This course is designed as an introduction to the scope and intensity of sociolegal inquiry and social jurisprudence. Although this syllabus cannot be fully synoptic, I have chosen central themes in the discipline and books that represent the edges of scholarly inquiry. Topics include the politics of civil rights, law and racial hierarchy, colonial and indigenous legality, law and rhetoric, the aesthetics of law, and the relationship of law to biopolitics.

Students are expected to complete all readings prior to class and to prepare a three minute oral presentation orienting the seminar to your interpretation of the reading, and raising a couple of issues or questions that we can consider during our discussions. A final seminar paper is required, and will form the bulk of the assessment.

WEBSITE:

Unfortunately necessary boilerplate: Students are cautioned against plagiarism. Plagiarism is taking another person’s words or ideas without crediting them. Anything cut and pasted from a website without quotation marks and proper citation is plagiarism. Copying anything from a book or journal without quotation marks and proper citation is plagiarism. Submitting a paper (or significant parts of a paper) to two different courses is considered plagiarism as well. Plagiarism is cheating, the equivalent of academic theft. Because trust and attribution are central to the current nature of the academic profession, there is no excuse for plagiarism. Turning in a paper with plagiarized parts will result in a failing grade for the course. For UHM policies on plagiarism, see http://www.catalog.hawaii.edu/about-uh/campus-policies1.htm

Disability Access: This class is open to all students. If you are a student with a documented disability, please talk to me about ways to make the class accessible to you. You should also contact the KOKUA office at 956-7511. It is located on the ground floor of the Student Services Center.

NOTE: THIS IS PRELIMINARY AND I’M CERTAIN TO CHANGE THIS. YOU CAN LET ME KNOW WHAT YOU MIGHT WISH TO SEE INCLUDED AND I WILL TRY TO TAILOR THE SYLLABUS ACCORDINGLY

Week 1: Introduction.
Week 2: The Sociolegal Imagination


Week 3: Rights, consciousness, struggle


**Additional texts for further thought:**

Week 4: Imagining Civil Rights


**Additional texts for further thought:**
- Lovell, George I. *This Is Not Civil Rights: Discovering Rights Talk in 1939 America,* 2012.

Week 5: Racism and the law I

Additional texts for further thought:

Week 6: Racism and law II


Week 7: Sexuality, rights, violence


Additional texts for further thought:

Week 8: Biopolitics, the law, and the emergency

Readings:

Week 9: Law/Space


  Additional texts for further thought:

Week 10: Law and the Other


Week 11: Human rights/Global rights


  Additional texts for further thought:

Week 12: Transnational Legal Imagination

  **Readings:**
Week 13: Law and Settler Colonialism


Additional texts for further thought:

Week 14: Indigenous Law


Additional texts for further thought:

Week 15: Law and Rhetoric


Additional texts for further thought: