

Course Assignments
The Law of Politics
Fall 2012

All cases assigned should be briefed. Briefs need to be written and brought to class unless you can commit your brief to memory in a way that you can answer questions about it. General other reading assignments should be summarized in writing and also brought to class. NOTE: As we move through the semester, assignments are subject to change. Check this page on a regular basis.

There is a webpage for this course which will be regularly updated, mainly with relevant videos from Youtube. This webpage is linked on the class website.

Prepare the O'Rourke book for the first exam and the Thernstrom book for the second exam.

For each class day prepare the following assignments in the Hasen Election Law textbook.

I. Introduction

Class 1 Wed August 29

Basic Political Theory

Read Federalist #10. pp 3-11

Burke

pp 11-14

Ellis.

pp 14-25

II. Citizens Right To Vote

Class 2 Wed September 5

Historical Introduction

Dr. Sager to discuss pp 25-40

State Limitations On Right To Vote

Brief Harper.

pp 40-47

Brief Shafer

pp 47-55

Brief Kramer

pp 55-65

Class 3 Mon September 10

Voter I.D. And Voting Rights

Brief Crawford.

pp 302-323

Class 4 Wed September 12.

Vote Counting and 14th Amendment

Read and Brief Bush v. Gore pp 267-293

Class 5 Mon September 17

Other Counting, Casting and Registration Issues

Brief Wexler. pp 293-303
Read. Hasen pp 323-341

III Legal Issues of Campaigning and Campaigns

Class 6 Wed September 19

Speech And Appearance Issues

Brief State of Washington pp 536-552
Brief. McIntyre pp 891-908
Dr. Sager to discuss Judicial Elections
pp 552-588

Class 7 Mon September 24

Contributions and Expenditures

The Basic Framework
Brief Buckley. pp 641-676

Class 8 Wed September 26

No Class. Religious Holiday

Class 9 Mon October 1

Empirical Observations about , and Theoretical Justifications for, Campaign Finance Regulations.

Read. pp. 676-701

Class 10 Wed October 3

Exam # 1

Class 11 Mon October 8

Corporate Spending Limits

Brief Bellotti. pp 701- 717
Brief Austin. pp 722-735

Class 12 Wed October 10

Read Oral Arguments in Citizen's United

Class 13 Mon October 15

Brief Citizen's United. pp 738-761

Class 14 Wed October 17

Contribution Limits

Brief Nixon. pp 761-792

Class 15 Mon October 22

Contribution Limits

Brief Randall. pp 792-810
Read. pp 810-820
Brief Speech Now. pp 820-826

Class 16 Wed October 24

Contribution Limits

Brief Ognibene. pp 826-831

Public Financing

Brief Arizona. pp 851-874

Class 17 Mon October 29

Campaign Finance Disclosure

Brief Buckley v. Valeo pp 884-891

Brief Doe v. Reed. pp 908-921

Class 18 Wed October 31

Exam #2

III. Legal Issues Affecting Political Parties

Class 19 Mon November 5

Roles, Responsibilities and Obligations

Read pp 417-449

Brief. Ammond. pp 440-443

Class 20 Wed November 7

State Parties

Brief. Tashijan. pp 454-465

Patronage

Brief. Elrod. pp 478-495

IV. Bribery

Class 21 Mon November 12

Brief all 6 short cases in Chapter. 11

V. Aggregating Votes in Districted Elections: 14th Amendment and the VRA

Class 22 Wed November 14

Basic Issues One Person one Vote

Brief. Reynolds v. Simms pp 66-69

Brief Lucas v. Colorado pp 69-78

Brief Avery v. Midland County. pp 78-86

Brief Saylor pp 86-93

Class 23 Mon November 1

Partisan Gerrymandering

Brief Vieth v. Jubeliere pp 109-144

Incumbency Advantages

Brief: Miller v. Cunningham pp 154-159

Class 24 Wed November 21

Minority Vote Dilution: Section 5 of the VRA

Brief: Allen v. Board of Education pp 165-171

Brief: Beer v. United States pp 171-180

Brief: Ga. V. Ashcroft pp 180-190

Class 25 Mon November 26

The Future of Section 5 of the VRA

Brief NW Austin MUD v. Holder pp 190-201

Minority Vote Dilution: Section 2

Brief Thornburg v. Gingles pp 201-229

Brief Holder v. Hall pp 229-236

Class 26 Wed November 28

Minority Vote Dilution: Racial Gerrymander and the 14th Amendment

Brief: Shaw v. Reno pp 237-249

Read post-Shaw cases pp. 237-249

Read Lulac v. Perry pp 258-267

Class 27 Mon December 3

Putting It All Together: 2012 Election and issues covered in this course

Class 28 Wed December 5

Exam #3