



Const Dem/Poli Sci 4231: Constitutional Litigation

Spring 2024 (Three Credit Hours)

Call-for-Applications: Deadline October 1, 2023

CNST_DEM/POL_SC 4231: Constitutional Litigation (see description below) will be taught in the Spring 2024 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 to help offset this cost.

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 anyone 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 1, 2023.** Permission numbers will be issued to all successful applicants no later than October 20. Students should add the course to their schedule as close to their spring enrollment date as possible, so that open seats may be offered to anyone on the wait list. Application materials must be submitted as an MS Word document or PDF.

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, as well as leadership positions held if and where applicable.

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.

Save both application components **in a single document** (MS Word or PDF) using the file name “Your Last Name-Con Lit Application”

Submit applications via email to Dr. Thomas Kane, KaneTC@missouri.edu, by October 1, 2023