

Jessica Silbey

Professor Silbey received her B.A. from Stanford University and her J.D. and Ph.D. (Comparative Literature) from the University of Michigan. Before joining the faculty of Suffolk University Law School, Professor Silbey was a litigator at Foley Hoag LLP in Boston. She also served as a law clerk to the Honorable Robert E. Keeton on the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts and to the Honorable Levin Campbell on the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit.

Professor Silbey is currently working on a series of articles about intellectual property law, investigating common and conflicting narratives within legal institutions and private organizations that explain intellectual property protection in the United States. She is especially interested in the connections between cultural narratives of creation, discovery, incentive and labor and their legal counterparts in cases, statutes and litigation. The empirical dimension of this project (conducting and analyzing interviews with intellectual property professionals) is on-going. Professor Silbey also has published widely in the field of law and film, exploring how film is used as a legal tool and how it becomes an object of legal analysis in light of its history as a cultural object and art form.

Professor Silbey teaches courses in constitutional law, trademarks and copyrights.