**L2 – Wednesday 9:30**

**1/** “The Revolution was in the minds of the people, and this was effected from 1760 to 1775”. Explain that quote by John Adams.

Development of the American identity, distinct from the British one : distance, difference of conditions, religion … + issue of representation (timeline : Seven Years’ War > debts > taxes : “no taxation without representation” > Boston Tea Party > Intolerable Acts > Revolution)

**2/** To what extent was British private law adapted in the New World ?

The general organisation, the style of thought and the technical vocabulary were kept but some specific rules were altered or abandoned when they did not correspond to the needs of the new colonies (ex donnés dans le cours).

**L2 – Wednesday 1 pm**

**1/** Why was British public law not as influent in the New World as private law ?

Rejection of the colonial system + no monarchy + federalism

**2/** Why is the Seven Years’ War traditionally mentioned as one of the key events leading to the American Revolution ?

“The Revolution was in the minds of the people, and this was effected from 1760 to 1775 ( John Adams). Timeline starting with the Seven Years’ War > debts > taxes > “no taxation without representation” > Boston Tea Party > Intolerable Acts

**L2 – Wednesday 4 pm**

**1/ /** What is a reception statute, and why is it crucial for common law countries becoming independent ?

Statutory law adopted by former English colonies when they became independent to adopt Common Law. Crucial for precedent =/= civil law tradition.

**2/** What are the three reasons accounting for a more supple understanding of the doctrine of precedent in the US, as opposed to Great Britain ?

New country, quick pace of adaptation, unlike what had happened in the UK + Federalism + Role of Parliament in the UK.

**L2 – Thursday 1 pm**

**1/** Why can a federal system jeopardise the good working of a common law system and, conversely, why might it prove an asset ?

Coexistence of various precedents, comparative law > weakens the stability of precedent versus laboratory of democracy.

**2/** Explain the decision in Plessy v. Ferguson.

Recall the steps leading to the separate but equal theory.

**L2 – Thursday 3pm**

**1/** Does federalism really impact the cohesion of the US common law system today, and why is that so ?

Not really because Americans now share a common culture and common values + growing importance of the central state in legal matters + common legal education + ALI.

**2/** Why are there so many references to God in the Declaration of Independence ?

Religious people, manifest destiny + were going against the King of England.

**L2 – Thursday 6:15pm**

**1/** Explain Brown v. Board of Education, and expose why it was such a landmark case for the civil rights movement.

Different steps of the case + gave momentum to the movement + set a precedent that allowed to focus on other segregated areas.