2. Law and African American slavery
G. Edward White

‘Law and African American slavery’ illustrates how the colonial heritage of slavery in America helped foster the population growth, expansion of the labour force, extraction of abundant agricultural resources, and commercial prosperity that seemed to make the United States a singularly favoured nation in the first half of the nineteenth century. African American slavery, however, was also the root cause of the breakup of that nation in 1860 and the civil war that accompanied it. A civil war was necessary to end slavery in America and forcibly restore a union of northern and southern states, but the legacy of slavery would survive in the form of pervasive discrimination against African Americans.

6. New racisms?
Ali Rattansi

Few people now admit to racist feelings. But even those that might have problems agreeing on how many races there are and how they are to be differentiated from each other. If this difficulty is real, why do so many in the social sciences, media, and political realms claim that racism is still prevalent in the contemporary world? ‘New racisms?’ looks at this interesting paradox where racial discrimination is regarded as widespread but race has no scientific basis. There has been considerable debate since the 1980s about the changing relationship between earlier, overt racism and the emergence of a more covert racism which focuses on questions of culture, religion, and ethnicity.

8. Early 20th-century feminism
Margaret Walters
'Early 20th-century feminism’ surveys the achievements of women in Britain during this period, including legal and civil equality (1919, the Sex Discrimination (Removal) Act), and the vote. The effects of the First World War on women's expectations and aspirations are discussed. The successful role of women in local government is underlined, as is the importance of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship (NUSEC). The writing and attitudes towards feminism of Rebecca West and Virginia Woolf are examined. Margaret Sanger, Marie Stopes, and Annie Besant and their work in education about contraception, access to birth control, and the pursuit of workers' rights are outlined.

2. Between the crime and the court
Julian V. Roberts

'Between the crime and the trial’ discusses the procedures undertaken by the police and prosecution services after a crime has taken place and before court proceedings begin. Out of court disposals can be used for less serious crimes and where the allegations are not contested. Police may issue ‘on the spot’ fines for public disorder or impose conditional cautions. Failure to comply with the conditions will trigger prosecution. After an arrest, the prosecution guides the proceedings. Pre-trial developments include decisions on whether to: charge the defendant; bail them or remand them to custody; negotiate justice through plea bargaining; or offer to reduce the sentence if the accused will plead guilty.

4. Adam and Eve, Hijra, LGBTQs, and the shake-up of gender identities
Florian Coulmas

Like race, gender seems to be an immutable element of our identity, while in both cases natural and socio-cultural determinants interact. ‘Adam and Eve, Hijra, LGBTQs, and the shake-up of gender identities’ explains that in Western societies, gender identities are being renegotiated. It exemplifies the fact that gender roles are subject to social norms, political power conditions, and economic exigencies. Inside (we) and outside (they) perceptions of identity are not always congruent. The present transformation of gender identities is not limited to women’s and men’s definitions of femininity and masculinity, but also involves recognition of LGBTQs who do not fit a two-valued logic of human sexuality. Modifications of established gender relations are likely to induce discrimination.

8. The future of international migration
Khalid Koser
The evidence on the positive economic impact of migration has become stronger; yet anti-immigration politics and sentiments have increased. ‘The future of international migration’ explores the coming challenges for migrants, citizens, and policymakers in light of the current trends in migration patterns and processes as well as policies. It considers the changes in Asian migration; the growing issue of increased internal migration; the impact of climate change on migration; temporary migration which combats brain drain and fills specific short-term gaps in employment; the shifting policies on irregular migration from control to management; the reform of the international refugee regime; and the challenges of integration and the need for respect of migrants.

Modern India: A Very Short Introduction
Craig Jeffrey

India has become one of the world’s emerging powers, rivalling China in terms of global influence. Yet people still know relatively little about the economic, social, political, and cultural changes unfolding in India today. To what extent are people benefiting from the economic boom? Does caste still exist in India? How is India’s culture industry responding to technological change? Modern India: A Very Short Introduction looks at the exciting world of change in contemporary India. It provides a recent history of the nation, investigating the contradictions that are plaguing modern India and the manner in which people, especially young people, are actively remaking the country in the 21st century.

