

Political Science 3205

Constitution and Civil Liberties

ETSU Fall 2021

Information

Course: Political Science 3205, Section 01, 81834

Time: 12:45-2:05 pm

Where: Room 327 Rogers-Stout Hall

Instructor: Dr. Colin Glennon

Email: glennon@etsu.edu

Office Hours: 2-4 MW and by appointment.

Location: 301A Rogers-Stout Hall

Course Description

This course will focus on the *Civil Liberties* of individuals as they are enumerated in the United States Constitution. In particular we will explore in greatest detail the First, Second, Fifth, and Ninth Amendments, and their application to the states through the 14th Amendment. Thus, this class will explore constitutionally provided property, economic, expressive, religious, privacy, and equal protection rights of United States citizens. This class makes use of the case studies method to explore the dynamic process used by the United States Supreme Court to interpret and change the meaning of individual liberties over the years. Students will exit the course with the knowledge of how individual civil liberties are interpreted and upheld in America today.

Text Book

The text is available for purchase at the ETSU Bookstore or at Amazon.com

Otis Stephens, Jr., John M. Scheb II, and Colin Glennon. *American Constitutional Law Volume II: Civil Rights and Liberties*. Sixth Edition. Cengage Learning, 2014.
ISBN: 9781285736921

I may also require some supplemental readings as well. These will be in the form of academic articles that you will be responsible for acquiring on your own. All of them will be available through the library's electronic database. Announcements will be made throughout the semester about these readings.

Calculating Your Grade

You will earn points as follows:

100 points for attendance, participation, and quizzes

100 points for case briefs

150 points for the midterm exam

150 points for the final exam

I will calculate your grade as follows:

A = 465-500 points A- = 450-464 points

B+ = 435-449 points B = 415-434 points B- = 400-414 points

C+ = 385-399 points C = 365-384 points C- = 350-364 points

D+ = 335-349 points D = 300-334 points F = 299 points or less

In class quizzes

Throughout the semester you are asked to read, comprehend, and comment on numerous seminal Supreme Court decisions. Occasionally class will begin with quizzes over the readings or specific cases that are assigned for that day. These will **not** be lengthy, taking place within the first 5 minutes of class. There are no makeup quizzes given, so come to class and be prepared. All total, these quizzes are part of Attendance and participation which collectively will make up 100 points of your final grade (20%)

Case Brief Assignment

Students in this class will practice the art of creating case briefs that accurately summarize 5 unique cases from our readings. I will distribute an example of what a completed case brief looks like and students will select 5 cases they find most interesting and turn in a completed brief for each of those cases. This assignment is worth 100 points total. Note that early drafts may be submitted for instructor feedback at any time, but the 5th brief must be turned in by 11/11/2021. All briefs should be in standard format, 12-point font, double spaced not more than 4 pages total per case and **MUST CONTAIN PROPER CITATIONS**. More details will be given about this assignment in class.

College Policies

Accommodations for students with disabilities:

If you are a student who requires accommodations please see me immediately. Together we will develop a full accommodation strategy for you in this course. It is the policy of ETSU to accommodate students with disabilities, pursuant to federal law, state law and the University's commitment to equal educational opportunities. Any student with a disability who needs accommodations, for example arrangement for examinations or seating placement, should inform the instructor at the beginning of the course. Faculty accommodation forms are provided to eligible students by Disability Services. Disability Services is located on the third floor of Dossett Hall, telephone 439-8346. <http://www.etsu.edu/students/disable/>.

PS 3205 Class Policies

Exam Policy:

Exam dates are clearly listed on the course syllabus. Students are responsible for remembering these and arriving on-time and prepared to take all exams, as scheduled.

Midterm-10/19/21

Final-12/9/21

Makeup Exam Policy: Failure to show up and take an exam during the scheduled time will result in an **automatic** zero (0) for that exam, *unless* the student contacts the Professor **PRIOR** to the exam in question. Permission must be requested in advance of the scheduled exam date – AND – the Professor must approve the request.

Absolutely no makeup exams will be given to students who fail to follow the above procedures and/or do not present an acceptable reason.

Students may be asked to provide relevant documentation and/or written records justifying their absence (doctors' notes, etc.)

Assignment Policy:

Due dates for required assignments are either listed on the course syllabus or a particular assignment sheet or handout. Students are responsible for remembering these and timely submission of completed assignments is required. Failure to meet this requirement will result in an **automatic** thirty-three-percent (33%) deduction for each day the assignment is late.

THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THESE CLASS POLICIES.

The official ETSU syllabus attachment is located at <http://www.etsu.edu/reg/academics/syllabus.aspx>.

