

***CIVIL LIBERTIES AND CIVIL RIGHTS***  
**Spring Semester, 2009**  
**Political Science 332I/BAS 332I**  
**M, W, F 10:00 – 10:50 a.m.**

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office hours: Wed, 12:30-4:30,  
F, 8-10 a.m. & by appt.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course covers selected topics in civil liberties and civil rights in the United States. While we will be reading some of the Supreme Court decisions as we move through the semester, we will spend most of our time understanding the historical background, sociological, political and economic factors that have shaped civil rights issues in the United States. Because the topic of “Civil Liberties and Civil Rights” is so large, we will have to select only a few areas of law and try to use them to help us understand the broader processes at work that shape the demands, responses, and claims made in political struggles involving civil rights and civil liberties. We will take a look at Cold War politics and the Civil Rights movement and how those politics shaped the Civil Rights Movement; school prayer, immigration, and equality in education. All of these topics have much to do with contemporary politics as we grapple with issues such as civil rights in wartime, various immigration issues, problems of decreasing educational opportunities, and the appropriate role of religion in our public schools.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

By the end of this semester, students should be able to:

1. understand how Supreme Court decisions concerning civil liberties and civil rights have affected diversity in the United States;
2. learn how to communicate through the use of web-based resources, as well as through written and oral communication;
3. learn some basic Internet legal research skills, including finding cases, law reviews;
4. combine the knowledge of history, sociology and political science to understand the impact (or lack thereof) of Civil Rights claims, as well as the way responses by the government shape the legal claims.

## GRADING

| <u>Assignments (% of course grade)</u> | <u>Grading Scale:</u> |          |
|--|-----------------------|----------|
| 4 Tests (60%)                          | A                     | 90-100   |
| Take Home Final Exam (20%)             | B                     | 80-89    |
| Participation (20%)                    | C                     | 70-79    |
|  | D                     | 60-69    |
|  | F                     | 59-Below |

### REQUIRED TEXTS (available at the University Bookstore)

In addition to the following texts, there are hand-outs available on the Blackboard website.

Mary L. Dudziak, *Cold War Civil Rights: Race and the Image of American Democracy*. Princeton University Press, 2000.

Paul A. Sracic, *San Antonio v. Rodriguez and the Pursuit of Equal Education: The Debate Over Discrimination and School Funding*. University Press of Kansas, 2006.

Bruce J. Dierenfield, *The Battle Over School Prayer: How Engel v. Vitale Changed America*. University Press of Kansas, 2007.

Kevin R. Johnson, *The 'Huddled Masses' Myth: Immigration and Civil Rights*. Temple University Press, 2004.

### TESTS, PARTICIPATION AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Please note: I do not accept late work unless there is a documented excuse (i.e., doctor's note, note from your parents, etc.). I will not accept late work because of plane tickets or train tickets.

Student athletes, as well as students involved in other extracurricular activities that will require the miss class, should provide me a schedule of classes they will miss as soon as possible.

#### Tests

You will take four tests over the course of the semester, and one final exam. These tests will take several different forms, including multiple choice, true/false, and essays. Each one is worth 15% of your final grade.

These four tests will be open book/open note and in class – so be sure to take careful notes and do the readings assigned on the syllabus. Anything assigned in the readings is testable material, even if we don't talk about it in class before the test.

## Take-Home Final Exam

Your final exam will be a take-home, and it will also be worth 20% of your final grade. *It will be cumulative, covering the last readings on Johnson/immigration as well as all other topics covered throughout the semester.* It will be due the Monday of finals week and handed out a couple of weeks before the end of the term. The last week of classes will be canceled so that your TA and your professor can meet with students in special office hours to discuss the final.

*At the end of April, I will determine your grade without the final exam. If you are receiving a B or higher in the course at that time, you do not have to take this final exam.*

## Participation

Participation is worth **20% your final grade**. To receive full points, you must meet the following requirements:

1. **Read** the material well enough that you can answer and ask pertinent questions during class discussion. If you're shy, and feel uncomfortable talking in class, let me suggest two things: first, sit near the front of the class – it's generally a lot easier to speak if you can't see your fellow classmates; second, make use of email to ask questions of both your TA and me. This way, you will be able to demonstrate to us that you've read the material and are actively engaged in the class.
2. **Attend class and be on time.** If you are more than 5 minutes late, you will not be counted present that day.
3. At the beginning of the semester, I assign everyone 20 points for their participation grade. Each unexcused absence decreases your participation grade by *two points*. Once you've missed two classes without an excused absence, your participation grade will drop to a B. With three absences, it will drop to a C. After four absences, your participation grade will be a D. After that 5, you will receive a failing grade for the participation component of your final grade.

