

Fall 2009

PS 179 US Civil Rights

Professor Tony Smith

Office: SSPB 5253 telephone 949.824.5403

Email: casmith@uci.edu

Class Meets: T/TH 12:30-1:50 pm in PCB 100

Office Hours: Wed 11-12 and any time by prior appointment

TA: Seth Alexander jsalexan@uci.edu SST 734 office hours MW from 3:30 - 4:30 and any time by prior appointment

NOTE no section weeks of 9/24, 10/13, and 11/24

Required Text:

Constitutional Law for a Changing America: Rights, Liberties, and Justice 6th Ed

Lee Epstein and Thomas G Walker (CQ Press: ISBN 978-1-933116-80-8)

note bene: The lectures are designed under the assumption you have done the required reading before class. Also note, additional reading material may be distributed in class or section.

Tentative Schedule:

Date	Topic and Reading
SEP 24	Introduction and Overview
SEP 29	The Supreme Court ch 1
OCT 01	Power & Constraints ch 2
OCT 06	The Bill of Rights ch 3
OCT 08	Religion ch 4
OCT 13	Religion ch 4
OCT 15	Speech, Assembly, Association ch 5
OCT 20	Speech, Assembly, Association ch 5
OCT 22	The Press ch 6
OCT 27	MIDTERM EXAM(in class)
OCT 29	Obscenity & Libel ch 7
NOV 03	Right to Bear Arms ch 8
NOV 05	Privacy ch 9
NOV 10	Privacy ch 9
NOV 12	Investigations & Evidence ch 10
NOV 17	Attorneys, trials & Punishment ch 11
NOV 19	Discrimination ch 12
NOV 24	Discrimination ch 12
NOV 26	Thanksgiving Holiday
DEC 01	Voting and Representation: ch 13
DEC 03	Overview & Wrap-up (final exam prompt handed out)

FINAL EXAM DEC 11th 10:30-12:30 (pm)

EXAMINATION AND GRADING DETAILS:

There will be one midterm exam and a final exam. The midterm will be an in class exam worth up to 50 points. The final will be a take-home exam due by the beginning of the exam period as scheduled by the registrar and will be worth up to 40 points. Class and section participation, broadly defined, will be worth up to 10 points. 100 total points are available. Additional details about the exams will be provided in class. If you are unfamiliar with any of the University policies, especially regarding plagiarism and other issues of academic integrity, please consult the University website or discuss these issues with me **prior** to any exam.