

Kenyon College



**John W. Adams Summer Scholars Program in Socio-Legal Studies
Law and Society**

Undergraduate Student Summer Seminar

June 6 – 11, 2016

Law & Poverty: Reflections on the Legal Problems of the Poor

The Adams Summer Legal Scholars Program announces the 2016 Law and Society Summer Seminar, a week long, intensive mini-conference in undergraduate legal studies. Modeled after the legal studies seminars sponsored by the Foundation for Law, Justice and Society at Oxford University's Centre for Socio-legal Studies in Oxford, England UK, the Adams Program looks to replicate the spirit and format of the Oxford program in which Kenyon's Summer Legal Scholars once participated. The Seminar is designed to bring together a select group of students from across the Five Colleges of Ohio to examine a current topic or theme in law through a number of presentations offered and discussions led by faculty in multiple disciplines at the consortium's colleges as well as from participating Ohio law schools.

The chosen topic for the 2016 summer seminar is Legal Problems of the Poor. The faculty presentations and readings are expected to range from the legal impact of economic inequality to the indigent's right to counsel. In light of the recent national and world events over the past 18 months, participants will discuss the particularly vexing problems facing poor immigrants and refugees at a time when funding for agencies and clinics with low income clients is shrinking rapidly.

Students wishing to participate should submit letters of interest to the Office of the Provost or Dean on their respective campuses. Participation will be limited to three (3) students from each campus. Those applying must be available to attend the full conference and seminar on the campus of Kenyon College during the week of June 6 – June 11, 2016. Overnight accommodations will be provided in College housing, with registration fees covered and meals provided. Faculty from the College of Wooster, Denison University, Oberlin College, and Ohio Wesleyan University, in addition to the host institution, Kenyon College, will be invited to be session presenters and discussion leaders. Some of the sessions will be led by law faculty.

In addition to enhancing our students' understanding and appreciation for the complexity of these socio-legal issues, the Adams Summer Legal Scholars program looks to inspire and promote increased undergraduate research about the operation and meaning of law in society. As numerous scholars over the years have intimated, "Law is much too important to be left to lawyers alone." There may be no more worthy a subject for study than law as college students endeavor to understand the multiplicity of factors that impact their opportunities in life as well as their responsibilities to ensure a just society.