If you must miss class, you should *notify* either your professor or the teaching assistant as soon as you know you will be absent. If you can document your excuse (i.e., get a note from a doctor, etc.), then your absence will not count against your grade.

*Personal preference day...* Everyone gets one day to miss class without it affecting your grade. However, you still must email your TA or me and let us know that you want your absence that day to count as your personal preference day.

4. Come to **office hours**. Because the materials for this class are difficult, your TA and Professor will both be holding regularly scheduled office hours, as well as special office hours during many Friday class periods throughout the semester. While you do not need an appointment to come to our regularly scheduled office hours, we will give you an opportunity to sign up for meetings during the special office hours on Fridays. This way, if

you have questions, need to check on your grade, or would like to discuss some other aspect of class, you'll have an opportunity to sit down with one of us. Coming to office hours is a form of participation, and can help you maximize the grade you receive at the end of the semester.

*Getting Extra Credit for Office Hour Visits.* Each time you meet with one of us during office hours or by appointment, we will add one point to your participation grade. You can add up to 3 points to your participation grade by coming to office hours three times over the course of the semester. (You are welcome to come more often, but after three points, no more additional points will be added to your grade.)

*Meeting Outside Office Hours.* Finally, if you need to meet outside of scheduled office hours or outside of these meeting times, we may not be able to do so because of our other responsibilities. Please remember to suggest a time when you request such a meeting, and be prepared to be flexible with our schedules.

### **COURSE WEB PAGE**

This course will be managed using Blackboard. You will have access to all course information, including the syllabus, course schedule, reading assignments and an email system to contact me or other students in the class. I will regularly post messages regarding the reading, schedule, assignments to the course page. Please make it a habit to check the course page on a daily basis to keep up with any announcements, including changes in deadlines and/or reading assignments. There are numerous computer labs on campus, so access to Blackboard should not be a problem for anyone. In order to access Blackboard, go to [mycourse.siu.edu](http://mycourse.siu.edu). There is a great deal of information available on that page to help you get set up with an account and find your course options. You **MUST** create an account by the end of the first week of class. 3 points will be deducted weekly from your participation grade until you create an account.

### **CONTACTING ME**

Please feel free to stop by during my office hours to discuss questions/issues related to this course or any other academic matters. If your schedule does not allow you to stop in during office hours, you can contact me via email or telephone. As a general rule, I'll return your calls within 24 hours, and your email as promptly as I can.

Because I do not accept late work, it's very important that you take advantage of office hours and contact me if you run into problems in preparing for your exams or writing up your paper assignment.

### **STUDENT CONDUCT**

The best way to become a young professional is to begin to act like one now. That means that you should be courteous and professional in all your interactions with your peers and your professors. Please turn off your cell phones and all other electronic devices upon entering the classroom. Remember to

disagree in an agreeable manner with your classmates and your professor so that we can have an engaged and insightful conversation. Any student behaving in a manner that is disruptive or inappropriate will be removed, and potentially sanctioned as outlined in the University Student Conduct Code.

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

All students are responsible for their own work. You cannot submit someone else's work as your own, whether it is another student's or the work of a published author. Remember, if you use information from another source (including books, articles, internet sites, other students, etc.) without citing the author in an appropriate manner, you are plagiarizing. This includes direct quotations, paraphrased information, and the use of another person's ideas in your work. All exams in this class are closed book and closed notes, though you will have a study guide before the exams which you can discuss with your classmates. The penalty for violations of academic integrity, including plagiarism, cheating, or other misconduct, will most definitely result in a failing grade for this course, and will likely result in a formal charge of misconduct as outlined in the University Student Conduct Code. Such a formal charge will possibly lead to further sanctions, including suspension and expulsion.

If you have questions about what constitutes cheating and plagiarism, please contact the Southern Illinois Office of Academic Advising or view the University Undergraduate Catalog for more information.

### **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

Please notify me as soon as possible if you require special assistance in the form of individualized testing or other accommodations. I am happy to do whatever I can to accommodate your needs. Also, Disabilities Support Services can assist you with testing, note-taking and accessibility issues.

### **EMERGENCY PROCEDURES**

Southern Illinois University Carbondale is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for study and work. Because some health and safety circumstances are beyond our control, we ask that you become familiar with the SIUC Emergency Response Plan and Building Emergency Response Team (BERT) program. Emergency response information is available on posters in buildings on campus, available on the BERT'S website at [www.bert.siu.edu](http://www.bert.siu.edu), Department of Public Safety's website [www.dps.siu.edu](http://www.dps.siu.edu) (disaster drop down) and in the Emergency Response Guidelines pamphlet. Know how to respond to each type of emergency.

