To: All 1L fall starter students

Re: First-year mini-seminar series, Winter 2016

Each year, the Law School offers mini-seminars aimed at giving students and faculty the opportunity to enjoy discussions about the law in a relaxed and informal setting. As detailed below, each mini-seminar focuses on different areas of substantive interest. There will be refreshments provided at all mini-seminars. No academic credit is awarded in 1L mini-seminars. For mini-seminars which meet at professors’ homes, addresses will be provided to students admitted to the mini-seminars. The Law School will offer three mini-seminars this winter term exclusively for first-year fall starter JD students:

Course | #400M1LA  
Professor | Sam Bagenstos and Margo Schlanger  
Title | Career Paths in Public Interest Law  
Enrollment cap | 12  
Time | 7:00-9:00 p.m.  
Location | The home of Professors Bagenstos and Schlanger (located about one mile from the Law School)  
Dates | Thursday 3/10 and Thursday 3/17  
Description | Public interest lawyers work on regulatory matters, retail and wholesale litigation, and policy development. They represent governments, nonprofit entities, and individuals and groups. After polling seminar participants about their interests, this two-session seminar will examine some of the varied public interest paths available to lawyers. The focus will be on civil litigation and organizational counseling (not on criminal law practice).

Course | #400M1LB  
Professor | Rich Friedman  
Title | Anatomy of a Supreme Court Case  
Enrollment cap | 12  
Time | 7:00-9:00 p.m.  
Location | The home of Professor Friedman (about 1.5 miles from the Law School)  
Dates | Monday 2/15 and Monday 4/11  
Description | This mini-seminar will trace the steps of Supreme Court litigation from the filing of a petition for certiorari through oral argument. I expect the first session to focus on a case for which I have a pending petition for certiorari; unless the Government asks for a forth extension, its brief in opposition will be filed shortly before the session, and I expect still to be working on the reply brief. We will decide together what case or cases to discuss in the second session, which will focus on briefing and argument.

Course | #400M1LC  
Professor | Don Herzog  
Title | Law( yer)-Bashing and the Rule of Law  
Enrollment cap | 10  
Time | 7:00-9:00 p.m.  
Location | Professor Herzog’s home (located about 3/4 mile from the Law School)  
Dates | Monday 2/22 and Monday, 3/21
We think of the rule of law as a wonderful ideal -- and, as far as we have it, a wonderful accomplishment. But we also hate lawyers. We make endless fun of how stupid the law is. We roll our eyes at legal technicalities. (Right, you might wonder just who "we" is.) Can we fit all this together coherently? And what does it tell us about law and lawyers? Readings include one or two pamphlets by 17th-century English radicals and Kafka's *Trial*.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION AND PROCESS:

Interested students will use CBI (the Course Bidding Interface) to enroll in mini-seminars. You can find the link to CBI under the “Registration” link on the Office of Student Records web page.

Students may list up to three (3) mini-seminars in order of preference. There are almost always fewer seats in mini-seminars than there are students who seek to fill them. **Therefore, if you get in to a mini-seminar, you are expected to attend each session. Please do not sign up if you cannot make this commitment. If you drop a mini-seminar after you have been awarded a seat, you may be precluded from enrolling in mini-seminars in future terms.**

Seats for mini-seminars are assigned randomly. Unlike in the usual CBI registration process for regular fall and winter term classes, during mini-seminar registration we place a higher priority on making sure that each mini-seminar gets filled than on making sure students get the mini-seminars they want most. Therefore, although your preferences will be taken into account, it is quite possible that you will be assigned a mini-seminar that is not your first choice. **So, please list only those mini-seminars that you are absolutely certain you are willing to take.**

**Deadline for signing up:**
**You must submit your requests in CBI by Tuesday, January 26 at 5:00 p.m.**

**Notification of assignments:**
Assignment results will be available in CBI by the close of business on Friday, February 5. An announcement will be made on MLawLive when results are ready to view in CBI.