COURSE OUTLINE
CONSTITUTIONAL LAW AND CIVIL LIBERTIES

POL5 201

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SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND LIBERAL ARTS
SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT
May 2015
A. TITLE: Constitutional Law and Civil Liberties

B. COURSE NUMBER: POLS 201

C. CREDIT HOURS: 3

D. WRITING INTENSIVE: Optional

E. COURSE LENGTH: 15 weeks per semester

F. SEMESTER(S) OFFERED: Fall

G. HOURS OF LECTURE, LABORATORY, RECITATION, TUTORIAL, ACTIVITY: 3 per week

H. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

An examination of the principles and processes of the American judicial system, constitutional issues defining the relationship between law enforcement and civil rights and liberties will be discussed to acquaint the student with the special problems of justice in a democratic society.

I. PRE-REQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES: POLS 101 or permission of instructor

J. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

| A. Be able to describe the constitutional basis of civil liberties in the United States | 1. Communication  
2. Crit. Thinking |
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| B. Be able to describe the role of the courts and civil liberties in determining and reflecting the nature of American society. | 2. Crit. Thinking  
3. Prof. Competence |
| C. Be able to identify and explain the relevant Supreme Court cases important in the constitutional development of civil liberties. | 1. Communication  
2. Crit. Thinking  
3. Prof. Competence |
| D. Be able to trace the process and development of civil liberties through judicial review. | 1. Crit. Thinking  
2. Prof. Competence |

K. TEXTS: To be determined by instructor
L. REFERENCES:

M. EQUIPMENT: Smart classroom (computer/projector at the minimum)

N. GRADING METHOD: A-F

O. MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS:

Determined by instructor. Options include, but are not limited to: examinations, weekly/regular assignments and/or quizzes, final exam, and class presentations, research paper.

P. DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE: Attached

Q. LABORATORY OUTLINE: Not applicable
UNIT I

A. The U.S. Constitution
   1. The Body of the Constitution
      i. Article I
      ii. Article II
      iii. Article III
      iv. Article IV
      v. Article V
      vi. Article VI
      vii. Article VII
   2. Amendments

B. The American Legal System
   1. Theoretical Foundations of American Democracy
   2. Judicial Review
   3. Substantive and Procedural Due Process
   4. Equal Protection
   5. American Court System
   6. Role of U.S. Supreme Court
   7. The Bill of Rights and the 14th Amendment

C. Supreme Court Cases
   1. Marbury v. Madison
   2. Barron v. Baltimore
   3. Powell v. Alabama
   4. Gideon v. Wainwright
   5. Roe v. Wade
   6. Contemporary cases under argument or recently decided

UNIT II

A. The First Amendment: Freedom of Speech, Press, Assembly, and Religion
   1. Theory of the First Amendment
      a. The right of political dissent
      b. Freedom of the press
      c. Pentagon Papers case
      d. Unpopular speakers
      e. Obscenity and pornography
   2. Freedom of Assembly
      a. Peaceful (and non-peaceful) protest
      b. “Free Speech Zones”
   3. Freedom of Religion
      a. History of church-state relations in the U.S.
      b. Free Exercise Clause
c. Parochial schools and public subsidy
d. Release time, school prayer, Sunday closing laws

B. Supreme Court Cases
2. Dennis v. U.S.
3. Richmond Newspapers v. Virginia
5. Walz v. Tax Commission
6. Zorach v. Clauson
7. Contemporary cases under argument or recently decided

UNIT III

A. Criminal Procedure
1. Search and Seizure
2. Stop and Frisk Cases
3. Rights
   a. Confessions
   b. Fair trial
   c. Counsel
   d. Representative juries
   e. Pretrial publicity
   f. Double jeopardy
4. Technological advances and search and seizure

B. Supreme Court Cases
1. U.S. v. Peltier
2. U.S. v. U.S. District Court
3. Miranda v. Arizona
4. Gregg v. Georgia
5. Contemporary cases under argument or recently decided

UNIT IV

A. Privacy and the 4th Amendment
   a. Interpreting the Constitution
   b. Education
   c. Pornography
   d. Reproductive issues
   e. Marriage and family
   f. Homosexual rights

B. Supreme Court Cases
   a. Meyer v. Nebraska
   b. Pierce v. Society of Sisters
   c. Loving v. Virginia
   d. Griswold v. Connecticut
   e. Roe v. Wade
   f. Moore v. East Cleveland
g. Cruzan v. Missouri Department of Health
h. Lawrence v. Texas
i. Contemporary cases under argument or recently decided

UNIT V

A. Equality Before the Law
   1. Types of Discrimination
      a. Discrimination by the state
      b. Discrimination by private individuals
      c. Racial discrimination
         i. De jure and de facto
         ii. Affirmative action
         iii. Public accommodations
      d. Sexual discrimination
         i. Brandeis Brief
         ii. Jury service
         iii. Pregnancy/parental leave
         iv. Equal Rights Amendment

B. Pressure Groups
   1. Political Role of the U.S. Supreme Court
   2. Social Action Groups
   3. Role of Attorneys

C. Supreme Court Cases
   a. Plessy v. Ferguson
   b. Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka
   c. U. of California v. Baake
   d. Geduldig v. Aiello
   e. Rostker v. Goldberg
   f. Contemporary cases under argument or recently decided