Instructors will provide guidance and direction to students in the classroom in the event of an emergency affecting your location. It is important that you follow these instructions and stay with your instructor during an evacuation or sheltering emergency. The Building Emergency Response Team will provide assistance to your instructor in evacuating the building or sheltering within the facility.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

**January 12th, 2009**

*Please note that this may change – you are responsible for keeping up with any changes that occur during the course of the term.*

|          |            |   |
|----------|------------|---|
| January  | 12         | Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Basic orientation for the course</li><li>• Knowledge Quiz (does not count in your grade but is required)</li></ul>       |
|          | 14         | Hockett and Wright readings, both of which can be downloaded from the Blackboard website. They are in the folder named “Nuremberg Trial Readings”.                            |
|          | 16         | Finish discussion of readings, and discuss the Study Guide (available on Blackboard).   |
|          | <b>19</b>  | <b>Martin Luther King Holiday – NO CLASS</b>  |
|          | 21, 23, 26 | Watch the movie <i>The Nuremberg Trials</i> (take notes, as this movie will be covered on the first test of the semester)   |
|          | 28         | Discuss movie, and review for test  |
|          | 30         | <b>Test (please remember that the movie, the readings, and the lectures will also be covered on this test)</b>  |
| February | 2          | Read <i>Brown v. Board of Education</i> , <i>Bolling v. Sharpe</i> , (both are available on the Blackboard website in the Folder marked “Case Law Hand-Outs”)                 |
|          | 4          | Read Dudziak 3-78 and the 14 <sup>th</sup> Amendment  |
|          | 6          | Special office hours during class time to discuss class progress. Office hours are held in our offices, not in the classroom. Only students with appointments need to attend. |
|          | 9          | Dudziak pp. 79-151  |
|          | 11         | Dudziak, pp. 152-202  |
|          | 13         | <b>Test on Dudziak, <i>Brown</i>, and <i>Bolling</i></b>  |
|          | 16         | Read <i>San Antonio v. Rodriguez</i> (available on the Blackboard website in the folder marked “Case Law Hand-Outs”)  |

|       |      |   |
|-------|------|---|
|       | 18   | Begin Sracic – Preface ix-xii and pp. 1-35  |
|       | 20   | Special office hours during class time to discuss class progress. Office hours are held in our offices, not in the classroom. Only students with appointments need to attend. |
|       | 23   | Sracic 36-82  |
|       | 25   | Sracic 83-109   |
|       | 27   | Sracic 110-153  |
| March | 2    | Finish discussing Sracic and Review   |
|       | 4    | <b>Test on Sracic</b>   |
|       | 6    | <b>No Class</b>   |
|       | 7-15 | <b>SPRING BREAK</b>   |
|       | 16   | Read <i>Everson v. Board of Education</i> (available on the course Blackboard website)  |
|       | 18   | Dierenfield, Preface ix-x; 1-25   |
|       | 20   | Special office hours during class time to discuss class progress. Office hours are held in our offices, not in the classroom. Only students with appointments need to attend. |
|       | 23   | Read <i>Engel v. Vitale</i> (available on the course Blackboard website)  |
|       | 25   | Dierenfield pp. 26-66   |
|       | 27   | Special office hours during class time to discuss class progress. Office hours are held in our offices, not in the classroom. Only students with appointments need to attend. |
|       | 30   | Dierenfield, pp. 67-136   |
| April | 1    | Dierenfield (complete)  |
|       | 3    | <b>Test Number 4</b>  |
|       | 6    | Video   |
|       | 8    | Finish Video and Discuss  |

10 Special office hours during class time to discuss class progress. Office hours are held in our offices, not in the classroom. Only students with appointments need to attend.

13 Read *Korematsu v. US* (available on the course Blackboard website)

15 Johnson, pp. 1-54

17 Johnson, pg. 55-108

**Take Home Final Exam Handed Out**

20 Johnson, pg. 109-139

22 Johnson, pg. 140-176

24 Tie up loose ends, and take the short knowledge quiz.

(This is the same short quiz you took at the beginning of the term. It does not count toward your final grade.)

April 27 through May 1 Special office hours to work on drafts of final exam – no classes.

**May 4<sup>th</sup> – FINAL EXAM IS DUE by 4:00 p.m.**

**You may bring them to my office, to your TA's office, or drop them off in our mailboxes in the Political Science Main Office.**