

POLI 4021: Civil Liberties

Location: 116 Stubbs MWF 12:30-1:20
Instructor: Kate Bratton
Office hours: MWF, 1:20-2:30, Stubbs 208A, or by appointment
Email: 4021spring2019@gmail.com

I) Required Texts:

Supplemental text: *Rights, Liberties, and Justice* (Lee Epstein & Thomas Walker)

II) Grade Distribution:

Midterm 1: 15% (online) (open-notes, open-book, open-google)
Midterm 2: 15% (online) (open-notes, open-book, open-google)
Final: 20% (online and in-class)

Moodle Quizzes: 15%
Short Moodle Exercises: 20%

- One on a pending First Amendment case
- One on a short biographical sketch of a Supreme Court Justice
- One on capital punishment cases, involving both the 6th & 8th Amendments
- One on the question of incorporating the 8th Amendment

Attendance: 15%

If you need to miss for a valid reason, let me know before class via the gmail email above. You as a student are the best judge of what constitutes a “valid” reason; that said, obviously, for each student, there are a limit to the numbers of valid reasons for which one can miss class. This is a fairly flexible policy, but a student could not, for example, email four times with the excuse of tiredness—but once would be reasonable. Another example would be “I need to study for a test that I have at 3 pm.” Or “my car broke down,” or “traffic on the bridge was at a standstill.”

Choices must be made in life, and I tend to be sympathetic to that reality. If you email in advance (or asap, if it’s not possible to email in advance), the absence will be excused. I will guarantee you at least three excused absences based on this policy. Use them wisely. ☺

Illness with a doctor’s excuse, religious observances, athletic participation (or participation in other academic events) are all considered separately, and as long as you notify me before class, they are excused.

III) Useful Links

[LSU Disability Services](#)

[PS 22](#) on “Student Absence From Class”

[PS 26](#) on Policy for Persons with Disabilities

[PS 44](#) on Student Grading

[PS 48](#) on Student Appeals

IV) Academic Integrity

Taken from the LSU Code of [Student Conduct](#), Section 8.0, page 18:

A. High standards of academic integrity are crucial for the University to fulfill its educational mission. To uphold these standards, procedures have been established to address academic misconduct.

As a guiding principle, the University expects Students to model the principles outlined in the University Commitment to Community, especially as it pertains to accepting responsibility for their actions and holding themselves and others to the highest standards of performance in an academic environment. For example, LSU students are responsible for submitting work for evaluation that reflects their individual performance and should not assume any assignment given by any professor is a “group” effort or work unless specifically noted on the assignment. In all other cases, students must assume the work is to be done independently. If the student has a question regarding the instructor’s expectations for individual assignments, projects, tests, or other items submitted for a grade, it is the student’s responsibility to seek clarification.

Any Student found to have committed or to have attempted to commit Academic Misconduct is subject to the disciplinary sanctions set forth in Section 9.0.

B. An instructor may not assign a disciplinary grade, such as an "F" or zero on an assignment, test, examination, or course as a sanction for admitted or suspected Academic Misconduct in lieu of formally charging the student with Academic Misconduct under the provisions of this Code. All grades assigned as a result of accountability action must be approved by the Dean of Students or designee.

V) Rehabilitation Act of 1973:

LSU abides by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which stipulates that no student shall be denied the benefits of an education "solely by reason of a handicap." Disabilities covered by law include, but are not limited to, learning, psychological hearing, sight and mobility impairments. If you have a disability that may have some impact on your work in this class and for which you may require accommodations, please see me or the Office of Disability Services, 112 Johnston Hall, so that such accommodations may be arranged

VI) Grading Scale

97 and above: A+
93-96.9: A
89.5-92.9: A-
86.5-89.49: B+
83.5-86.49: B
79.5-83.49: B-
76.5-79.49: C+
73.5-76.49: C
69.5-73.49: C-
66.5-69.49: D+
63.5-66.49: D
59.5-63.49: D-
59.49 and below: F

Schedule of Classes:

January 9:	Syllabus
January 11-18:	Judicial Review & Incorporation
January 17:	Final date for dropping courses without receiving a W, 4:30 pm deadline
January 18:	Final date for adding courses for credit and making section changes, 4:30 pm deadline
January 18:	Final date to petition deans' office to invoke the Grade Exclusion Policy, 4:30 pm deadline.
January 21:	Martin Luther King Day
January 23-February 1:	Amendment I, Freedom of Speech
February 4-15:	Amendment I, Establishment & Exercise
February 18-20:	Amendment I, Press
February 22:	Amendment I, Assembly & Petition First short Moodle paper / exercise due, focusing on case pending in Court
February 25-February 27:	2 nd Amendment (and any catching up)
Midterm 1:	Covers First & Second Amendments Open from March 1 (after review) to March 8 Two tries on moodle.
March 1:	Review
March 4-6	Mardis Gras (yes, it includes the 6 th ☺, even though classes technically start at 12:30)
March 8-18:	Fourth Amendment
March 12:	Mid-term grades
March 20-25:	Fifth Amendment
March 22:	Final date for dropping courses, 4:30 pm deadline
March 22:	Final date for resigning from the University, 4:30 pm deadline
March 22:	Final date to request a final examination when three examinations are scheduled in 24 hours
March 24:	Course scheduling for fall semester, Summer Intersession and Wintersession begins, 5:00 pm
March 27:	Review
Midterm II:	March 27 (after review) through April 1 Covers Fourth & Fifth Amendment

- Two tries
- March 29-April 8: Sixth Amendment
- April 9-12: Eighth Amendment
- April 15-21: Spring Break
- April 22-26: Civil Rights
- April 24-28: Concentrated Study period→No meetings, social activities, athletic events, or other extracurricular activities requiring student participation will be schedule; no major examinations will be given in academic courses other than labs.**
- April 27: Last day of classes**
- Final exam: Thursday, May 2, 7:30-9:30 AM
- Note: only a small portion of the final exam is “in class.” Therefore, feel free to show up at any time 8:30 or earlier. I will be there at 7:30 am, but you will be able to easily complete the in-class portion of the final exam in one hour.

[Spring 2019 Final Exam Schedule](#)