the United States? What acts do you consider heroic and why?

43. Race and politics. Is the Democratic Party platform or the Republican Party platform better for racial minorities? Which party historically has been better? Identify the political leaders that have contributed the most to racial equality. Discuss and analyze the relevant policies and practices.

44. Examine the critical race theory movement. What is critical race theory? Who were its creators and who are its leading proponents? Analyze the various theories, applications, and cases.

45. Race and the official English movement. What is the official English movement? Who were its creators and who are its leaders? Discuss and analyze the various theories, statutes, and cases.

46. Race and hate speech. What is hate speech? Should it be protected under the normal rules of free expression? Discuss and analyze the various theories, statutes, and cases.

47. Analyze the administration of justice in the Henry Louis Gates racial profiling case. What role, if any, did race play in the legal process?

48. Race and the election of Barack Obama as the first black President of the United States. What role, if any, did race play in the campaign and results?

49. Race and the Tea Party Movement. What role, if any, did race play in the popularity, platform, and rhetoric of Tea Party candidates?