

Professor Patricia A. Broussard
Constitutional Law - First Amendment - spring 2015

Course Number: 6511

Section: 301

M/W 2:00 – 3:15

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Office Hours: M/W @ 1 – 2PM; 3:15 – 4PM

Also, By Appointment

Course Description

This three-credit course examines the First Amendment, focusing on speech, association, and freedom of religion. Cases will be examined from a historical perspective and class discussion will include current events, presentations, and experiential exercises.

The following rules govern this class:

- 1. Lateness over 10 minutes will be counted as an absence.***
 - 2. Preparation is mandatory.***
 - 3. You may have your laptop in class in case we need to reference something online, but it may not be open without the professor's permission.***
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WEEK 1

CHAPTER 9 FIRST AMENDMENT: FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION pp. 1197 – 1242;

Principles and Policies, 949 – 1312. Read the appropriate sections that correspond to text book.

Free Speech Methodology

Content-Based and Content-Neutral Laws

The Importance of the Distinction

- *Turner Broadcasting System, Inc. v. FCC*

How it is Determined Whether a Law is Content Based?

- *Boos v. Barry*
- *Republican Party of Minnesota v. White*

Problems in Applying the Distinction between Content-Based and Content-Neutral Laws

- *City of Renton v. Playtime Theatres, Inc.*
- *National Endowment for the Arts v. Finley*
- *United States v. American Library Assn., Inc.*

Vagueness and Overbreadth

Vagueness

- *Coates v. City of Cincinnati*

Overbreadth

- *Schad v. Borough of Mount Ephraim*

Relationship between Vagueness and Overbreadth

- *City of Los Angeles v. Jews for Jesus*