To: All 3L, 2L, and 1L summer starter JD students and all LLM students

Re: Upper-class 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 a different area of substantive interest. There will be refreshments provided at all mini-seminars. All the mini-seminars listed below will count for one academic credit and will be graded on a mandatory pass/fail basis. For mini-seminars which meet at professors’ homes, addresses will be provided to students admitted to the mini-seminars. Four new mini-seminars will be offered this winter.

Course # #400M10
Professor Margaret Hannon
Title Employment Law: Employment Law and Social Media
For one credit? Yes
Enrollment cap 10
Time 7:00-9:00 p.m.
Location Professor Hannon's home (located about one mile from the Law School). Note: Professor Hannon's family has a dog and two cats (all friendly).
Dates The following Tuesdays: 2/9, 2/16, 2/23, 3/8, 3/15, 3/22
Description This mini-seminar will focus on social media in the context of employment law. Our discussion topics will include (1) when and how social media can be used in pre-hiring background checks; (2) whether employers should monitor employees' social media posts and what policies employers should have for use of social media by employees; (3) under what circumstances social media activity can be used as grounds for employee termination or discipline; (4) when an employer may be liable for employees' social media posts; (5) how to determine whether social media content authored by an employee belongs to the employee or the employer; and (6) when and how social media can ethically be used by attorneys in the course of employment-related litigation. In the course of our discussion, we will consider the perspective of both the employee and employer.

Course # #400M11
Professor Scott Hershovitz
Title Assholes, Bullshit, and the Law
For one credit? Yes
Enrollment cap 10
Time 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Location Professor Hershovitz's home (located about one mile from the Law School)
Dates The following Mondays: 2/15, 3/7, 3/14, 3/21, 3/28; and Thursday 4/7
Description Why are so many lawyers assholes? Is there something about the profession that encourages it? Or requires it? And why is so much of what lawyers say bullshit? In this mini-seminar, we'll read some philosophy, in an effort to clarify these scatological concepts. We'll think about legal ethics, and what part the profession's rules might play in the problem. Finally, we'll talk about asshole management; we'll try to figure out what to do when you encounter an asshole in the wild, which you surely will.
**Course # #400M12**  
**Professor** Steve Ratner  
**Title** The Israel-Palestine Conflict: Does International Law Matter?  
**For one credit?** Yes  
**Enrollment cap** 11  
**Time** 7:00-9:00 p.m.  
**Location** Professor Ratner’s home (located about two miles from the Law School)  
**Dates** The following Wednesdays: 2/10, 2/24, 3/23, 4/6, 4/20; and Tuesday 3/8  
**Description** A lasting settlement to the seventy-year long conflict between Israel, on the one hand, and the Palestinians and Arab states, on the other, seems as elusive as ever. Lawyers have played a key role in public debate and negotiations over this issue, as the legal aspects are extraordinarily important to understanding the claims and grievances of the parties and the possibilities of a final peace. In this mini-seminar, we will explore see whether international law helps our understanding of this conflict by examining six issues: Zionism and the creation of the State of Israel; the Six Day War and the status of the Occupied Palestinian Territories; the Israeli regime of occupation of the West Bank and Gaza (including the Separation Barrier); the recent wars in Gaza; the right of return for Palestinians; and the status of Jerusalem. No background in the conflict or international law is required.

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**Course # #400M13**  
**Professor** Sonja Starr  
**Title** "The Wire"  
**For one credit?** Yes  
**Enrollment cap** 10  
**Time** 6:30-9:30 p.m. on first five dates; 6:00-10:00 on sixth date  
**Location** Professor Starr’s home (located about one mile from the Law School)  
**Dates** The following Wednesdays: 3/9, 3/16, 3/23, 3/30, 4/6, 4/13  
**Description** In this mini-seminar, we will watch and discuss Season 1 of The Wire, the epic examination of criminal justice, crime, and the failures of public institutions that is widely described as the greatest television series of all time. The sessions will be longer than the typical mini-seminar to accommodate watching and discussing the episodes. Students who have never watched The Wire are especially encouraged to apply. Students who have watched The Wire are on notice that a strict “no spoilers” policy will be in effect.

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**REGISTRATION INFORMATION:**

1. No prof picks (please do not contact the professor about getting in).

2. Students may list up to four (4) 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 are enrolled in a mini-seminar, you are expected to attend each session. Please do not sign up if you cannot make this commitment.** Failure to attend even one mini-seminar session may result in your not receiving
credit. If you drop a mini-seminar after you have been enrolled, you may be precluded from enrolling in mini-seminars in future terms.

3. Students who have not previously been enrolled in an upper-class mini-seminar will be given preference over students who have previously been enrolled in an upper-class mini-seminar.

4. Students who have been given permission to exceed the maximum credit load and who are currently already carrying 16 credits this semester are not eligible to enroll for a mini-seminar, since the rules of our accrediting agency (the ABA) prohibit a student from enrolling in more than 16 credits in a single semester.

Registration Process:

Interested students will use CBI to enroll in mini-seminars. You can find the link to CBI under the “Registration” link on the Office of Student Records web page. Rank all mini-seminars for which you would like to bid in the CBI queue, with the first being your first choice, the second being your second choice, etc. Seats for mini-seminars are assigned randomly. Proximity to graduation is not taken into account. (For example a first-term 2L has the same chance of getting into a mini-seminar as a second term 3L or LLM.) 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 low on your list of choices. 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.