3. Colonial India: religious and caste divides
Craig Jeffrey

India is often identified as a Hindu country, but there are many other religions in India including Buddhism, Jainism, Islam, Sikhism, Zoroastrianism, Judaism, and Christianity. ‘Colonial India: religious and caste divides’ explains India’s religious diversity and the inequalities that are associated with the assumed ‘Hindu-ness’ of India. It also describes the Partition of India into three new nations in 1947 and the accompanying violence. A sharply hierarchical caste system is not necessarily a natural feature of Indian society. Caste is rather a social institution that has changed historically in response to economic and political forces. The imperial power introduced or exacerbated social contradictions that continue to mark the lives of low castes in modern India.
7. Youth
Craig Jeffrey

One in ten people in the world are an Indian youth aged under 30. This enormous population is poised to make a major contribution to the future of their country and the world. In India, as elsewhere, the hopes of the nation are projected onto youth. But are the conditions in India conducive to young people fulfilling societal hopes? If not, what can young people do to improve the situation in which they live? A large young adult population can be a ‘demographic dividend’ for a country, but only if the institutional and infrastructural environment is right. ‘Youth’ considers the state of education and healthcare in India today along with employment prospects for the young and youth politics.

5. Representation
David J. Bodenhamer

More than most constitutional issues, questions of representation and suffrage have exposed the fault lines of class, race, and gender in American society. Popular sovereignty was the touchstone of republican liberty, but only grudgingly did rulers admit the ruled into their circle. The world-view of the framers had no room for women, blacks, Indians, or the poor as citizens worthy of the ballot. It took a series of constitutional amendments, all spurred by war or mass movements, to expand the electorate and redefine “we the people” to include all adult citizens as rulers. ‘Representation’ describes the various Amendments to the Constitution and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 that have reshaped what representation means.

1. Introducing criminal justice
Julian V. Roberts

The criminal justice system (CJS) is wide-ranging and involves numerous components and professionals. ‘Introducing criminal justice’ outlines the objectives of criminal justice; how crime can be punished and prevented; the key principles of criminal justice; the two contrasting models of criminal justice—the adversarial model and the inquisitorial model; the various components of the CJS—police, prosecution, judiciary, prisons, probation, and parole; the limits on the power of the CJS; discretion in criminal justice decision-making;
the limits on the effectiveness of criminal justice; and criminal injustice through wrongful convictions, wrongful acquittals, over or under punishment, or discrimination.

9. ‘They don’t speak our language’ identity in linguistics
Florian Coulmas

“They don’t speak our language”: identity in linguistics’ considers the relationship between language and identity. For individuals and groups, language has instrumental and symbolic functions, which can be in conflict with each other. The instrumental function of communication stands for inclusion, while the symbolic function of identity manifestation stands for exclusion. Language serves identity manifestation with regard to nation, region, social class, ethnicity (race), gender, and age. The respective linguistic differences can be highlighted or downplayed. Yet, on the level of individual expression in both speech and writing, language has biometric qualities allowing for highly reliable speaker identification.

3. Producers
Avinash Dixit

‘Producers’ addresses production, an activity that transforms inputs (raw materials and other produced goods, as well as services of labour, land, and capital) into outputs. Producers must pay attention to the costs of these inputs — the prices of inputs that are used up, as well as wages, rents, and costs of capital — which involves judgement about uncertain prospects. Supply curves, pricing strategies, rivalry between firms, supply chains, and firm organization are considered. Firms buy some inputs to their production from other firms and make some inputs in-house. The choice is theirs. But why not produce each link of the supply chain in a separate firm? Or why not make everything in-house?