The Student Course Title Transcript Update Form may be found at <http://www.etsu.edu/reg/regforms/titleupdateform.php>

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) information may be found at <http://www.etsu.edu/reg/records/ferpa.aspx>

Other important dates may be found on the academic calendar at <http://www.etsu.edu/etsu/academicdates.aspx>

Please check the ETSU Bucs are Back website for information as it relates to university policy surrounding the ongoing Covid-19 Pandemic at <https://www.etsu.edu/coronavirus/>

Attendance and Participation

I strongly encourage you to attend class. Attendance will not be taken in this course on an everyday basis, yet I will pass an attendance sheet on randomly determined days, and I reserve the right to do so on any additional days as well. This course is a seminar relying on the case studies method of exploration; accordingly, I will keep tabs on who participates in class discussions and how often. Your attendance and participation grade are worth 20% of your total grade in this course. Thus, if you want to do well in this class it is imperative that you attend regularly and contribute meaningfully to the class discussion.

Cheating and Plagiarism

Cheating is wrong, and I do not like it. If I catch you cheating (e.g., looking at someone else's paper during a test or quiz, consulting notes during a test), I will punish you. Cheating carries with it a severe penalty, and may even lead to expulsion from the university, so do not cheat! Cheating on an exam will lead to an automatic score of zero (0) on that exam without exception.

I will not tolerate plagiarism. According to the Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary, to "plagiarize" means:

- to steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one's own
- to use (another's production) without crediting the source
- to commit literary theft
- to present as new and original an idea or product derived from an existing source.

In other words, plagiarism is an act of fraud. It involves both stealing someone else's work and lying about it afterward. If you have questions about plagiarism, please see me BEFORE you turn in work that you are unsure contains proper citations.

Reading:

This class will require an ample amount of reading on the student's part. Coming to class prepared to participate will involve daily reading of the assigned text chapter or case opinions. You will be tested over the reading, and you will need to have completed the reading in order to participate in that session's discussion. Doing well on pop quizzes will be quite challenging to students who are not prepared for class. In short, I simply cannot envision a way for you to do well in this course without completing the readings as assigned. Note: if it is in your book or any outside reading that is otherwise assigned, you may be tested or quizzed on it.

Talking in class:

THIS IS THE NUMBER ONE RULE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

This class will involve a great deal of discussion. However, you are to speak *only when recognized by me*. Furthermore, you may NOT talk when someone else (including me) is speaking. Additionally, let us also remember that disagreements are natural when discussing some of the topics of this course, yet we must remain civil in our discussion at all times to foster intellectual development. So be polite! Anyone in violation of this policy on more than one occasion will be removed from the course

PS 3205 Calendar

Date	Topic	Reading	Note
8/24/2021	Introduction & Rights	Syllabus	Welcome!
8/26/2021	Incorporation	Chapter 1	
8/31/2021	Judicial Review	<i>Marbury v. Madison</i>	
9/2/2021	Chapter 1 cases	Cases 1-6	
9/7/2021	Chapter 1 cases	Cases 7-12	
9/9/2021	Property Rights	Chapter 2	
9/14/2021	Economic Due Process	<i>Dred Scott v Sandford</i>	
9/16/2021	Chapter 2 cases	Cases 1-5	
9/21/2021	Chapter 2 cases	Cases 6-11	
9/23/2021			<i>No Class</i>
9/28/2021	Freedom of Speech	Chapter 3	
9/30/2021	Freedom of Press and Association	Chapter 3	
10/5/2021	Chapter 3 cases	Cases 1-4	
10/7/2021	Chapter 3 cases	Cases 5-10	
10/12/2021	<i>Fall break</i>		
10/14/2021	Chapter 3 cases	Cases 11-16	

10/19/2021	<i>MIDTERM EXAM!!!!</i>	<i>MIDTERM EXAM!!!!</i>	<i>MIDTERM EXAM!!!!</i>
10/21/2021			<i>No Class</i>
10/26/2021	Freedom of Religion	Chapter 4	
10/28/2021	Freedom of Religion	Chapter 4	
11/2/2021	Chapter 4 cases	Cases 1-7	
11/4/2021	Chapter 4 cases	Cases 8-15	
11/9/2021	Ninth Amendment	Chapter 6	
11/11/2021	Privacy rights	<i>Roe v Wade</i>	CASE BRIEFS DUE
11/16/2021	Chapter 6 cases	Cases 1-5	
11/18/2021	Chapter 6 cases	Cases 6-11	
11/23/2021	Equal Protection	Chapter 7	
11/25/2021	<i>Thanksgiving</i>		
11/30/2021	Chapter 7 cases	Cases 1-6	
12/2/2021	Chapter 7 cases	Cases 7-12	

FINAL EXAM: Thursday, December 9th, 1:20 PM