

WINTER 2016 HISTORY 235.001

Meets Tues/Thurs
1:00-2:30 p.m.
1544 CCL

This course examines the evolution of cause lawyering in the United States. Students will learn how some lawyers have used law as an instrument of social change, challenging the idea of law and legal practice as neutral or scientific. We will explore the ethical obstacles to this practice. We will see how clients, communities, and activists have influenced the practice of law. Students will become familiar with the instruments of legal advocacy: the brief, the oral arguments, the amicus curiae, and the judicial opinion. We will end with a critical rethinking of cause lawyering and how the interests of lawyers and legal organizations may sometimes be at odds with the clients they represent.



