



Constitutional Democracy/Poli Sci 4231: Constitutional Litigation

Spring 2023 (Three Credit Hours)

Call-for-Applications: Deadline October 15, 2022

Back after a two-year hiatus, CNST_DEM 4231: Constitutional Litigation (see description below) will be taught in the Spring 2023 semester by Prof. Haley Proctor, the Visiting Fellow in Constitutional Litigation at the Kinder Institute and MU Law School. In addition to regular class meetings (T/Th 2-3:15), the course includes a Spring Break trip to Washington, D.C., where, among other things, students will attend oral arguments at the U.S. Supreme Court.

There is a supplemental course fee of \$1,200 associated with the class, which covers airfare, hotels, and most meals in D.C. Students who are accepted into the course will be able to apply for a limited number of need-based scholarships.

Course Description

This course will explore federal constitutional adjudication. We will look at the constitutional contours of the federal courts set out in Article III and consider how that framework gave rise to judicial review. We will then explore how constitutional litigation comes about, answering the questions who can present constitutional questions for adjudication and how. We will work our way up from the trial level, where constitutional questions are usually first presented, to the United States Supreme Court, where we will study how the Supreme Court chooses its docket, advocacy before the Court, and the Court's decision-making process.

Application Process

Since enrollment is limited to 18 students, we ask that all students interested in taking the course complete the brief application on page 2 of this document, and submit it to Dr. Thomas Kane, KaneTC@missouri.edu, by October 15, 2022. Permission numbers will be issued to all successful applicants no later than November 1. Students should enroll within a week of receiving a permission number, so that open seats may be offered to anyone on the wait list. Application materials should be submitted as MS Word documents or PDFs.

CNST_DEM 4231: Constitutional Litigation
Application Materials

APPLICATION PART ONE: ACADEMIC RESUME

Students should provide an academic resume that, at a minimum, contains the following: your major(s)/minor(s)/certificate(s), GPA, relevant course work semester and year you entered Mizzou, expected graduation date, work and volunteer experience, and details about clubs/organizations on campus that you participate in (and leadership positions held where applicable).

Please save this document using the file name “Your Last Name-Con Lit Resume”

APPLICATION PART TWO: SHORT ESSAYS

Students should respond to both of the following prompts in no more than 250 words each, making sure to include the word count after their answers.

Prompt 1: Describe your interest in learning about constitutional litigation.

Prompt 2: Choose a United States Supreme Court case from the last 10 years and explain its significance.

Please save this document using the file name “Your Last Name-Con Lit Essays”

Submit both application components in a single email to Dr. Kane, KaneTC@missouri.edu, by the
October 15, 2022, deadline