8. Resource allocation
Charles Foster

There is an infinite amount of suffering in the world and there is a distinctly finite amount of resources to deal with it. How do we decide who gets what? ‘Resource allocation’ considers these dilemmas, which are both moral and political. Resource allocation involves discrimination and the law simply requires that discrimination to be transparent and reasonable. Hospital funding committees have to take decisions about whom to treat and
whom to deny. These decisions are often based on value for money, which is measured in Quality Adjusted Life Years. The substantive law is shaped by practical considerations — there simply is not enough funding to treat everyone.

5. Children's rights

Jonathan Herring

‘Children's rights’ looks at different definitions of childhood that exist in the law and the rights that a child has in today's family law. Children have a right to life and the right not to be harmed. The matter of dispute lies in the question of whether they have all the same rights that adults have. One argument is that we need to restrict people from doing things that will cause harm to them or to others if they do not understand sufficiently what they are doing. A more persuasive argument in favour of restricting children's rights might be made on the basis that doing so during childhood is necessary in order to maximize children's autonomy in adulthood.

6. Balancing rights—free speech and privacy

Andrew Clapham

‘Balancing rights—free speech and privacy’ considers the human rights that have built-in limitations. The thrust of international human rights law for these rights is that limitations to rights must be justified by reference to pre-existing accessible laws that allow for proportionate action necessary to achieve a legitimate aim such as national security, public order, or the rights of others. Human rights simultaneously claim to protect freedom of expression and the right to privacy, but how do you balance these rights and put them into practice? It all depends on the context and proportionality.

2. The creation of the World Trade Organization

Amrita Narlikar

‘The creation of the World Trade Organization’ outlines the creation and structure of the World Trade Organization (WTO), which replaced the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) in 1995. Multiple non-tariff barriers had proliferated under the GATT in the 1970s and 1980s, outstripping its mandate. Thus, the WTO was formed in order to provide a coherent and unified system. The two key principles of the WTO are non-discrimination and
reciprocity. The WTO differs from the GATT by having an enhanced legal status, a more intrusive mandate, a permanent secretariat, and a stronger dispute settlement mechanism. However, despite the organizational complexity, it retains the member-driven nature of the GATT.

4. Rights and the ‘right to have rights’

Richard Bellamy

We frequently identify citizenship with rights. What are these rights? They can differ between countries and even within a country. When people invoke rights as the basis of citizenship, they often mean that citizens ought to have positive, or institutional, rights that follow from perceived moral or human rights. However, the global perspective throws up a number of issues. If rights are universal, then a conflict occurs between being a citizen of a particular community and upholding universal rights. Global citizenship tries to offer a solution to this. The exercise of political citizenship is best exercised at the state level, but states should maintain an obligation to allow access for non-citizens to membership on non-discriminatory terms.

11. Much accomplished … but what next?

Simon Usherwood and John Pinder

In March 2017, two events illustrated the EU’s achievement and fragility. The first, the sixtieth anniversary of the signing of the Rome treaties, was an opportunity to reflect on how the integration process has become fundamental to European governance and government, reaching into almost every area of public policy. The second was the UK’s submission of their intention to withdraw from the EU. ‘Much accomplished … but what next?’ asks whether the EU has the necessary powers and structures to achieve its objectives, but also whether its objectives are even the right ones. Without considering the latter, the former risks becoming an exercise in political narcissism.

Conclusion

Eddie S. Glaude

African Americans are generally more religious than other groups in the United States. But African American religion is much more than a description of how deeply religious African
Americans are. The phrase helps to differentiate a particular set of religious practices from others that are invested in whiteness; it invokes a particular cultural inheritance that marks the unique journey of African Americans in the United States. African American religion is rooted in the sociopolitical realities that shape the experiences of black people in America, but this is not static or fixed. The ‘Conclusion’ suggests that African American religious life remains a powerful site for creative imaginings in a world still organized by race.