POL 470: CONSTITUTIONAL LAW: FEDERALISM

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POL 470:  T-Th: 3:30 – 4:45 pm    Office Hours: Tuesday 12-3, by appointment

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

COURSE OVERVIEW:
This course will be concerned with the system of limited powers of government as established by the US Constitution. The divisions and separations of power are rarely (if ever) obvious, and we have grown to rely on the Supreme Court as the primary decision maker regarding the limitations of government power. In this course, we will examine how the Court has attempted to define these limitations for the three branches of the federal government and for state governments.

GRADING:
Midterm – 40%
Final (non-cumulative) – 40%
Quizzes – 20%

Attendance and class participation are not formal components of your grade for the semester. Success in this course is extremely unlikely, however, without attending every class. Note also that borderline grades will be determined by the quality of your overall contribution to the course.

Seven in-class, unannounced quizzes will be given throughout the semester. Five will count toward the final grade, and absolutely no make-ups will be allowed. Also, I will distribute a study guide on February 24th (one week prior to the exam) for the midterm and on April 26th for the final exam.

If any conflict (others tests, travel plans, etc.) with the test dates exists, notify me by January 27th. Documentation of the conflict will be necessary, and be advised that allowances will only be given in extreme cases with my discretion as to what I define as extreme. In the case of an occurrence of an unforeseen event that prevents attendance on the test days, the burden is on the student both to prove the reason for missing the test and to arrange with me an appropriate make-up date. The make-up exam will not be the same as the exam given on the scheduled test date.

U OF A POLICIES

Be aware of the following web resources:

Policies against plagiarism, etc.: http://dos.web.arizona.edu/uapolicies/cai1.html
Policies against threatening behavior by students:
http://dos.web.arizona.edu/uapolicies/sec5308f.html

Disability Resource Center:
http://drc.arizona.edu/teach/syllabus-statement.html

**Course Schedule**

January 13 – Introduction

January 18 – Background, Process & History: E & W: 3 – 48

January 20 – Judicial Power: E & W: 49 – 89


February 1 – Legislative Power: E & W: 143 – 158

February 3 – Legislative Power: E & W: 159 – 179

February 8 – Executive Power: E & W: 180 – 208

February 10 – Executive Power: E & W: 208 – 228

February 15 – Executive Power: E & W: 228 – 251


March 1 – Catch Up/Review

March 3 – Midterm

March 8 – Federalism: E & W: 323 – 348

March 10 – Federalism: E & W: 348 – 371

March 15 – No Class – Spring Break
March 17 – No Class – Spring Break

March 22 – Federalism: E & W: 371 – 399

March 24 – Commerce Power: E & W: 400 – 424

March 29 – Commerce Power: E & W: 424 – 444

March 31 – Commerce Power: E & W: 445 – 470

April 5 – Commerce Power: E & W: 471 – 491

April 7 – Tax & Spending Power: E & W: 492 – 501, 511 – 530

April 12 – Contract Clause: E & W: 547 – 576


April 26 – Takings: E & W: 641 – 658

April 28 – Takings: E & W: 658 – 672

May 3 – Catch Up/Review

May 11 – Final Exam (3:30 – 5:30 pm)